

Throsby Park Historic Site and

Cecil Hoskins Nature Reserve Fire Management Strategy February 2007



This Map should be used in conjunction with topographic maps and ground reconnaissance during incidents and the development of incident action plans.

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Australian Map Grid Zone 56 Topographic Map Sheet 1:25 000 Moss Vale 8928-1-N Grid Intervals 1000 metres

Please forward comments on this strategy to: sc.fireplans@environment.nsw.gov.au or NPWS Highlands Area Office, "Yarrunga" Nowra Rd, Fitzroy Falls NSW 2577

Emergency Calls - Fire, Ambulance, Polic	
Call "000" stating service required	•
National Parks & Wildlife Service NSW	(Dept.of Environment & Conservation)
Emergency Contact	
Business Hours - 0830-1630 Mon.	-Fri. 4423 2170
After Hours / All areas	1800 629 104
Local NPWS Area Office	
Highlands Area Office	4887 8244
South Coast Regional Office	4423 2170
55 Graham St. Nowra NSW 2541	
Rural Fire Service	
Wing ecarribee Fire Control Centre	100
Emergency calls	000
Business Calls	4871 2666
For Brigade Contact No.s - Contact Fire	Control
NSW Fire Brigades	
Moss Vale & Bowral Fire Stations	000
Forests NSW	
Hardwood Forests	
Batemans Bay office	4472 6211
Softwood Forest	
Bombala Office	6458 3177
Supervisor (North)	0428 433 667
Police	m.
Bowral Police Station	4862 9299
Bowral Police Station State Emergency Service (SES) Emergency Assistance No. Southern Highlands, Headquarters	700
Emergency Assistance No.	132 500
Southern Highlands Headquarters	4821 8333
Local Government	
Wingecarribee Shire Council	4868 0888
(After Hours)	408 483 203
COMMUNITY CONTACTS	
WIRES	4862 1788
Nearest Hospital/s	
Bowral & District Hospital (Bowral)	4861 0200

They are framed by current cooperative arrangements with other fire authorities, NPWS strategies for fire management, reserve management plans, neighbours and other site-specific issues that need to be considered. Feedback on these matters is always appreciated and should be directed to NPWS Highlands Area Office "Yarrunga" Nowra Command and Control: The NPWS is responsible for fire management within these reserves. Any fire authority may initiate size-up and attack with advice to the NPWS upon initial fire sighting or report. See Contacts section to advise fire reports in or within 8km of these reserves. Class 1 fire suppression operations may remain under command of the initial attack agency following assessment and advice by NPWS. NSWFB Area: These reserves are within the initial response and command area of the Moss Vale NSWFB (urban) fire brigade. Fireground operations will remain under NSWFB control until formally transferred with NSWFB advice to ALL other agencies and Visitor Safety: Consider public safety within initial response operations (i.e., clearing likely visitor use areas and sites, warnings and information, on-site protection, closures or evacuation where instructed by Police). Fire Suppression: Firefighter safety is paramount. Containment options should consider using existing roads, trails, walking tracks and recently burnt areas. Where possible to limit unnecessary damage, the use of earthmoving equipment should be limited. If extreme fire conditions prevail, fall back to property protection of adjacent

Earthmoving Equipment: Except for immediate initial attack, the use of earthmoving equipment for fire suppression within these reserves requires NPWS consent. There are significant natural and cultural values at unnecessary risk from unplanned use of earthmoving equipment. Contact the NPWS if earthworks are required. ALL use of earthmoving equipment will be consistent with NPWS safety, operational and environmental guidelines.

Foam and Retardant Use: Avoid foam and retardant use within these reserves unless there is a significant necessary operational advantage. DO NOT use on or near watercourses, wetlands, or swampy areas. These reserves are within an urban water supply catchment. DO NOT use foams or retardants near water storages or supply infrastructure. Unless under emergency conditions always obtain permission before using rural water supplies / sources. Take care when tanker filling not to contaminate water sources.

