



**Flinders Fire Management Area
Bushfire Risk Management Plan
2021**

Document Control

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Glossary

Asset	A term used to describe anything valued by the community that may be adversely impacted by bushfire. This may include houses, infrastructure, agriculture, production forests, industry, and environmental and heritage sites.
Asset Zone (AZ)	The geographic location of asset(s) and values of importance requiring bushfire exclusion.
Asset Protection Zone (APZ)	An area adjacent to or near Asset Zones, the primary management purpose of which is to protect human life, property and highly valued assets and values. Treatment can include intensive fuel reduction, manipulation of fuel moisture or response plans.
Bushfire	Unplanned vegetation fire. A generic term which includes grass fires, forest fires and scrub fires both with and without a suppression objective.
Bushfire hazard	The potential or expected behaviour of a bushfire burning under a particular set of conditions, i.e. the type, arrangement and quantity of fuel, the fuel moisture content, wind speed, topography, relative humidity, temperature and atmospheric stability.
Bushfire Risk Assessment Model (BRAM)	A computer-based modelling tool that uses a series of inputs to assess the risk of bushfire to a specific area. The BRAM has a capacity to produce a series of outputs. It was developed and is managed by Tasmanian Parks & Wildlife Service.
Bushfire risk management	A systematic process to coordinate, direct and control activities relating to bushfire risk with the aim of limiting the adverse effects of bushfire on the community.
Community Bushfire Protection Plan	A bushfire plan for community members that provides local, community-specific information to assist with bushfire preparation and survival. The focus of the Bushfire Protection Plan is on bushfire safety options, and the intent of the plan is to support the development of personal Bushfire Survival Plans.
Community Bushfire Response Plan	An Emergency Management Plan for emergency managers and responders. The Bushfire Response Plan aims to better protect communities and their assets during bushfire emergencies, through the identification of protection priorities and operational information.
Consequence	Impact(s) of an event on the five key areas: environment, economy, people, social setting and public administration.
Control	A measure that modifies risk. This may be an existing process, policy, device, practice or other action that acts to minimise negative risk or enhance positive opportunities.
Fire management zoning	Classification system for the areas to be managed. The zoning system indicates the primary purposes for fire management for an area of land.
Fuel break	A natural or manmade change in fuel characteristics which affects fire behaviour so that fires burning into them can be more readily controlled.
Hazard management area	The area between a building and the bushfire-prone vegetation that provides access to a fire front for firefighting, which is maintained in a minimal fuel condition and in which there are no other hazards present that will significantly contribute to the spread of a bushfire.
Human Settlement Area	Term given for the dataset used to define where people live and work. The dataset was developed for the purpose of risk modelling and was created using a combination of building locations, cadastral information and ABS data. Includes seasonally populated areas and industrial areas.
Land Management Zone (LMZ)	An area that is managed to meet the objectives of the relevant land manager such as: Traditional Owner practices, biodiversity conservation, production forestry, farming or recreation. Management can include planned burning, experimental treatments, fire exclusion or no planned action.
Likelihood	Chance of something happening. It is used as a general description of probability and may be expressed qualitatively or quantitatively.
Risk register	A document usually presented in a tabular form which lists concisely the following information for each risk: the risk statement, source, hazard, impact area, prevention/preparedness controls, recovery/response controls, level of existing controls, likelihood level, risk level, confidence level and treatment strategy.
Risk treatment	Process of selection and implementation of controls to modify risk. The term 'risk treatment' is sometimes used for the controls themselves.

Strategic Fire Management Zone (SFMZ)	An area located close to or some distance away from assets (e.g. the urban–rural interface), the primary management purpose of which is to provide a mosaic of areas of reduced fuel in strategic locations to reduce the speed and intensity of bushfires, potential for spot-fire development, and size of bushfires. Treatment is by fuel reduction burning and other bushfire protection measures such as fire trails, water points, detection measures and response plans.
Treatable vegetation	Types of vegetation which are suitable for fuel reduction burning, for example, dry eucalypt forest, scrub, heathland and buttongrass.
Treatment plan	A document related to the risk register presented in a tabular form which lists concisely the following information for each risk: the agreed strategies to manage the risk (i.e. treatments), the responsible organisations, proposed completion date and comments.

Acronyms

BRMPG	Bushfire Risk Management Planning Guidelines
BRAM	Bushfire Risk Assessment Model
BRMP	Bushfire Risk Management Plan
DPIPWE	Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and Environment
FFDI	Forest Fire Danger Index
FMA	Fire Management Area
FMAC	Fire Management Area Committee
LGA	Local Government Area
PWS	Parks and Wildlife Service
SFMC	State Fire Management Council
STT	Sustainable Timber Tasmania
TFS	Tasmania Fire Service

Maps contained in this document may include data provided by DPIPW (Land Tasmania), Parks and Wildlife Service (Fire Management Section) and Tasmania Fire Service. These map products have been produced by the Tasmania Fire Service. While all efforts have been taken to ensure their accuracy, there may be errors and/or omissions in the data presented. Users of these products are advised to independently verify data for accuracy and completeness before use.

Executive Summary

This Bushfire Risk Management Plan identifies priorities for the treatment of bushfire risk in the Flinders Island Fire Management Area over the next three years. It was developed by the Fire Management Area Committee (FMAC) as required under sections 18 and 20 of the *Fire Service Act 1979*. This plan aims to coordinate and influence the treatment of bushfire risk in the Fire Management Area.

The plan is strategic level and does not include all details of bushfire risk treatments; but does identify which organisations or individuals are responsible for implementing them. The Flinders Island FMAC will prepare a written report twice yearly for the State Fire Management Council on the progress of implementation.

The plan was developed in line with the [Bushfire Risk Management Planning Guidelines 2020](#). The risk assessment considers bushfire impacts to the assets and values in the area, and uses the following matrix to calculate a risk rating:

LIKELIHOOD	CONSEQUENCE LEVEL				
	INSIGNIFICANT	MINOR	MODERATE	MAJOR	CATASTROPHIC
Almost Certain	MEDIUM	MEDIUM	HIGH	EXTREME	EXTREME
Likely	LOW	MEDIUM	HIGH	EXTREME	EXTREME
Unlikely	LOW	LOW	MEDIUM	HIGH	EXTREME
Rare	VERY LOW	LOW	MEDIUM	HIGH	HIGH
Very Rare	VERY LOW	VERY LOW	LOW	MEDIUM	HIGH
Extremely Rare	VERY LOW	VERY LOW	LOW	MEDIUM	HIGH

The results of the risk assessment are summarised in the risk register ([Appendix 1](#)) and the proposed treatments are listed in the treatment plan ([Appendix 2](#)). All maps are published on the internet on LISTmap, and hyperlinks to these can be found in the relevant locations in this plan.

The Flinders FMA consists of an area of approximately 206,046 hectares, extending approximately 10 kilometres from Wilson Promontory in Victoria to the North East tip of the Tasmanian mainland. An archipelago of 52 islands, the largest Island is Flinders Island, followed by truwana/Cape Barren Island and Clarke Island. More than half of the Flinders FMA is private freehold land tenure.

There is a mix of vegetation within the Flinders FMA which ranges from heaths, scrub and dry woodlands through to dry sclerophyll forest interposed with wet sclerophyll forest gullies and remnant rainforest on Mt Strzelecki and the Darling Range.

Flinders Island is home to approximately 900 residents, with a population increase in the warmer months due to visitors and medium-term seasonal residents (known colloquially as ‘tocal’s’ or transient locals). Visitors to the island usually seek an eco-tourism experience. The economy is mainly based on agriculture and tourism. Agricultural, tourism, natural and cultural assets are highly valued by the Flinders FMA community.

