

Hunter Region Glenrock State Conservation Area and Awabakal Nature Reserve Fire Management Strategy (Type 2) 2008

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

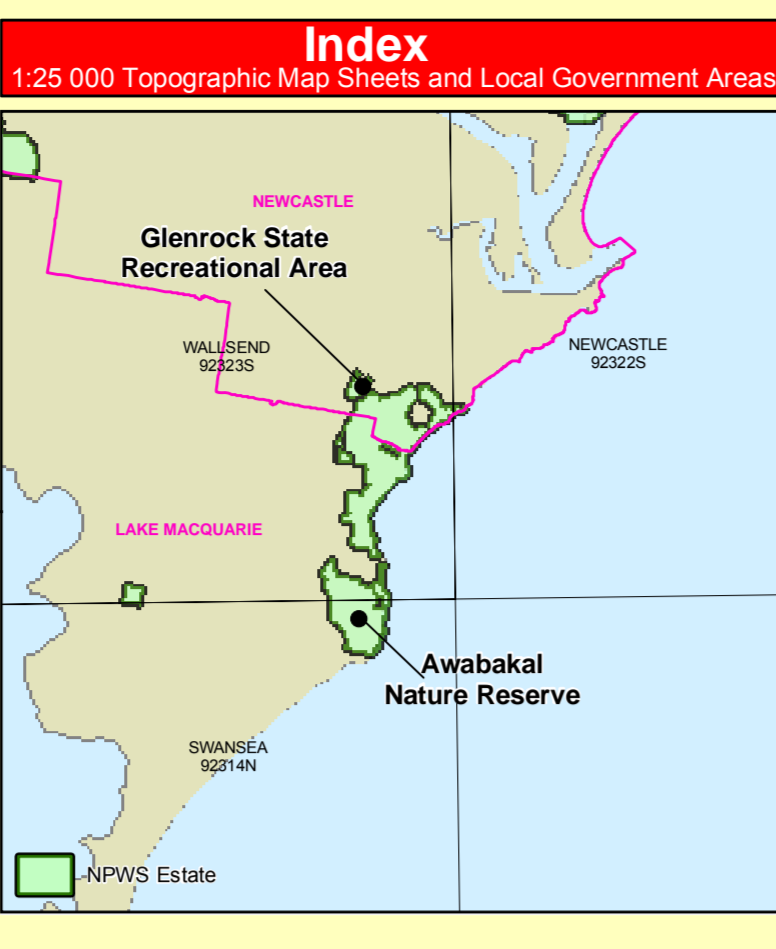
This document is copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of study, research criticism or review, no part may be reproduced by any process without written permission.

Published by the Department of Environment and Climate Change (NSW), April 2008.
Contact: NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service, Hunter Region, Locked Bag 9 Nelson Bay Delivery Centre NSW 2315.

ISBN 978 1 74122 652 2 DEC 2007/540
Last Updated: 08/10/2008

This strategy is a relevant plan under Section 38 (4) and Section 41 (3) of Rural Fires Act 1997.