Aerial operations: Aerial operators should be briefed on location of transmission lines in

the area. Consider safety implications where aircraft will operate over adjacent urban areas or dwellings, or operate from publicly accessible fireground sites. Aerial operations should be postponed or abandoned if there is a high risk of a storm moving through the area, or there is a significant wind change anticipated. Smoke Management: These reserves are adjacent to built-up areas and busy roads.

Consider prompt advice to communities downwind and consider traffic management during fire suppression operations. Consider safety and health implications during Prescribed Burning operations. Cold air drainage patterns in this area may also carry smoke some distance from the fireground and may adversely affect transport operations. Notify nearby traffic and airspace management agencies if a smoke hazard to traffic is likely. These reserves are within the notifiable area for air quality concerns within the Sydney Basin. Check for "no-burn" constraints - notify if required. Rehabilitation: Earthmoving equipment and other resources should be allocated to soil erosion control works and remedial restoration before standing down from fire Arson: Report ALL fires of unknown cause or suspected arson to Police via Fire Control. Protect likely ignition point/s or evidence. Report any suspicious activity on or near the fireground.

Locked Gates: Any NPWS locked gates within these reserves are fitted with standard key kept in fire tankers and available from Fire Control. Report any missing or damaged locks via Fire Control or to NPWS. For public safety during fire operations, some gates may need to left in closed position but not locked. Close/lock NPWS gates after operations. Where safe, leave farm gates as you find them.

Map Grid: Datum for map grid shown is AGD 66. This will remain in use until the majority of map sheets covering the area are revised to the newer GDA datum. To approximately locate a map reference given in GDA to this map (AGD 66) move approximately 200 metres to the *southwest* from the given grid reference. Conversely, to relay a grid reference from this map (AGD 66) to someone with a GDA map, give the reference of a point approximately 200m to the *northeast* of the position shown on this

in order to	y for asset protection. Fire frequency o provide a strategic advantage in co delines only and fire requirements fo	ntaining wildfire. T	he below intervals are
The vege	tation types listed below are not all n Management Strategy.		
Map ID Regime	Vegetation type	Minimum fire interval (yr)	Maximum fire interval (yr
С	Open forest, Woodland	5	40
E	Coastal Dune Scrub, Coastal Sands Forest, Open Forest, Dry Forest, Heathland	7	30
H	Moist Forest, Gorge/Gully Forest	25	200
No Regime	Rural, Urban, Waterbodies	N/A	N/A

Map ID	Fire Strategies	Species	Common Name	Species Status
Fauna				
FA1	No fire, slashing, trittering or tree removal near nesting sites.	Botaurus poiciloptilus	Australasian Bittern	Vulnerable
FA 2	Undetermined *	Oxyura australis	Blue-billed Duck	Vulnerable
FA 3	Undetermined *	Stictonetta naevosa	Freckled Duck	Vulnerable

Service	Channel	Location and Comments
RA DIO		*
IPWS - VHF	31 & 24	Access to Redrocks and Ellesmore repeaters.
PWS - VHF (Fireground Comms)	43 & 36	17-18 - 5 Watt Channels.
NPWS - VHF (Portable Repeater)	14	Stored at Nowra Area depot / transportable.
NPWS / RFS (X-band Repeater)	14	Stored at Nowra / transportable. Full range of both simplex & duplex NPWS VHF & RFS PMR channels.
RFS - PMR - UHF	CH 29	Redrocks (Shoalhaven RFS)
	CH 224	Fitzroy Falls Area (Robertson RFS)
	CH 109	Bundanoon (Wingecaribee RFS)
RFS - G RN	NA	
CB - UHF		
Aircraft - VHF		As advised by State Ops.
PHONE		
Public Phones		Bundanoon, Fitzroy Falls, Kangaroo Valley.
Nobile Phone - CDMA		Unreliable away from main towns and highway.
Nobile Phone - GSM		Unreliable away from main towns and highway.
Satellite Phone		A vailable for deployment ex Highlands and Nowra Area

Fire Management Strategy Information

For fire management planning these reserves are divided into three main types of fire management zones each with strategies to address fire management in the particular area. Other strategies apply to the whole reserve (e.g., fire access network) or address fire management for particular values found in these reserves (e.g., threatened species, cultural sites). These strategies guide the fire management and related works within this reserve. Guidelines are also provided to assist with operational matters – see table.

