

# **BUSHFIRE THREAT ASSESSMENT**

FOR A PLANNING PROPOSAL TO REZONE LAND FOR A RESIDENTIAL SUBDIVISION AT

No.107 Haussman Drive
Thornton

**NSW 2322** 

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#### **Disclaimer**

Not withstanding the precautions adopted within this report, it should always be remembered that bushfires burn under a wide range of conditions. An element of risk, no matter how small always remains, and although the standard is designed to improve the performance of such buildings, there can be no guarantee, because of the variable nature of bushfires, that any one building will withstand bushfire attack on every occasion.



## **Executive Summary**

A Bushfire Threat Assessment Report (BTA) has been prepared by Firebird ecoSultants Pty Ltd at the request of McCloy Group for a proposed residential subdivision at 107 Haussman Drive, Thornton NSW 2322. The report forms part of the supporting documentation for a Planning Proposal to be submitted to Maitland City Council (MCC).

The report demonstrates compliance with Planning for Bushfire Protection 2019 (NSW RFS, 2019), AS3959-2018 Construction of Buildings in Bush Fire Prone Areas. This assessment aims to consider and assess the bushfire hazard and associated potential threats relevant to the proposal. Recommendations are provided with regard to fuel management, access, provision of emergency services, building protection and construction standards to facilitate an acceptable level of bushfire protection.

In summary, the following is recommended to enable the proposal to meet the relevant legislative requirements for the proposed subdivision:

1. Asset Protection Zone (APZ) - The APZ provides space and reduced fuel loads to ensure radiant heat levels at the buildings are below critical limits and to prevent direct flame contact.

Assessment in accordance with PBP 2019 has shown that future dwellings within the lots will be able to achieve BAL-29 or less. In any case, future dwellings within the site will be assessed under Section 4.14 of EP&A Act for each individual dwelling upon application.

The APZ distances are to be managed as described under 'Planning for Bushfire Protection (Appendix 4 – Asset Protect Zone Requirements)' and the document titled 'Standards for Asset Protection Zones'.

# 2. Roads - Access standards provide for emergency evacuation and firefighting operations

- The perimeter roads identified on the subdivision plan comply with the following criteria:
  - Are two-way sealed roads;
  - Minimum 8m carriageway width kerb to kerb;
  - Parking is provided outside the carriageway width;
  - > Hydrants are located clear of parking areas;
  - Are through roads and these are linked to the internal road system at an interval of no greater than 500m;
  - Curves of roads have a minimum inner radius of 6m;
  - > The maximum grade road is 15 degrees and average grade of not more than 10 degrees:
  - > The road crossfall does not exceed 3 degrees; and
  - A minimum vertical clearance of 4m to any overhanging obstructions, including tree branches, is provided.



- The non-perimeter roads identified on the subdivision plan comply with the following criteria:
  - Minimum 5.5m carriageway width kerb to kerb;
  - > Parking is provided outside the carriageway width;
  - > Hydrants are located clear of parking areas;
  - Are through roads and these are linked to the internal road system at an interval of no greater than 500m;
  - Curves of roads have a minimum inner radius of 6m;
  - The road crossfall does not exceed 3 degrees; and
  - A minimum vertical clearance of 4m to any overhanging obstructions, including tree branches, is provided.
- 3. Construction Standards Construction standards seek to increase the protection of the habitable buildings from bushfire. The shorter the APZ (distance between the external wall of the habitable building and the unmanaged vegetation), then the higher the construction standard, which is referred to as the BAL

Any future dwelling in the proposed building envelope will be able to achieve BAL-29 or less. In any case, any future dwellings within the site will be assessed under Section 4.14 of the EP&A Act for each individual dwelling upon application.

#### 4. Water supply and utilities

Reticulated water is extended into the site. The development will be linked to the water pressure mains and the proposed internal fire hydrant spacing, sizing and pressures are to comply with AS 2419.1-2005 Fire Hydrant Installations – System design, installation and commissioning (2005).

- 5. Landscaping The type, location and ongoing maintenance of landscaping is considered a necessary BPM
  - The identified APZs are to be managed in accordance with accordance with PBP (Appendix 4);
  - A clear area of low-cut lawn or pavement is maintained adjacent to the dwellings;
     and
  - Fencing details in accordance with PBP (7.6 Fences and gates)

I certify the development conforms to the relevant specifications and requirements of Planning for Bushfire Protection 2019

Sarah Jones

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FPA BPAD-A Certified Practitioner (Certification Number BPD-PA-26512)

Ecologist / Bushfire Planner



## **Terms & Abbreviations**

Abbreviation	Meaning
APZ	Asset Protection Zone
AS2419 -2005	Australian Standard – Fire Hydrant Installations
AS3959-2018	Australian Standard – Construction of Buildings in Bush Fire Prone Areas
BCA	Building Code of Australia
ВРА	Bush Fire Prone Area (Also Bushfire Prone Land)
BFPL Map	Bush Fire Prone Land Map
BPMs	Bush Fire Protection Measures
BFSA	Bush Fire Safety Authority
CC	Construction Certificate
MCC	Maitland City Council
EPA Act	NSW Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979
FFDI	Forest Fire Danger Index
FMP	Fuel Management Plan
ha	hectare
IPA	Inner Protection Area
LGA	Local Government Area
OPA	Outer Protection Area
PBP	Planning for Bushfire Protection 2019
PoM	Plan of Management
RF Act	Rural Fires Act 1997
RF Regulation	Rural Fires Regulation



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## I INTRODUCTION

A Bushfire Threat Assessment Report (BTA) has been prepared by Firebird ecoSultants Pty Ltd at the request of McCloy Group for a proposed residential subdivision at 107 Haussman Drive, Thornton, hereafter referred to as the "site" (refer to Figure 1-1 for site locality).

