

**Bushfire Management Plan and Site Details** 



# **Bushfire Management Plan Coversheet**

This Coversheet and accompanying Bushfire Management Plan has been prepared and issued by a person accredited by Fire Protection Association Australia under the Bushfire Planning and Design (BPAD) Accreditation Scheme.

Site Address / Plan Reference:	Lot 202, 203, 204 and 205 V	Vandena Road				
Suburb: Muchea			Sta	ate: WA	P/co	ode: 6030
Local government area: Shire o	of Chittering					
Description of the planning prop	oosal: Rezoning application	on				
BMP Plan / Reference Number:	14138	Version: v1		Date	of Issue: 20/1	0/20
Client / Business Name: Bayley	Environmental Services					
Reason for referral to DFE	S				Yes	No
Has the BAL been calculated by a been used to calculate the BAL)?		d 1 as outlined in AS3959 (ti	ck no if AS3959 met	thod 1 has		Ø
Have any of the bushfire protecti no if only acceptable solutions ha			a performance prin	nciple (tick		
Is the proposal any of the follow	ving special development ty	pes (see SPP 3.7 for definiti	ions)?			
Unavoidable development (in BA	AL-40 or BAL-FZ)					Ø
Strategic planning proposal (inclu	uding rezoning applications)					$\square$
Minor development (in BAL-40 o	r BAL-FZ)					$\square$
High risk land-use						
Vulnerable land-use						
If the development is a special classifications (E.g. considered v					one of the a	above listed
Note: The decision maker (e.g. labove answers are ticked "Yes".			proposal to DFES f	or comme	nt if one (or r	more) of the
BPAD Accredited Practition	ner Details and Declar	ation				
Name Alex Aitken		Accreditation Level Level 2	Accreditation No 37739		Accreditation November 2	
<b>Company</b> Eco Logical Australia			<b>Contact No</b> . 08 6218 2200			
I declare that the information provided within this bushfire management plan is to the best of my knowledge true and correct						
Signature of Practitioner	Ol_		Date	20-Oct-20	)	

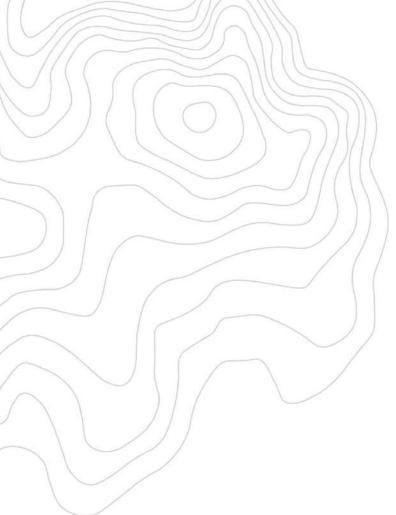


Bushfire Management Plan:

Rezoning Application: Lots 202-205 Wandena Road,

Muchea

# **Bayley Environmental Services**







#### **DOCUMENT TRACKING**

Project Name	Bushfire Management Plan: Rezoning Application: Lots 202-205 Wandena Road, Muchea
Project Number	19PER-14138
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Template 2.8.1

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#### 1. Introduction

#### 1.1 Proposal details

Eco Logical Australia (ELA) was commissioned by Bayley Environmental Services to prepare a Bushfire Management Plan (BMP) to support a rezoning application for Lots 202 and 203 Wandena Road and Lots 8 and 100 Great Northern Highway, Muchea (hereafter referred to as the subject site, Figure 1). The subject site is currently zoned as 'Agricultural Resource' under the local planning scheme and is proposed to be zoned as 'Industrial Development'.

The subject site is within a designated bushfire prone area as per the *Western Australia State Map of Bush Fire Prone Areas* (DFES 2019; Figure 2), which triggers bushfire planning requirements *under State Planning Policy 3.7 Planning in Bushfire Prone Areas* (SPP 3.7; Western Australian Planning Commission (WAPC) 2015) and reporting to accompany submission of the development application in accordance with the associated *Guidelines for Planning in Bushfire Prone Areas v 1.3* (the Guidelines; WAPC 2017).

The subject site is part of Precinct 2 within the Muchea Industrial Park being developed by the Shire of Chittering, with assistance from State and Federal Governments.

This assessment has been prepared by ELA Senior Bushfire Consultant Alex Aitken (FPAA BPAD Level 2 Certified Practitioner No. BPAD37739) with quality assurance undertaken by Principal Bushfire Consultant Daniel Panickar (FPAA BPAD Level 3 Certified Practitioner No. BPAD37802).

#### 1.2 Purpose and application of the plan

The primary purpose of this BMP is to act as a technical supporting document to inform planning assessment. This BMP is also designed to provide guidance on how to plan for and manage the bushfire risk to the subject site through implementation of a range of bushfire management measures in accordance with the Guidelines.

#### 1.3 Environmental considerations

SPP 3.7 policy objective 5.4 recognises the need to consider bushfire risk management measures alongside environmental, biodiversity and conservation values.

