

Appendix 5

MYSTERY BAY PRIMITIVE CAMPING AREA, BUSHFIRE & VEGETATION MAINTENANCE PLAN (ADVICE)

Forest and shrub vegetation to be retained and allowed to naturally accumulated available bushfire vegetation (unmanaged vegetation),

A detailed description / map of areas within the subject site that will be used to facilitate camping or else left 'unmanaged' or 'undisturbed'. This information will form the basis for managing vegetation health and available bushfire vegetation / fuel loads within the subject site; *available bushfire vegetation being dead or dry vegetative material less than 6mm in width / diameter, readily available for combustion if ignited.*

Fire management zones for undeveloped areas of the subject development site (eg. Asset Protection Zone [APZ], Strategic Fire Advantage Zone [SFAZ], Heritage Area Management, ect),

Recommended / indicative areas for fire management zoning are denoted previous map 5c of the above report.

Prescriptions or performance measures for proposed fire management zones,

Asset Protection Zone (APZ) – generally little or no fuel (eg. <1 tonne / ha) allowed to regenerate or accumulate within this area, or else managed in such a manner so as to ensure the passage of a bushfire is impeded.

Strategic Fire Advantage Zone (SFAZ) - reduce the occurrence of unplanned fires and to prevent the spread of fire within, from and into the subject site. SFAZ's also contribute towards the maintenance of species which are known to occur naturally (conserving biodiversity) by affording some measure of control over the spread of unplanned fires which would otherwise result in fire regimes which may result in species extinctions.

Within the SFAZ, fuel reduce areas by prescribed, low intensity, burning approximately every seven (7) years on a rotational basis (taking into consideration previous fire history and other recent unplanned fires). Larger SFAZ's (eg. Urban Area Nth SFAZ) should preferably only have approximately 50% of the entire area fuel reduced by burning. This should be achieved by using a pattern of ignition which will result a mosaic pattern of burnt and un-burnt patches of vegetation.

Contemporary biodiversity fire threshold analysis for the subject site and adjoining natural vegetation,

Note: These guidelines are based on species for which life history information was available, not on all species present within a community. It is possible that there are species present that have longer maturity or shorter life spans than is currently known about. It needs to be acknowledged that these guidelines may be adjusted as more information is gained.

Vegetation type	Minimum interval	Maximum interval	Notes
Swamp sclerophyll forest	7	35	Coastal Moist Shrub Forest / Tall Wet Heath – <i>C. maculata</i> , <i>E. pilularis</i> / <i>Casurina spp.</i> , <i>Melaleuca ericifolia</i>
Shrubby dry sclerophyll forest	7	30	Coastal Lowlands Cycad/Shrub Dry Forest - <i>Corymbia maculata</i>
Heathland	7	30	Coastal Shrub / Grass Dry Forest Coastal Headland Heathlands

Source: NSW Department of Environment & Conservation - Fire Interval Guidelines for Broad Vegetation Types

A proposed schedule of maintenance and activities which ensure the provisions of proposed fire management zones,

Year	Zone / Location	Activity / Description
1	Mystery Bay Rd SFAZ	Fuel reduce identified area by <u>low intensity</u> prescribed burning
2	Permanent Access Trails	Inspect and undertake maintenance as required
3	Billys Beach SFAZ	Fuel reduce identified area by <u>low intensity</u> prescribed burning
4	Emergency Access Trails	Inspect and undertake maintenance as required
5	Urban Area Nth SFAZ	Fuel reduce 50% of identified area by <u>low intensity</u> prescribed burning
6	Permanent Access Trails	Inspect and undertake maintenance as required
7	Mystery Bay Rd SFAZ	Fuel reduce identified area by <u>low intensity</u> prescribed burning

Potential ignition management (fire places, cooking facilities ect)

Fire Rings and Grills

Where local conditions permit, fire rings/grills should be provided at campsites and group camping areas to contain campfires and prevent random campfire scars. At picnic areas, a pedestal grills or gas fuel barbeques may be provided.

Fire rings can be made of metal, firebrick, or natural stone. Circular units best fit the shape of a fire and are aesthetically attractive.

Common bricks and masonry should not be used in/under fire rings due to the potential to explode.

Pedestal grills or gas fuel barbeques should be provided at picnic sites (foreshore areas).

Pedestal grills should have adjustable grate height settings, rotation capability, and have a hinged or removable grate for easy cleaning.

Location/Placement;

- Placed a minimum of 10ft (3m) away from any overhanging or adjacent vegetation
- Located within the established camping or fuel reduced / disturbed areas
- Fire rings preferably placed on a base of gravel, pumice, fire brick, or other porous material, with drain tile if necessary, to facilitate drainage of rainwater
- Firmly anchored to prevent relocation.

(Source: US Army Corps & Engineers, Engineering and Design - Recreation Facility and Customer Services Standards 2004).

Additional location / placement recommendation;

- Preferably, located on or near established camp fire locations (fire rings)
- Located no further than 90m from an available water point
- A maximum number of fire ring locations be established to ensure all designated camp site locations have use of a fire ring.
- A camp site policy be introduced requiring all open fires to be contained within provided fire rings during periods of High or above Fire Danger Index (FDI), or otherwise preferably at all times.