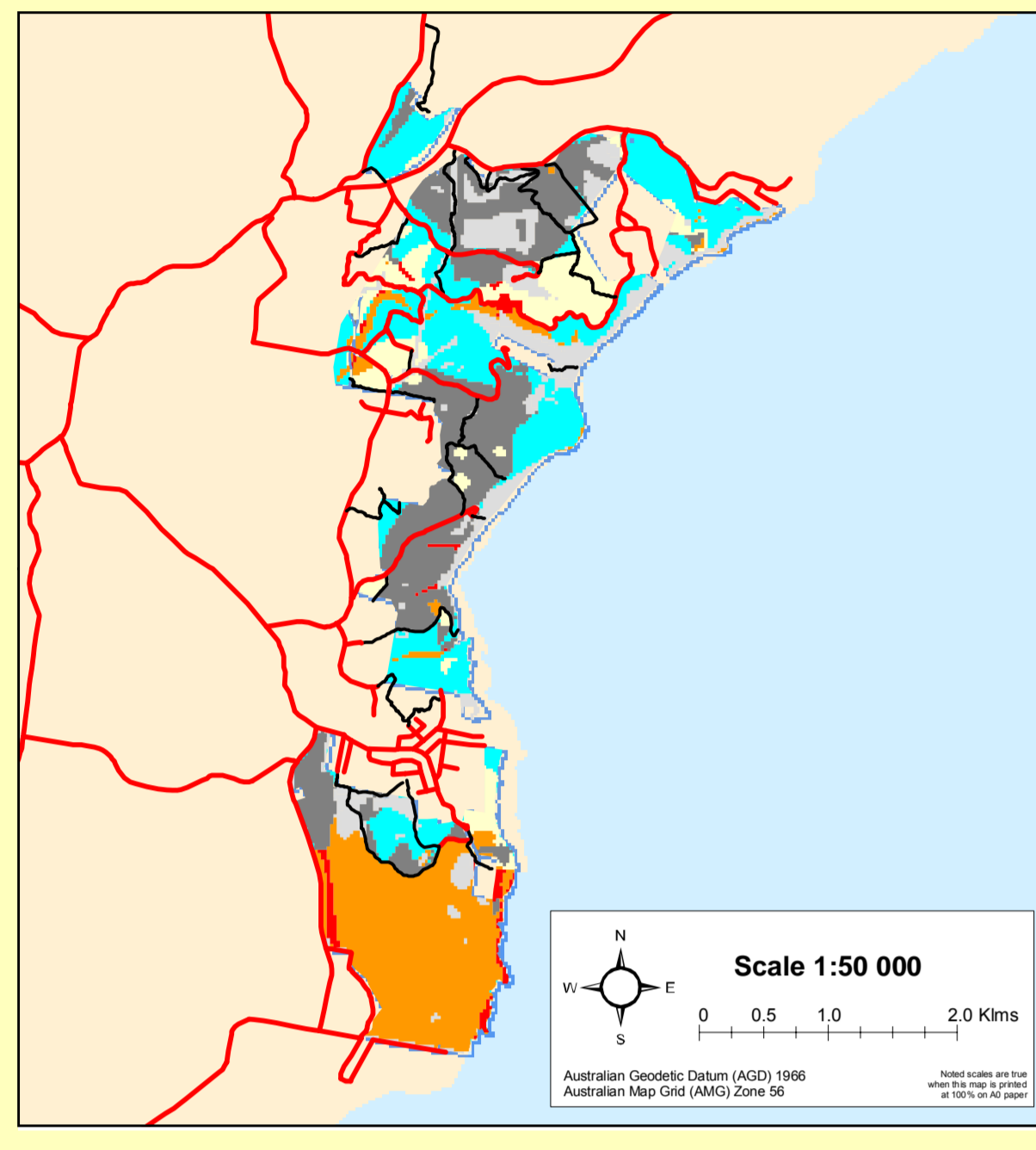
Endorsed by: John O'Gorman Date: 29/12/2005
Director Northern, Parks & Wildlife Group



