

Northern Tablelands Region Mother of Ducks Lagoon NR Fire Management Strategy (Type 2) 2005

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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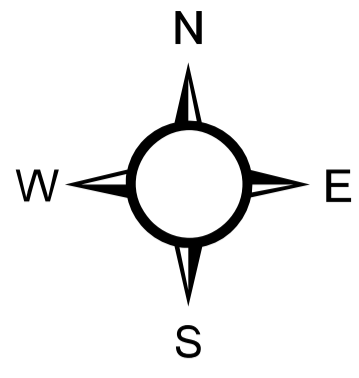
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Department of Environment and Conservation (NSW)

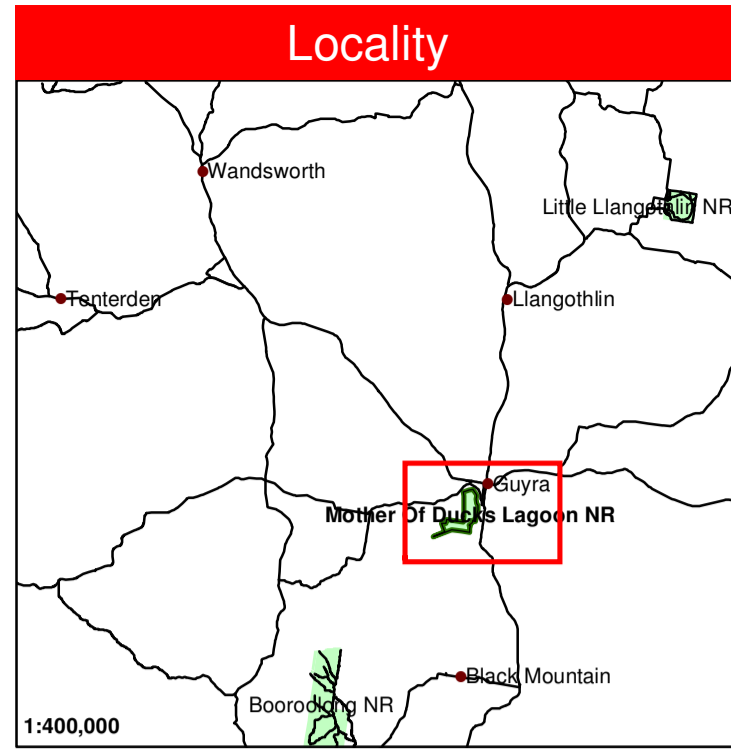
This strategy is a relevant Plan under Section 38 (4) and Section 44 (3) of Rural Fires Act 1997.

Approved Date: 29 Dec 2005



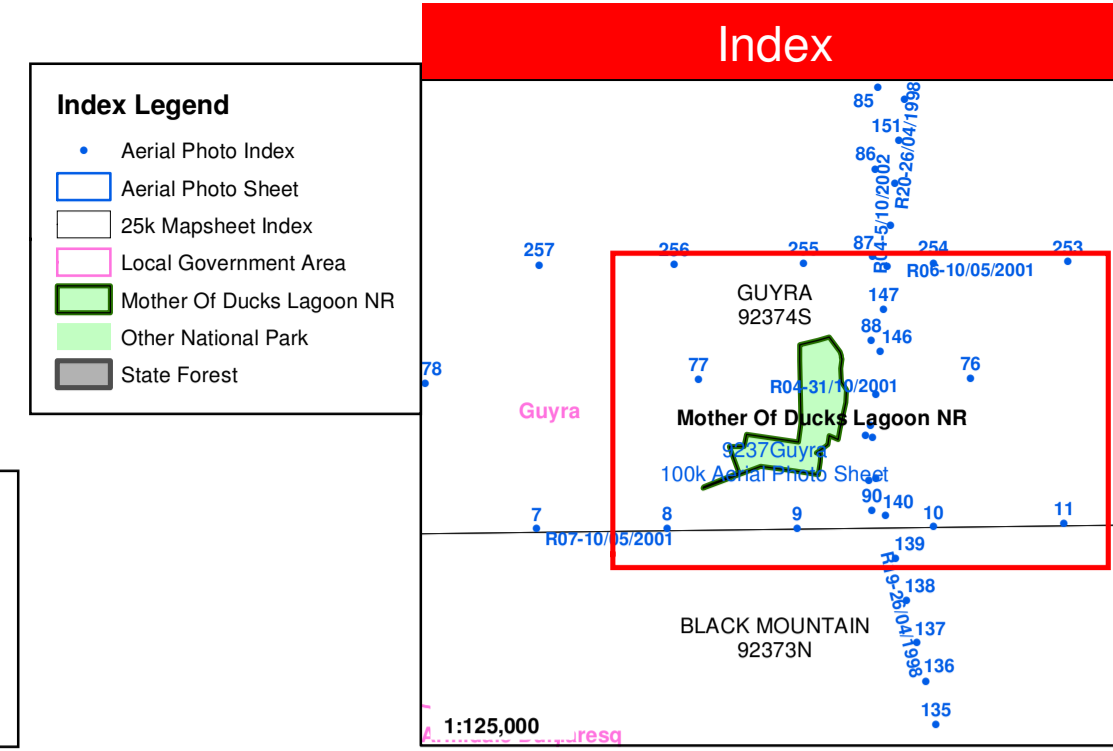
Datum: AGD66
Projection: UTM
Grid: AMG Zone 56

