

# Northern Rivers Region Cumbebin Swamp NR Fire Management Strategy (Type 2) 2010

Sheet 1 of 1

This strategy should be used in conjunction with aerial photography and field reconnaissance during incidents and the development of incident action plans.

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This strategy is a relevant Plan under Section 38 (4) and Section 44 (3) of Rural Fires Act 1997.

Contour interval 10m

Threatened fauna

Water Point Vehicle

Cat 1

Cat 7

Cat 9

Closed

Railway

Powerline

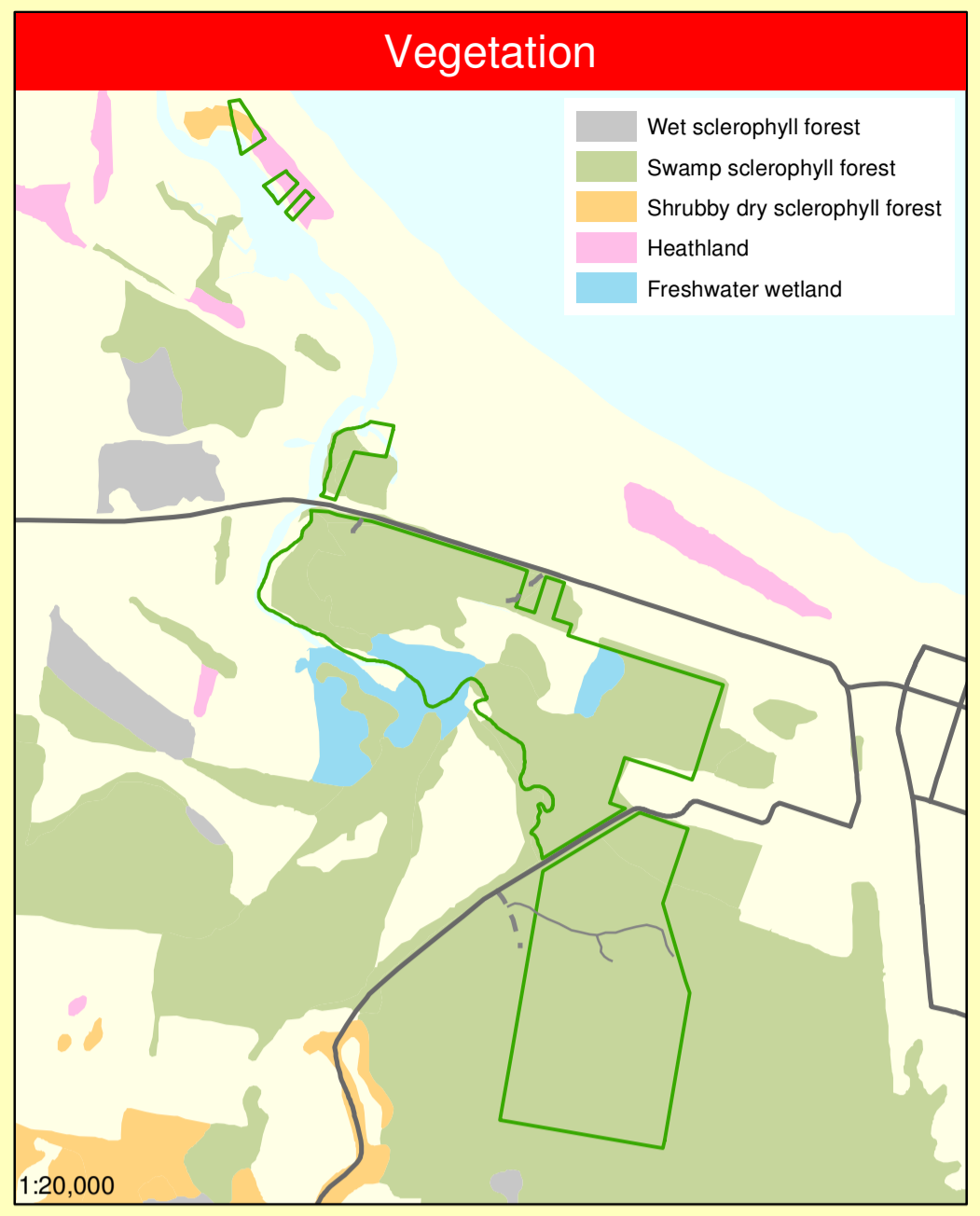
Burnt 2009-10

Burnt 2008-09

Burnt 2007-08

NPWS estate

Assume all gates locked

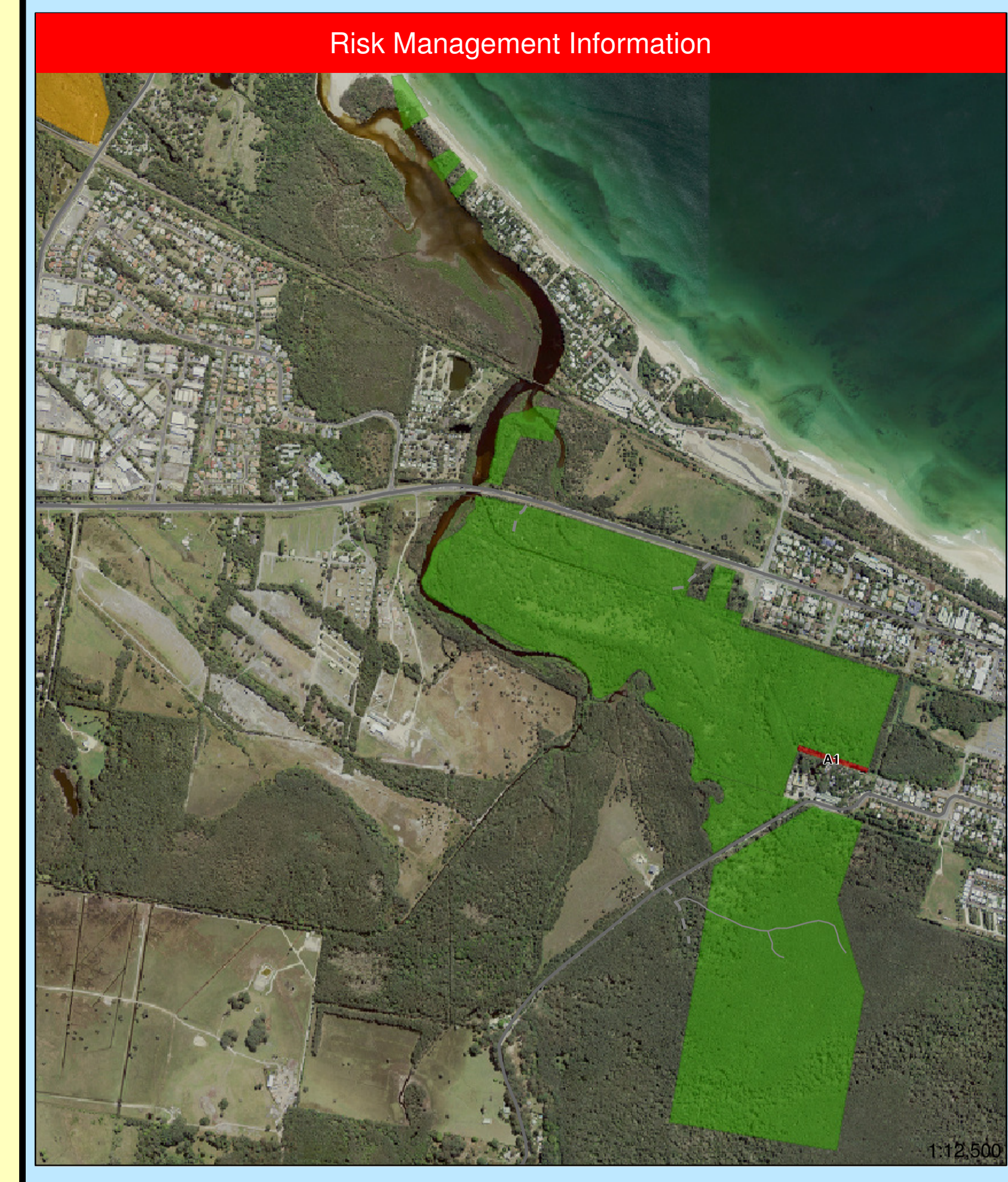


### Communications Information

Service	Channel	Location and Comments
NPWS - VHF	8	Mt Nardi
NPWS - VHF (Fireground Comms)	40	Fireground chat channel (single frequency) monitors channel 8
NPWS - VHF (Portable Repeater)	15	Portable repeater, Green Code. Stored at Tweed NPWS Depot / transportable.
