

GUIDE TO



Farm FireWise

Checklist and Action Plan



FIREWISETM

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What is Farm FireWise?

Farm FireWise helps NSW rural landholders prepare for and prevent bush fires. It provides support and advice on building bush fire preparedness into your business plans, and gives you the knowledge and skills to protect your family, home and business when bush fire threatens your property.

Farm FireWise aims to reinvigorate and foster relationships between rural communities, volunteer brigades and the NSW Rural Fire Service (NSWRFS) as partners in bush fire protection. It assists landholders to view and assess bush fire risk on a more holistic level across the landscape. *“Bush fire” is any fire involving grass, scrub or forest.*

Using the Farm FireWise Checklist, you will be able to:

- *assess the risks of fire to life and property;*
- *determine what you need to do to reduce the risks; and*
- *develop a bush fire management plan for your property.*

Planning to protect your home

This booklet will take you step by step through the process of developing a fire protection plan which covers all the assets on your property. One of the most important assets on any property is often the family home. If you are intending to build on your rural property there are some general principles for protecting your home from bush fire at the planning stage which you should consider.

The home site

Whatever the size of your land, some parts will be safer as a home site than others. Fire travels faster and burns more intensely uphill than downhill, and the steeper the slope the faster the fire. Flat ground is safer than sloping ground, and the bottom of a long slope is safer than the top. Slopes that face east or south are safer than north- or west-facing slopes, because these are the directions from which fires normally approach.

Fuel - reduced zones

Fuel is any combustible material. Fires cannot burn where there is no fuel. It is important to make sure there is an area of reduced fuel between the house and any unmanaged grass or bushland – this is often referred to as an Asset Protection Zone or APZ. Where possible, take advantage of existing fuel-reduced zones such as roadways, rivers or bare ground to provide a fuel break.

Ember attack

In a bush fire, airborne embers blown ahead of the main fire are responsible for a high proportion of damage to buildings. They can ignite new fires (a process called “spotting”) on, or around, the home. Try to place your home so that any forested areas are to the south and east of the site. A wind-break of high-moisture-content trees on the hazard side of the site will also help shield your home from flying sparks and embers.

Visit the NSW Rural Fire Service web site at www.rfs.nsw.gov.au or contact your local Fire Control Centre or call 1800 NSW RFS (1800 679 737) for more information about building in bush fire-prone areas.



Getting started

This booklet will guide you through the process of identifying the potential bush fire risks on your property and planning what you need to do to protect yourself, your family and your business. Each worksheet covers a specific risk area and contains questions for you to consider along with space to record information. Your responses to the questions will help you identify what actions are needed, which then forms the basis of your bush fire management plan. Remember to ask for help from your local NSW RFS brigade or Community Safety Officer if you need it.

Directions

Tick the boxes or make notes on the following worksheets.



REFER TO NSW RFS WEB SITE:
www.rfs.nsw.gov.au
or call 1800 NSW RFS (1800 679 737)



Follow the guidelines as you go for updating your property map.



Where you identify areas requiring action, transfer these to your Action Plan at the back of the booklet.

Example of base property map on aerial photo (see page 20 for example of finished map).

Maps

During this exercise you will be asked to put certain features of your property onto a map. This map could be a photocopy of the relevant topographic map of your area, a laminated aerial photo, or even a map you have drawn yourself.

You can use transparent overlays and permanent markers to update your maps so that changes can easily be made using methylated spirits and a cloth. Different overlays can be used for different types of information.

Before starting to work through the Checklist, record the following directly onto your base property map:

1. property name
2. scale
3. boundary
4. north arrow.

If you would like to use an aerial photo and do not have one yourself you can purchase one from the NSW Department of Lands. (www.lands.nsw.gov.au)



FARM FIREWISE CHECKLIST

The Checklist is designed to help you make decisions about fire protection relevant to your circumstances and your property.

This plan is prepared by you and retained by you. It is a simple tool that will allow you to identify what strategies you have in place, and areas that should be addressed for adequate fire protection.

