

Office of Environment & Heritage
NSW National Parks & Wildlife Service

Northern Tablelands Region
Nullamanna NP (CCAZ1)
Fire Management Strategy 2008
<mapsheet 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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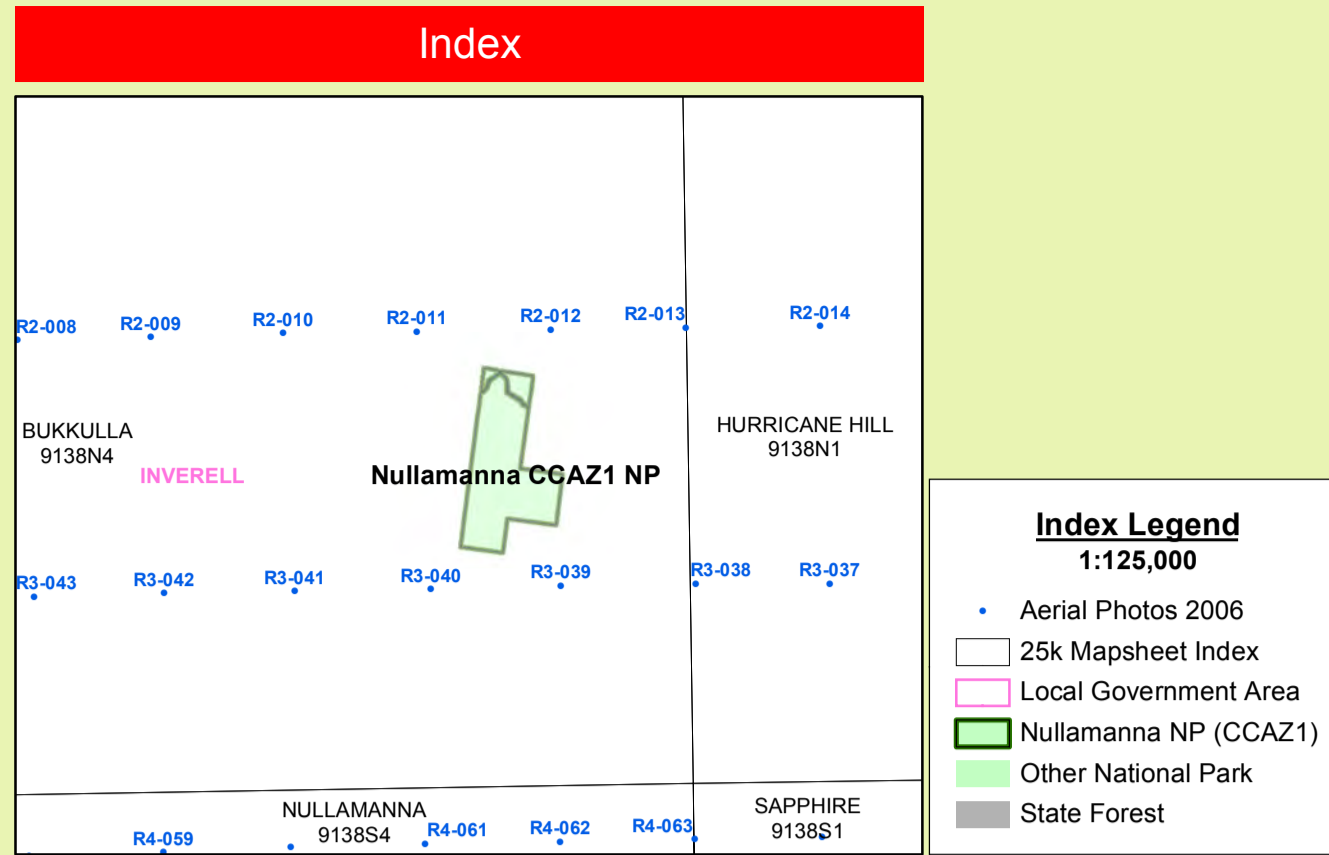
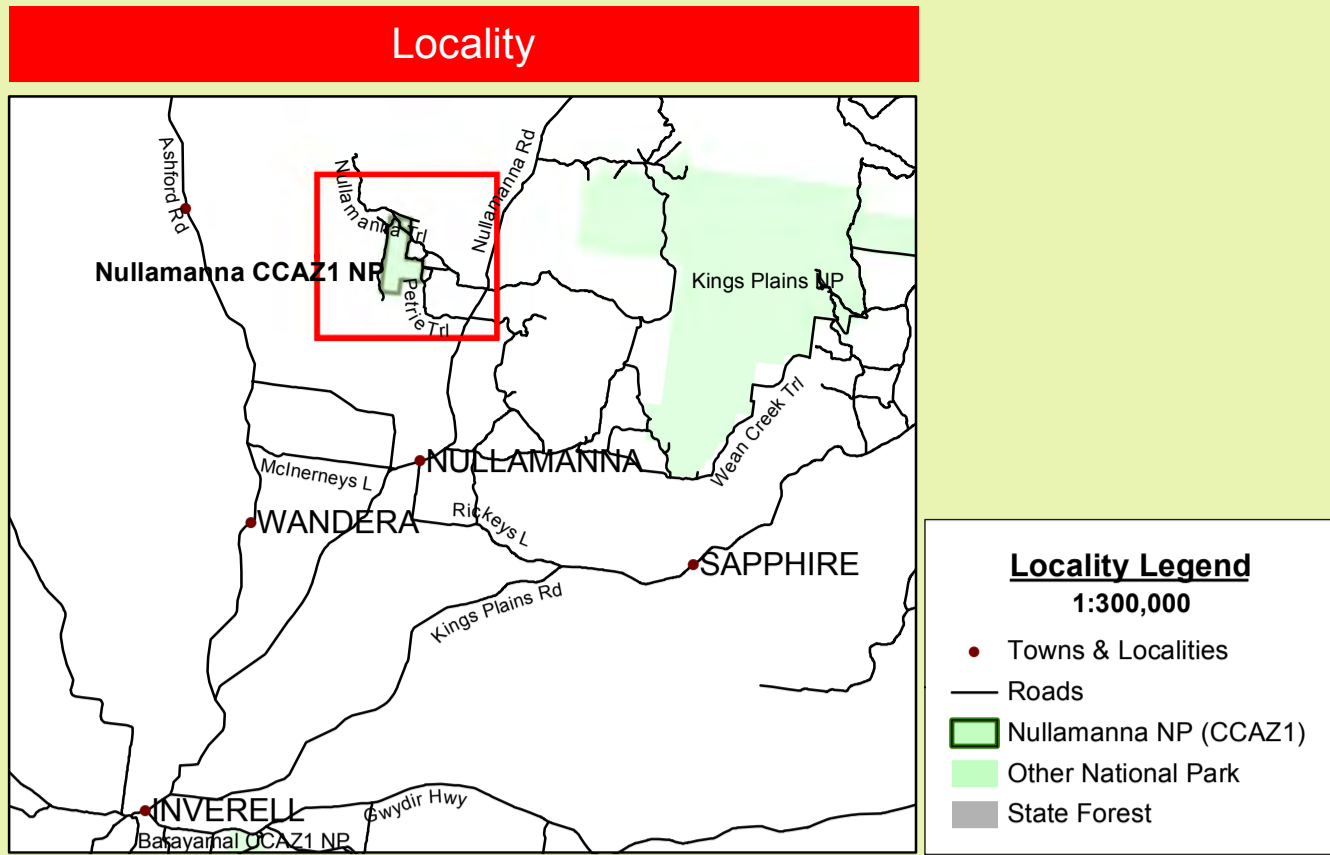
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This strategy is a relevant Plan under Section 38 (4) and Section 44 (3) of Rural Fires Act 1997.

The NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service is part of the Office of Environment & Heritage.
Published by the Office of Environment & Heritage (NSW), September 2008 (Last Updated 14/03/2014)
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ISBN: 978 1 74122 709 3 OEH No. 2008/26
Date Approved: 28/06/2008
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Operational Guidelines

Refer to Strategy for Fire Management 2003 and Fire Management Manual 2007.
Brief all personnel involved in suppression operations on the following issues:

| Resource | Guidelines |
|---|---|
| Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Site Management (NPWS FMM 4.11) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Brief all personnel involved in containment line construction &/or vehicle based fire suppression operations, on site locations and the required management strategies appropriate to the site type. AH2 – As far as possible protect site from fire, avoid all ground disturbance including the use of earthmoving machinery, handline construction and driving over site, avoid water bombing which may cause ground disturbance. Ensure close liaison with the relevant Aboriginal Heritage Conservation Officer in order to check for &/or identify new sites. |
| Historic Heritage Management (NPWS FMM 4.12) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No known sites in Reserve. If new sites located consult with senior NPWS officer. There is a historic hut near the Reserve boundary, on a neighbouring property at GR 268 276. |
| Threatened Fauna Management (NPWS FMM 4.12 & 5.2) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Vulnerable species recorded for the Reserve include Black-chinned Honeyeater, Brown Treecreeper, Speckled Warbler and Diamond Firetail. Where practicable, protect habitat areas and trees from the fire if the effects of the resulting fire frequency, season &/or intensity will have a significant or unknown impact. As far as possible, protect large and hollow bearing trees. Avoid the use of retardants and chemicals in drainage and creek line areas. |
| Threatened Flora Management (NPWS FMM 4.12 & 5.1) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There are known stands of White Box which is listed as <i>White Box-Yellow Box-Blackley's Red Gum Grassy Woodland</i>, a Critically Endangered Ecological Community. There are also patches of Mugga Ironbark which is a primary feed tree for the endangered Regent Honeyeater. These communities are to be managed within required fire regimes. There is a known stand of <i>Semi-evergreen vine thickets of the Brigalow Belt (North and South) and Nandewar Bioregions</i> which is an Endangered Ecological Community. This community is to be managed within required fire regimes. If new sites are found, 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. Where possible, protect old growth habitat trees. |
| Threatened Property | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Where possible property owners with assets at risk from 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 4.5 & 5.1 / NSW Fire Agencies Aviation SOPs O2 / NPWS Guidelines for Effective Aircraft Management) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The use of bombing aircraft should support containment operations by aggressively attacking hotspots and spotovers. The use of bombing aircraft without the support of ground based suppression crews should be limited to very specific circumstances. Where practicable foam should be used to increase the effectiveness of the water. Ground crews must be alerted to water bombing operations. |
| Aerial Ignition (NPWS FMM 4.8 & 4.5 & 2.12 / NSW Fire Agencies Aviation SOPs O2.4 / NPWS Guidelines for Effective Aircraft Management) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aerial ignition may be used during fuel reduction and backburning operations where practicable, but only with the prior consent of the senior NPWS officer. |
| 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 backburns. Generally, when the humidity 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 1 m 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. Brief all involved personnel on the location of cultural sites and threatened species prior to backburning, and adhere to the above guidelines. |
| Command & Control (NPWS FMM 4.3) | <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 2.3 & 4.9) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Construction of new containment lines should be avoided, except where they can be built by hand with minimal erosion potential. Only existing or previous trails or containment line routes will be used. Roads and trails to be used as containment lines but requiring works should be prioritised in consultation with relevant IMT and Fire Ground staff. All containment lines not required for other purposes should be closed immediately at the cessation of the incident. Where practicable, erosion control works should be incorporated into the containment line construction phase. All personnel involved in containment line construction should be briefed on both natural and cultural heritage sites in the location. |
| Earthmoving Equipment (NPWS FMM 4.4 & 2.3) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Earthmoving equipment may 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. As far as possible, restrict its use to previously used containment lines. Earthmoving equipment must be always 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 be at least 50 m from depression lines in order to avoid erosion problems. Observe the Threatened Species and Cultural Heritage Operational Guidelines. Proposed containment lines to be constructed with earthmoving equipment should be surveyed 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 4.5 & 4.10) | <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 50 m of rainforest, watercourses, dams and swamps. Areas where fire suppression chemicals are used must be mapped and the used product's name recorded. Observe the Threatened Species Operational Guidelines. |
| 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. |



