

Bush Fire Risk Management Plan

—
Planning
together



Murrumbidgee Irrigation Area

Bush Fire Management Committee

Local Government Areas of Carrathool, Griffith, Hay, Leeton, Murrumbidgee, and Narrandera

Bush Fire Coordinating Committee – Policy No 01/2023

Commencing 2024

Approval

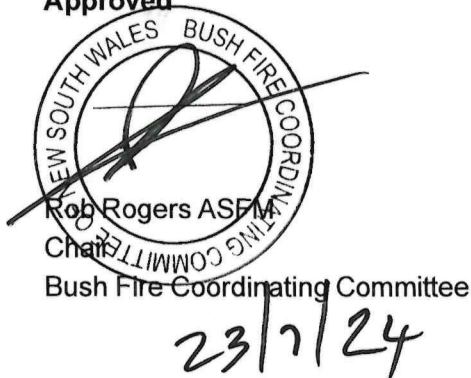
In accordance with the *Rural Fires Act 1997*, this Bush Fire Risk Management Plan has been prepared by the Murrumbidgee Irrigation Area Bush Fire Management Committee and has been endorsed at the BFMC meeting on 29th February 2024 for submission to the Bush Fire Coordinating Committee.

Recommended



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Chapter 1

Introduction

1.1 Acknowledgement to Country

The Murrumbidgee Irrigation Area Bush Fire Management Committee (BFMC) acknowledges and pays respect to the Traditional Owners of the lands on which we work, and the lands we travel through. We also acknowledge our Elders – past, present and emerging.

1.2 Introduction

A Bush Fire Risk Management Plan (BFRMP) provides information on the bush fire risks within your community. It also outlines how land managers along with fire authorities are going to effectively manage those risks through implementing various treatment strategies.

The development of a BFRMP is a legal requirement under section 52 of the *Rural Fires Act 1997* (NSW) (the Act). The BFRMP, including the accompanying appendices and spatial data, is prepared by Murrumbidgee Irrigation Area (MIA) BFMC and is approved by the Bush Fire Coordinating Committee (BFCC).

A BFRMP is a strategic document that identifies community assets and values that may be at risk from bush fire and identifies coordinated multi-agency objectives and associated treatment strategies to reduce the risk over a five year period. Treatment strategies may include such actions as hazard reduction burning, mechanical clearing, targeted community engagement programs and ignition prevention activities. The treatment strategies are implemented by the member agencies / organisation of the BFMC and are monitored and reported on an ongoing basis.

This document (including its appendices) and the accompanying maps form the BFRMP for the MIA BFMC area. It covers both public and private land and is to be reviewed and monitored annually.

This BFRMP is applied in conjunction with the BFMC's Fire Access and Fire Trail (FAFT) Plan and Operations Coordination Plan to provide a comprehensive approach to risk mitigation and operational preparedness.

1.3 Aim and objectives

The aim of this BFRMP is to reduce the risk of adverse impacts of bush fires on life, property, infrastructure and environmental, economic, cultural, agricultural and community assets.

The objectives of this BFRMP are to:

- Objective 1:** Reduce the number of human-induced bush fire ignitions and their potential to cause damage to life, property, infrastructure and environmental, economic, cultural, agricultural and community assets.
- Objective 2:** Manage fuel to reduce the rate of spread, intensity and impact of bush fires on life and assets while minimising damage to environmental and cultural values.
- Objective 3:** Increase the community's resilience to bush fires by improving its preparedness, response and recovery.
- Objective 4:** Provide advice and strategies to plan, prepare and implement activities to effectively contain fires with the potential to cause damage to life, property, infrastructure and environmental, economic, cultural, agricultural and community assets.

1.4 The Planning Process

The Australia/New Zealand Standard AS/NZS 31000: 2018 Risk Management was used to guide the bush fire risk assessment process. This is outlined in Figure 1 below.



Figure 1: Overview of the risk assessment process

Chapter 2

Risk Assessment

2.1 Assets

An asset is something that is valued by the community. There are four main categories of assets considered in the BFRMP, each with subcategories.

2.1.1 Human settlement

- Residential areas including urban-bushland interface areas and rural properties; and
- Special Fire Protection areas including schools, hospitals, nursing homes, and tourist facilities.

2.1.2 Economic

- Agricultural - includes crops, bulk grain storage, grazing, horticulture, intensive animal production, livestock, fencing and major machinery sheds;
- Commercial - includes commercial services, Defence facilities, research facilities and ports and water transport;
- Electrical - including transmission lines, substations and electricity generation plants;
- Forestry assets – native forests, hardwood and softwood plantations;
- Industrial - includes general purpose factories, food processing factories, major industrial complexes, abattoirs, oil refineries and sawmills;
- Infrastructure – airports, communication towers, roads, railways, waste treatment plants, water treatment plants;
- Mining - combustible, non-combustible and underground;
- Recreational – community recreation facilities and major sporting and recreation complexes; and
- Water catchments.

2.1.3 Environmental

- Threatened Flora and Fauna – includes iconic species such as koalas and the Wollemi pine, threatened species, threatened ecological communities (TECs), and threatened populations at risk of extinction in NSW;
- Fire sensitive vegetation communities – includes regulated wetlands, RAMSAR wetlands and rainforest vegetation communities;
- Land covered by statutory conservation and biodiversity agreements;
- World Heritage and national and state heritage listed areas;
- Land with geological significance – includes land with high erosion potential, or geotechnical risk, karst landscapes and sand dunes;

- Environmentally significant land identified by an Environmental Planning Instrument - including Local Environment Plans (LEPs) and State Environmental Planning Policies (SEPPs); and
- Other locally important assets – including vegetation identified as bush fire refugia, bush regeneration areas and Assets of Intergenerational Significance (AIS).

Note: not all of these assets have quantitative risk assessment methodologies.

2.1.4 Cultural

- Aboriginal heritage – including items recorded in the Aboriginal Heritage Information Management System and predictive site locations from the Aboriginal Sites Decision Support Tool (ASDST);
- Non-Indigenous cultural heritage – items and places from the State Heritage Inventory, Section 170 Heritage and Conservation Register and the Historic Heritage Information Management System.

Assets across all four categories have been identified using geographic information system (GIS) data including land use classifications and cadastre (Lot boundaries), as well as local knowledge.

2.2 Neighbourhood Safer Places

A Neighbourhood Safer Place (NSP) is defined by section 62C of the *Rural Fires Act 1997* as “land or a building designated as a neighbourhood safer place”. NSPs provide a place of last resort for people during a bush fire. All designated NSP locations for NSW are available at www.rfs.nsw.gov.au.

