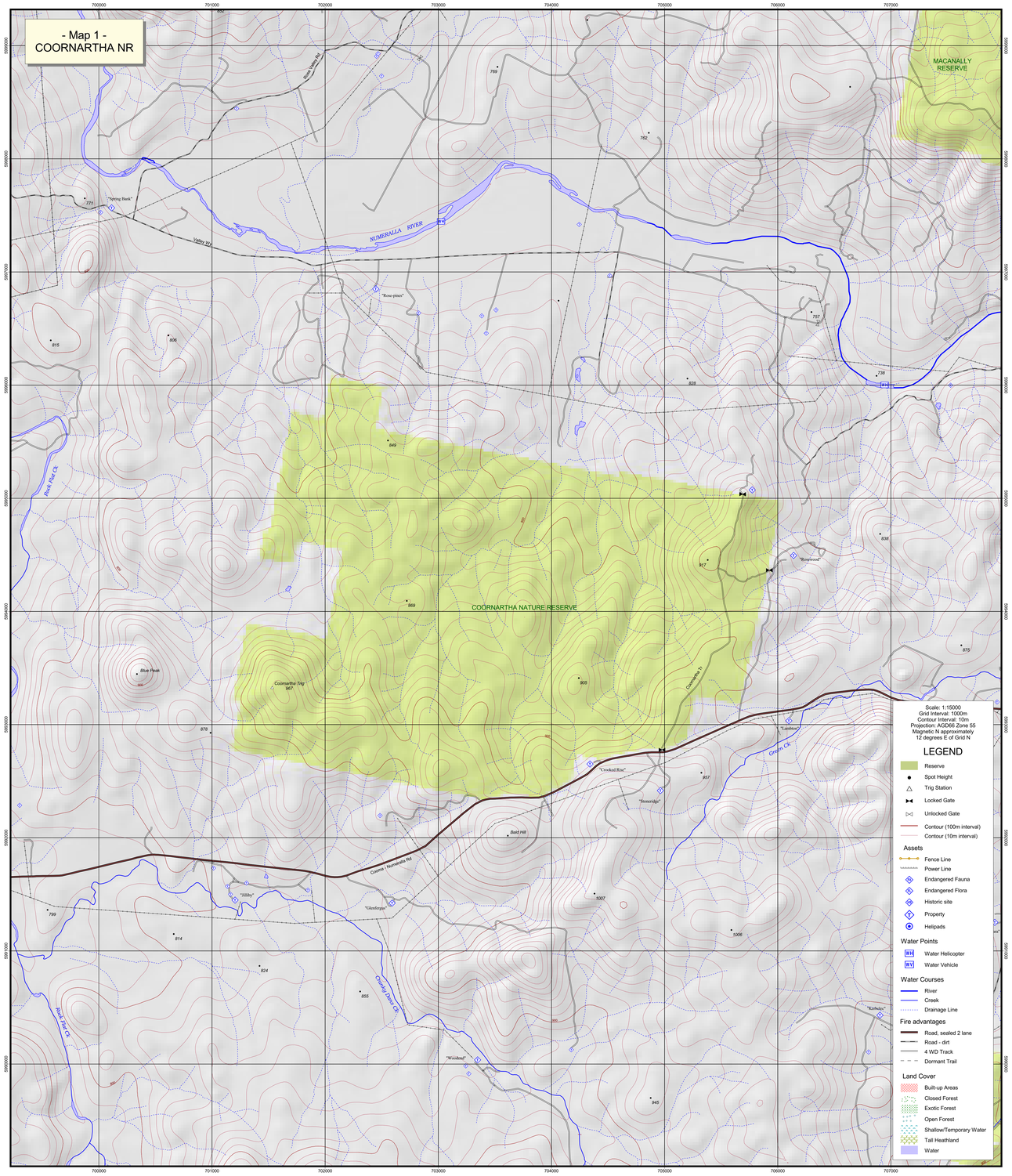
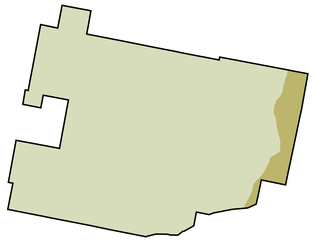


