

Bush Fire Risk Management Plan

—
Planning
together



Canterbury Bankstown / Georges River

Bush Fire Management Committee

Local Government Areas of Canterbury Bankstown and Georges River

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 Canterbury Bankstown / Georges River Bush Fire Management Committee and has been endorsed at the BFMC meeting on 30 May 2024 for submission to the Bush Fire Coordinating Committee.

Recommended



Tom Heath

Chair

Canterbury Bankstown / Georges River
Bush Fire Management Committee

Approved



Bush Fire Coordinating Committee

20/1/24

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Chapter 1

Introduction

1.1 Acknowledgement to Country

The Canterbury Bankstown / Georges River 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 Canterbury Bankstown / Georges River 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 Canterbury Bankstown / Georges River BFMC area. It covers both public and private land and is to be reviewed and monitored annually.

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

1.3 Aim and objectives

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

The objectives of this BFRMP are to:

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

1.4 The Planning Process

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



Figure 1: Overview of the risk assessment process

Chapter 2

Risk Assessment

2.1 Assets

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

2.1.1 Human settlement

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

2.1.2 Economic

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

2.1.3 Environmental

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

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

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

2.1.4 Cultural

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

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

2.2 Neighbourhood Safer Places

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

The Canterbury Bankstown / Georges River BFMC considered the number and location of Neighbourhood Safer Places (NSPs) within the BFMC area. All NSPs in Canterbury Bankstown / Georges River 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 Canterbury Bankstown / Georges River BFMC area.

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

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

Table 1: BFMC Wide Treatments

3.1.2 Fuel Management Treatments

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

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

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

See Appendix 2 for the Canterbury Bankstown / Georges River 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 two Focus Areas within the Canterbury Bankstown / Georges River BFRMP. These are:

- Lansdowne;
- Riverside Communities: Picnic Point – Oatley

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 Canterbury Bankstown / Georges River Focus Area descriptions, Key Objectives and Treatment Strategies.

3.2 Bush Fire Management Zones

Bush Fire Management Zones identified within the Canterbury Bankstown / Georges River 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 Canterbury Bankstown / Georges River 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

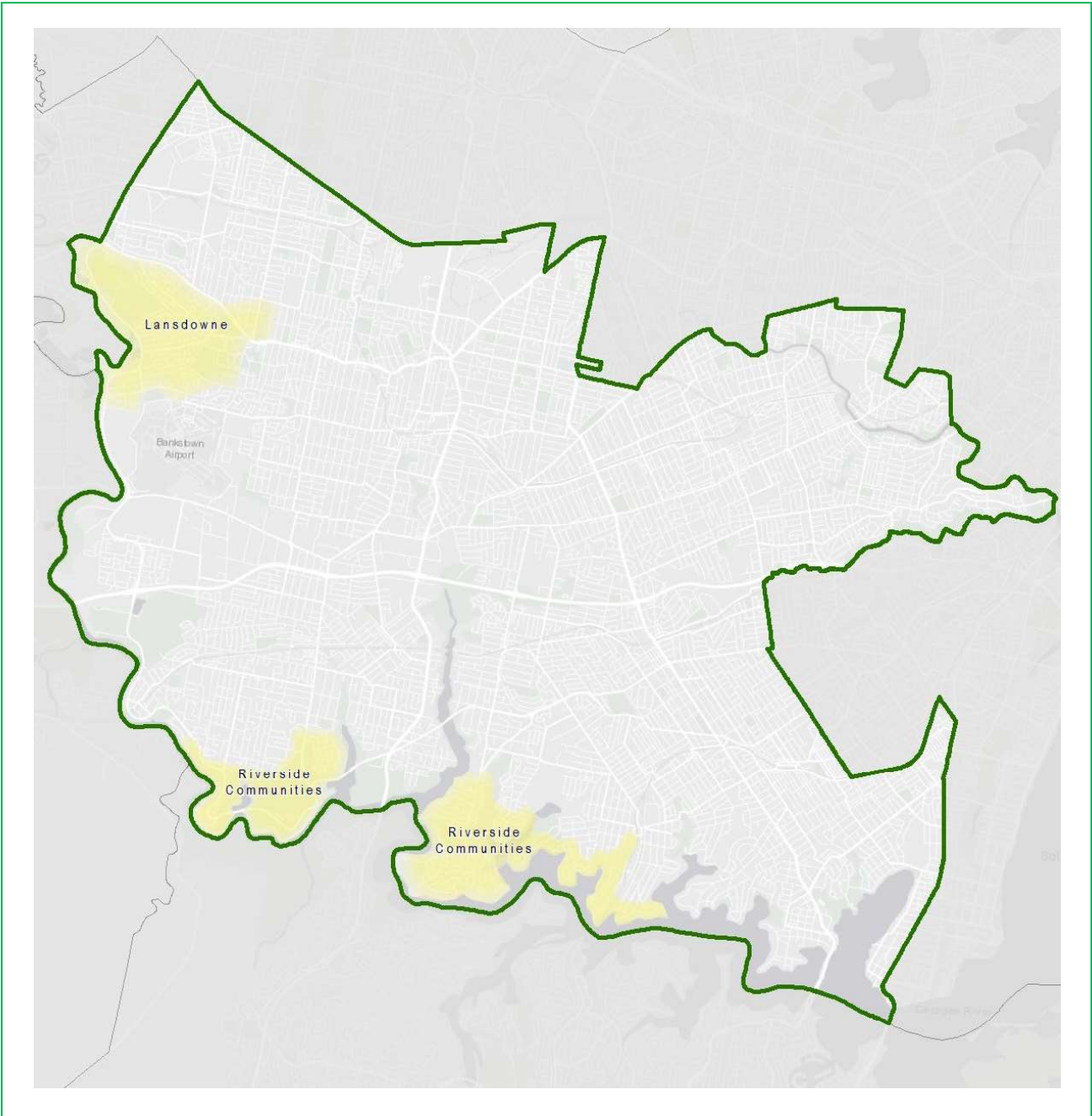
This BFRMP is supported by a number of appendices, including:

