

Bush Fire Risk Management Plan

Planning together



Hawkesbury

Bush Fire Management Committee

Local Government Areas of Hawkesbury

Bush Fire Coordinating Committee – Policy No 01/2023
Adopted by the Bush Fire Coordinating Committee – Minute No104.11

Approval

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

Recommended

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Chapter 1

Introduction

1.1 Acknowledgement to Country

The Hawkesbury 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 Hawkesbury 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 Hawkesbury 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 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 Hawkesbury BFMC considered the number and location of Neighbourhood Safer Places (NSPs) within the BFMC area. All NSPs in Hawkesbury’s BFMC area require ongoing treatment by the applicable landowner 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.

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 Hawkesbury 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	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. LEPs can be used to exclude development in significant bush fire risk areas or in areas where bush fire protection measures cannot be incorporated.
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	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). 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. All new development on Bush Fire Prone Land will be assessed in accordance with PBP.
Hazard complaints	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>Under section 66 of the <i>Rural Fires Act 1997</i>, a Bush Fire Hazard Reduction Notice can be issued, directing a hazard be treated. 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 treat 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	This includes state-wide public awareness initiatives as well as local community interactions between fire agencies, land managers and local communities.
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	All firefighting authorities in NSW have legislation, regulations, policies and procedures for responding to bush fire events within their area of jurisdiction.
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 Hawkesbury 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 Hawkesbury 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 nine Focus Areas within the Hawkesbury BFRMP. These are:

- Bilpin and Kurrajong Heights;
- Blaxlands Ridge;
- Bligh Park and Windsor Downs;
- Bowen Mountain;
- Colo and Colo Heights;
- Comleroy Hills;
- Macdonald Valley and St Albans;
- Mountain Lagoon; and
- Yarramundi

These are areas that have been specifically identified as having an unacceptable risk and require additional, targeted treatment strategies within the five-year BFRMP.

There are four key objectives available to manage the bush fire risk to Focus Areas and each objective has a number of associated treatment strategies (Table 2). The BFMC has identified the most appropriate objectives and treatment strategies for each Focus Area. The Focus Area treatment strategies selected by the BFMC will be addressed annually as part of the BFMC Annual Works Program.

KEY OBJECTIVE	FOCUS AREA TREATMENT STRATEGY
Fuel Management Reduction or modification of bush fire fuel with the intent of slowing the spread of bush fire and aiding firefighting operations.	Asset Protection Zone
	Ignition Management Zone
	Strategic Fire Advantage Zone
	Land Management Zone
	Fire Break; Linear
	Fire Break; Transport Corridor
	Grazing Program
Ignition Prevention Prevention or reduction of bush fire ignitions (arson & accidental).	Community Engagement; Risk Awareness
	Access Restriction; addressed in BFMC Ignition Prevention Plan
	Patrol; addressed in BFMC Ignition Prevention Plan
Community Preparedness Measures to enhance community preparedness for bush fire in order to reduce risk to life and assets.	Community Engagement; Risk Awareness
	Community Engagement; Planning
	Community Engagement; Preparation
	Community Engagement; Community Resilience
	Community Engagement; Community Response
Response Area specific response requirements in addition to standard procedures.	Operational Readiness Arrangements; addressed in BFMC Plan of Operations
	Neighbourhood Safer Place; addressed in BFMC Plan of Operations
	Pre-Incident Plan; addressed in BFMC Plan of Operations
	Fire Access or Fire Trail; addressed in BFMC FAFT Plan

Table 2: Key objectives for treatment strategies.

For more information on Treatment Strategies see Annexure B of [BFCC Policy 01/2023 - Bush Fire Risk Management](#) See Appendix 1 for the Blue Mountains Focus Area descriptions, Key Objectives and Treatment Strategies.

3.2 Bush Fire Management Zones

Bush Fire Management Zones identified within the Hawkesbury 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 - Bush Fire Risk Management Zones](#) 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 Hawkesbury 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