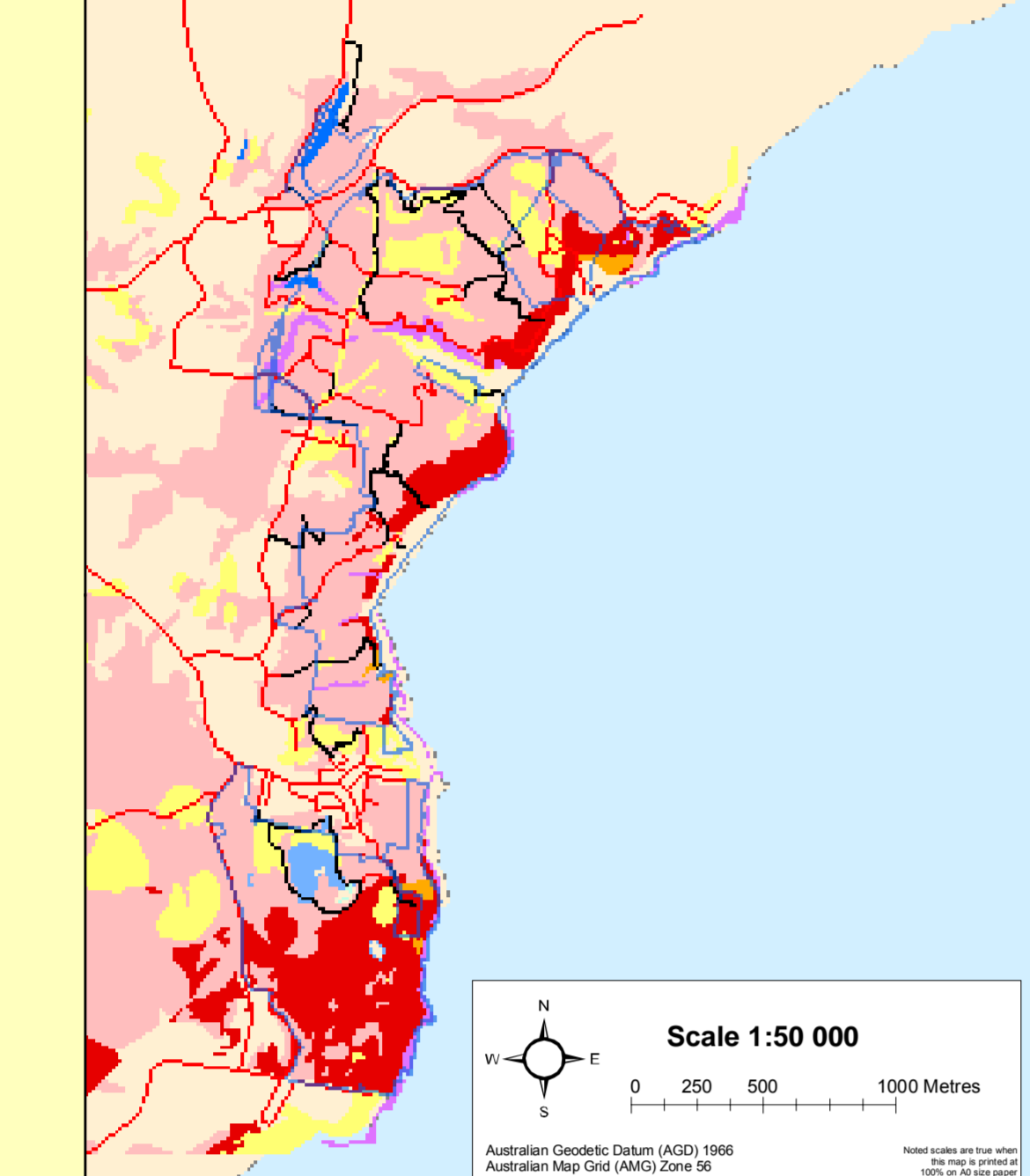
Strategy Information

Wildfires	Incidents in the Hunter Region are located in a zone between subtropical, summer maximum rainfall patterns to the north and temperate, winter maximum rainfall patterns to the south. Most extreme fire weather conditions occur during spring and early summer resulting from moderate temperatures, low relative humidity and strong winds. Subtropical currents rainfall in January usually ends the fire season in most years, however, if rain events do not occur the fire season may last from August to March. The coastal reserves mostly occur on sandy soils which facilitate the most damage of water resulting in the fuel beds throughout the year. Very strong sea breezes from the north east and east in late spring and summer often exceed 10kph which can result in very high fire intensity.
Prescribed Burning	General seasonal burning in late winter. Burning is possible in early spring but not desirable on a regular basis from an ecological or landscape management perspective.
Current FDR	Low - Mod
Forecast FDR	Low - Mod
Low - Mod	As far as possible, undertake indirect, parallel or direct attack along fire lines. As far as possible, maximum area burnt without degrading assets, habitat and biodiversity. Identify and secure back-up control lines.
Low - Mod	As far as possible, undertake indirect, parallel or direct attack along fire lines. As far as possible, maximum area burnt without degrading assets, habitat and biodiversity. Identify and secure back-up control lines.
High	Direct attack parallel or direct attack to minimize the time taken to contain the fire. Contain fire control lines if necessary to minimize the time to contain the fire. Identify and secure back-up control lines.
All	Use indirect attack along existing or newly constructed control lines. Secure and deepen control lines along the next prescribed downward slope of the fire. Ensure there is sufficient time to secure control lines before the fire gets to them. If there is insufficient time to secure control lines, fall back to the next potential control line. As far as possible, implement threats of species and cultural heritage management guidelines.
All	All

Current Vegetation Status (Fire Thresholds)



