

Works Program 2005 - 2010

RESOURCE INFORMATION

Benambra National Park was gazetted in 2001 and covers 1369 hectares of the Great Yambulla Ridge. Tabletop Nature Reserve was gazetted in 1983 and contains approximately 154 hectares of Tabletop Ridge.

Department of Environment and Conservation	Parks and Wildlife Division, National Parks and Wildlife Service, South West Slopes Region, Reserve Management	Government	Farm Federal Electorate, Albury and Tagga, Wimmera State Electorate, Great Northern Government Area.
Rural Fire Services	Albury Hume Bushfires Management Committee.	Other Agencies	Albury and District Aboriginal Land Council, Murrumbidgee Water Catchment Board

FIRE HISTORY

Ignitions	2 confirmed lightning strikes (1980 & 1988), both ignitions occurred outside the reserves
Hazard Reduction	1 Hazard reduction burn has been recorded in this reserve. Wildfires in the NE corner of Benambra NP were burnt in 1981. That maintenance activity and logging fell within the area has been applied.
Wildfire	1 recorded wildfire has burnt the entire area of Benambra NP and surrounding areas however the ignition (unknown cause) occurred NW of the reserve.
Fire Frequency	Benambra has had 1 area (4.10 ha) affected by 2 fires in the last 25 years. It is possible more events may have occurred during this period and previously, however there is limited recorded and mapped information available.

THREATENED FAUNA

Fine Group	Common Name	Scientific Name	TSC Schedule	Vulnerable Period
A	Greater long-eared bat	<i>Myotis cinerascens</i>	V	Apr-Dec
B	Black-chinned honeyeater	<i>Meliphaga apicalis</i>	V	Jul-Dec
	Rufous honeyeater	<i>Xanthopygia phaeoga</i>	E	Jul-Dec
	Square-shinned honeyeater	<i>Ptilinopus ruber</i>	V	Jan-Dec
	Eastern yellow warbler	<i>Geothlypis trichas</i>	V	Mar-Dec
C	Grey-crowned babbler	<i>Pomatostomus temporalis temporalis</i>	V	Jul-Feb
	Roadblock whistler	<i>Melanerpes formicivorus</i>	V	Jul-Feb
	Charmad fantail	<i>Shobryza imitator</i>	V	Aug-Jan
	Painted honeyeater	<i>Grapsalia pacis</i>	E	Jan-Feb
	Bull shearer	<i>Lathyrus decolor</i>	E	Sep-Dec
	Tongue parrot	<i>Neophema phaeura</i>	V	Aug-Dec
	Brown honeyeater	<i>Crinoides scuturus</i>	V	May-Dec
D	Spotted woodswallow	<i>Pyrrolaena signata</i>	V	Aug-Dec

VEGETATION COMMUNITIES & THRESHOLDS

Veg Group	Vegetation Description	H%*	% Cover
10	Rough harked Red Box - Swampy Fair Woodland	103	7%
12	Red Box & Long Leaved Box - Grassy Forest	114	8%
173	Remnant Woodland - Grassy Forest	53	4%
178 & 199	Natural Vegetation - Partly Cleared	37	2%
27	Rough harked Red Box & White Box - Dry Shrub/Open Forest	1036	69%
194	Shrub Woodland	-	<1%
28	Dry Shrub/Open Forest	57	4%
41	Dry Red Box & Black Cypress Pine - Grass/Heath Woodland	72	5%
42	Cunningham White & She-Oak Shrubland	31	2%

VEGETATION THRESHOLD ANALYSIS

Threshold	Vegetation Group	% of Reserves
Overburnt	NA	0%
Vulnerable	27	<1%
Recently burnt	11 & 28	8%
Underburnt	NA	0%
About Underburnt	NA	0%
OK	27, 28, 32, 41 & 42	85%
Unknown/No Regime Assigned	NA	0%

