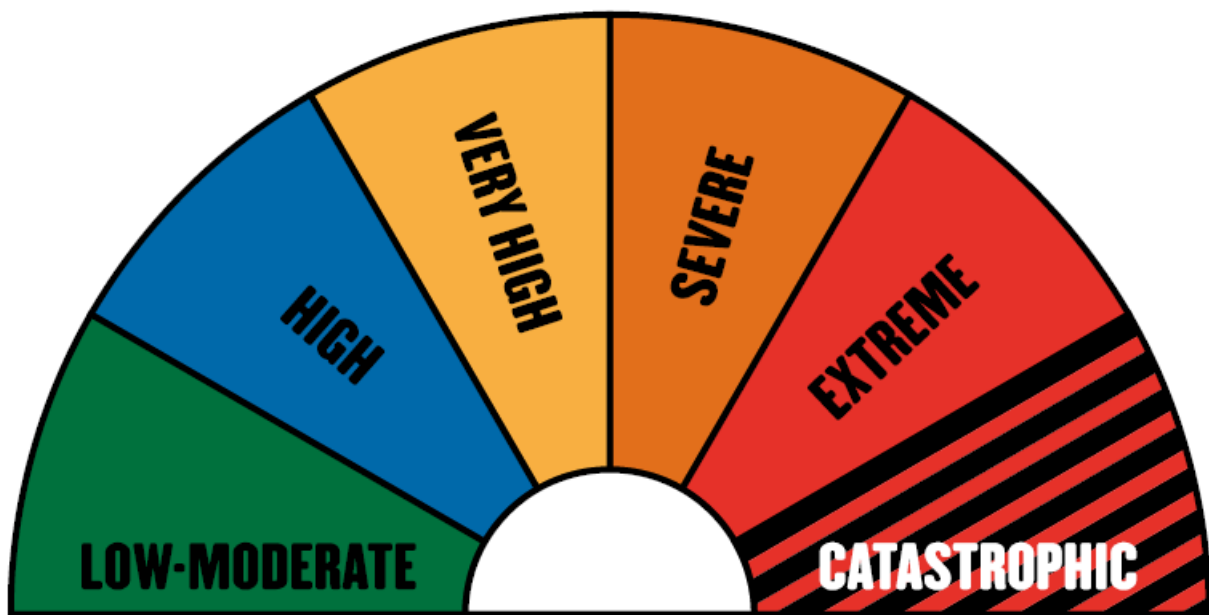


## BUSHFIRE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PLAN

### *Fern Bay Seaside Village*

*Prepared for **Rawson Communities***

7 MARCH 2017



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## I.0 INTRODUCTION

RPS Australia East Pty Ltd (RPS) has been commissioned by Rawson Communities to prepare a Bushfire Emergency Management Plan (BEMP) for Fern Bay Seaside Village in Fern Bay (**Figure 1**).

This BEMP aims at improving the preparedness of the residents of the Fern Bay Seaside Village to clearly identify the procedures to be followed in the event of a bushfire.

This BEMP provides details of:

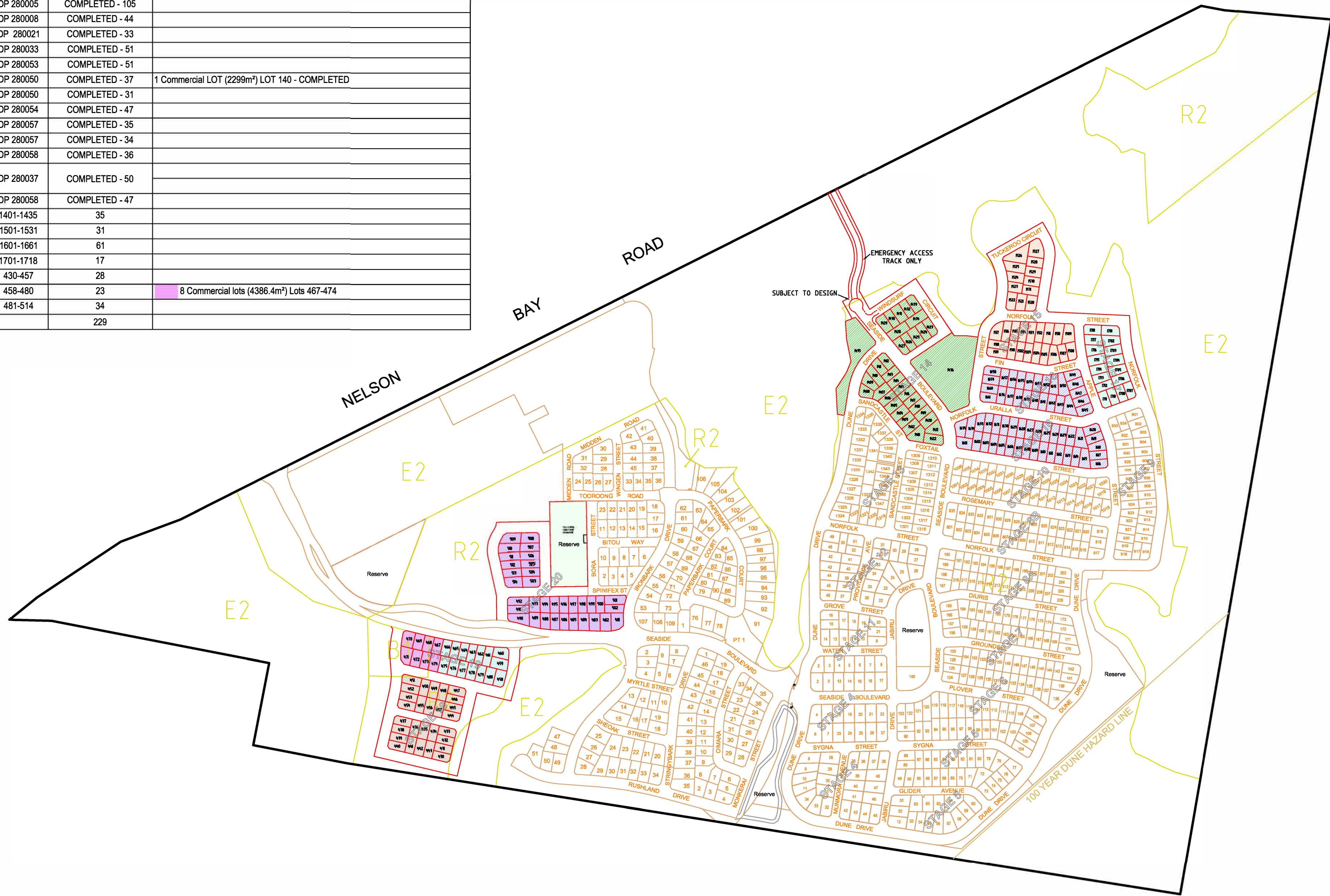
- physically re-locating residents and visitors from one place to another, including evacuation routes;
- liaising with emergency services;
- bushfire education and preparedness measures for all residents; and
- to ensure that a planned and co-ordinated approach is taken to evacuation.

