

**Terrie Hie Hie Aboriginal Area
Community Conservation Area Zone 2
Campbell - Montrose Section
Fire Management Strategy
2015-2020**

Office of Environment & Heritage

This strategy should be used with aerial photography and field reconnaissance. This is a relevant Plan under Section 38 (4) and Section 44 (3) of Rural Fires Act 1997.

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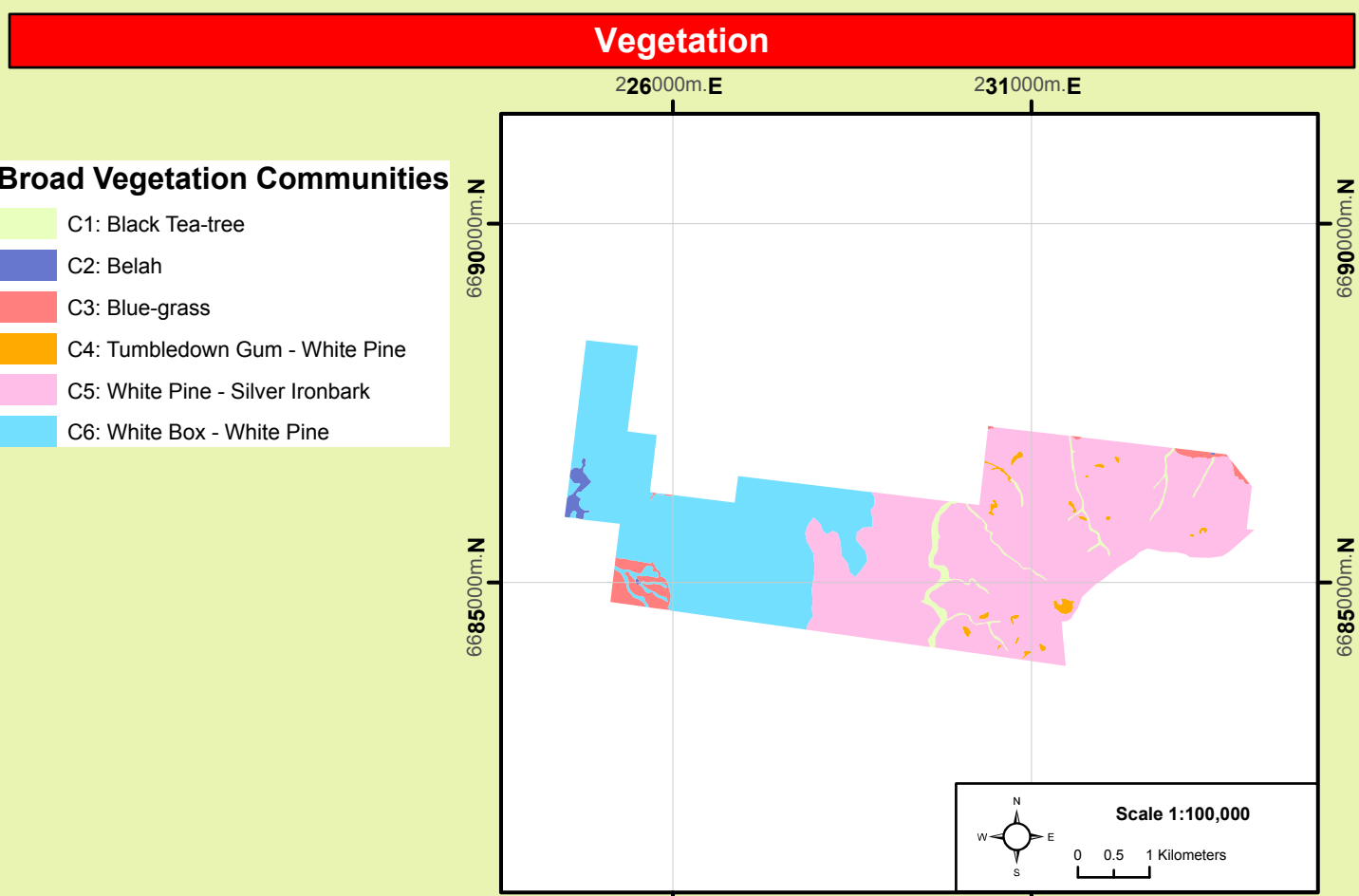
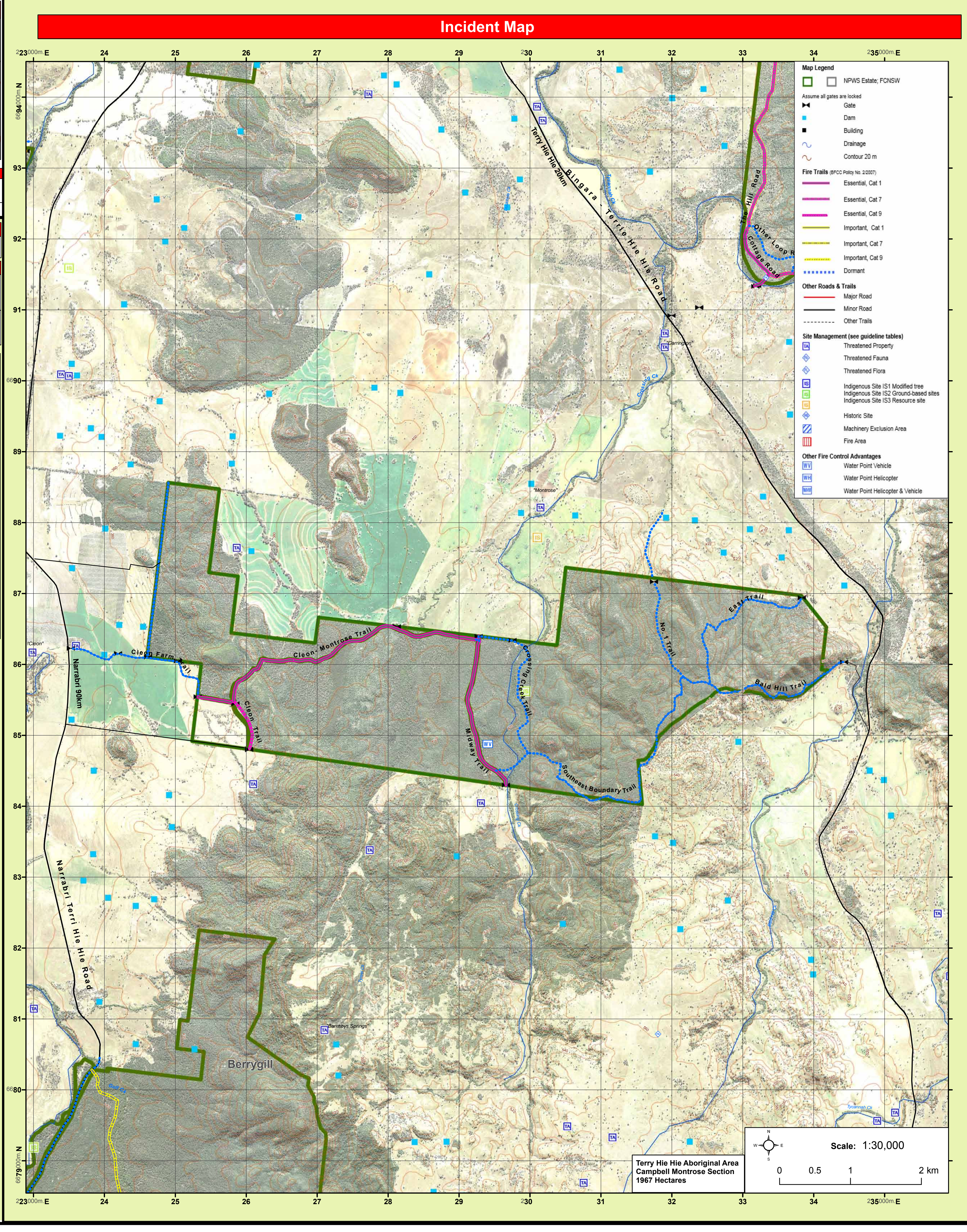