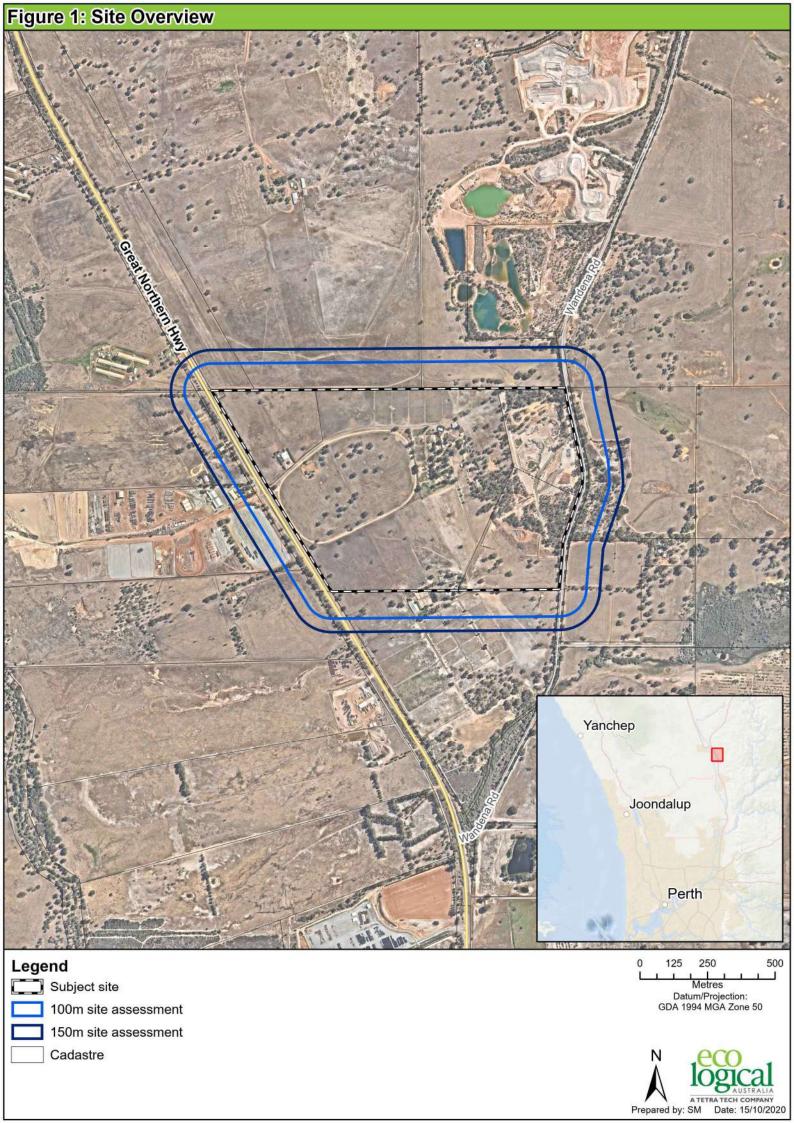
The subject site has been subject to extensive historical clearing for agricultural operations with the majority of the subject site being utilised as a horse stud.

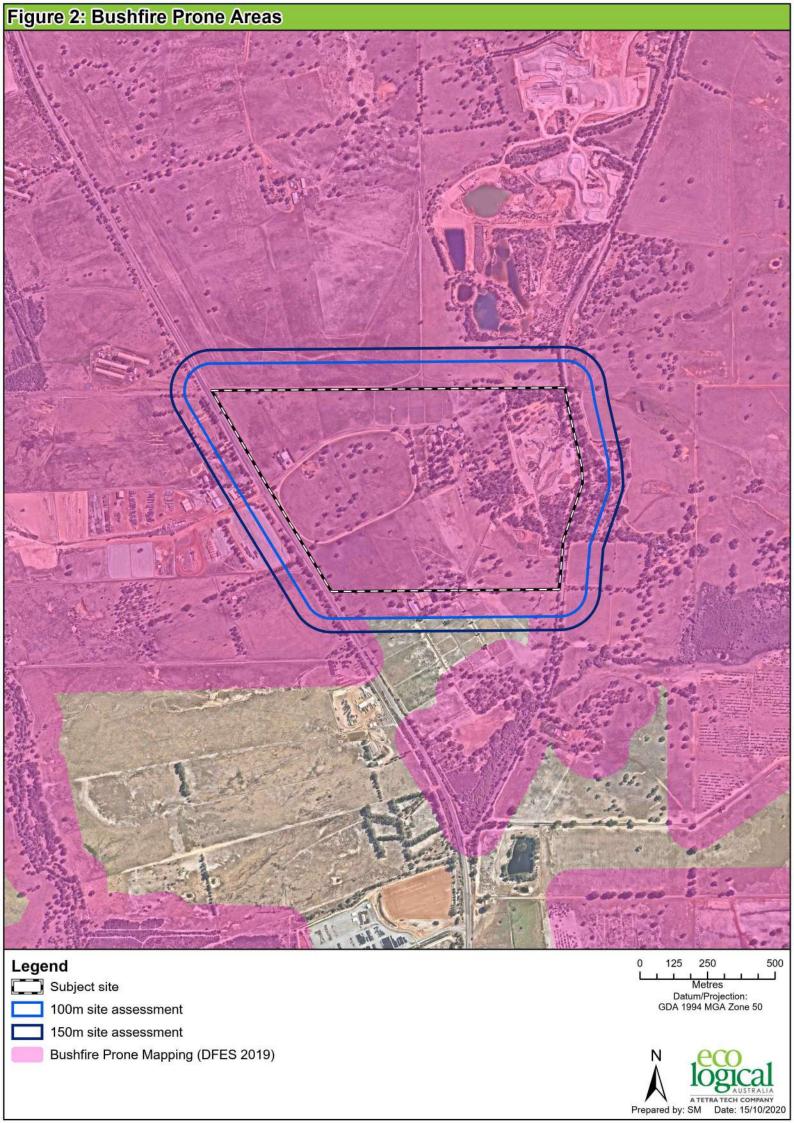
Any clearing (including re-clearing) of native vegetation and/or non-native vegetation providing habitat for Matters of National Environmental Significance onsite may require consultation with State and Commonwealth Government environmental agencies and subsequent approvals prior to development commencing.