BUSHFIRE BEHAVIOUR POTENTIAL

Rating	Vegetation Type	Hectares	% of Reserve
Low	Rough harked Red Box - Swampy Fair Woodland	103	7%
Medium	Red Box & Long Leaved Box - Grassy Forest	114	8%
	Remnant Woodland - Grassy Forest	53	4%
	Natural Vegetation - Partly Cleared	37	2%
High	Rough harked Red Box & White Box - Dry Shrub/Open Forest	1036	69%
	Shrub Woodland	-	<1%
Very High	Dry Shrub/Open Forest	57	4%
	Dry Red Box & Black Cypress Pine - Grass/Heath Woodland	72	5%
	Cunningham White & She-Oak Shrubland	31	2%

LANDSCAPE THRESHOLDS

Slope Class	Fire Fuel Range in the	Threshold & Impacts
<5%	3.5	- Any disturbance to soil and slope stability will affect catchment and water quality values.
5-10%	4.7	- Soil disturbance and exposure by fire may cause erosion.
10-20%	10-12	- Water quality may be compromised by soil disturbance and runoff of ash from the fire.
20-25%	12-14	- Fuel decomposition after disturbance may decrease after fire depending on slope, fire intensity, cover and post-fire use of the fuel. Due to a reduction in soil and micro-organisms activity, the presence of fauna and invertebrates with the soil may also affect soil and micro-organisms activity.
25-30%	15-18	- Fire fuel regimes below the recommended values per hectare for the corresponding slope class are expected to increase slope stability and affect water quality.
>30%	>20	- Fire fuel regimes below the recommended values per hectare for the corresponding slope class are expected to increase slope stability and affect water quality.

THREATENED FLORA

Fine Group	Veg Group	Common Name	Scientific Name	TSC Schedule
A	27	Yass Daisy	<i>Aemulon scopulorum</i>	V
B	27	Square Rapeseed	<i>Halimolobos exaltata</i>	E
	27 & 28	Woolly rotundifolium	<i>Sarcocolla</i>	V

THREATENED FLORA MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

Where possible:

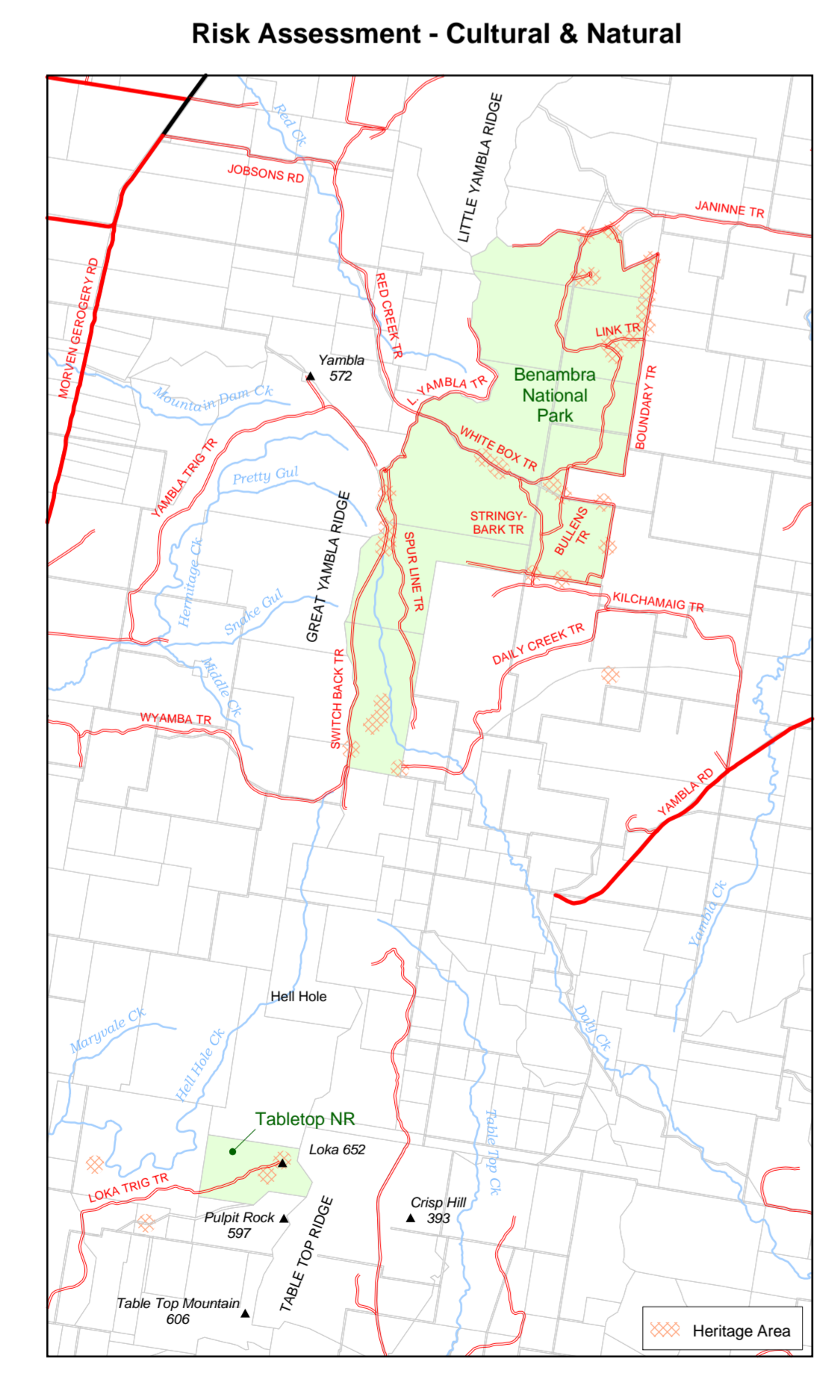
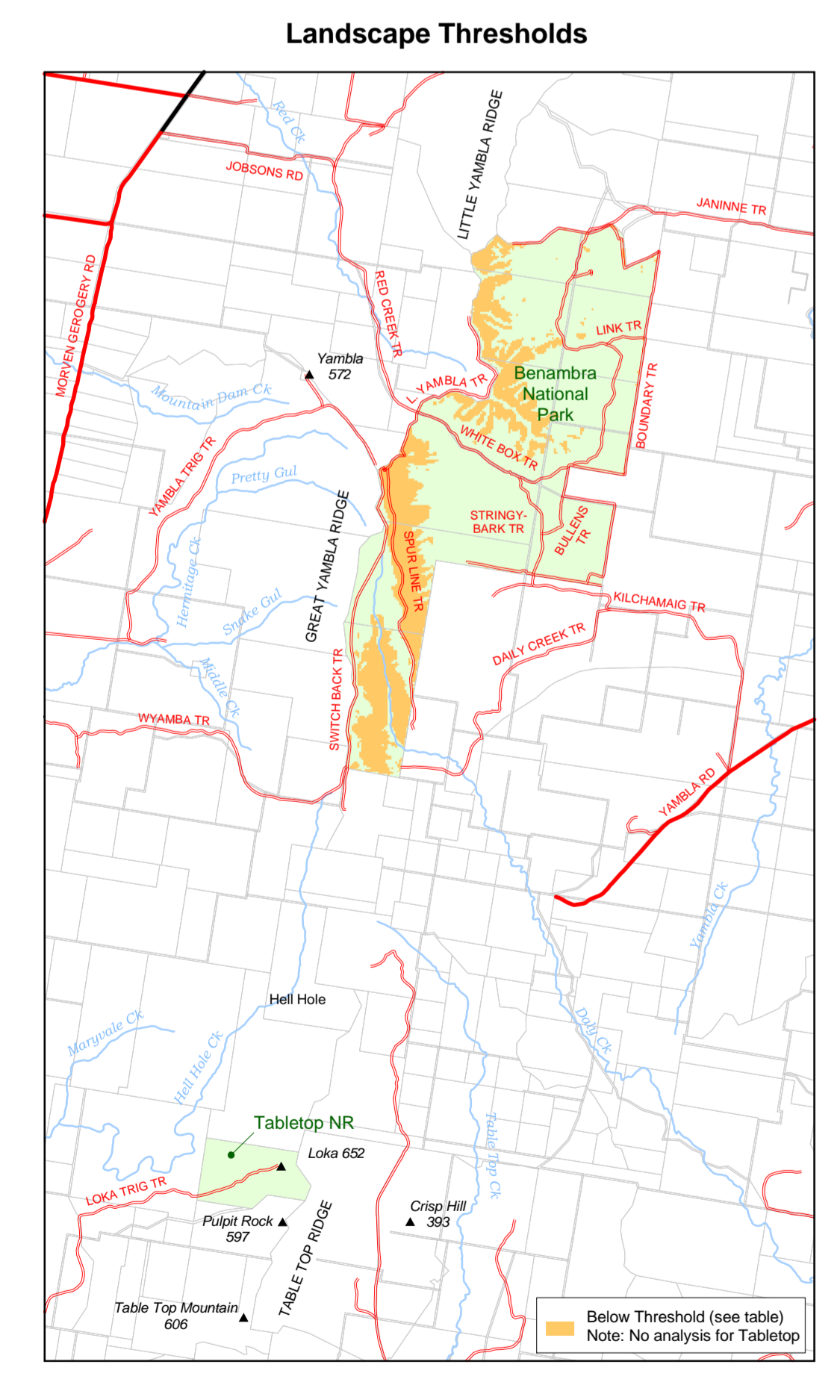
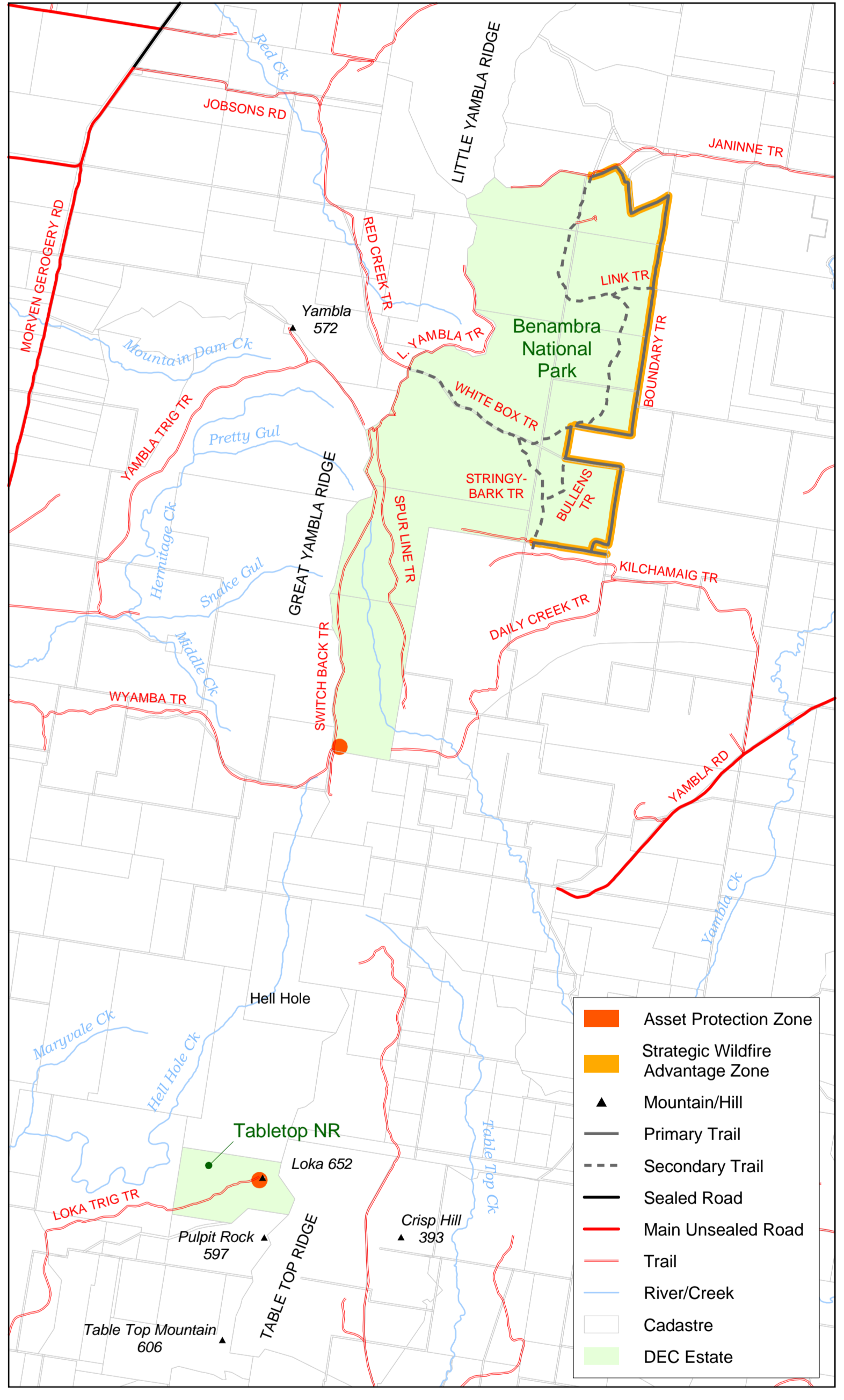
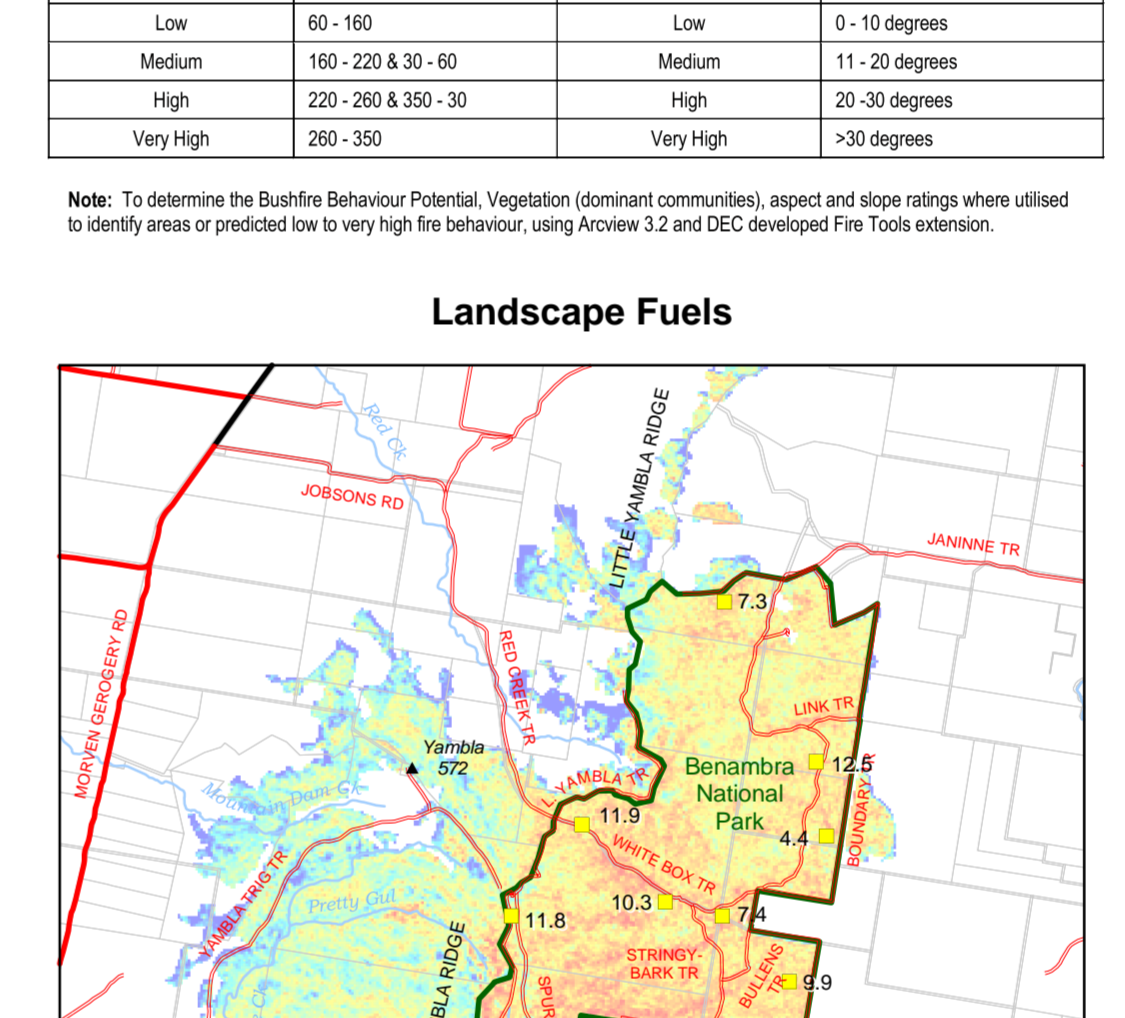
- Protect areas of habitat (vegetation groups) from between fire intervals of <25 years.
- Frequent fire and high intensity fires will affect this species.
- Altered regimes may increase the risk of dieback of the stems of this species.
- High intensity fires may increase the risk of dieback of the stems of this species.
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VEGETATION THRESHOLD ANALYSIS