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 Lansdowne
1.2 Riverside Communities: Picnic Point – Oatley



1.1 Lansdowne

Risk Profile

The Canterbury Bankstown / Georges River BFMC has assessed the risk to residential, special fire protection (schools, health facilities, childcare etc.), environmental, cultural, historic and economic assets and has identified the area of Lansdowne as a Focus Area. The area is bounded by Prospect Creek to the west, the Hume Highway to the north east and Bankstown Airport to the south. It includes parts of the suburbs of Lansdowne, Georges Hall and Bass Hill. Mirambeena Regional Park and Lansdowne Park are recreation areas featuring Lake Gillawarna and other ponds full of aquatic life, native walks and pedestrian/cycle ways, playgrounds and barbecue and picnic facilities. These draw increased visitors year round. The area has had frequent incidences of bush/grass fires with the potential, during periods of elevated fire danger rating, for impact upon nearby assets, in particular along the southern and eastern extents of the reserves. The last fire in this area was in 2017.

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

Lansdowne contains recorded Aboriginal cultural heritage sites on public and private land that may also be negatively impacted from by bush fire. Historic heritage sites and sites of State heritage significance exist within Lansdowne.

Environmental assets are present within the area that are vulnerable to bush fire events. These assets include six Threatened Ecological Communities (inclusive of two Critically Endangered Ecological Communities – Cumberland Plain Woodland & Sydney Turpentine-Ironbark Forest) as well as coastal wetlands (3ha). There are 14 threatened species of flora/fauna. Land managed under private conservation agreements and two ‘Saving our Species’ Priority Management Sites are also located within the focus area.

There are areas of high social vulnerability, particularly to the north due to the average age of residents in this location. The area includes numerous reserves in bushland areas which are frequented by visitors to the area. These factors may make these members of the community more vulnerable to the impacts of bush fire.