Noted scales are true when this map is printed on A1 size paper.



Locality Legend

- Towns & Localities
- Roads
- Mother Of Ducks Lagoon NR
- Other National Park
- State Forest



Index Legend

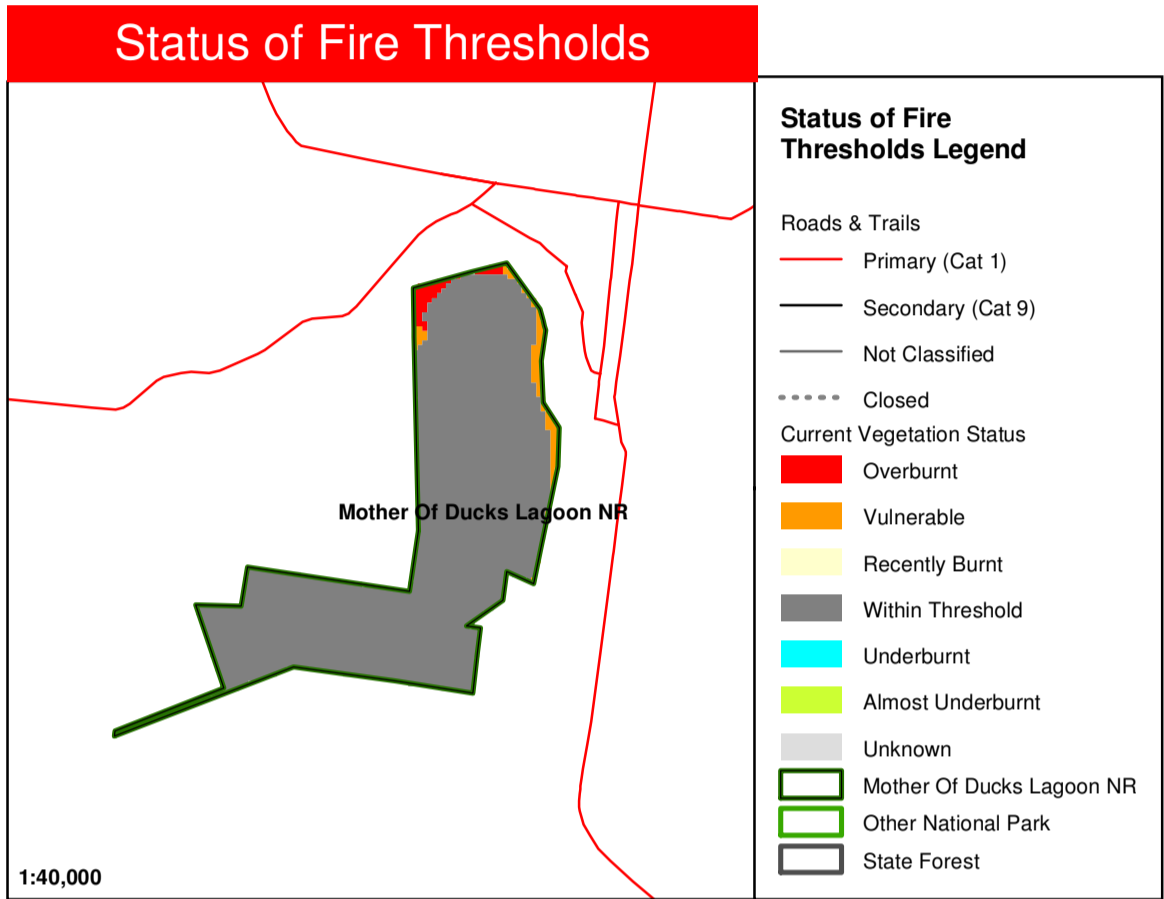
- Aerial Photo Index
- Aerial Photo Sheet
- 25k Mapsheet Index
- Local Government Area
- Mother Of Ducks Lagoon NR
- Other National Park
- State Forest