APZ
Asset Protection Zones: Within these areas the focus is on protection of life and adjoining higher risk assets. Bushfire fuels are managed towards lower levels and fire may be more frequent than desirable to conserve biodiversity.

SFAZ
Strategic Fire Advantage Zones: These zones are strategically placed and managed to provide an advantage for fire fighters in containing and suppressing wildfires. Here, fire frequency may occur towards the lower thresholds necessary to conserve biodiversity, ie more often.

HMZ
Heritage Management Zones: Within these zones fire is managed towards a range of intensities and frequencies required in order to conserve natural

range of intensities and frequencies required in order to conserve natural processes (biodiversity) and cultural assets. Fire authorities continue to aim at containing wildfires in these areas.

For more information on the strategies and purposes of these zones refer to the NSW NPWS Strategy for Fire Management. www.nationalparks.nsw.gov.au

NB: Some zones may extend beyond the boundaries of these reserves to a logical fire break or boundary for the zone. Where these are outside these reserves the owners / managers need to be contacted for details of fire management options for these areas.

These zones will form part of the overall Bushfire Risk Management Plan for the Wingecarribee Fire District

Other areas requiring special fire management consideration

are being undertaken here due to particular fire history, species, habitat, or cultural site management requirements or monitoring being undertaken. These details will be outlined in a separate fire management strategy for this site – contact NPWS Highlands Area Office.

FEA

Fire Exclusion areas: Where fire should not to be introduced and where possible excluded. These are areas such as regrowth and wetlands though at times during drought and adverse fire weather these areas may burn.

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Fire Management Zones and strategies for (Reserve Name)

Strategies to be used for Fire Management and Bushfire Suppression

Asset Protection Zones & Strategies - APZs

Map ID Zone Name

A1 Throsby APZ

A2 Cottage APZ

Assess APZ for fuel management and maintenance works annually, post fire season.

Maintain slashed breaks – as required.

Maintain slashed breaks – as required.

Enable clear access for firefighters and limit available fire fuels by keeping zone clear of rubbish, gardening debris and property – as required.

Identify limited and isolated areas within APZ to allow regeneration in order to sustain tree canopy and windbreak – where required.

Continue direct and cooperative contact with neighbours and communities to enable a better mutual understanding of fire management, asset protection, fire season preparedness and personal safety – ongoing.

Strategic Fire Advantage Zone Strategies - SFAZs

Map ID Zone Name

Strategies

Review fire management works program for the zone annually, post fire season.

This assessment includes bushfire fuel, fire history, biodiversity maintenance and the condition of fire control facilities within the zone such as tracks, slashed areas, gates, information signs, identified water points etc. Fire related works for reserve declared and reported to District Bush Fire Management Committee. Annually – pre-season.

Maintain cooperative management and communication with adjoining landholders so that effective fire risk management is maintained across the zone and adjoining lands.

Where threatened fauna strategies indicate 'No Fire' – ensure that where fire needs to be introduced for asset/strategic advantage or vegetation diversity conservation that intermittent strip or mosaic burn patches of limited size are prescribed e.g. less than 50 metres and less than 33%.

Seek cooperation of local RFS brigades in the monitoring of SFAZ fuel and

H1 Throsby HMZ
H2 Cecil Hoskins HMZ
H3 House & Buildings HMZ-S
Strategies
Review fire management works program for the zone annually, post fire season. This assessment includes fire history, biodiversity maintenance and

the condition of fire control facilities within the zone such as tracks, slashed areas, gates, information signs, identified water points etc.