Vegetation



Fire Thresholds

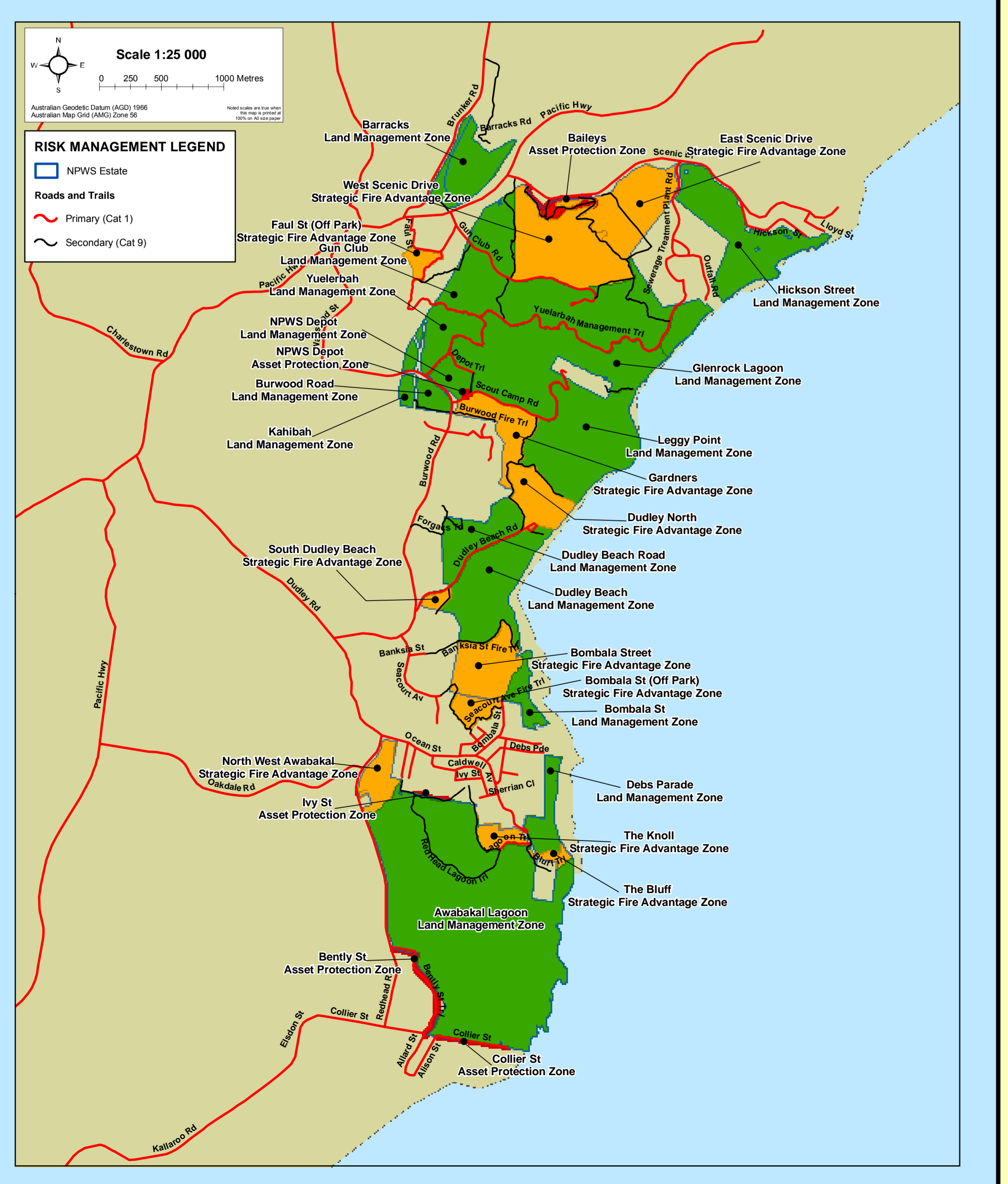
- Overburnt:** Fire thresholds have been exceeded.
*Prove fire for as far as possible.
- Vulnerable:** The area will be Overburnt if a burn this year.
*Prove fire for as far as possible.
- Recently Burnt:** Time since fire is less than the optimal interval, but before that it was within threshold.
*Avoid fire if possible.
- Within Threshold:** Fire history is within the threshold for vegetation in this area.
*A burn is neither required nor should one necessarily be avoided.
- Almost Underburnt:** The area is close to its threshold and may become underburnt with the absence of fire.
*A prescribed burn may be advantageous. Consider allowing unplanned fires to burn.
- Underburnt:** Fire frequency is below fire thresholds in the area.
*A prescribed burn may be advantageous. Consider allowing unplanned fires to burn.
- Unknown:** Insufficient data to determine fire threshold.
*No fire thresholds are defined for vegetation communities to conserve biodiversity.