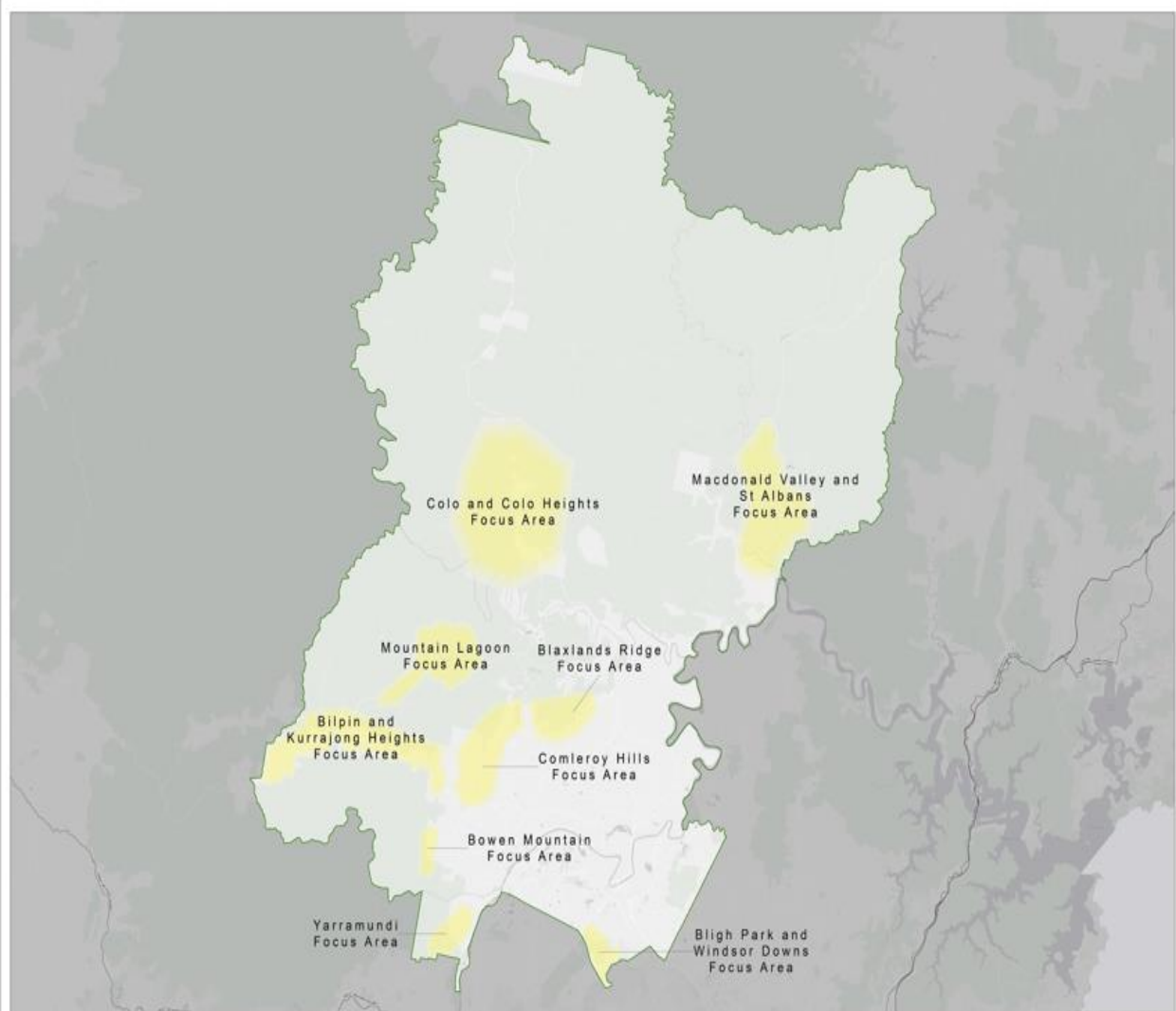
This BFRMP is supported by a number of appendices, including:

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 Historic Heritage Risk Current
 - 3.6 Focus Areas and Fuel Management Register
4. Communication Strategy

Appendix 1

Focus Areas

FOCUS AREAS
Bilpin and Kurrajong Heights
Bligh Park and Windsor Downs
Blaxlands Ridge
Bowen Mountain
Colo and Colo Heights
Comleroy Hills
Macdonald Valley and St Albans
Mountain Lagoon
Yarramundi



1.1 Bilpin and Kurrajong Heights

The Hawkesbury Bush Fire Management Committee (BFMC) identified Bilpin and Kurrajong Heights as a Focus Area after assessing recent bush fire activity within and around the area. The assessment considered risks to Residential, Special Fire Protection assets (such as schools, healthcare facilities, and childcare centres), as well as Economic, Environmental, and Cultural assets. Social vulnerability within the area was also a key factor in this decision.

The Bilpin and Kurrajong Heights Focus Area is located along the Bells Line of Road, one of the two arterial roads that cross the Blue Mountains. It's bordered by Wollemi National Park to the north and Blue Mountains National Park to the south. The area contains rural properties, fruit farms, tourist attractions, reserves, and parkland. The forested Blue Mountains National Park and Wollemi National Park are characterised by their steep terrain, abundant vegetation, and proximity to various assets. These factors significantly increase the risk of rapid fire spread, potentially affecting both the environment and the local community during periods of elevated fire danger ratings. The area has a notable history of bush fires, including events in 1993, 2002, 2013, 2018, and 2020.

Any fire activity that could potentially disrupt the Bells Line of Road can impact the local and broader community's access. The area's popularity with tourists and visitors adds to the risks, as they may be less aware of bushfire dangers and how to respond if a significant fire occurred. Social vulnerability in the focus area has been identified as being at the highest risk level.

A key BFMC objective in the Bilpin and Kurrajong Heights focus area is Fuel Management. To manage the levels of fuel, the BFMC intends to maintain Asset Protection Zones, and implement hazard reduction burns to achieve Strategic Fire Advantage Zones. Another key objective is Community Preparedness, which helps residents and visitors to better understand their bush fire risk, and how to prepare and respond in the event of a bush fire. To achieve this, the BFMC intends to conduct the following Community Engagement Activities: Risk Awareness, and Planning.

Lastly, the Hawkesbury BFMC has identified that the objective Ignition Prevention will help prevent or reduce accidental or deliberate bush fire ignitions in this Focus Area. The BFMC will achieve this by implementing Community Engagement activities, notably Risk Awareness.