NPWS - VHF (Portable Repeater)	13	Portable repeater, Blue Code. Stored at Kyogle NPWS Depot / transportable.
RFS - PMR - UHF	48 / 68	Cape Byron and Koonung Range
RFS - GRN	-	No service available.
CB - UHF	-	To be confirmed with RFS brigade captain on the day.
Aircraft - VHF	124.5 MHz	Or as directed by Incident Controller or Air Operations
Mobile Phone - NextG	-	Best reception at elevated points.

### Contact Numbers

NSW National Parks & Wildlife Service	
Northern Rivers Regional Office - Alstonville	6627 0200
Byron Coast Area Office	6685 8565
Arakwal Field Service Centre	6680 9203
Aboriginal Heritage Conservation Officer	6627 0205
NSW Rural Fire Service	
Fire Reports	6626 6923
Duty Officer - Northern Rivers	6632 3044
Fire Control Centre - Mullumbimby	6684 3662
NSW Fire Brigade - Zone Commander	6624 5384
Byron Bay Fire Brigade	6685 6266
Byron Shire Council	6626 7000 (AH) 6622 7022
Police - Byron Bay	6685 9499
State Emergency Services (SES) - Mullumbimby	6684 3444
Emergencies	0414 243 966
Ambulance / Bookings	000 / 13 1233