This BTA is suitable for submission with a Planning Proposal and provides information on measures that will enable the development to comply with 'Planning for Bushfire Protection' (NSW RFS, 2019), hereafter referred to as PBP (RFS, 2019).

This assessment aims to consider and assess the bushfire hazard and associated potential threats relevant to such a proposal, and to outline the minimum mitigative measures which would be required in accordance with the provisions of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Amendment (Planning for Bushfire Protection) Regulation 2007 and the Rural Fires Amendment Regulation 2007 (RF Amendment Regulation 2007).

#### I.I Site Particulars

**Locality:** 107 Haussman Drive, Thornton NSW 2322

**LGA:** Maitland City Council

Current Land Use: Vacant lot

Forest Danger Index: 100 FFDI

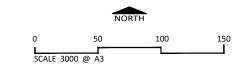


FIGURE 1-1:SITE MAP

CLIENT

SITE DETAILS No.107 Haussman Drive Thornton

18 July 2024 DATE



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## 1.2 Description of the Proposal

This Planning Proposal relates to the proposal for a residential subdivision.

### 1.3 Legislative Requirements

The Site has been mapped as Bush Fire Prone Land Map (BFPLM) by MCC.

This report forms part of the supporting documentation for a Planning Proposal to be submitted to MCC.

This BTA has been prepared using current legislative requirements and associated guidelines for assessment of bushfire protection, these being:

- PBP (RFS, 2019);
- AS3959-2018 Construction of Buildings in Bushfire Prone Area; and

## 1.4 Objectives of Assessment

This report has been prepared to address the requirements of Clause 44 of the Rural Fires Regulation. This BTA also addresses the six key Bush Fire Protection Measures (BFRMs) in a development assessment context being:

- The provision of clear separation of buildings and bush fire hazards, in the form of fuel-reduced APZ (and their components being Inner Protection Areas (IPA's) and Outer Protection Areas (OPA's);
- Sitting and design of the proposal;
- Construction standards;
- Appropriate access standards for residents, fire-fighters, emergency workers and those involved in evacuation;
- Adequate water supply and pressure, and utility services; and
- Suitable landscaping, to limit fire spreading to a building.



Figure 1-2: Bushfire Prone Land Map





## 2 METHODOLOGY

## 2.1 Vegetation Assessment

Vegetation surveys and vegetation mapping carried out on the site has been undertaken as follows:

- Aerial Photograph Interpretation to map vegetation cover and extent
- Confirmation of the vegetation assemblage typology present.

### 2.2 Slope Assessment

Slope assessment has been undertaken as follows:

 Aerial Photograph Interpretation in conjunction with analysis of electronic contour maps with a contour interval of 10m.



## 3 SITE ASSESSMENT

The following assessment has been undertaken in accordance with the requirements of PBP (RFS, 2019).

## 3.1 Vegetation & Slope Assessment

In accordance with PBP (RFS 2019), an assessment of the vegetation over a distance of 140m in all directions from the site was undertaken. Vegetation that may be considered a bushfire hazard was identified in all directions from the site. This assessment is depicted in Table 3-1 and Figure 3-1 that shows the vegetation post development.

In accordance with PBP (RFS 2019), an assessment of the slope that the vegetation considered a bushfire hazard was undertaken and the results are presented in Table 3.1 below.

**Table 3-1: Vegetation Classification** 

Proposed Residential Subdivision			
Direction Vegetation Type		Slope	
North	Forest	Upslope	
Northwest Remnant vegetation <sup>1</sup>		Upslope	
East	Forest	Downslope 0-5°	
South	Forest	Cross-slope	
Southwest	Forest	Upslope	

-

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Vegetation has been assessed as remnant in accordance with Section A1.11 in PBP 2019 as it provides a fire run of <50m in length.