The MIA BFMC considered the number and location of Neighbourhood Safer Places (NSPs) within the BFMC area. All NSPs in MIA BFMC area require ongoing treatment by the applicable land owner to ensure that the asset remains viable as a place of last resort for people during a bush fire. Therefore, all NSPs within the BFMC area are required to be treated and have been included in the Fuel Management Register.

2.3 Risk Identification and Analysis

This BFRMP is underpinned by a risk quantification methodology based on fire behaviour modelling (Phoenix RapidFire). The fire simulation process applies an ignition model, local historical weather and historical fire information to determine where fires are most likely to occur in the landscape. A Bayesian Decision Network model is used to quantify the bush fire risk to each asset in the landscape based on relevant vulnerability criteria.

Bush fire risks may also be identified during the process from qualitative assessment methodologies. For example where expert local knowledge identifies a significant area of concern, challenges in firefighting or locally significant values.

The risk maps for each asset category are provided in Appendix 3.

For a detailed description of the methodology used for assessing bush fire risk, please see [BFCC Policy 01/2023 - Bush Fire Risk Management and supporting documents](#), available on the NSW RFS website.

Chapter 3

Treating Risk

3.1 Treatments

The purpose of risk treatment is to reduce the likelihood and/or harmful consequences of bush fire to the community and environment, through a process of selecting and implementing risk treatment options that modify the characteristics of the hazard, the community or the environment. There are three types of treatments considered in the BFRMP:

1. BFMC Wide Treatments;
2. Focus Area Treatments; and
3. Fuel Management Treatments.

BFMC members and land managers routinely implement risk treatment strategies in accordance with legislative requirements, policy and asset management. For example, vegetation management, restrictions on development in bush fire prone areas, bush fire education and fire suppression activities. We refer to these as BFMC Wide Treatments. These activities occur outside the BFRMP and reduce the bush fire risk to assets and communities throughout the BFMC area.

The risk assessment process applied in this BFRMP assists BFMCs in identifying strategic Fuel Management Treatments and Focus Area Treatments.

Fuel Management Treatments include hazard reduction burns and vegetation clearing. These are designed to protect life, property and the environment from intense bush fires. While they will not completely stop bush fires from starting and spreading, these treatments can help protect firefighters, assist with containment strategies and reduce the potential damage to community assets and environmental values.

Focus Areas are groups of assets in the landscape that the BFMC has identified as having significant or unacceptable risk. The BFMC has specifically identified Focus Area Treatments for these areas and they prioritize these treatments over all others.

3.1.1 BFMC Wide Treatments

BFMC wide treatments are activities which are undertaken to reduce the overall bush fire risk within the BFMC area.

The following table identifies the BFMC wide treatments applicable to the MIA BFMC area.

TREATMENT	DESCRIPTION
Plan of Operations	Under Part 3 Division 4 Sections 52 and 53 of the <i>Rural Fires Act 1997</i> , BFMCs are required to prepare and submit to the BFCC a Plan of Operations and must review the Plan every two years. The Plan of Operations details the co-ordinated firefighting arrangements and fire management practices and ensures that each BFMC member is able to execute its role and specific responsibilities.
Treatments in the Fire Access and Fire Trail Plan Treatment Register	<p>Under section 52 of the Act, BFMCs must develop a Fire Access and Fire Trail (FAFT) Plan for their area and must review the FAFT Plan every five years.</p> <p>Fire trails are an important part of ensuring firefighters can access fires and safely contain them. Fire trails may also be used as fire control lines for hazard reduction burns, however this is not their primary purpose.</p> <p>In accordance with the NSW RFS Fire Trail Standards the BFMC may prepare a Treatment Register which sets out a schedule of works for the construction and maintenance of fire trails. The Standards provide that the Treatment Register is updated annually and typically forms part of a FAFT Plan.</p> <p>Treatments contained within the FAFT Plan Treatment Register (as amended from time to time) are BFMC Wide Treatments under this BFRMP.</p>
Ignition Prevention Plan	The BFMC will develop an Ignition Prevention Plan (IPP). The purpose of the IPP is to provide firefighting authorities, NSW Police and Local Authorities with localised strategies to prevent ignitions. In particular, deliberate or careless ignitions and illegal fires.
Land & Asset Management	There are organisational plans, standard policies, Regulations and procedures for the management of assets and/or land managed by BFMC members. For example vegetation clearance around power lines, maintenance of public land, and agency-specific fire management plans.
Local Environmental Plans	<p>Local Environmental Plans (LEPs) guide planning decisions for local government areas. They do this through zoning and development controls, which provide a framework for the way land can be used.</p> <p>LEPs can be used to exclude development in significant bush fire risk areas or in areas where bush fire protection measures cannot be incorporated.</p>
Environmental Approval for all Hazard Reduction	Land management agencies will obtain environmental approval (through the Bush Fire Environmental Assessment Code, or other approval process) to undertake any activities that have the potential to impact the environment e.g. hazard reduction burning or vegetation removal. The environmental assessment process considers flora, fauna, threatened species, cultural assets, soil erosion, riparian areas, biodiversity fire regimes, weeds and air pollution (smoke).
Bush Fire Prone Land Mapping and Planning for Bush Fire Protection	<p>Section 10.3 of the <i>Environmental Planning & Assessment Act 1979</i> requires the land subject to a BFRMP to be mapped in accordance with Guide for Bush Fire Prone Land Mapping. Bush Fire Prone Land Maps are used as a trigger mechanism to ensure that new development is approved in accordance with Planning for Bush Fire Protection (PBP).</p> <p>PBP sets planning specifications which aim to increase the likelihood of structures surviving a bush fire, and in combination with Australian Standard 3959 Building in Bush Fire Prone Areas which specifies building standards.</p> <p>All new development on Bush Fire Prone Land will be assessed in accordance with PBP.</p>
Hazard complaints	It is the duty of land owners to prevent the occurrence of bush fires on, and to minimise the danger of the spread of bush fires on or from, their land.