Communications Information

| Service | Channel | Location and Comments |
|--------------------------------|---------------|--|
| NPWS - VHF | 6 | Little Duval. |
| NPWS - VHF (Fireground Comms) | 18 | Simplex vehicle to vehicle |
| NPWS - VHF (Portable Repeater) | 15 | Stored at Armidale/transportable. |
| RFS - PMR - UHF | 23 | |
| RFS - GRN | - | No service available in NTR |
| SF - VHF | - | Not applicable |
| CB - UHF | - | Channel as appropriate |
| Aircraft - VHF | 119.10 | |
| Mobile Phone - CDMA | Yes. | On high ground with high gain antennae |
| Mobile Phone - GSM | No. | |
| Satellite Phone | 0147 154 353. | Stored at Armidale NPWS |

Strategy Information

| Fire Season Information | | |
|--|--------------|--|
| Wildfires | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Have been known to start as early as late August, but usually the potential for a large fire event is greatest between October and December. This period may extend into January in more severe years. During this period in dry seasons fires may exhibit high intensity behaviour under windy conditions. |
| Prescribed Burning (NPWS Fire Management Manual 4.7) | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Autumn to late Winter. Burning is possible in early Spring but not desirable on a regular basis from an ecological or tourism point of view. |
| Suppression Strategies | | |
| Current FDR | Forecast FDR | |
| Low - Mod | Low - Mod | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Undertake direct, parallel or indirect attack along existing containment lines. Where practicable consider maximising the fire area in accordance with the requirements of any proposed prescribed burns. |
| Low - Mod | = > High | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Undertake indirect attack along existing or newly constructed containment lines. 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 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure there is sufficient time to secure containment lines prior to the fire impacting upon them; otherwise fall back to the next potential line. |



Status of Fire Thresholds Legend

- Roads & Trails
 - Primary (Cat 1)
 - Secondary (Cat 9)
 - Not Classified
 - Closed
- Current Vegetation Status
 - Overburnt
 - Vulnerable
 - Recently Burnt
 - Within Threshold
 - Underburnt
 - Almost Underburnt
 - Unknown
 - Mother Of Ducks Lagoon NR
 - Other National Park
 - State Forest

