

Bush Fire Risk Management Plan

—
Planning
together



Cumberland Bush Fire Management Committee

Local Government Areas of Blacktown, Fairfield and Penrith

Bush Fire Coordinating Committee – Policy No 01/2023

Commencing 2025



Approval

In accordance with the *Rural Fires Act 1997*, this Bush Fire Risk Management Plan has been prepared by the Cumberland Bush Fire Management Committee and has been endorsed at the BFMC meeting on 16th February 2024 for submission to the Bush Fire Coordinating Committee.

Recommended

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28/3/25

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Chapter 1

Introduction

1.1 Acknowledgement to Country

The Cumberland 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 Cumberland 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 Cumberland 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 BFMCs Fire Access and Fire Trail (FAFT) Plan and Plan of Operations 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 Cumberland BFMC considered the number and location of Neighbourhood Safer Places (NSPs) within the BFMC area. All NSPs in Cumberland 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: www.rfs.nsw.gov.au.

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 prioritise 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 Cumberland 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	<p>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> <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 removed. 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 remove 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	<p>This includes state-wide public awareness initiatives as well as local community interactions between fire agencies, land managers and local communities.</p>
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	<p>All firefighting authorities in NSW have legislation, regulations, policies and procedures for responding to bush fire events within their area of jurisdiction.</p>
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 Cumberland 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 treatments 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 Cumberland 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 three Focus Areas within the Cumberland BFRMP. These are:

- Castlereagh;
- Londonderry; and
- Mulgoa

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 Program.

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
	Grazing Program
Ignition Prevention Prevention or reduction of bush fire ignitions (arson & accidental).	Community Engagement; Risk Awareness
	Access Restriction; addressed in BFMC Ignition Prevention Plan
	Patrol; 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.	Community Engagement; Risk Awareness
	Community Engagement; Planning
	Community Engagement; Preparation
	Community Engagement; Community Resilience
	Community Engagement; Community Response
Response Area specific response requirements in addition to standard procedures.	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 BFRMP Guidelines.

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

3.2 Bush Fire Management Zones

Bush Fire Management Zones identified within the Cumberland 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 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 Cumberland 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