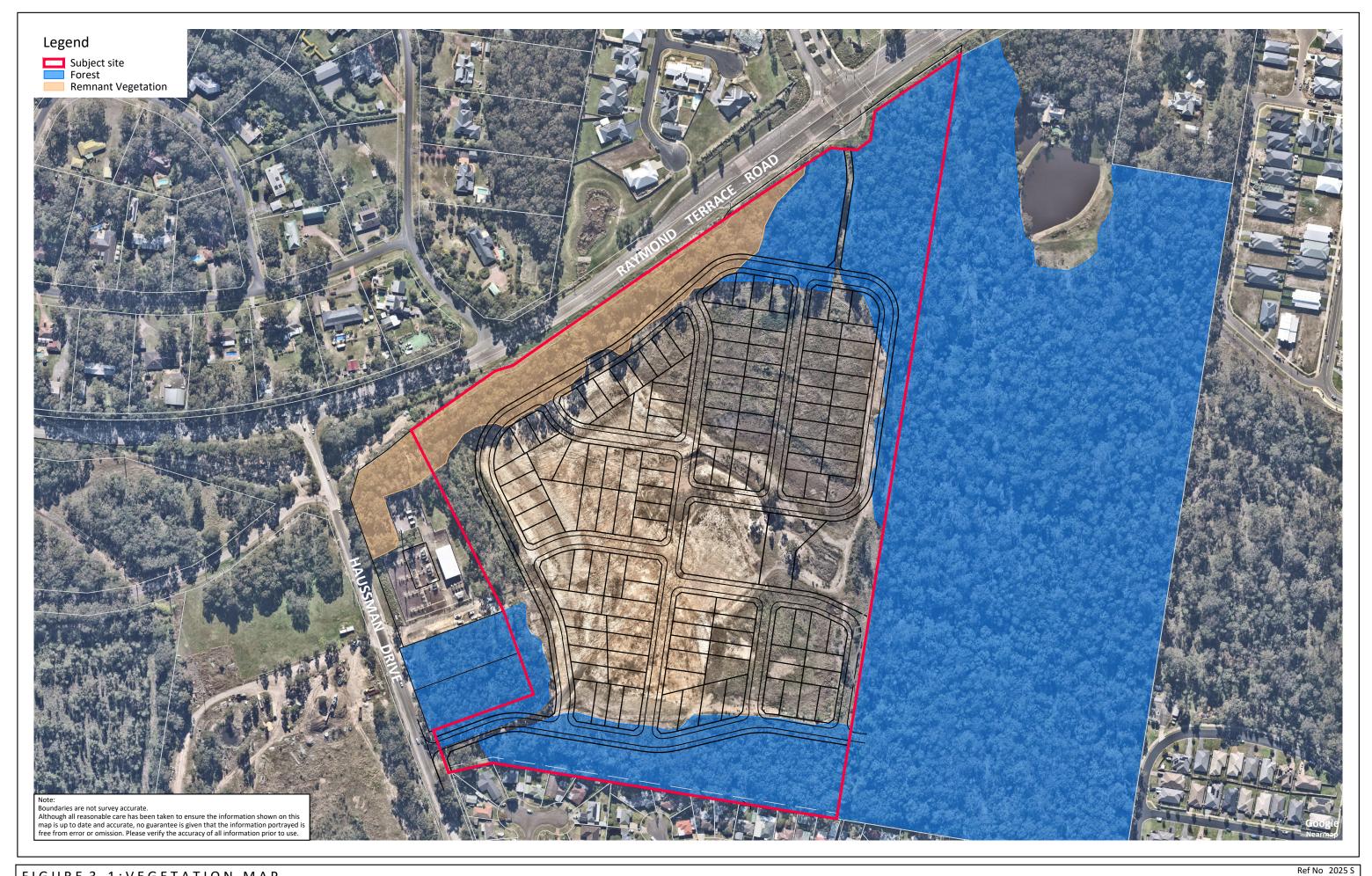
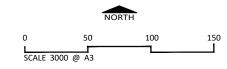


FIGURE 3-1: VEGETATION MAP

CLIENT Client

SITE DETAILS No.107 Haussman Drive Thornton

23 July 2024 DATE



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## 4 BUSHFIRE PROTECTION ASSESSMENT

## 4.1 Asset Protection Zones (APZ)

The PBP (RFS, 2019) guidelines has been used to determine the widths of the APZs required for habitable buildings within the site using the vegetation and slope data identified in Section 3-1 of this report.

The site lies within Maitland Local Government Area and therefore is assessed under a FDI rating of 100. Using the results from the Site Assessment (section 3-1 of this report) the deemed to satisfy APZ requirements for the proposed buildings within the site was determined using Table A1.12.2 in PBP (RFS, 2019). Refer to Table 4-1 and Figure 5-1 for required APZs for the proposed habitable buildings.

Table 4-1: Recommended APZs for Proposed Residential Subdivision

Direction from Building Envelope	Vegetation Classification within 140m	Effective Slope (within 100m)	APZ to be Provided <sup>1</sup>	Width of allowable OPA <sup>2</sup>	Comment
North	Forest Vegetation	Upslope	An APZ of >24m will be established and maintained within the site.	10m	Acceptable solution in accordance with PBP (RFS, 2019)
Northwest	Remnant Vegetation	Upslope	An APZ of >11m will be established and maintained within the site.	N/A	Acceptable solution in accordance with PBP (RFS, 2019)
East	Forest Vegetation	Downslope 0-5°	An APZ of >29m will be established and maintained within the site.	10m	Acceptable solution in accordance with PBP (RFS, 2019)
South	Forest Vegetation	Cross-slope	An APZ of >24m will be established and maintained within the site.	10m	Acceptable solution in accordance with PBP (RFS, 2019)



Direction from Building Envelope	Vegetation Classification within 140m	Effective Slope (within 100m)	APZ to be Provided <sup>1</sup>	Width of allowable OPA <sup>2</sup>	Comment
Southwest	Forest Vegetation	Upslope	An APZ of >24m will be established and maintained within the site.	10m	Acceptable solution in accordance with PBP (RFS, 2019)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>APZ as per Table A1.12.2 in PBP 2019

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> OPA; Outer Protection area as per Table A1.12.4 in PBP 2019 (See Appendix A here).