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

Table 1		
BFMC OBJECTIVE	TREATMENT STRATEGY	REFERENCE
Community Preparedness	Community Engagement; Risk Awareness	BK.RA
	Community Engagement; Planning	BK.PL
Fuel Management	Asset Protection Zone(s)	BK.AP
	Strategic Fire Advantage Zone; prescribed burn	BK.SF
Ignition Prevention	Community Engagement; Risk Awareness	BK.RA

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1.2 Bligh Park and Windsor Downs

The Hawkesbury Bush Fire Management Committee (BFMC) identified Bligh Park and Windsor Downs as a Focus Area after assessing recent bush fire activity within and around the area. The assessment considered risks to Residential, Special fire Protection, (such as schools, healthcare facilities, and childcare centres), Economic, Environmental, and Cultural assets. Social vulnerability within the area was also a key factor in this decision.

Bligh Park and Windsor Downs are adjacent suburbs separated by Windsor Downs Nature Reserve. This reserve is an Asset of Intergenerational Significance (AIS) and is home to numerous endangered plants and animal communities. These include three vulnerable species, seven Threatened Ecological Communities (TEC), Areas of Important Habitat (AIH) for iconic species such as koalas, sites of Aboriginal Cultural Heritage, and places of Historic Heritage significance.

The nature reserve attracts many visitors, and the proximity of assets to vegetation significantly increases the risk of rapid fire spread, potentially affecting both the environment and the local community during periods of elevated fire danger ratings. The area has a notable history of bush fires, including events in 1994, 1997, 2002, 2009, and 2013 that has negatively impacted the environmental assets within the reserve. It is easily accessible to the public and there is a known history of arson occurring within the parkland.

Residential, Environmental, and Economic assets, as well as Indigenous sites have been assessed as high-risk in this focus area. These risks are further heightened by a history of frequent bush fires and access restrictions. Richmond Road, a major arterial route, borders the nature reserve on one side. Any fire activity in this area could potentially disrupt this road, affecting local and broader community access and egress. A key BFMC objective in the Bligh Park – Windsor Downs focus area is fuel management with careful consideration of the most appropriate treatment methods available to minimise impacts to the AIS.

A key BFMC objective in the Bligh Park and Windsor Downs Focus Area is Fuel Management. As identified in the Fuel Management Register, the BFMC intends on reducing bush fire fuel levels through Strategic Fire Advantage Zones, Asset Protection Zones, and a Transport Corridor Fire Break.

Another key objective is Ignition Prevention, which helps to prevent and reduce accidental and deliberate bush fire ignitions. The BFMC will be achieve through the strategy Community Engagement, Risk Awareness.

Furthermore, the objective Community Preparedness aims to helps residents and visitors to better understand their bush fire risk, and how to prepare and respond in the event of a bush fire. To achieve this, the BFMC intends to conduct the following Community Engagement Activities: Risk Awareness, and Planning.

Lastly, the objective Response, which specifies response requirements in addition to standard procedures, will be achieve by the BFMC through the strategy Operational Readiness Arrangements that are addressed in the BFMC Plan of Operations.

The key Bush Fire Risk Management Plan Objectives and Treatment Strategies for Bligh Park and Windsor Downs are listed in Table 2

Table 2

BFMC OBJECTIVE	TREATMENT STRATEGY	REFERENCE
Community Preparedness	Community Engagement; Risk Awareness	BW.RA
	Community Engagement; Planning	BW.PL
Fuel Management	Asset Protection Zone(s)	BW.AP
	Strategic Fire Advantage Zone; prescribed burn	BW.SF
	Fire Break; Transport Corridor	BW.TF
Response	Operational Readiness Arrangements; addressed in BFMC Plan of Operations	BW.OR
Ignition Prevention	Community Engagement; Risk Awareness	BW.RA

1.3 Blaxlands Ridge

The Hawkesbury Bush Fire Management Committee (BFMC) identified Blaxlands Ridge as a Focus Area after assessing recent bush fire activity within and around the area. The assessment considered risks to Residential, Special Fire Protection (such as schools, healthcare facilities, and childcare centres), Economic, Environmental, and Cultural Assets. Social vulnerability within the area was also a key factor in this decision.

Blaxland Ridge, a suburb situated north of East Kurrajong, predominantly comprises small to medium-sized farms in a semi-rural setting and borders the southern extent of Wollemi National Park. This location is exposed to significant bush fire risks due to large areas of vegetation and heavily forested north-west to south-east gullies and steep terrain. This combination makes the area highly susceptible to intense and rapidly spreading bush fires during periods of elevated fire danger.

This focus area has limited vehicle access via Blaxlands Ridge Road the one main thoroughfare through the area, reducing accessibility for evacuation and emergency response during bush fire events. The area has a significant bush fire history and contains a number of threatened species that require protection during bushfires and fire mitigation strategies. Residential properties have been identified as high risk within this focus area, while Economic assets and social vulnerability have been assessed as moderate risk. The BFMC identified isolated properties, limited water supply, and access issues as key factors in defining this as a focus area.

A key BFMC objective in the Blaxlands Ridge focus area is Fuel Management. As identified in the Fuel Management Register, the BFMC intend maintain Asset Protection Zones and to implement hazard reduction burns to achieve Strategic Fire Advantage Zones.