At this stage of planning, there is a proposal to revegetate a 10 m wide strip of vegetation adjacent to Wandena Road (Figure 6). If changes to this proposed revegetation and/or additional revegetation or landscaping is to occur as part of development, these elements will be addressed in future BMPs.

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#### 2. Bushfire assessment results

#### 2.1 Bushfire assessment inputs

The following section is a consideration of spatial bushfire risk and has been used to inform the bushfire assessment in this report.

#### 2.1.1 Fire Danger Index

A blanket rating of FDI 80 is adopted for Western Australia, as outlined in Australian Standard (AS) 3959–2018 and endorsed by Australasian Fire and Emergency Service Authorities Council (AFAC).

#### 2.1.2 Vegetation classification

Vegetation within the subject site and surrounding 150 m (the assessment area) was assessed in accordance with the Guidelines and AS 3959-2018 Construction of Buildings in Bushfire Prone Areas (SA 2018) with regard given to the Visual guide for bushfire risk assessment in Western Australia (DoP 2016). Site assessment was undertaken on 29 October 2019.

The classified vegetation for the site from each of the identified vegetation plots are identified below, Table 1 and Figure 3.

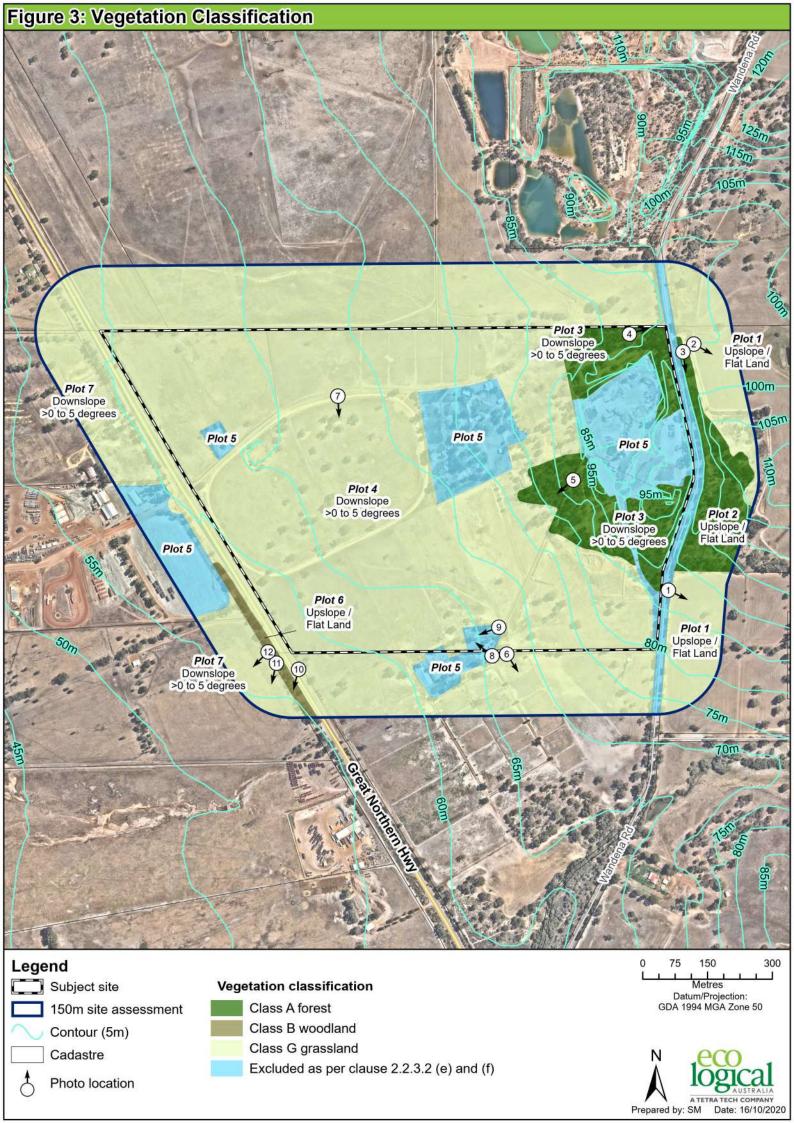
Table 1: Classified vegetation as per AS 3959-2018

Plot	Vegetation Classification	Effective Slope
1	Class G Grassland	All upslopes and flat land (0 degrees)
2	Class A Forest	All upslopes and flat land (0 degrees)
3	Class A Forest	Downslope >0 to 5 degrees
4	Class G Grassland	Downslope >0 to 5 degrees
5	Excluded AS 3959-2018 2.2.3.2 (e & f)	-
6	Class B Woodland	All upslopes and flat land (0 degrees)
7	Class G Grassland	Downslope >0 to 5 degrees

Photographs relating to each area and vegetation type are included in Appendix A.