Minimum Fuels (Modified April 2004): 3.3
Maximum Fuels (Modified April 2004): 16.6
Average Fuels (Recorded April 2004): 8.7
Highest Fuels (Recorded April 2004): 12.2

LANDSCAPE FUELS

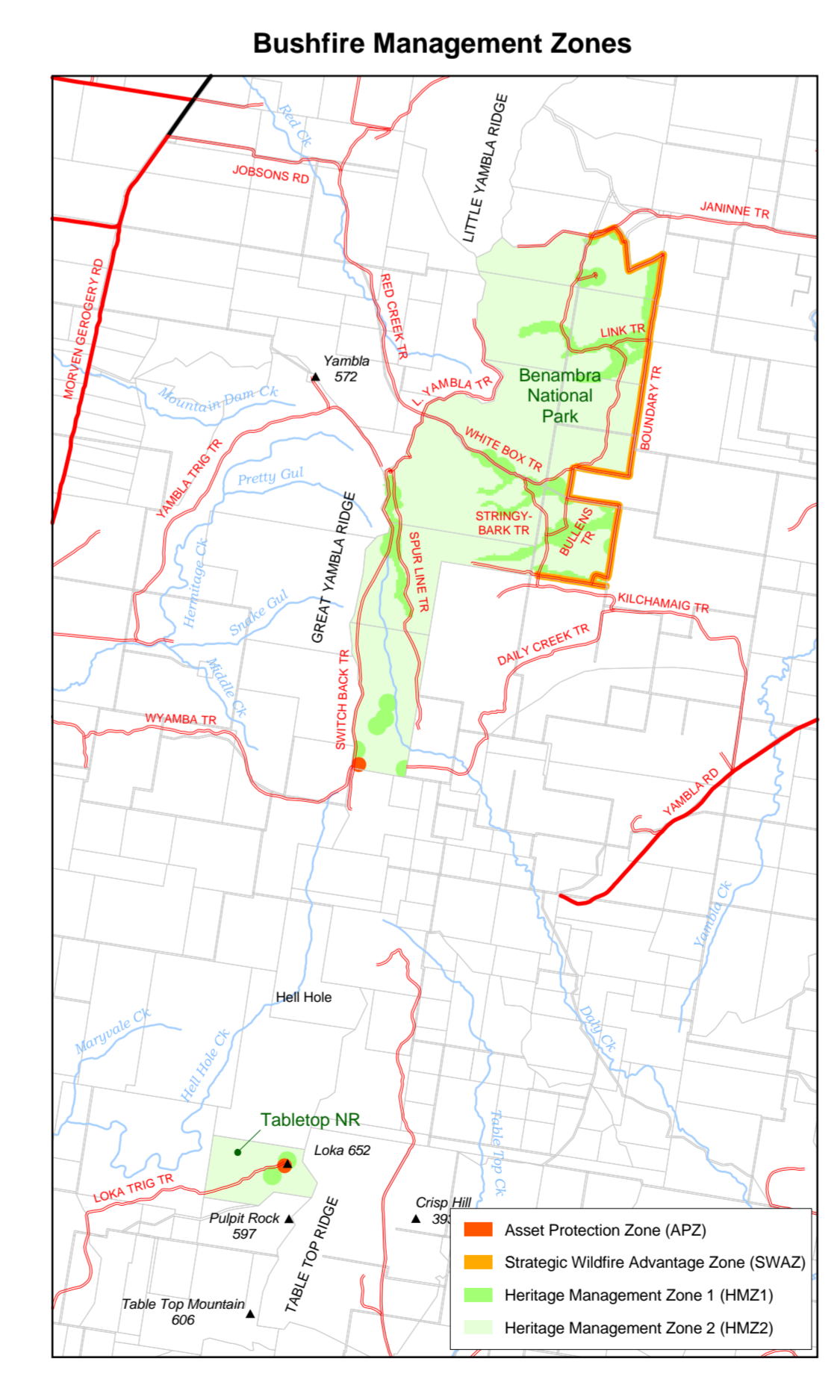
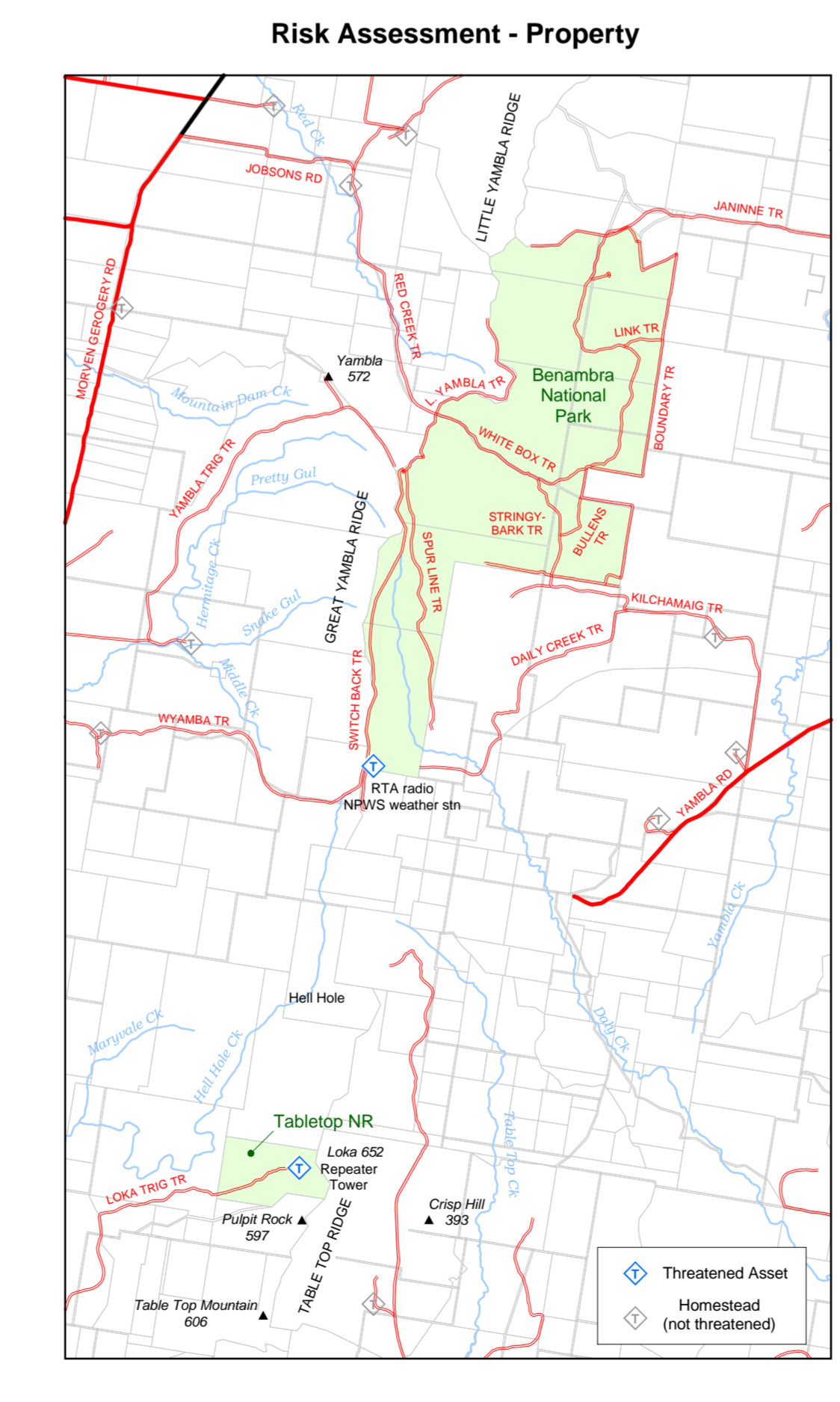
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CULTURAL HERITAGE