Another key objective is Community Preparedness, which helps residents and visitors to better understand their bush fire risk, and how to prepare and respond in the event of a bush fire. To achieve this, the BFMC intends to conduct the following Community Engagement Activities: Risk Awareness, Planning, and Preparation.

Lastly, the objective Ignition Prevention, which helps to prevent and reduce accidental and deliberate bush fire ignitions, will be achieved through the strategy Community Engagement, Risk Awareness.

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

Table 3		
BFMC OBJECTIVE	TREATMENT STRATEGY	REFERENCE
Community Preparedness	Community Engagement; Risk Awareness	BR.RA
	Community Engagement; Planning	BR.PL
	Community Engagement; Preparation	BR.PR
Fuel Management	Asset Protection Zone(s)	BR.AP
	Strategic Fire Advantage Zone; prescribed burn	BR.SF
Ignition Prevention	Community Engagement; Risk Awareness	BR.RA

1.4 Bowen Mountain

The Hawkesbury Bush Fire Management Committee (BFMC) identified Bowen Mountain as a Focus Area after assessing recent bush fire activity within and around the area. The assessment considered risks to Residential, Special Fire Protection (such as schools, healthcare facilities, and childcare centres), Economic, Environmental, and Cultural Assets. Social vulnerability within the area was also a key factor in this decision.

Bowen Mountain, bordered by the Blue Mountains National Park to the west, is popular with both residents and tourists making this location at times a densely populated community. Bowen Mountain Road provides limited road access, which may impact access and egress for residents, visitors, and emergency services during a bush fire event. The focus area has a known history of bush fires impacting the community and surrounding area including 1993, 2002, 2012, and 2020.

This area is vulnerable to both deliberate and accidental bushfires, with a significant risk of rapid-fire impact on Environmental, Cultural, and Residential assets during periods of high fire danger. The impact of bush fires is further exacerbated by the westerly aspect of the valley fingers and the steep topography, making the area more vulnerable.

Residential property assets and social vulnerabilities have been identified as high-risk within this focus area. The variation in vegetation types, topography, proximity to assets, limited access and the potential for rapid fire impact were key considerations for the BFMC in defining this as a focus area.

A key BFMC objective in the Bowen Mountain focus area is Fuel Management. As identified in the Fuel Management Register, the BFMC intends on reducing bush fire fuel levels through Land Management Zones and Strategic Fire Advantage Zones.

Another key objective is Community Preparedness, which helps residents and visitors to better understand their bush fire risk, and how to prepare and respond in the event of a bush fire. To achieve this, the BFMC intends to conduct the following Community Engagement Activities: Risk Awareness, Planning, and Preparation.

Lastly, the objective Response, which specifies response requirements in addition to standard procedures, will be achieved through the strategy Operational Readiness Arrangements, that are addressed in the BFMC Plan of Operations.

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

Table 4

BFMC OBJECTIVE	TREATMENT STRATEGY	REFERENCE
Community Preparedness	Community Engagement; Risk Awareness	BM.RA
	Community Engagement; Planning	BM.PL
	Community Engagement; Preparation	BM.PR
Fuel Management	Strategic Fire Advantage Zone; prescribed burn	BM.SF
	Land Management Zone; prescribed burn	BM.LM
Response	Operational Readiness Arrangements; addressed in BFMC Plan of Operations	BM.OR

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1.5 Colo and Colo Heights

The Hawkesbury Bush Fire Management Committee (BFMC) identified Colo and Colo Heights as a Focus Area after assessing recent bush fire activity within and around the area. The assessment considered risks to Residential, Special Fire Protection (such as schools, healthcare facilities, and childcare centres), Economic, Environmental, and Cultural Assets. Social vulnerability within the area was also a key factor in this decision.

Colo and Colo Heights are located along the Putty Road, bordered by Wollemi National Park and the Colo River to the west, and the Parr Conservation Area to the east. The Focus Area predominantly consists of natural, unmodified forest with dense vegetation and isolated rural properties. This combination of isolation and abundant vegetation fuels significantly increases the risk of rapid fire spread, potentially impacting both the environment and the local community during periods of elevated fire danger ratings.

Social vulnerability in the focus area has been identified as having the highest risk rating. The area also contains Residential, Special Fire Protection, Cultural, Economic, and Environmental Assets that are at heightened risk from bush fire threats. These risks are exacerbated by an extensive history of bush fires, limited water supply, limited access such as Putty Road, and isolation. Additionally, the area includes bushland reserves and parks that are popular with tourists and visitors. In the event of a bushfire, these individuals may be particularly vulnerable due to limited awareness or understanding of the bush fire risks in the area.

A key BFMC objective in the Colo and Colo Heights Focus Area is Fuel Management. As identified in the Fuel Management Register, the BFMC intends on reducing bush fire fuel levels through Asset Protection Zones, Ignition Management Zone and Strategic Fire Advantage Zones.

Another key objective is Community Preparedness, which helps residents and visitors to better understand their bush fire risk, and how to prepare and respond in the event of a bush fire. To achieve this, the BFMC intends to conduct the following Community Engagement Activities: Risk Awareness, Planning, and Preparation.

Lastly, the objective Response, which specific response requirements in addition to standard procedures, will be achieved through the strategy Fire Access and Fire Trails.

