


Mid North Coast Region Cooperabung Creek Nature Reserve 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. These data are not guaranteed to be free from error or omission. The NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service and its employees disclaim liability for any act done on the information in the data and any consequences of such acts or omissions. This document is copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of study, research, criticism or review, as permitted under the copyright Act, no part may be reproduced by any process without written permission. The NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service is part of the Department of Environment and Conservation. Published by the Department of Environment and Conservation (NSW), July 2005. Contact: NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service, Mid North Coast Region PO Box 61 Port Macquarie 2444. ISBN: 1 74137 413 8 DEC Number: 2005/264 Last Updated: 20/07/2005

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

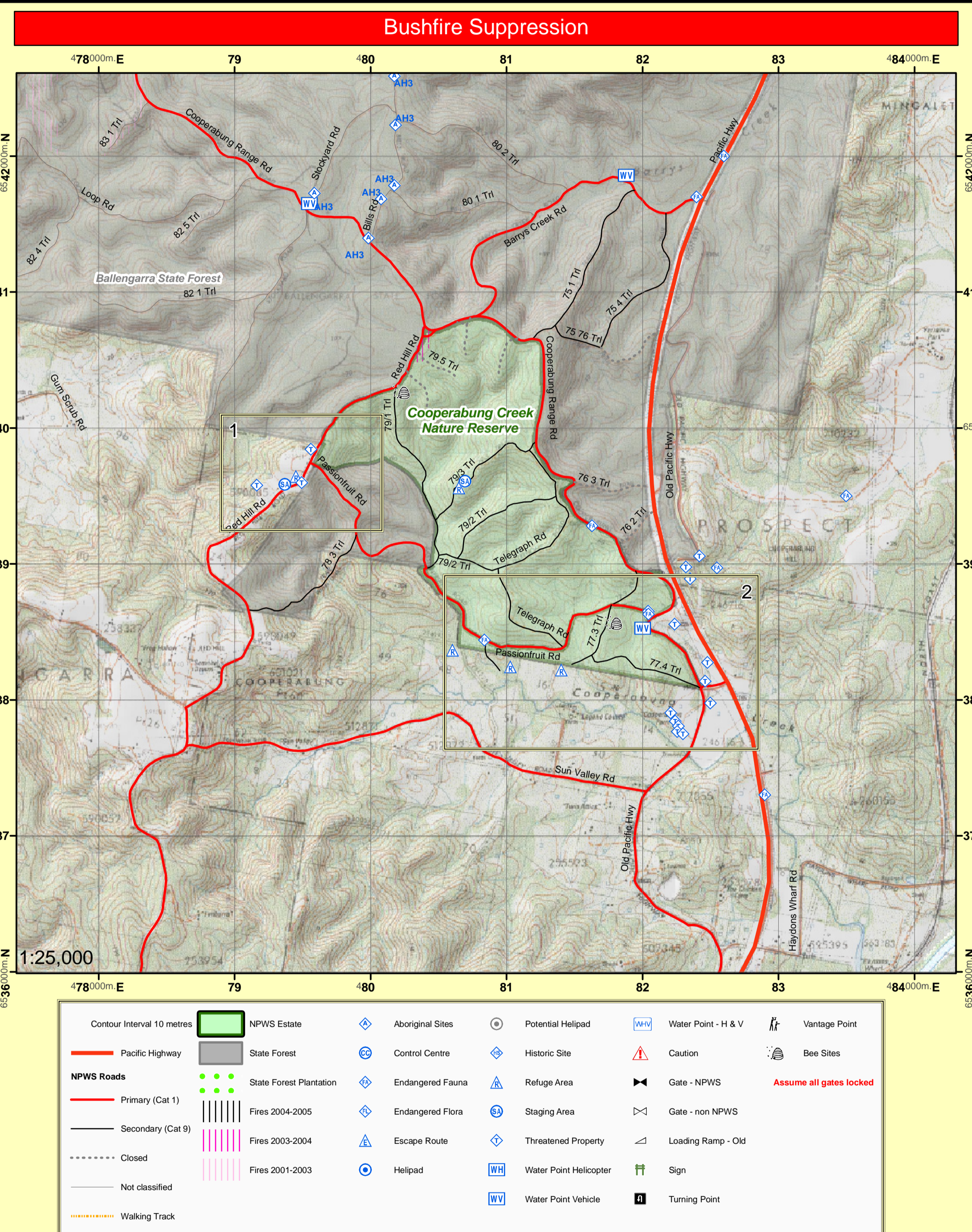
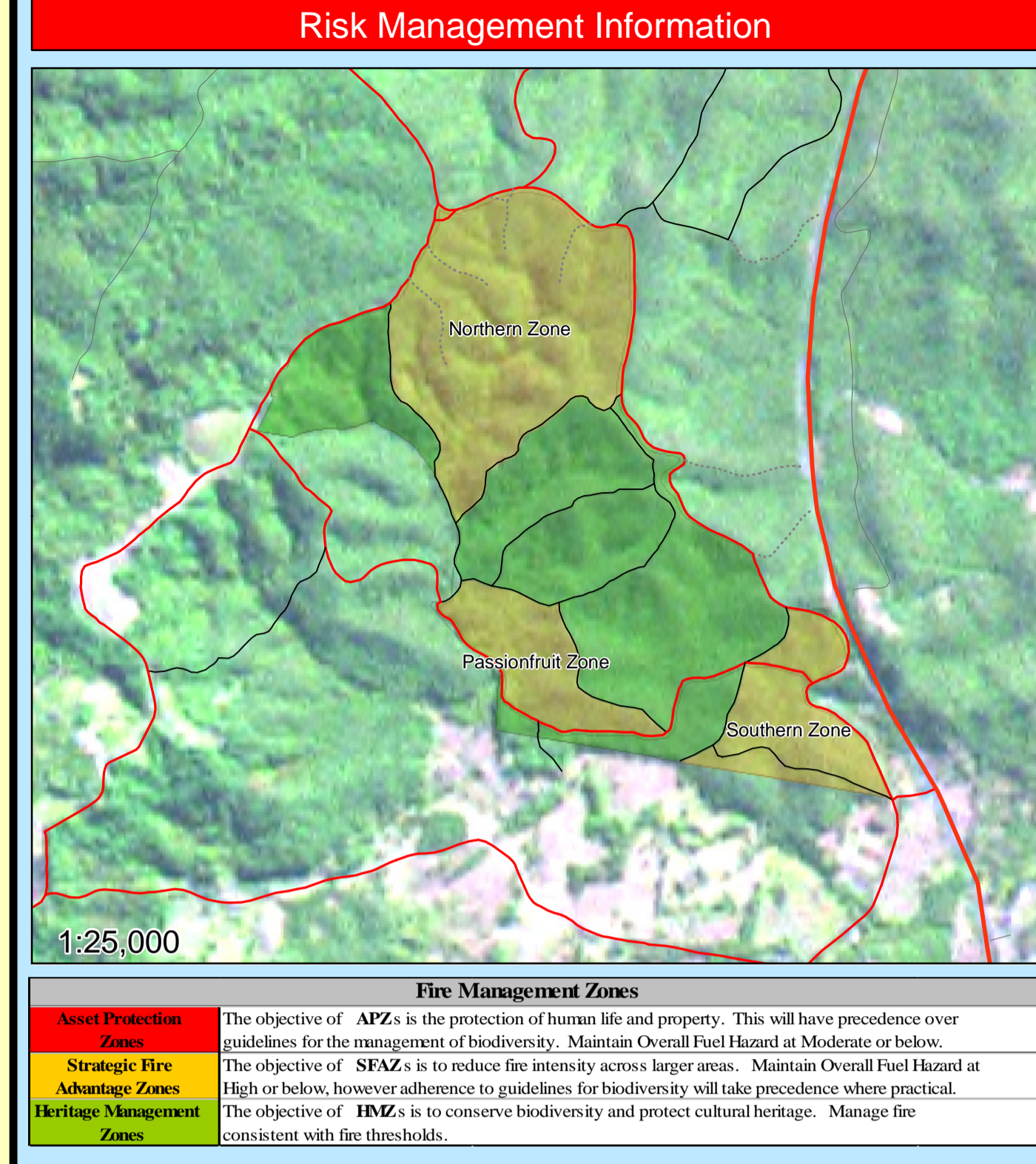
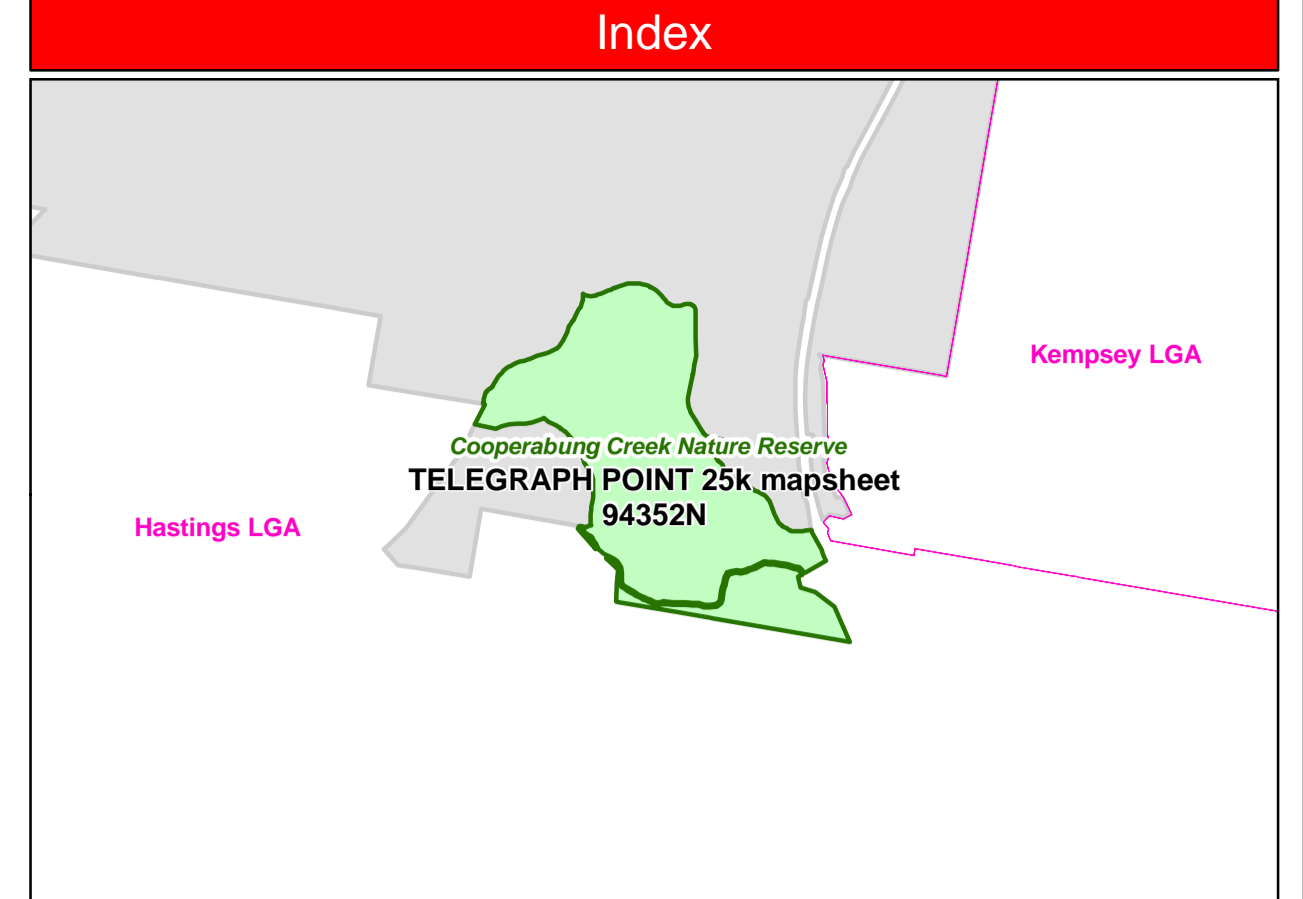
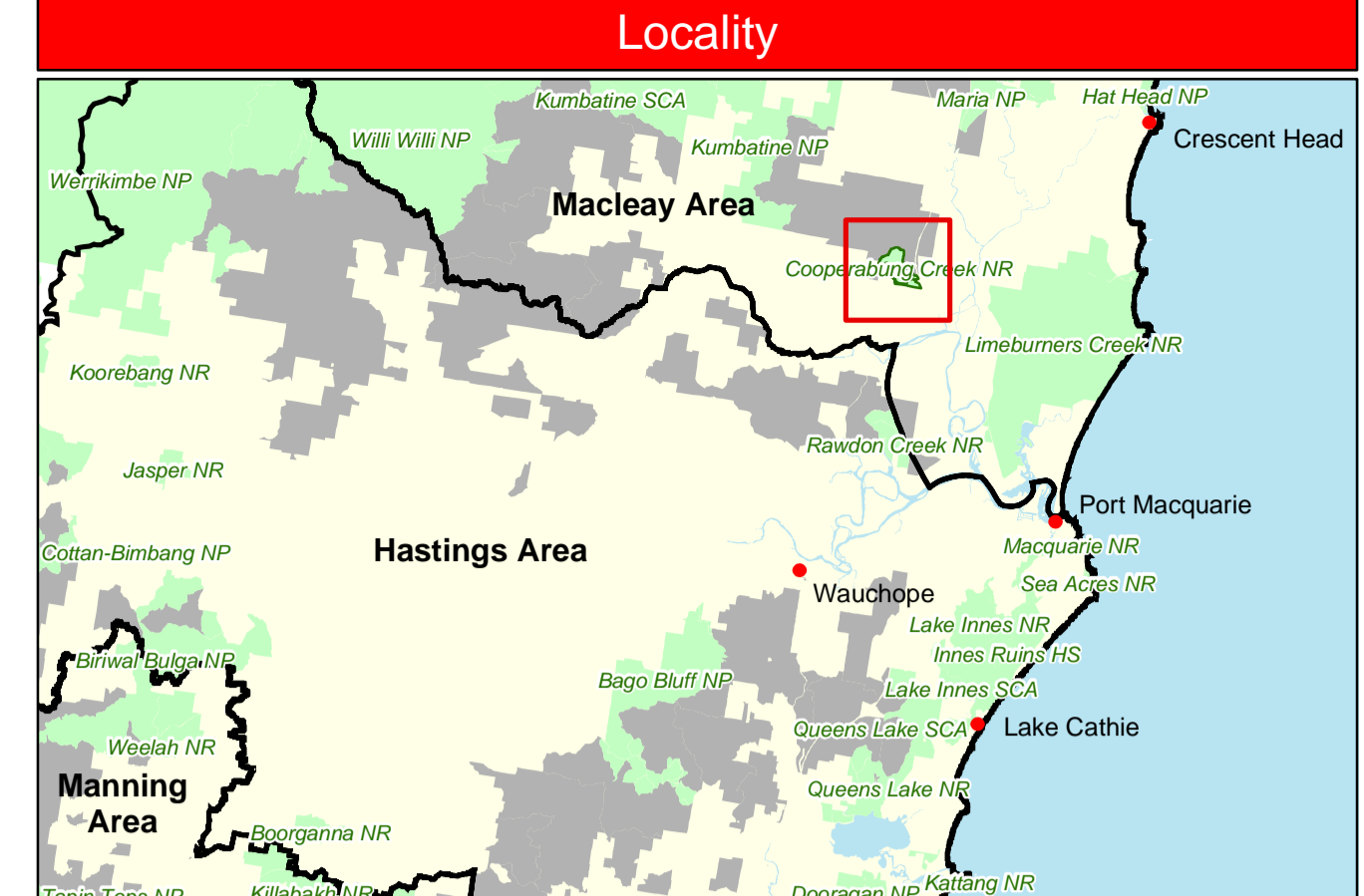
Endorsed by: _____ Date: / /
Director Northern, Parks & Wildlife Division