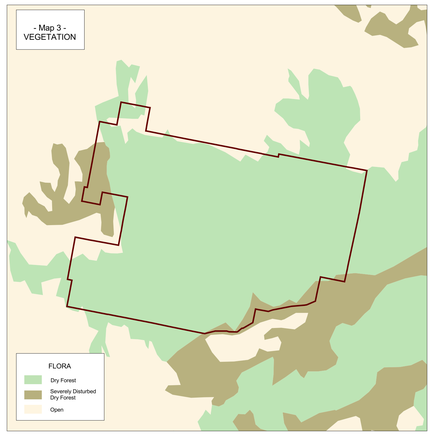
- Map 2 -
FIRE MANAGEMENT ZONES



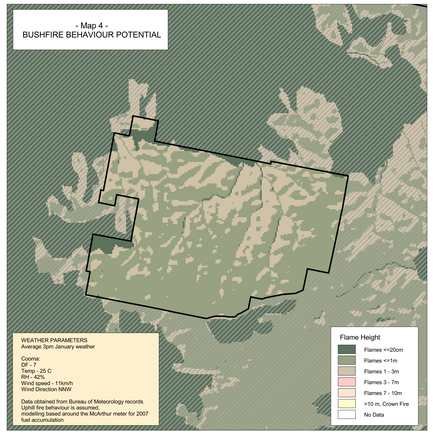
STRATEGIC FIRE ADVANTAGE ZONE - land that is managed to give strategic advantage to firefighters (eg reduced fire intensity or spotting behaviour). Management may include prescribed burning and/or other forms of vegetation/fuel management.

HERITAGE MANAGEMENT - priority management is for conservation of natural and cultural values, although other management such as prescribed burning is allowable if necessary.

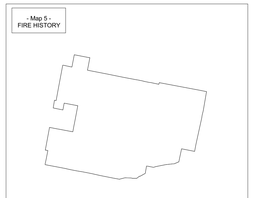
- Map 3 -
VEGETATION



- Map 4 -
BUSHFIRE BEHAVIOUR POTENTIAL



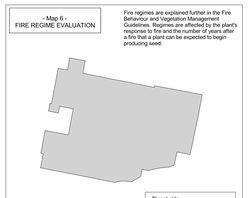
- Map 5 -
FIRE HISTORY



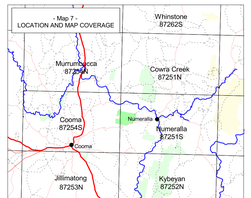
No known fires

- Map 6 -
FIRE REGIME EVALUATION

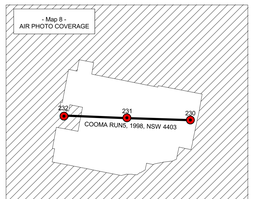
Fire regimes are explained further in the Fire Behaviour and Vegetation Management Guidelines. Regimes are affected by the plant's response to fire and the number of years after a fire that a plant can be expected to begin producing seed.



- Map 7 -
LOCATION AND MAP COVERAGE



- Map 8 -
AIR PHOTO COVERAGE



COMMENT ON FIRE BEHAVIOUR

Map 4 represents the potential (uphill) fire behaviour for an Average January bushfire in 2007, fire behaviour will differ markedly with different climatic conditions. Management for worst-case conditions focuses on property protection and effective pre-fire measures will focus on maintenance of property Asset Protection Zones along with general property maintenance.

This reserve has not been identified by the community as a fire threat. Surface litter levels are naturally under 10t/Ha in most places and the position of the reserve poses little threat to neighbouring assets.

Fire behaviour will be greater than map 4 when drought conditions are experienced, as shrubs and the low canopy will dry to the point where they will burn more easily. The flatter country north of the Cooma-Numeralla Rd may be suitable for backburns in such situations.

Snowy Mountains Region
Coornartha Nature Reserve
Fire Management Strategy
2005

Version: May 2005

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

This map is based on Land and Property Information Standard 1:25000 Topographic Map Series. Reproduced with permission of Land and Property Information.