Identified sites must be protected.

DEE Database, AHMS and NHMS must be accessed during incidents and for preparation of Plans of Environmental Factors for fuel reduction burning or other works programs to ensure new reports are included.



BUSHFIRE MANAGEMENT ZONES

Management Zone	Description	Management Guidelines
Asset Protection Zone (APZ)	Life, property and commercial assets in high risk Bushfire Behaviour Potential on DEC estate	Assets should be evaluated annually to measure potential fuel build up. Works program to follow Risk Assessment of Economic & Private Property Guidelines.
Strategic Wildfire Advantage Zone (SWAZ)	Areas used to minimise the risk of fire intensity, spread, spotting distance or compromised Asset Protection Zones. The zone may include areas in the potential of fire escaping reserves and treated or large areas of high Bushfire Behaviour Potential.	Strategic areas must be assessed annually to measure potential fuel build up. Strategic areas are suitable for implementing hazard reduction burns (when appropriate). Strategic areas should be used only in conjunction with asset protection and heritage management zones.
Heritage 1 (HMZ1)	Areas of high priority conservation value. It identifies areas of recorded cultural assets and natural values. This zone is registered for the protection of cultural heritage and the conservation of rare species habitat to prevent extinctions.	Heritage areas should be assessed annually to determine potential hazard, threat and treatments to Cultural Heritage, species and habitat (vegetation group communities). Prescribed burns may be applied in these areas if appropriate for the protection of cultural heritage or to prevent extinctions.
Heritage 2 (HMZ2)	This zone identifies areas of significance for natural and cultural features across the broader landscape.	These heritage zones should be monitored to determine threat to fire incidents and bushfires. Implement programs and/or recovery plan guidelines

WORKS PROGRAM

Asset	Priority	Name, Area or Detail	Management Strategy	Proposed Works	Completed
Reserve Trails	High	Boundary Fire Trail	Maintain access for S100s and Cut 10 Vehicles (RFS Primary Trail)	Assess annually. Maintain as required or as specified in Regional Operations Program.	
	Medium	White Box, Stringybark, Bullock & Table Top Fire Trail	Maintain access for S100s and Cut 10 Vehicles (RFS Secondary Trails)		
	Low	Table Top Fire Trail	Maintain access for S100s and Cut 9 Vehicles (RFS Domestic Trails)		
Asset PZ	High	Economic, commercial and private property assets.	Reduce bushfire behaviour potential using the Asset Risk Assessment Fire Management Guidelines.	Assess annually. Maintain as required.	
Strategic WAZ	Medium	North/South grazing trails	Maintain trails 'as above'	Assess annually.	
Heritage MZ1	Medium	Cultural heritage, threatened vegetation & endangered species habitats, communities and the landscape.	Manage and protect natural & cultural heritage values with appropriate fire management regimes.	Maintain thresholds every 2 years, before works programs or shortly after fire.	
Heritage MZ2	Low	Landscape	Monitor vegetation structure, bushfire behaviour potential (including fuels) that may increase vulnerability of bushfire.	Assess when possible or after fire events within the reserve.	
Information & Research	Low	Fuel and vegetation monitoring	Continue measuring/monitoring fuels at all established sites.	Every 2 years (min).	
Fuel and Hazard Reduction Burns	Low	No burns proposed for 10 years (5 years)	Monitor and assess changes in potential hazards to assets. Monitor and assess hazard reduction burns must be in line with DEC policy and managed in accordance with Local Bush Fire Management Committee	Negotiated at Bushfire Management Committee Meetings.	