	<p>Under section 66 of the <i>Rural Fires Act 1997</i>, a Bush Fire Hazard Reduction Notice can be issued, directing a hazard be treated. This Notice can be issued to private and public landowners. If the Bush Fire Hazard Reduction Notice is not complied with, the NSW RFS will treat the hazard, and may pursue the cost from the landowner.</p> <p>Under Section 73 and Section 74E of the Act, the NSW RFS Commissioner may direct hazard reduction works to be undertaken.</p>
Community engagement	This includes state-wide public awareness initiatives as well as local community interactions between fire agencies, land managers and local communities.
BFMC Bush Fire Danger Period	<p>The <i>Rural Fires Act 1997</i> sets the statutory Bush Fire Danger Period.</p> <p>A Fire Permit is required for burning activities during the Bush Fire Danger Period in Rural Fire districts and at all times in Fire and Rescue (FRNSW) districts around the state.</p> <p>Fire Permits help ensure fire is used safely during the Bush Fire Danger Period. A permit imposes conditions on the way a fire is lit and maintained, and can only be issued by authorised Permit Issuing Officers.</p> <p>The permit provides landholders who intend to burn, with the conditions they are to adhere with to ensure adequate and appropriate measures are in place, and that fires remain under control.</p>
Firefighting response	All firefighting authorities in NSW have legislation, regulations, policies and procedures for responding to bush fire events within their area of jurisdiction.
Prosecution of arsonists / offenders	<p>Under the <i>Rural Fires Act 1997</i> persons may be prosecuted for a range of offences. These offences include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • deliberately setting fire to the land of another person without consent; • lighting a fire without notifying the relevant authority; • breaching the conditions on a fire permit; • lighting a fire during a Total Fire Ban; • allowing fire to escape their property; or • other breaches of the Act.

Table 1: BFMC Wide Treatments

3.1.2 Fuel Management Treatments

Hazard reduction is an important component of managing bush fire risk. Hazard reduction involves removing or reducing the fuel (vegetation) in order to modify the potential fire behaviour, to reduce extreme bush fire behaviour and associated impact to firefighters and to community assets and values, to assist in fire suppression and to enable appropriate fire regimes to be implemented.

The BFRMP Fuel Management Register is a list of hazard reduction activities that the MIA BFMC has identified as strategic treatments in the BFRMP. The fuel management treatments include prescribed burns, vegetation removal in BFMC-managed asset protection zones and the development or maintenance of fire breaks.

All hazard reduction activities listed in the Fuel Management Register are proposed to be completed within the five-year term of BFRMP, however, those activities that are linked to a Focus Area will be treated as a priority. The occurrence of bush fires will necessitate annual revision and reprioritisation of the treatment schedules.

See Appendix 2 for the MIA BFMC Fuel Management Register.

3.1.3 Focus Area Treatments

The management of bush fire risks involves a coordinated approach from fire authorities, landowners, land managers, planning authorities, local councils and the community. Even with the combined resources of these stakeholders, it is still not possible or practical to actively treat all bush fire risks across the landscape. It is therefore important for communities and BFMCs to determine what areas will form the focus for the application of specific treatment strategies in this BFRMP.

Focus Areas were determined through an analysis of the quantitative risk assessment data, but also consider factors such as the social vulnerability of the community, access and egress and local significance.

There are 2 Focus Areas within the MIA BFRMP. These are:

- Jerilderie
- Myalbangera

These are areas that have been specifically identified as having an unacceptable risk and require additional, targeted treatment strategies within the five-year BFRMP.

There are four key objectives available to manage the bush fire risk to Focus Areas and each objective has a number of associated treatment strategies (Table 2). The BFMC has identified the most appropriate objectives and treatment strategies for each Focus Area. The Focus Area treatment strategies selected by the BFMC will be addressed annually as part of the BFMC Annual Works Plan.

KEY OBJECTIVE	FOCUS AREA TREATMENT STRATEGY
Fuel Management Reduction or modification of bush fire fuel with the intent of slowing the spread of bush fire and aiding firefighting operations.	Asset Protection Zone
	Ignition Management Zone
	Strategic Fire Advantage Zone
	Land Management Zone
	Fire Break; Linear
	Fire Break; Transport Corridor
Ignition Prevention Prevention or reduction of bush fire ignitions (arson & accidental).	Grazing Program
	Community Engagement; Risk Awareness
	Fire Break; Linear
	Fire Break; Transport Corridor
	Access Restriction; addressed in BFMC Ignition Prevention Plan
Community Preparedness Measures to enhance community preparedness for bush fire in order to reduce risk to life and assets.	Patrol; addressed in BFMC Ignition Prevention Plan
	Community Engagement; Risk Awareness
	Community Engagement; Planning
	Community Engagement; Preparation
	Community Engagement; Community Resilience
Response Area specific response requirements in addition to standard procedures.	Community Engagement; Community Response
	Operational Readiness Arrangements; addressed in BFMC Plan of Operations
	Neighbourhood Safer Place; addressed in BFMC Plan of Operations
	Pre-Incident Plan; addressed in BFMC Plan of Operations
	Fire Access or Fire Trail; addressed in BFMC FAFT Plan

Table 2: Key objectives for treatment strategies.

For more information on Treatment Strategies see Annexure B of [BFCC Policy 01/2023 - Bush Fire Risk Management](#)

See Appendix 1 for the MIA Focus Area descriptions, Key Objectives and Treatment Strategies.

3.2 Bush Fire Management Zones

Bush Fire Management Zones identified within the MIA BFMC area have been mapped as part of the Fuel Management Register. These zones identify the fire management intent for a specific area. The five categories of Bush Fire Management Zones are:

- Asset Protection Zone (APZ);
- Strategic Fire Advantage Zone (SFAZ);
- Ignition Management Zone (IMZ)
- Land Management Zone (LMZ); and
- Fire Exclusion Zone (FEZ).

See Annexure C BFRMP Guidelines of [BFCC Policy 01/2023 - Bush Fire Risk Management](#) for further information on Bush Fire Management Zones including a description of the zones and their purposes.

3.3 Relationship with other Plans

Under section 52 of the *Rural Fires Act 1997*, each BFMC must prepare and submit to the Bush Fire Coordinating Committee a draft of each of the following:

- A bush fire management plan (defined to be both a BFRMP and a fire access and fire treatment plan (FAFT Plan); and
- A Plan of Operations.

These BFMC planning documents should complement each other, however, a FAFT Plan prevails over the BFRMP to the extent of any inconsistency in accordance with section 59A(4) of the Act.

Treatments contained within the FAFT Plan Treatment Register (as amended from time to time) are BFMC Wide Treatments under this BFRMP.

Additionally, an Ignition Prevention Plan will be prepared for the BFMC. Other plans such as Community Protection Plans, agency specific Fire Management Strategies, or private property fire plans may be prepared, however as this BFRMP has been prepared in accordance with the Act, all other plans are subordinate to it.

Chapter 4

Communication and Consultation

4.1 Communication and Consultation

Community participation is an integral part of risk management. The BFMC undertook consultation with the community during the development phase of the BFRMP as outlined in Appendix 4. The Communication Strategy involved developing and implementing a process to address the needs, issues and concerns of stakeholders within the BFMC area in regards to the BFRMP. This involved member agencies engaging with their stakeholders to ensure their views are represented in the BFRMP and that they understand their own responsibility in risk management.

In accordance with section 57 of the *Rural Fires Act 1997*, the draft BFRMP was placed on public exhibition to provide an opportunity for the community to have formal input, and that input has been taken into account and reflected in the BFRMP.