Some of the highest priority risk assets identified by the Flinders FMAC either have had previous strategic mitigation plans developed and require review and some have not had plans developed to date. It is envisaged strategic mitigation for the FMA in general will be undertaken/reviewed during the life of this Plan to further augment risk mitigation activities. The highest risks identified in the FMA are broadly defined as:

- The Human Settlement Areas of Lady Barron, Whitemark/Blue Rocks, Killiecrankie and The Corner on truwana/Cape Barren Island. Fuel reduction is identified as a treatment for these areas including fuel breaks and fuel reduction burning. The primary responsibility for conducting these fuel reduction burns and fuel breaks are the Parks and Wildlife Service and Tasmania Fire Service
- The historical site of Wybalenna. Discussions with the Aboriginal Land Council of Tasmania (ALCT) will be required to determine the site's values and how to mitigate bushfire risk
- Communications towers at Mt Tanner, Hays Hill and Walkers Lookout. Fuel reduction opportunities

When further assets are identified, the FMAC will determine whether these assets require assessment against the TERAG risk assessment process.

1. Introduction

1.1 Background

It is a requirement of Section 20 of the *Fire Service Act 1979* that the Fire Management Area Committee (FMAC) prepare a fire protection plan for its Fire Management Area. This Bushfire Risk Management Plan (BRMP) fulfils that requirement. The BRMP is submitted to and approved by the State Fire Management Council (SFMC).

The *Fire Service Act 1979* requires that the fire protection plan is consistent with the State fire protection plan, the [Tasmanian Vegetation Fire Management Policy](#), and because it is an instruction from SFMC, the [Bushfire Risk Management Planning Guidelines](#) (SFMC 2020).

The Bushfire Risk Management Planning Guidelines (BRMPG) explain the framework for bushfire risk management in Tasmania, the method for doing the risk assessment, and how to prepare the BRMP. There is very little explanation here in this plan on the rationale, principles and methods used; therefore, the BRMPG is an important supporting document for understanding this plan.

Under the [terms of reference](#) for the Flinders Island FMAC, the purposes of the committee are:

- Provide a forum for communication and collaboration between key stakeholders in the FMA
- Enable a holistic and consistent approach, incorporating local knowledge, to identify strategic priorities to reduce bushfire risk
- Coordinate efforts and facilitate resource sharing to implement the strategic risk reduction priorities
- Link the local community and the SFMC through ‘ground-truthing’ the bushfire risk assessment and mitigation strategies
- Through their advisory function, provide input into decisions and outcomes beyond the Fire Management Area.

1.2 Purpose of this plan

The management of bushfire-related risk is a collective responsibility of the whole community, with contributions made by numerous individuals, landowners and organisations.

An overriding aim of this BRMP is to document a coordinated approach to the identification and treatment of bushfire risk in the Flinders Island Fire Management Area (FMA). Specific objectives include:

- Guide and coordinate bushfire risk management over a three-year period on all land within the FMA
- Provide a reference point for the prioritisation and justification of bushfire treatment actions, as well as supporting evidence for funding requests
- Facilitate the integration of bushfire risk management into the business processes of councils, organisations and land managers
- Facilitate cooperation and the coordination of treatment actions between stakeholders
- Clearly and concisely communicate bushfire risk to stakeholders and the community
- Provide a basis for monitoring and reporting of implementation of bushfire risk treatments in the FMA.

This BRMP is a strategic-level document that does not provide detail on treatment actions. Individual organisations and landowners, or collaborative groups, may have developed plans and processes for implementation of bushfire risk treatment; these can be considered to be linked to the strategic priorities identified [here](#) (SFMC 2020).

2. Establishing the context

2.1 Description of the Flinders Island Fire Management Area

The Flinders FMA consists of an area of approximately 206,046 hectares, extending approximately 10 kilometres from Wilson Promontory in Victoria to the North East tip of the Tasmanian mainland, including the major land components of the Furneaux group, Hogan group and the Kent group of Islands ([map 1](#)).

The Furneaux Group is an archipelago of 52 islands located in the Bass Strait between mainland Australia and Tasmania. The largest Island is Flinders Island followed by truwana/Cape Barren Island and Clarke Island.

The Flinders FMA covers the Flinders local government area (LGA). More than half of the Flinders FMA is private freehold land tenure as shown in table 1 (map 2).

Table 1. Summary of the major tenure land managers in the Flinders Fire Management Area (FMA).

Land manager	% of FMA
Private property	63
Parks and Wildlife Service reserves	35
Other	2

2.2 Fire environment

The vegetation of the Flinders FMA is complex. It is a mix, ranging from heaths, scrub and dry woodlands through to dry sclerophyll forest interposed with wet sclerophyll forest gullies and remnant rainforest on Mt Strzelecki and the Darling Range. *Phytophthora cinnamomi* (dieback) and peat soils are also present in within the Flinders FMA.

The region is considered important biogeographically as it is indicative of an ecotone between the Tasmanian and mainland vegetation complexes. Some of the vegetation species present on the Islands are at the most southern point of its range if a mainland species or the most northern aspect of Tasmanian endemic species.

The vegetation can also be categorised into broad groups that represent broad vegetation or landscape types (Kitchener & Harris, 2013), as summarised in table 2 and map 6. The majority of vegetation groups in the Flinders FMA are of high to very high flammability classes with a low to moderate sensitivity to fire (Pyrke and Marsden-Smedley, 2005). Rainforest complexes on Mt Strzelecki and *Melaleuca ericifolia* swamp forest scattered around the Island are sensitive to fire.

Table 2: Vegetation groups and flammability present within the Flinders FMA as a percentage of FMA total area.

Vegetation Group (Kitchener & Harris, 2013)	Flammability (Pyrke & Marsden-Smedley 2005)	% FMA
Scrub, Heathland and Coastal Complexes	High – very high	41.0
Agricultural, Urban and Exotic Vegetation	Moderate	24.9
Dry Eucalypt Forest and Woodland	Moderate - high	14.1
Non-Eucalypt Forest and Woodland	Moderate	6.5
Native Grassland	High	3.2
Saltmarsh and Wetland	Low	3.4
Other Natural Environments	Moderate	3.1
Moorland, Sedgeland, Rushland and peatland	Moderate - high	0.4
Rainforest and Related Scrub	Low	0.1

The vegetation can also be considered in terms of its “treatability” with regards to fuel reduction program burning (map 5). Treatable fuels suitable for fuel reduction burns are typically dry eucalypt forest, scrub complexes, heath complexes and button grass. Agricultural lands while susceptible to the impact of bush fires are not considered treatable due to the nature of the land use. However, this does not preclude agricultural land from being incorporated into burning operations. Most fuels within the Flinders FMA are treatable.

Prior to major settlement within the Flinders FMA, lightning strikes were assumed to be a cause of ignition. Available records show that there are various causes of ignitions for bushfires in the Flinders FMA. These causes include accidental ignitions, lightning, deliberate lighting of vegetation and escapes from planned burns.

Previous fire incidents have been located near communities or in an agricultural landscape. Table 3 displays the major bushfires that have occurred within the Flinders FMA since 1990.

Table 3: Major fires Flinders Island FMA

Fire Name	Ignition Date	Area (ha)
Sellers Point	1990	578
Darling Range	2003	17,058
Cameron Lagoon	2003	4,261
Reedy Lagoon	2006	1,716
Cape Barren Island (Apple Orchard Point)	2006	39,760
Five Mile Road	2008	6,690
Clarke Island	2013	8,100

Fire Name	Ignition Date	Area (ha)
Lackrana Road	2016	4,641
Thunder and Lightning Bay, Cape Barren Island	2016	31,770
Foo Chow Conservation Area	2019	2736

Bushfires within the Flinders FMA are wind driven, with predominantly north westerly wind directions on bad fire danger days during summer. Changes of wind direction are also commonly observed due to localised weather patterns which can lead to erratic fire behaviour.

The presence of flammable fine fuels (i.e. coastal vegetation) and peat soils influences fire behaviour. The undulating landscape within the Flinders FMA also playing a role due to the influence of slope on fire behaviour.

2.3 Climate and bushfire season

The Flinders FMA experiences a climate that can be considered a mixture of a Mediterranean and an oceanic climate that is composed of warm dry summers and mild wet winters. Under the moderating influences of low elevation and the maritime effects, the Islands generally have a milder climate compared to that of Tasmania, with rainfall possible in all seasons.

The Flinders FMA is also in the path of the “roaring forties” winds. Weather stations exist at the Flinders Island airport and on Hogan Island. Figures 1 and 2 identify how the most common winds correlate with Fire Danger Ratings (FDR) and historical Forest Fire Danger Indices (FFDI) for the last 30 years.