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

Table 5		
BFMC OBJECTIVE	TREATMENT STRATEGY	REFERENCE
Community Preparedness	Community Engagement; Risk Awareness	CC.RA
	Community Engagement; Planning	CC.PL
	Community Engagement; Preparation	CC.PR
Fuel Management	Asset Protection Zone(s)	CC.AP
	Ignition Management Zone; prescribed burn	CC.IM
	Strategic Fire Advantage Zone; prescribed burn	CC.SF
Response	Fire Access or Fire Trail; addressed in BFMC FAFT Plan	CC.FA

1.6 Comleroy Hills

The Hawkesbury Bush Fire Management Committee (BFMC) identified Comleroy Hills as a Focus Area after assessing recent bush fire activity within and around the area. The assessment considered risks to Residential, Special Fire Protection (such as schools, healthcare facilities, and childcare centres), Economic, Environmental, and Cultural Assets. Social vulnerability within the area was also a key factor in this decision.

Comleroy Hills is situated within the broader Hawkesbury region. The area is predominantly small to medium-sized farms in a semi-rural setting with rugged terrain and rolling hills defining the area. Contributing to its historical significance are agriculture assets, and the role that has played in the development of nearby rural communities. The area also contains sites of cultural importance to Indigenous Communities.

The Focus Area Comleroy Hills limited access, isolated properties, a restricted water supply, ridge-line ignition risks, and a significant history of bushfires. These factors pose an increased risk of fire spreading to surrounding areas. Residential Assets in Comleroy Hills have also been categorised as High Risk.

The BFMC identified this area as a Focus Area due to Residential Assets being categorised as High Risk. The Focus Area's varied vegetation types, the presence of threatened flora and fauna communities, challenging topography, proximity to assets, and the potential for rapid fire impact were also factors. The presence of schools, care facilities, and Aboriginal, historic, and Environmental assets within and near this area necessitates specific treatments to mitigate bushfire risks.

A key BFMC objective in the Comleroy Hills Focus Area is Fuel Management. As identified in the Fuel Management Register, the BFMC intends on reducing bush fire fuel levels through Strategic Fire Advantage Zones.

Another key objective is Community Preparedness, which helps residents and visitors to better understand their bush fire risk, and how to prepare and respond in the event of a bush fire. To achieve this, the BFMC intends to conduct the following Community Engagement Activities: Risk Awareness, Planning, and Preparation.

Lastly, the objective Ignition Prevention, which helps to prevent and reduce accidental and deliberate bush fire ignitions, will be achieved through the strategy Community Engagement, Risk Awareness.

The key Bush Fire Risk Management Plan Objectives and Treatment Strategies for Comleroy Hills 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
Fuel Management	Strategic Fire Advantage Zone; prescribed burn	CH.SF
Ignition Prevention	Community Engagement; Risk Awareness	CH.RA

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1.7 Macdonald Valley and St Albans

The Hawkesbury Bush Fire Management Committee (BFMC) identified Macdonald Valley and St Albans as a Focus Area after assessing recent bush fire activity within and around the area. The assessment considered risks to Residential, Special Fire Protection (such as schools, healthcare facilities, and childcare centres), Economic, Environmental, and Cultural assets. Social vulnerability within the area was also a key factor in this decision.

St Albans is a small historic village situated along the Macdonald River. Both St Albans and the Macdonald Valley are surrounded by the vast and heavily forested Yengo National Park. Yengo National Park contains several threatened species that face significant risks from potential bushfire threats.

The main access to St Albans and the MacDonald valley is provided by two vehicular ferries from the Wisemans Ferry township. Both access routes follow the Macdonald River, one on the west side and the other on the east. In the event of a bush fire, these access routes are limited causing access and egress issues to the public, visitors and emergency services increasing the vulnerability of this community. This location is considered a moderately populated community with a diverse age range among residents. The area has a long history of large bushfires, including the Gosper's Mountain fire in 2020.

Social vulnerability has been identified as the highest risk within this area. The BFMC also identified the isolated location of residential properties, limited water supply, and a history of illegal and careless fires in reserves popular with locals and tourists as key factors in defining this as a focus area.

A key BFMC objective in the Macdonald Valley and St Albans Focus Area is Fuel Management. As identified in the Fuel Management Register, the BFMC intend to implement hazard reduction burns to achieve Strategic Fire Advantage Zones.

Another key objective is Community Preparedness, which helps residents and visitors to better understand their bush fire risk, and how to prepare and respond in the event of a bush fire. To achieve this, the BFMC intends to conduct the following Community Engagement Activities: Risk Awareness, Planning, and Response.

Response is another identified Objective for this Focus Area, which specifies targeted response requirements in addition to standard response procedures. The BFMC will achieve through the strategy Operational Readiness Arrangements, that are addressed in the BFMC Plan of Operations.

Lastly, the objective Ignition Prevention, which helps to prevent and reduce accidental and deliberate bush fire ignitions, will be achieved through the strategy Community Engagement, Risk Awareness.

The key Bush Fire Risk Management Plan Objectives and Treatment Strategies for Macdonald Valley and St Albans are listed in Table 7.