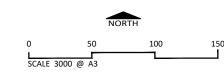


FIGURE 1-1: ASSET PROTECTION ZONES

CLIENT Client

SITE DETAILS No.107 Haussman Drive Thornton

24 July 2024 DATE



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## 5 DWELLING DESIGN & CONSTRUCTION

Building design and the materials used for construction of future dwellings should be chosen based on the information contained within AS3959-2018, and accordingly the designer / architect should be made aware of this recommendation. It may be necessary to have dwelling plans checked by the architect involved to ensure that the proposed dwellings meet the relevant Bushfire Attack Level (BAL) as detailed in AS3959-2018.

The determinations of the appropriate BAL are based upon parameters such as weather modelling, fire-line intensity, flame length calculations, as well as vegetation and fuel load analysis. The determination of the construction level is derived by assessing the:

- Relevant FFDI = 100
- Flame temperature
- Slope
- Vegetation classification; and
- Building location.

The following BAL, based on heat flux exposure thresholds, are used in the standard:

#### (a) BAL - LOW The risk is considered to be VERY LOW

There is insufficient risk to warrant any specific construction requirements but there are still some risks.

#### (b) **BAL – 12.5** The risk is considered to be **LOW**

There is a risk of ember attack.

The construction elements are expected to be exposed to a heat flux not greater than 12.5 k/m2.

#### (c) BAL – 19 The risk is considered to be MODERATE

There is a risk of ember attack and burning debris ignited by wind borne embers and a likelihood of exposure to radiant heat.

The construction elements are expected to be exposed to a heat flux not greater than 19 kW/m2.

#### (d) BAL-29 The risk is considered to be HIGH

There is an increased risk of ember attack and burning debris ignited by windborne embers and a likelihood of exposure to an increased level of radiant heat.



The construction elements are expected to be exposed to a heat flux no greater than 29 kW/m2.

#### (e) BAL-40 The risk is considered to be VERY HIGH

There is much increased risk of ember attack and burning debris ignited by windborne embers, a likelihood of exposure to a high level of radiant heat and some likelihood of direct exposure to flames from the fire front.

The construction elements are expected to be exposed to a heat flux no greater than 40 kW/m<sup>2</sup>.

#### (f) BAL-FZ The risk is considered to be EXTREME

There is an extremely high risk of ember attack and burning debris ignited by windborne embers, a likelihood of exposure to an extreme level of radiant heat and direct exposure to flames from the fire front.

The construction elements are expected to be exposed to a heat flux greater than 40 kW/m<sup>2</sup>.

#### 5.1 Determination of Bushfire Attack Levels

Using a FFDI of 100, the information relating to vegetation, slope and according to Table A1.12.5 of PBP 2019 that determined the appropriate BAL. The results from this bush fire risk assessment are detailed below in Table 4-1–Bush Fire Attack Assessment.

Table 5-1: Determination of BALs for Future Dwellings within Site

Vegetation Type & Direction	Separation Distance from vegetation	Bushfire Attack Level (BAL)	Construction Section
	24-<33m	BAL-29	Sect 3 & 7 of AS3959
Favort to the North	33-<45m	BAL-19	Sect 3 & 6 of AS3959
Forest to the North	45-<100	BAL-12.5	Sect 3 & 5 of AS3959
	>100m	BAL-LOW	No construction requirements
	11-<16m	BAL-29	Sect 3 & 7 of AS3959
Remnant to the Northwest	16-<23m	BAL-19	Sect 3 & 6 of AS3959
	23-<100	BAL-12.5	Sect 3 & 5 of AS3959



Vegetation Type & Direction	Separation Distance from vegetation	Bushfire Attack Level (BAL)	Construction Section
	>100m	BAL-LOW	No construction requirements
	29-<40m	BAL-29	Sect 3 & 7 of AS3959
	40-<54m	BAL-19	Sect 3 & 6 of AS3959
Forest to the East	54-<100m	BAL-12.5	Sect 3 & 5 of AS3959
	>100m	BAL-LOW	No construction requirements
	24-<33m	BAL-29	Sect 3 & 7 of AS3959
Farrant to the Court	33-<45m	BAL-19	Sect 3 & 6 of AS3959
Forest to the South	45-<100	BAL-12.5	Sect 3 & 5 of AS3959
	>100m	BAL-LOW	No construction requirements
	24-<33m	BAL-29	Sect 3 & 7 of AS3959
Favorat to the Couthy and	33-<45m	BAL-19	Sect 3 & 6 of AS3959
Forest to the Southwest	45-<100	BAL-12.5	Sect 3 & 5 of AS3959
	>100m	BAL-LOW	No construction requirements

Given, the information in Table 5-1 above any future dwellings within the lots will be able to comply with AS3959-2018. These will be subject to further assessment under Section 4.14 of the EP&A Act depending on location of future dwellings and retained vegetation within the site.