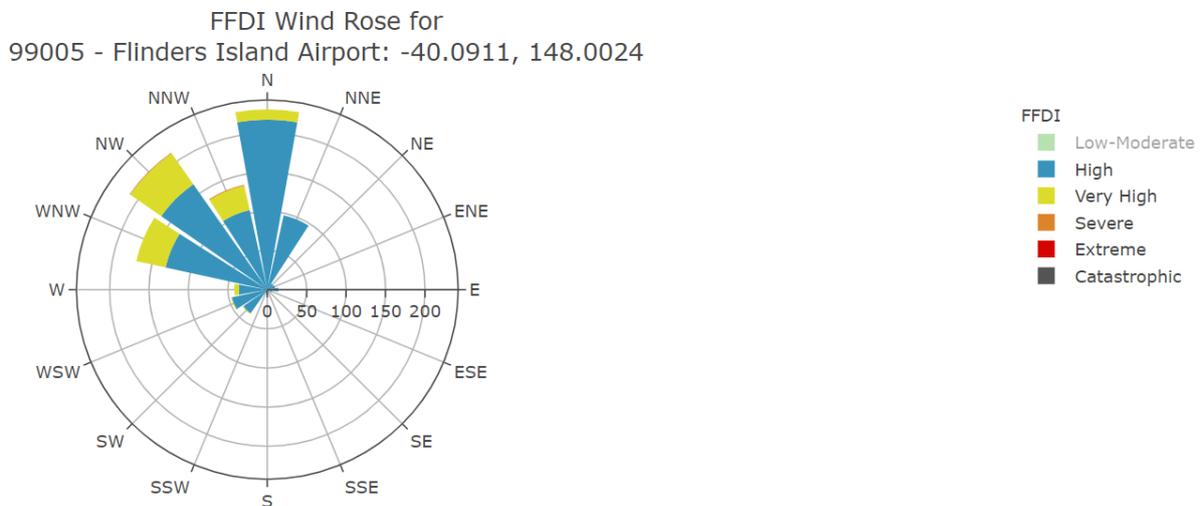


Figure 1: Wind Rose Plot for Forest Fire Danger Index (FFDI) – Flinders Island Airport

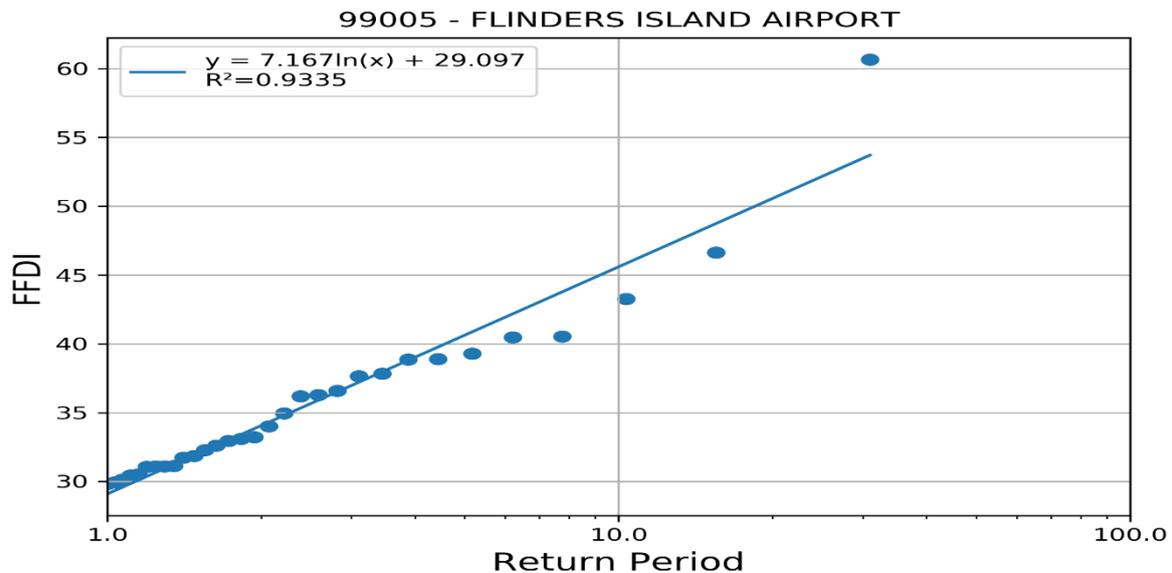


Figure 2: Forest Fire Danger Index (FFDI) and Annual Exceedance Probability (AEP) – Flinders Island Airport

Fire seasons and prescribed burning seasons vary geographically and temporally. The fire season is traditionally from November through to March though fires can and do occur outside this peak period and fires can range from forest to grass fires.

Fuel reduction burning usually occurs in the seasonal months of autumn or spring, contingent on suitable weather conditions, soil and fuel moisture, and controls being in place. Within the Flinders FMA, cultural cool season burning has also occurred to some extent (particularly on Cape Barren Island) in addition to traditional fuel reduction burning activities.

Climate is changing in Tasmania and it is evident from bushfire climate indicators (Fox-Hughes et al. 2015) that we can expect destructive bushfires to become more frequent.

2.4 Population and community

The estimated resident population of the Flinders Island is approximately 900 people. The population increases in the warmer months due to a seasonal influx of visitors and residents (transient locals). Visitors are usually seeking an eco-tourism experience.

A smaller population of approximately 90 persons reside on truwana/Cape Barren Island. The outer Islands have transient populations based around agricultural needs and Mutton-bird season.

The community profile of the Flinders FMA indicates that there is a lower proportion of youth (0-17 years) and a higher proportion of persons at post retirement (+60 years). There is also, a strong aboriginal presence and culture within the Flinders FMA, particularly on truwana/Cape Barren Island.

On Flinders Island there are two major population centres, Whitemark and Lady Barron. These centres are home to the Island's primary built environment and facilities, residential properties, businesses, and industrial properties, with Whitemark being the administrative and commercial centre for the Furneaux region. Other settlement areas include Emita, Palana, Memana, Lackrana, Killiecrankie and Badger Corner/Ranga.

Outside the settlement areas, the population is based around Flinders farm holdings. Holiday homes are scattered throughout Flinders Island, utilised as short-term accommodation.

The economy is based mainly on agriculture and tourism. Agricultural assets are based mainly on the eastern side of the Island while the western and southern areas are dominated by residential villages and nature-based tourism activities such as bushwalking, bird watching, flora/fauna research and boating activities.

2.5 Community engagement

It is anticipated that there will be further community engagement by the Flinders FMAC with the wider FMA community on topics not limited to fuel treatments, the role of the FMAC, risk assessment and cultural cool burning practices. A community public education/awareness event is proposed as a medium for engagement.

Engagement with the Cape Barren Island Aboriginal Association, the truwana rangers and other relevant parties (e.g. farmers/farm managers) regarding fuel reduction via cool season burning on Flinders and outer islands is expected.

It is also anticipated that there be continued engagement between FMAC agencies in order to discuss funding and the implementation of treatments e.g. Flinders Council and other relevant agencies to combine the need for fire trails with that of walking tracks.

Community engagement has previously been undertaken by the Bushfire Ready Neighbourhoods with the communities of Lady Barron, Emita, The Corner (truwnana/Cape Barren Island), Killiecrankie, Palana, West End, Blue Rocks, Big River and Whitemark.