VEGETATION LEGEND

Broad Vegetation Communities

- White: Dry Sclerophyll Forest
- Blue: Wet Sclerophyll Forest
- Green: Swamp Sclerophyll Forest
- Yellow: Severely Disturbed Vegetation
- Red: Heathland/Scrubland
- Purple: Rainforest
- Orange: Native Grassland

Risk Management Information



General

Aerial Water Bombing
NSW Fire Agencies Aviation SOPs 02 / NPWS Guidelines for Effective Aircraft Management

Aerial Ignition
NSW Fire Agencies Aviation SOPs 02-4 / NPWS Guidelines for Effective Aircraft Management

Backburning
Temperature and humidity trends must be monitored carefully to determine the safest times to implement back-burns. Generally, when the FDR is Very High or greater, backburning should commence when the humidity begins to rise in the late afternoon or early evening. With a lower FDR backburning may be safely undertaken during the day.

Command & Control
The fire command agency on site must assume control of the fire, but must ensure the relevant land management agency is notified promptly.

Containment Lines
Construction of new containment lines should be avoided, where practicable, except where they can be constructed with minimal environmental impact.

Earthmoving Equipment
Earthmoving equipment may only be used with the prior consent of a senior NPWS officer, and must only if the probability of success is high.

Fire Advantage Recording
All fire advantages used during wildfire suppression operations must be mapped and where relevant added to the database.

Fire Suppression Chemicals
Written and training agency instructions are permitted for use in wildfire suppression. The use of fire retardant is only permitted with the prior consent of the senior NPWS officer.

Rehabilitation
The potential impacts of smoke and possible mitigation tactics must be considered when planning for wildfire suppression and prescribed burning operations.

Smoke Management
The reserve may be closed to the public during periods of extreme fire danger or during wildfire suppression operations.

Visitor Management
The reserve may be closed to the public during periods of extreme fire danger or during wildfire suppression operations.

Natural Fire Control Advantages
Glenrock SCA and Awabakal NR and surrounds contain a large number of potential natural fire control advantages including cleared land, wet sclerophyll forest and rangeland.

Aircraft Operations
Refer to current Fire Management Manual (updated annually).

Operational Guidelines

Resource
Aerial Cultural Heritage Site Management
Historic Heritage Site Management
Threatened Fauna Management

Guidelines
As far as possible protect site from fire.
Do not cut down trees.
Use of chains, cutting agents & retardant is acceptable.
As far as possible protect site from fire.
Avoid ground disturbance including handbombs, dozers.
Avoid water bombing which may cause ground disturbance.
Avoid ground disturbance including handbombs, dozers.
Avoid water bombing which may cause ground disturbance.
Site may be burnt by wildfire, backburn, prescribed burn.
*RCHMS Regional Cultural Heritage Management Strategy:
*Where the asset may be in or close to a water body, wetland or swamp, no flame retardant is to be used.
*Earthmoving machinery is to be used carefully, rather than over through assets.
High RCHMS priority.
Avoid fire, including wildfire, backburning & HR.
Avoid all water bombing activities.
High RCHMS priority.
Avoid fire, including wildfire, backburning & HR.
Avoid all water bombing activities.
Low RCHMS priority.
Avoid fire, including wildfire, backburning & HR.
Avoid all water bombing activities.
High or low RCHMS priority.
Heritage site unlikely to be affected by fire.
High or low RCHMS priority.
Avoid fire, including wildfire, backburning & HR, as far as possible.
Avoid use of earth moving machinery.
Avoid use of retardant and burn in wetland habitats.
Avoid use of earth moving machinery in dune habitats.
Avoid fire, including wildfire, backburning & HR, as far as possible in wetland habitat.
Avoid use of retardant and burn in wetland habitats.
Avoid high intensity fire that consumes tree canopy and fallen logs.
Avoid use of earth moving machinery.
Habitat unlikely to be affected by fire.
Avoid use of earth moving machinery in wetland habitats.
Avoid use of retardant and burn in wetland habitats.
Habitat unlikely to be affected by fire.
Avoid use of earth moving machinery in dune habitats.
Avoid fire, including wildfire, backburning & HR, as far as possible in wetland habitat.
Avoid use of earth moving machinery in wetland habitats.
Avoid use of retardant and burn in wetland habitats.
Avoid high intensity fire that consumes tree canopy and fallen logs.
Avoid fire, including wildfire, backburning & HR, as far as possible.
Avoid use of earth moving machinery.

