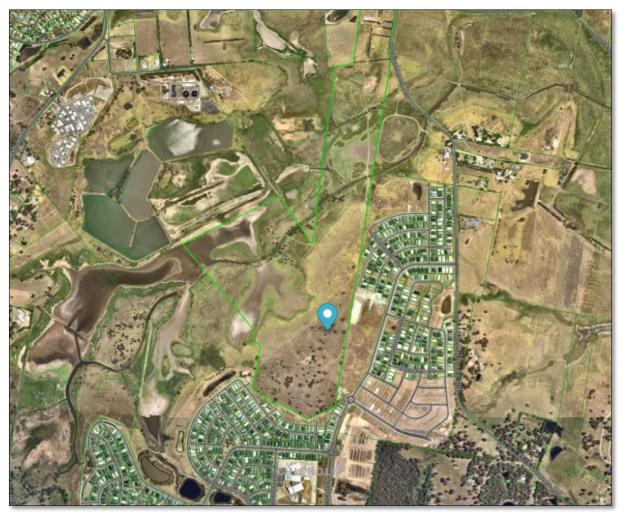


BUSHFIRE ASSESSMENT REPORT

Residential Subdivision 24 Duckenfield Road, Berry Park

Prepared for Avid Residential Estates



Bushfire Planning Australia

Stuart Greville

Accredited Bushfire Practitioner BPAD-26202 0400 917 792
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Reference: 2254 Berry Park Subdivision Version: Final Date: 8 May 2023







Disclaimer and Limitation

This report is prepared solely for Avid Residential Estates (the 'Client') for the specific purposes of only for which it is supplied (the 'Purpose'). This report is not for the benefit of any other person; either directly or indirectly and is strictly limited to the purpose and the facts and matters stated in it and will not be used for any other application.

This report is based on the site conditions surveyed at the time the document was prepared. The assessment of the bushfire threat made in this report is made in good faith based on the information available to Bushfire Planning Australia at the time.

The recommendations contained in this report are considered to be minimum standards and they do not guarantee that a building or assets will not be damaged in a bushfire. In the making of these comments and recommendations it should be understood that the focus of this document is to minimise the threat and impact of a bushfire.

Finally, the implementation of the adopted measures and recommendations within this report will contribute to the amelioration of the potential impact of any bushfire upon the development, but they do not and cannot guarantee that the area will not be affected by bushfire at some time.

Document Status: 2254 - Residential Subdivision

Version	Status	Purpose	Author	Review Date
1	Draft	Draft for Review	Katrina Mukevski	1 April 2023
2	Draft	Draft for Client Review	Stuart Greville	4 May 2023
3	Final	Final for Submission	Stuart Greville	8 May 2023

Certification

As the author of this Bushfire Assessment Report (BAR), I certify this BAR provides the detailed information required by the NSW Rural Fire Service under Clause 45 of the Rural Fires Regulation 2021 and Appendix 2 of Planning for Bushfire Protection 2019 for the purposes of an application for a bush fire safety authority under section 100B(4) of the Rural Fires Act 1997.

Stuart Greville Accredited Bushfire Practitioner BPAD-26202



Date: 8 May 2023

In signing the above, I declare the report is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge at the time of issue



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Appendix A: Proposed Plan of Subdivision Appendix B: AHIMS Search Results Appendix C: Planning for Bushfire Protection 2019 – Compliance Table Appendix D: Subdivision BAL Plan Appendix E: RFS Pre-DA Advice



Executive Summary

Bushfire Planning Australia (BPA) has been engaged by Avid Residential Estates (the 'Client') to undertake a Bushfire Assessment Report (BAR) for a residential subdivision at 24 Duckenfield Road, Berry Park; legally referred to as Lot 112 DP734271.

This BAR found the site was exposed to a marginal bushfire hazard contained to the actively grazed paddocks; primarily to the west of the site which is also subject to regular inundation. The vegetation mapped as bushfire prone has either been cleared or heavily modified and has been assessed as a *grassland* due to extensive tree clearing and the absence of any vegetation apart from pasture grasses.

Accordingly, the predominant vegetation surrounding the site in unmanaged conditions is consistent with a *grassland* vegetation formation as described in the NSW Rural Fire Service document Planning for Bushfire Protection 2019 (PBP 2019). Primarily as it cannot be guaranteed that the paddocks will continue to be actively grazed.

The BAR concludes that the hazard identified can be successfully mitigated by applying the requirements of PBP 2019, including Asset Protection Zones (APZs).