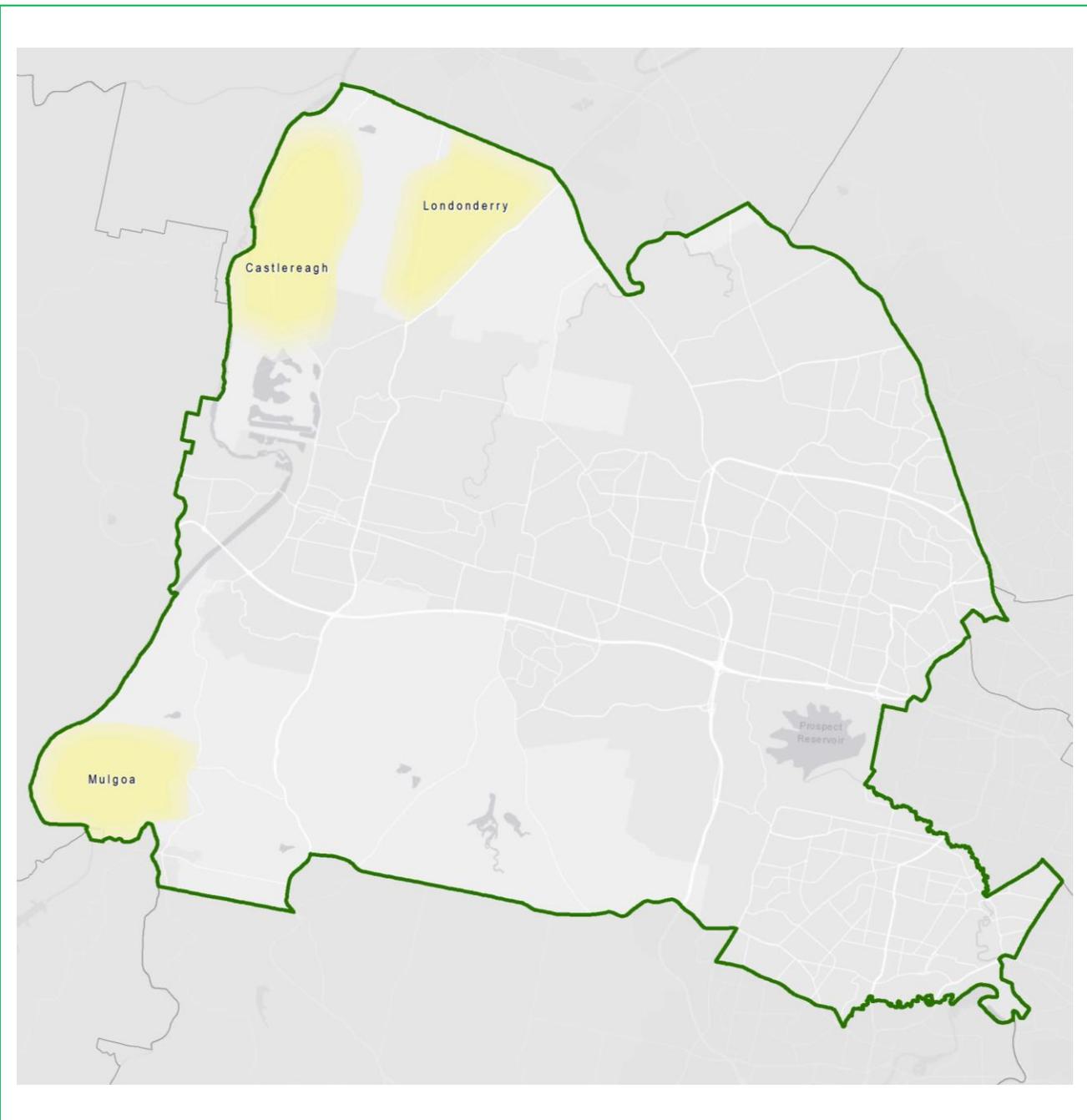
This BFRMP is supported by a number of appendices, including:

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
1.1 Castlereagh
1.2 Londonderry
1.3 Mulgoa



1.1 Castlereagh

Risk Profile

The Cumberland BFMC has assessed the risk to residential, special fire protection (schools, health facilities, childcare etc.), environmental, cultural, historic and economic assets and has identified the area of Castlereagh as a Focus Area.

The area is exposed to a significant bush fire risk from the expansive bushland to the west which may impact life and property in the event of an uncontrolled bush fire. Two significant bush fires have occurred in this area since 2000.

Residential and economic assets in Castlereagh are at the Highest Risk category within the BFMC area. Castlereagh contains a vast array of recorded Aboriginal cultural heritage sites on public and private land that may also be negatively impacted from an uncontrolled bush fire.

Significant environmental assets are present within the area that are vulnerable to bush fire events. These assets include seven Threatened Ecological Communities, one Critically Endangered Species, Coastal Wetlands (30ha) and two 'Saving our Species' Priority Management Sites.

The reserves, fire trails and unformed roads in Castlereagh are frequented by the local community and visitors from further afield for recreation activities. These visitors may be vulnerable in the event of a bush fire if they have a lower risk awareness.

Key BFMC risk treatment strategies in the Castlereagh Focus Area include Community Preparedness and Fuel Management. In particular, the implementation of prescribed burning activities & provision of programs that will help residents better understand their risk and prepare for bush fire.

As identified in the Fuel Management Register, the BFMC will maintain Asset Protection Zones and will implement hazard reduction burns to maintain a Strategic Fire Advantage Zone.