Asset Protection Zones

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.

Zone **Action**

Collier St
Bentley St
Baileys
NPWS Depot
Ivy St

Strategic Fire Advantage Zones

The objective of SFAZs is to reduce fire intensity across larger areas. Maintain Overall Fuel Hazard at High or below, however adherence to guidelines for biodiversity will take precedence where practical.

Zone **Action**

North West Awabakal
The Knoll
The Bluff
South Dudley Beach
Dudley Beach North
Faull St (off Park)
Gardens
Bentley St
Bombala St (off Park)
Bombala St
West Scenic Drive
East Scenic Drive

Land Management Zones

The objective of LMZs is to conserve biodiversity and protect cultural heritage. Manage fire consistent with fire thresholds.

Bushfire Suppression

BUSHFIRE SUPPRESSION LEGEND

NPWS Estate

Time Since Fire (Year Burns)

Fire Control Advantages

Water Point Vehicle
Water Point Helicopter
Water Point - H & V
Water Point - H & V
Helipad
Refuge Area
Threatened Property
Threatened Property

Roads and Trails

Primary (Cat 1)
Secondary (Cat 9)
Closed

Site Management (see strategy tables)

Aboriginal Site
Historic Heritage Site
Threatened Fauna
Threatened Flora
Threatened Property

Assume all gates are locked

Gate - NPWS (need key)
Gate - Security
Gate - non NPWS

Threatened Flora Management

FL1	Avoid fire, including wildfire, backburning, HR, as far as possible. Avoid the use of earthmoving machinery. Avoid the use of retardant.
FL2	Avoid summer fire. Avoid fire, including wildfire, backburning, HR, as far as possible. Avoid the use of earthmoving machinery. Avoid the use of retardant.
FL3	Avoid high intensity fire. Avoid fire, including wildfire, backburning, HR, as far as possible. Avoid the use of earthmoving machinery.
FL4	Avoid summer fire. Avoid fire, including wildfire, backburning, HR, as far as possible. Avoid the use of earthmoving machinery.
FL5	Avoid low intensity fire. Avoid fire, including wildfire, backburning, HR, as far as possible. Avoid the use of earthmoving machinery. Avoid the use of retardant.

Threatened Property

Where possible 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.

Contact Information

Agency	Position / Location	Phone
NPWS	Regional Duty Officer	06 29 14405
	Newcastle Area Manager	06 29 14470
	Regional Operations Coordinator	06 29 14470
NSW Fire Brigade	Emergency	000
	NSW Fire Brigade	06 29 14470
	NSW Fire Brigade	06 29 14470
SES	Emergency	000
	NSW Fire Brigade	06 29 14470
	NSW Fire Brigade	06 29 14470
Police	Emergency	000
	NSW Fire Brigade	06 29 14470
	NSW Fire Brigade	06 29 14470
Ambulance	Emergency	000
	NSW Fire Brigade	06 29 14470
	NSW Fire Brigade	06 29 14470
Hospital	NSW Fire Brigade	06 29 14470
	NSW Fire Brigade	06 29 14470
	NSW Fire Brigade	06 29 14470
DPRR	NSW Fire Brigade	06 29 14470
	NSW Fire Brigade	06 29 14470
	NSW Fire Brigade	06 29 14470
State Parks	NSW Fire Brigade	06 29 14470
	NSW Fire Brigade	06 29 14470
	NSW Fire Brigade	06 29 14470
Council	NSW Fire Brigade	06 29 14470
	NSW Fire Brigade	06 29 14470
	NSW Fire Brigade	06 29 14470
Defence Dept. Wilmamere	RANM Air Approach Supervisor	08 9381 4413
	RANM Air Approach Supervisor	08 9381 4413
	RANM Air Approach Supervisor	08 9381 4413

Communications Information

Service	Channel	Location and Comments
NPWS - VHF	23	M Sugarloaf
NPWS - VHF	26	M Callaghan Tree
NPWS - VHF	30 (preferred)	M Gun Gap
NPWS - PMR	15	Can be located anywhere
NPWS - PMR	24	Post Substation (Glenwood Terrace)
NPWS - UHF (Portable Repeater)	15	Lake Macquarie
CBS - UHF	1.99	Available in most RFS vehicles
RFS - UHF	108	Port Stephens
RFS - UHF	N/A	Lake Macquarie
Mobile Phone	N/A	Generally good coverage