This plan will be available from the RFS web site and must also be available for public inspection at, and be able to be obtained free of charge from, the office of the local authority for the area to which it relates during ordinary office hours.

Chapter 5

Performance Monitoring and Review

5.1 Monitoring and Review

This BFRMP must be reviewed and updated within each successive five-year period from the constitution of the BFMC. The MIA BFMC will also review this BFRMP as necessary to account for any changes in context or risk on account of changes to the BFMC area, organisational responsibilities or legislation; changes to the bush fire risk in the area; changes to the Treatment Register; or following a major fire event.

The BFMC is required to monitor progress towards the completion of treatment works listed in the BFRMP, and the timeliness of the works. This is done through an Annual Works Program and also an Annual Report. The BFRMP may also be audited at the request of the NSW RFS Commissioner or the BFCC.

Appendices

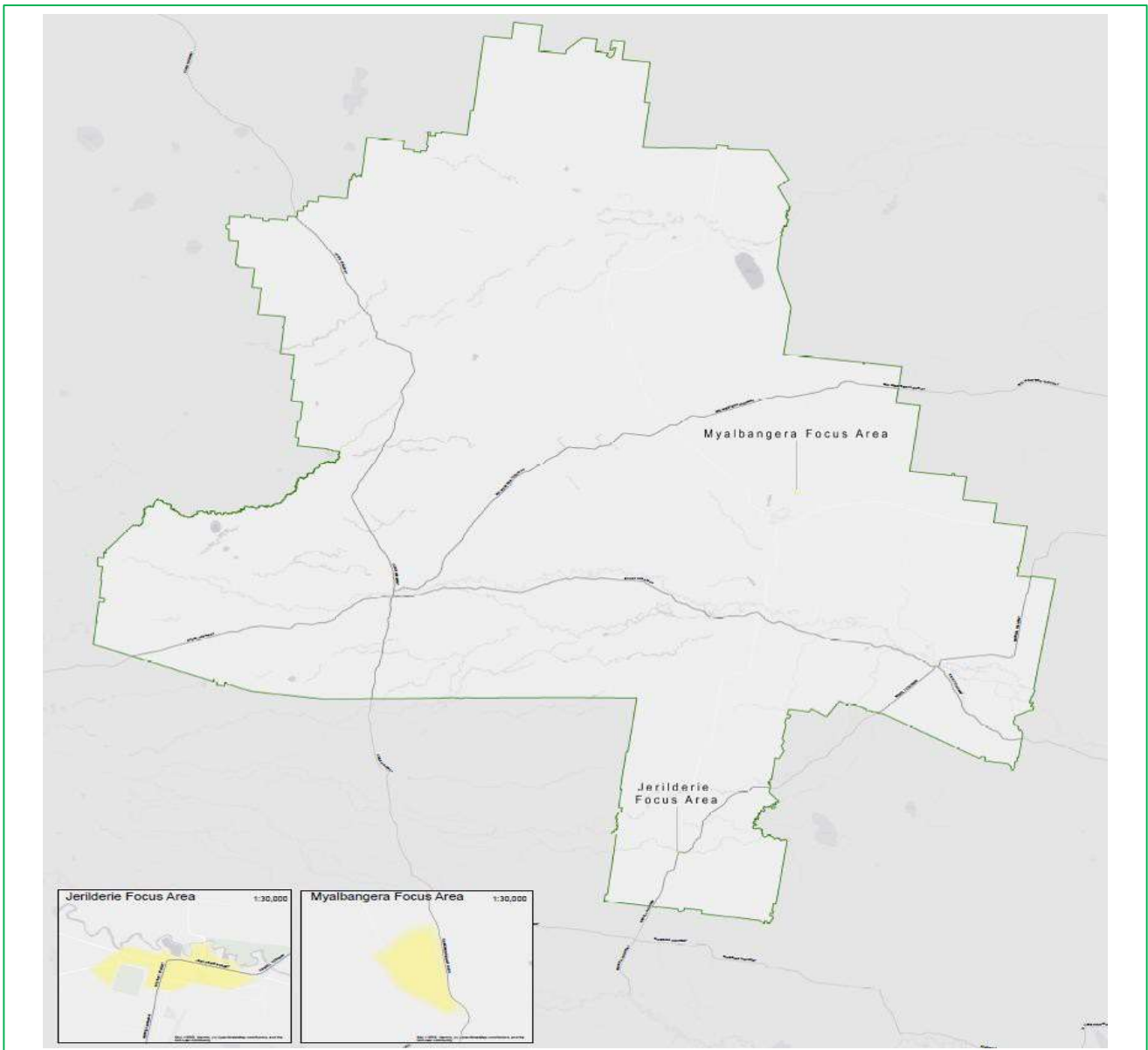
This BFRMP is supported by a number of appendices, including:

1. Focus Areas
2. Fuel Management Register (List)
3. Maps:
 - 3.1 Residential and Special Fire Protection Purpose Risk Current
 - 3.2 Economic Risk Current
 - 3.3 Aboriginal Predicted Sites Risk Current
 - 3.4 Environmental Risk Current
 - 3.5 Focus Areas and Fuel Management Register
4. Communication Strategy

Appendix 1

Focus Areas

FOCUS AREAS	
Jerilderie	
Myalbangera	



Jerilderie*

Risk Profile

The Murrumbidgee Irrigation Area Bush Fire Management Committee (BFMC) has assessed the risk to residential, special fire protection purpose (schools, health facilities, childcare etc.), economic, environmental, and cultural assets and has identified the Jerilderie as a Focus Area.

Jerilderie is the largest rural residential community in the Murrumbidgee Council Local Government Area, situated on Billabong Creek, adjacent to a significant road transport corridor. Jerilderie also has a small airport utilised for private flights and recreational aviation activities.

Many homes and properties are located on flat terrain and are in the High bush fire risk category. There is also a high risk to economic assets in the area, particularly agricultural infrastructure assets. The township also attracts minor tourism and has a range of historic buildings and nearby a large hospitality venue.

Social vulnerability levels vary between low and very high, contributing factors include below average household income and agricultural living a distance from main roads and towns. Jerilderie has a permanent population of 922 (2021 Census).

Access and egress for residents is via the Newell Highway running north-south through the town and Conargo Road approaches from the west. In the event of a major fire, reasonable access should be gained, however short periods of isolation may occur during major emergency events.

The vegetation (grassland, wetlands, and agriculture) and flat land in this area contribute to wind driven bush fire risk and the potential for significant fire development. The last significant bush fire was in 2018.

