

Bush Fire Risk Management Plan

—
Planning
together



Lower North Coast Bush Fire Management Committee

Local Government Areas of Kempsey and Nambucca

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 Lower North Coast Bush Fire Management Committee and has been endorsed at the BFMC meeting on 29th November 2023 for submission to the Bush Fire Coordinating Committee.

Recommended

Councillor Arthur Bain
Chair
Lower North Coast Bush Fire Management Committee

Approved

Chair
Bush Fire Coordinating Committee

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Chapter 1

Introduction

1.1 Acknowledgement to Country

The Lower North Coast 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 Lower North Coast Bush Fire Management Committee (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 Lower North Coast 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.

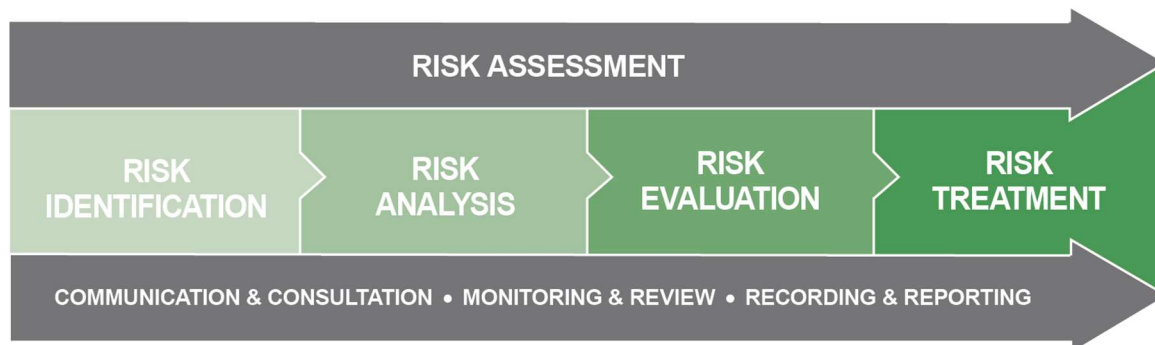


Figure 1: Overview of the risk assessment process

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 Lower North Coast BFMC considered the number and location of Neighbourhood Safer Places (NSPs) within the BFMC area. All NSPs in Lower North Coast 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 Lower North Coast 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 Environmental Planning & Assessment Act 1979 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 Lower North Coast 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 Lower North Coast 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 fifteen Focus Areas within the Lower North Coast BFRMP. These are:

- Valla Beach;
- Nambucca Heads;
- Scots Head / Grassy Head / Stuarts Point / Fishermans Reach;
- Arakoon;
- Hat Head;
- Crescent Head;
- Eungai Creek;
- Ngambaa Feral Predator Free Area;
- South Kempsey;
- Kundabung;
- Bellbrook;
- Willawarrin;

- Gondwana Rainforests – New England;
- Gondwana Rainforests - The Castles NR; and
- Gondwana Rainforests – Willi Willi NP.

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
Ignition Prevention Prevention or reduction of bush fire ignitions (arson & accidental).	Grazing Program
	Community Engagement; Risk Awareness
	Fire Break; Linear
	Fire Break; Transport Corridor
Community Preparedness Measures to enhance community preparedness for bush fire in order to reduce risk to life and assets.	Access Restriction; addressed in BFMC Ignition Prevention Plan
	Patrol; addressed in BFMC Ignition Prevention Plan
	Community Engagement; Risk Awareness
	Community Engagement; Planning
	Community Engagement; Preparation
Response Area specific response requirements in addition to standard procedures.	Community Engagement; Community Resilience
	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 BFRMP Guidelines.

See Appendix 1 for the Lower North Coast Focus Area descriptions, Key Objectives and Treatment Strategies.

3.2 Bush Fire Management Zones

Bush Fire Management Zones identified within the Lower North Coast 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 Lower North Coast 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:

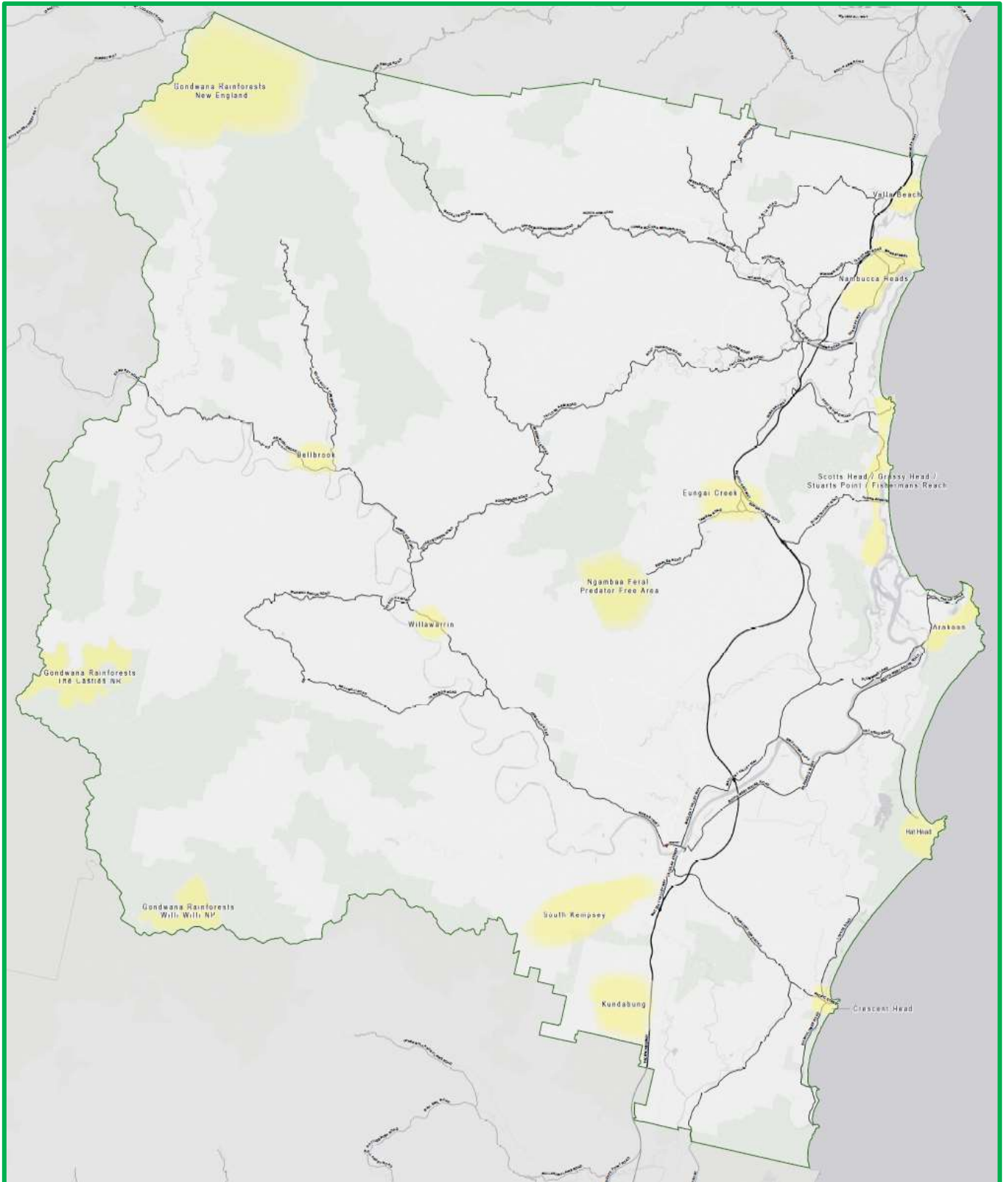
1. Focus Areas
2. Fuel Management Register (List)
3. Maps:
 - 3.1 Residential and Special Fire Protection Purpose Risk Current
 - 3.2 Economic Risk Current
 - 3.3 Aboriginal Predicted Sites Risk Current
 - 3.4 Environmental Risk Current
 - 3.5 Focus Areas and Fuel Management Register
4. Communication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