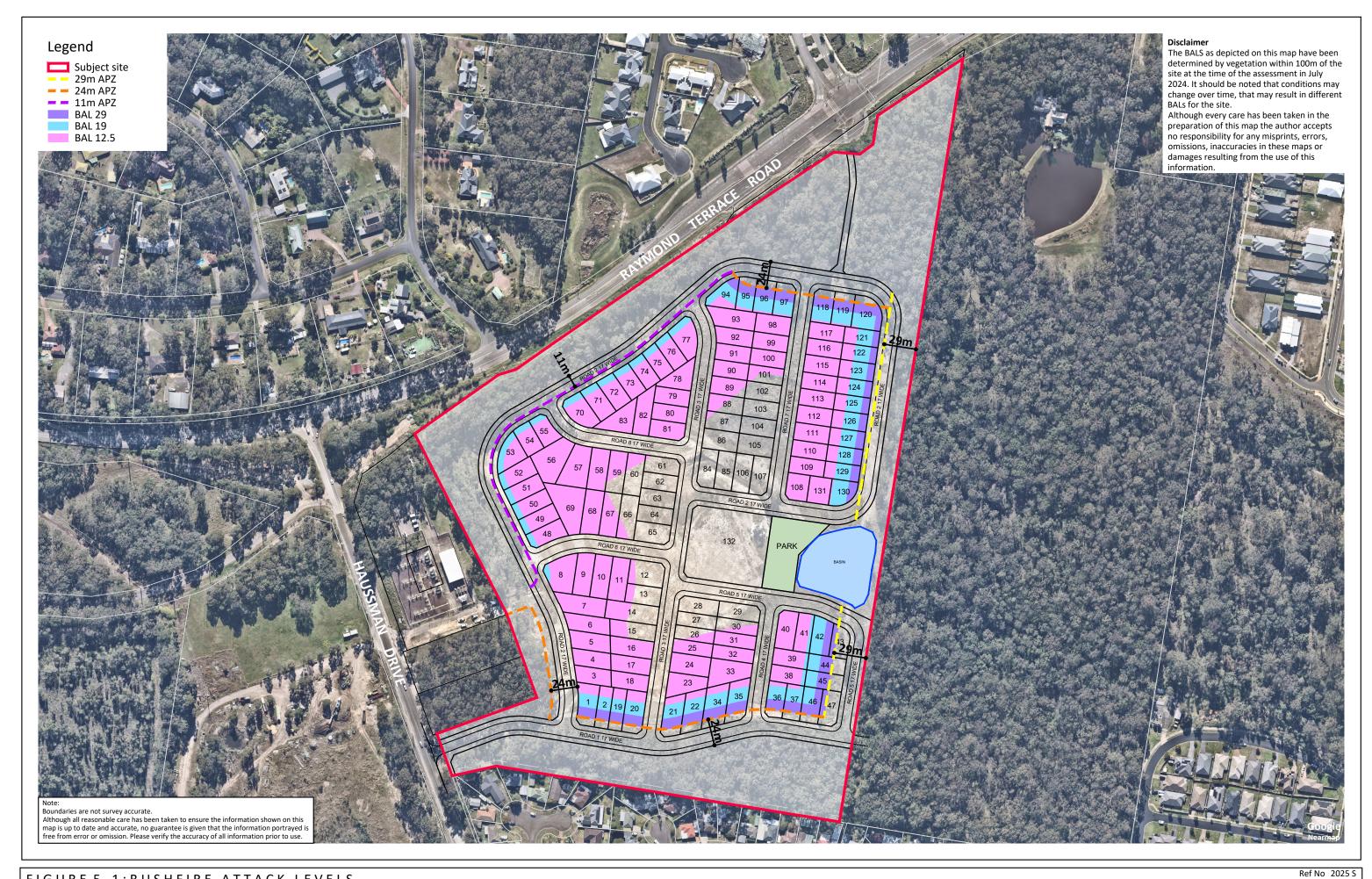
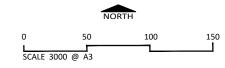


FIGURE 5-1: BUSHFIRE ATTACK LEVELS

CLIENT Client

SITE DETAILS No.107 Haussman Drive Thornton

DATE 24 July 2024



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## **6 COMPLIANCE**

The proposal is for a residential subdivision and therefore development standards apply. Table 5-1 details the proposed compliance with Development Standards for Residential and Rural Residential Subdivisions.