### I.1 Site Particulars

<b>Locality</b>	Fern Bay Seaside Village, Fern Bay NSW
<b>LGA</b>	Port Stephens Council
<b>Area</b>	Approximately 127.6 hectares
<b>Contact Person</b>	Michael Radovnikovic – Ph: 02 8765 5509
<b>Date of Plan</b>	March 2017
<b>Date of Review</b>	March 2017
<b>Type of Facility</b>	Residential Housing Estate (Community title)
<b>Number of Buildings</b>	713 detached single dwellings



STAGING & LOT TABLE			
STAGE	LOTS	TOTAL	SUPER LOTS
1	DP 280005	COMPLETED - 105	
2	DP 280008	COMPLETED - 44	
3	DP 280021	COMPLETED - 33	
4	DP 280033	COMPLETED - 51	
5	DP 280053	COMPLETED - 51	
6	DP 280050	COMPLETED - 37	1 Commercial LOT (2299m²) LOT 140 - COMPLETED
7	DP 280050	COMPLETED - 31	
8A	DP 280054	COMPLETED - 47	
8B	DP 280057	COMPLETED - 35	
9	DP 280057	COMPLETED - 34	
10	DP 280058	COMPLETED - 36	
11			
12	DP 280037	COMPLETED - 50	
13	DP 280058	COMPLETED - 47	
14	1401-1435	35	
15	1501-1531	31	
16	1601-1661	61	
17	1701-1718	17	
18	430-457	28	
19	458-480	23	8 Commercial lots (4386.4m²) Lots 467-474
20	481-514	34	
TOTAL (STAGES 14-20)		229	





## 2.0 FIRE DANGER RATINGS

The Bush Fire Danger Ratings give you an indication of the possible consequences of a bushfire, if one was to start.

Bush Fire Danger Ratings are based on predicated weather conditions such as temperature, humidity, wind and the dryness of the landscape.

The higher the fire danger rating, the more dangerous the conditions.

Find out more about the Bush Fire Danger Ratings for the Village at the NSW RFS website.

<http://www.rfs.nsw.gov.au/fire-information/fdr-and-tobans>

FIRE DANGER RATING	WHAT YOU SHOULD DO
<b>CATASTROPHIC</b>	<p>For your survival, leaving early is the only option.</p> <p>Leave bush fire prone areas the night before or early in the day – do not just wait and see what happens.</p> <p>Make a decision about when you will leave, where you will go, how you will get there and when you will return.</p> <p>Homes are not designed to withstand fires in catastrophic conditions so you should leave early.</p>
<b>EXTREME</b>	<p>Leaving early is the safest option for your survival.</p> <p>If you are not prepared to the highest level, leave early in the day.</p> <p>Only consider staying if you are prepared to the highest level – such as your home is specially designed, constructed or modified, and situated to withstand a fire, you are well prepared and can actively defend it if a fire starts.</p>
<b>SEVERE</b>	<p>Leaving early is the safest option for your survival.</p> <p>Well prepared homes that are actively defended can provide safety – but only stay if you are physically and mentally prepared to defend in these conditions.</p> <p>If you're not prepared, leave early in the day.</p>
<b>VERY HIGH</b>	Review your <u>bush fire survival plan</u> with your family. Keep yourself informed and monitor conditions. Be ready to act if necessary.
<b>HIGH</b>	
<b>LOW MODERATE</b>	



## 3.0 TOTAL FIRE BANS

Bushfires are more likely to spread and cause damage on days when the weather is very hot, dry and windy. These are usually on very high to extreme fire days.

To reduce the risk of fires damaging property or destroying life, property and the environment the NSW RFS Commissioner may declare a Total Fire Ban.

During a total fire ban no fires out in the open. You cannot light, maintain or use a fire in the open, or to carry out any activity in the open that causes, or is likely to cause a fire.

No general purpose hot works, such as welding or gas cutting can be done in the open.

### Electric Barbeque

You **CAN** use an electric barbeque for cooking as long it is under the direct control of a responsible adult, who is present at all times while it is operating, and no combustible material is allowed within two (2) metres at any time it is operating.

### Gas Barbeque

You **CAN** use a gas barbeque under the following conditions:

- as long it is under the direct control of a responsible adult, who is present at all times while it is operating;
- and no combustible material is allowed within two (2) metres at any time it is operating;
- you have an immediate and continuous supply of water; and
- the barbeque is within 20 metres of a permanent private dwelling such as a home.

More information on Total Fire Bans can be found at the NSW RFS website.

<http://www.rfs.nsw.gov.au/fire-information/fdr-and-tobans/total-fire-ban-rules>

## 4.0 BUSHFIRE SURVIVAL PLAN

One of the most important things to do before a bushfire is to decide what you'll do if a bushfire should start. This Plan can be used as a guide to make that decision; however it is imperative that each household develops their own [Bushfire Survival Plan](#).

### 4.1 Step 1: Discuss

What will you do in bushfire?

Get the whole household together and discuss your plan. The discussion for your bushfire survival plan is contained in [Appendix 1](#) and can also be found at the following link:

[http://www.rfs.nsw.gov.au/\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0015/36600/Plan-Step1-Discuss.pdf](http://www.rfs.nsw.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0015/36600/Plan-Step1-Discuss.pdf)

### 4.2 Step 2: Prepare

There are simple things you can do around your home to prepare it for a bushfire, like keeping the grass low and having a cleared area around your home. The top 5 actions to make your home safer can be found in [Appendix 2](#) and can also be found at the following link:

[http://www.rfs.nsw.gov.au/\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0005/36599/Plan-Step2-Prepare.pdf](http://www.rfs.nsw.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0005/36599/Plan-Step2-Prepare.pdf)

### 4.3 Step 3: Know

If there is a fire in your area you will find its alert level on the NSW RFS website and in the 'Fires Near Me' app. You need to keep track of the alert level by monitoring the Fire Danger Ratings at <http://www.rfs.nsw.gov.au/fire-information/fdr-and-tobans>.

The higher the fire danger rating, the more dangerous a fire is likely to be. Under catastrophic conditions leaving early is the ONLY safe option.

- When it's **SEVERE** you should stay if your home is well prepare and you're ready to defend it.
- At **EXTREME**, only stay if your home is prepared to the very highest level and is specifically built to survive a bushfire.
- **CATASTROPHIC** is as bad as it gets – no homes are built to withstand a fire in these conditions. Leaving early is your only safe option.

[http://www.rfs.nsw.gov.au/\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0004/36598/Plan-Step3-Know.pdf](http://www.rfs.nsw.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0004/36598/Plan-Step3-Know.pdf)

### 4.4 Step 4: Keep

In a bushfire, it's important that you stay up to date on conditions in your area. The NSW RFS strongly advises saving the numbers in **Chapter 7**.

# LEAVE EARLY

Safest Choice

or

# DECIDE TO STAY

Only If You're Well Prepared

## 5.0 LEAVE EARLY - Evacuate

### 5.1 When do you Evacuate?

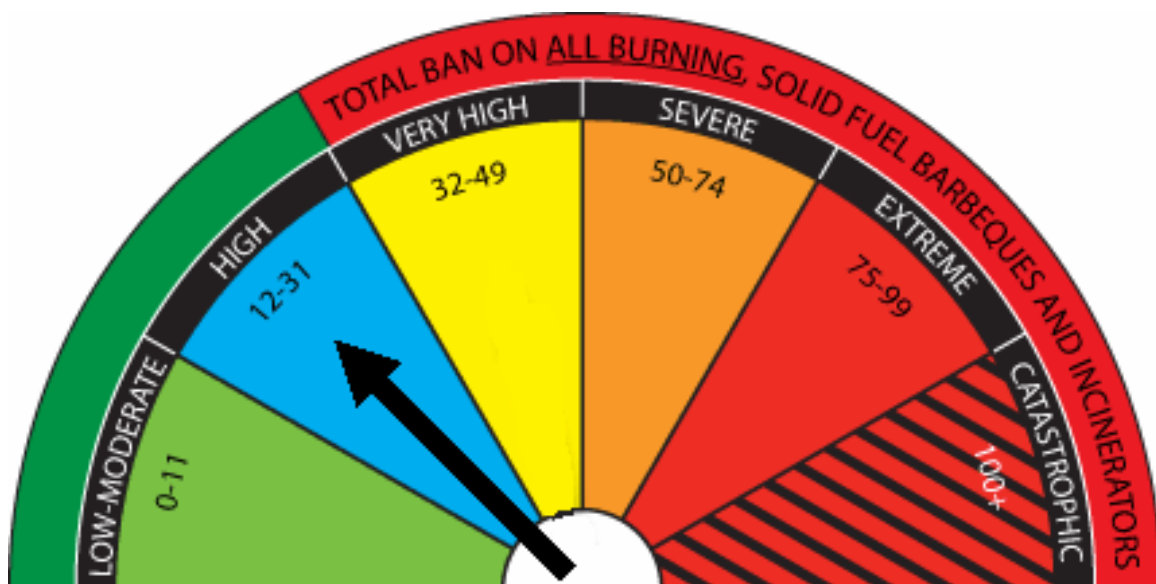
Some of the reasons as to why you would evacuate may be:

- the effect of smoke on persons with respiratory problems;
- bushfire is approaching the site;
- residents are unable to stay and defend the property for themselves and feel unsafe in staying.