Table 7		
BFMC OBJECTIVE	TREATMENT STRATEGY	REFERENCE
Community Preparedness	Community Engagement; Risk Awareness	MS.RA
	Community Engagement; Planning	MS.PL
	Community Engagement; Response	MS.RP
Fuel Management	Strategic Fire Advantage Zone; prescribed burn	MS.SF
Response	Operational Readiness Arrangements; addressed in BFMC Plan of Operations	MS.OR
Ignition Prevention	Community Engagement; Risk Awareness	MS.RA

1.8 Mountain Lagoon

The Hawkesbury Bush Fire Management Committee (BFMC) identified Mountain Lagoon as a Focus Area after assessing recent bush fire activity within and around the area. The assessment considered risks to Residential, Special Fire Protection (such as schools, healthcare facilities, and childcare centres), Economic, Environmental, and Cultural Assets. Social vulnerability within the area was also a key factor in this decision.

The Mountain Lagoon area faces significant bush fire risks from both deliberate and accidental ignitions, with the potential for rapid impacts on local assets during periods of elevated fire danger. This is a plateaued area situated on a ridge top, surrounded by Wollemi National Park which has steep valley systems. The area has a notable history of bushfires, including events in 1997, 2002, 2013, and 2020. It is accessible by a single road, making the area isolated and the community particularly vulnerable during bush fire activity.

Social vulnerability has been identified at the highest risk category in the Mountain Lagoon area, while Residential properties are classified as high risk. These risks are further exacerbated by a history of frequent bush fires and limited access.

A key BFMC objective in the Mountain Lagoon Focus Area is Fuel Management. As identified in the Fuel Management Register, the BFMC intends on reducing bush fire fuel levels through Land Management Zones.

Another key objective is Community Preparedness, which helps residents and visitors to better understand their bush fire risk, and how to prepare and respond in the event of a bush fire. To achieve this, the BFMC intends to conduct the following Community Engagement Activities: Risk Awareness, and Planning.

Lastly, the objective Response, which specifies response requirements in addition to standard procedures, will be achieved through the strategy Operational Readiness Arrangements, that are addressed in the BFMC Plan of Operations.

The key Bush Fire Risk Management Plan Objectives and Treatment Strategies for Mountain Lagoon are listed in Table 8.

Table 8

BFMC OBJECTIVE	TREATMENT STRATEGY	REFERENCE
Community Preparedness	Community Engagement; Risk Awareness	ML.RA
	Community Engagement; Planning	ML.PL
Fuel Management	Land Management Zone; prescribed burn	ML.LM
Response	Operational Readiness Arrangements; addressed in BFMC Plan of Operations	ML.OR

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1.9 Yarramundi

The Hawkesbury Bush Fire Management Committee (BFMC) identified Yarramundi as a Focus Area after assessing recent bush fire activity within and around the area. The assessment considered risks to Residential, Special Fire Protection (such as schools, healthcare facilities, and childcare centres), Economic, Environmental, and Cultural Assets. Social vulnerability within the area was also a key factor in this decision.

Yarramundi is a suburb located in the southern part of Hawkesbury's BFMC area along Springwood Road. Yarramundi is known for its bushwalking trails and natural environment, offering significant opportunities for outdoor recreation and conservation efforts.

Residential, and Economic assets, as well as social vulnerability, have been identified as high risk within this focus area, as it is vulnerable to both intentional and accidental bush fires, with a significant risk of rapid impact on residential assets during periods of high fire danger. Bordering the Grose Valley, part of the Blue Mountains National Park to the north-west, the area contains dense forests and steep valley topography. It also has limited road access, isolated properties, and a limited water supply. The area is particularly susceptible to ridgeline ignitions and has a substantial history of bushfires.

This area also contains a significant number of threatened flora and fauna species. These species face considerable risks from potential bushfires, which can lead to habitat loss and population decline. The Yarramundi Focus Area also contains one Aboriginal Place, gazetted as Shaws Creek, located in Yellomundee Regional Park.

A key BFMC objective in the Yarramundi Focus Area is Fuel Management. As identified in the Fuel Management Register, the BFMC intends on reducing bush fire fuel levels through Asset Protection Zones, and Strategic Fire Advantage Zones.

Another key objective is Community Preparedness, which helps residents and visitors to better understand their bush fire risk, and how to prepare and respond in the event of a bush fire. To achieve this, the BFMC intends to conduct the following Community Engagement Activities: Risk Awareness, and Planning.

Lastly, the objective Ignition Prevention, which helps to prevent and reduce accidental and deliberate bush fire ignitions, will be achieved through the strategy Community Engagement, Risk Awareness.

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

Table 9

BFMC OBJECTIVE	TREATMENT STRATEGY	REFERENCE
Community Preparedness	Community Engagement; Risk Awareness	YA.RA
	Community Engagement; Planning	YA.PL
Fuel Management	Asset Protection Zone(s)	YA.AP
	Strategic Fire Advantage Zone; prescribed burn	YA.SF
Ignition Prevention	Community Engagement; Risk Awareness	YA.RA