The NSW Rural Fire Service has community educators, Brigade Captains, Fire Mitigation Officers and other staff who can advise you on specific parts of the Checklist, or guide you through the whole process if you wish.

If the plan identifies a need to reduce hazards on your property, this can be implemented over a time frame that suits your priorities. This is your plan – not to be kept by any other person unless you authorise it.

Your local NSW RFS brigade may be able to assist you more effectively during a fire incident if you choose to supply a copy to them. This choice is up to you and all material supplied will be treated with confidentiality.

While a variety of factors come together to increase the risk of bush fire in your area, ultimately the protection of your property comes down to you!

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

Contact your local NSW Rural Fire Service Fire Control Centre or the NSW Rural Fire Service

Website www.rfs.nsw.gov.au

Your NSWRFSS contact person

Phone number

Fax number

Email

Date this plan was prepared:

— / — / —



FARM FIREWISE CHECKLIST

STEP 1



Property details

Make a copy of these details and place next to your phone so that anyone calling for help from your home can give your location to emergency services.

Name of property

Property address

Family name of residents

Contact phone:

Contact mobile phone:

Contact satellite phone:

GPS location of residence:

NSW Rural Fire Service Brigade Area

Approx. size of property

FARM FIREWISE CHECKLIST

1

People

- *Does everyone working or living on your property know what to do during a fire?*
- *Are there residents on your property who are elderly, infirm, or physically disabled?*
- *Are there children who live on, or regularly visit, your property, and would they need to be relocated during a fire?*

Number of residents

_____ Adults (over 18 years old) _____ Youths (13–18 years old) _____ Children (0–12 years old)

People residing on your property who may require assistance or relocation before a fire:

Person's Name:

Assistance Required:

Relocation Point:

Person's Name:

Assistance Required:

Relocation Point:

Person's Name:

Assistance Required:

Relocation Point:

Person's Name:

Assistance Required:

Relocation Point:

Person's Name:

Assistance Required:

Relocation Point:

Person's Name:

Assistance Required:

Relocation Point:

Person's Name:

Assistance Required:

Relocation Point:

Person's Name:

Assistance Required:

Relocation Point:

1


FARM FIREWISE CHECKLIST

Preparedness

Protective clothing

Full Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) – long sleeve shirt and long pants (cotton or wool), fully enclosed leather shoes or boots, leather gloves, goggles, and smoke masks. The storage area for PPE should be known and easily accessible to all the family and employees.

Protective clothing

(Identify on the map of your property the storage locations of your PPE) 

Date Last Checked: ____ / ____ / ____

Yes No PPE For Yourself

Yes No PPE For Family

Yes No PPE for Employees

Storage Area Locations:

Yes No House

Yes No Workshop/Shed

Yes No Vehicles

No. of Residents or Family members trained in fire fighting

Adults : _____ Youth : _____

Emergency planning

(Identify on the map of your property the relocation areas and locations)

Know the school or bus company bush fire plan, and discuss emergency family communications if needed. All responsible members of the family and employees need to be able to use the radio, plus change channels. Batteries for mobile phones need to be fully charged and have an alternate charging system e.g. vehicle charging.

What is the CB Radio/Local channel ? _____

Emergency Service Channel ? _____

Do you have mobile phone coverage ?

Yes No

Does your car have in-car chargers for your mobile phone ?

Yes No

Do you own a radio frequency scanner ?

Yes No

Do you have an emergency contact plan ?

Yes No

Do you have a relocation plan for family members & employees ?

Yes No



Emergency preparations noted in your Action Plan

FARM FIREWISE CHECKLIST

1

Survival kit

(Identify on the map of your property the storage locations of your emergency kits)

Includes first aid supplies, and also vital medications for family members e.g. asthma, heart, eye drops etc. Other things to include: torch, matches, pocket knife, water, food snacks etc. Pets must also be considered – do they need leads, transport baskets, water bowl, name tag with your name and contact number?

- Yes No First Aid Kits
- Yes No Household Survival Kit
- Yes No Supplies for house pets
- Yes No Survival kit for employees

Survival kit

You should have a bush fire survival kit stored in an area of the house that is safe to access.