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

Castlereagh Focus Area – Treatment Strategies

Table 1		
BFMC OBJECTIVE	TREATMENT STRATEGY	REFERENCE
Community Preparedness	Community Engagement; Preparation	CR.PR
Fuel Management	Asset Protection Zone(s)	CR.AP
	Strategic Fire Advantage Zone; prescribed burn	CR.SF
	Land Management Zone; prescribed burn	CR.LM
Response	Pre-Incident Plan; addressed in BFMC Plan of Operations	CR.PI
Ignition Prevention	Community Engagement; Risk Awareness	CR.RA
	Patrol; addressed in BFMC Ignition Prevention Plan	CR.PT

1.2 Londonderry

Risk Profile

The Cumberland BFMC has assessed the risk to residential, special fire protection (schools, health facilities, childcare etc), environmental, cultural, historic and economic assets and has identified Londonderry as a Focus Area.

The area is exposed to deliberate and accidental bush/grass fire ignition, with the potential for rapid fire progression towards rural properties and urban areas through vegetation corridors. The fire history for the area includes frequent illegal or careless fires, during periods of elevated fire danger rating these fires may incur a threat to life and/or property. There have been six significant bush fires in the area since 2000.

Residential and economic assets in Londonderry are within the High Risk category within the BFMC area. Special Fire Protection assets are within the High Risk category, these primarily include schools and child care facilities.

Londonderry contains a vast array of recorded Aboriginal cultural heritage sites on public and private land that may also be negatively impacted from an uncontrolled bush fire. Historic heritage sites and sites of State heritage significance exist within Londonderry.

Significant environmental assets are present within the area that are vulnerable to bush fire events. These assets include seven Threatened Ecological Communities (inclusive of one Critically Endangered Ecological Community – Cumberland Plain Woodland), 26 threatened species of flora/fauna, land managed under private conservation agreements and four 'Saving our Species' Priority Management Site.

There are areas of high level social vulnerability, particularly to the east. This may make these members of the community more vulnerable to the impacts of bush fire.

Key BFMC risk treatment strategies in the Londonderry Focus Area include Community Preparedness and Fuel Management. In particular, the provision of programs aligned with the Ignition Prevention Plan to prevent uncontrolled bush/grass fires during periods of elevated fire danger ratings. Targeted programs will also be implemented that will help residents better understand their risk and to prepare for bush fire.

As identified in the Fuel Management Register, the BFMC will maintain Asset Protection Zones and will implement hazard reduction burns to mitigate the risk to life and property.

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

Londonderry Focus Area – Treatment Strategies

Table 2		
BFMC OBJECTIVE	TREATMENT STRATEGY	REFERENCE
Community Preparedness	Community Engagement; Preparation	LD.PR
Fuel Management	Asset Protection Zone(s)	LD.AP
	Strategic Fire Advantage Zone; prescribed burn	LD.SF
	Land Management Zone; prescribed burn	LD.LM
Ignition Prevention	Community Engagement; Risk Awareness	LD.RA
	Patrol; addressed in BFMC Ignition Prevention Plan	LD.PT

1.3 Mulgoa

Risk Profile

The Cumberland BFMC has assessed the risk to residential, special fire protection (schools, health facilities, childcare etc), environmental, cultural, historic and economic assets and has identified the area of Mulgoa as a Focus Area.

The area is exposed to a significant bush fire risk from the expansive bushland to the west and south which may impact life and property in the event of an uncontrolled bush fire. Two significant bush fires have occurred in this area since 2000.

Residential and economic assets in Mulgoa are at the Highest Risk category within the BFMC area. Mulgoa contains a vast array of recorded Aboriginal cultural heritage sites on public and private land that may also be negatively impacted from fire.

Significant environmental assets are present within the area that are vulnerable to bush fire events. These assets include nine Threatened Ecological Communities, Coastal Wetlands (15ha), land managed under private conservation agreements and two 'Saving our Species' Priority Management Sites. The area contains 24 threatened flora/fauna species, including two which are listed as Critically Endangered.

Mulgoa is frequented by the local community and visitors from further afield for recreation activities, particularly within bushland along the Nepean River. These visitors may be vulnerable in the event of a bush fire if they have a lower risk awareness.