Appendix 1

Focus Areas

FOCUS AREAS
1.1 Valla Beach
1.2 Nambucca Heads
1.3 Scots Head / Grassy Head / Stuarts Point / Fishermans Reach
1.4 Arakoon
1.5 Hat Head
1.6 Crescent Head
1.7 Eungai Creek
1.8 Ngambaa Feral Predator Free Area
1.9 South Kempsey
1.10 Kundabung
1.11 Bellbrook
1.12 Willawarrin
1.13 Gondwana Rainforests – New England
1.13 Gondwana Rainforests - The Castles NR
1.13 Gondwana Rainforests – Willi Willi NP

Focus Area Map



1.1 Valla Beach

Risk Profile • Valla Beach

The Lower North Coast Bush Fire Management Committee (BFMC) has assessed the risk to residential, special fire protection (schools, health facilities, childcare etc), economic, environmental and cultural assets and has identified Valla Beach as a focus area.

Valla Beach is a growing coastal residential community situated approximately 10 kilometres north of Nambucca Heads. Valla Beach is a desirable holiday destination and the tourist park and picnic areas may be occupied by people during the Bush Fire Danger Period who are unfamiliar with the surrounding area and unprepared for bush fire. Access and egress is limited from the area. There is a single access road perpendicular to the north-south parallel transport routes (Major; M1 and Secondary; Ginnagay Way) by way of a wooden bridge which overpasses the Sydney-Brisbane rail line.

A Community Protection Plan was developed for Valla Beach (CPP) in 2020.

The Valla Beach Focus Area is home to 27 species of threatened fauna and three species of threatened flora. Approximately 133 hectares of land is mapped as Threatened Ecological Communities, and the area contains both Coastal Wetlands and Littoral Rainforests – listed under SEPP (Resilience and Hazards) 2021. It contains regionally significant habitat for Koalas.

The Gumbaynggir people have a strong connection to the Valla Beach and Oyster Creek areas. There is a risk that bush fire events, fire suppression operations and /or hazard reduction activities could negatively impact the cultural value of 3 registered Aboriginal cultural heritage sites that have been identified within the Focus Area.

The vegetation (dry sclerophyll, coastal floodplain forest and coastal heath) provides potential for rapid fire development. The 100ha Jagun Nature Reserve is situated to the immediate north of the residential interface and the 47ha Valla Nature Reserve bisects the two residential sections of the focus area. There has been no significant bush fires in this vegetation in the last two decades.

A key BFMC objective in Valla Beach is to improve Community Preparedness. In particular, the maintenance of private property Asset Protection Zones & the preparation of Bush Fire Survival Plans. This will be achieved through the provision of resources such as CPP maps and the implementation of programs that will help residents better understand their risk and prepare for bush fire.

The Fire Access and Fire Trail network in Valla Beach will be addressed as a priority in the Lower North Coast BFMC Fire Access and Fire Trail Plan. Operational response strategies will be addressed in the BFMC Plan of Operations through the development of the Valla Beach Pre-Incident Plan.

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

Table 1

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

1.2 Nambucca Heads

Risk Profile • Nambucca Heads

The Lower North Coast Bush Fire Management Committee (BFMC) has assessed the risk to residential, special fire protection (schools, health facilities, childcare etc), economic, environmental and cultural assets and has identified the Nambucca Heads locality as a focus area.

Nambucca Heads is a coastal community and a popular tourist destination. During the summer months the population significantly increases. As a desirable coastal holiday destination, tourist parks and picnic areas may be occupied by people during the Bush Fire Danger Period who are unfamiliar with the surrounding area and unprepared for bush fire. Significant facilities within Nambucca Heads that are in close proximity to vegetation that could be threatened during a fire event include 3 schools, several retirement living villages and aged care facilities as well as child care facilities and dwellings. There is also a risk to economic assets in the area, particularly commercial operations including tourist parks and an industrial estate on the interface.

The Nambucca Heads Focus Area is home to 44 species of threatened fauna and six species of threatened flora. Approximately 426 hectares of land is mapped as Threatened Ecological Communities, and the area contains Coastal Wetlands as listed under SEPP (Resilience and Hazards) 2021. It contains regionally significant habitat for Koalas.

The Gumbaynggir people have a strong connection to Nambucca Heads and there is a large population of Aboriginal residents. There is a risk that bush fire events, fire suppression operations and /or hazard reduction activities could negatively impact the cultural value of 40 registered Aboriginal cultural heritage sites and six local historic sites that have been identified within the Focus Area.

The vegetation (wet sclerophyll, coastal floodplain forest and coastal heath) provides potential for rapid fire development. The 1800ha Nambucca State Forest surrounds the focus area to the south, west and the north. There is a high frequency of undetermined or suspicious ignitions within the focus area. Significant fires occurred in 2007, 2012, 2017 and 2019 with more than a combined 800ha burnt in those events.

A key BFMC objective in Nambucca Heads is to improve Community Preparedness. In particular, the maintenance of private property Asset Protection Zones & the preparation of Bush Fire Survival Plans. 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.

Operational response strategies will be addressed in the BFMC Plan of Operations through the development of the Nambucca Heads Pre-Incident Plan.

A Neighbourhood Safer Place is located at Nambucca Plaza on Giinagay Way.

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

Table 2

BFMC OBJECTIVE	TREATMENT STRATEGY	REFERENCE
Community Preparedness	Community Engagement; Risk Awareness	NH.RA
	Community Engagement; Planning	NH.PL
	Community Engagement; Preparation	NH.PR
	Community Engagement; Community Resilience	NH.CR
Fuel Management	Asset Protection Zone(s)	NH.AP
	Strategic Fire Advantage Zone; prescribed burn	NH.SF

1.3 Scotts Head / Grassy Head / Stuarts Point / Fishermans Reach

Risk Profile • Scotts Head / Grassy Head / Stuarts Point / Fishermans Reach

The Lower North Coast Bush Fire Management Committee (BFMC) has assessed the risk to residential, special fire protection (schools, health facilities, childcare etc), economic, environmental and cultural assets and has identified the Scotts Head, Grassy Head, Stuarts Point and Fishermans Reach communities as a combined focus area.

The Scotts Head / Grassy Head / Stuarts Point / Fishermans Reach focus area is a 13km coastal residential strip situated between Macksville and South West Rocks approximately 50kms north of Kempsey. Each location is a discrete community separated by areas of bush and farmland.

There is also a risk to economic assets in the area, particularly agricultural assets which include fruit and nut plantations. There are a number of convention centres, camp grounds and holiday parks within the focus area which may be occupied during the Bush Fire Danger Period by people unfamiliar with the area and who are unprepared for bush fire.

Access is limited by the nature of the road network. Stuarts Point Road at the northern extent of the focus area and Scotts Head Road toward the southern end are the east-west access/egress routes to the M1 and larger, lower-risk towns. These roads are joined by the winding, narrow coastal north-south Grassy Head Road.

The Focus Area is home to 36 species of threatened fauna and six species of threatened flora. Approximately 521 hectares of land is mapped as Threatened Ecological Communities, and the area contains both Coastal Wetlands and Littoral Rainforests as listed under SEPP (Resilience and Hazards) 2021.

The Gumbaynggir and Wanggaan people have a strong connection to the Focus Area. There is a risk that bush fire events, fire suppression operations and /or hazard reduction activities could negatively impact the cultural value of 18 registered Aboriginal cultural heritage sites and one local historic site that has been identified within the Focus Area.