The following key recommendations have been designed to enable the proposed development to achieve the aims and objectives of PBP 2019:

- 1. All land within the development site zoned R1 Residential shall be managed as an inner protection area (IPA) as outlined Appendix 4 of PBP 2019 and the RFS document *Standards for asset protection zones*;
- 2. The APZs shown in **Figure 12 Subdivision BAL Plan** shall be maintained in perpetuity in accordance with the requirements of Appendix 4 of PBP 2019;
- **3.** Access shall be provided in accordance with the Performance Criteria detailed in Table 5.3b of PBP 2019. This will require the provision of a minimum of eight (8) separate road access points provided from the development site to the east ad south to ensure safe evacuation for all residents;
- **4.** On-street vehicle parking may be permitted within road carriageways as all roads are a minimum 8m wide;
- 5. All temporary turning heads shall be constructed in accordance Appendix A3.3 of PBP 2019;
- 6. Vegetation within road verges (including swales) to be consistent with a grassland vegetation classification with tree canopy less than 10% at maturity (and considered unmanaged);
- 7. The Bushfire Attack Level (BAL) ratings identified in Figure 12 Subdivision BAL Plan apply to all future dwellings to be constructed on the proposed lots. All future dwellings to be constructed on the proposed lots shall have due regard to the specific considerations given in the National Construction Code: Building Code of Australia (BCA) which makes specific reference to Australian Standard AS3959-2018 Construction of buildings in bushfire prone areas (AS3959-2018) and the NASH Standard Steel Framed Construction in Bushfire Prone Areas;
- 8. All new lots are to be connected to a reliable water supply network and that suitable fire hydrants are located throughout the development site that are clearly marked and provided for the purposes of bushfire protection. Fire hydrant spacing, sizing and pressure shall comply with AS2419.1 2005 and section 5.3.3 of PBP 2019;
- **9.** Consideration should be given to landscaping and fuel loads on site to decrease potential fire hazards on site; and
- **10.** The Rural Fire Service endorse the Subdivision BAL Plan contained in **Appendix D**.



This assessment has been made based on the bushfire hazards observed in and around the site at the time of inspection and production (May 2023).

Should the above recommendations be implemented, the existing bushfire risk should be suitably mitigated to offer an acceptable level of protection to life and property for those persons and assets occupying the site but they do not and <u>cannot</u> guarantee that the area will <u>not</u> be affected by bushfire at some time.



1. Introduction

Bushfire Planning Australia (BPA) has been engaged by Avid Residential Estates (the 'Client') to undertake a Bushfire Assessment Report (BAR) for a residential subdivision at 24 Duckenfield Road, Berry Park, legally referred to as Lot 112 DP734271, and hereafter referred to as the 'site' (**Figure 2**).

The assessment aims to consider and assess the bushfire hazard and associated potential bushfire threat relevant to the proposed development, and to outline the minimum mitigative measures which would be required in accordance with the provisions of the New South Wales Rural Fire Service (RFS) publication *Planning for Bushfire Protection 2019* (PBP 2019) that has been released and adopted through the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Amendment* (Planning for Bushfire Protection) *Regulation 2007* and the *Rural Fires Regulation 2013*.



2. Site Description

Address	24 Duckenfield Road, Berry Park		
Title	Lot 112 DP734271		
LGA	Maitland City Council		
Subject Site Area	86.94 ha		
Land Use Zone	R1 General Residential, C2 Environmental Conservation and RU2 Rural Landscape		
Bushfire Prone Land Vegetation Category 2 and Vegetation Buffer			
Context	The site is an irregular shape that contains minimal vegetation as the land is either cleared or managed. Located in the south-western portion of the site is Four Mile Creek.		
	Surrounding the site to the east and south are developed residential properties or subdivisions whilst to the west are cleared grazing lands.		
Topography	The site is relatively flat and slopes west towards the floodplain.		
Fire History	The site lies within a local government area with a Fire Danger Index (FDI) rating of 100.		