Key BFMC risk treatment strategies in the Mulgoa Focus Area include Community Preparedness and Fuel Management. In particular, the implementation of prescribed burning activities & provision of programs that will help residents and visitors better understand their risk and prepare for bush fire.

As identified in the Fuel Management Register, the BFMC will maintain Asset Protection Zones and will implement hazard reduction burns to mitigate the risk to life and property.

The key Bush Fire Risk Management Plan Objectives and Treatment Strategies are listed in Table 3.

Mulgoa Focus Area – Treatment Strategies

Table 3		
BFMC OBJECTIVE	TREATMENT STRATEGY	REFERENCE
Community Preparedness	Community Engagement; Preparation	MG.PR
Fuel Management	Asset Protection Zone(s)	MG.AP
	Strategic Fire Advantage Zone; prescribed burn	MG.SF
	Land Management Zone; prescribed burn	MG.LM
Response	Operational Readiness Arrangements; addressed in BFMC Plan of Operations	MG.OR
	Pre-Incident Plan; addressed in BFMC Plan of Operations	MG.PI
Ignition Prevention	Community Engagement; Risk Awareness	MG.RA
	Access Restriction; addressed in BFMC Ignition Prevention Plan	MG.AR
	Patrol; addressed in BFMC Ignition Prevention Plan	MG.PT

Appendix 2

Fuel Management Register

ID	Asset Protection Zone Name	Priority	Focus Area	Responsible Agency
AP.1	Persoonia Avenue APZ	1	Castlereagh	Crown Lands
AP.2	Nutt Road Reserve APZ	1	Londonderry	Crown Lands
AP.3	Riley Mountain Track APZ	1	Mulgoa	NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service
AP.4	Waragamba Pipeline 1 APZ	1	Mulgoa	WaterNSW
AP.5	Waragamba Pipeline 3 APZ	1	Mulgoa	WaterNSW
AP.6	Waragamba Pipeline 5 APZ	1	Mulgoa	WaterNSW
AP.7	988 Northern Road APZ	2		Crown Lands
AP.8	Border Road House North APZ	2		Western Sydney Parklands Trust
AP.9	Border Road House South APZ	2		Western Sydney Parklands Trust
AP.10	Calmsley Hill Easement APZ	2		Western Sydney Parklands Trust
AP.11	Cowpasture Rd South APZ	2		Western Sydney Parklands Trust
AP.12	Cowpasture Road - Calmsley Hill APZ	2		Western Sydney Parklands Trust
AP.13	Cowpasture Road North APZ	2		Western Sydney Parklands Trust
AP.14	Cricketers Arm Hotel APZ	2		Western Sydney Parklands Trust
AP.15	Doonside Road APZ	2		Western Sydney Parklands Trust
AP.16	Emu Plains Road APZ	2		NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service
AP.17	Great Western Highway - Doonside Road APZ	2		Western Sydney Parklands Trust
AP.18	Great Western Highway - M7 APZ	2		Western Sydney Parklands Trust
AP.19	Gypsy Joker APZ	2		Western Sydney Parklands Trust
AP.20	Horsley Drive - Cycleway APZ	2		Western Sydney Parklands Trust
AP.21	Horsley Drive APZ	2		Western Sydney Parklands Trust
AP.22	Horsley Drive-Residential APZ	2		Western Sydney Parklands Trust
AP.23	Lamb St Industrial Area APZ	2		Western Sydney Parklands Trust
AP.24	Peggy Close - Glennis Close APZ	2		Western Sydney Parklands Trust
AP.24	Peggy Close - Glennis Close APZ	2		Western Sydney Parklands Trust