The vegetation (which includes wet and dry sclerophyll forest, forested wetlands and dune complex communities) in this area contributes to the bush fire risk and the potential for significant fire development. There has been no significant bush fire events in the focus area for the last two decades. Adjacent to the focus area is Yarriabini National Park and Fishermans Bend Nature Reserve and Way Way State Forest which could be negatively impacted by unplanned and intense fire.

The Fire Access and Fire Trail network in Scotts Head / Grassy Head / Stuarts Point / Fishermans Reach will be addressed as a priority in the Lower North Coast BFMC Fire Access and Fire Trail Plan.

A key BFMC objective in Scotts Head / Grassy Head / Stuarts Point / Fishermans Reach is to improve Community Preparedness. In particular, the maintenance of private property Asset Protection Zones & the preparation of Bush Fire Survival Plans. 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.

Operational response strategies will be addressed in the BFMC Plan of Operations through the development of the Scotts Head / Grassy Head / Stuarts Point / Fishermans Reach Pre-Incident Plan.

Neighbourhood Safer Places are located at Scotts Head Bowling Club and Stuarts Point (Joe Donavon Sporting Complex).

The key Bush Fire Risk Management Plan Objectives and Treatment Strategies for Scotts Head / Grassy Head / Stuarts Point / Fishermans Reach are listed in Table 3.

Table 3

BFMC OBJECTIVE	TREATMENT STRATEGY	REFERENCE
Community Preparedness	Community Engagement; Risk Awareness	SH.RA
	Community Engagement; Planning	SH.PL
	Community Engagement; Preparation	SH.PR
Fuel Management	Asset Protection Zone(s)	SH.AP
	Strategic Fire Advantage Zone; prescribed burn	SH.SF
Response	Pre-Incident Plan; addressed in BFMC Plan of Operations	SH.PI

1.4 Arakoon

Risk Profile • Arakoon

The Lower North Coast Bush Fire Management Committee (BFMC) has assessed the risk to residential, special fire protection (schools, health facilities, childcare etc), economic, environmental and cultural assets and has identified the Arakoon locality as a focus area.

Arakoon is a coastal residential community in the Kempsey Local Government Area. The area comprises a small residential area and small acreage lots with retained vegetation. Arakoon is adjacent to Hat Head National Park and is east of South West Rocks. Significant facilities include Trial Bay Gaol, a convict-era structure, and the still-operational Smokey Cape Lighthouse. World War II gun and radio emplacements are located at Smokey Cape. The area is a desirable holiday destination and campgrounds and picnic areas may be occupied by people unfamiliar with the surrounding area and unprepared for bush fire during the Bush Fire Danger Period. A Community Protection Plan (CPP) was prepared for Arakoon in 2022.

Arakoon is accessed by a single bridge over Spencers Creek. The bridge itself is not vulnerable to bush fire however, congestion during a bush fire is a risk. A number of properties adjoining the Park have access ways that are not safely accessible by fire appliances larger than a Cat 9.

The Arakoon Focus Area is home to 29 species of threatened fauna and two species of threatened flora. Approximately 124 hectares of land is mapped as Threatened Ecological Communities, and the area contains Coastal Wetlands as listed under SEPP (Resilience and Hazards) 2021. It contains regionally significant habitat for Koalas.

Hat Head National Park is one of a group of National Parks protecting important coastal vegetation communities and contains a significant remnant of the Macleay Valley freshwater wetlands. The Park is part of the traditional land of the Dunghutti people and contains shell middens, ceremonial grounds and camp and burial sites. There is a risk that bush fire events, fire suppression operations and /or hazard reduction activities could negatively impact the cultural value of 11 registered Aboriginal cultural heritage sites and six local historic sites that have been identified within the Focus Area. There have been no major bush fires in this area in the last two decades.

A key BFMC objective in Arakoon is to improve Community Preparedness. In particular, the maintenance of private property Asset Protection Zones & the preparation of Bush Fire Survival Plans. This will be achieved through the provision of resources such as CPP maps and the implementation of programs that will help residents better understand their risk and prepare for bush fire.

The Fire Access and Fire Trail network in Arakoon will be addressed as a priority in the Lower North Coast BFMC Fire Access and Fire Trail Plan. Topography in the National Park includes steep terrain which limits opportunity for construction of new fire trails.

Operational response strategies will be addressed in the BFMC Plan of Operations through the development of the Arakoon Pre-Incident Plan.

A Neighbourhood Safer Place is located at the nearby South West Rocks Country Club.

The key Bush Fire Risk Management Plan Objectives and Treatment Strategies for Arakoon are listed in Table 4.

Table 4

BFMC OBJECTIVE	TREATMENT STRATEGY	REFERENCE
Community Preparedness	Community Engagement; Risk Awareness	AR.RA
	Community Engagement; Planning	AR.PL
	Community Engagement; Preparation	AR.PR
	Community Engagement; Community Resilience	AR.CR
Fuel Management	Asset Protection Zone(s)	AR.AP
	Strategic Fire Advantage Zone; prescribed burn	AR.SF
Response	Pre-Incident Plan; addressed in BFMC Plan of Operations	AR.PI

1.5 Hat Head

Risk Profile • Hat Head

The Lower North Coast Bush Fire Management Committee (BFMC) has assessed the risk to residential, special fire protection (schools, health facilities, childcare etc), economic, environmental and cultural assets and has identified the Hat Head locality as a focus area.

Hat Head is a coastal residential community in the Kempsey Local Government Area between the focus areas of Crescent Head to the south and Arakoon to the North. Surrounded by Hat Head National Park, the area is a desirable holiday destination with walking tracks, campgrounds and picnic areas. These areas may be occupied by people unfamiliar with the surrounding area and who are unprepared for bush fire. Residential dwellings and tourist accommodation are in close proximity to vegetation and could be threatened during a fire event.

The locality is accessed by Hat Head Road, the single road for access to the area which passes through coastal vegetation (predominantly forested wetlands) for a distance of approximately 7km. The community of Hat Head could easily become isolated by fire in this vegetation. The built area is made up of two discrete sectors split by the tidal Korogoro Creek with a residential sector on the southern bank. Residents in this sector must travel through a further area of forest via Gap Road in order to leave the locality.

The Hat Head Focus Area is home to 15 species of threatened fauna and three species of threatened flora. Approximately 234 hectares of land is mapped as Threatened Ecological Communities, and the area contains Coastal Wetlands as listed under SEPP (Resilience and Hazards) 2021.

Hat Head National Park is one of a group of National Parks protecting important coastal vegetation communities and contains a significant remnant of the Macleay Valley freshwater wetlands. The Park is part of the traditional land of the Dughutti people and contains shell middens, ceremonial grounds and camp and burial sites. There is a risk that bush fire events, fire suppression operations and /or hazard reduction activities could negatively impact the cultural value of nine registered Aboriginal cultural heritage sites. A significant area of coastal heath adjacent to the built area was burnt in 2013 in a deliberately lit fire.

A key BFMC objective in Hat Head is to improve Community Preparedness. In particular, the maintenance of private property Asset Protection Zones & the preparation of Bush Fire Survival Plans. 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.

The Fire Access and Fire Trail network in Hat Head will be addressed as a priority in the Lower North Coast BFMC Fire Access and Fire Trail Plan.

Operational response strategies will be addressed in the BFMC Plan of Operations through the development of the Hat Head Pre-Incident Plan.

There is a Neighbourhood Safer Place located at the Hat Head Bowling and Recreation Club.

The key Bush Fire Risk Management Plan Objectives and Treatment Strategies for Hat Head are listed in Table 5.