### 5.2 What is the Trigger?

Fern Bay Seaside Village may be occupied by a variety of residents including those that are less likely to be able to stay and defend the property for themselves. Furthermore, many of the residents may be more susceptible to smoke and may also require assistance. The triggers for evacuation for the Fern Bay Seaside Village are:

- the Police or Rural Fire Service instructs all residents to leave the site;
- there is a large volume of visible smoke blowing in the direction of the property; or
- the Fire Danger Ratings reach severe, extreme or catastrophic in the area of the property.





### 5.3 Evacuation Routes

Primary access and egress to the Village is from main entrance at Nelson Bay Road (**Route 1**). Secondary emergency egress will be available during a bushfire emergency from the northern end of Seaside Boulevard via the emergency access road (**Route 2**).

#### 5.3.1 Route 1: Main Entrance – west

**Route 1** is the existing public road access to the Village as shown in **Figure 2**. All residents leaving the Village prior to emergency service personnel opening Route 2 shall leave via **Route 1**.

#### 5.3.2 Route 2: Emergency Road - north

**Route 2** is the first option for residents in the Northern Catchment; being Stages 8B, 9 10, 13, 14, 15, 16 and 17, (see **Figure 1**) ONLY under the instruction and direction of emergency service personnel. Prior to **Route 2** being available for use, all residents and visitors shall use Route 1 to evacuate from the Village. ALL residents and visitors within the Southern Catchment shall continue use Route 1 to evacuate the Village.

However should any part of Route 1 become obstructed, all residents and visitors should evacuate via Route 2.

## 5.4 Off-site Refuge

Should emergency personnel instruct the residents to relocate from the Village, the nearest refuge areas are identified to the south at the Newcastle Golf Club (**Figure 2**) and to the north at Newcastle airport carpark (**Figure 3**).