#### 2.1.3 Topography and slope under vegetation

Effective slope under vegetation was assessed for a distance of 150 m from the subject site in accordance with the Guidelines and AS 3959-2018 and is depicted in Figure 3. Slope under classified vegetation was assessed and is shown in Table 1.



#### 2.2 Bushfire assessment outputs

A bushfire hazard level (BHL) assessment has been undertake in accordance with SPP 3.7, the guidelines, AS 3959-2018 and the bushfire assessment inputs in Section 2.1.

#### 2.2.1 Bushfire hazard level (BHL) assessment

All land located within 150 m of the site has been classified as per AS3959-2018 as shown in Figure 3. These vegetation classifications have been combined with slope under the classified vegetation to define the BHL as per the methodology indicated within the Guidelines. In addition, all land within 100 m of Extreme and Moderate BHLs has also been mapped as a Moderate hazard as per the Guidelines.

The BHL provides an indication of potential bushfire impact on the subject site by providing a likely intensity based on the classified vegetation.

Table 2 and Figure 4 display the BHL assessment that has been completed for the proposed rezoning in accordance with the Guidelines and AS 3959-2018 methodology.

Clearing will be undertaken within the subject site for development purposes, and consequently the pre-development BHLs are subject to change. A post-development BHL assessment is provided in Table 2 and Figure 5 which takes into account the assumption that the entire subject site will be managed in a low threat state as per the Guidelines and AS3959-2018 with the exception of a proposed 10 m revegetated strip of classified vegetation along Wandena Road. The revegetated strip of vegetation has been classified as Class A-Forest based on the precautionary principle and may change at future planning stages due to further definition of the proposed revegetation.

Table 2: BHL assessment

Plot and vegetation classification	Effective slope	BHL rating Pre-Development	BHL rating Post- Development
Plot 1- Class G Grassland	All upslopes and flat land (0 degrees)	Moderate	Moderate
Plot 2- Class A Forest	All upslopes and flat land (0 degrees)	Extreme	Extreme
Plot 3 - Class A Forest	Downslope >0 to 5 degrees	Extreme	Low
Plot 4- Class G Grassland	Downslope >0 to 5 degrees	Moderate	Low
Plot 5- Excluded AS 3959-2018 2.2.3.2 (e)	-	Low	Low
Plot 6- Class B Woodland	All upslopes and flat land (0 degrees)	Extreme	Extreme
Plot 7- Class G Grassland	Downslope >0 to 5 degrees	Moderate	Moderate

#### 2.3 Identification of issues arising from the BHL assessment

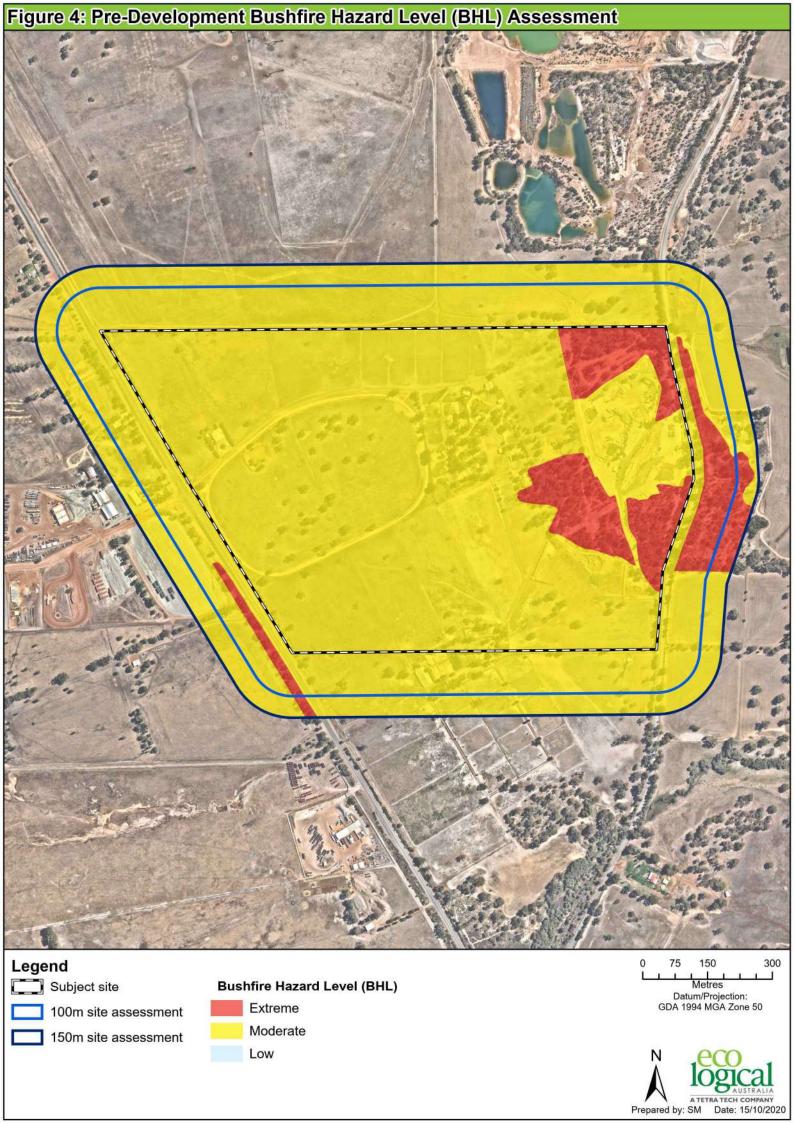
Should there be any changes in development design or vegetation/hazard extent that requires a modified bushfire management response, then the above BHL ratings will need to be reassessed for the affected areas and documented in a brief addendum to this BMP.