Table 5

BFMC OBJECTIVE	TREATMENT STRATEGY	REFERENCE
Community Preparedness	Community Engagement; Risk Awareness	HH.RA
	Community Engagement; Planning	HH.PL
	Community Engagement; Preparation	HH.PR
	Community Engagement; Community Resilience	HH.CR
	Community Engagement; Community Response	HH.RE
Fuel Management	Asset Protection Zone(s)	HH.AP
	Strategic Fire Advantage Zone; prescribed burn	HH.SF
Response	Pre-Incident Plan; addressed in BFMC Plan of Operations	HH.PI

1.6 Crescent Head

Risk Profile • Crescent Head

The Lower North Coast Bush Fire Management Committee (BFMC) has assessed the risk to residential, special fire protection (schools, health facilities, childcare etc), economic, environmental and cultural assets and has identified the Crescent Head locality as a focus area.

Crescent Head is a coastal township in the Kempsey Local Government Area adjacent to the 546ha Goolawah National Park. Dwellings, a conference centre and a holiday park are in close proximity to vegetation. Loftus Road, which runs parallel to the coast to the north of the township, is a low density residential Aboriginal community surrounded by large areas of forested wetlands. The area could be threatened by heavy ember attack, radiant heat and some dwellings, in particular on Loftus Road, affected by direct flame contact during a fire event. A Community Protection Plan (CPP) was developed for Crescent Head in 2014.

The locality is a desirable holiday destination and walking tracks, campgrounds and picnic areas may be occupied by people unfamiliar with the surrounding area and who are unprepared for bush fire.

The Crescent Head Focus Area is home to 23 species of threatened fauna and six species of threatened flora. Approximately 247hectares of land is mapped as Threatened Ecological Communities, and the area contains Coastal Wetlands as listed under SEPP (Resilience and Hazards) 2021. It contains regionally significant habitat for Koalas.

Goolawah National Park is one of a group of National Parks protecting important coastal vegetation communities and contains a significant remnant of the Macleay Valley freshwater wetlands and the Park is part of the traditional land of the Dunghutti Aboriginal people. There is a risk that bush fire events, fire suppression operations and /or hazard reduction activities could negatively impact the cultural value of seven registered Aboriginal cultural heritage sites and three local historic heritage sites that have been identified within the Focus Area.

Large fires have occurred in and near the focus area from deliberate ignitions. A 2000ha area adjacent to Loftus Road was burnt in 2019 (Old Station Road fire). The Richardsons Crossing fire, which overlapped the 2019 fire footprint in its northern extent, burnt a similar area closer to the township in 2002.

The locality is accessed by Crescent Head Road, a single road which passes through the wet and dry sclerophyll forest of the Mariah River National Park for a distance of approximately 15km. The community could become isolated by fire along this route.

There is a Neighbourhood Safer Place located at the Crescent Head Country Club.

A key BFMC objective in Crescent Head is to improve Community Preparedness. In particular, the maintenance of private property Asset Protection Zones & the preparation of Bush Fire Survival Plans. This will be achieved through the provision of resources such as CPP maps and the implementation of programs that will help residents better understand their risk and prepare for bush fire.

The Fire Access and Fire Trail network in Crescent Head will be addressed as a priority in the Lower North Coast BFMC Fire Access and Fire Trail Plan.

Operational response strategies will be addressed in the BFMC Plan of Operations through the development of the Crescent Head Pre-Incident Plan.

The key Bush Fire Risk Management Plan Objectives and Treatment Strategies for Crescent Head are listed in Table 6.

Table 6

BFMC OBJECTIVE	TREATMENT STRATEGY	REFERENCE
Community Preparedness	Community Engagement; Risk Awareness	CH.RA
	Community Engagement; Planning	CH.PL
	Community Engagement; Preparation	CH.PR
	Community Engagement; Community Resilience	CH.CR
Fuel Management	Asset Protection Zone(s)	CH.AP
	Strategic Fire Advantage Zone; prescribed burn	CH.SF

1.7 Eungai Creek

Risk Profile • Eungai Creek

The Lower North Coast Bush Fire Management Committee (BFMC) has assessed the risk to residential, special fire protection (schools, health facilities, childcare etc), economic, environmental and cultural assets and has identified the Eungai Creek locality (also incorporating the Algomera locality) as a focus area.

Eungai Creek / Algomera is a village, rural-residential and farming community in the Kempsey Local Government Area. The 22,000ha Ingalba State Forest to the north and west of the focus area is established and maintained for silviculture of medium value hardwood. The Kian Road Fire, which burnt more than 24,000 ha in 2019, burnt a large area of this forest and came to within 1km of homes in Algomera.

One 40ha compartment of the State Forest is inside the focus area and in close proximity to, and downslope of, the Eungai K-Yr6 Public School. The school is potentially vulnerable to a fully developed fire in this forest through radiant heat and ember exposure. The majority of homes and other structures in the focus area may also be threatened by ember attack from the forested areas and from fire in vegetation on farmland. There is also a risk to economic assets, particularly agricultural assets such as livestock farms, horse studs, horticultural operations and fruit and nut plantations.

The Eungai Creek Focus Area is home to 12 species of threatened fauna and two species of threatened flora. Approximately 472 hectares of land is mapped as Threatened Ecological Communities, and the area contains regionally significant habitat for Koalas.

The Gumbaynggir people have a strong connection to the Focus Area. There is a risk that bush fire events, fire suppression operations and /or hazard reduction activities could negatively impact the cultural value of four registered Aboriginal cultural heritage that have been identified within the Focus Area.

Access and egress for residents west of the main Eungai Creek village and Algomera locality could be compromised by fallen trees and smoke during a fire. There is no formal fire trail network within the focus area however there are a number of roads, driveways and farm access ways present.

A key BFMC objective in Eungai Creek / Algomera is to improve Community Preparedness. In particular, the maintenance of private property Asset Protection Zones & the preparation of Bush Fire Survival Plans. 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.

Operational response strategies will be addressed in the BFMC Plan of Operations through the development of the Eungai Creek / Algomera Pre-Incident Plan.

The key Bush Fire Risk Management Plan Objectives and Treatment Strategies for Eungai Creek are listed in Table 7.

Table 7

BFMC OBJECTIVE	TREATMENT STRATEGY	REFERENCE
Community Preparedness	Community Engagement; Risk Awareness	EC.RA
	Community Engagement; Planning	EC.PL
	Community Engagement; Preparation	EC.PR
Fuel Management	Asset Protection Zone(s)	EC.AP
	Strategic Fire Advantage Zone; prescribed burn	EC.SF
Response	Pre-Incident Plan; addressed in BFMC Plan of Operations	EC.PI

1.8 Ngambaa Feral Predator Free Area

Risk Profile • Ngambaa Feral Predator Free Area

The Lower North Coast Bush Fire Management Committee (BFMC) has assessed the risk to residential, special fire protection (schools, health facilities, childcare etc), economic, environmental and cultural assets and has identified the Ngambaa Feral Predator Free Area as a focus area.

The NSW Feral predator free area program represents one of the most significant threatened fauna restoration projects in NSW history. The Ngambaa site encompasses the 2,503 hectare feral predator free area (FPFA) with significant investment in infrastructure and threatened species management. The area delivers a measurable conservation benefit for at least 20 threatened animal species including fire affected species such as rufous bettong, parma wallaby, common planigale, long-nosed potoroo, eastern chestnut mouse, koala, red-legged pademelon, eastern pygmy-possum. The Ngambaa site also raises community awareness and understanding of our threatened species, the factors impacting on them and appreciation for the value of native wildlife and healthy native ecosystems, provides research opportunities and allows a platform for engagement with local communities, environmental groups and Aboriginal communities.

The Ngambaa site's surrounding landscape includes nature reserve, state forest and private property. The Kian Road Fire, which burnt more than 24,000 ha in 2019, burnt around 1/3 of what is now the FPFA.

The Eungai Creek Focus Area is home to 15 species of threatened fauna and four species of threatened flora. Approximately 1290 hectares of land is mapped as Threatened Ecological Communities, and the area contains regionally significant habitat for Koalas.