Table 1: Site Details

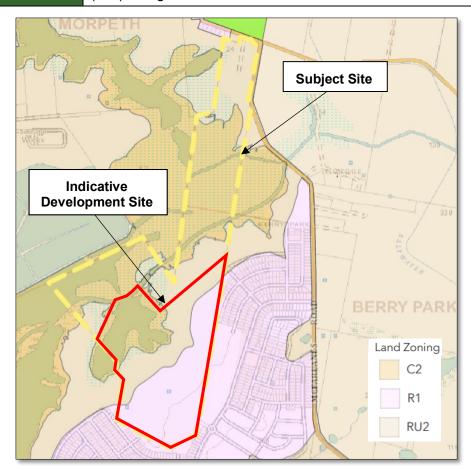
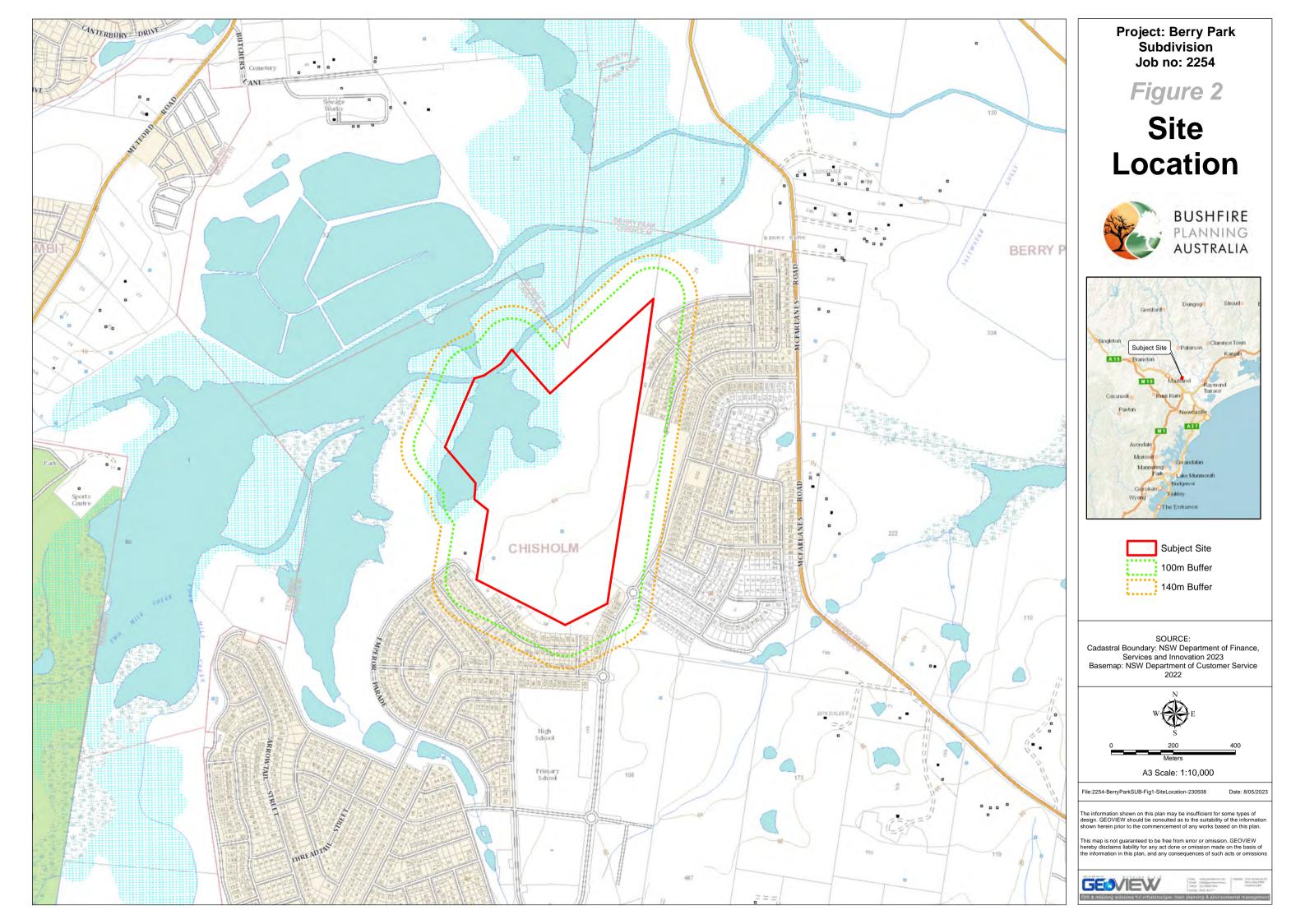