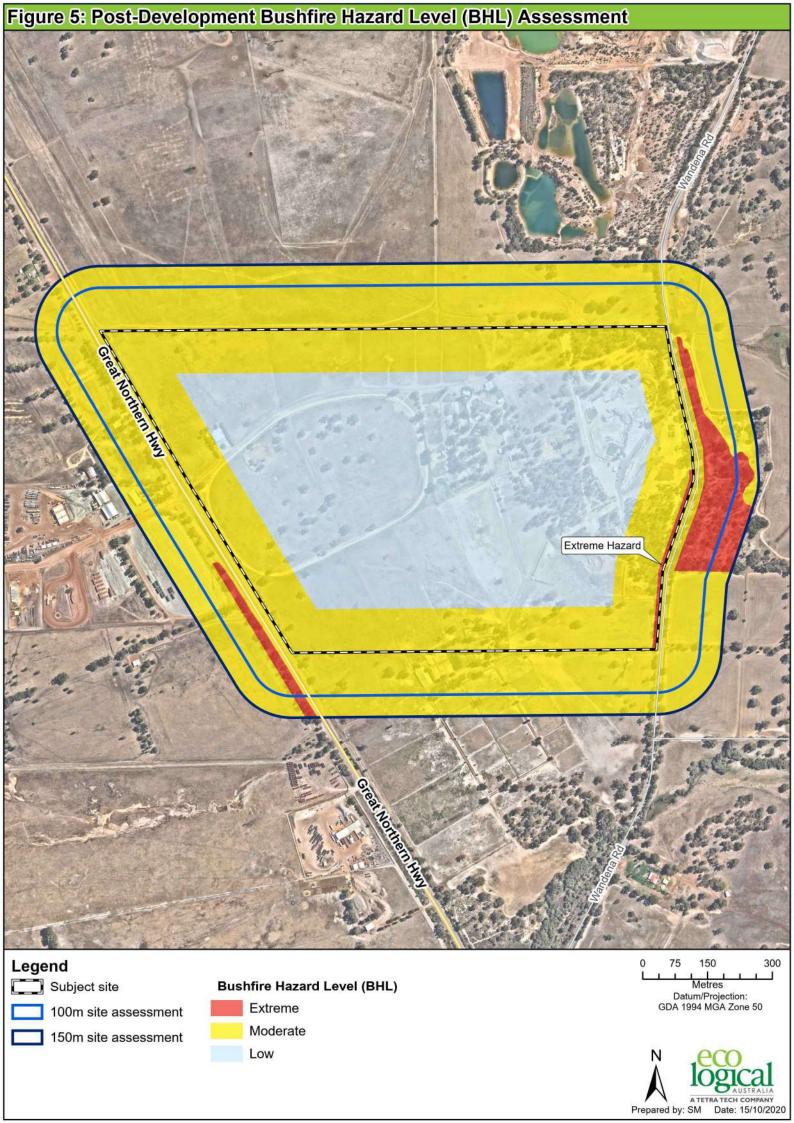
The on-site vegetation extent is proposed to be cleared to enable development of an industrial zone amongst areas of landscaped/managed Public Open Space (POS) and various easements. Therefore, for the purposes of strategic level planning, ELA does not consider the current on-site vegetation extent to

be a bushfire hazard issue post-development, since these hazards can be managed through a staged clearing process, adequate separation of future built assets from classified vegetation (both external and internal [e.g. retained vegetation] to the subject site), and ongoing fuel management that can be undertaken in and around individual development stages.

On the basis of the above information, ELA considers that the bushfire hazards within and adjacent to the subject site and the associated bushfire risk is readily manageable through standard management responses and compliance with acceptable solutions outlined in the Guidelines. These management measures will need to be factored into the development design as early as possible to ensure a suitable, compliant and effective bushfire management outcome is achieved to ensure protection of future life and property assets.