THE KIT SHOULD CONTAIN:

- Protective clothing for the whole family (e.g. boots or sturdy footwear, jeans, long sleeve shirt made from natural fibres or cotton drill overalls)
- Drinking water
- Woollen blankets
- Fire extinguishers
- First aid kit
- Hoses
- Knapsack spray
- Shovel
- Ladder
- Towels
- Buckets
- Mop
- Goggles
- Gloves
- Battery operated radio
- Torch
- Spare batteries
- Smoke mask (Respirator mask)



FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THIS TOPIC

refer to NSW Rural Fire Service web site: www.rfs.nsw.gov.au
or call 1800 NSW RFS (1800 679 737)

1

FARM FIREWISE CHECKLIST

Structures

Non-residential structures, such as sheds, often contain valuable assets. Where appropriate, they should be closed on all sides and have solid doors to minimise the risk of ember attack.

PROPERTY STRUCTURES

Houses located on your property

Number of farm houses where full - time residents sleep.

_____ *(Identify the location of the houses on your property map)* 

Number of farm houses where part-time residents sleep.

_____ *(Identify the location of the houses on your property map)* 

Time of year when farm houses are occupied by part-time residents.

From _____ to _____

From _____ to _____

From _____ to _____

Other structures located on your property:

(Identify the locations of all other structures on your property map) 

Sheds _____

Closed on all sides _____

Open on all sides _____

Stables/Animal Housings _____

Stock Yards _____

Shearing Sheds _____

Water Pump Sheds _____

Other: _____



All structures identified on your property map, and structural work required noted in your Action Plan.

FARM FIREWISE CHECKLIST

1

Access to your property

Access roads to structures

- Are the roads leading to your structures restricted by any fencing, locked gates, or other obstacles, and are they clearly marked?
- Access restrictions on these roads need to be considered carefully as they may delay the arrival of emergency services during a fire.

Vehicle access throughout your property

Vehicles must be able to enter and turn safely in dark or smokey conditions. Knowing where access restrictions exist on your property will help firefighters. Check your property for:

- height restrictions
- overhanging trees
- low power lines
- narrow roads
- property bridges with weight restrictions
- gates and cattle grids
- rural residence internal fencing
- potentially boggy areas.

Vehicle access

(Identify access roads, entry points, locked gates and obstructions on your property map) 

Around your house

- | | | | | |
|--------------------------|-----|--------------------------|----|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> | No | Constructed road |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> | No | Drivable but not constructed road |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> | No | Obstructions to vehicle access (e.g. fences, pools, locked gates etc) |

Around your sheds

- | | | | | |
|--------------------------|-----|--------------------------|----|-----------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> | No | Constructed road |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> | No | Drivable but not constructed road |

Along property boundaries

- | | | | | |
|--------------------------|-----|--------------------------|----|------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> | No | Constructed road |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> | No | Drivable but not constructed road |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> | No | Main entry road, suitable for a fire appliance, including turning area |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> | No | Internal bridges or cattle grids |

Internal access

- | | | | | |
|--------------------------|-----|--------------------------|----|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> | No | Identify on the attached map of your property |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> | No | Is property divided into permanent paddocks (boundary and internal fencing)? |

All vehicle access points identified on your property map, and access work required noted in your Action Plan.


1

FARM FIREWISE CHECKLIST

Water and pumps

- Do your water storage areas have good vehicle access and are they easily identifiable?
- What size and type of outlets are on your water tanks?
- Do you have other static water sources (SWS) on your property such as a swimming pool?
- Do your water tanks have pump and hose available to be used in the event of fire?
- Does everyone on your property know how to operate pumps and hose systems?