3. Identifying the risks

3.1 Bushfire and impact scenarios

To set the scene for this risk assessment, the bushfire scenarios under consideration are very large events, typically 10,000 to 20,000 hectares, occurring when fuel dryness and weather conditions combine to create one or more days of very significant fire weather. Analysis of climate data was used to determine standard weather events for the scenarios – described as having an Annual Exceedance Probability of approximately 10% (SFMC 2020). An example of a bushfire scenario is:

Dry lightning on a day of FFDI 46 ignites fuels on Mount Tanner, a bushfire spreads and destroys the communications tower, with subsequent on and off island impacts. The fire also impacts the townships of Whitemark and Emita

3.2 Statewide controls

The following controls are currently in place across Tasmania to help manage bushfire-related risk:

- Legislative controls – including Fire Service Act 1979 (e.g. Fire permit period, Total Fire Ban days, campfires), National Parks and Reserves Management Act 2002 (e.g. fires and campfires), abatement notices
- TFS public education (e.g. Bushfire Ready Neighbourhoods, media campaigns)
- TFS planning – community protection planning (e.g. Community Protection and Response Plans)
- Fuel Reduction Program (TFS, PWS, STT) – funding and coordination of fuel reduction burning
- SFMC programs (e.g. Red Hot Tips training program for fuel reduction burning on private land)
- FMAC – performance monitoring and reporting on this BRMP
- Tasmania Police and TFS – Statewide arson prevention programs
- Land subdivision and building standards (Bushfire-Prone Areas Code, Building Code of Australia)
- Suppression response preparedness – e.g. TFS local volunteer brigades, STT and PWS crews, forest company crews, fire towers, aircraft, pre-positioning of firefighting resources
- Weather forecasting (Bureau of Meteorology) and fire behaviour prediction (TFS, STT, PWS)

3.3 Fire Management Area controls

Summary of existing control measures for bushfire within FMA include but are not limited to:

- Situational awareness during high FDR days, through alerts and warnings to the community
- 5 brigades on Flinders and 1 on Cape Barren Island
- Fire appliances:
 - truwana/Cape Barren Island: 1 x 4.1 appliance; and
 - Flinders: PWS (2 x 6.1); TFS (3 x 3.1; 2 x 4.1; 3 x 5.1; 1 x 3.1 Flinders Island Aboriginal Association; and other private appliances)
- Fuel reduction burning, undertaken by the Fuel Reduction Program by TFS and PWS. Recent burns including Vinegar Hill, the Flinders Island Airport (partial completion) and Lady Barron Water Treatment Plant (partial completion)
- Cape Barren cultural burning at Chimney Hill
- Fire trail at Darling Range (Class 5 standard)

- Strategic roads (links to trails and potential control lines). Five Mile road, Cameron Inlet road, Logan Lagoon road, Summers road and Memana Road to Patriarchs Inlet
- Previous community engagement programs, including Bushfire Ready Neighbourhoods, community development opportunities, and support for bushfire recovery
- PWS Reserve closures on bad fire days
- Slashing of road verges by the relevant authority
- Community Preparedness Planning initiatives through the development of Bushfire Protection Plans and Bushfire Response Plans; and
- TFS Bushfire mitigation plans.

4. Analysing and evaluating bushfire risk

4.1 Analysing bushfire risks

A standard risk assessment process was used to determine priorities for this Bushfire Risk Management Plan (BRMP) following the Tasmanian Emergency Risk Assessment Guidelines and the Bushfire Risk Management Planning Guidelines (SFMC 2020), which in summary considers:

- Consequences – what values and assets are at risk given the standard bushfire scenario under consideration
- Existing controls – how effective the existing controls are at reducing the risk and how much they are used
- Likelihood – how the likelihood of the consequence occurring is quantified, based on weather, topography, fuels and ignition potential
- Confidence level – how certain we are about the evidence and data used
- Risk rating and priority score – calculated by the risk assessment tool (SFMC 2020).

All of the above are recorded in the risk register ([Appendix 1](#)).

4.2 Evaluating bushfire risks

High priority assets have been identified across a range of values and are outlined in the risk register ([Appendix 1](#)).

Critical infrastructure and supporting network facilities for communication, power and water fall within the general area of high priority assets but may not be individually identified for priority actioning to review bushfire risk. Further analysis of these assets and their risk may be assessed as they are identified.

High priority communities (namely Whitemark/Blue Rocks, Lady Barron, Killiecrankie, Emita and The Corner) and the historical site of Wybalenna will be assessed at a strategic level to identify opportunities for fuel treatments and fire infrastructure in the future. Further detailed analysis may follow should key stakeholders determine local mitigation plans be required for these settlements. Existing Bushfire Response Plans will be reviewed for some communities identified as being at high risk to assist with decision making during bushfires (see Appendix 2).

Environmental values have been evaluated with consideration to vulnerability to bushfire and relative impact. These values will be regularly re-analysed during the life of this Plan.

In addition to the implementation of strategic planned fuel reduction burns guided by the priorities developed within the risk register ([Appendix 1](#)), consideration has been given to increased return intervals for fuel reduction planned burning within strategic fire management zones determined by fire practitioners.

5. Bushfire risk treatment

5.1 Treatment plan

The Fire Management Area Committee (FMAC) considered the costs, benefits, practicalities and environmental impacts of various control options for the highest priority risks. The risk treatments that were determined from these deliberations are recorded in the treatment plan ([Appendix 2](#)).

Individual landowners and organisations are usually responsible for implementing the treatments e.g. Emergency Management Plans, insurance etc. and these are indicated in the treatment plan. Exceptions are fuel reduction burning, fuel breaks etc. that are planned and conducted by the Fuel Reduction Program (TFS, PWS, STT) with the agreement of landowners.

Some treatments include:

- Developing/reviewing strategic fire management plans for the FMA. This may include development of a strategic fire management plan for Flinders Island and review of the existing mitigation plan for truwana/Cape Barren
- Developing a continuing burn and fuel break program for identified human settlement and other values
- Further analysis of risks to communication and other assets
- Consideration of existing/potential fire trails
- Developing/reviewing Response Plans to aid decision making during incidents
- Identifying/assessing potential Nearby Safer Places
- Community education through the Bushfire Ready Neighbourhoods program when the program has capacity.

5.2 Bushfire management zones

For those assets and values where fuel management or other treatments are designated in the treatment plan ([Appendix 2](#)), bushfire management zones are used to delineate the treatment areas. The names of zones and descriptors are provided in Appendix 3.

5.3 Implementing treatments

This Bushfire Risk Management Plan (BRMP) does not guarantee a source of funding for treatment actions, nor does it provide a process for seeking funding. The organisations and individuals that are responsible for delivering the bushfire risk treatments are responsible for developing further plans for implementation, as well as arranging resources and funding.

The BRMP is, however, intended to provide evidence and justification for where funding and resources are most appropriate to be committed by stakeholders to mitigate bushfire risk.

Many treatments identified in this plan will require environmental and cultural impact assessment. These assessments are the responsibility of the individual organisations and are not covered by this BRMP.

Not all Human Settlement Areas or other assets are able to have a treatment applied to them. It is however considered that many will benefit from treatments applied to nearby assets. Notable decisions to not directly apply treatments/not determine treatments at this time include:

- Not to actively note the treatments beyond Priority Two for natural values in this FMA
- The decision to monitor and review risk to the Human Settlement Areas of Baileys Lane (incorporating the Flinders Island High School) and Palana which were judged by the FMAC as lower risks than the other assets identified in this plan
- The decision not to identify discrete fire trails. Further analysis of potential fire trails will be undertaken in the strategic planning for the Island with analysis concentrating on what trails may be affordable and achievable during the life of this Plan.

5.4 Strategic fire infrastructure

The strategic fire trail in the Flinders Island FMA is primarily under the ownership of the Parks and Wildlife Service is listed in strategic fire trails ([Appendix 4](#)). This fire trail is designated because it is essential for fuel reduction and bushfire suppression; it should be regularly maintained to appropriate standards. Further analysis to determine potential strategic fire trails will be undertaken in more detailed fire management plans.

5.5 Fuel reduction burning

The Strategic Fire Management Zones (SFMZ) delineate general areas for treatment by fuel reduction burning. Individual burn units are not identified in this BRMP but will need to be identified within the SFMZ by further planning from the organisations responsible for carrying out the fuel reduction burning.

There are many kinds of vegetation for which it is not appropriate or practical to conduct fuel reduction burning (SFMC 2020); these vegetation communities are described as 'untreatable' and indicated on [Map 4](#). The broad vegetation communities within the FMA can be seen on [Map 5](#).

The Fuel Reduction Program that is funded, coordinated and implemented by the Tasmania Fire Service, Parks and Wildlife Service and Sustainable Timbers Tasmania is undertaken on behalf of and with the agreement of individual landowners or organisations (e.g. councils). The priorities of the Fuel Reduction Program are guided by the priorities identified in the treatment plans across all Fire Management Areas.