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

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

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

Lansdowne Focus Area – Treatment Strategies

Table 1		
BFMC OBJECTIVE	TREATMENT STRATEGY	REFERENCE
Community Preparedness	Community Engagement; Risk Awareness	LD.RA
	Community Engagement; Preparation	LD.PR
Fuel Management	Asset Protection Zone(s)	LD.AP
	Ignition Management Zone; prescribed burn	LD.IM
	Strategic Fire Advantage Zone; prescribed burn	LD.SF
	Transport Corridor Fire Break	LD.TF
Response	Operational Readiness Arrangements; addressed in BFMC Plan of Operations	LD.OR
	Neighbourhood Safer Place; addressed in BFMC Plan of Operations	LD.NS
Ignition Prevention	Community Engagement; Risk Awareness	LD.RA
	Access Restriction; addressed in BFMC Ignition Prevention Plan	LD.AR
	Patrol; addressed in BFMC Ignition Prevention Plan	LD.PT

1.2 Riverside Communities: Picnic Point - Oatley

Risk Profile

The Canterbury Bankstown / Georges River BFMC has assessed the risk to residential, special fire protection (schools, health facilities, childcare etc.), environmental, cultural, historic and economic assets and has identified the area from Picnic Point to Oatley, along Georges River as a Focus Area. The Georges River has a number of reserves which attract visitors and tourists particularly in the summer months, the Georges River is also popular for fishing and water sports, access to these reserves are off main arterial roads with limited secondary roads to egress though in the event of a fire event.

The area has potential for a bush/grass fire to take hold in the vegetation corridors adjacent to and within the urban area. This may be from fires within the area or via larger fires that may occur in reserves on opposite sides of Georges River exposing assets to ember attack in strong wind. These factors may, during periods of elevated fire danger rating, provide an opportunity for uncontrolled fire to impact upon nearby assets. No significant bush fires have occurred in this area during the past 20 years.

Residential assets in Picnic Point – Oatley are within the High Risk category within the BFMC area. High density housing exists within this location. Economic assets in the area are within the Moderate Risk category. Access and egress for residents and visitors to the area is limited.

Picnic Point – Oatley contains a vast array of recorded Aboriginal cultural heritage sites on public and private land that may also be negatively impacted from bush fire. Sites of Commonwealth and local heritage significance exist within this Focus Area.

Significant environmental assets are present within the area that are vulnerable to bush fire events. These assets include 19 Threatened Ecological Communities (inclusive of five Critically Endangered Ecological Communities – Blue Gum High Forest, Hygrocybeae Community, Scrub Turpentine & Sydney Turpentine-Ironbark Forest) as well as coastal wetlands (205ha). There are 54 threatened species of flora/fauna. The Focus Area also contains an Area of Regional Koala Significance.

There are areas of high social vulnerability, due to the average age of residents in the community, persons requiring assistance during an emergency and income levels. The area includes numerous reserves in bushland areas which are frequented by visitors to the area. These factors may make these members of the community more vulnerable to the impacts of bush fire.

A key BFMC objective in Picnic Point - Oatley is to improve Community Preparedness. In particular, the maintenance of private property Asset Protection Zones & the preparation of Bush Fire Survival Plans. Ignition prevention measures will be undertaken in Picnic Point, Revesby Heights, Oatley and Oatley West to address specific risks to these areas.

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

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

Riverside Communities: Picnic Point – Oatley Focus Area - Treatment Strategies

Table 2

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

Appendix 2

Fuel Management Register

Table 2.1 Asset Protection Zones				
ID	Asset Protection Zone Name	Priority	Focus Area	Responsible Agency
AP.1	Edith Street APZ	1	Lansdowne	Canterbury Bankstown Council
AP.2	Lansdowne Road APZ	1	Lansdowne	Canterbury Bankstown Council
AP.3	Bay Road APZ	1	Riverside Communities Picnic Point - Oatley	Georges River Council
AP.4	Carinya Road APZ	1	Riverside Communities Picnic Point - Oatley	National Parks and Wildlife Service
AP.5	Cedar Street North APZ	1	Riverside Communities Picnic Point - Oatley	Georges River Council
AP.6	Cedar Street South APZ	1	Riverside Communities Picnic Point - Oatley	Georges River Council
AP.7	Churchill Road APZ	1	Riverside Communities Picnic Point - Oatley	Canterbury Bankstown Council
AP.8	Henry Lawson APZ	1	Riverside Communities Picnic Point - Oatley	National Parks and Wildlife Service
AP.9	Lambeth East APZ	1	Riverside Communities Picnic Point - Oatley	Canterbury Bankstown Council
AP.10	Lambeth West APZ	1	Riverside Communities Picnic Point - Oatley	Canterbury Bankstown Council
AP.11	Lugarno Pde APZ	1	Riverside Communities Picnic Point - Oatley	Crown Lands
AP.12	Morgans Creek East APZ	1	Riverside Communities Picnic Point - Oatley	Canterbury Bankstown Council
AP.13	Morgans Creek West APZ	1	Riverside Communities Picnic Point - Oatley	Canterbury Bankstown Council