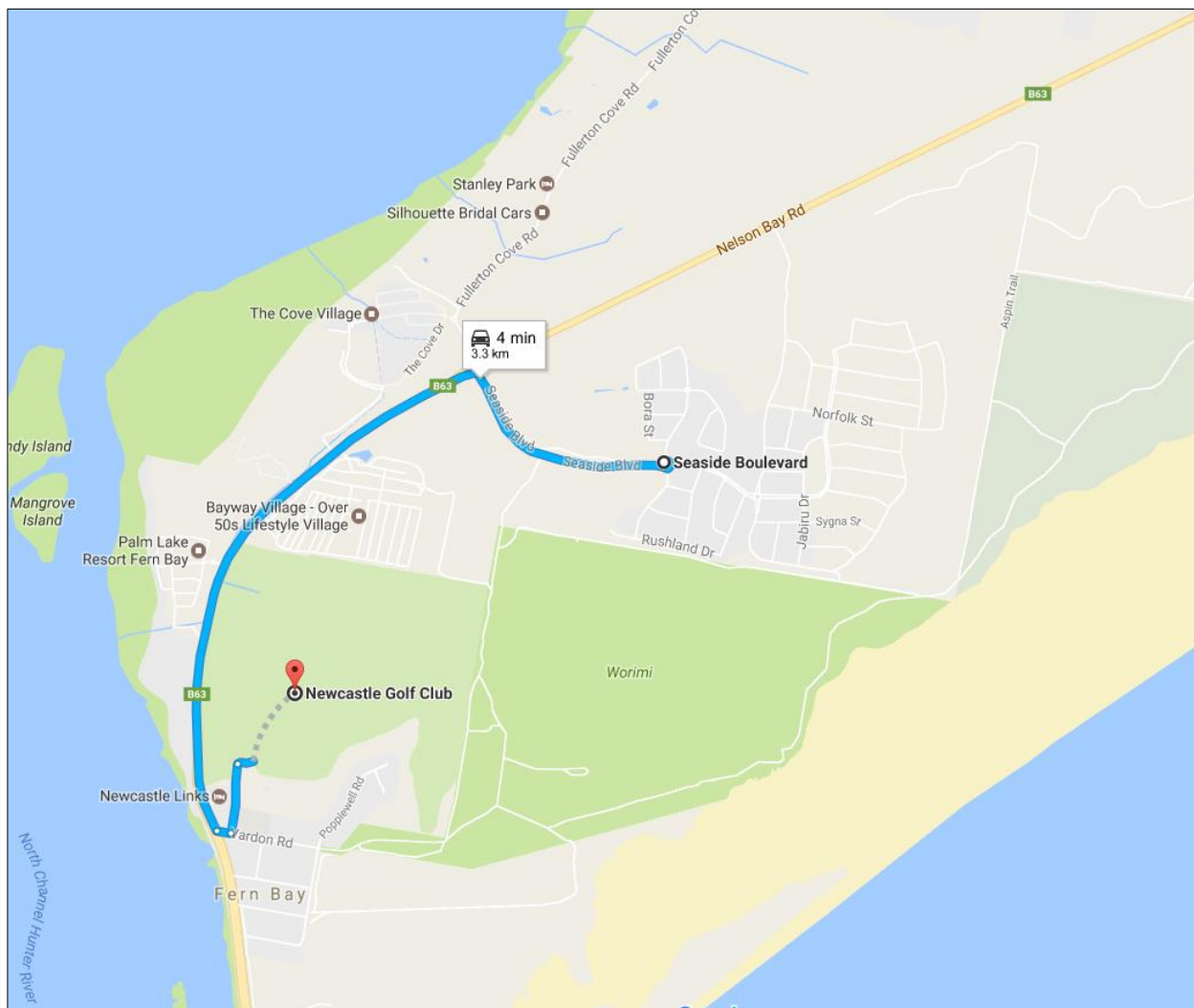


Figure 2: Route 1 - SOUTH Newcastle Golf Club

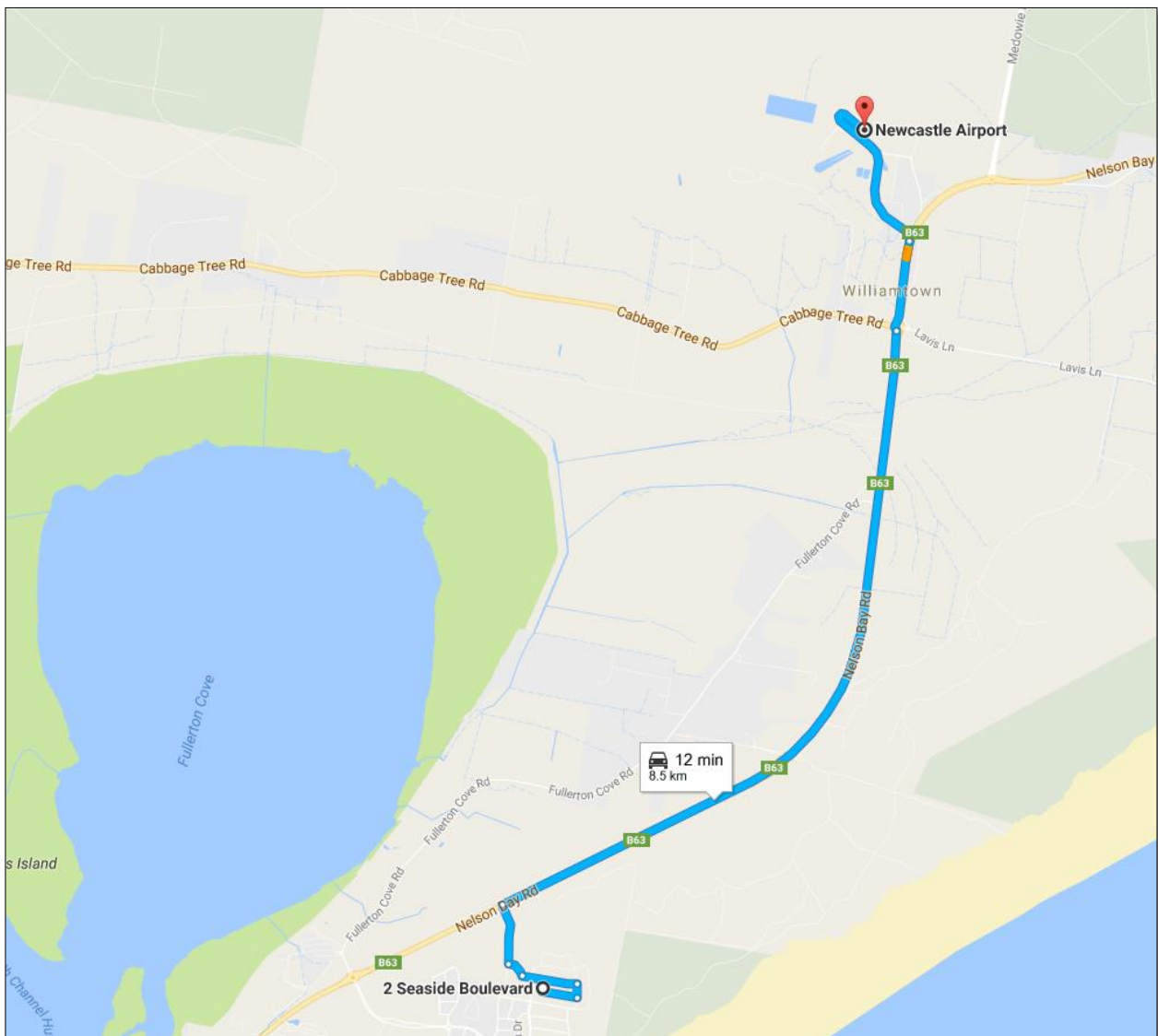


Figure 3: Route 2 – NORTH Newcastle Airport

## 6.0 STAY AND DEFEND

Defending your home from a bushfire can be challenging and you will need the right equipment.

While firefighters and emergency services will do everything they can to help you, there's no guarantee that there will be a fire truck available when you need it. If you decided to stay with your property, it's your responsibility to be prepared.

Residents are required to complete a Bushfire Survival Plan for their property. If residents are well prepared, the outcome of the Bushfire Survival plan may result in the decision to stay and defend the property. A properly prepared dwelling/ property is more likely to survive the impact of a bushfire if able bodied persons are in attendance to extinguish outbreaks of spot fires. Those staying within the property must be prepared for the stress caused by the noise and general confusion generated by the fire as it approaches.

### 6.1 Remember

- Follow your [bush fire survival plan](#). If you do not have a bush fire survival plan, ensure you know what you will do before, during and after the fire.
- Remember – **leaving early is your safest option.**

### 6.2 Before the fire

- Put on your protective clothing
- Turn on the radio to keep yourself informed
- Bring pets inside and keep them in one room
- Close all windows and doors
- Block spaces beneath doors and windows with wet towels
- Fill buckets, sinks and bath tubs with water ready to put out spot fires
- Have your firefighting equipment like pumps and hoses connected to your water supply
- Block downpipes and fill gutters with water
- Remove items which can burn from around your home like outdoor furniture
- Bring ladders inside to check roof space for embers
- Patrol the outside of your home putting out any embers or spot fires
- Just before the fire arrives, wet down timber decks and gardens close to the house
- Move any firefighting equipment to a place where it will not get burnt



### 6.3 During the fire

- Go inside but stay alert
- Shelter in a room on the opposite side of the house from the approaching fire and one that has a clear exit out of the house
- Patrol inside the house, including the roof space looking for sparks and embers
- Protect yourself from the heat of the fire
- If your life is at risk, call triple zero (000)

### 6.4 Once the fire has passed

- Check your roof spaces
- Go outside and put out any part of your house which is alight
- Check under the house and any decks
- Check on your pets and animals
- Embers or sparks can start spot fires for many hours after the fire has passed
- If you can, contact your family and friends and check on your neighbours

## 7.0 Consultation with Emergency Services

It is important to maintain communications with emergency services to ensure the best preparation outcomes are met during and between emergency bushfire events.

More information on emergency information can be found on the NSW RFS website.

<http://www.rfs.nsw.gov.au/fire-information/emergency-information>

The following table displays the names and contact details of emergency contacts in the Fern Bay area.

**Table 1 Emergency Services**

Name of Organisation	Location	Contact Number
<b>EMERGENCY SERVICES</b>	<b>NSW</b>	<b>000</b>
NSW Rural Fire Service	NSW	1800 679 737
NSW Rural Fire Service	Lower Hunter Fire Control Centre	02 4015 0000
NSW Fire and Rescue	Stockton	02 4928 1566
NSW Police	Stockton	02 4928 2375
	Newcastle	02 4928 0999
	Raymond Terrace	02 4983 7599
Department of Community Services	Port Stephens	02 4983 4300
Port Stephens Council	Raymond Terrace	02 4980 0255
Newcastle City Council	Newcastle	02 4974 2000
State Emergency Service	Metford	02 4931 3222
NSW Ambulance Service	Stockton	131 233
John Hunter Hospital	New Lambton Heights	02 4921 3000

## 8.0 Preparedness

The provision of quality information which is appropriate for the residents and the situation will determine the successful implementation of the BEMP.

### 8.1 Bushfire Survival Plan

Follow your [bush fire survival plan](#). If you do not have a bush fire survival plan, ensure you know what you will do before, during and after the fire.

Remember – **leaving early is your safest option.**

### 8.2 Maintenance of Property

In considering property maintenance the following items should be implemented in advance of the bushfire season; prior to October each year:

- Removal of material such as litter from the roof and gutters of buildings;
- Ensure painted surfaces are in good condition with decaying timbers being given particular attention to prevent the lodging of embers within gaps;
- Check pumps and water supplies (if provided) are available and in good working order;
- Driveways are in good condition with trees not being too close and forming an obstacles during smoky conditions;
- Check tiles and roof lines for broken tiles or dislodging roofing materials;
- Screens on windows and doors are in good condition without breaks or holes in flyscreen material and frames are well fitting into sills and window frames;
- Hose and hose reels are not perished and fittings are tight and in good order;
- Doors are fitted with draught seals and well maintained;
- Mats are of non-combustible material or in areas of low potential exposure (sheltered from direction of bushfire hazard and under cover);
- Woodpiles, sheds and other combustible materials are located well away from buildings.