6. Monitoring and review

6.1 Review

This Bushfire Risk Management Plan (BRMP), including appendices and maps, will be subject to a comprehensive review every three (3) years from the date of approval, unless significant circumstances exist to warrant earlier review. The revised BRMP will be based on a new risk assessment that may include revised input methods. The review process will include examination of:

- changes to the Fire Management Area (FMA), organisational responsibilities or legislation
- changes to the bushfire risk in the area
- major bushfire events
- shortcomings in data that can be improved
- change of usage of the area
- new or changed asset values within the FMA.

Additional and changed data and values (both community and natural) identified by the review process will be supplied to the Bushfire Risk Unit (TFS) for inclusion in ongoing risk modelling being carried out at the state level.

6.2 Monitoring and reporting

Progress towards completion of the treatments proposed will be monitored and reviewed twice a year by the Fire Management Area Committee (FMAC); this will be documented in the Implementation Status Report which should address as a minimum:

- progress on implementation of treatments listed in the treatment plan, including
- planning outcomes including mitigation plans, community protection plans, community response plans
- implementation progress of community programs
- completed fuel reduction burns
- development and maintenance of Asset Protection Zones (APZ)
- development and maintenance of strategic fire infrastructure

At a Statewide level, the State Fire Management Council will examine the impacts of the strategic burning program on risk management as part of the strategic fuel management program.

References

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TERAG (2017), *Tasmanian Emergency Risk Assessment Guidelines*. Department of Police, Fire and Emergency Management, Tasmania. Retrieved from <http://www.ses.tas.gov.au/about/risk-management/terag/>

SFMC (2020), *Bushfire Risk Management Planning Guidelines*, State Fire Management Council, Tasmania. Retrieved from <http://www.sfmc.tas.gov.au/sites/sfmc.tas.gov.au/files/Bushfire%20Risk%20Management%20Planning%20Guidelines%202020.pdf>

Appendices

Appendix 1: Risk register

Notes at the end of the risk register provide explanation for the TERAG code, Asset description and Priority FMAC columns.

TERAG code	Asset category	Asset description (risk statement)	Consequence	Controls effectiveness	Confidence	Combined likelihood	Risk level	Priority FMAC	Treatment options	LGA
FLSO001	Aboriginal Heritage	Wybalenna	Major	Low	Highest	Rare	High	19		Flinders
FLPU003	Critical Infrastructure	Mount Tanner communication tower	Moderate	Very Low	Highest	Unlikely	Medium	24		Flinders
FLPU002	Critical Infrastructure	Walkers Lookout communication tower	Moderate	Low	Highest	Unlikely	Medium	24		Flinders
FLPU001	Critical Infrastructure	Hays Hill communication tower	Moderate	Low	Highest	Unlikely	Medium	26		Flinders
FLPE006	Human Settlement Area	Lady Barron	Minor	Low	Highest	Unlikely	Low	27		Flinders
FLPE003	Human Settlement Area	Baileys Lane	Insignificant	Very Low	Highest	Unlikely	Low	28		Flinders
FLPE001	Human Settlement Area	Cape Barren Island	Minor	Medium	Highest	Unlikely	Low	28		Flinders
FLPE005	Human Settlement Area	Killiecrankie	Minor	Low	Highest	Unlikely	Low	28		Flinders
FLPE008	Human Settlement Area	Whitemark, Blue Rocks	Minor	Low	Highest	Unlikely	Low	28		Flinders
FLPE002	Human Settlement Area	Emita	Minor	Low	Highest	Rare	Low	30		Flinders
FLPE004	Human Settlement Area	Hays Hill	Minor	Very Low	Highest	Rare	Low	30		Flinders

TERAG code	Asset category	Asset description (risk statement)	Consequence	Controls effectiveness	Confidence	Combined likelihood	Risk level	Priority FMAC	Treatment options	LGA
FLPE007	Human Settlement Area	Palana	Minor	Low	Highest	Very Rare	Very Low	32		Flinders
FLEN001	Natural Value	Cloud, Engaeus, Remnant rainforest	Major	Very Low	Highest	Unlikely	High	11		Flinders
FLEN006	Natural Value	Engaeus, Melaleuca	Major	Very Low	Highest	Unlikely	High	11		Flinders
FLEN002	Natural Value	Cloud, Engaeus	Major	Very Low	Highest	Unlikely	High	13		Flinders
FLEN003	Natural Value	Melaleuca	Moderate	Very Low	Highest	Unlikely	Medium	24		Flinders
FLEN008	Natural Value	Melaleuca	Moderate	Very Low	Highest	Unlikely	Medium	24		Flinders
FLEN012	Natural Value	Melaleuca	Moderate	Very Low	Highest	Unlikely	Medium	24		Flinders
FLEN018	Natural Value	Melaleuca	Moderate	Very Low	Highest	Unlikely	Medium	24		Flinders
FLEN019	Natural Value	Melaleuca	Moderate	Very Low	Highest	Unlikely	Medium	24		Flinders
FLEN004	Natural Value	Melaleuca	Moderate	Very Low	Highest	Unlikely	Medium	26		Flinders
FLEN009	Natural Value	Melaleuca	Moderate	Very Low	Highest	Unlikely	Medium	26		Flinders
FLEN010	Natural Value	Melaleuca	Moderate	Very Low	Highest	Unlikely	Medium	26		Flinders
FLEN011	Natural Value	Melaleuca	Moderate	Very Low	Highest	Unlikely	Medium	26		Flinders
FLEN013	Natural Value	Melaleuca	Moderate	Very Low	Highest	Unlikely	Medium	26		Flinders
FLEN016	Natural Value	Melaleuca	Moderate	Very Low	Highest	Unlikely	Medium	26		Flinders
FLEN017	Natural Value	Melaleuca	Moderate	Very Low	Highest	Unlikely	Medium	26		Flinders
FLEN020	Natural Value	Melaleuca	Moderate	Very Low	Highest	Unlikely	Medium	26		Flinders
FLEN022	Natural Value	Melaleuca	Moderate	Very Low	Highest	Unlikely	Medium	26		Flinders
FLEN005	Natural Value	Melaleuca	Moderate	Very Low	Highest	Rare	Medium	29		Flinders
FLEN014	Natural Value	Melaleuca	Moderate	Very Low	Highest	Rare	Medium	30		Flinders
FLEN015	Natural Value	Melaleuca	Moderate	Very Low	Highest	Rare	Medium	30		Flinders
FLEN007	Natural Value	Melaleuca	Moderate	Very Low	Highest	Rare	Medium	31		Flinders
FLEN021	Natural Value	Melaleuca	Moderate	Very Low	Highest	Very Rare	Low	32		Flinders
FLEN023	Natural Value	Melaleuca	Moderate	Very Low	Highest	Very Rare	Low	32		Flinders
FLEN024	Natural Value	Melaleuca	Moderate	Very Low	Highest	Very Rare	Low	32		Flinders
FLEC001	Production Forest	PC_rad_5t	Moderate	Very Low	Highest	Unlikely	Medium	24		Flinders

Notes

TERAG Code

First and second characters identify the FMAC: CN = Central North; EC = East Coast; FL = Flinders; HO = Hobart; KI = King Island; MI = Midlands; NE = North East; SO = Southern; TA = Tamar; WC = West Coast.

Third and fourth characters identify the Impact Area: EC = Economy; EN = Environment; PE = People; PU = Public Administration; SO = Social setting (exception – all Human Settlement Areas are coded PE for Economy).

A unique identifier is provided by the final three digits.

Asset Description (Risk Statement)

Natural value description is a list of the first word of each mapped natural value included in the cluster, in other words, a shorthand summary. The following table provides a key, although reference to the bushfire biodiversity consequence layer in the LISTmap Common Operating Platform is required to distinguish duplicate descriptors (e.g. Eucalyptus = *Eucalyptus morrisbyi* or *Eucalyptus gunnii ssp divaricata*).