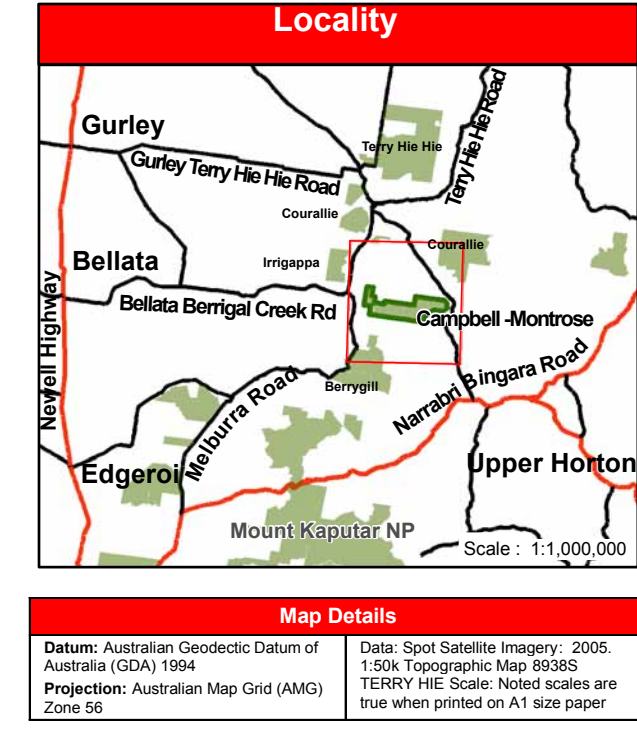
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	Newcastle Comms Centre	4929 7177
Emergency Services	Police, Fire, Ambulance	000
SES		13 2500
Police	Moree	6757 3333
Council	Moree Plains	6757 3222