The site is potentially vulnerable to unplanned and intense bush fire events that could kill both local and reintroduced threatened species destroy built infrastructure (fencing, operations base).

A key BFMC objective in Ngambaa Feral Predator Free Area is to implement an integrated approach encompassing fuel management, ignition management, and response treatments.

The fire management strategy for Ngambaa Nature Reserve will be fundamentally reviewed, including additional SFAZ and ecological burn units, and integration of the comprehensive FAFT and other fire trail network in the area. Local brigades will be engaged in familiarisation days and with planned burns, and neighbours will be engaged to foster an appreciation of the FPFA and reduce the risks of unplanned ignitions.

Operational response strategies will be addressed in the BFMC Plan of Operations through the development of the Ngambaa Pre-Incident Plan. The key Bush Fire Risk Management Plan Objectives and Treatment Strategies for Ngambaa are listed in Table 8.

Table 8

BFMC OBJECTIVE	TREATMENT STRATEGY	REFERENCE
Community Preparedness	Community Engagement; Risk Awareness	EC.RA
	Community Engagement; Planning	EC.PL
	Community Engagement; Preparation	EC.PR
	Community Engagement; Community Resilience	EC.CR
Fuel Management	Strategic Fire Advantage Zone; prescribed burn	EC.SF
Response	Pre-Incident Plan; addressed in BFMC Plan of Operations	EC.PI

1.9 South Kempsey

Risk Profile • South Kempsey

The Lower North Coast Bush Fire Management Committee (BFMC) has assessed the risk to residential, special fire protection (schools, health facilities, childcare etc), economic, environmental and cultural assets and has identified the South Kempsey as a focus area.

The South Kempsey focus area includes the rural properties that are located along or on an off-shoot of Pipers Creek Rd south west of South Kempsey. Significant forested areas are located immediately to the west and south of the area and the topography includes steep terrain, with many homes not built to withstand bush fire and inadequate Asset Protection Zones. There is a lack of reticulated water to a properties, and access can be difficult via unsealed narrow tracks traversing through forest.

The South Kempsey Focus Area is home to 14 species of threatened fauna. Approximately 207 hectares of land is mapped as Threatened Ecological Communities, and the area contains regionally significant habitat for Koalas.

The Thunggutti/Dunghutti people have a strong connection to the Focus Area. There is a risk that bush fire events, fire suppression operations and /or hazard reduction activities could negatively impact the cultural value of eight registered Aboriginal cultural heritage that have been identified within the Focus Area.

Significant tracts of vegetation to the west and south provides potential for rapid fire development. There is a high frequency of undetermined or suspicious ignitions within the focus area with significant fires in the surrounding Forest and National Parks occurring in 2019.

The BFMC will implement a number of hazard reduction burns to achieve a Strategic Fire Advantage Zone.

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

The BFMC will address the high number of deliberate and accidental bush fire ignitions with specific strategies in the BFMC Ignition Prevention Plan.

The key Bush Fire Risk Management Plan Objectives and Treatment Strategies for South Kempsey are listed in Table 9.

Table 9

BFMC OBJECTIVE	TREATMENT STRATEGY	REFERENCE
Community Preparedness	Community Engagement; Risk Awareness	SK.RA
	Community Engagement; Planning	SK.PL
	Community Engagement; Preparation	SK.PR
	Community Engagement; Community Resilience	SK.CR
Fuel Management	Strategic Fire Advantage Zone; prescribed burn	SK.SF
Response	Operational Readiness Arrangements; addressed in BFMC Plan of Operations	SK.OR
	Pre-Incident Plan; addressed in BFMC Plan of Operations	SK.PI
Ignition Prevention	Access Restriction; addressed in BFMC Ignition Prevention Plan	SK.AR

1.10 Kundabung

Risk Profile • Kundabung

The Lower North Coast Bush Fire Management Committee (BFMC) has assessed the risk to residential, special fire protection (schools, health facilities, childcare etc), economic, environmental and cultural assets and has identified Kundabung as a focus area.

The Kundabung focus area is a small rural village approximately 16 south of Kempsey. Surrounded by significant forested areas many homes are not built to withstand bush fire and have inadequate Asset Protection Zones. There is a lack of reticulated water to a properties, and access can be difficult with the M1 traversing north/south through the focus area.

The Kundabung Focus Area is home to 16 species of threatened fauna and two species of threatened flora. Approximately 633 hectares of land is mapped as Threatened Ecological Communities, and the area contains two regionally significant habitat for Koalas.

The Thunggutti/Dunghutti people have a strong connection to the Focus Area. There is a risk that bush fire events, fire suppression operations and /or hazard reduction activities could negatively impact the cultural value of three registered Aboriginal cultural heritage that have been identified within the Focus Area.

Significant tracts of vegetation to surrounding the Focus Area provides potential for rapid fire development. The last significant bush fire in the area was in 2016.

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

The BFMC will address the high number of deliberate and accidental bush fire ignitions with specific strategies in the BFMC Ignition Prevention Plan.

The key Bush Fire Risk Management Plan Objectives and Treatment Strategies for Kundabung are listed in Table 10.

Table 10

BFMC OBJECTIVE	TREATMENT STRATEGY	REFERENCE
Community Preparedness	Community Engagement; Planning	KU.PL
	Community Engagement; Preparation	KU.PR
Response	Operational Readiness Arrangements; addressed in BFMC Plan of Operations	KU.OR
	Pre-Incident Plan; addressed in BFMC Plan of Operations	KU.PI
	Fire Access or Fire Trail; addressed in BFMC FAFT Plan	KU.FA
Ignition Prevention	Access Restriction; addressed in BFMC Ignition Prevention Plan	KU.AR

1.11 Bellbrook

Risk Profile • Bellbrook

The Lower North Coast Bush Fire Management Committee (BFMC) has assessed the risk to residential, special fire protection (schools, health facilities, childcare etc), economic, environmental and cultural assets and has identified the Bellbrook locality as a focus area.

Bellbrook is an isolated village and farming community adjacent to the Macleay River in the Kempsey Local Government Area. A discrete Aboriginal community (Thunggutti ALC) is situated adjacent to Nulla Nulla Creek, a short distance to the northeast of Bellbrook village.

It is surrounded by, and in close proximity to, rugged, forested country that includes the New England, Oxley Wild Rivers and Carrai National Parks. The nearby landscape has been subject to a number of large bush fires in the period between 2010 and the time of writing (2023).

The majority of homes and other structures, in the focus area, may be threatened by ember attack from the forested areas and radiant heat from fire in vegetation on farmland. Most structures were built prior to the implementation of bush fire standards. There is also a risk to economic assets including a historic homestead B&B and hotel and agricultural assets.

The village is 50km from Kempsey and requires travel on a winding rural road (Armidale Rd) through sections of forest. Access and egress could be compromised by fallen trees and smoke during a fire.

The Bellbrook Focus Area is home to five species of threatened fauna. Approximately 4 hectares of land is mapped as Threatened Ecological Communities.

The Thunggutti/Dunghutti people have a strong connection to the Focus Area. There is a risk that bush fire events, fire suppression operations and /or hazard reduction activities could negatively impact the cultural value of 10 registered Aboriginal cultural heritage that have been identified within the Focus Area and one local historic heritage sites that have been identified within the Focus Area.

There is no formal fire trail network within the focus area however there are a number of roads, driveways and farm access ways present.

A key BFMC objective in Bellbrook is to improve Community Preparedness. In particular, the maintenance of private property Asset Protection Zones & the preparation of Bush Fire Survival Plans. 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.

There is no Neighbourhood Safer Place in the locality.