Water sources

(Identify all water sources on your property map) 

<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	Dams	Number on site: _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	Bore Water Supply	Number on site: _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	Natural Water Supply	Number on site: _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	Town Water Supply Hydrant Points	Number on site: _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	Water Tanks/Swimming Pool	Number on site: _____

W/Source Type

Quantity

Location

_____	Approx. Capacity: _____ ltrs	_____
_____	Approx. Capacity: _____ ltrs	_____
_____	Approx. Capacity: _____ ltrs	_____
_____	Approx. Capacity: _____ ltrs	_____

Vehicle Access

Around your dams and water supplies

<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	Constructed road
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	Drivable but not constructed road
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	Obstructions to vehicle access (e.g. fences, etc)

Tank outlets

<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	Tanks fitted with 65mm Storz outlets and metal valves/pipes
------------------------------	-----------------------------	-------------------------------------------------------------

Water Pumps

(Identify water pumps on your property map) 

<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	Location: _____	Number on site: _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	Fixed	
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	Portable	

All water sources identified on your property map, and work required noted in your Action Plan.

FARM FIREWISE CHECKLIST

1

Livestock & agricultural activities

Animal health issues

- Quarantined stock areas should be identified and NSW RFS brigades should be advised not to mix stock if possible.
- Identify refuge paddocks where stock can be moved during fires.

Refuge locations on property:

(Mark refuge locations on your property map)



- Cattle
- Sheep
- Horses
- Intensive (pigs/poultry etc.)
- Exotic (Lamas/ostriches etc.)
- Other _____

Fodder storage:

(Identify storage areas on your property map)



- Open sheds
- Baled and stacked
- Paddocks
- Baled and left in paddocks
- Silos
- Covered stacks/Silage
- Other:

Activity conducted on property:

(Mark locations of different activities on your property map)



- Grazing
- Cropping
- Orchard
- Hobby farm
- Plantations
- Other _____



All structures identified on your property map, and structural work required noted in your Action Plan.



1

FARM FIREWISE CHECKLIST

Fire-related information

Previous fire history

As land owners you are able to learn a lot from previous fire events on and around your property. Fires often travel along similar paths. Find out as much as you can about the fire history of your land: when the fires happened, how and where they started (planned or unplanned fires), what area was burnt, and what losses occurred. This information could come from different sources such as: personal recollection, observation (effects of fire such as scorch marks and burnt fence posts), records, neighbours, or local fire brigades.

(Identify on your property map the area/s of previous bush fire/grass fire activity on your property) 

Date of fire: _____

Land area burnt: _____

Date of fire: _____

Land area burnt: _____

Date of fire: _____

Land area burnt: _____

Have structures been lost or damaged due to bush fire/grass fire ?

Yes No

Have you lost livestock due to bush fire/grass fire ?

Yes No

Have you lost crops due to bush fire/grass fire ?

Yes No

Other assets lost (grazing, fences etc) due to bush fire/grass fire ?

Yes No

Details of assets lost:

Prevailing winds *(Identify on your property map the direction of the prevailing winds)*

Wind determines the direction in which fire travels. Think about which direction the wind usually travels during the different seasons on your land. Include regular patterns of wind change e.g. evening southerly change.

Spring prevailing winds are from the: _____

Summer prevailing winds are from the: _____

Winter prevailing winds are from the: _____

Autumn prevailing winds are from the: _____

FARM FIREWISE CHECKLIST

1

Slope and aspect

Fires travel faster up slope than down or along level ground. Different aspects are more likely to be known fire paths than others.

Aspect (direction facing) *(Identify on your property map the aspect of your property and buildings)* 

House: _____ Shed 1: _____

Shed 2: _____ Shed 3: _____

Slope (in degrees) *(Identify in degrees the degrees of slope on your property map)*

House: _____ Shed 1: _____

Shed 2: _____ Shed 3: _____

The topography, or slope and aspect of your property will affect how fire travels across it.



1

FARM FIREWISE CHECKLIST

Hazards

(Identify on your property map the location of all potential hazards) 

What are the hazards on your property and where are they located? Are the hazards isolated or, in the case of fuel and chemicals, clearly identified? Do you already carry out fire mitigation strategies for these hazards e.g. fuel-free zone? Do you have an alternate power source that powers your infrastructure and also feeds the main power grid? In this section you will need to think carefully about what actions you could take to reduce hazards and transfer these to your Action Plan.