Table 2.1 Asset Protection Zones				
ID	Asset Protection Zone Name	Priority	Focus Area	Responsible Agency
AP.26	Plough & Harrow East APZ	2		Western Sydney Parklands Trust
AP.27	Power St to Industrial Area APZ	2		Western Sydney Parklands Trust
AP.28	Redgum Circuit APZ	2		Western Sydney Parklands Trust
AP.29	Symonds Rd North APZ	2		Western Sydney Parklands Trust
AP.30	Symonds Rd South APZ	2		Western Sydney Parklands Trust
AP.31	Upper Canal APZ	2		WaterNSW
AP.32	Vista Parade APZ	2		NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service
AP.33	Waragamba Pipeline 2 APZ	2		WaterNSW
AP.34	Waragamba Pipeline 4 APZ	2		WaterNSW
AP.35	WNSW Access APZ	2		WaterNSW

Table 2.2 Prescribed Burns and Fire Breaks

ID	Name	Strategy*	Focus Area	Priority	Responsible Agency
IM.36	Downes Park HR	IMZ		2	Penrith City Council
IM.37	Marsden HR	IMZ		2	Blacktown Council
LM.38	Nutans HR	LMZ	Castlereagh	1	Penrith City Council
LM.39	Castlereagh Powerline HR	LMZ	Londonderry	1	Western Sydney Parklands Trust
LM.40	Dillwynia HR	LMZ	Mulgoa	1	Western Sydney Parklands Trust
LM.41	Mulgoa Creek HR	LMZ	Mulgoa	1	Western Sydney Parklands Trust
LM.42	Abbotsbury Woodland - P1 HR	LMZ		2	Western Sydney Parklands Trust
LM.43	Abbotsbury Woodland - P2 HR	LMZ		2	Western Sydney Parklands Trust
LM.44	Abbotsbury Woodland - P3 HR	LMZ		2	Western Sydney Parklands Trust
LM.45	Abbotsbury Woodland - P4 HR	LMZ		2	Western Sydney Parklands Trust
LM.46	Abbotsbury Woodland - P5 HR	LMZ		2	Western Sydney Parklands Trust
LM.47	North Transmitter HR	LMZ		2	Western Sydney Parklands Trust
LM.48	Perkins Peninsular HR	LMZ		2	Western Sydney Parklands Trust
LM.49	Pistol Club HR	LMZ		2	Western Sydney Parklands Trust
SF.50	Londonderry HR	SFAZ	Castlereagh	1	Deerubbin Local Aboriginal Land Council
SF.51	River Road HR	SFAZ	Castlereagh	1	NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service
SF.52	Broad-nosed Bat HR	SFAZ	Londonderry	1	Western Sydney Parklands Trust
SF.53	Freetail Bat HR	SFAZ	Londonderry	1	Western Sydney Parklands Trust
SF.54	John Maroney HR	SFAZ	Londonderry	1	Corrective Services NSW
SF.55	Blackthorn HR	SFAZ	Mulgoa	1	Western Sydney Parklands Trust
SF.56	Fairlight Rd HR	SFAZ	Mulgoa	1	NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service
SF.57	Park River Close HR	SFAZ	Mulgoa	1	NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service
SF.58	Park River Gully HR	SFAZ	Mulgoa	1	NSW Rural Fire Service
SF.59	Regentville South HR	SFAZ	Mulgoa	1	Western Sydney Parklands Trust
SF.60	Abbotsbury Woodland - P6 HR	SFAZ		2	Western Sydney Parklands Trust

Table 2.2 Prescribed Burns and Fire Breaks					
ID	Name	Strategy*	Focus Area	Priority	Responsible Agency
SF.61	Caddens HR	SFAZ		2	Penrith City Council
SF.62	Chandos HR	SFAZ		2	Blacktown Council
SF.63	Dragway HR	SFAZ		2	Western Sydney Parklands Trust
SF.64	Elizabeth Farm HR	SFAZ		2	Western Sydney Parklands Trust
SF.65	Flinders HR	SFAZ		2	Penrith City Council
SF.66	Kingswood Magazine HR	SFAZ		2	Western Sydney Parklands Trust
SF.67	Palmyra HR	SFAZ		2	Western Sydney Parklands Trust
SF.68	Skyline HR	SFAZ		2	Western Sydney Parklands Trust
SF.69	Test Range HR	SFAZ		2	Western Sydney Parklands Trust
SF.70	Wianamatta Cultural Burn	SFAZ		2	Western Sydney Parklands Trust

*Strategy: IMZ (Ignition Management Zone), LMZ (Land Management Zone), SFAZ (Strategic Fire Advantage Zone). See Annexure C BFCC Policy 01/2023 for further information on bush fire management zones including a description of the zones and their purposes.