### 8.3 Communication

Resident participation is an integral part of risk management. Effective communication requires time and discussion and exchange of information. The residents and other stakeholders should be involved in development and implementing the BEMP. The communication strategy will incorporate the following communication methods:

- Internal workshops;
- Community/Resident meetings;
- Site displays;
- Internet; and
- Mail-outs

The objective of the community consultation program is to inform the residents that Fern Bay Seaside Village presents a potential bushfire threat to both residents and also visitors.

A copy of the BEMP will be provided to The Lower Hunter Fire Control Centre and the Lower Hunter Bushfire Management Committee to ensure inclusion in any pre-incident planning arrangements for bushfire emergencies.

### 8.4 Before the Bushfire Danger Period – pre October

- Ensure that all persons are informed of the evacuation procedures;
- Ensure all residents are provided with a copy of the BEMP;
- Ensure the Community Fire Unit (hose reels, hydrants etc.) are serviceable and available; and
- Contact and update emergency services with the premises contact details.



## 9.0 Review

### 9.1 Review

This BEMP must be reviewed and updated within each successive five-year period. The Community Association of the Fern Bay Seaside Village will also review this BEMP as necessary to account for any changes in context or risk. This may be triggered by a range of circumstances, including but not limited to:

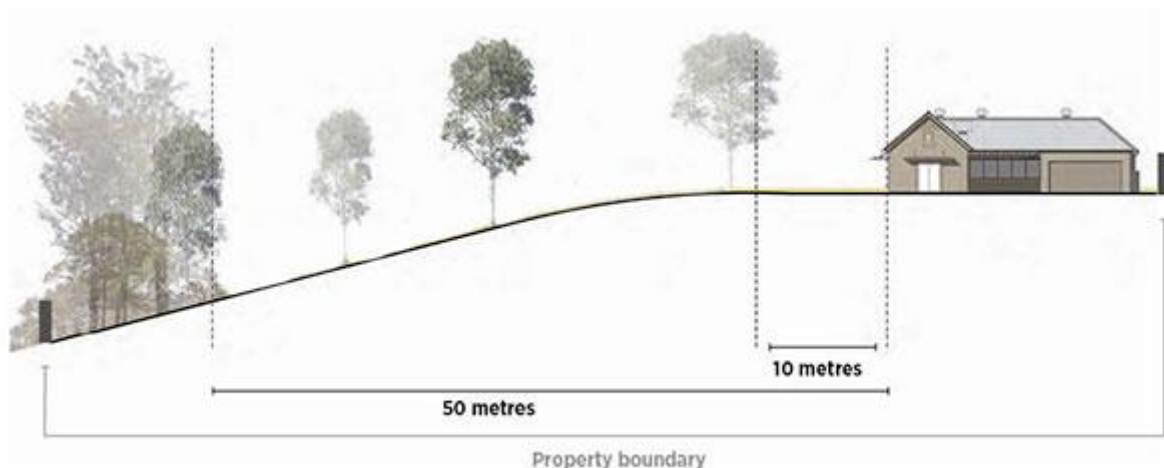
- Community restructure, committee member changes,
- New legislative requirements,
- Changes to the bushfire risk in the area,
- Following a major fire event,
- Changes to the risk due to the effectiveness of treatments.

## 10.0 Other Considerations

### 10.1 Vegetation Clearing

The approved 10/50 Vegetation Clearing Code of Practice for New South Wales allows landowners living in a designated bushfire area to clear all vegetation within 10 m of a habitable dwelling, and under scrub out to 50 m within their property. Part of the Fern Bay Seaside Village and numerous individual properties are situated in a designated 10/50 Vegetation Clearing Entitlement Area. As such management of the grounds can be undertaken in accordance with this code; subject to obtaining landowners consent.

Furthermore, The NSW Rural Fire Service requires the entire property to be managed as a fuel reduced zone; known as an Inner Protection Area (IPA). The IPA is critical to providing a defensible space for emergency personnel by providing a buffer zone between a bushfire hazard and the buildings.



The reduction of fuel can be controlled by:

- Raking or manual removal of fine fuels;
- Mowing of grass;
- Removal or pruning of trees, shrubs and understorey.

# Appendix I

## Step I: Discuss



# **STEP 1: DISCUSS** **WHAT WILL YOU DO IN A BUSH FIRE?** **PLAN NOW.**

Get the whole household together and discuss your plan.  
This fold out takes you step-by-step through the process.







# LEAVING EARLY OR PREPARING TO STAY?

One of the most important things to do before a bush fire is to decide what you'll do if one should start. This guide can help you make that decision, and assist you with the steps in preparing yourself, your home and your family. Once you've had the discussion and made a decision, get your family to sign this document.

## WHAT SHOULD YOU DO?

### LEAVE EARLY, YOUR SAFEST CHOICE.

#### When will we leave?

What will be your sign to leave? It could be smoke in your area, or as soon as you find out there's a fire near you.



#### Where will we go?

Where's a meeting place that's safe and away from a fire area? It might be a friend or relative's place, or even a shopping centre.



#### How will we get there?

What road will you take? What's your backup plan in case the road is blocked?



#### What will we take?

Make a list of what you'll take in the event of a fire. Remember to include pets, identification and irreplaceable items like photos or documents.



#### Who will we call to tell that we're leaving and that we have arrived safely?

Who will we call to let them know we're leaving and that we've got there safely?



#### What is our backup plan?

What if things don't go to plan? Identify a safer location nearby such as a neighbour's home that is well prepared, or a place of last resort. Is there a Neighbourhood Safer Place nearby?

Neighbourhood Safe Places are a place of last resort, such as a sports ground or local building that has been specially identified for use during a fire.

Not all areas will have a Neighbourhood Safer Place so check [www.rfs.nsw.gov.au/nsp](http://www.rfs.nsw.gov.au/nsp) for locations.

### DECIDE TO STAY. ONLY IF YOU'RE WELL PREPARED.

#### Before you start, ask your household:

- Is your home well prepared to make it as safe as possible during a fire? Check the Step 2 property protection checklists.
  - Are we putting anyone in our family at risk by staying? For example children, the elderly, or people with asthma.
  - Will we cope in an emergency situation? In a fire, it will be hot, smoky and physically draining. Even trained firefighters can find it challenging.
- If you're not sure or aren't prepared, you should leave early.

#### Do we have all the equipment we need?

Go through all the items on the Decide to Stay checklist and see what's missing. Make a commitment to get all equipment by a specific date.

#### When there is a fire, what is our sign to start defending our home?

It could be as soon as you find out there's a fire near you. Do not wait for an official warning.

#### Do we know what to do BEFORE, DURING and AFTER a fire?

Study the Decide to Stay action checklist.

#### Do all members of our household KNOW WHAT TO DO in all situations?

Give specific roles to each person.

#### What is our backup plan?

Consider unexpected events such as if one of us is home alone, if we aren't home, if the fire moves faster than expected or if the phone lines and electricity are down.

#### It's not safe to stay with your property under some circumstances, like:

- If the fire danger rating is Catastrophic.
- There is an Extreme fire danger rating and your home is not specially designed or constructed for bush fires.
- Your property is not well maintained.
- You or the people in your home aren't mentally and physically fit and ready.

Under these circumstances, you should leave early.

Remember that bush and grass fires can move quickly and catch you off guard.

If you are caught in a fire, protect yourself from the heat.

The safest option is to leave early before the fire reaches you.

We have discussed and agreed with the entire household we will:

☐ Leave early

☐ Decide to stay

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



## DECIDE TO STAY, BUT BE PREPARED EQUIPMENT CHECKLIST

Defending your home from a bush fire can be challenging and you will need the right equipment.

Check off all the equipment you will need in a bush fire emergency.

Remember, while firefighters and emergency services will do everything they can to help you, there's no guarantee that there will be a fire truck available when you need it. If you decide to stay with your property, it's your responsibility to be prepared.