Vegetation, such as garden planter boxes, mulch, wind breaks, ornamental trees, overhanging braches, close to structures increases the opportunity for fire to reach and impact upon them.

Vegetation

- Yes No Wet forest
 - Yes No Grassy forest
 - Yes No Grassy woodland
 - Yes No Shrubby forest
 - Yes No Pasture/grassland
 - Yes No Crops
 - Yes No Plantations
- Other: _____

Fuel storage

- Yes No Above ground storage
Total ltrs: _____
Location: _____
- Yes No Below ground storage
Total ltrs: _____
Location: _____
- Yes No Drums of fuel stored on property
Total ltrs: _____
Location: _____

Electrical

- Yes No Low power lines
- Yes No Underground power lines
- Yes No On-site generator
- Yes No Telephone lines
- Yes No Alternate power source

Hazardous chemicals

- Yes No Fertilizers
- Yes No Herbicides/weedicide
- Yes No Chlorine
Total ltrs: _____
Location: _____
Other: _____

Gases

- Yes No House:
Gas type: _____
Location: _____
- Yes No Workshop
Gas type: _____
Gas type: _____
Gas type: _____

Firearms

- Yes No Ammunition

All potential hazards identified on your property map, and hazard reduction work noted in your Action Plan.

FARM FIREWISE CHECKLIST

1

Mitigation

Mitigation is taking steps to reduce the risk of bush fire damage to homes, structures, crops, livestock, equipment and the environment. You should undertake mitigation activities well in advance of the bush fire season and keep up the maintenance work all year round. Make sure they are included in your Action Plan.

Livestock

The risk of injury to, or destruction of, farm animals during bush fire can most easily be reduced by preparing and maintaining fuel-reduced areas onto which stock can be moved and held.

This means planning to use fallow paddocks, well grazed smaller paddocks or raceways, irrigated pasture or summer crop areas.

The ideal location is one which:

- contains a water supply
- has clear access
- has shade
- is well fenced
- is well grazed with minimum fuel to carry fire.

If you will be away during the day, consider moving stock into the safe paddock the night before a Total Fire Ban day.

Building preparedness

(Identify on the map of your property the mitigation activities you have undertaken) 

Houses, sheds and other structures on your property

Yes No

Are ground fuels (long, dry grass, dead leaves and branches, thick undergrowth) cleared around the house?

Yes No

Do you keep the grass around the house short and green ?
(water restrictions may need to be taken into account).

Yes No

Are the eaves and openings boxed in including under your house, sheds and other structures ?

Yes No

Is the vegetation around the house not providing a path for fire ?
Plant or clear vegetation in clumps, rather than continuous rows.

Yes No

Is garden and general rubbish removed from around all structures ?

1

FARM FIREWISE CHECKLIST

Fuel-reduced breaks

(Identify on the map of your property the mitigation activities you have undertaken) 

- Yes No Do you have a ploughed firebreak around the home paddock ?
- Yes No Do you have a stock rotation plan to keep paddocks near buildings well-grazed ?
- Yes No Have you constructed firebreaks around inside of you property fence lines ?
- Yes No Do you prune low tree branches 2m from the ground and separate tree crowns ?
- Yes No Do you have a maintenance plan to prepare firebreaks each year ?

Paddocks

(Identify on the map of your property the mitigation activities you have undertaken) 

- Yes No Do you have a ploughed firebreak around each of the paddock boundries to reduce the spread of fire ?
- Yes No Do you have a stock rotation plan to keep paddocks well-grazed ?
- Yes No Have you constructed firebreaks around the inside of your property fence lines to protect crops from fire entering your property ?
- Yes No Do you have a relocation plan for stock in the event of fire ?

Boundary fire breaks

(Identify on the map of your property the mitigation activities you have undertaken) 

- Yes No Do you have ploughed firebreaks ?
- Yes No Do you have sealed roads around your property ?
- Yes No Have you slashed areas to reduce the risk of fire ?
- Yes No Do you have a maintenance plan to prepare firebreaks each year ?