Operational response strategies will be addressed in the BFMC Plan of Operations through the development of the Bellbrook Pre-Incident Plan. The key Bush Fire Risk Management Plan Objectives and Treatment Strategies for Bellbrook are listed in Table 11.

Table 11

BFMC OBJECTIVE	TREATMENT STRATEGY	REFERENCE
Community Preparedness	Community Engagement; Planning	BE.PL
	Community Engagement; Preparation	BE.PR
	Community Engagement; Community Resilience	BE.CR
Response	Pre-Incident Plan; addressed in BFMC Plan of Operations	BE.PI

1.12 Willawarrin

Risk Profile • Willawarrin

The Lower North Coast Bush Fire Management Committee (BFMC) has assessed the risk to residential, special fire protection (schools, health facilities, childcare etc), economic, environmental and cultural assets and has identified the Willawarrin locality as a focus area.

Willawarrin is an isolated village, rural-residential and farming community in the Kempsey Local Government Area. It is surrounded by, and in close proximity to, rugged, forested country that includes the Oxley Wild Rivers and Carrai National Parks and Ngambaa and Boonanghi Nature Reserves. The Carrai East Fire, which burnt more than 140,000 ha in late 2019 severely affected the community and destroyed and damaged houses and outbuildings in the village and focus area.

The majority of homes and other structures, including a public school, community hall and hotel in the focus area, may be threatened by ember attack from the forested areas and from fire in vegetation on farmland. Most structures were built prior to the implementation of bush fire standards. There is also a risk to economic assets, particularly agricultural assets such as livestock farms, horse studs, horticultural operations and fruit and nut plantations.

The village is 30km from Kempsey and requires travel on a winding rural road (Armidale Rd) through sections of forest. Access and egress could be compromised by fallen trees and smoke in fire.

The Willawarrin Focus Area is home to one species of threatened fauna. Approximately 78 hectares of land is mapped as Threatened Ecological Communities.

The Thunggutti/Dunghutti people have a strong connection to the Focus Area. There is a risk that bush fire events, fire suppression operations and /or hazard reduction activities could negatively impact the cultural value of two registered Aboriginal cultural heritage that have been identified within the Focus Area and six local historic heritage sites that have been identified within the Focus Area.

There is no formal fire trail network within the focus area however there are a number of roads, driveways and farm access ways present.

A key BFMC objective in Willawarrin is to improve Community Preparedness. In particular, the maintenance of private property Asset Protection Zones & the preparation of Bush Fire Survival Plans. 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.

There is an open space Neighbourhood Safer Place located on the village sportsground.

Operational response strategies will be addressed in the BFMC Plan of Operations through the development of the Willawarrin Pre-Incident Plan. The key Bush Fire Risk Management Plan Objectives and Treatment Strategies for Willawarrin are listed in Table 12.

Table 12

BFMC OBJECTIVE	TREATMENT STRATEGY	REFERENCE
Community Preparedness	Community Engagement; Planning	WI.PL
	Community Engagement; Preparation	WI.PR
	Community Engagement; Community Resilience	WI.CR
Response	Pre-Incident Plan; addressed in BFMC Plan of Operations	WI.PI

1.13 Gondwana Rainforests

Risk Profile • World Heritage - Gondwana Rainforests – Castles, Willi Willi and New England NP

The Lower North Coast Bush Fire Management Committee (BFMC) has assessed the risk to environmental and cultural assets and has identified Gondwana Rainforests World Heritage property as a Focus Area.

Within the BFMC area, the New England and Willi Willi National Park and The Castles nature reserve include Gondwana Rainforests World Heritage. The Gondwana Rainforests of Australia was inscribed on the World Heritage List in 1986 and includes the most extensive areas of subtropical rainforest in the world, large areas of warm temperate rainforest and nearly all of the Antarctic beech cool temperate rainforest.

Few places on earth contain so many plants and animals which remain relatively unchanged from their ancestors in the fossil record. The Gondwana Rainforests of Australia is a serial property comprising the major remaining areas of rainforest in southeast Queensland and northeast New South Wales. It represents outstanding examples of major stages of the Earth's evolutionary history, ongoing geological and biological processes, and exceptional biological diversity. A wide range of plant and animal lineages and communities with ancient origins in Gondwana, many of which are restricted largely or entirely to the Gondwana Rainforests, survive in this collection of reserves. The Gondwana Rainforests also provides the principal habitat for many threatened species of plants and animals. This area includes an Asset of Intergenerational Significance for the Willi Willi Zieria, an endangered flora species.

All World Heritage properties in Australia are 'matters of national environmental significance' protected and managed under national legislation, the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*. By law, any action that has, will have or is likely to have a significant impact on the World Heritage values of a World Heritage property must be referred to the responsible Minister for consideration. Importantly, this Act also aims to protect matters of national environmental significance, such as World Heritage properties, from impacts even if they originate outside the property.

The World Heritage properties are potentially vulnerable to inappropriate fire regimes including unplanned and intense bush fire events. Bush Fire is a key threatening process for many environmental assets. A key BFMC objective in Gondwana Rainforests World Heritage property is to implement an integrated approach encompassing fuel management, ignition management, community preparedness and response treatments. The fire management strategy for each reserve will continue to be implemented, and FAFT and other fire trails progressively upgraded and maintained.

Local brigades will be engaged in familiarisation days and with planned burns, and neighbours will be engaged to foster an appreciation of the World Heritage property and reduce the risks of unplanned ignitions. Operational response strategies will be addressed in the BFMC Plan of Operations through the development of the World Heritage Pre-Incident Plan.

The key Bush Fire Risk Management Plan Objectives and Treatment Strategies for Gondwana Rainforests World Heritage property is to implement an integrated approach encompassing fuel management, ignition management, community preparedness and response treatments.

The fire management strategy for each reserve will continue to be implemented, and FAFT and other fire trails progressively upgraded and maintained. Local brigades will be engaged in familiarisation days and with planned burns, and neighbours will be engaged to foster an appreciation of the World Heritage property and reduce the risks of unplanned ignitions.

Operational response strategies will be addressed in the BFMC Plan of Operations through the development of the World Heritage Pre-Incident Plan. The key Bush Fire Risk Management Plan Objectives and Treatment Strategies for the 3 Gondwana Rainforest World Heritage focus areas are listed in Table 13, 14 and 15.

Table 13 Gondwana Rainforests – New England

BFMC OBJECTIVE	TREATMENT STRATEGY	REFERENCE
Community Preparedness	Community Engagement; Preparation	NE.PR
	Community Engagement; Planning	NE.PL
Response	Pre-Incident Plan; addressed in BFMC Plan of Operations	NE.PI

Table 14 Gondwana Rainforests – Willi Willi

BFMC OBJECTIVE	TREATMENT STRATEGY	REFERENCE
Community Preparedness	Community Engagement; Planning	WW.PL
	Community Engagement; Preparation	WW.PR
Response	Pre-Incident Plan; addressed in BFMC Plan of Operations	WW.PI

Table 15 Gondwana Rainforests – Castles

BFMC OBJECTIVE	TREATMENT STRATEGY	REFERENCE
Community Preparedness	Community Engagement; Planning	TC.PL
	Community Engagement; Preparation	TC.PR
Fuel Management	Asset Protection Zone(s)	TC.AP
	Land Management Zone; prescribed burn	TC.LM
Response	Pre-Incident Plan; addressed in BFMC Plan of Operations	TC.PI