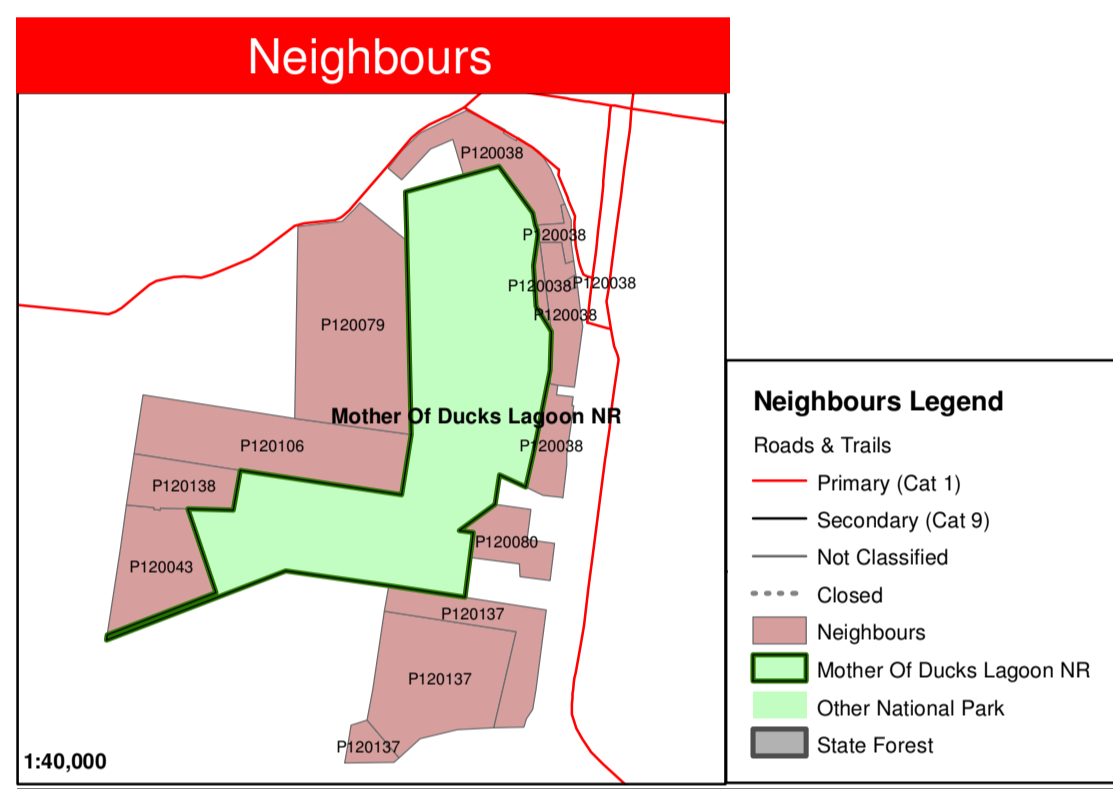
Fire Thresholds

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

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

Contact Information

| Agency | Position / Location | Phone |
|--|---------------------------------|--|
| DEC - NPWS | Regional Duty Officer | 0428 345 789 |
| | Area Manager | 0428 613 073 02 6776 0019 |
| | Fire Management Officer | 02 6771 1894 (fax) 0429 220 613 02 6776 0014 02 6771 1894 (fax) |
| | Regional Operations Coordinator | 02 6776 0000 |
| | Armidale Area Office | 02 6771 1894 (fax) 02 6771 1894 (fax) |
| | Regional Office | 02 6776 0000 02 6771 1894 (fax) |
| | RFS | Emergency New England Duty Officer Armidale Fire Control Centre |
| NSW Fire Brigade | Emergency Armidale Station | 000 02 6771 5076 |
| | SES | Emergency Guyra Unit |
| Police | Emergency Guyra Station | 000 02 6738 4279 |
| | Ambulance | Emergency Guyra Station |
| Hospital | Guyra | 02 6779 1166 |
| DNR | Barwon Region | 02 6764 5900 |
| Forests NSW | Inverell | 02 6722 4200 02 6723 1143 (ah) 02 6722 5428 (fax) |
| | Council | Guyra |
| Aboriginal Land Council | Guyra | 02 6779 1803 |
| Aboriginal Heritage Conservation Officer | | 0267390721 |