Operating private Equipment at fires

It is your legal responsibility to, where practical, ensure that fire does not escape your property. Therefore it is important for you to have the capacity to fight fires on your property. It has also been the custom and practice for members of the community to attend fires with their own equipment to protect other properties in the community.

It is therefore important that your equipment is safe, you know how to use it and you understand your responsibilities when fighting fires on or near your land and how to do it safely -whether the NSW RFS is there or not. Everyone at the fire has responsibility for safety and you must accept responsibility for your decisions and actions.

Firefighting Equipment (Identify on the map of your property the location of equipment) 

Yes No Dozer

Yes No Grader

Yes No Backhoe

Yes No Vehicle with pump & water storage

Yes No Bulk water carrier

Yes No Firefighting Trailer

Other equipment



1

FARM FIREWISE CHECKLIST

Understanding your responsibility

Your decision to engage in firefighting should be carefully considered and made well before any actual fire outbreak. If you are planning on attending fires on or around your property it is essential that you and your equipment are adequately prepared.

Equipment safety

If you are planning to use your equipment to fight fires you should ensure that the equipment is suitable and capable of performing the task. A simple check list might assist you with determining the suitability and safety of your equipment.

- | | | |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No | When loaded is the weight of your vehicle less than the rated Gross Vehicle Mass? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No | Is the load including tank, pump and fittings properly secured? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No | Is your vehicle roadworthy? (to RTA standards.) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No | Is your vehicle registered? (if operating on public roads.) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No | Are the vehicle and pump mechanically sound? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No | Have the vehicle and pump been serviced regularly? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No | Is your vehicle fitted with a UHF Radio transceiver? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No | Is there a first-aid kit in the vehicle? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No | Is there a woollen blanket for fire protection in the vehicle? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No | Is your vehicle fitted with an amber rotating beacon? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No | Is your vehicle fitted with heatshields? (if required, i.e. if personnel are to operate from the tray.) |

All equipment identified on your property map, and work required noted in your Action Plan.