First Response Communications Plan – Nullamanna NP

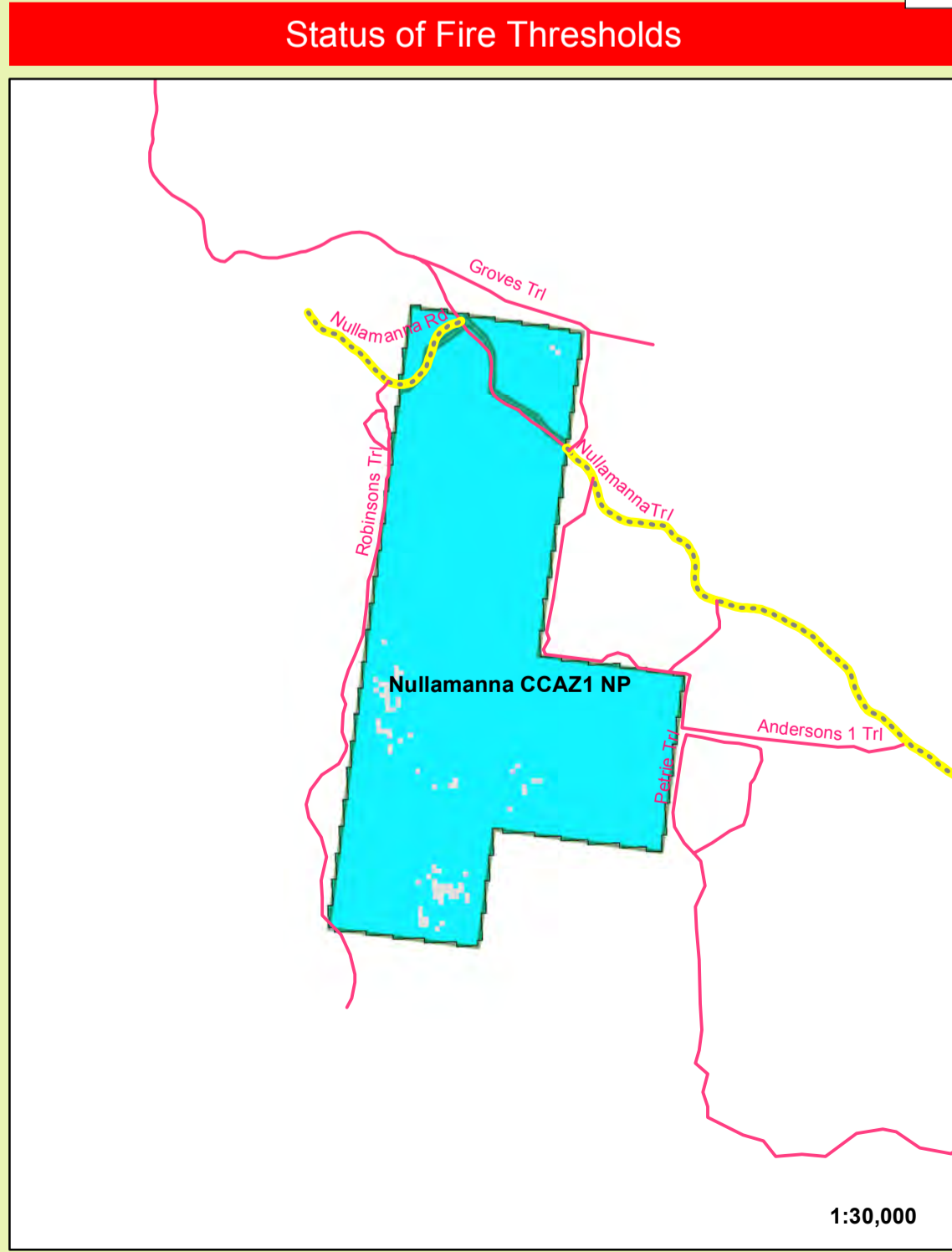
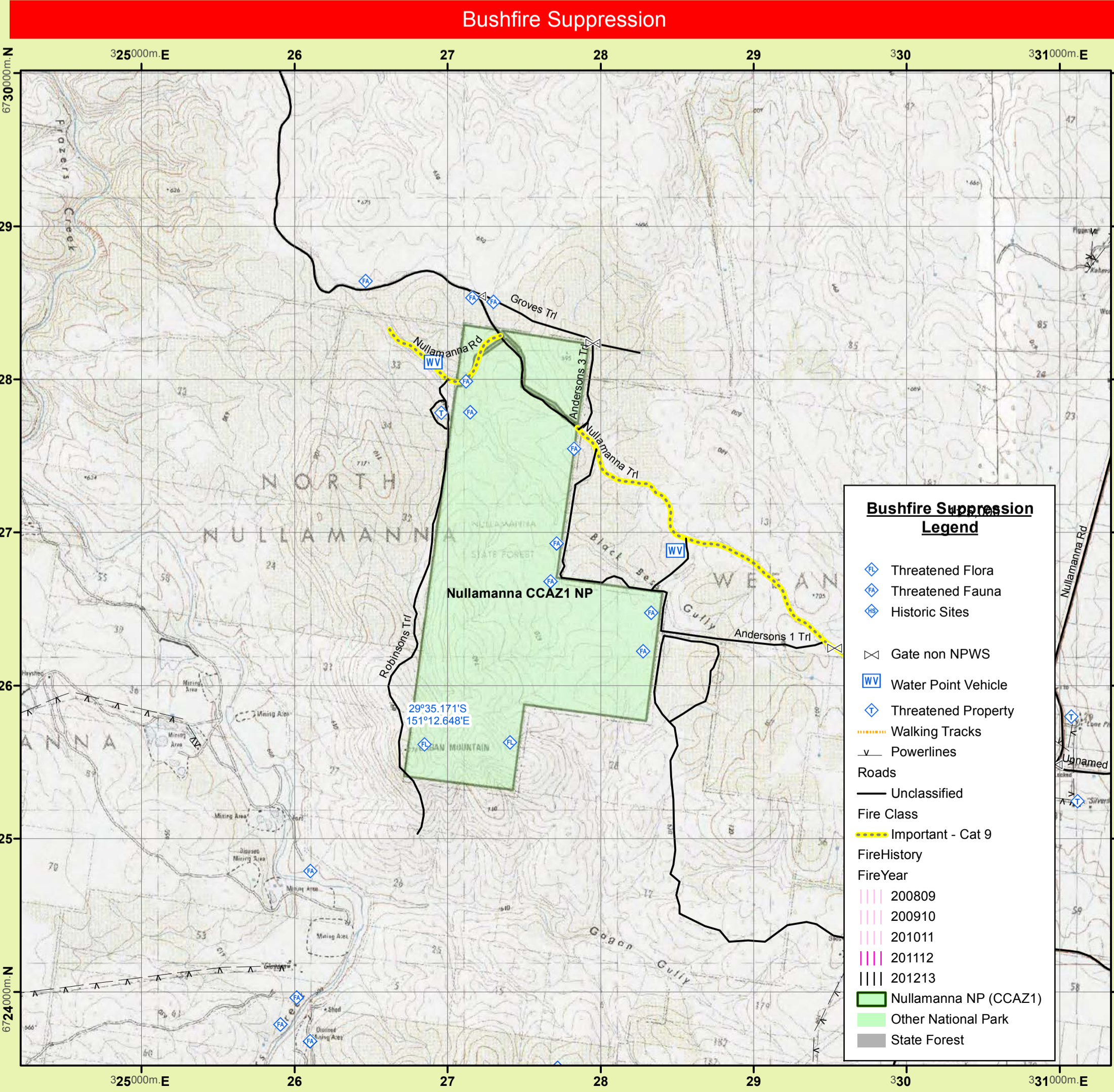
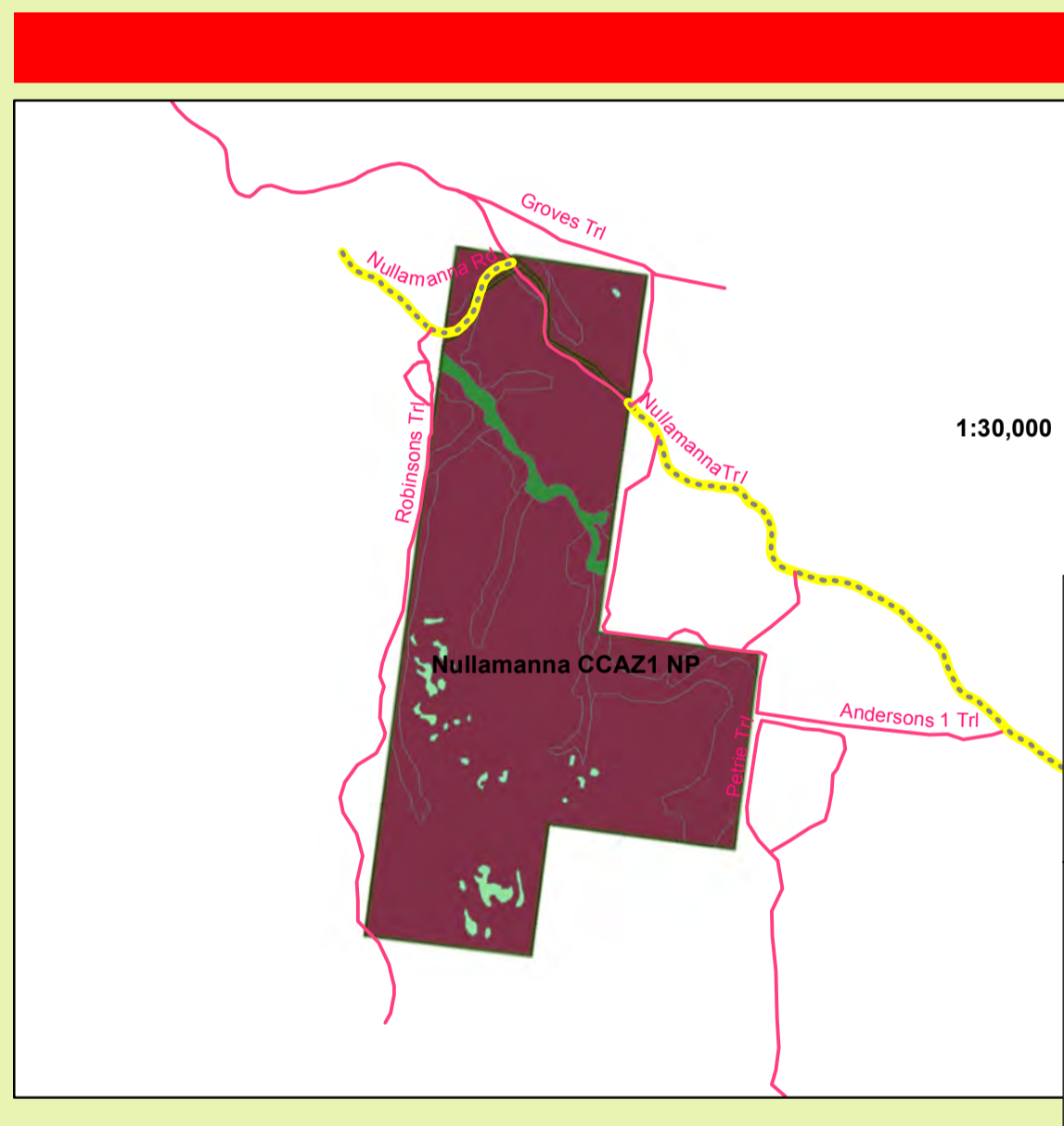
| Service | Channel | Incident | Location and Comments |
|--------------------------------|------------|----------------|--|
| NPWS - VHF | 331 | IMT to Div Com | Mount Ross |
| NPWS - VHF | 631 | Fireground | Car to Car channel (all classes) |
| NPWS - VHF (Portable Repeater) | 24 | Fireground | Stored at Glen Innes (Transportable). Source and deploy as required. |
| RFS - PMR - UHF | | IMT to Div Com | |
| Forests NSW - VHF | | Fireground | |
| CB - UHF | 15 | Fireground | Channel as appropriate. (Div Com, CL to Contractors) |
| Aircraft - VHF | 119.10 | IMT - Aircraft | |
| Mobile Phone – Next G | Yes | IMT – Div Com | Some High points |
| Satellite Phone | 0147162100 | IMT – Div Com | Stored at Glen Innes |