Other Management Zones – HMZ-S & FEA

Map ID Zone Name

M1 Throsby Precinct HMZ-S

M3 Cecil Hoskins FEA – this zone will increase as the reserve revegetation plan is implemented

M4 Cottage Precinct HMZ-S

Overall Fire Response and Management Strategies

Fire Detection: The NPWS maintains and contributes to cooperative fire detection and response arrangements across the Wingecarribee Fire District. This includes lookouts, surveillance flights, lightning detection and communications systems. During periods of higher fire danger these reserves may be patrolled and restrictions placed on visitor

surveillance flights, lightning detection and communications systems. During periods of higher fire danger these reserves may be patrolled and restrictions placed on visitor access and the use of fire. These will be notified via the local media.

Fire Response: Apart from any specific conditions indicated in the Operational Guidelines, the NPWS as a NSW fire authority prepares and maintains personnel and equipment to undertake fire management and response within these reserves. These resources are also provided under cooperative contact, callout and incident management arrangements within the Wingecarribee Fire District and across NSW.

Fire Suppression: Areas with historic assets, close to urban and identified visitor use areas will require a prompt response. Fire suppression tactics in all areas will primarily consider immediate visitor and firefighter safety, minimising unnecessary disturbance and will have regard to constraints defined within reserves Plan of Management.

Prescribed Fire: May be introduced to maintain biodiversity or meet protection obligations as identified within the fire management zones as mapped. The NPWS maintains a record of known fire history and will annually review the need to undertake prescribed burning. Each proposal is subject to environmental assessment and operational safety planning. All burning proposals for the coming season (July-June) are listed with the Wingecarribee Bush Fire Management Committee. For details or enquiries contact the NPWS Area (see Contacts) or Wingecarribee Fire Control.

A revegetation plan for Cecil Hoskins NR has been developed. Areas of grassland will

progressively be revegetated with native trees and shrub species. These revegetated areas will be included in the FEA until plants are mature. Areas of grassland that are outside the FEA will be slashed each year to limit available fuel.

Throsby Park HS grassland fuel availability will reduce within the HS by slashing and/or grazing by domestic animals.

Fire Management Access: The NPWS will maintain management tracks as required for reserve management operations or to limit environmental effects and should always be assessed before being used for fire operations. Any firefighting access problems should be immediately notified to the NPWS Area office (see Contacts). Also refer to operational guidelines.

Community Information: The NPWS will participate in cooperative community information programs in the Wingecarribee Fire District. This will focus on fire

management works and biodiversity maintenance, property preparation and protection near these reserves and NPWS role in cooperative fire management and response in these reserves.

Slashing / other bush fire fuel management works: The NPWS will maintain slashed areas as indicated within these reserves including those detailed in the Heritage Management Zone strategies. For information on other slashed areas or fire management works contact NPWS Highlands Operational Area or Wingecarribee Fire Control.

Fire Works Program

annually. This program arising from the above strategies is prepared and reviewed annually. This program is prepared from the post fire season assessment of each of the zones as above. Also considered are seasonal weather trends, available resources and cooperative arrangements with neighbours, other fire authorities and land management agencies. Fire related works for these reserves are summarised and presented to the local District Bush Fire Management Committee annually, usually before the bushfire danger period. Some works indicated may not be completed due to prevailing weather patterns, or the necessary redirection of effort and resources to other priority fire tasks such as wildfire control and rehabilitation. In most cases, such deferred works are carried forward into subsequent programs. Information on the works to be undertaken are available from local NPWS offices and the Wingecarribee District Bush Fire Management Committee at the district RFS headquarters.

Other Fire Management Information and Strategies for specific Natural and Cultural

these re location	Il Sites: The following guidelines are indicated for cultural eserves. Not all sites are known and the indicated areas at sonly. As specific sites and requirements are identified the visions of of this strategy.	re generalised
	Historic Heritage Sites	
HH1	Avoid all ground disturbance including the use of earthmoving machinery, handline construction and driving over sites. Avoid water bombing.	Sites which are not flammable but are structurally unsound including dry stone walls.
HH2	 Avoid all ground disturbance including the use of earthmoving machinery, handline construction and driving over sites. 	Sites which are not flammable and are structurally sound

including weirs, gun