Descriptor	Mapping unit name
Acanthornis	<i>Acanthornis magna greeniana</i> King Island scrub tit
Allanaspides	<i>Allanaspides hickmani</i> Hickman's pygmy mountain shrimp in Buttongrass moorland
Antipodia	<i>Antipodia chaostola</i> Chaostola skipper butterfly
Austrochloritis	<i>Austrochloritis victoriae</i> southern hairy red snail and Lavinia threatened species complex
Bryobatrachus	<i>Bryobatrachus nimbus</i> moss froglet
Castiarina	<i>Castiarina insculpta</i> Miena jewel Beetle
Central	Central Plateau unburnt ecosystem
Central	Central Plateau recovering ecosystem
Cloud	Cloud forest refugia
Coniferous	Coniferous rainforest
cushion	cushion moorland
Discocharopa	<i>Discocharopa vigens</i> ammonite Pinwheel Snail
Engaeus	<i>Engaeus martiniger</i> Furneaux Burrowing Crayfish
Eucalyptus	<i>Eucalyptus morrisbyi</i> Morrisbys gum
Eucalyptus	<i>Eucalyptus gunnii ssp divaricata</i> Miena cider gum
Giant	Giant Trees over 90
Giant	Giant Trees under 90
Highland	Highland coniferous heath
Hoplogonus	<i>Hoplogonus bornemisszai</i> Bornemisszas Stag Beetle
King	King Island <i>Eucalyptus globulus</i> King Island blue gum
Lissotes	<i>Lissotes latidens</i> Broad toothed stag beetle
Lomatia	<i>Lomatia tasmanica</i> King's lomatia
Neophema	<i>Neophema chrysogaster</i> orange bellied parrot
Nothofagus	<i>Nothofagus gunnii</i> deciduous beech
Palaeo	Palaeo endemic species catastrophic
Palaeo	Palaeo endemic species major
Phebalium	<i>Phebalium daviesii</i> Davies wax flower
Pherosphaera	<i>Pherosphaera hookeriana</i> drooping pine
Pneumatopteris	<i>Pneumatopteris pennigera</i> lime fern
Regenerating	Regenerating rainforest large patches
Remnant	Remnant rainforest
Sphagnum	Sphagnum
Tetratheca	<i>Tetratheca gunnii</i> shy pinkbells
TWWHA	TWWHA Very Tall Forest over 70 refugia
Melaleuca	<i>Melaleuca ericifolia</i> swamp forest
Notelaea	<i>Notelaea Pomaderris Beyeria</i> forest
Oreisplanus	<i>Oreisplanus munionga larana</i> Marrawah skipper butterfly
Oreixenica	<i>Oreixenica ptunarra</i> ptunarra brown butterfly
Palaeo	Palaeo endemic species moderate
Tasmanian	Tasmanian devil facilities
TWWHA	TWWHA Very Tall Forest over 70

Priority FMAC

The priority FMAC column has been calculated based on risk ratings and likelihood calculated across the entire state for all assets and values considered together. Therefore some numbers may be missing and it is the rank order that is relevant.

Appendix 2: Treatment plan

Notes at the end of the risk register provide explanation for the TERAG code, Asset description and Priority FMAC columns.

TERAG code	Asset description (risk statement)	Priority FMAC	Treatment number	Treatment category	Treatment action detail	Bushfire management zone	Responsible organisation	Completion date proposed	Comment
FLPU003	Mount Tanner communication tower	24	1	Fuel reduction	Continue with fuel reduction program	APZ	TFS, consult PWS	ongoing	Local Mitigation Plan to follow if strategic assessment deems it necessary
FLPU002	Walkers Lookout communication tower	24	2	Fuel reduction	Development of Flinders Island Strategic Mitigation Plan	APZ	TFS, consult PWS	1/10/2021	
FLPU001	Hays Hill communication tower	26	2	Fuel reduction	Development of Flinders Island Strategic Mitigation Plan	APZ	TFS, consult PWS	1/10/2021	
FLPE006	Lady Barron	27	2	Fuel reduction	Development of Flinders Island Strategic Mitigation Plan		TFS, consult PWS	1/10/2021	Local Mitigation Plan to follow if strategic assessment deems it necessary. Existing Mitigation Plan could be basis for local strategy. Speak further to PWS re potential burns/breaks
FLPE006	Lady Barron	27	3	Fuel reduction	Continue with fuel reduction program	APZ	TFS	ongoing	Continue existing burn program subject to appropriate opportunities, weather and resources
FLPE006	Lady Barron	27	4	Fuel reduction	Establish and maintain Asset Protection Zones around Taswater assets	AZ	TasWater	ongoing	
FLPE006	Lady Barron	27	5	Fuel reduction	Investigate mitigation options for waste station site	AZ	Finders Council	ongoing	
FLPE006	Lady Barron	27	6	Preparedness	Review Lady Barron Response Plan		TFS	1/04/2023	
FLPE003	Baileys Lane	28	7	Accept risk	Monitor and review		DHHS	ongoing	School may wish to consider protection of water tanks

TERAG code	Asset description (risk statement)	Priority FMAC	Treatment number	Treatment category	Treatment action detail	Bushfire management zone	Responsible organisation	Completion date proposed	Comment
FLPE001	Cape Barren Island	28	8	Fuel reduction	Review truwana/Cape Barren Island Mitigation Plan	SFMZ	TFS	1/10/2021	Existing Mitigation Plan due for review
FLPE001	Cape Barren Island	28	9	Fuel reduction	Continuation of fuel break maintenance	APZ	CBIAA	ongoing	Continue with fuel breaks as identified in existing Mitigation Plan
FLPE001	Cape Barren Island	28	10	Fuel reduction	Establish and maintain Asset Protection Zones around Taswater assets	AZ	TasWater	ongoing	As per existing Mitigation Plan
FLPE005	Killiecrankie	28	2	Fuel reduction	Development of Flinders Island Strategic Mitigation Plan		TFS, consult PWS	1/10/2021	Local Mitigation Plan to follow if strategic assessment deems it necessary.
FLPE005	Killiecrankie	28	11	Fuel reduction	Continue with fuel reduction program	SFMZ	TFS/PWS	ongoing	Continue existing burn program subject to appropriate opportunities, weather and resources
FLPE005	Killiecrankie	28	12	Preparedness	Review Killiecrankie Area Response Plan		TFS	1/10/2022	
FLPE008	Whitemark, Blue Rocks	28	2	Fuel reduction	Development of Flinders Island Strategic Mitigation Plan		TFS, consult PWS	1/10/2021	Local Mitigation Plan to follow if strategic assessment deems it necessary.
FLPE008	Whitemark, Blue Rocks	28	13	Fuel reduction	Continue with fuel reduction program	APZ	TFS		Continue existing burn program subject to appropriate opportunities, weather and resources
FLPE008	Whitemark, Blue Rocks	28	14	Preparedness	Review Whitemark Response Plan		TFS	1/04/2022	
FLPE002	Emita	30	2	Fuel reduction	Development of Flinders Island Strategic Mitigation Plan		PWS, TFS	1/10/2021	Local Mitigation Plan to follow if strategic assessment deems it necessary. PWS to develop mitigation options for Emita including to east of settlement.

TERAG code	Asset description (risk statement)	Priority FMAC	Treatment number	Treatment category	Treatment action detail	Bushfire management zone	Responsible organisation	Completion date proposed	Comment
FLPE002	Emita	30	15	Preparedness	Review Emita Response Plan		TFS		
FLPE004	Hays Hill	30	2	Fuel reduction	Development of Flinders Island Strategic Mitigation Plan		TFS, consult PWS	1/10/2021	Local Mitigation Plan to follow if strategic assessment deems it necessary.
FLPE004	Hays Hill	30	16	Fuel reduction	Investigate protection of critical infrastructure and ongoing maintenance of power station	AZ	Hydro	ongoing	Assess values at risk, determine what mitigation activities are appropriate
FLPE004	Hays Hill	30	17	Fuel reduction	Investigate options for waste station site	AZ	Flinders Council	ongoing	Previous plan refers to 'removal, other...'
FLPE004	Hays Hill	30	18	Fuel reduction	Establish and maintain Asset Protection Zones around Taswater assets	AZ	TasWater	ongoing	
FLPE007	Palana	32	19	Accept risk	Monitor and review		TFS	ongoing	Palana represents a lower risk than other HSAs at this time. Monitor and review during the life of this plan.