**Table 6-1: Proposed Compliance with Development Standards** 

	Acceptable Solutions	Performance Criteria	Compliance with Performance Criteria		
		Asset Protection Zone	es		
>	APZs are provided in accordance with Tables A1.12.2 and A1.12.3 based on the FFDI.	potential building footprints must not be exposed to radiant heat levels exceeding 29 kW/m² on each proposed lot.	Complies with Acceptable Solution –  APZs for the site have been provided in accordance with A1.12.2.		
>	APZs are managed in accordance with the requirements of Appendix 4.	APZs are managed and maintained to prevent the spread of a fire towards the building.	Complies with Acceptable Solution –  APZs on site are to be managed in accordance with Appendix 4 of the PBP 2019.		
>	APZs are wholly within the boundaries of the development site	the APZs is provided in perpetuity	Complies with Acceptable Solution – APZs on site occur entirely within the site's boundary.		
>	APZs are located on lands with a slope less than 18 degrees.	APZ maintenance is practical, soil stability is not compromised and the potential for crown fires is minimised.	Complies with Acceptable Solution – APZs on site occur over maximum 5° slopes.		
	Landscaping				
>	landscaping is in accordance with Appendix 4; and fencing is constructed in accordance with section 7.6.	landscaping is designed and managed to minimise flame contact and radiant	Complies with Acceptable Solution – All landscaping within the site will meet the requirements of the acceptable solution.		



heat to buildings, and the potential for wind-driven embers to cause ignitions.

## **Access (General Requirements)**

- property access roads are two-wheel drive, all -weather roads;
- perimeter roads are provided for residential subdivisions of three or more allotments;
- subdivisions of three or more allotments have more than one access in and out of the development;
- traffic management devices are constructed to not prohibit access by emergency services vehicles:
- maximum grades for sealed roads do not exceed 15 degrees and an average grade of not more than 10 degrees or other gradient specified by road design standards, whichever is the lesser gradient;
- all roads are through roads;
- dead end roads are not recommended, but if unavoidable, are not more than 200 metres in length, incorporate a minimum 12 metres outer radius turning circle, and are clearly sign posted as a dead end;
- where kerb and guttering is provided on perimeter roads, roll top kerbing should be used to the hazard side of the road;

firefighting vehicles are provided with safe, all-weather access to structures.

Complies with Acceptable Solution –
All roads within the site are designed to meet the requirements of the acceptable solution.



>	where access/egress can only be achieved through forest, woodland and heath vegetation, secondary access shall be provided to an alternate point on the existing public road system; and		
>	one way only public access roads are no less than 3.5 metres wide and have designated parking bays with hydrants located outside of these areas to ensure accessibility to reticulated water for fire suppression.		
>	the capacity of perimeter and non-perimeter road surfaces and any bridges/causeways is sufficient to carry fully loaded firefighting vehicles (up to 23 tonnes); bridges/	the capacity of access roads is adequate for firefighting vehicles.	Complies with Acceptable Solution – All roads within the site are designed to meet the requirements of the acceptable solution.
>	causeways are to clearly indicate load rating.		
>	hydrants are located outside of parking reserves and road carriageways to ensure accessibility to reticulated water for fire suppression;	there is appropriate access to water supply.	Complies with Acceptable Solution – Hydrants are to be positions appropriately across the site.
>	hydrants are provided in accordance with the relevant clauses of AS 2419.1:2005 - Fire hydrant installations System design, installation and commissioning; and		
>	there is suitable access for a Category 1 fire appliance to within 4m of the static water supply where no reticulated supply is available.		



## **Perimeter Roads**

- are two-way sealed roads;
- > minimum 8m carriageway width kerb to kerb;
- parking is provided outside of the carriageway width;
- hydrants are located clear of parking areas;
- are through roads, and these are linked to the internal road system at an interval of no greater than 500m;
- curves of roads have a minimum inner radius of 6m;
- the maximum grade road is 15 degrees and average grade of not more than 10 degrees;
- the road crossfall does not exceed 3 degrees; and
- a minimum vertical clearance of 4m to any overhanging obstructions, including tree branches, is provided.

access roads are designed to allow safe access and egress for firefighting vehicles while residents are evacuating as well as providing a safe operational environment for emergency service personnel during firefighting and emergency management on the interface.

### Complies with Acceptable Solution -

All access roads to the site are designed to meet the requirements of the acceptable solution.

## **Non-Perimeter Roads**

- minimum 5.5m carriageway width kerb to kerb;
- parking is provided outside of the carriageway width;
- hydrants are located clear of parking areas;

access roads are designed to allow safe access and egress for firefighting vehicles while residents are evacuating.

#### Complies with Acceptable Solution -

All roads within the site are designed to meet the requirements of the acceptable solution.