Contact Information

| Agency | Position / Location | Phone |
|--|--|--|
| DEC - NPWS | Regional Duty Officer | 0428 345 789 |
| | Area Manager | 02 6732 5133 0409 243 167 02 6732 5130 (fax) |
| | Fire Management Officer | 02 6776 0014 0429 230 613 02 6771 1894 (fax) |
| | Glen Innes Area Office | 02 6732 5133 02 6732 5130 |
| | Regional Office | 02 6776 0000 02 6771 1894 (fax) |
| Rural Fire Service | Fire Control Officer | 0428 639 116 |
| | Severn Fire Control Centre | 02 6732 3746 02 6732 7046 02 6732 3746 |
| NSW Fire Brigade | Emergency | 000 |
| | Glen Innes Station Inverell Station | 02 6732 5379 02 6721 0015 |
| SES | Emergency | 000 |
| | Inverell Unit | 02 6721 0833 |
| Police | Emergency | 000 |
| | Glen Innes Station Inverell Station | 02 6732 9799 02 6732 9711 (fax) 02 6722 0599 |
| Ambulance | Emergency | 000 |
| | Glen Innes Station | 13 1233 02 6766 7429 (fax) |
| Hospital | Glen Innes Inverell | 02 6730 2000 02 6728 8300 |
| | DNR | Glen Innes Inverell |
| Forests NSW | Inverell | 02 6722 4200 |
| | Council | Inverell Shire |
| Local Aboriginal Land Council (LALC) | Anaiwan Aboriginal Council | 02 6723 3022 |
| | 29 Ruby St Tingha Northern Zone | 02 6659 1200 |
| Aboriginal Heritage Conservation Officer | Glen Innes | 02 6739 0721 |

Fire Management Zones

| | |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| 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. |
| 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. |
| Land Management Zones | The objective of LMZs is to conserve biodiversity and protect cultural heritage. Manage fire consistent with fire thresholds. |



| Category Name | Guidelines for interpreting fire regime threshold status |
|---|---|
| Too Frequently Burnt Consecutive fire intervals shorter than recommended minimum interval | These areas have experienced sustained (two or more) consecutive intervals between fires shorter than the recommended minimum interval for this vegetation type. Any Rainforest / Mangrove / fire exclusion vegetation that has been burnt will be in this category. <i>Areas of vegetation that are repeatedly burnt at intervals shorter than recommended for the vegetation type may experience a decline in the abundance of plant species sensitive to frequent fire. If inter-fire intervals shorter than the recommended minimum occur, these sensitive species are at risk of local extinction. Attempts should be made to minimise fire occurrence in these areas.</i> |
| Vulnerable to Frequent Fire Most recent fire interval shorter than recommended minimum interval | These areas have already experienced one inter-fire interval less than the minimum interval recommended for this vegetation type and/or the current time-since-fire is less than the minimum recommended interval. All unburnt Rainforest / Mangrove / fire exclusion vegetation is in this category. |
| Within Threshold | The time-since-fire age of the vegetation is greater than the minimum recommended inter-fire interval and less than the maximum recommended inter-fire interval. If a fire occurs before the number of years specified as the minimum interval has been reached it will move into the 'Vulnerable to Frequent Fire' category. If three or more fires occur in close succession the area will move into the 'Too Frequently Burnt' category. |
| Long Unburnt One or more fire intervals longer than longest suggested interval | The post-fire age of the vegetation is greater than the recommended maximum inter-fire interval for this vegetation type. <i>If fire continues to be absent from the vegetation for a prolonged time, it is anticipated that plant species that require fire to stimulate flowering or seed production (and their seed banks) may begin to senesce. Long unburnt areas in some vegetation types are very rare and therefore significant. Long unburnt vegetation may also have other ecological values that make it important habitat for certain species in a given area. Careful consideration should be given before burning these areas, and wherever possible the decision should be based on a scientific assessment and/or recommendation prior to burning.</i> |
| Unknown | There has been no fire mapped for this area and the maximum recommended fire interval for the vegetation type is longer than the length of time for which fire records are available in the study area. It is not possible to determine if the vegetation is in the 'Within Threshold' or 'Long Unburnt' category. |
| No Fire Regime | Areas which do not have recommended fire intervals assigned to them, e.g. cleared land, rock etc. |

Strategy Information

| Fire Season Information | |
|---|--|
| Wildfires | 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. |
| Prescribed Burning (NPWS Fire Management Manual 4.7) | General season is 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 Low - Mod | Forecast FDR Low - Mod |
| Low - Mod | => High |
| High | All |
| All | All |