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Datum: AGD66
Projection: UTM
Grid: AMG Zone 56

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

Produced by MNC GIS



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)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> AH1 - As far as possible protect site from fire. Do not cut down trees. AH2 - As far as possible protect site from fire. Avoid all ground disturbance including the use of earthmoving machinery, handline construction and driving over sites. Avoid water bombing which may cause ground disturbance. AH3 - Avoid all ground disturbance. Avoid water bombing. Site may be burnt by bushfire, back-burn or prescribed burn without damage.
Historic Heritage Management (NPWS FMM 4.10)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No known sites in Reserve. If new sites located consult with a senior NPWS officer.
Threatened Fauna Management (NPWS FMM 4.12 & 5.2)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> FA - Wildlife rescue program to be implemented when IC declares it safe to undertake onground rescue operations. If new sites are located consult with a senior NPWS officer.
Threatened Flora Management (NPWS FMM 4.12)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No known sites in Reserve. If new sites are located consult with a senior NPWS officer.
Threatened Property	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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. Beekeepers must be notified within the first four hours of a reported ignition. For their safety bee keepers are to be accompanied by a Cat 9 and crew, if the bee sites are either in the predicted path of the fire, on, or adjacent to, the fireground. Contact MNC Regional Office for telephone numbers of Beekeepers.
General	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aerial Water Bombing (NPWS FMM 4.4 / 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 ground based suppression crews engaged in containment operations by aggressively attacking hotspots and spot-overs. 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 4.2.20 & 4.4 / 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 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, except where they can be built by hand with minimal erosion potential. 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. Earthmoving Equipment (NPWS FMM 4.2.20 & 4.3) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Earthmoving equipment may only be used with the prior consent of a senior NPWS officer, and then only if the probability of its success is high. Earthmoving equipment must be always guided and supervised by an experienced officer, and accompanied by a support vehicle. When engaged in direct or parallel attack this vehicle must be a firefighting vehicle. Earthmoving equipment should be washed down, where practicable, prior to it entering NPWS estate. 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 of rainforest, watercourses, dams and swamps. Areas where fire suppression chemicals are used must be mapped and the used products name recorded. The Threatened Species Operational Guidelines are to be observed. 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.