Demonstration of compliance with the relevant requirements of SPP 3.7, the Guidelines and AS3959-2018 at future planning stages will also depend on the developer's ability to coordinate the timing and staging of clearing and development works within the subject site with the aim of avoiding bushfire impacts from temporary, retained vegetation.





### 3. Assessment against the Bushfire Protection Criteria

#### 3.1 Compliance

The proposed rezoning is required to comply with policy measures 6.2 and 6.3 of SPP 3.7 and the Guidelines. Implementation of this BMP is expected to meet objectives 5.1-5.4 of SPP 3.7.

In response to the above requirements of SPP 3.7 and the Guidelines, bushfire risk management measures, as outlined, have been devised for the proposed rezoning in accordance with the Guideline acceptable solutions to meet compliance with bushfire protection criteria.

Table 3 outlines the Acceptable Solutions (AS) that are relevant to the proposal and summaries how the intent of each Bushfire Protection Criteria has been achieved. No Performance Solutions (PS) have been proposed for this proposal. These management measures are depicted in Figure 6 where relevant.

Table 3: Summary of solutions used to achieve bushfire protection criteria

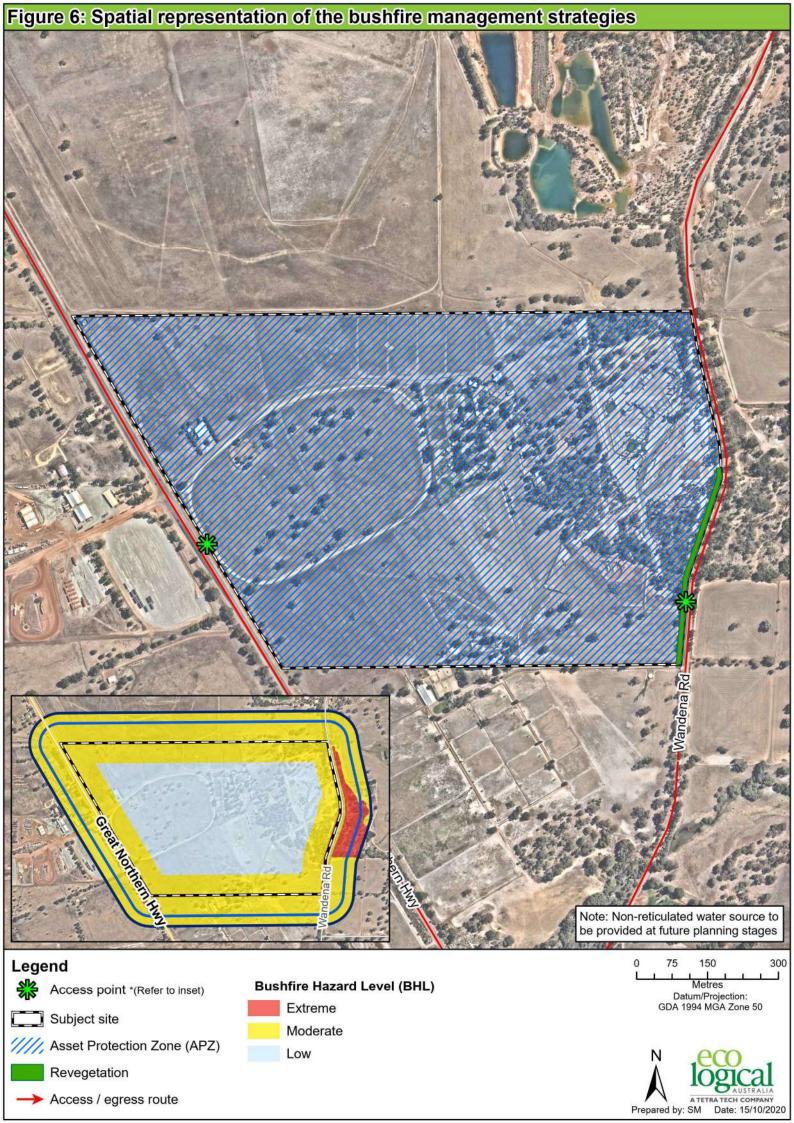
Bushfire Protection Criteria	AS	PS	N/A	Comment
Element 1: Location A1.1 Development location	$\boxtimes$			Post-development, the subject site will be located in an area subject to BHLs of Low and Moderate with a minor portion of Extreme hazard associated with the revegetation proposed. (Figure 5; Figure 6). This area will be separated from future buildings to ensure that they will be subject to BAL ratings of BAL-29 or lower.  The proposed rezoning is considered to be compliant with A1.1.
Element 2: Siting and design of development A2.1 Asset Protection Zone (APZ)				As the lot layout is currently unconfirmed, APZs are unable to be prescribed at this level of planning. APZs will be defined in BMPs supporting future planning applications (subdivision) to ensure that all future lots will be subject to a BAL rating of BAL-29 or lower. Figure 6 demonstrates that the majority of the subject site will be subject to BHLs of Moderate or Low and ELA expects that APZs will be able to be accommodated within road reserves, maintained Public Open Space areas etc.  The proposed rezoning is considered to be compliant with A2.1.
Element 3: Vehicular access A3.1 Two access routes	$\boxtimes$			There are currently two access routes from the subject site being north/south on Great Northern Highway and Wandena Road (Figure 6).  BMPs supporting future planning applications (subdivision) will provide greater detail on road networks and ensure that all stages of development are provide with two forms of access at all times where relevant and possible.