Table 2.1 Asset Protection Zones

ID	Asset Protection Zone Name	Priority	Focus Area	Responsible Agency
AP.14	Neptune Street - Scout Hall APZ	1	Riverside Communities Picnic Point - Oatley	National Parks and Wildlife Service
AP.15	Oatley Park APZ	1	Riverside Communities Picnic Point - Oatley	Georges River Council
AP.16	Sylvan Grove APZ	1	Riverside Communities Picnic Point - Oatley	Canterbury Bankstown Council
AP.17	The River Reserve A APZ	1	Riverside Communities Picnic Point - Oatley	Canterbury Bankstown Council
AP.18	The River Reserve B APZ	1	Riverside Communities Picnic Point - Oatley	Canterbury Bankstown Council
AP.19	The River Reserve C APZ	1	Riverside Communities Picnic Point - Oatley	Canterbury Bankstown Council
AP.20	The River Reserve D APZ	1	Riverside Communities Picnic Point - Oatley	Canterbury Bankstown Council
AP.21	The River Reserve E APZ	1	Riverside Communities Picnic Point - Oatley	Canterbury Bankstown Council
AP.22	The River Reserve F APZ	1	Riverside Communities Picnic Point - Oatley	Canterbury Bankstown Council
AP.23	The River Reserve G APZ	1	Riverside Communities Picnic Point - Oatley	Canterbury Bankstown Council
AP.24	Thomas Street APZ	1	Riverside Communities Picnic Point - Oatley	Canterbury Bankstown Council
AP.25	Transgrid Substation West APZ	1	Riverside Communities Picnic Point - Oatley	National Parks and Wildlife Service
AP.26	Valley Road South APZ	1	Riverside Communities Picnic Point - Oatley	National Parks and Wildlife Service
AP.27	Bellevue Ave APZ	2		Canterbury Bankstown Council
AP.28	Clair Crescent APZ	2		National Parks and Wildlife Service
AP.29	Flood Reserve APZ	2		Canterbury Bankstown Council

Table 2.1 Asset Protection Zones

ID	Asset Protection Zone Name	Priority	Focus Area	Responsible Agency
AP.30	Kelso Beach Reserve APZ	2		Canterbury Bankstown Council
AP.31	Keys Reserve APZ	2		Canterbury Bankstown Council
AP.32	Kyle Williams Reserve APZ	2		Georges River Council
AP.33	Little Salt Pan Creek - Curzon Rd APZ	2		Canterbury Bankstown Council
AP.34	Little Salt Pan Creek - Henry Kendall Ave APZ	2		Canterbury Bankstown Council
AP.35	Manahan APZ	2		Canterbury Bankstown Council
AP.36	Norfolk APZ	2		Canterbury Bankstown Council
AP.37	Peakhurst APZ	2		National Parks and Wildlife Service
AP.38	Poulton Park APZ	2		Georges River council
AP.39	Salt Pan Creek APZ	2		Canterbury Bankstown Council
AP.40	Virginus East APZ	2		Canterbury Bankstown Council
AP.41	Virginus West APZ	2		Canterbury Bankstown Council
AP.42	Wolli Workshop APZ	2		National Parks and Wildlife Service
AP.67	Beaumaris Crescent APZ	2		Georges River Council