### ☒ **FIREFIGHTING EQUIPMENT WE WILL NEED:**

- ☐ A hose, or hoses, that can reach all around the house
- ☐ Water supply of at least 10,000L e.g. water tank, dam, pool
- ☐ Petrol/diesel water pump and fuel in a safe, accessible place
- ☐ Ladders to access inside the roof
- ☐ Buckets and mops
- ☐ Shovels and metal rakes

### ☒ **PROTECTIVE CLOTHING**

- ☐ Wide-brimmed hat
- ☐ Eye protection goggles
- ☐ Moistened facemask or cloth
- ☐ Loose, long sleeved cotton shirt
- ☐ Gloves
- ☐ Long cotton pants/jeans
- ☐ Sturdy leather shoes or boots

We will make sure that we have all the equipment we need by:

/ /



If you have not ticked off all of the items above you are not prepared to tackle a major fire.





## DECIDE TO STAY, BUT BE PREPARED ACTION CHECKLIST

Defending your home can be physically and mentally demanding. It's important that everyone knows exactly what to do if a fire happens.

### BEFORE (well before the fire has arrived)

#### ☒ OUTSIDE:

- ☐ Turn off gas mains and/or bottle
- ☐ Move flammable items away from the house
- ☐ Block drain pipes with socks full of sand and fill gutters with water. Don't get on the roof to hose it down
- ☐ Move animals to a well-grazed or ploughed area away from the house and wind
- ☐ Patrol the house well before the fire arrives to put out embers and spot fires
- ☐ As the fire approaches, wet the side of the house and garden that faces the fire
- ☐ Move your firefighting equipment to a place where it won't burn inside

#### ☒ INSIDE:

- ☐ Close doors, windows and vents
- ☐ Fill baths, sinks, buckets and bins with water
- ☐ Confine pets to one room
- ☐ Place ladder next to roof access hole so you can check for spot fires
- ☐ Soak towels and rugs and lay them across external doorways
- ☐ Move furniture away from windows

### DURING (as the fire is upon you)

- ☐ If flames are on top of you or the heat become unbearable move inside until the fire front has passed (usually 5-10 minutes)
- ☐ Patrol the inside of the house, including roof space, looking for sparks and embers
- ☐ Shelter in a room on the opposite side of the house from the approaching fire and ensure you have clear access to an exit

### AFTER (immediately after the fire has passed)

- ☐ Check the house both inside and out for fires, including roof cavity, under the house, deck, stairs, windowsills etc
- ☐ If possible, and safe to do so, check all your neighbours are OK
- ☐ Contact relatives or friends to tell them you are safe
- ☐ Patrol your home for several hours, looking for small fires and burning embers



Drink lots of water throughout so that you don't dehydrate.



## Appendix 2

### Step 2: Prepare

**STEP 2: PREPARE YOUR  
HOME AND GET READY**  
**THE TOP 5 ACTIONS TO  
MAKE YOUR HOME SAFER**





## STEP 2: PREPARE YOUR HOME AND GET READY

### THE TOP 5 ACTIONS TO MAKE YOUR HOME SAFER

There are some simple things you can do around your home to prepare it for a bush fire. You need to prepare well beforehand as leaving it to the last minute is too late.

Here are five simple things you can do before and during the bush fire season.



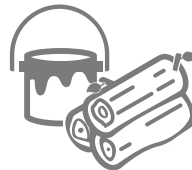
#### 1. TRIM

Trim overhanging trees and shrubs. This can stop the fire spreading to your home.



#### 2. MOW

Mow grass and remove the cuttings. Have a cleared area around your home.



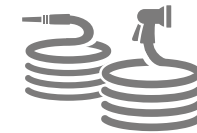
#### 3. REMOVE

Remove material that can burn around your home (e.g. Door mats, wood piles, mulch, leaves, paint, outdoor furniture).



#### 4. CLEAR

Clear and remove all the debris and leaves from the gutters surrounding your home. Burning embers can set your home on fire.



#### 5. PREPARE

Prepare a sturdy hose or hoses that will reach all around your home. Make sure you've got a reliable source of water.



Join others in your neighbourhood in completing these Top 5 Actions to protect your home.

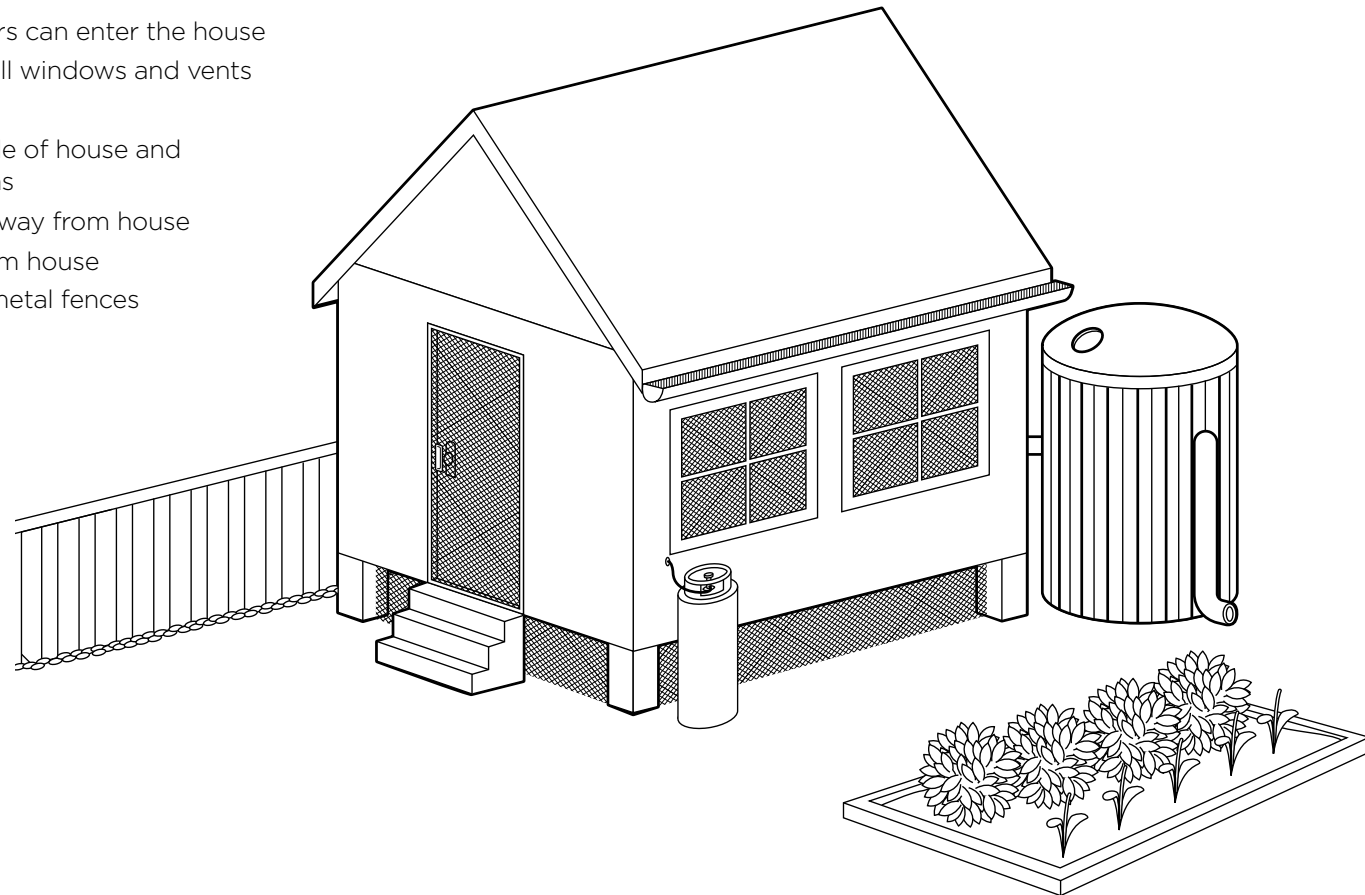




## MORE PERMANENT PROTECTION FOR YOUR HOME

☒ **Tick as you complete**

- ☐ Block up areas where embers can enter the house
- ☐ Install metal fly screens on all windows and vents
- ☐ Install metal gutter guards
- ☐ Position gas cylinders on side of house and away from trees and gardens
- ☐ Direct any pressure valves away from house
- ☐ Move garden beds away from house
- ☐ Replace wood fences with metal fences
- ☐ Use stones instead of mulch