Bushfire Protection Criteria	AS	PS	N/A	Comment
				The proposed development is considered to be compliant with A3.1.
A3.2 Public road				All future public roads will be designed and constructed to comply with the Guidelines (Appendix C).
				BMPs supporting future planning applications (subdivisions) will address this element in greater detail.
				The proposed development is considered to be compliant with A3.2.
A3.3 Cul-de-sac				At this stage, no cul-de-sacs are proposed to be constructed within the subject site.
A3.4 Battle-axe				At this stage, no battle-axe lots are proposed within the subject site.
A3.5 Private Driveway longer than 50 m				At this stage, no private driveways longer than 50 m are proposed to be constructed within the subject site.
A3.6 Emergency Access way				At this stage, no emergency access ways are proposed to be constructed.
A3.7 Fire-service access routes			$\boxtimes$	At this stage, no fire service access routes are proposed to be constructed.
A3.8 Firebreak width				The subject site will be managed in accordance with the Shire of Chittering Firebreak & Bushfire Hazard Reduction Notice.
				BMPs supporting future planning applications (subdivisions) will address this element in greater detail.
				The proposed development is considered to be compliant with A3.8.
Element 4: Water A4.1 Reticulated areas			$\boxtimes$	The subject site is not connected to a reticulated water supply.  Reticulated water is not present within the area.
A4.2 Non-Reticulated areas				No reticulated water is currently available to the subject site. Future planning stages will ensure that a firefighting water supply will be provided in accordance with the Guidelines.
				The proposed development is considered to be compliant with A4.2.
A4.3 Individual Lots within non-reticulated areas			$\boxtimes$	It is unlikely that a development proposal for the subject site will result in the construction of one additional lot.

NOTE – AS- ACCEPTABLE SOLUTION, PS- PERFORMANCE SOLUTION, N/A- NOT APPLICABLE

#### 3.2 Additional Bushfire Requirements

Future demonstration of compliance with the relevant requirements of SPP 3.7, the Guidelines and AS3959-2018 will depend on the developer's ability to coordinate the timing of development works within the subject site. Updated BMPs will be prepared to support subsequent planning applications where relevant and will contain re-assessments of bushfire risk including Bushfire Attack Level assessments etc.



## 4. Implementation and enforcement

Implementation of the BMP applies to the developer, the Shire of Chittering, and future landowners to ensure bushfire management measures are adopted and implemented on an ongoing basis. This BMP has been prepared as a strategic guide to demonstrate how development compliance will be delivered at future planning stages in accordance with the Guidelines. In this respect, management measures documented in Section 3, where applicable, will be incorporated into development design as early as possible and confirmed through Structure Plan and subdivision design. Therefore, aside from the revision of this BMP or preparation of a BMP addendum to accompany future subdivision applications, there are no further items to implement, enforce or review at this stage of the planning process.

The revised BMPs or addendums to this BMP are required to meet the relevant commitments outlined in this strategic level BMP, address the relevant requirements of SPP 3.7 (i.e. Policy Measure 6.4) and demonstrate in detail how the proposed development will incorporate the relevant acceptable solutions to meet the performance requirements of the Guidelines.

### 5. Conclusion

In the author's professional opinion, the bushfire protection requirements listed in this assessment provide an adequate standard of bushfire protection for the proposed rezoning. As such, the proposed rezoning is consistent with the aim and objectives of SPP 3.7 and associated guidelines and is recommended for approval.

#### 6. References

Department of Fire and Emergency Services, 2019, *Map of Bush Fire Prone Areas, [Online]*, Government of Western Australia, available from: http://www.dfes.wa.gov.au/regulationandcompliance/bushfireproneareas/Pages/default.aspx

Department of Planning (DoP), 2016, Visual guide for bushfire risk assessment in Western Australia. DoP, Perth.

Shire of Chittering. 2020. Shire of Chittering Firebreak & Bushfire Hazard Reduction Notice.

Standards Australia, 2018, *Construction of buildings in bushfire-prone areas, AS 3959-2018*. SAI Global, Sydney.

Western Australian Planning Commission, 2015, *State Planning Policy 3.7 Planning in Bushfire Prone Areas*. WAPC, Perth.

Western Australian Planning Commission, 2017, *Guidelines for Planning in Bushfire Prone Areas Version* 1.3 (including appendices), WAPC, Perth.

Western Australian Planning Commission, 2019, A guide to developing a Bushfire Emergency Evacuation Plan, October 2019.

# Appendix A – Classified Vegetation Photos



Class G Grassland



Class G Grassland

1



Photo represents the northern end of vegetation area where understorey vegetation is thinner.