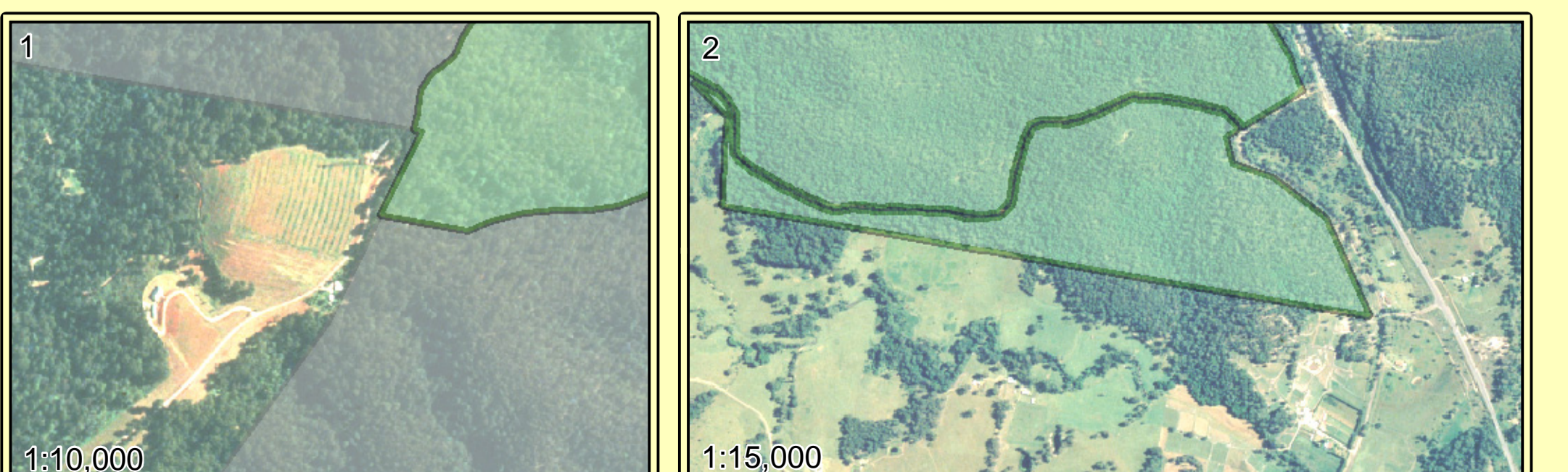
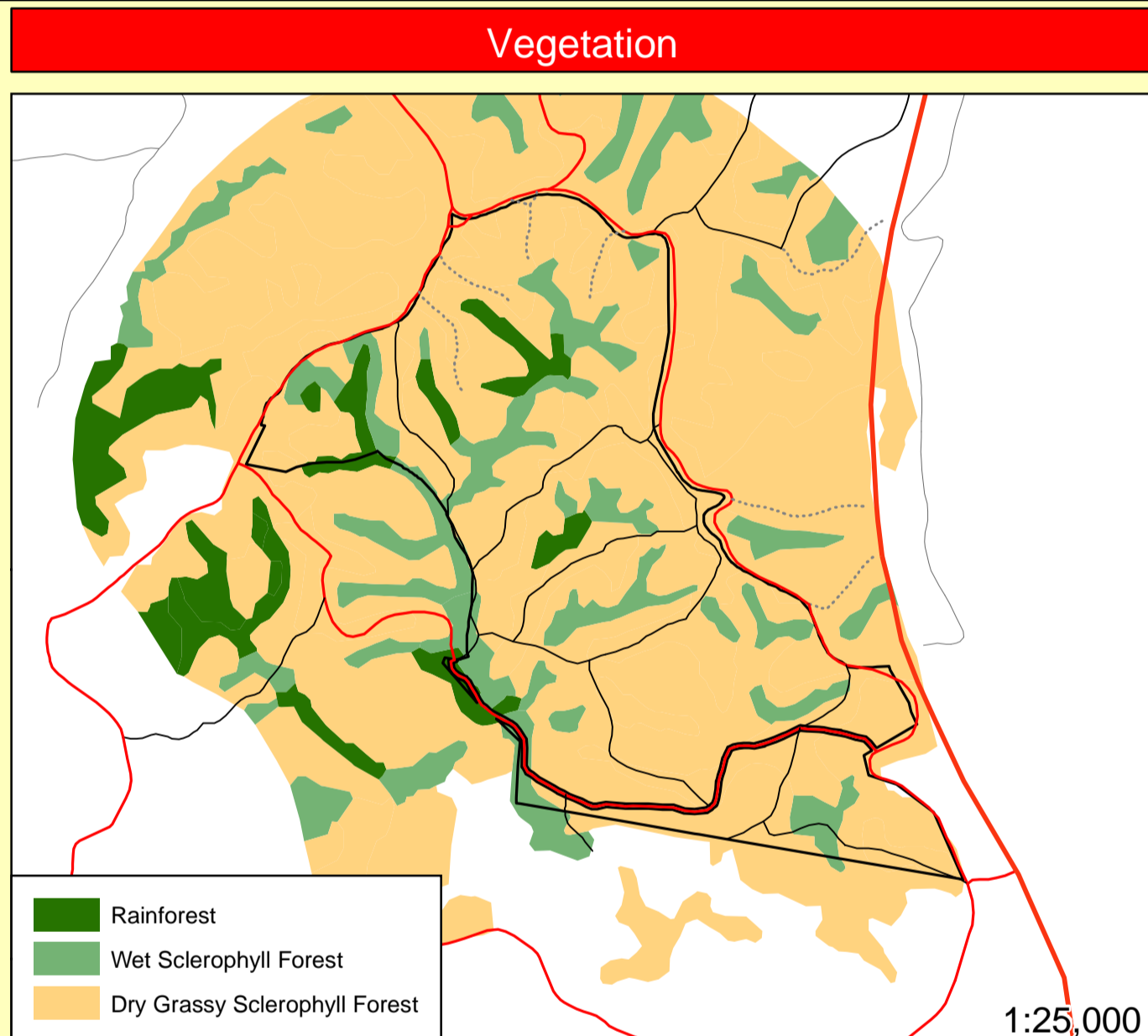
Strategy Information