>	roads are through roads, and these are linked to the internal road system at an interval of no greater than 500m;  curves of roads have a minimum inner radius		
>	of 6m; the road crossfall does not exceed 3 degrees; and		
>	a minimum vertical clearance of 4m to any overhanging obstructions, including tree branches, is provided.		
		Property Access	
>	There are no specific access requirements in an urban area where an unobstructed path (no greater than 70m) is provided between the most distant external part of the proposed dwelling and the nearest part of the public access road (where the road speed limit is not greater than 70kph) that supports the operational use of emergency firefighting vehicles.	firefighting vehicles can access the dwelling and exit the property safely.	Complies with Acceptable Solution – All future lots are to be connected to a public road by a driveway <70m
	In circumstances where this cannot occur, the following requirements apply:		
>	minimum 4m carriageway width;		
>	in forest, woodland and heath situations, rural property access roads have passing bays every 200m that are 20m long by 2m wide,		



making a minimum trafficable width of 6m at the passing bay;

- a minimum vertical clearance of 4m to any overhanging obstructions, including tree branches;
- provide a suitable turning area in accordance with Appendix 3;
- curves have a minimum inner radius of 6m and are minimal in number to allow for rapid access and egress;
- the minimum distance between inner and outer curves is 6m;
- > the crossfall is not more than 10 degrees;
- maximum grades for sealed roads do not exceed 15 degrees and not more than 10 degrees for unsealed roads; and
- a development comprising more than three dwellings has access by dedication of a road and not by right of way.

Note: Some short constrictions in the access may be accepted where they are not less than 3.5m wide, extend for no more than 30m and where the obstruction cannot be reasonably avoided or removed. The gradients applicable to public roads also apply to community style development



	property access roads in addition to the above.		
		Water Supplies	
>	reticulated water is to be provided to the development where available;	adequate water supplies are provided for firefighting purposes.	Complies with Acceptable Solution – All lots are to be connected to reticulated water.
>	a static water and hydrant supply is provided for non-reticulated developments or where reticulated water supply cannot be guaranteed; and		
>	static water supplies shall comply with Table 5.3d.		
>	fire hydrant, spacing, design and sizing complies with the relevant clauses of Australian Standard AS 2419.1:2005;	Water supplies are located at regular intervals; and the water supply is accessible and	Can Comply with Acceptable Solution – Hydrants are to be positioned appropriately across the site.
>	hydrants are not located within any road carriageway; and	reliable for firefighting operations.	
>	reticulated water supply to urban subdivisions uses a ring main system for areas with perimeter roads.		
>	fire hydrant flows and pressures comply with the relevant clauses of AS 2419.1:2005.	flows and pressure are appropriate.	Complies with Acceptable Solution – Flows and pressure assumed compliant



>	all above-ground water service pipes are metal, including and up to any taps; and above-ground water storage tanks shall be of concrete or metal.	the integrity of the water supply is maintained.	Complies with Acceptable Solution – All above ground water service pipes will meet the requirements.		
	Electricity Services				
>	where practicable, electrical transmission lines are underground;  where overhead, electrical transmission  lines are proposed as follows: lines are installed with short pole spacing of 30m, unless crossing gullies, gorges or riparian areas; and  no part of a tree is closer to a power line than the distance set out in ISSC3 Guideline for Managing Vegetation Near Power Lines.	location of electricity services limits the possibility of ignition of surrounding bush land or the fabric of buildings.	Complies with Acceptable Solution – All future dwelling are able to meet the requirements for electricity services.		
	Near Fower Lines.	Oss Ossissa			
	Gas Services				
>	reticulated or bottled gas is installed and maintained in accordance with AS/NZS 1596:2014 - The storage and handling of LP Gas, the requirements of relevant authorities, and metal piping is used;	location and design of gas services will not lead to ignition of surrounding bushland or the fabric of buildings.	Can Complies with Acceptable Solution – All future dwelling are able to meet the requirements for gas services		
>	all fixed gas cylinders are kept clear of all flammable materials to a distance of 10m and shielded on the hazard side;				



>	connections to and from gas cylinders are metal;	
>	polymer-sheathed flexible gas supply lines are not used; and	
>	above-ground gas service pipes are metal, including and up to any outlets.	



### 7 CONCLUSION & RECOMMENDATIONS

In summary, a Bushfire Risk Assessment has been undertaken for a proposed residential subdivision at 107 Haussman Drive, Thornton NSW 2322. The report forms part of the supporting documentation for a Planning Proposal to be submitted to MCC.

If the recommendations contained within this report are duly considered and incorporated, it is considered that the fire hazard present is containable to a level necessary to provide an adequate level of protection to life and property on the subdivision. In summary, the following is recommended to enable the proposal to meet the relevant legislative requirements for the proposed subdivision:

 Asset Protection Zone (APZ) - The APZ provides space and reduced fuel loads to ensure radiant heat levels at the buildings are below critical limits and to prevent direct flame contact.

Assessment in accordance with PBP 2019 has shown that future dwellings within the lots will be able to achieve BAL-29 or less. In any case, future dwellings within the site will be assessed under Section 4.14 of EP&A Act for each individual dwelling upon application.

These distances are to be managed as described under 'Planning for Bushfire Protection (Appendix 4 – Asset Protect Zone Requirements)' and the document titled 'Standards for Asset Protection Zones'.