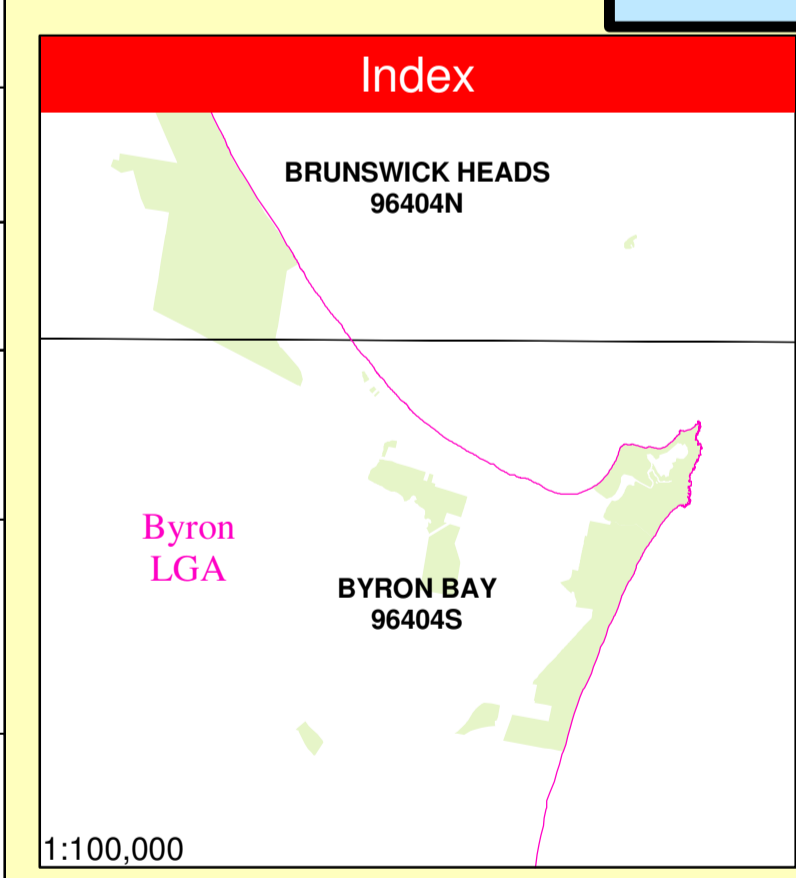
### Operational Guidelines

Refer to Strategy for Fire Management 2003 and Fire Management Manual 2004. Brief all personnel involved in suppression operations on the following issues:

Resource	Guidelines
<b>Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Site Management</b>	Aboriginal sites are not shown on this version. Vulnerable sites will be shown on the operational version of this strategy following consultation with the Aboriginal Community.
<b>Historic Heritage Management</b>	No known sites in Reserve. If new sites located consult with a senior NPWS officer.
<b>Threatened Fauna Management</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Avoid impact on wetlands, rainforest and streams</li> <li>Protect large and hollow-bearing trees and logs and timber bridges</li> <li>FA2 - No water point. No use of foam. No use of retardant. No earthmoving machinery. No helipad construction.</li> </ul>
<b>Threatened Flora Management</b>	Avoid impact on wetlands, rainforest and streams.
<b>Threatened Property</b>	Property owners with assets at risk from a wildfire event should be kept informed regarding the progress of the fire; and asked for an assessment of their current level of asset protection preparedness.
<b>General</b>	<b>Guidelines</b>
<b>Aerial Water Bombing</b> (NSW Fire Agencies Aviation SOPs O2 / NPWS Guidelines for Effective Aircraft Management)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Foam should be used to increase the effectiveness of water bombing.</li> </ul>
<b>Aerial Ignition</b> (NSW Fire Agencies Aviation SOPs O2-4 / NPWS Guidelines for Effective Aircraft Management)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Aerial ignition may be used during back-burning or fuel reduction operations.</li> <li>Utilise incendiaries to rapidly progress back-burns down slope where required.</li> </ul>
<b>Backburning</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Clear a 1m radius around dead and fibrous barked trees adjacent to containment lines prior to backburning, or wet down these trees as part of the backburn ignition.</li> <li>Avoid ignition of backburns at the bottom of slopes where a long and intense up slope burn is likely.</li> </ul>
<b>Command &amp; Control</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The first combatant agency on site may assume control of the fire, but then must ensure the NPWS is notified promptly.</li> <li>On the arrival of other combatant agencies, the initial incident controller will consult with regard to the ongoing command, control and incident management team requirements as per the relevant BFMC Plan of Operations.</li> </ul>