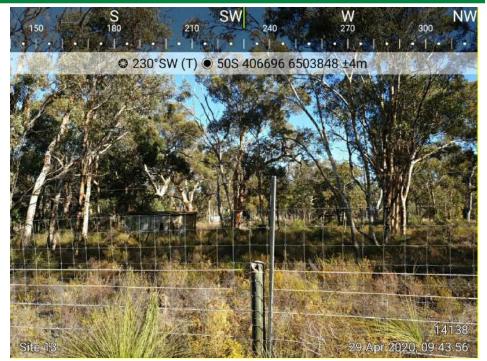
Class A Forest



Class A Forest

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Class A Forest



Class G Grassland

5

3



Class G Grassland



Excluded AS 3959-2018 2.2.3.2 (e)



Excluded AS 3959-2018 2.2.3.2 (e)



Class B Woodland

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6







Class G Grassland

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### Appendix B – Standards for Asset Protection Zones

The following standards have been extracted from the *Guidelines for Planning in Bushfire Prone Areas* v 1.3 (WAPC 2017).

Every habitable building is to be surrounded by, and every proposed lot can achieve, an APZ depicted on submitted plans, which meets the following requirements:

- **a. Width:** Measured from any external wall or supporting post or column of the proposed building, and of sufficient size to ensure the potential radiant heat impact of a fire does not exceed 29kW/m² (BAL-29) in all circumstances.
- **b. Location:** the APZ should be contained solely within the boundaries of the lot on which a building is situated, except in instances where the neighbouring lot or lots will be managed in a low-fuel state on an ongoing basis, in perpetuity (see explanatory notes).
- **c. Management:** the APZ is managed in accordance with the requirements of 'Standards for Asset Protection Zones' (below):
  - Fences: within the APZ are constructed from non-combustible materials (e.g. iron, brick, limestone, metal post and wire). It is recommended that solid or slatted non-combustible perimeter fences are used
  - Objects: within 10 metres of a building, combustible objects must not be located close to the vulnerable parts of the building i.e. windows and doors
  - Fine Fuel load: combustible dead vegetation matter less than 6 millimetres in thickness reduced to and maintained at an average of two tonnes per hectare
  - Trees (> 5 metres in height): trunks at maturity should be a minimum distance of 6 metres from
    all elevations of the building, branches at maturity should not touch or overhang the building,
    lower branches should be removed to a height of 2 metres above the ground and or surface
    vegetation, canopy cover should be less than 15% with tree canopies at maturity well spread to
    at least 5 metres apart as to not form a continuous canopy (Figure 7).

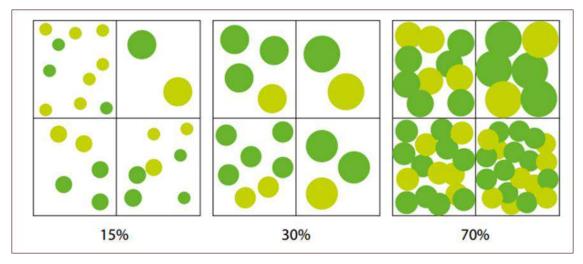


Figure 7: Illustrated tree canopy cover projection (WAPC 2017)

- Shrubs (0.5 metres to 5 metres in height): should not be located under trees or within 3 metres of buildings, should not be planted in clumps greater than 5m<sup>2</sup> in area, clumps of shrubs should be separated from each other and any exposed window or door by at least 10 metres. Shrubs greater than 5 metres in height are to be treated as trees
- **Ground covers (<0.5 metres in height):** can be planted under trees but must be properly maintained to remove dead plant material and any parts within 2 metres of a structure, but 3 metres from windows or doors if greater than 100 millimetres in height. Ground covers greater than 0.5 metres in height are to be treated as shrubs
- Grass: should be managed to maintain a height of 100 millimetres or less.

#### **Additional notes**

The Asset Protection Zone (APZ) is an area surrounding a building that is managed to reduce the bushfire hazard to an acceptable level. Hazard separation in the form of using subdivision design elements or excluded and low threat vegetation adjacent to the lot may be used to reduce the dimensions of the APZ within the lot.

The APZ should be contained solely within the boundaries of the lot on which the building is situated, except in instances where the neighbouring lot or lots will be managed in a low-fuel state on an ongoing basis, in perpetuity. The APZ may include public roads, waterways, footpaths, buildings, rocky outcrops, golf courses, maintained parkland as well as cultivated gardens in an urban context, but does not include grassland or vegetation on a neighbouring rural lot, farmland, wetland reserves and unmanaged public reserves.

# Appendix C - Vehicular access technical requirements (WAPC 2017)

Technical requirements	Public road	Cul-de-sac	Private driveway	Emergency access way	Fire service access route		
Minimum trafficable surface (m)	6*	6	4	6*	6*		
Horizontal distance (m)	6	6	6	6	6		
Vertical clearance (m)	4.5	N/A	4.5	4.5	4.5		
Maximum grade <50 m	1 in 10	1 in 10	1 in 10	1 in 10	1 in 10		
Minimum weight capacity (t)	15	15	15	15	15		
Maximum crossfall	1 in 33	1 in 33	1 in 33	1 in 33	1 in 33		
Curves minimum inner radius	8.5	8.5	8.5	8.5	8.5		
* Refer to E3.2 Public roads: Trafficable surface							