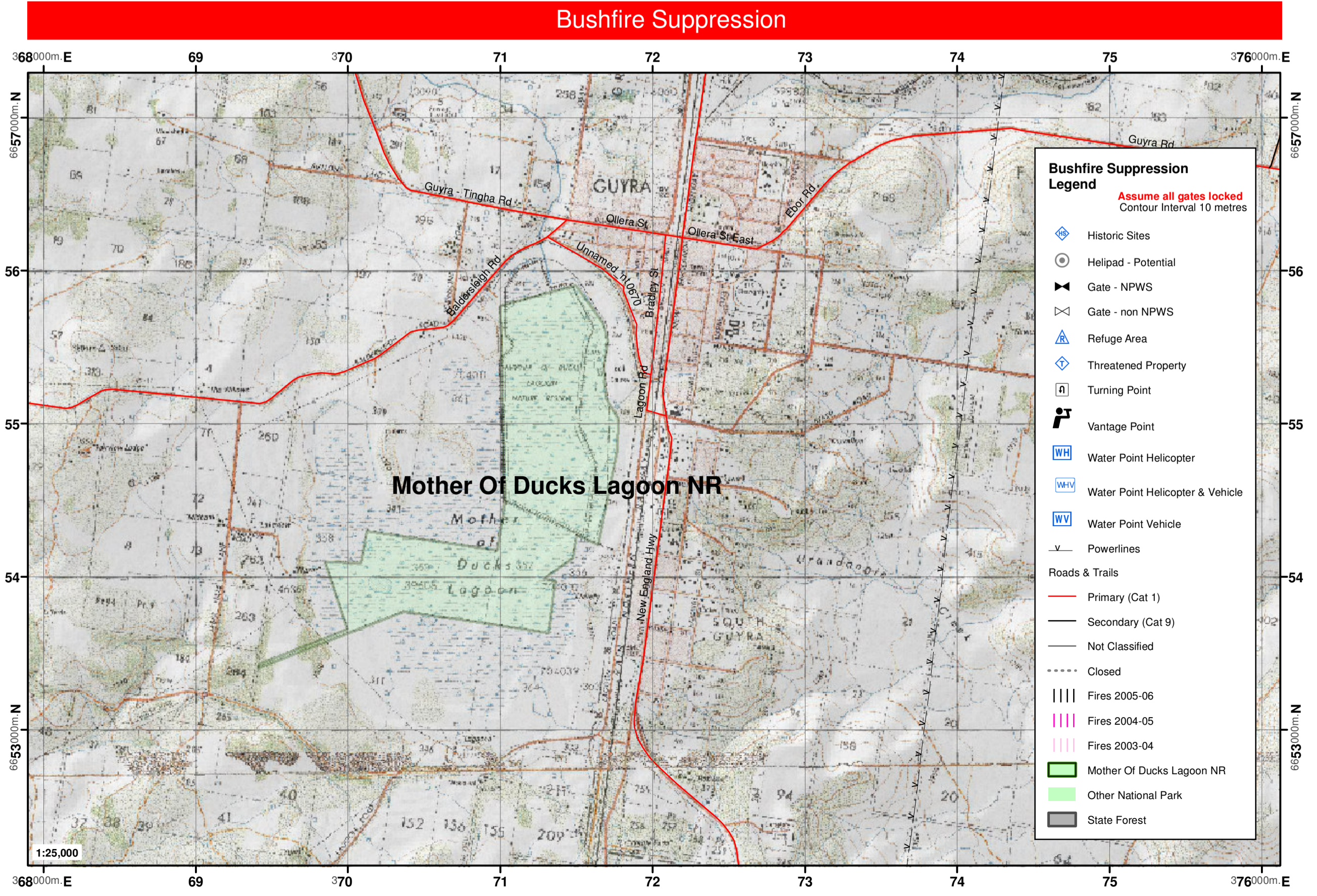


Neighbours Legend

- Roads & Trails
 - Primary (Cat 1)
 - Secondary (Cat 9)
 - Not Classified
 - Closed
- Neighbours
- Mother Of Ducks Lagoon NR
- Other National Park
- State Forest

Neighbour Information

| Map ID | Property Name | Surname | Firstname | Phone |
|---------|------------------|---------|-----------|-------|
| P120038 | No property name | | | |
| P120043 | Devoncourt | | | |
| P120079 | Lagoon View | | | |
| P120080 | Lakeview | | | |
| P120106 | No property name | | | |
| P120137 | No property name | | | |
| P120138 | No property name | | | |