FIRE MANAGEMENT OPERATIONAL GUIDELINES

Area/Resource	Operational Guidelines
Command and Control	If a ground crew from a non-responsible agency confirms the fire location, an initial attack may be mounted. Contact must then be made with the National Parks and wildlife Service as soon as possible. Attack methods must be consistent with the service's usual practices If responsibility is unconfirmed, or is confirmed and contact cannot be made with the Service, then the first responsible agency should mount initial attack until such time as responsibility for control is established. Cost for initial attack will be borne by the responding agency. The transfer of control to the responsible agency from the first attack agency is to be (as much as possible) a smooth process. All information is to be passed on and should include verbal and hardcopy reports. Personnel in the field are to be advised of the transfer of control via a formal briefing. The initial fireground Incident Controller is to remain in control until such time as he/she is relieved by the responsible agency. In some instances the responsible agency will request that the initial fireground Incident Controller remain in charge for the duration of the shift and direct incoming resources as required.
Suppression strategies - seasons with saturated subsoils	Vehicle and earth-moving equipment may be limited due to the risk of bogging and should be avoided in areas known or identified to be prone to surface soil and subsoil saturation. Includes valley areas.
Suppression strategies - seasons with moderate conditions	*Severe or dry unstable weather conditions forecast* Direct or parallel attack with plant and fire units to minimise the fire area and secure the flank as soon as possible. *Moist weather forecast* Maximise area when in accordance with proposed hazard reduction burns to meet long-term fire and land management objectives.
Suppression strategies - seasons with severe conditions	*Containment Strategy* Undertake property protection of identified assets as highest priority Fall back to existing trails, roads and recently burnt areas when fire runs exceed control line construction rates, or are predicted to exceed during weather with very low humidities and shifting winds 0-3 year burn may hold head fire if deep enough and conditions mild enough 3-5 year burns will only reduce fire intensity in areas without grassy understorey Secure and deepen control lines on the next predicted downwind side of the fire Burn out the area between the control line and the fire front ASAP using ground and aerial ignitions *Backburning* Target backburning operations when the RH rises in late afternoon/early evening Consider restricting backburning operations on downwind control lines when RH<10% Maximise backburning operations with prevailing wind if appropriate Secure fire edge by timing the backburn to minimise the area impacted by a high intensity fire. Consideration should be given to wind speed, direction and RH when planning to implement backburns
Earth moving machinery	Prior to use of earthmoving equipment on lands under the control of the National Parks and Wildlife Service, the approval of the Service is to be obtained. Plant must be guided at night due to safety concerns with steep terrain Plant guides should be briefed on the location of the proposed line & heritage items Control lines constructed by earth moving machinery should avoid rocky ridges, river corridors (200m buffer) and any areas identified to contain aboriginal sites Control lines running along valley areas should be constructed 20-50m from the gully line where possible to avoid severe erosion
Restoration	Fire control lines constructed by earth moving equipment should be stabilised and rehabilitated at the completion of fire operations.
Fire fighting chemicals	The use of foam, wetting agents and retardants is permitted in the reserve away from the water courses Areas treated with aerial applications of foam and retardants should be recorded where possible

FIRE BEHAVIOUR AND VEGETATION MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

Community	Fire Behaviour Characteristics	Vegetation Management Guidelines
Open	* Varying grass types give different behaviours * Cured grasses dry quickly and will be available before surface fuels	* Species decline is predicted if fires occur more often than every 2 years * Grassy understorey and surface fuels established very quickly * Soils prone to erosion and weed invasion with frequent fire
Dry Forest	* Fires possible at most times of the year depending on altitude * Quick rate of spread due to drier fuels	* Species decline predicted if successive fires occur less than 22 years apart or further than 50 years apart

FIRE SEASON INFORMATION

The critical fire season occurs between December and March, when the potential for large fire events is at its highest. Particular care is required during extended periods of negative Southern Oscillation Indices, leading to periods of reduced rainfall.

The end of the critical fire season is marked by cold humid nights and cooler day temperatures with periods of relatively stable atmospheric conditions.

Prescribed burning should be undertaken before late autumn precipitation occurs. Burning may also be undertaken during late winter and early spring, although conditions are often too moist. Burning should be avoided in late spring.

CONTACT NUMBERS

NATIONAL PARKS AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Jindabyne Office Operations Room	6450 5555 6450 5573
Senior Ranger Fire - Ian Dicker mobile	6450 5576 0427 700 168
Technical Officer Fire - Phil Zylstra mobile	6450 5595 0428 462 880
Area Manager - Pam O'Brien	6450 5575
Ranger - Steve Wright mobile	6450 5577 0427 703 494
After hours Incident Answering Service	1800 629 104

RURAL FIRE SERVICE

State Operations	8845 3501 (24Hr)
Cooma Fire Control Centre	6452 5533

EMERGENCY SERVICES

POLICE Cooma	6452 0099
AMBULANCE	131 233
STATE EMERGENCY SERVICE Cooma	6452 3763

RADIO COMMUNICATIONS

NPWS VHF channels available will be channels 1, 2 or 7.
Fireground communications will be via NPWS channel 18. Reception will be marginal on all channels
UHF RFS PMR Channel 4