<b>Containment Lines</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This reserve overlays acid sulphate soils which can be exposed by soil disturbance and this should be avoided.</li> <li>No new containment lines in wetlands.</li> <li>New containment lines require the prior consent of a senior NPWS officer.</li> <li>Containment lines should be stabilised and rehabilitated as part of the wildfire suppression operation.</li> </ul>
<b>Earthmoving Equipment</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Earthmoving equipment may only be used with the prior consent of a senior NPWS officer.</li> <li>Earthmoving equipment must be always guided and supervised by an experienced officer, and accompanied by a support vehicle. When engaged in direct or parallel attack this vehicle must be a firefighting vehicle.</li> <li>Earthmoving equipment should be washed down prior to it entering NPWS estate.</li> </ul>
<b>Fire Advantage Recording</b>	All fire advantages used during wildfire suppression operations must be mapped and where relevant added to the database.
<b>Fire Suppression Chemicals</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The use of fire retardant is only permitted with the prior consent of the senior NPWS officer, and should be avoided where reasonable alternatives are available.</li> <li>Exclude the use of surfactants and retardants within 50m of rainforest, watercourses, dams and swamps.</li> </ul>
<b>Rehabilitation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Containment lines should be stabilised and rehabilitated as part of the wildfire suppression operation.</li> <li>All re opened and new containment lines not required for other purposes should be closed at the cessation of the incident.</li> <li>Any soil disturbances with the potential for exposing acid sulfate soils should be rehabilitated by treating with agricultural lime at the rate of 3kg ag lime per sq. metre and then return disturbed soil.</li> <li>Restore 70% groundcover as soon as possible.</li> </ul>
<b>Smoke Management</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If smoke becomes a hazard on local roads or highways, the police and relevant media must be notified.</li> <li>Smoke management must be in accordance with relevant RTA traffic management guidelines.</li> </ul>
<b>Visitor Management</b>	The reserve may be closed to the public during periods of extreme fire danger or during wildfire suppression operations.