Communications Information		
Service	Channel	Location and Comments
NPWS Repeaters	29	• The Tops
RFS	86 / P069 87 / P070	• Variable reception, check by location
RFS Stratnet	128 / S12STN	• The Governor
UHF - CB		• Small fires channel 10 large fires determined by IMT
Parks Radio	11.17	• NPWS Fireground channels 1-7
Aviation - CTAf	126.7	
Mobile phone		• Telstra - reception limited to high areas



Related Documents

National Parks and Wildlife Service Fire Management Manual, 2015.
Hunter, J. T. (2009) and Vegetation and Floristics of Campbell & Montrose Aboriginal Area

Fire Season Information

Wildfires The critical wildfire season occurs during November and December. This period may extend into the first half of January. Particular care is required during periods of negative Southern Oscillation Indices. The end of the critical fire season is often marked by wet storm activity.

Prescribed Burning Prescribed burning should be undertaken before autumn rain occurs to maximise effectiveness. Burning may also be considered during late winter and early spring dependent on seasonal factors. Prescribed burning undertaken near the commencement of the statutory bushfire season should be fully contained.

Operational Guidelines

General	Guidelines
Aerial operations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aerial operations will be managed by trained and competent personnel. This includes directing aerial bombing and aerial ignition operations The use of bombing aircraft without the support of ground based suppression crews should be limited to very specific circumstances. All aerial ignition operations require the consent of the NPWS Regional Manager or the Section 44 Appointee.
Backburning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All personnel must be fully briefed before back burning operations begin. Backburning in areas of Low - Moderate OFH will require the use of wind, or low humidity to maximise effectiveness. Where practicable to mop-up efforts, clear a 1m radius around dead and fibrous barked trees adjacent to containment lines prior to backburning, or wet down these trees during the ignition.
Command & Control	<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 liaise with the RFS to ensure that the agency in command and control is determined and an Incident Controller is appointed. New containment lines require the prior consent of a senior NPWS officer. Construction of new containment lines should be avoided, where practicable, except where they can be constructed with minimal environmental impact.
Containment Lines	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Containment lines running along valley areas should be constructed at 20 - 50 metres from the gullyline to avoid severe erosion. All personnel involved in containment line construction should be briefed on, and must consider both natural and cultural heritage sites in the location.
Earthmoving Equipment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Earthmoving equipment may only be used with the prior consent of a senior NPWS officer. Earthmoving machinery will not be permitted on slopes greater than 20 degrees. Earthmoving equipment must always be 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 fire fighting vehicle. Earthmoving equipment must be washed down, where practicable, prior to entering NPWS estate and again on exiting NPWS estate.
Fire Suppression Chemicals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The use of foam, wetting agents and retardants will be permitted on the reserve. Fire suppression chemicals are not to be applied within 50m of water courses and dams. The use of retardants requires the approval of the Regional Manager or delegate.
Rehabilitation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Where practicable, containment lines should be stabilised and rehabilitated as part of the wildfire suppression operation.
Smoke Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Potential smoke impacts and mitigation tactics will be assessed during the planning of fire operations.
Visitor Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The reserve may be closed to the public during periods of extreme fire danger or during fire operations.

Operational Guidelines Continued

Resource	Guidelines
Modified Trees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As far as possible, protect the site from fire Do Not cut trees Use of foams, wetting agents & retardant is acceptable.
Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Site Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ground based sites (IS2), including: camp sites, artefacts, grinding grooves, waterholes and quarries Protect site from any ground disturbance, including the use of earth moving equipment and vehicles
Resource sites (IS3), including fig-tree groves	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Protect site from physical disturbance
Threatened Fauna and Flora Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> AllIMS database must be checked as part of planning for fire operations The protective actions for threatened fauna have been incorporated into the Operational Guidelines

Suppression Strategies

Conditions & forecast	Guidelines
Fire danger rating LOW - HIGH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maximise fire area in accordance with requirements for biodiversity management and thresholds Direct and parallel attack with machinery and fire units should be applied in open grass areas A broad containment strategy using existing roads, tracks, rocky areas and recently burnt areas.
Fire danger rating VERY HIGH - EXTREME	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A broad containment strategy using existing roads, handtool lines, rocky areas and recently burnt areas. Consider deployment of R&T crews as first response to keep the fire to smallest area practical, prior to falling-back to the broad containment strategy Exclude machinery from slopes greater than 20 degrees. Avoid upslope backburning until fire fronts are in close proximity to control lines. This is to prevent long and intense uphill fire runs.
Catastrophic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Revert to property protection.

Vegetation Communities and Biodiversity Thresholds

Vegetation Community	Vegetation management guidelines	Fire Behaviour
White Pine / Ironbark / White Box Woodland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An interval between fire events less than 20 years should be avoided. A high intensity fire may be permitted after a fire free period 30 - 50 years 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Potential rates of spread is low due to Low - Moderate OFH
Communities C4, C5 & C6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An interval between fire events less than 20 years should be avoided No prescribed burning to be conducted 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Potential rates of spread is low due to Low - Moderate OFH
Riparian gallery and floodplain woodland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An interval between fire events less than 20 years should be avoided No prescribed burning to be conducted 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Potential rates of spread is low due to Low - Moderate OFH
Communities C1 & C2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An interval between fire events of less than two years should be avoided. Fire intensity is dependent on seasonal conditions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Potential rate of spread will be determined by density and height of grass swards
Grassland Community C3		

OFH - Overall fuel hazard - A rating system that includes leaf litter, grasses, shrubs, bark type and bark condition