Bushfire Suppression Legend

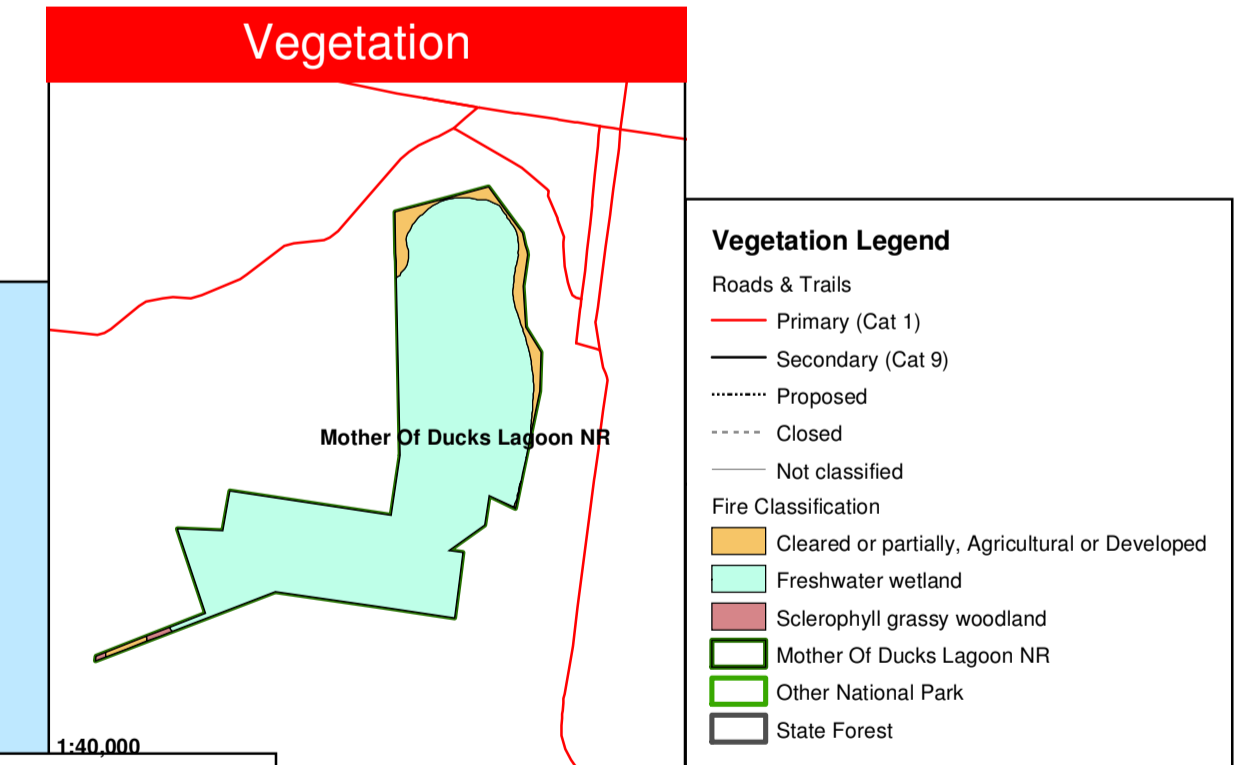
Assume all gates locked
Contour Interval 10 metres

- Historic Sites
- Helipad - Potential
- Gate - NPWS
- Gate - non NPWS
- Refuge Area
- Threatened Property
- Turning Point
- Vantage Point
- Water Point Helicopter
- Water Point Helicopter & Vehicle
- Water Point Vehicle
- Powerlines
- Roads & Trails
 - Primary (Cat 1)
 - Secondary (Cat 9)
 - Not Classified
 - Closed
- Fires 2005-06
- Fires 2004-05
- Fires 2003-04
- Mother Of Ducks Lagoon NR
- Other National Park
- State Forest



Risk Management Information Legend

- Roads & Trails
 - Primary (Cat 1)
 - Secondary (Cat 9)
 - Not Classified
 - Closed
- Fire Management Zones
 - Asset Protection
 - Land Management
 - Strategic Fire Advantage
 - Mother Of Ducks Lagoon NR
 - Other National Park
 - State Forest



Vegetation Legend

- Roads & Trails
 - Primary (Cat 1)
 - Secondary (Cat 9)
 - Proposed
 - Closed
 - Not classified
- Fire Classification
 - Cleared or partially, Agricultural or Developed
 - Freshwater wetland
 - Sclerophyll grassy woodland
 - Mother Of Ducks Lagoon NR
 - Other National Park
 - State Forest