Bush fire is a key threatening process for many environmental assets. There is a risk that another bush fire event in this area would negatively impact 2 species of threatened fauna, 3 species of threatened flora and may include land under private property conservation agreements. There is also a risk that a bush fire could harm cultural Aboriginal sites that may occur this area.

Key BFMC objectives in Jerilderie are to enhance community preparedness, fuel management, and response. Fuel management treatments will focus on the maintenance of Asset Protection Zones, Strategic Fire Advantage Zones, Linear Fire Breaks, and Transport Corridor Fire Breaks. Community engagement treatments will include planning and preparation strategies, this will be achieved through the provision of resources and the implementation of programs that will help residents better understand their risk and prepare for bush fire. Risk awareness programs will further educate the community in preventing undesired ignitions occurring.

To increase resilience within the Focus Area the BFMC will identify specific operational response strategies for the environmental assets and other assets of concern.

Throughout the duration of this plan, the current fire trail initiatives in Jerilderie will persist.

The key Bush Fire Risk Management Plan Objectives and Treatment Strategies for Jerilderie are listed in Table 1.

Table 1		
BFMC OBJECTIVE	TREATMENT STRATEGY	REFERENCE
Community Preparedness	Community Engagement; Planning	JL.PL
	Community Engagement; Preparation	JL.PR
Fuel Management	Asset Protection Zone(s)	JL.AP
	Strategic Fire Advantage Zone; prescribed burn	JL.SF
	Fire Break; Linear	JL.LF
	Fire Break; Transport Corridor	JL.TF
Response	Operational Readiness Arrangements; addressed in BFMC Plan of Operations	JL.OR
Ignition Prevention	Community Engagement; Risk Awareness	JL.RA

* A NSW Rural Fire Service, Memorandum of Understanding is in place for the management of Jerilderie, between the Murrumbidgee Irrigation Area (MIA) and Mid Murray Zone (MMZ) Bush Fire Management Committees. This MOU provides the mechanisms for Brigade Management, response protocols, Risk Treatment and Community Engagement activities.

Myalbangera

Risk Profile

The Murrumbidgee Irrigation Area Bush Fire Management Committee (BFMC) has assessed the risk to residential, special fire protection purpose (schools, health facilities, childcare etc.), economic, environmental, and cultural assets and has identified Myalbangera as a Focus Area.

Myalbangera is a rural residential locality in the Griffith City Local Government Area. The area consists of primarily rural lifestyle blocks surrounded by agriculture with a range of hills running through the centre. Most homes and properties are located on flat land adjacent to range and are in the Low bush fire risk category. There is also a Moderate risk to economic assets in the area, particularly vineyards.

Social vulnerability is varying from very low to low. Factors contributing to social vulnerability are a culturally and linguistically diverse population. Myalbangera population is captured under the locality of Myall Park which numbers 226 (2021 Census).

The vegetation (semi-arid woodlands, native grassland and grassy woodlands) contributes to the bush fire risk and the potential for significant fire development. There have been no significant bush fires in recent history.

Access and egress for residents is good east of the Focus Area with main roads providing north-south access. McPherson's Road to the west has restricted access to the north due to a locked gate. Access and egress may however be impacted by fire due to limited route choice.

Bush fire is a key threatening process for many environmental assets. There is a risk that another bush fire event in this area would negatively impact 2 Threatened Ecological Communities, 3 species of threatened fauna, as well as land under private property conservation agreements.

There is also a risk that a bush fire could harm the cultural value of one Aboriginal sites that are known to exist within this area.

A key BFMC objective in Myalbangera is to improve community preparedness focusing on community engagement. Planning and preparation strategies will be met through the provision of resources and the implementation of programs that will help residents better understand their risk and prepare for bush fire.

Throughout the duration of this plan, the current response arrangements, and fire trail initiatives in Myalbangera will persist.

The key Bush Fire Risk Management Plan Objectives and Treatment Strategies for Myalbangera are listed in Table 2.

Table 2

BFMC OBJECTIVE	TREATMENT STRATEGY	REFERENCE
Community Preparedness	Community Engagement; Planning	MB.PL
	Community Engagement; Preparation	MB.PR

Appendix 2

Fuel Management Register

Table 2.1 Asset Protection Zones

ID	Name	Focus Area	Priority	Responsible Agency
AP.1	Jerilderie APZ	Jerilderie	1	NSW Rural Fire Service
AP.2	Jerilderie Communications Tower	Jerilderie	1	NSW Rural Fire Service
AP.3	Jerilderie NW APZ	Jerilderie	1	NSW Rural Fire Service
AP.4	Audley St, Narrandera APZ		2	Crown Lands
AP.5	Balaro St, Grong Grong APZ		2	Crown Lands
AP.6	Balaro St, Grong Grong South APZ		2	Crown Lands
AP.7	Bendee St, East, Barellan APZ		2	NSW Aboriginal Land Council
AP.8	Binya St, Yanco APZ		2	Leeton Shire Council
AP.9	Blue Bonnet Cres, Coleambally APZ		2	Murrumbidgee Council
AP.10	Booligal House		2	National Parks and Wildlife Service
AP.11	Booligal Quarters & Woolshed		2	National Parks and Wildlife Service
AP.12	Booligal R and G Eade		2	National Parks and Wildlife Service
AP.13	Booligal Village APZ		2	Hay Shire Council
AP.14	Boree St, Grong Grong APZ		2	Crown Lands
AP.15	Boree St, Rankins Springs APZ		2	Crown Lands
AP.16	Bridge St North, Darlington Point APZ		2	Local Land Services
AP.17	Bringan St, Whitton APZ		2	Crown Lands
AP.18	Britts Rd, Darlington Point APZ		2	Murrumbidgee Council
AP.19	Brookong St, East, Grong Grong APZ		2	Crown Lands
AP.20	Brookong St, West, Grong Grong APZ		2	Crown Lands
AP.21	Brooks Cres, Darlington Point APZ		2	Murrumbidgee Council
AP.22	Burley Griffin Way, Barellan APZ		2	Crown Lands
AP.23	Cadell St, Hay APZ		2	Hay Shire Council
AP.24	Candice Pl, Lake Wyangan APZ		2	NSW Rural Fire Service
AP.25	Carrathool Communication Tower APZ		2	NSW Rural Fire Service
AP.26	Church St, Hay APZ		2	Crown Lands
AP.27	CNP The Pines Picnic Area		2	National Parks and Wildlife Service
AP.28	CNP Woolshed Flat Picnic Area		2	National Parks and Wildlife Service
AP.29	Coleambally Communication Tower APZ		2	NSW Rural Fire Service

Table 2.1 Asset Protection Zones (continued)