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Appendix 2

Fuel Management Register

Table 2.1 Asset Protection Zones

ID	Name	Focus Area	Priority	Responsible Agency
AP.1	Glossodia School APZ	Bilpin and Kurrajong Heights	1	Hawkesbury City Council
AP.2	Powell Park APZ	Bilpin and Kurrajong Heights	1	Hawkesbury City Council
AP.3	Blaxlands Ridge APZ	Blaxlands Ridge	1	Hawkesbury City Council
AP.4	Alex Place APZ	Bligh Park and Windsor Downs	1	National Parks and Wildlife Service
AP.5	Sanctuary Drive 1 APZ	Bligh Park and Windsor Downs	1	National Parks and Wildlife Service
AP.6	Sanctuary Drive 2 APZ	Bligh Park and Windsor Downs	1	National Parks and Wildlife Service
AP.7	Sanctuary Drive 3 APZ	Bligh Park and Windsor Downs	1	National Parks and Wildlife Service
AP.8	Suprise Crescent APZ	Bligh Park and Windsor Downs	1	Hawkesbury City Council
AP.9	Colo Heights School APZ	Colo and Colo Heights	1	Hawkesbury City Council
AP.10	George Street 2 APZ		2	Hawkesbury City Council
AP.11	George Street APZ		2	Hawkesbury City Council
AP.12	Midson Road North APZ		2	Hawkesbury City Council
AP.13	Midson Road South APZ		2	National Parks and Wildlife Service
AP.14	Peter Place APZ		2	Hawkesbury City Council
AP.15	Rich Close APZ		2	Hawkesbury City Council
AP.16	Saunders Road APZ		2	National Parks and Wildlife Service
AP.17	Riverside Drive APZ	Yarramundi	1	Hawkesbury City Council

Table 2.2 Prescribed Burns/ Fire Breaks/ Grazing					
ID	Name	Strategy*	Focus Area	Priority	Responsible Agency
IM.18	Grassy Hill	IMZ	Colo and Colo Heights	1	National Parks and Wildlife Service
LF.19	Scheyville Powerline LFB	LFB		2	National Parks and Wildlife Service
LM.20	Burralow Creek West	LMZ	Bowen Mountain	1	National Parks and Wildlife Service
LM.21	Green Scrub	LMZ	Mountain Lagoon	1	National Parks and Wildlife Service
LM.22	Lagoon Creek	LMZ	Mountain Lagoon	1	National Parks and Wildlife Service
SF.23	Berambing North	SFAZ	Bilpin and Kurrajong Heights	1	NSW Rural Fire Service
SF.24	Bilpin Springs	SFAZ	Bilpin and Kurrajong Heights	1	National Parks and Wildlife Service
SF.25	Burralow Road East	SFAZ	Bilpin and Kurrajong Heights	1	National Parks and Wildlife Service
SF.26	Little Islands	SFAZ	Bilpin and Kurrajong Heights	1	NSW Rural Fire Service
SF.27	Piggery Powell	SFAZ	Bilpin and Kurrajong Heights	1	National Parks and Wildlife Service
SF.28	Warks Hill Road	SFAZ	Bilpin and Kurrajong Heights	1	NSW Rural Fire Service
SF.29	Wheeny Gap	SFAZ	Bilpin and Kurrajong Heights	1	National Parks and Wildlife Service
SF.30	Bowen Mountain East	SFAZ	Bowen Mountain	1	NSW Rural Fire Service
SF.31	Bowen Mountain West	SFAZ	Bowen Mountain	1	NSW Rural Fire Service
SF.32	Devils Hole	SFAZ	Bowen Mountain	1	National Parks and Wildlife Service
SF.33	Blaxlands Ridge East	SFAZ	Blaxlands Ridge	1	National Parks and Wildlife Service
SF.34	Colo Junction	SFAZ	Blaxlands Ridge	1	National Parks and Wildlife Service
SF.35	Gees Arm North	SFAZ	Blaxlands Ridge	1	National Parks and Wildlife Service
SF.36	Gees Arm South	SFAZ	Blaxlands Ridge	1	National Parks and Wildlife Service
SF.37	Roberts Creek	SFAZ	Blaxlands Ridge	1	NSW Rural Fire Service
SF.38	Agliss	SFAZ	Bligh Park and Windsor Downs	1	National Parks and Wildlife Service
SF.39	Airstrip	SFAZ	Bligh Park and Windsor Downs	1	National Parks and Wildlife Service
SF.40	Angowara HR	SFAZ	Colo and Colo Heights	1	National Parks and Wildlife Service

Table 2.2 Prescribed Burns/ Fire Breaks/ Grazing					
ID	Name	Strategy*	Focus Area	Priority	Responsible Agency
SF.41	Mt Townsend	SFAZ	Colo and Colo Heights	1	National Parks and Wildlife Service
SF.42	Blue Gum Creek	SFAZ	Comleroy Hills	1	NSW Rural Fire Service
SF.43	Comleroy Reserve	SFAZ	Comleroy Hills	1	NSW Rural Fire Service
SF.44	Little Wheeny	SFAZ	Comleroy Hills	1	NSW Rural Fire Service
SF.45	Middle Island	SFAZ	Comleroy Hills	1	NSW Rural Fire Service
SF.46	Middle Island South	SFAZ	Comleroy Hills	1	NSW Rural Fire Service
SF.47	Fowlers Gully	SFAZ	Macdonald Valley and St Albans	1	NSW Rural Fire Service
SF.48	Keif Trig	SFAZ	Macdonald Valley and St Albans	1	National Parks and Wildlife Service
SF.49	Left Arm Creek	SFAZ	Macdonald Valley and St Albans	1	National Parks and Wildlife Service
SF.50	Sunnyvale	SFAZ	Macdonald Valley and St Albans	1	National Parks and Wildlife Service
SF.51	Barns	SFAZ		2	NSW Rural Fire Service
SF.52	Bird Banders West	SFAZ		2	National Parks and Wildlife Service
SF.53	Bull Ridge East	SFAZ		2	NSW Rural Fire Service
SF.54	Creek Flat Road	SFAZ		2	National Parks and Wildlife Service
SF.55	Greens Swamp	SFAZ		2	National Parks and Wildlife Service
SF.56	Hebron Road	SFAZ		2	NSW Rural Fire Service
SF.57	Lower Half Moon	SFAZ		2	NSW Rural Fire Service
SF.58	McDougall	SFAZ		2	NSW Rural Fire Service
SF.59	Minefield	SFAZ		2	National Parks and Wildlife Service
SF.60	Orchard	SFAZ		2	National Parks and Wildlife Service
SF.61	Paddock	SFAZ		2	National Parks and Wildlife Service
SF.62	Portland Head Rd	SFAZ		2	NSW Rural Fire Service
SF.63	Quarry	SFAZ		2	National Parks and Wildlife Service
SF.64	Research	SFAZ		2	National Parks and Wildlife Service