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 |
|---|--|
| Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Site Management (NPWS FMM 4.11) | Aboriginal sites are not indicated on this strategy. For information on Aboriginal sites contact the Aboriginal Conservation Heritage Officer or Local Aboriginal Land Council. |
| Historic Heritage Management (NPWS FMM 4.10) | No known sites in Reserve. If new sites are located contact a Senior NPWS Officer. |
| Threatened Fauna Management (NPWS FMM 4.12 & 5.2) | No known sites in Reserve. If new sites are located contact a Senior NPWS Officer. |
| Threatened Flora Management (NPWS FMM 4.12) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Brief all personnel involved in fire suppression operations, on site location and the required management strategies appropriate to the site. Where practicable, protect populations or individuals from fire if the fire frequency threshold has been exceeded, or the species is an obligate seeder (fire response category), or if the fire frequency threshold &/or fire response category is unknown. |
| Threatened Property | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Where possible property owners with assets at possible 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. |
| General Guidelines | |
| Aerial Water Bombing (NPWS FMM 4.4 / NSW Fire Agencies Aviation SOP's 02 / NPWS Guidelines for Effective Aircraft Management) | The use of bombing aircraft should support containment operations by aggressively attacking hot spots and spot overs. The use of bombing aircraft without the support of ground based suppression crews should be limited to very specific circumstances. Ground crews must be alerted to water bombing operations. |
| Aerial Ignition (NPWS FMM 4.2.20 & 4.4 / NSW Fire Agencies Aviation SOP's 02-4 / NPWS Guidelines for Effective Aircraft Management) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aerial ignition may be used during back-burning or fuel reduction operations where practicable, but only with the prior consent of a senior NPWS officer. Utilise incendiaries to rapidly progress back-burns down slope where required. |
| Backburning (NPWS FMM 4.8) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Temperature and humidity trends must be monitored carefully to determine the safest times to implement back-burns. Generally, when the FDI is Very High or greater, backburning should commence when the humidity begins to rise in the late afternoon or early evening. With a lower FDI backburning may be safely undertaken during the day. Where practicable, 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. Avoid ignition of backburns at the bottom of slopes where a long and intense up slope burn is likely. |
| Command & Control (NPWS FMM 4.2) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The first combatant agency on site may assume control of the fire, but then must ensure the relevant land management agency is notified promptly. 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. |
| Containment Lines (NPWS FMM 2.2 & 3.9) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Construction of new containment lines should be avoided, where practicable, except where they can be constructed with minimal environmental impact. New containment lines require the prior consent of a senior NPWS officer. Where practicable, containment lines should be stabilised and rehabilitated as part of the wildfire suppression operation. All containment lines not required for other purposes should be closed at the cessation of the incident. All personnel involved in containment line construction should be briefed on both natural and cultural heritage sites in the location. |
| Earthmoving Equipment (NPWS FMM 4.2.20 & 4.4) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Earthmoving equipment amp only be used with the prior consent of the senior NPWS officer, and then only if the probability of its success is high. Earthmoving equipment must be washed down prior to it entering NPWS estate. Earthmoving equipment must always be guided and supervised by an experienced NPWS officer, and accompanied by a support vehicle. When engaged in direct or parallel attack this vehicle must be a firefighting vehicle. Containment lines constructed by earthmoving equipment should consider the protection of drainage features, observe the Threatened Species and Cultural Heritage Operational Guidelines, and be surveyed, where possible, to identify unknown cultural heritage sites. |
| Fire Advantage Recording | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All fire advantages used during wildfire suppression operations must be mapped and where relevant added to the database. |
| Fire Suppression Chemicals (NPWS FMM 4.2.20 & 4.9) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wetting and foaming agents (surfactants) are permitted for use in wildfire suppression. 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. Exclude the use of surfactants and retardants within 50m or rainforest, watercourse, dams and swamps. Areas where fire suppression chemicals are used must be mapped and the used products name recorded. Observe the Threatened Species Operational Guidelines. |
| Peat Fires | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Under certain conditions ground fires in peat may burn for extended periods and/or travel considerable distances. These characteristics may enable fire within this reserve to breach surface containment lines. Special care should therefore be taken to ensure active edges in close proximity to containment lines are properly extinguished, and where appropriate checking using infra-red technology. |
| Rehabilitation (NPWS FMM 5.1) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Where practicable, containment lines should be stabilised and rehabilitated as part of the wildfire suppression operation. |
| Smoke Management (NPWS FMM 3.4) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The potential impacts of smoke and possible mitigation tactics must be considered when planning for wildfire suppression and prescribed burning operations. If smoke becomes a hazard on local roads or highways, the police and relevant media must be notified. Smoke management must be in accordance with relevant RTA traffic management guidelines. |
| Visitor Management (NPWS FMM 3.6 & 4.13) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The reserve may be closed to the public during periods of extreme fire danger or during wildfire suppression operations. |