ID	Name	Focus Area	Priority	Responsible Agency
AP.30	Cowper/Southey St Rear, Hillston APZ		2	Carrathool Shire Council
AP.31	Currawondool St, Grong Grong APZ		2	Crown Lands
AP.32	Currawondool St, North, Grong Grong APZ		2	Crown Lands
AP.33	Darlington Point APZ Park Lane		2	Murrumbidgee Council
AP.34	Darlington Point East APZ		2	Murrumbidgee Council
AP.35	Darlington Point North APZ		2	Murrumbidgee Council
AP.36	Darlington St, Darlington Point APZ		2	Crown Lands
AP.37	De Luca Rd, Tharbogang APZ		2	Local Land Services
AP.38	Flood St, Darlington Point APZ		2	Crown Lands
AP.39	Forest St, Rankins Springs APZ		2	Crown Lands
AP.40	Forest St, South, Rankins Springs APZ		2	Crown Lands
AP.41	Gallah Communication Tower APZ		2	NSW Rural Fire Service
AP.42	Gogeldrie St, Yanco APZ		2	Leeton Shire Council
AP.43	Gogeldrie RFS Fire Station APZ		2	Leeton Shire Council
AP.44	Gogeldrie St, Whitton APZ		2	Crown Lands
AP.45	Goolagong St, Griffith APZ		2	Local Aboriginal Land Council
AP.46	Griffith Communications Tower APZ		2	Griffith City Council
AP.47	Gunbar Communication Tower APZ		2	NSW Rural Fire Service
AP.48	Gundaline Communication Tower APZ		2	NSW Rural Fire Service
AP.49	Hankinson St, Narrandera APZ		2	Crown Lands
AP.50	Hay Airport APZ		2	Hay Shire Council
AP.51	Hay Communication Tower APZ		2	NSW Rural Fire Service
AP.52	Hay Hospital APZ		2	Crown Lands
AP.53	Hay Hospital Nth APZ		2	Crown Lands
AP.54	Hay Hospital NW APZ		2	Crown Lands
AP.55	Hunthawang Bridge Cottage		2	National Parks and Wildlife Service
AP.56	Hunthawang Homestead		2	National Parks and Wildlife Service
AP.57	Hunthawang Houses		2	National Parks and Wildlife Service
AP.58	Hunthawang Sheds		2	National Parks and Wildlife Service
AP.59	Hunthawang Station Irrigation Cott		2	National Parks and Wildlife Service
AP.60	Hunthawang Top Weir Cottage		2	National Parks and Wildlife Service
AP.61	Hunthawang Well Irrigation Cottage		2	National Parks and Wildlife Service

Table 2.1 Asset Protection Zones (continued)

ID	Name	Focus Area	Priority	Responsible Agency
AP.62	Kalyarr Darcoola Homestead & Depot		2	National Parks and Wildlife Service
AP.63	Kalyarr De Ville Homestead		2	National Parks and Wildlife Service
AP.64	Kalyarr Mallowa Shearing Shed		2	National Parks and Wildlife Service
AP.65	Kalyarr Norwood Homestead Precinct		2	National Parks and Wildlife Service
AP.66	Kalyarr Thelangerin Woolshed		2	National Parks and Wildlife Service
AP.67	Kennedy St, Griffith APZ		2	Local Aboriginal Land Council
AP.68	Kingfisher Ave, Coleambally APZ		2	Murrumbidgee Council
AP.69	Kookora St, Griffith APZ		2	Griffith City Council
AP.70	Kywong St, Griffith APZ		2	Griffith City Council
AP.71	Lachlan St, Grong Grong APZ		2	Crown Lands
AP.72	Lachlan St, North Grong Grong APZ		2	Crown Lands
AP.73	Lachlan St, South, Grong Grong APZ		2	Crown Lands
AP.74	Larmer Lane, Narrandera APZ		2	Crown Lands
AP.75	Lowan St, Goolgowi APZ		2	Carrathool Shire Council
AP.76	Lowde St, Nericon APZ		2	Crown Lands
AP.77	Macauley St, Hay APZ		2	Hay Shire Council
AP.78	Mallinson Rd(rear), Lake Wyangan APZ		2	Crown Lands
AP.79	Mallinson Rd, Lake Wyangan APZ		2	Local Aboriginal Land Council
AP.80	Mallinson Road East APZ		2	Local Land Services
AP.81	Mallinson Road West APZ,		2	Crown Lands
AP.82	Manera St, Griffith APZ		2	Griffith Local Aboriginal Land Council
AP.83	Maude Communications Tower APZ		2	NSW Rural Fire Service
AP.84	McLennon's Bore Communications Tower		2	NSW Rural Fire Service
AP.85	MIA 1 Forestry Hut		2	National Parks and Wildlife Service
AP.86	MIA 2 Ski Beach		2	National Parks and Wildlife Service
AP.87	MIA2 Bndry Nth of Ski Beach		2	National Parks and Wildlife Service
AP.88	MT Boothangandra Communication Tower - Asset ID 37		2	NSW Rural Fire Service

Table 2.1 Asset Protection Zones (continued)

ID	Name	Focus Area	Priority	Responsible Agency
AP.89	Narrandera Airport APZ		2	Narrandera Shire Council
AP.90	Nelson Dr, Griffith APZ		2	Griffith City Council
AP.91	NP-RIVA-Kalyarr - Darcoola Woolshed 1384593 APZ		2	National Parks and Wildlife Service
AP.92	Nugan St, nericon APZ		2	Crown Lands
AP.93	Nugan St, Nericon North APZ		2	Crown Lands
AP.94	OOL Homestead and Sheds		2	National Parks and Wildlife Service
AP.95	OOL Horse Sand Hill		2	National Parks and Wildlife Service
AP.96	OOL Shearing Precinct		2	National Parks and Wildlife Service
AP.97	Parkinson Cres, Griffith APZ		2	Local Aboriginal Land Council
AP.98	Quarry Hill Communication Tower APZ		2	NSW Rural Fire Service
AP.99	Radio Site Conapaira Trig APZ		2	Narrandera Shire Council
AP.100	Railway St, Narrandera APZ		2	Crown Lands
AP.101	Red Gum St, Narrandera APZ		2	Crown Lands
AP.102	River St , Narrandera APZ		2	Crown Lands
AP.103	Ross St, Darlington Point APZ		2	Crown Lands
AP.104	Ryan St, East Darlington Point APZ		2	Crown Lands
AP.105	Ryan St, West Darlington Point APZ		2	Crown Lands
AP.106	Sandpiper St to Kookaburra Ave, Coleambally APZ		2	Murrumbidgee Council
AP.107	Scenic Hill APZ		2	Griffith City Council
AP.108	South Hay Lang St APZ		2	Hay Shire Council
AP.109	South West, Hay APZ		2	Crown Lands
AP.110	Southey St, Hillston APZ		2	Carrathool Shire Council
AP.111	Square Nob Communication Tower APZ		2	NSW Rural Fire Service
AP.112	Toms Lake Communications Tower, Booligal APZ		2	Private Property
AP.113	Urabba St, Rankins Springs APZ		2	NSW DPE (Crown Lands)
AP.114	Urabba St, Rankins Springs TCFB		2	Carrathool Shire Council
AP.115	Uri St, East, Darlington Point APZ		2	Crown Lands
AP.116	Uri Street, Darlington Point APZ		2	Crown Lands
AP.117	Walgrove Communications Tower APZ		2	NSW Rural Fire Service

