

Annexure A: Model Fire Access and Fire Trail Plan



The **NAME** Bush Fire Management Committee
Fire Access & Fire Trail Plan

Prepared by **NAME** Bush Fire Management Committee
Pursuant to Section 52A of the *Rural Fires Act 2016*

Authorisation

In accordance with Part 3 Division 4 of the *Rural Fires Act 1997*, this Fire Access and Fire Trail Plan has been prepared by the **NAME** Bush Fire Management Committee and has been endorsed at the Bush Fire Management Committee (BFMC) meeting on **DATE** for submission to the Bush Fire Coordinating Committee.

Recommended

NAME

Chairperson

NAME Bush Fire Management Committee

Approved

On behalf of the

NSW Bush Fire Coordinating Committee

Amendment List

Amendment		Entered	
Number	Date	Signature	Date

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1 Introduction

1.1 Background

Amendments to the *Rural Fires Act 1997 (the Act)*, through the *Rural Fires Amendment (Fire Trails) Act 2016*, provide a legislative basis for the establishment and maintenance of an enhanced fire trail network in NSW.

The amended Act incorporates new arrangements for fire management access into the existing bush fire planning arrangements including a new range of new powers, processes and obligations to establish, maintain, protect, certify and register fire trails across the State.

1.2 Aim and Objectives

The aim of the Fire Access and Fire Trail (FAFT) Plan is to provide appropriate means of accessing land to prevent, fight, manage or contain bush fires. The document identifies a suitable network of fire trails across a Bush Fire Management Committee (BFMC) area, which includes both existing and proposed fire trails and access points.

2 Relationship to other Section 52 Plans

Under Section 52 of the Act, each BFMC must prepare and submit to the Bush Fire Coordinating Committee a Bush Fire Risk Management Plan, a Plan of Operations, and a FAFT Plan. These BFMC planning documents should complement each other, however, where there are inconsistencies between a FAFT Plan and the Bush Fire Risk Management Plan, the FAFT Plan prevails in accordance with Section 59A of the Act.

3 Existing Fire Trail Network

The existing fire trail network was utilised in identifying the strategic, tactical and other tracks within the landscape.

4 Proposed Fire Trail Network

In identifying the proposed fire trail network, the BFMC considered the following factors:

- Public road network
- Linkages between fire trail and public road network
- Fire Trail importance to the BFMC
- Fire trails which extend into neighbouring BFMCs
- Operational value
- Ability to provide operational support
- Native title claims
- Aboriginal cultural heritage such as Aboriginal places and Aboriginal sites
- Cultural heritage items and places including state, national and world heritage properties
- Natural heritage values
- Declared wilderness areas, various SEPP and other areas of outstanding biodiversity values
- Fire season and associated weather patterns
- Fire season
- Fire history and ignition frequency

- Known fire paths
- Alternate fire suppression strategies
- Land use
- Tenure (eg: private land, aboriginal land claims)
- Suitability of terrain for construction
- Engineering constraints and design solutions to avoid environmental harm and safety hazards

5 Schedule of Identified Fire Trails

In accordance with the *Fire Trail Standards*, a FAFT Plan shall have a Schedule of Identified Fire Trails (see Table 1) which must detail the following:

- Name
- Identifier
- Category (strategic or tactical)
- Status (registered, designated etc.)
- Vehicle carrying capacity (VCC)
- Proposed fire trails
- Current fire trail condition
- Responsible agency; and
- Other matters as determined by the NSW RFS Commissioner.

6 Fire Access and Fire Trails Plan - Map

In accordance with the *Fire Trail Standards*, a FAFT Plan shows:

- A base layer containing all existing vehicular roads, tracks and trails;
- The identified fire trail network comprising:
 - Existing registered fire trails;
 - Existing designated fire trails;
 - Fire trails (new or existing) recommended for designation; and,
- Other fire access ways, such as existing roads, tracks and trails that may be of use for fire management, but do not form part of the fire trail network.

These are shown on the map(s) in Figure(s) X.

Figure(s)

Map(s) of Identified Fire Trails

Attachments

1. Review of submissions

Related Documents

1. Treatment Register
2. Public Register of Fire Trails