FARM FIREWISE CHECKLIST

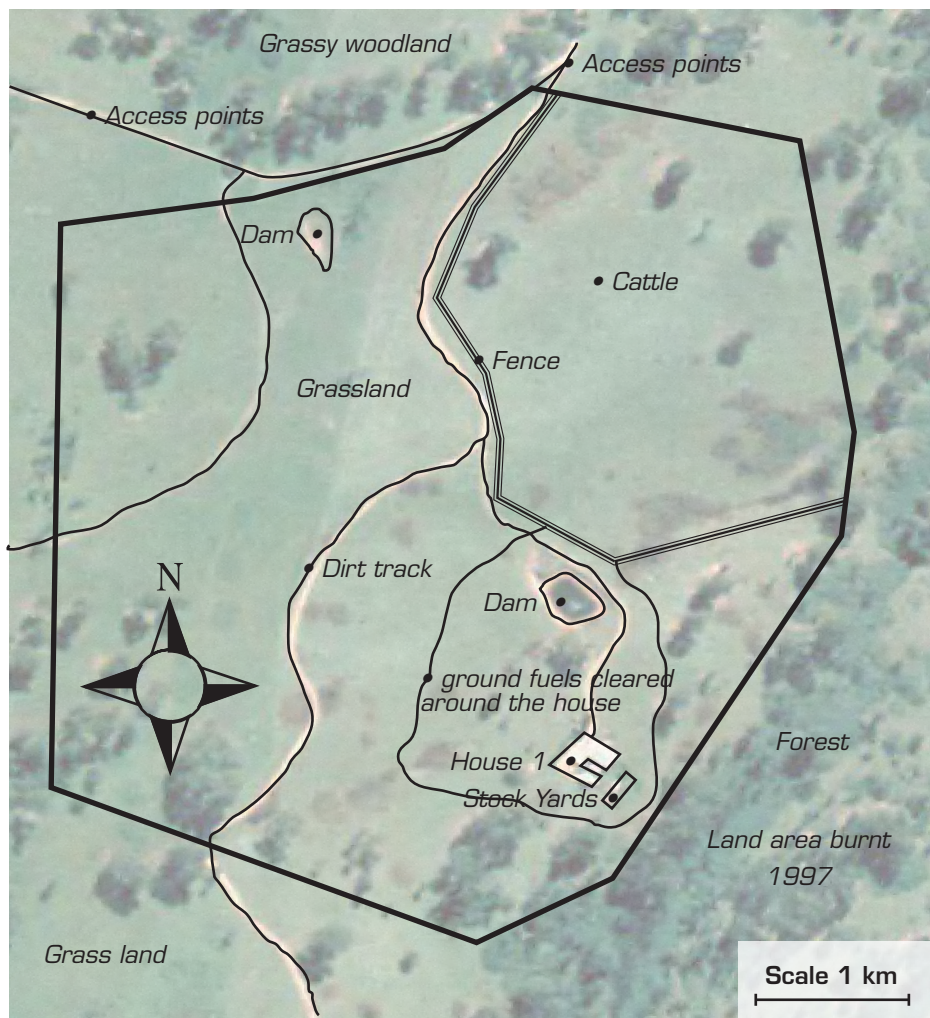
1

Additional information

(Identify on the map of your property adjoining properties) 

Many agricultural enterprises are isolated rural developments, which experience additional problems because they may be a long way from firefighting services and be located next to large areas of bush.

- Yes No Is your property adjoining private land ?
- Yes No Is your property adjoining crown land ?
- Yes No Is your property adjoining a Subdivision, Public Recreational Area or Industrial area ?
- Yes No Is your property adjoining a Travelling Stock Reserve ?



Example property map showing locations of assets, access points, water sources and other items from the Farm FireWise Checklist

FARM FIREWISE CHECKLIST

STEP 2

Develop an Action Plan

Develop an Action Plan for what you need to do to reduce the potential bush fire threat on your property. You may like to consider consulting with your local NSW Rural Fire Service brigade or contact the local NSW RFS Community Safety Officer to assist you in this process.

The Farm FireWise Checklist process enableds you to identify threats and hazards and what you need to do about them. By transferring these to your Action Plan you can make decisions about how and when you will undertake these important activities.

Refer to the example FARM FIREWISE ACTION PLAN as a guide.

Sections to complete

• Property name and address details	The address details and contact details of your property.
• Date created	Your plan will need to be continuously updated to enable you to keep track of your results and works that still need to be completed
• Created by	Who collected the information
• Area	The area of the property where you identified that a threat is present
• Management aim	The intended outcome which guides your planned actions
• Potential threats to life and property	A description of the threat or hazard
• Action required	What works will be undertaken to reduce the threat to your assets
• Date of action commenced and the date of action completed	To enable you to include fire mitigation works into your farm management schedule

Property map updated to show the location of:

- Your assets
- Agricultural equipment
- Firefighting equipment
- Water sources
- Roads and trails
- Mitigation works being undertaken and completed
- Property boundaries.



Farm FireWise Action Plan

AREA	MANAGEMENT AIM	POTENTIAL THREAT TO LIFE & PROPERTY
Kickatinalong Road	Grazing in adjacent paddocks	Fire starting on the side of the road next to my property
Shearing shed	Shearing	Sheep droppings under Shearing Shed
Top Hill paddock	Weeding lantana to allow future grazing	Burning of lantana piles,
Home Site & Staff Amenities	Ensure all family & staff wear the appropriate clothing during a bush fire	Not Wearing the correct Clothing for Fire Fighting
All areas of the property	Prevent fire from starting on my property	Harvest Season

This example is provided to show you how a completed Farm FireWise Action Plan might look. Your Action Plan will be specific to your property and include actions you've identified while working through the Checklist. If you need help completing your Action Plan contact your local Rural Fire Service brigade or Community Safety Officer in your area, or visit www.rfs.nsw.gov.au