# 2. Roads - Access standards provide for emergency evacuation and firefighting operations

- The perimeter roads identified on the subdivision plan comply with the following criteria:
  - Are two-way sealed roads;
  - Minimum 8m carriageway width kerb to kerb;
  - Parking is provided outside the carriageway width;
  - > Hydrants are located clear of parking areas;
  - Are through roads and these are linked to the internal road system at an interval of no greater than 500m;
  - Curves of roads have a minimum inner radius of 6m;
  - The maximum grade road is 15 degrees and average grade of not more than 10 degrees;
  - > The road crossfall does not exceed 3 degrees; and
  - A minimum vertical clearance of 4m to any overhanging obstructions, including tree branches, is provided.
- The non-perimeter roads identified on the subdivision plan comply with the following criteria:
  - Minimum 5.5m carriageway width kerb to kerb;
  - Parking is provided outside the carriageway width;
  - > Hydrants are located clear of parking areas;



- Are through roads and these are linked to the internal road system at an interval of no greater than 500m;
- Curves of roads have a minimum inner radius of 6m;
- > The road crossfall does not exceed 3 degrees; and
- A minimum vertical clearance of 4m to any overhanging obstructions, including tree branches, is provided.
- 3. Construction Standards Construction standards seek to increase the protection of the habitable buildings from bushfire. The shorter the APZ (distance between the external wall of the habitable building and the unmanaged vegetation), then the higher the construction standard, which is referred to as the BAL

Any future dwelling in the proposed building envelope will be able to achieve BAL-29 or less. In any case, any future dwellings within the site will be assessed under Section 4.14 of the EP&A Act for each individual dwelling upon application.

#### 4. Water supply and utilities

Reticulated water is extended into the site. The development will be linked to the water pressure mains and the proposed internal fire hydrant spacing, sizing and pressures are to comply with AS 2419.1-2005 Fire Hydrant Installations – System design, installation and commissioning (2005).

- 5. Landscaping The type, location and ongoing maintenance of landscaping is considered a necessary BPM
  - The identified APZs are to be managed in accordance with accordance with PBP (Appendix 4);
  - A clear area of low-cut lawn or pavement is maintained adjacent to the dwellings;
     and
  - Fencing details in accordance with PBP (7.6 Fences and gates)

Provided the recommendations stated above are implemented in full Firebird ecoSultants Pty Ltd is of the opinion that the proposed development is able to meet the aims and objectives of PBP (RFS, 2019).



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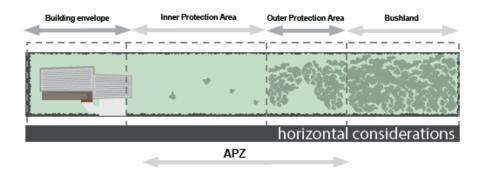
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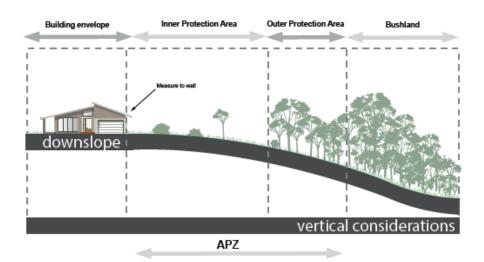
## APPENDIX A ASSET PROTECTION ZONES

An Asset Protection Zone (APZ) is an area surrounding a development that is managed to reduce the bushfire hazard to an acceptable level to mitigate the risk to life and property (refer to Figure B-1 below). The required width of the APZ varies with slope and the type of hazard. An APZ can consist of both an Inner Protection Area (IPA) and an Outer Protection Area (OPA). An APZ can include the following:

- Lawns;
- Discontinuous gardens;
- Swimming pools;
- Driveways;
- Unattached non-combustible garages with suitable separation from the Dwelling;
- Open space / parkland; and
- Car parking.

Figure 1: Components of an APZ (PBP 2019)





#### **Inner Protection Area**

The Inner Protection Area (IPA) extends from the edge of the OPA to the development. The IPA aims to ensure that the presence of fuels which could contribute to a fire event / intensity, are minimised close to the development. The performance of the IPA must be such that:

- There is minimal fine fuel at ground level which could be set alight by a bushfire;
   and
- Any vegetation in the IPA does not provide a path for the transfer of fire to the development – that is, the fuels are discontinuous.

The presence of a few shrubs or trees in the IPA is acceptable provided that they:

- Do not touch or overhang any buildings;
- Are well spread out and do not form a continuous canopy;
- Are not species that retain dead material or deposit excessive quantities of ground fuel in a short period or in a danger period; and
- Are located far enough away from any Dwelling so that they will not ignite the Dwelling by direct flame contact or radiant heat emission.
- Woodpiles, wooden sheds, combustible material storage areas, large areas / quantities of garden mulch, stacked flammable building materials etc are not permitted in the IPA

#### **Outer Protection Area**

The Outer Protection Area (OPA) is located adjacent to the hazard. Within the OPA any trees and shrubs should be maintained in a manner such that the vegetation is not continuous. Fine fuel loadings should be kept to a level where the fire intensity expected will not impact on adjacent developments.