Table 2.2 Prescribed Burns and Fire Breaks					
ID	Name	Strategy*	Priority	Focus Area	Responsible Agency
TF.43	Hume Highway - Lansdowne TCFB	TCFB	1	Lansdowne	Canterbury Bankstown Council
IM.44	The Crest- Rex Road HR	IMZ	1	Lansdowne	Canterbury Bankstown Council
LM.45	Moons Avenue HR	LMZ	1	Riverside Communities Picnic Point - Oatley	National Parks and Wildlife Service
LM.46	Yeramba West HR	LMZ	1	Riverside Communities Picnic Point - Oatley	National Parks and Wildlife Service
LM.47	Yeremba East HR	LMZ	1	Riverside Communities Picnic Point - Oatley	National Parks and Wildlife Service
LM.48	Girrahween HR	LMZ	2		National Parks and Wildlife Service
LM.49	Nanny Goat Hill HR	LMZ	2		National Parks and Wildlife Service
SF.50	Hazel Street HR	SFAZ	1	Lansdowne	Canterbury Bankstown Council
SF.51	Hazel Street West HR	SFAZ	1	Lansdowne	Canterbury Bankstown Council
SF.52	Lansdowne Biobank MAZ1	SFAZ	1	Lansdowne	Canterbury Bankstown Council
SF.53	Shortland Brush RMS HR	SFAZ	1	Lansdowne	Canterbury Bankstown Council
SF.54	The Crest - Bellevue Avenue HR	SFAZ	1	Lansdowne	Canterbury Bankstown Council
SF.55	Burbank Avenue HR	SFAZ	1	Riverside Communities Picnic Point - Oatley	Canterbury Bankstown Council
SF.56	Graham Place HR	SFAZ	1	Riverside Communities Picnic Point - Oatley	Canterbury Bankstown Council
SF.57	Henry Lawson Drive Part 1 HR	SFAZ	1	Riverside Communities Picnic Point - Oatley	Canterbury Bankstown Council
SF.58	Henry Lawson Drive Part 2 HR	SFAZ	1	Riverside Communities Picnic Point - Oatley	Canterbury Bankstown Council
SF.59	Koorabel Street HR	SFAZ	1	Riverside Communities Picnic Point - Oatley	Georges River Council
SF.60	Myles Dunphy Reserve	SFAZ	1	Riverside Communities Picnic Point - Oatley	Georges River Council

Table 2.2 Prescribed Burns and Fire Breaks					
ID	Name	Strategy*	Priority	Focus Area	Responsible Agency
SF.61	Sandakan HR	SFAZ	1	Riverside Communities Picnic Point - Oatley	Canterbury Bankstown Council
SF.62	Tallowood Avenue HR	SFAZ	1	Riverside Communities Picnic Point - Oatley	Georges River Council
SF.63	Vale Lane HR	SFAZ	1	Riverside Communities Picnic Point - Oatley	Georges River Council
SF.64	Waterside Parade HR	SFAZ	1	Riverside Communities Picnic Point - Oatley	Georges River Council
SF.65	Claire Crescent South HR	SFAZ	2		Canterbury Bankstown Council
SF.66	Poulton Park HR	SFAZ	2		Georges River Council

*Strategy: TCFB (Transport Corridor Fire Break), 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.

Table 2.3 Neighbourhood Safer Places*			
Title	Type	Location	LGA
Kurrajong Reserve	Open Space	Kurrajong Avenue, Georges Hall	Canterbury Bankstown
Bankstown Airport	Open Space	Cnr of Starkey Drive and Tower Road, Georges Hall	Canterbury Bankstown
Sutcliffe Reserve	Open Space	Birdwood Road, Georges Hall	Canterbury Bankstown
Villiers Reserve	Open Space	Villiers Road, Padstow Heights	Canterbury Bankstown
Picnic Point Bowling Club	Open Space	Lambeth Street, Picnic Point	Canterbury Bankstown
Vale of Ah Reserve	Open Space	Auld Avenue, Milperra	Canterbury Bankstown
Neville Reserve	Open Space	Clarke Street, Yagoona	Canterbury Bankstown
Starr Avenue Park	Open Space	Starr Avenue, Padstow	Canterbury Bankstown
Bass Hill Plaza	Open Space	Johnston Road, Bass Hill	Canterbury Bankstown
Marden Reserve	Open Space	Marden Street, Georges Hall	Canterbury Bankstown
Bruce Park	Open Space	Victor Avenue, Panania	Canterbury Bankstown

*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

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



Planning together

Canterbury Bankstown / Georges River 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