Property Map updated: 9 / 4 / 06

ACTION REQUIRED	Date of Action Commenced	Date of Action Completed
Plough firebreak 3 metres wide from fence line on my property Example only	22/06/06	22/07/06
Clear out droppings after each shearing season	22/07/06	28/07/06
Speak with the local NSW RFS Fire control Centre prior to taking action or burning off. It must be planned carefully and carried out with extreme caution under correct weather conditions. Check what permits are required with NSW RFS	22/05/06	22/06/06
Put together a firefighting kit of correct clothing and have it with me at all times	22/04/06	22/05/06
Check machinery and weather conditions before harvesting. Where possible only stop machinery on bare ground	22/03/06	22/05/06

Farm FireWise Action Plan

Property Map updated: / /

FARM FIREWISE CHECKLIST

AREA	MANAGEMENT AIM	POTENTIAL THREAT TO LIFE & PROPERTY	ACTION REQUIRED	Date of Action Commenced	Date of Action Completed

FARM FIREWISE CHECKLIST

Farm FireWise Action Plan

Property Map updated:

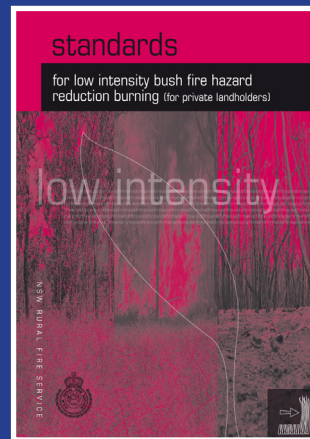
/ /

AREA	MANAGEMENT AIM	POTENTIAL THREAT TO LIFE & PROPERTY	ACTION REQUIRED	Date of Action Commenced	Date of Action Completed



Before You Light That Fire

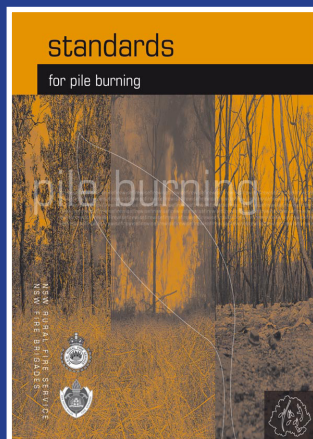
Explains the approvals you may need before using fire for reducing bush fire hazards, removing rubbish or conducting agricultural activities.



Standards for low intensity bush fire hazard reduction burning (for private landholders)

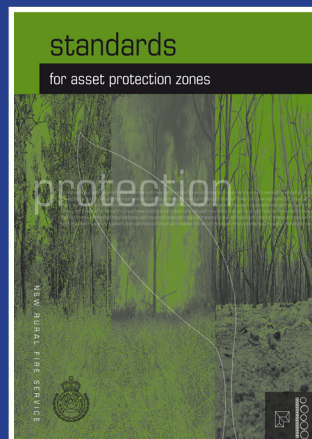
This document explains the best way to carry out low intensity bush fire hazard reduction burning.

*Your property
Your fuel
Your responsibility*



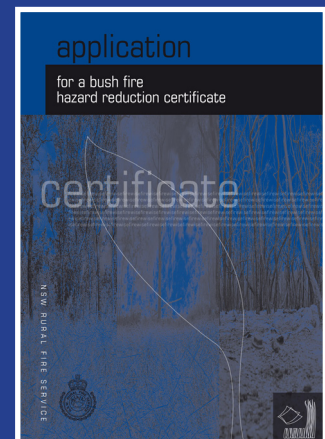
Standards for Pile Burning

Explains how to safely conduct a pile burn, including notifications and approvals required. A pile burn is the burning of cut and stacked vegetation.



Standards for Asset Protection Zones

Provides advice on establishing and maintaining an Asset Protection Zone. An APZ is an area surrounding an asset where bush fire fuel has been reduced to a level that protects the asset from the impact of fire.



Application for a Bush Fire Hazard Reduction Certificate

Step-by-step guide to applying for a Bush Fire Hazard Reduction Certificate to carry out planned hazard reduction works.



FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

NSW RFS WEBSITE: www.rfs.nsw.gov.au
or call 1800 NSW RFS (1800 679 737)