Table 2.1 Asset Protection Zones (continued)				
ID	Name	Focus Area	Priority	Responsible Agency
AP.118	Wallanthery RFB Fire Station APZ		2	Carrathool Shire Council
AP.119	Waratah St, Narrandera APZ		2	NSW DPE (Crown Lands)
AP.120	Warranary Hill Communication Tower APZ		2	NSW Rural Fire Service
AP.121	Warrawidgee RFS Fire Station APZ		2	Griffith City Council
AP.122	Willandra Homestead		2	National Parks and Wildlife Service
AP.123	Willandra Woolshed		2	National Parks and Wildlife Service
AP.124	Yamma Hall, Gilbert Rd APZ		2	Murrumbidgee Council

Table 2.2 Prescribed Burns/ Fire Breaks/ Grazing					
ID	Name	Strategy*	Focus Area	Priority	Responsible Agency
LF.125	Maude LFB	LFB		2	Hay Shire Council
LM.126	HILSTON 2 - Hillston Silos	LMZ		2	National Parks and Wildlife Service
LM.127	MIA 1 20 - CENTRAL DIVISION	LMZ		2	National Parks and Wildlife Service
LM.128	MIA 1 21 - EASTERN DIVISION	LMZ		2	National Parks and Wildlife Service
LM.129	MIA 2 39 - Boundary North Mechanical & Burning	LMZ		2	National Parks and Wildlife Service
LM.130	MIDW - MIA 1 - Southern Division - MIA 1 Southern HR	LMZ		2	National Parks and Wildlife Service
LM.131	MIDW - MIA 1 River Division	LMZ		2	National Parks and Wildlife Service
LM.132	Millewa 139 - Darlington Point Nth HR	LMZ		2	National Parks and Wildlife Service
LM.133	Narrandera 10 - Narrandera RP HR	LMZ		2	National Parks and Wildlife Service
LM.134	Willbriggie 15 - Willbriggie Nth Rd 1 HR	LMZ		2	National Parks and Wildlife Service
LM.135	Willbriggie 31 - Willbriggie West South River HR	LMZ		2	National Parks and Wildlife Service
LM.136	Willbriggie 4 - Willbriggie Alfies HR	LMZ		2	National Parks and Wildlife Service
LM.137	WILLBRIGGIE 40 - MIDW-Willbriggie Sawmill Division	LMZ		2	National Parks and Wildlife Service
LM.138	Willbriggie 9 - Doolans Division	LMZ		2	National Parks and Wildlife Service
LM.139	Wood Rd LMZ	LMZ		2	NSW Rural Fire Service / National Parks and Wildlife Service
SF.140	Jerilderie NW SFAZ	SFAZ	Jerilderie	1	NSW Rural Fire Service
SF.141	Jerilderie SFAZ	SFAZ	Jerilderie	1	NSW Rural Fire Service
SF.142	Bushy Bend SFAZ	SFAZ		2	Hay Shire Council, NSW Rural Fire Service
SF.143	Dunoon Lagoon Eastern Bndry	SFAZ		2	National Parks and Wildlife Service
SF.144	Hillston Grain Storage	SFAZ		2	National Parks and Wildlife Service

Table 2.2 Prescribed Burns/ Fire Breaks/ Grazing (continued)

ID	Name	Strategy*	Focus Area	Priority	Responsible Agency
SF.146	Norwood APZ West SFAZ	SFAZ		2	National Parks and Wildlife Service
SF.147	Scenic Hill SFAZ	SFAZ		2	Griffith City Council
SF.148	Webb Lane, Beelbangera Public School SFAZ	SFAZ		2	NSW Rural Fire Service
TF.149	Conargo Rd TCFB	TCFB	Jerilderie	1	Local Land Services
TF.150	Jerilderie, South, (Multiple Rds) TCFB	TCFB	Jerilderie	1	Murrumbidgee Council
TF.151	Showground Rd, Wilson Rd, Sewage Works Rd Jerilderie TCFB	TCFB	Jerilderie	1	Murrumbidgee Council
TF.152	Adelaide St, Booligal TCFB	TCFB		2	Hay Shire Council
TF.153	Alma Rd TCFB	TCFB		2	Hay Shire Council
TF.154	Booligal Rd TCFB	TCFB		2	Hay Shire Council
TF.155	Burke Lane Coleambally TCFB	TCFB		2	Murrumbidgee Council
TF.156	Cobb Hwy, Hay South TCFB	TCFB		2	Transport for NSW
TF.157	Cobb Hwy, Hay to One Tree TCFB	TCFB		2	Transport for NSW
TF.158	Cobb Hwy, One Tree to Booligal TCFB	TCFB		2	Transport for NSW
TF.159	Corio St, Merriwagga TCFB	TCFB		2	Carrathool Shire Council
TF.160	Darcy St Maude TCFB	TCFB		2	Hay Shire Council
TF.161	Eulo Rd Coleambally TCFB	TCFB		2	Murrumbidgee Council
TF.162	Fernbank Rd TCFB	TCFB		2	Murrumbidgee Council
TF.163	Forest St, Rankings Springs TCFB	TCFB		2	Carrathool Shire Council
TF.164	Harvey St, Lachlan St, Booligal TCFB	TCFB		2	Hay Shire Council
TF.165	Kangaroo Lane, Sidonia Rd, Yankee Crossing Rd TCFB	TCFB		2	Hay Shire Council
TF.166	Lachlan Valley Way TCFB	TCFB		2	Hay Shire Council
TF.167	Lara Rd TCFB	TCFB		2	Hay Shire Council
TF.168	Main Canal Rd, Coleambally TCFB	TCFB		2	Murrumbidgee Council