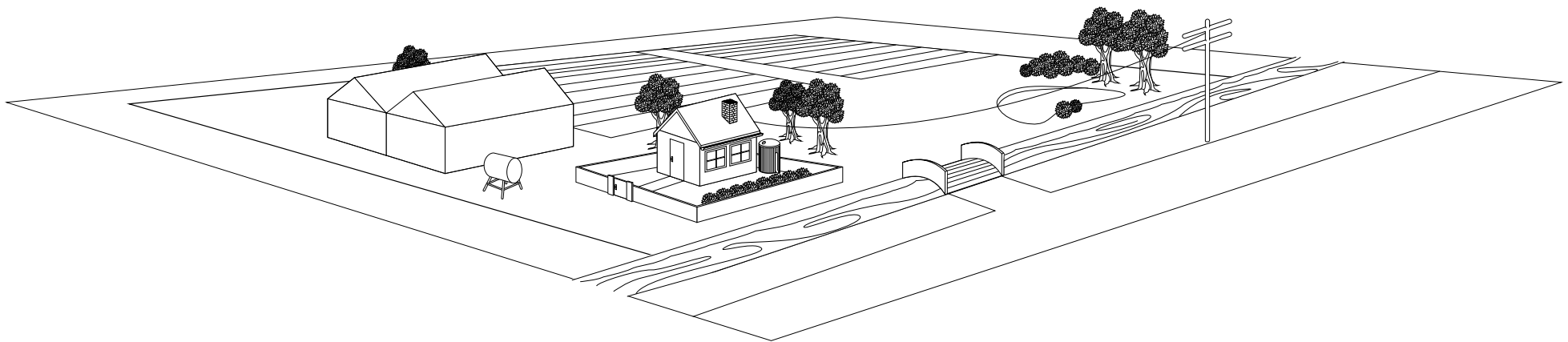
If you **live on a rural property** there are additional tasks to prepare your home on the next page.  
If you don't live on a rural property turn to Step 3 so you can learn the bush fire alert levels.



## PREPARE YOUR RURAL PROPERTY

### ☒ Tick as you complete

- ☐ Remove overhanging branches from power lines
- ☐ Ensure that a fire tanker can access your property
- ☐ Clear fire breaks along paddock boundaries
- ☐ Store petrol, diesel and gas away from home
- ☐ Keep a well-maintained area around the home and sheds
- ☐ Place water pipes from dams underground and install pump to the house
- ☐ Make sure hoses have spray nozzles
- ☐ Keep water tanks full and connect them to pumps



A cleared area around your home can slow a fire spreading and give firefighters a safe area to work.



## Appendix 3

### Step 3: Know

## STEP 3: KNOW THE BUSH FIRE ALERT LEVELS

If there is a fire in your area you will find its alert level on the NSW RFS website, on the radio and in the 'Fires Near Me' app.

You need to keep track of the alert level so you know what you should do.



### ADVICE

A fire has started.  
There is no immediate danger.  
Stay up to date in case  
the situation changes.



### WATCH AND ACT

There is a heightened level of threat.  
Conditions are changing and you  
need to start taking action to protect  
you and your family.



### EMERGENCY WARNING

An Emergency Warning is the highest level  
of Bush Fire Alert. You may be in danger  
and need to take action immediately.  
Any delay now puts your life at risk.

## STEP 3: KNOW THE BUSH FIRE ALERT LEVELS

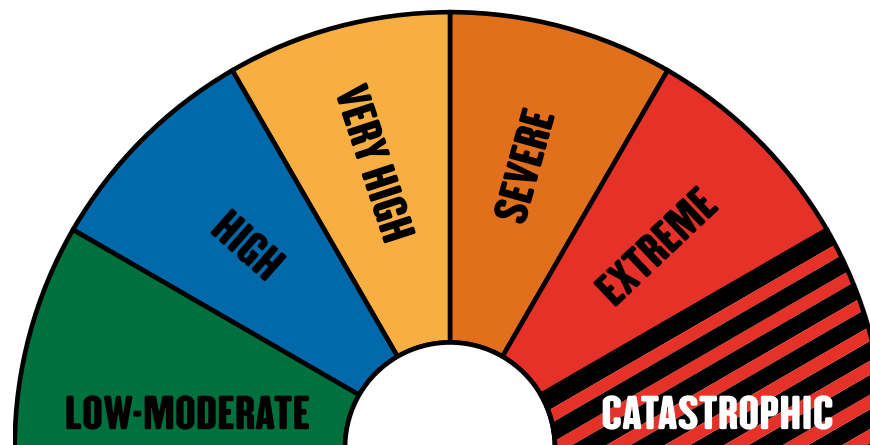
### FIRE DANGER RATINGS

Before a fire even starts, monitor the Fire Danger Ratings daily at [www.rfs.nsw.gov.au/fdr](http://www.rfs.nsw.gov.au/fdr). The higher the fire danger rating, the more dangerous a fire is likely to be. Under catastrophic conditions leaving early is the only safe option.

When it's **SEVERE** you should only stay if your home is well prepared and you're ready to defend it.

At **EXTREME**, only stay if your home is prepared to the very highest level and is specially built to survive a bush fire.

**CATASTROPHIC** is as bad as it gets – no homes are built to withstand a fire in these conditions. Leaving early is your only safe option.



## Appendix 4

### Step 4: Keep





## STEP 4: KEEP KEY INFORMATION

In a bush fire, it's important that you stay up to date on conditions in your area. The NSW Rural Fire Service strongly advises saving these numbers, links and apps now.



In an emergency call  
Triple Zero (000)  
For information on bush fire,  
call the Bush Fire Information Line  
**1800 NSW RFS (1800 679 737)**



NSW Rural Fire  
Service Website:  
**[rfs.nsw.gov.au](https://rfs.nsw.gov.au)**  
Fire Danger Ratings:  
**[rfs.nsw.gov.au/fdr](https://rfs.nsw.gov.au/fdr)**



'Fires Near Me'  
Free smartphone app.



Local radio,  
local ABC/emergency  
broadcaster frequency,  
TV, newspapers



**[facebook.com/nswrfs](https://facebook.com/nswrfs)**  
**[twitter.com/nswrfs](https://twitter.com/nswrfs)**



During a bush fire, you could lose power and telecommunications.  
Do not rely on just one source of information.



## Appendix 5

### Bushfire Survival Map





# Bushfire Survival Map

## Seaside Village Fern Bay

### What is Your Bush Fire Threat?



Flame Impact

You and your property are likely to be directly impacted by flame, deadly levels of radiant heat, significant embers and smoke from a bush fire. The risk of death and property destruction from bush fire is greatest in this area. Leaving early is your safest option.





Radiant Heat Impact

You and your property are likely to be impacted by deadly levels of radiant heat, significant embers and smoke from a bush fire. You and your property must be well prepared if you choose to stay and defend.