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.
Prescribed Burning (NPWS Fire Management Manual 4.7)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> General season is Autumn to late Winter. Burning is possible in early Spring but not desirable on a regular basis from an ecological point of view.
Suppression Strategies	
Current FDR	Forecast FDR
Low - Mod	Low - Mod
Low - Mod	= > High
High	All
All	All

- Understand 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.
- 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.
- Understand 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.
- Ensure there is sufficient time to secure containment lines prior to the fire impacting upon them; otherwise fall back to the next potential line.

Contact Information Bago Bluff NP

Agency	Position / Location	Phone
NPWS	Regional Duty Officer	016 301 161
	Area Manager Macleay	02 6566 7251 0417 261 064
	Fire Management Officer	02 6586 8329 0417497 031
	Regional Operations Coordinator	02 6584 5894 (fax)
	Hastings Area Office	02 6586 8317 02 6566 6621
	Regional Office	02 6586 8300 02 6584 9402 (fax)
Rural Fire Service	Operations Officer Hastings Hastings Fire Control Centre 24 hr Number	02 6586 4565 02 6585 1999
NSW Fire Brigade	Emergency	000
	All requests through Zone Commander	02 6583 9878
SES	Emergency	000
Police	Wauchope Unit	02 6585 1966
	Emergency	000
Ambulance	Wauchope	02 6585 1404
	Emergency	000
Hospital	All Bookings	13 1233
	Port Macquarie Base Hospital	02 6581 2000
Dept. of Lands	Taree	02 6552 2788
State Forests	Wauchope	02 6585 3744
	Hastings Council	02 6581 8111
Council	After Hours Number	6583 2225
	Bunyah Aboriginal Land Council	02 6585 3882
Aboriginal Land Council	Regional Aboriginal Land Council	02 6563 1862
	TW and JH Brenton	02 6562 4248 018 658802 02 65668319 018658289
Bee Keepers	K. Brenton	



Status of Fire Thresholds

1:25,000

Fire Thresholds	
Overburnt	Fire thresholds have been exceeded. Protect from fire as far as possible.
Vulnerable	The area will be Overburnt if it burns this year. Protect from fire as far as possible.
Recently Burnt	Time since fire is less than the optimum interval, but before that it was within threshold. Avoid fires 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. The area is close to its threshold and may become underburnt with the absence of fire.
Almost Underburnt	A prescribed burn may be advantageous. Consider allowing unplanned fires to burn.
Underburnt	Fire frequency is below fire thresholds in the area. 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.

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

Communications Information

Service	Channel	Location and Comments
NPWS - VHF	1	Channel 2 as alternate
NPWS - VHF (Fireground Comms)	33	Channel 34 as alternate
NPWS - VHF (Portable Repeater)	13	Held at Hastings Depot in Port Macquarie.
RFS PMR - UHF	63	Channel 28 (Middle Brother) or 55 (Comboyne) as alternates
RFS - GRN		Not Available
SF - VHF	32	NPWS Equivalent Channel 91
CB - UHF	12	
Aircraft - VHF	No	N/A
Mobile Phone - CDMA	Yes	
Mobile Phone - GSM	Yes	