Appendix 2

Fuel Management Register–

Table 2.1 Asset Protection Zones				
ID	Asset Protection Zone Name	Priority	Focus Area	Responsible Agency
AP.1	HAMA APZ East Arakoon (Carri, Gladstone, East St)	1	Arakoon	NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service
AP.2	Little Bay HR	1	Arakoon	NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service
AP.3	Tip Arakoon Rd APZ	1	Arakoon	NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service
AP.4	Allman Rd APZ - Crescent Head	1	Crescent Head	Department of Industry Crown Lands
AP.5	Charles Parry Street APZ - Crescent Head	1	Crescent Head	Kempsey Shire Council
AP.6	Dulconghi Street - Crescent Head	1	Crescent Head	Kempsey Shire Council
AP.7	Killuke Crescent APZ - Crescent Head	1	Crescent Head	Kempsey Shire Council
AP.8	Skyline Crescent South APZ - Crescent Head	1	Crescent Head	Kempsey Shire Council
AP.9	Skyline Drive South West APZ - Crescent Head	1	Crescent Head	NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service
AP.10	Stiemmetz APZ	1	Crescent Head	NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service
AP.11	Water Supply east of Baker Drive - Crescent Head	1	Crescent Head	Kempsey Shire Council
AP.12	Water Supply end of Skyline Drive - Crescent Head	1	Crescent Head	NSW Department of Planning and Environment
AP.13	Eungai Creek - Main St APZ	1	Eungai Creek	Department of Industry Crown Lands
AP.14	Hat Head APZ Complex	1	Hat Head	Department of Industry Crown Lands
AP.15	COCO APZ Banksia Point Lookout and Houses	1	Gondwana Rainforests – New England	NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service
AP.16	COCO APZ Point Entrance House	1	Gondwana Rainforests – New England	NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service
AP.17	COCO APZ Point Lookout and Houses	1	Gondwana Rainforests – New England	NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service
AP.18	Nambucca Heads - Charlton St APZ	1	Nambucca Heads	Department of Industry Crown Lands
AP.19	Nambucca Heads - Lee St East APZ	1	Nambucca Heads	Department of Industry Crown Lands
AP.20	Nambucca Heads - Lee St West APZ's	1	Nambucca Heads	Department of Industry Crown Lands

Table 2.1 Asset Protection Zones				
ID	Asset Protection Zone Name	Priority	Focus Area	Responsible Agency
AP.21	Nambucca Marshall APZ	1	Nambucca Heads	NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service
AP.22	APZ - Scotts Pump APZ	1	Scots Head / Grassy Head / Stuarts Point / Fishermans Reach	NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service
AP.23	COCO APZ Kinki East and Scissor	1	Scots Head / Grassy Head / Stuarts Point / Fishermans Reach	NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service
AP.24	COCO APZ Scotts Sewage and Substation	1	Scots Head / Grassy Head / Stuarts Point / Fishermans Reach	NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service
AP.25	Grassy Head - Millington Av APZ	1	Scots Head / Grassy Head / Stuarts Point / Fishermans Reach	Department of Industry Crown Lands
AP.26	Stuarts Point - Second Av APZ	1	Scots Head / Grassy Head / Stuarts Point / Fishermans Reach	Department of Industry Crown Lands
AP.27	Bakery Valla APZ	1	Valla Beach	NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service
AP.28	Cockburn St APZ	1	Valla Beach	Nambucca Shire Council
AP.29	COCO APZ Cockburn St	1	Valla Beach	NPWS
AP.30	Henderson St APZ	1	Valla Beach	Department of Industry Crown Lands
AP.31	Langsford Way APZ	1	Valla Beach	Nambucca Shire Council
AP.32	Langsford Way DET APZ	1	Valla Beach	NSW Department of Education
AP.33	Max Graham Drive APZ	1	Valla Beach	Nambucca Shire Council (& NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service)
AP.34	Ocean View Dr APZ	1	Valla Beach	Nambucca Shire Council (& NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service)
AP.35	Tuna St APZ	1	Valla Beach	NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service
AP.36	Valla Beach Rd APZ	1	Valla Beach	Nambucca Shire Council (& NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service)
AP.37	Valla Fire Shed APZ	1	Valla Beach	NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service
AP.38	Valla Reserve NSP APZ	1	Valla Beach	Nambucca Shire Council
AP.39	Arakoon - Cardwell St APZ	2	-	Department of Industry Crown Lands
AP.40	Arakoon - Francis Dimond St APZ	2	-	Department of Industry Crown Lands
AP.41	Arakoon - Grey St APZ	2	-	Department of Industry Crown Lands

Table 2.1 Asset Protection Zones				
ID	Asset Protection Zone Name	Priority	Focus Area	Responsible Agency
AP.42	Arakoon - Martin St APZ	2	-	Department of Industry Crown Lands
AP.43	Barbers Lane APZ	2	-	NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service
AP.44	COCO APZ Nursery and Scotts East	2	-	NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service
AP.45	Davis Road APZ	2	-	NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service
AP.46	Fishermans Reach APZ	2	-	Department of Industry Crown Lands
AP.47	Fishermans South APZ	2	-	NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service
AP.48	Golden Hole APZ	2	-	NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service
AP.49	Grey St APZ	2	-	NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service
AP.50	HAMA APZ Goolawah south (Delicate, Racecourse Goo*	2	-	NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service
AP.51	Hungry Gate APZ	2	-	NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service
AP.52	Kilmores Property APZ	2	-	NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service
AP.53	Loftus Rd 1	2	-	Local Aboriginal Land Council
AP.54	Loftus Rd 2	2	-	Local Aboriginal Land Council
AP.55	Loftus Rd 3	2	-	Local Aboriginal Land Council
AP.56	Loftus Rd 4	2	-	Local Aboriginal Land Council
AP.57	Loftus Rd 5	2	-	Local Aboriginal Land Council
AP.58	Loftus Rd 6	2	-	Local Aboriginal Land Council
AP.59	Loftus Rd 7	2	-	Local Aboriginal Land Council
AP.60	Loftus Rd APZ 8	2	-	Private Landholder
AP.61	Melaleuca Camp APZ	2	-	NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service
AP.62	Middleton Street APZ - South Kempsey	2	-	Department of Industry Crown Lands
AP.63	Millards APZ	2	-	NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service
AP.64	Mt Yarrahapinni APZ	2	-	NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service

Table 2.1 Asset Protection Zones				
ID	Asset Protection Zone Name	Priority	Focus Area	Responsible Agency
AP.65	Point Plomer Rd APZ	2	-	NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service
AP.66	Radio Tower Boonanghi APZ	2	-	NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service
AP.67	Smokey Cape Lighthouse APZ	2	-	NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service
AP.68	South West Rocks - Gordon Young Dr APZ	2	-	Department of Industry Crown Lands
AP.69	Spokes Tower APZ	2	-	NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service
AP.70	Tower PTC Rd APZ	2	-	NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service
AP.71	Tower Wilkes Rd APZ	2	-	NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service
AP.72	Trial Bay APZ	2	-	NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service