Table 2.3 Neighbourhood Safer Places*

Title	Type	Location	LGA
Riverstone Park	Open Space	Corner of Garfield Road West and Carlton Street, Riverstone	Blacktown
Berkshire Park	Open Space	Sixth Road, Berkshire Park	Penrith
Smith Park	Open Space	Castle Street, Castlereagh	Penrith
Andromeda Fields	Open Space	Andromeda Drive, Cranebrook	Penrith
Glen Road Park	Open Space	Corner of Glen Road and Outlook Avenue, Emu Heights	Penrith
Clissold Reserve	Open Space	Cnr of Wedmore Road & Litton Street, Emu Heights	Penrith
Blue Hills Reserve	Open Space	Corner of Westerly Way and Glengarry Drive, Glenmore Park	Penrith
Ched Towns Reserve	Open Space	Town Terrace, Glenmore Park	Penrith
Ridgetop Drive Reserve	Open Space	Cnr of Ridgetop Drive and Shearwater Drive, Glenmore Park	Penrith
Oriole Street Reserve	Open Space	Oriole Street, Glenmore Park	Penrith
Glenmore Park	Open Space	Glenmore Parkway (near Flonbunda Avenue), Glenmore Park	Penrith
Leonay Parade Reserve	Open Space	Leonay Parade, Leonay	Penrith
Wilson Park	Open Space	Seventh Avenue, Llandilo	Penrith
Carrington Park	Open Space	Carrington Road, Londonderry	Penrith
Luddenham Showground	Open Space	Campbell Street, Luddenham	Penrith
Mulgoa Park	Open Space	Cnr Mulga Road and Littlefields Road, Mulgoa	Penrith

Table 2.3 Neighbourhood Safer Places*			
Title	Type	Location	LGA
Glenmore Heritage Valley	Open Space	Mulgoa Road, Mulgoa	Penrith
Wallacia Golf Course Car Park	Open Space	Park Road, Wallacia	Penrith
John Batman Reserve	Open Space	John Batman Ave, Werrington County	Penrith
Jim Anderson Park	Open Space	Brookfield Avenue (near Barley Glen), Werrington Downs	Penrith

*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 and Historic Heritage sites were 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 publicly available at this time.

Appendix 4 Communication Strategy

Date	Target Audience	Method of communication	Method of notification	Key messages/ purpose	Resources required	Responsibility
December 2021 – January 2022	Senior Volunteer Firefighters	Internal NSW RFS consultation	Email	Introduction to next generation BFRMP methodology. Data validation.	Venue, Facilitator(s). PowerPoint presentation. Maps.	NSW RFS District Office
January – October 2022	Senior Volunteer Firefighters	Internal NSW RFS consultation	Email	Data validation. Identify Focus Areas	Venue, Facilitator(s). PowerPoint presentation. Maps.	NSW RFS District Office
October 2022 – June 2023	Senior Volunteer Firefighters	Internal NSW RFS consultation	Email	Revise Focus Areas Determine Treatment(s)	Venue, Facilitator(s). PowerPoint presentation. Maps.	NSW RFS District Office
October - November 2023	General Public	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> BFMC website Social media 	Social media	Invite / remind community to provide feedback on the draft plan and maps throughout the public exhibition period. Notification of public exhibition of BFRMP How to get a copy of plan How to make a submission	Social Media package distributed by Agencies. BFMC website. BFMC members' websites.	BFMC Members
		Print media	Newspaper notice		Public Notice. Hardcopies displayed and available at Council chambers and NSW RFS FCC	



Planning together

Cumberland

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