### Fire Management Zones

<b>Asset Protection Zones</b>	The objective of APZs is the protection of human life and property. This will have precedence over guidelines for the management of biodiversity. Maintain Overall Fuel Hazard at Moderate or below.		
	Arts Factory North (A1) 200m x 20m	Mechanical treatment when overall fuel hazard reaches moderate.	NPWS
<b>Land Management Zones</b>	The objective of LMZs is to conserve biodiversity and protect cultural heritage. Refer to biodiversity thresholds.		
	Land Management Zone 90 ha	Suppress or apply fire consistent with biodiversity thresholds.	NPWS / Bushfire Incident Controllers



Projection: UTM  
Datum: GDA 94  
Grid: MGA Zone 56J

Noted scale values are true on A1 paper

### Fire Thresholds

<b>Overburnt</b>	Fire thresholds have been exceeded. <i>Protect from fire as far as possible.</i>
<b>Vulnerable</b>	The area will be overburnt if it burns this year. <i>Protect from fire as far as possible.</i>
<b>Recently Burnt</b>	Time since fire is less than the optimum interval, but before that it was within thresholds. <i>Avoid fires if possible.</i>
<b>Within Threshold</b>	Fire history is within the threshold for vegetation in this area. <i>A burn is neither required nor should one necessarily be avoided.</i>
<b>Almost Underburnt</b>	The area is close to its threshold and may become underburnt with the absence of fire. <i>A prescribed burn may be advantageous. Consider allowing unplanned fires to burn.</i>
<b>Underburnt</b>	Fire frequency is below fire thresholds in the area. <i>A prescribed burn may be advantageous. Consider allowing unplanned fires to burn.</i>
<b>Unknown</b>	Insufficient data to determine fire threshold.

NB. Fire thresholds are defined for vegetation communities to conserve biodiversity

### Strategy Information

Fire Season Information		Suppression Strategies
<b>Wildfires</b>	The wildfire season is known to start as early as the beginning of August, usually beginning in September, running through to December with the arrival of typical summer weather patterns. The summer weather pattern is often characterised by north to north westerly winds, high temperatures and low humidity. During drought years the fire season may start as early as July and finish as late as May. <b>Southerly changes require special attention.</b>	
<b>Prescribed Burning</b>	The optimum period for hazard reduction burning is autumn and winter. Hazard reduction burning is achievable in early spring but not desirable ecologically and there is a risk of impacts by dry west winds associated with August / September.	
<b>Current FDR</b>	<b>Forecast FDR</b>	
Low - Mod	Low - Mod	Undertake direct, parallel or indirect attack along existing containment lines. <b>Where practicable consider maximising the fire area in accordance with the requirements of any proposed prescribed burns.</b>
Low - Mod	= > High	In order to minimise the fire area and secure the flanks as soon as possible, undertake direct, parallel or indirect attack along the closest containment lines. Pay particular attention to the flank on the next predicted down wind side.
High	All	<b>Undertake indirect attack along existing or newly constructed containment lines.</b> Secure and deepen containment lines along the next predicted downwind side of the fire. If applicable consider broader than normal containment strategies to avoid wasted effort and high risk of failure.
All	All	Ensure there is sufficient time to secure containment lines prior to the fire impacting upon them; otherwise fall back to the next potential line.