Table 2.2 Prescribed Burns					
ID	Name	Strategy*	Priority	Focus Area	Responsible Agency
SF.91	Borefields HR	SFAZ	1	Arakoon	NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service
SF.92	Fern Tree HR	SFAZ	1	Arakoon	NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service
SF.93	Allman Place SFAZ - Crescent Head	SFAZ	1	Crescent Head	Department of Industry Crown Lands
SF.94	Killuke Cresent SFAZ - Crescent Head	SFAZ	1	Crescent Head	Kempsey Shire Council
SF.95	Richard Elrington Street SFAZ - Crescent Head	SFAZ	1	Crescent Head	NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service
SF.96	Skyline Crescent South West SFAZ - Crescent Head	SFAZ	1	Crescent Head	NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service
SF.97	Ingalba - McKays Road	SFAZ	1	Eungai Creek	Forestry Corporation of NSW
LM.74	Tallowood HR	LMZ	1	Gondwana Rainforests – New England	NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service
SF.98	Hat Head Village South HR	SFAZ	1	Hat Head	NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service
SF.99	Korogoro Creek East HR	SFAZ	1	Hat Head	NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service
SF.100	Korogoro Creek West HR	SFAZ	1	Hat Head	NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service
SF.101	Nambucca Heads - Charlton St SFAZ	SFAZ	1	Nambucca Heads	Department of Industry Crown Lands
SF.102	Nambucca Heads Lee St SFMZ	SFAZ	1	Nambucca Heads	Department of Industry Crown Lands
LM.75	Cooks South HR	LMZ	1	Scots Head / Grassy Head / Stuarts Point / Fishermans Reach	NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service
LM.76	Middle Head North HR	LMZ	1	Scots Head / Grassy Head / Stuarts Point / Fishermans Reach	NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service
SF.103	Fishermans Reach SFAZ	SFAZ	1	Scots Head / Grassy Head / Stuarts Point / Fishermans Reach	Department of Industry Crown Lands
SF.104	Grassy Head - Millington Av SFAZ	SFAZ	1	Scots Head / Grassy Head / Stuarts Point / Fishermans Reach	Department of Industry Crown Lands
SF.106	Stuarts Point - Fishermans Reach Rd SFAZ	SFAZ	1	Scots Head / Grassy Head / Stuarts Point / Fishermans Reach	Department of Industry Crown Lands
SF.105	Scotts Head HR	SFAZ	1	Scots Head / Grassy Head / Stuarts Point / Fishermans Reach	NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service

Table 2.2 Prescribed Burns					
ID	Name	Strategy*	Priority	Focus Area	Responsible Agency
SF.107	Kalateenee - East	SFAZ	1	South Kempsey	Forestry Corporation of NSW
SF.108	Maria River	SFAZ	1	South Kempsey	Forestry Corporation of NSW
LM.77	Jagun HR	LMZ	1	Valla Beach	NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service
LM.78	Ocean View Valla HR	LMZ	1	Valla Beach	NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service
LM.79	Tuna Street LMZ HR	LMZ	1	Valla Beach	NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service
SF.110	Langsford Way SFAZ	SFAZ	1	Valla Beach	NSW Department of Education
SF.109	Jagun Nature Reserve	SFAZ	1	Valla Beach	NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service
SF.111	Tuna Street SFAZ HR	SFAZ	1	Valla Beach	NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service
IM.73	Nambucca	IMZ	2	-	Forestry Corporation of NSW
LM.82	Kalateenee - West	LMZ	2	-	Forestry Corporation of NSW
LM.80	Boultons HR	LMZ	2	-	NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service
LM.81	Grassy Head West HR	LMZ	2	-	NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service
LM.83	Kennears HR	LMZ	2	-	NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service
LM.84	Manusus HR	LMZ	2	-	NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service
LM.85	Ridge Trail HR	LMZ	2	-	NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service
LM.86	Second Bay HR LMZ	LMZ	2	-	NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service
LM.87	Smilax HR	LMZ	2	-	NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service
LM.88	Stoney Creek East HR	LMZ	2	-	NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service
LM.89	Stony Creek West HR	LMZ	2	-	NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service
LM.90	Tee Trees HR	LMZ	2	-	NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service
SF.113	Arakoon SFAZ	SFAZ	2	-	Department of Industry Crown Lands
SF.130	South West Rocks - Gilbert Cory St SFAZ	SFAZ	2	-	Department of Industry Crown Lands

Table 2.2 Prescribed Burns					
ID	Name	Strategy*	Priority	Focus Area	Responsible Agency
SF.131	South West Rocks - Gordon Young SFAZ	SFAZ	2	-	Department of Industry Crown Lands
SF.135	Way Way	SFAZ	2	-	Forestry Corporation of NSW
SF.124	Loftus Rd North SFAZ	SFAZ	2	-	Kempsey Shire Council
SF.123	Loftus Rd Middle SFAZ	SFAZ	2	-	Local Aboriginal Land Council
SF.125	Loftus Rd South SFAZ	SFAZ	2	-	Local Aboriginal Land Council
SF.112	4 Ways HR	SFAZ	2	-	NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service
SF.114	Beranghi North HR	SFAZ	2	-	NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service
SF.115	Beranghi South HR	SFAZ	2	-	NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service
SF.116	Bull Station - 02 HR	SFAZ	2	-	NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service
SF.117	Bull Station - 03 HR	SFAZ	2	-	NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service
SF.118	Bull Station - 04 HR	SFAZ	2	-	NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service
SF.119	First Bay HR	SFAZ	2	-	NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service
SF.120	Fishermans Bend South HR	SFAZ	2	-	NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service
SF.121	Illalangie HR	SFAZ	2	-	NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service
SF.122	Julians HR	SFAZ	2	-	NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service
SF.126	Maria Adams HR	SFAZ	2	-	NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service
SF.127	Maria North HR	SFAZ	2	-	NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service
SF.128	Maria Rd HR	SFAZ	2	-	NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service
SF.129	Second Bay HR SFAZ	SFAZ	2	-	NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service
SF.132	Strange Tree HR	SFAZ	2	-	NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service
SF.133	Summit East HR	SFAZ	2	-	NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service
SF.134	Tea Tree HR	SFAZ	2	-	NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service

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

Title	Type	Location	LGA
Crescent Head Country Club	Building	Rankine Street, Crescent Head	Kempsey
Kempsey Showground	Open Space	Sea Street, West Kempsey	Kempsey
Willawarrin Sports Ground	Open Space	Armidale Road, Willawarrin	Kempsey
South West Rocks Country Club	Building	2 Sportsmans Way, South West Rocks	Kempsey
Hat Head Bowling and Recreation Club	Building	Reserve Road, Hat Head	Kempsey
Gladstone Oval	Open Space	Barnard Street, Gladstone	Kempsey
Joe Donavon Sporting Complex	Open Space	Banksia Street, Stuarts Point	Kempsey
Donnelly Welsh Playing Field	Open Space	Dudley Street, Macksville	Nambucca
Valla Community Hall	Building	451 Valla Road, Valla	Nambucca
Utungun Community Hall	Building	1029 Taylors Arm Road, Utungun	Nambucca
Taylors Arm Oval	Open Space	Cnr Northbank Road and Taylors Arm Road, Taylors Arm	Nambucca
Scotts Head Bowling Club	Building	West Street, Scotts Head	Nambucca
Nambucca Plaza	Building	Corner Pacific Highway and Bellwood Road, Nambucca Heads	Nambucca
Valla Reserve	Open Space	Ocean View Drive	Nambucca

*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
22 – 23 March 2022	BFMC Members senior Volunteers	Workshops	Email	Introduction to BFRMP methodology; data validation; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Analyse risk maps; develop draft focus areas and treatment strategies; change in risk analysis and confirm treatment strategies. 	Venue Facilitator(s) Presentation Maps	RFS Area Command/ Head Office (Bush Fire Risk Planning)
July/August 2023	BFMC Members	Email	Email	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Notification to BFMC members of public exhibition 	Annex A	BFMC Executive Officer
July/August 2023	General Public	Local media	Email	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advise of exhibition, where to get copies and how to submit feedback 	Annex B Press release template	RFS District Office
July/August 2023	Members	District Brigades	Email	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advise of exhibition, where to get copies and how to submit feedback. Share social media schedule and encourage sharing of posts. 	Social Media schedule links	RFS District Office
July/August 2023	General Public	BFMC website Social Media	Social Media	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Invite / remind community to provide feedback on the draft plan and maps throughout the public exhibition period. 	Social Media package distributed by BFMC members. BFMC website.	BFMC Members
July/August 2023	General Public	Print Media	Hardcopy notices	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Notification of public exhibition of BFRMP. How to get a copy of plan. How to make a submission. 	Public Notice. Hardcopies displayed in Council chambers. Website available at Council chambers and NSW RFS FCC / FRNSW station(s).	RFS Area Command



Planning together

Lower North Coast 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