Appendix 3: Bushfire Management Zones

Zone	Primary purpose	General location	Risk treatments
Asset Zone (AZ)	To identify assets and values requiring bushfire exclusion.	The physical boundary of the asset.	Building design elements such as: fire-resistant materials, ember proofing, sprinklers, water storage etc. Response plans.
Asset Protection Zone (APZ)	To protect human life, property and highly valued assets and values.	Adjacent to Asset Zones or elements in the landscape that can be used to this effect. Width determined by characteristics of the asset and the bushfire hazard (effective slope, vegetation type). This zone may encompass multiple land tenures.	Intensive bushfire fuel treatment around specific assets and the urban–rural interface to provide a fuel reduced buffer. May include both burning and mechanical fuel reduction. Includes Hazard Management Areas. Manipulation of fuel moisture (e.g. sprinklers), response plans.
Strategic Fire Management Zone (SFMZ)	To provide areas of reduced fuel in strategic locations, to reduce the: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • speed and intensity of bushfires • potential for spot-fire development • size of bushfires. To aid containment of bushfires.	Located close to or some distance away from assets (e.g. the urban–rural interface). Identified fire paths inform the location and delineation of the zone.	Fuel reduction burning, including broad-scale fuel treatment. Management should aim to achieve mosaic fuel reduction patterns. Fire intervals and intensity generally do not exceed ecological thresholds. Other bushfire protection measures to assist bushfire control: fire trails, water points, detection measures, response plans.
Land Management Zone (LMZ)	To meet the objectives of the relevant land manager such as: Traditional Owner practices, biodiversity conservation, production forestry, farming, research or recreation.	Any bushland areas outside the above zones.	Various, but can include planned burning, experimental treatments, fire exclusion or no planned action.

Appendix 4: Strategic Fire Trails

Fire trail name	Location description	Responsible organisation	Standard	Strategic purpose
Darling Range Strategic Fire Trail	Darling Range	PWS	Class 5	Access

Appendix 5: Current implementation plans

Current Bushfire Mitigation Plans

Plan owner	Plan title	Year	Treatment numbers
TFS	Community Bushfire Mitigation Plan truwana/Cape Barren (including water reservoir)	2015	1
TFS	Community Bushfire Mitigation Plan Lady Barron	2015	4

Current Bushfire Response Plans

Plan owner	Plan title	Year	Treatment numbers
TFS	Community Bushfire Response Plan Palana	2014	N/A
TFS	Community Bushfire Response Plan Killiecrankie Area (including West End and Leeka)	2014	10
TFS	Community Bushfire Response Plan Emita Area (including Lughrata)	2014	5
TFS	Community Bushfire Response Plan Whitemark Area (including Blue Rocks and Long Point)	2014	18
TFS	Community Bushfire Response Plan Lady Barron (including Badger Corner)	2014	15

Current Bushfire Protection Plans

Plan owner	Plan title	Year	Treatment numbers
TFS	Community Bushfire Protection Plan Palana	2014	
TFS	Community Bushfire Protection Plan Killiecrankie Area (including West End and Leeka)	2014	
TFS	Community Bushfire Protection Plan Emita Area (including Lughrata)	2014	
TFS	Community Bushfire Protection Plan Whitemark Area (including Blue Rocks and Long Point)	2014	
TFS	Community Bushfire Protection Plan Lady Barron (including Badger Corner)	2014	

Other

Plan owner	Plan title	Year	Treatment numbers
PWS	Northern Region Strategic Fire Management Plan	2009	
PWS	Fire Action Plan	Annual	

Maps

All maps are published on LISTmap; Maps 3, 4 and 5 are not published in the BRMP because they include too much detail to be seen on an A4 map.

To view a map in LISTmap, follow these instructions:

1. Click on the hyperlink, for example:

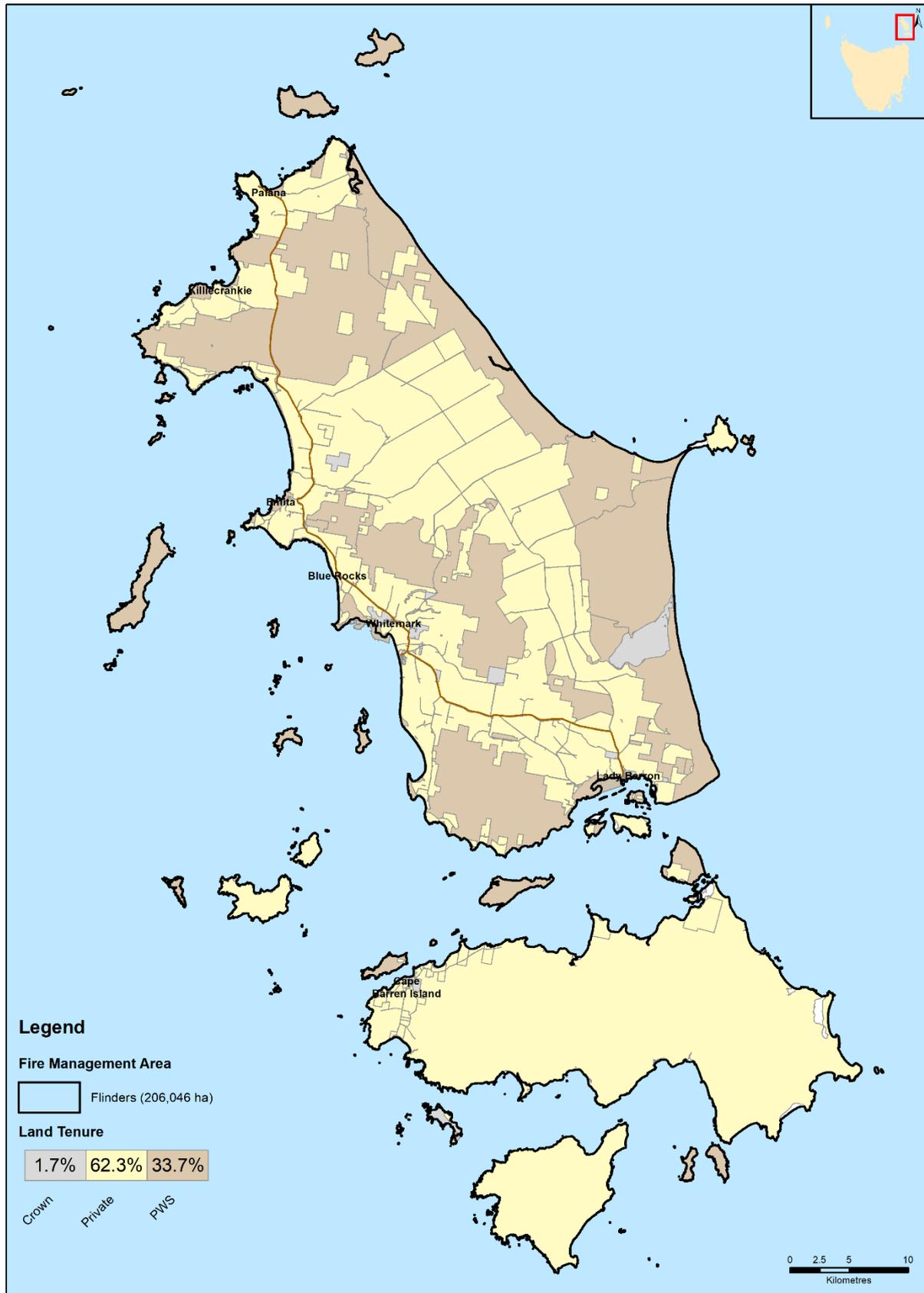
<https://maps.thelist.tas.gov.au/listmap/app/list/map?bookmarkId=605824>

2. To view the legend, click on the Layers tab on the right side of the map window. The layers in the map each have a legend which can be viewed by clicking on the arrow at the left of the item in the Layers window.
3. To zoom in or out of the map, click on the Tools tab on the left side of the map window, then click on Map Tools – a tool bar will appear with zoom in and out icons. If using a mouse with a wheel, zoom in and out by rolling the wheel.
4. Move around on the screen by clicking on the screen, holding the button, and dragging.
5. To find out more information on a map item or location, click on the map once and an 'Identify Results' box will appear with details on all layers for that point. Click on the arrows at the left side of this list to view more information.