Table 2.2 Prescribed Burns/ Fire Breaks/ Grazing					
ID	Name	Strategy*	Focus Area	Priority	Responsible Agency
SF.65	Rocky Hall Road	SFAZ		2	NSW Rural Fire Service
SF.66	Russell Park	SFAZ		2	NSW Rural Fire Service
SF.67	Saunders Road	SFAZ		2	National Parks and Wildlife Service
SF.68	Sitella	SFAZ		2	National Parks and Wildlife Service
SF.69	Training Farm	SFAZ		2	National Parks and Wildlife Service
SF.70	West Portland Lookout	SFAZ		2	NSW Rural Fire Service
SF.71	Lynches Creek South	SFAZ	Yarramundi	1	National Parks and Wildlife Service
SF.72	Mahons Creek East	SFAZ	Yarramundi	1	NSW Rural Fire Service
SF.73	Mahons Creek West	SFAZ	Yarramundi	1	National Parks and Wildlife Service
SF.74	Nepean Park East	SFAZ	Yarramundi	1	NSW Rural Fire Service
SF.75	Nepean Park West	SFAZ	Yarramundi	1	NSW Rural Fire Service
SF.76	Woods Creek	SFAZ	Yarramundi	1	National Parks and Wildlife Service
TF.77	Richmond Road TCFB	TCFB	Bligh Park and Windsor Downs	1	Transport for NSW

*Strategy: GP (Grazing Program); IMZ (Ignition Management Zone); LFB (Linear Firebreak); LMZ (Land Management Zone), SFAZ (Strategic Fire Advantage Zone), TCFB (Transport Corridor Fire Break). See Annex C BFCC Policy 01/2023 for further information on bush fire management zones including a description of the zones and their purposes.

The Transport Corridor Fire Breaks identified by Transport for NSW along the state road network, noted in the Fuel Management Register will be managed in line with the Transport for NSW Roadside Clearing Guidelines (defined by the back of the table drain or 4m from the edge of asphalt, or 1.2m beyond the back of the safety barrier).

Table 2.3 Neighbourhood Safer Places*			
Title	Type	Location	LGA
Nepean Park	Open Space	Access off Shearwater Crescent, Yarramundi	Hawkesbury
Maraylya Park	Open Space	Cnr of Boundary Road and Dunns Road, Marayla	Hawkesbury

*This list is current at the date of BFRMP approval. Visit the [NSW RFS website](https://www.rfs.nsw.gov.au) 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 Historic Heritage Risk Current
- 3.6 Focus Areas and Fuel Management Register

The Appendix 3 Maps for the Hawkesbury Bush Fire Risk Management Plan are not included in this pdf document. The Maps are available on the RFS Website www.rfs.nsw.gov.au/plan-and-prepare/managing-bush-fire-risk/bush-fire-management-committees/hawkesbury

Known Aboriginal sites were 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
June 2023	Senior Volunteer Firefighters, BFMC Members	Internal NSW RFS consultation	Email	Introduction to next generation BFRMP methodology. Data validation.	Venue, Facilitator(s). PowerPoint presentation. Maps.	NSW RFS District Office.
March 2024	Senior Volunteer Firefighters, BFMC Members	Internal NSW RFS consultation	Email	Data validation. Identify Focus Areas	Venue, Facilitator(s). PowerPoint presentation. Maps.	NSW RFS District Office.
April 2025	Senior Volunteer Firefighters, BFMC Members	Internal NSW RFS consultation	Email	Revise Focus Area. Determine Treatment(s)	Venue, Facilitator(s). PowerPoint presentation. Maps.	NSW RFS District Office
May 2025	General Public	BFMC website Social Media	Social media	Invite / remind community to provide feedback on the draft plan and maps throughout the public exhibition period. Notification of public exhibition of BFRMP How to get a copy of plan How to make a submission	Social Media package distributed by Agencies. BFMC website. BFMC members' websites.	BFMC Members
		Print Media	Newspaper notice		Public Notice. Hardcopies displayed and available at Council chambers and NSW RFS FCC	

Appendix 4—



Planning together

Hawkesbury

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