Table 2.2 Prescribed Burns/ Fire Breaks/ Grazing (continued)					
ID	Name	Strategy*	Focus Area	Priority	Responsible Agency
TF.169	Maude Rd TCFB	TCFB		2	Hay Shire Council
TF.170	Mutherumbung Rd TCFB	TCFB		2	Hay Shire Council
TF.171	Nap Nap Rd, Maude TCFB	TCFB		2	Hay Shire Council
TF.172	Newel Hwy, Jerilderie TCFB	TCFB		2	Transport for NSW
TF.173	Nimmie St, Maude TCFB	TCFB		2	Hay Shire Council
TF.174	Oxley Rd TCFB	TCFB		2	Hay Shire Council
TF.175	Pibrook Rd, Gelam St, Maude TCFB	TCFB		2	Hay Shire Council
TF.176	Pimperai St, Maude TCFB	TCFB		2	Hay Shire Council
TF.177	Pine Dr Coleambally TCFB	TCFB		2	Murrumbidgee Council
TF.178	Raheen Rd TCFB	TCFB		2	Hay Shire Council
TF.179	Railway Corridor, Griffith TFCB	TCFB		2	UGL Regional Linx
TF.180	Short St, Maude TCFB	TCFB		2	Hay Shire Council
TF.181	Thelangerin Rd TCFB	TCFB		2	Hay Shire Council
TF.182	Ti Tree Rd TCFB	TCFB		2	Hay Shire Council
TF.183	Waratah St, Maude TCFB	TCFB		2	Hay Shire Council

* Strategy: LFB (Linear Fire Break), LMZ (Land Management Zone), SFAZ (Strategic Fire Advantage Zone), TCFB (Transport Corridor Fire Break).

Table 2.3 Neighbourhood Safer Places*			
Title	Type	Location	LGA
Merriwagga Public Hall	Building	6 Mons Street, Merriwagga	Carrathool
Goolgowi Community Hall	Building	4 Napier Street, Goolgowi	Carrathool
Rankins Springs Memorial Hall	Building	Mid Western Hwy (Boomerang Street), Rankins Springs	Carrathool
Hillston Community Centre	Building	Corner Oxley Avenue and Keats Street, Hillston	Carrathool
Carrathool Memorial Hall	Open Space	Corner Glover Street and Cambridge Street, Carrathool	Carrathool
Hillston Showground	Open Space	The Springs Road, Hillston	Carrathool
Jubilee Oval	Open Space	92-104 Noorilla Street, Griffith	Griffith
Ted Scobie Sports Oval	Open Space	Intersection of Clifton Boulevard and Doolan Crescent, Griffith	Griffith
Hay High School Sports Ground	Open Space	Cadell Street, Hay	Hay
Booligal Community Hall	Building	Lachlan Street, Booligal	Hay
Maude Hall	Building	7 Yang Yang Street	Hay
Yanco Sports Ground	Open Space	Intersection of Euroley Road and Irrigation Way, Yanco	Leeton
Monash Park (Sports Ground)	Open Space	Corner of Bolton Street and Mahonga Street, Jerilderie	Murrumbidgee
Yamma Hall	Building	1334 Gilbert Road, Coleambally	Murrumbidgee
Coleambally Community Club Car Park	Open Space	Falcon Road, Coleambally	Murrumbidgee
Darlington Point Sports Ground	Open Space	King Street, Darlington Point	Murrumbidgee
Barellan Sports Ground	Open Space	Mulga Street, Barellan	Narrandera
Marie Bashir Park	Open Space	Corner Cadell Street and Twynam Street, Narrandera	Narrandera
Grong Grong Community Hall Car Park	Open Space	Corner Binya Street and Balaro Street, Grong Grong	Narrandera

*This list is current at the date of BFRMP approval. Visit the NSW RFS website for live, up to date information on Neighbourhood Safer Place locations: www.rfs.nsw.gov.au

Appendix 3

Maps

- 3.1 Residential and Special Fire Protection Purpose Risk Current
- 3.2 Economic Risk Current
- 3.3 Aboriginal Predicted Sites Risk Current
- 3.4 Environmental Risk Current
- 3.5 Focus Areas and Fuel Management Register

Known Aboriginal sites and Historic Heritage data was also assessed in the development of this BFRMP, however due to the sensitive nature of the data bush fire risk maps for these assets are not being shared for public exhibition at this time.

Appendix 4 Communication Strategy

Date/ timeframe	Target Audience	Method of communication	Method of notification	Key messages/ purpose	Resources required	Responsibility
May 2021	BFMC Members Senior Volunteers	Workshops	Email	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introduction to BFRMP methodology Data validation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Venue Facilitator(s) PowerPoint presentation Maps 	NSW RFS Area Command, Head Office (Bush Fire Risk Planning)
November 2021	BFMC Members Senior Volunteers	Workshop	Email	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Analyse risk maps Develop draft focus areas and treatment strategies. Change in risk analysis and confirm treatment strategies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Venue Facilitator(s) PowerPoint presentation Maps 	NSW RFS Area Command, Head Office (Bush Fire Risk Planning)
October 2022	BFMC Members Senior Volunteers	Workshop	Email	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Interrogate Focus Areas Focus Area Profiles compiled 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Venue Facilitators Maps 	NSW RFS Area Command, BFMC Members
April 2023	BFMC Members Senior Volunteers	Workshop	Email	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Final review of Focus Areas Review Fuel Management Register 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Focus Area analysis document Fuel Management Register 	NSW RFS Area Command, BFMC Members
September 2023	BFMC Members	Workshop	Email	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Endorsement of BFRMP 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Venue Model Plan Maps 	NSW RFS Area Command, BFMC Members

Date/ timeframe	Target Audience	Method of communication	Method of notification	Key messages/ purpose	Resources required	Responsibility
January/February 2024	BFMC Members	Email	Email	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Notification to BFMC members of public exhibition 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Annexure A Maps 	Executive Officer
January/February 2024	General Public	Local media	Email	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advise of exhibition, where to get copies and how to submit feedback 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Annex B Press release template 	Executive Officer
January/February 2024	Members	District Brigades	Email	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advise on exhibition, where to get copies and how to submit feedback. Share social media schedule and encourage sharing of posts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Social media schedule links 	BFMC Members
January/February 2024	General Public	Print media	Hardcopy notices	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Notification of public exhibition of BFRMP How to get a copy How to make a submission 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public Notice Hard copy displayed in Council Chambers and RFS FCC Website available at Council chambers and NSW RFS FCC/FRNSW stations(s) 	NSW RFS Area Command
February 2024	BFCC	Email		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> BFMC Endorsement BFCC Approval Sought 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Model Plan Maps HQ Summary Meeting Minutes 	NSW RFS Area Command, Head Office (Bush Fire Risk Planning)



Planning together

Murrumbidgee Irrigation Area Bush Fire Management Committee

Bush Fire Coordinating Committee – Policy No 01/2023
Adopted by the Bush Fire Coordinating Committee – Minute No 104.11



Prepared by the NSW Rural Fire Service
On behalf of the Bush Fire Coordinating Committee