Map 1: Flinders Fire Management Area location

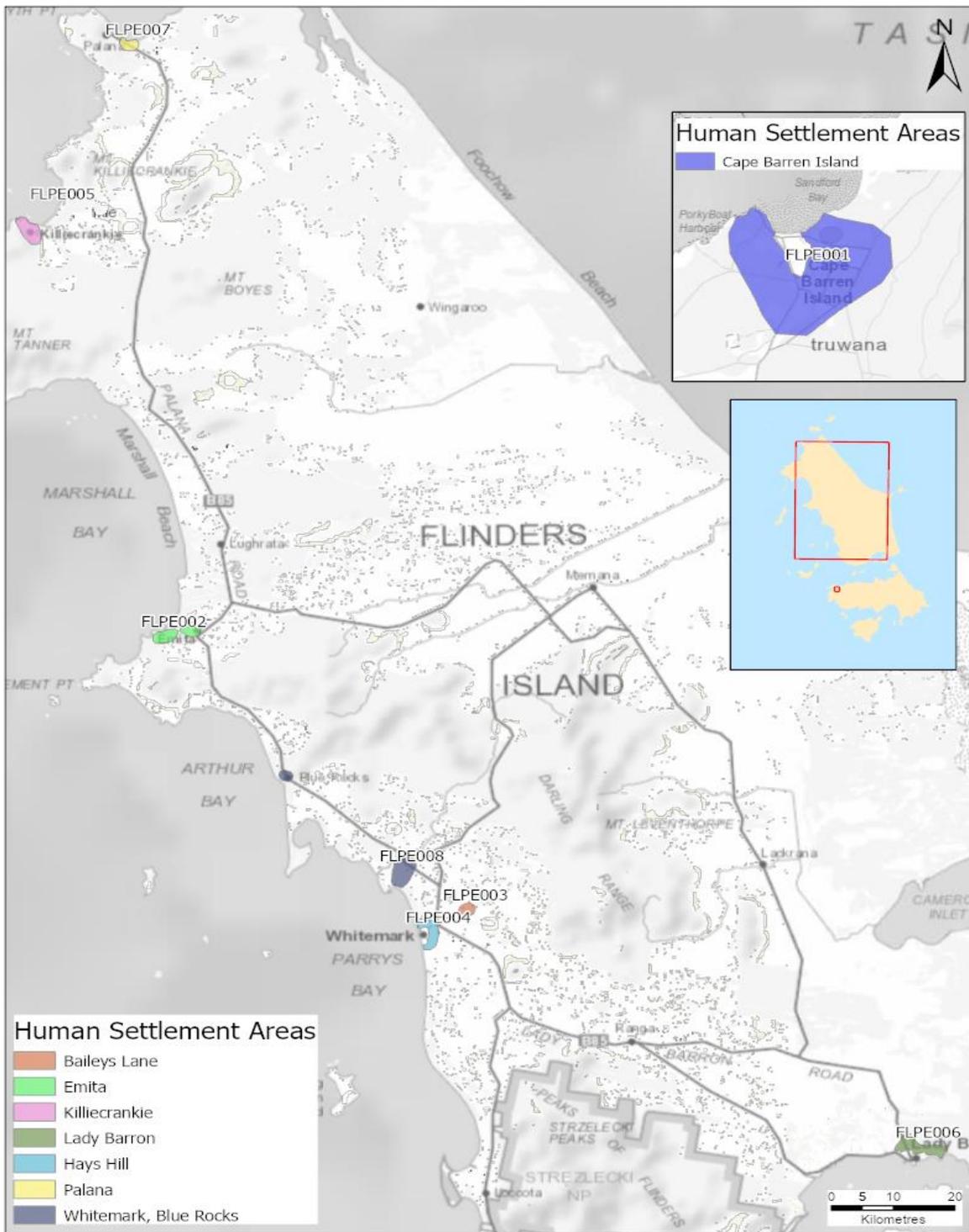


Map 2: Tenure summary map for Flinders Fire Management Area

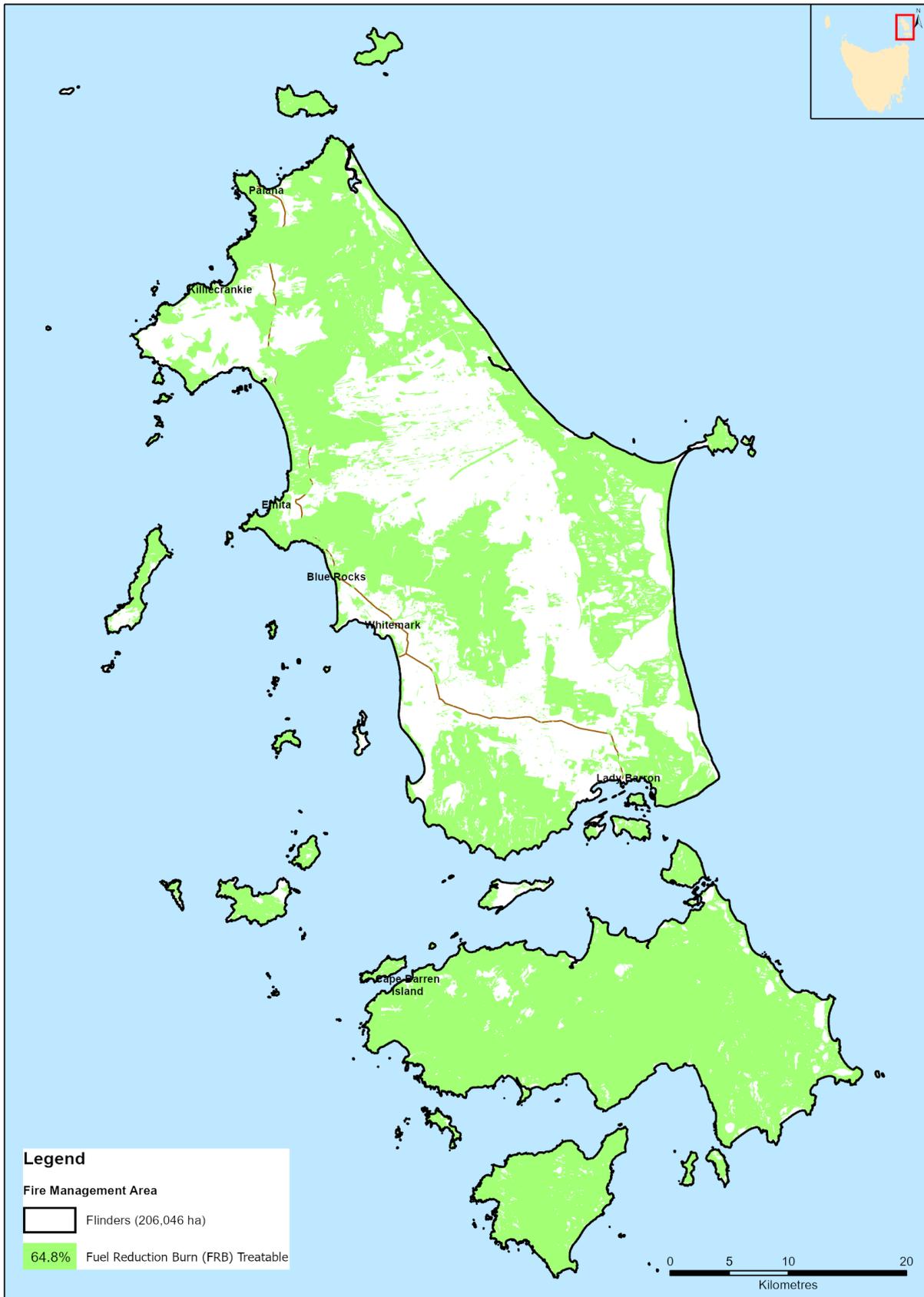


Map 3: Assets and values from the risk register for Flinders Fire Management Area

An example of the assets and values from the risk register in the human settlement areas of the Flinders FMA. The full map covering the entire FMA is published on LISTmap – [click here to go to this link](#).



Map 4: Fuel treatability for Flinders Fire Management Area



Map 5: Vegetation for Flinders Fire Management Area