Ember Impact

You and your property are likely to be impacted by lower levels of radiant heat, significant embers and smoke from a bush fire. You and your property must be well prepared if you choose to stay and defend.



Be Aware

Embers can cause fires kilometres from the main fire and can impact on houses up to one hour before the fire arrives and several hours after the fire has passed. It only takes one ember to ignite your house and property. Ensure that you and your property are well prepared and monitor your property carefully during a bush fire.



NOTE: Impact areas have been prepared at a community level and are based on an Extreme Fire Danger Rating. Information provided on this map is not to be used for building / planning purposes.

A well designed and prepared building will provide more protection against bush fire.



 **ADVICE**  
A bush fire is likely to occur. There is a high risk of death and property destruction. You must leave immediately.


 **WATCH AND ACT**  
A bush fire is likely to occur. There is a moderate risk of death and property destruction. You must be prepared to leave immediately.


 **EMERGENCY WARNING**  
A bush fire is likely to occur. There is a high risk of death and property destruction. You must leave immediately.


The Three Bushfire Alert Levels





Stay informed about local fire conditions.  
Always have a plan.


 In an emergency call triple zero (000). For information on local fire, call the Bush Fire Information Line 1800 NSW RFS (1800 679 737).


 NSW Rural Fire Service Website: [rfs.nsw.gov.au](http://rfs.nsw.gov.au)

 "Fire Near Me" free smartphone app.

 Local radio, local fire emergency broadcast frequency: 157.1 MHz.

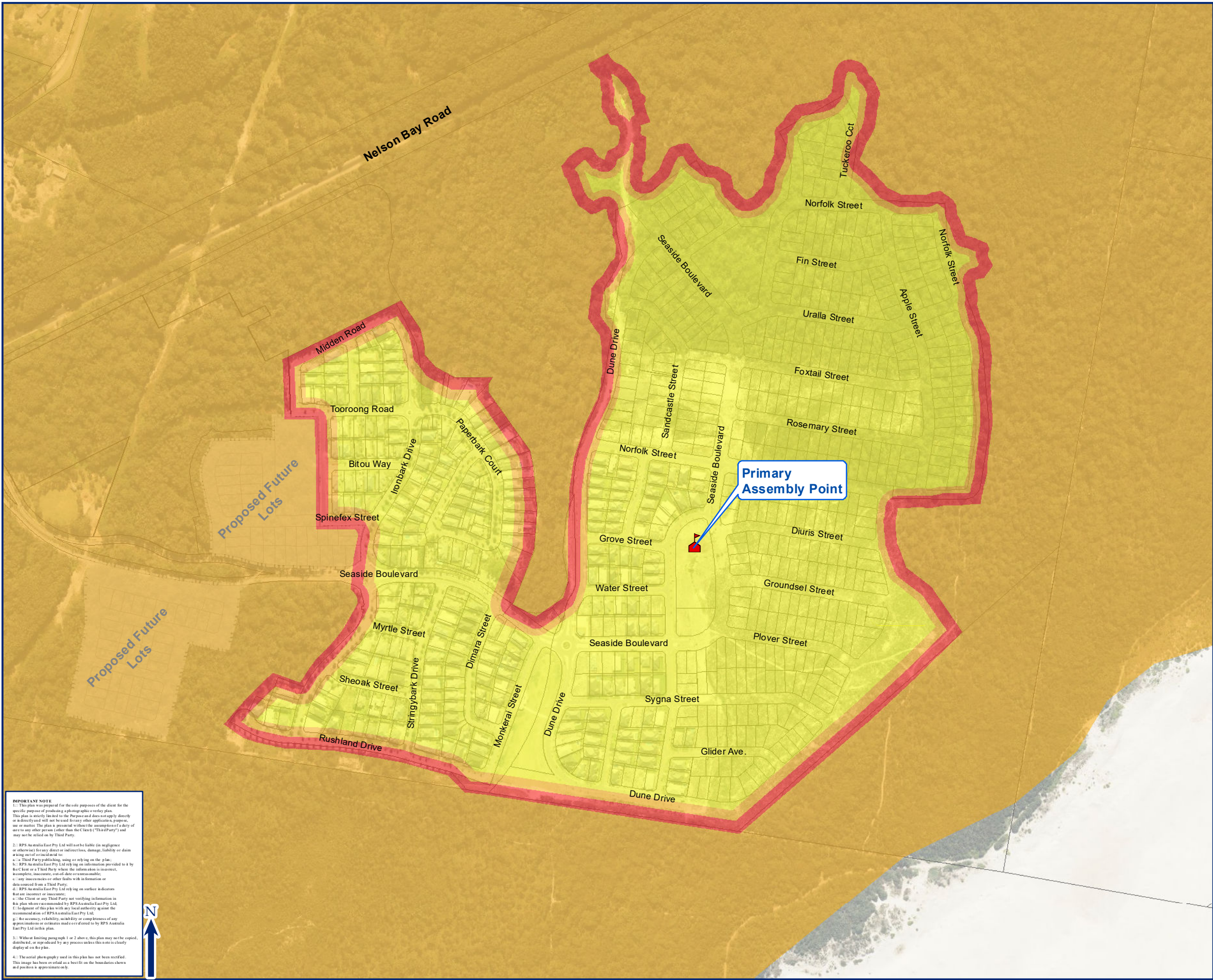
 [facebook.com/rfsnsw](https://www.facebook.com/rfsnsw)

 Primary Assembly Point



0 100 200 300 400 m

SCALE 1:6,000 A4 SIZE



**IMPORTANT NOTE**  
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### Appendix 5: Bushfire Survival Map

LOCATION: Fern Bay Seaside Village	DATUM: GDA 1994	DATE: 1/03/2017	VERSION (PLAN BY): AA3 (amy.obrien)
PROJECTION: MGA Zone 56	PURPOSE: BTA	PATH: J:\JOBS\126K\126684 Fern Bay\10 - Drafting\Arcgis Map Documents\EMP\126684 Figure 5 Bushfire Survival Map A A3 20170227.mxd	



## Appendix 6

### Bushfire Preparation Map



# Bushfire Preparation Map

## Seaside Village Fern Bay

Zone	Resident Preparation Zone
Purpose	To identify that residents/property owners have a vital role to play in bushfire risk management and that they are responsible for their own preparedness.
Suppression Objectives	To increase the preparedness of residents for bushfire and ensure that vegetation in close proximity to residential assets are adequately maintained. To provide a defensible space for residents/ fire fighters and complement hazard reduction works carried out within Asset Protection Zones/ Strategic Fire Advantage Zones.
Zone Characteristics	Residents/ property owners should strive to achieve a 'Fire Safe' property as outlined in the illustration above. Concerns regarding the bushfire safety of neighbouring properties should be raised with the NSW Rural Fire Service.



*Is your property fire- safe?*



**1. TRIM**  
Trim overhanging trees and shrubs. This can stop the fire spreading to your home.



**2. MOW**  
Mow grass and remove the cuttings. Have a cleared area around your home.



**3. REMOVE**  
Remove material that can burn around your home (e.g. Door mats, wood piles, mulch, eaves, paint, outdoor furniture).







**4. CLEAR**  
Clear and remove all the debris and leaves from the gutters surrounding your home. Burning embers can set your home on fire.




**5. PREPARE**  
Prepare a sturdy hose or hoses that will reach all around your home. Make sure you've got a reliable source of water.

**Legend**

-  Primary Assembly Point
-  Residential Preparation Zone
-  Designated Assembly Point
-  126684\_FernBay\_Full\_Layout\_20170228

N



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**BUSH FIRE INFORMATION LINE**  
**1800 NSW RFS**  
**1 8 0 0 6 7 9 7 3 7**  
**www.rfs.nsw.gov.au**

PREPARE. ACT. SURVIVE.