Figure 1: Land Zoning Map - Maitland LEP 2011



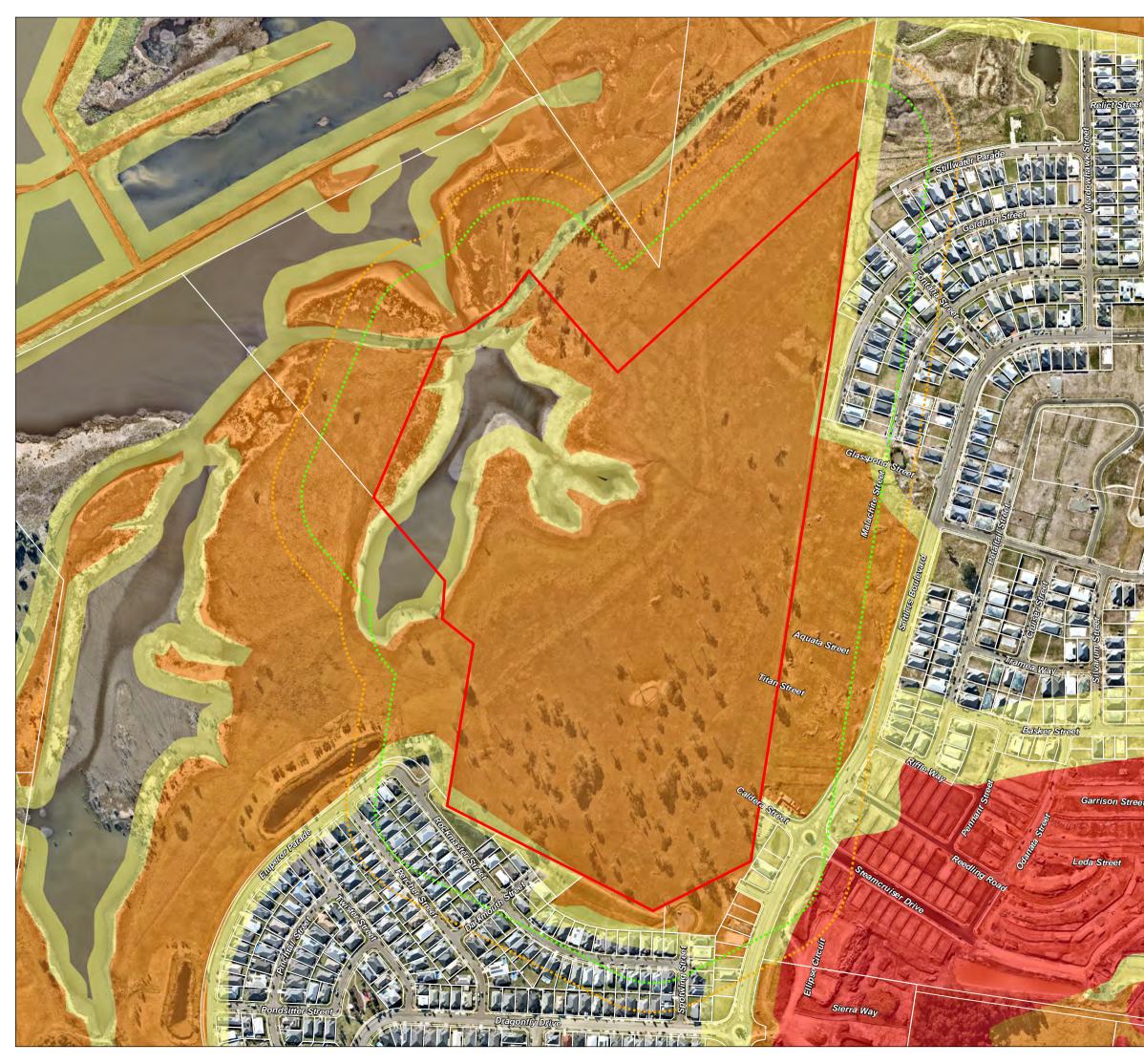


2.2. Bushfire Prone Land

Bushfire activity is prevalent in landscapes that carry fuel and the two predominant bushfire types are grassland and forest fires. Factors such as topographic characteristics and quantity of fuel loads influence the intensity and spread of fire. The scale of a bushfire hazard is tailored to the characteristics of the hazard, the size and characteristics of the affected population, types of land use exposed to bushfire, predicted development growth pressures and other factors affecting bushfire risk.

Figure 3 demonstrates the entire proposed development site is covered by bushfire prone Vegetation Category 3 with exception of narrow corridor of Vegetation Buffer located towards the western site boundary surrounding the existing water body's edge.

Similarly, Vegetation Category 3 bushfire prone land surrounds the site within 140m and also contains isolated corridors of Vegetation Buffer surrounding existing water bodies. Whilst the site is largely mapped as the lowest threat vegetation; Category 3, the vegetation is limited to actively grazed pastures and land that has continuously being used as farming land.





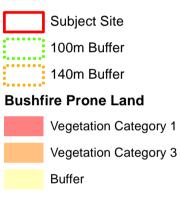
Project: Berry Park Subdivision Job no: 2254



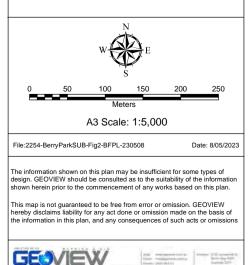
NSW Bush Fire Prone Land







SOURCE: Cadastral Boundary: NSW Department of Finance, Services and Innovation 2022 NSW Bush Fire Prone Land: NSW Rural Fire Service 2022 Aerial Photo: Nearmap 14/06/2022





2.3. Proposed Development

The proposed development seeks to create a 282 lot Torrens Title residential subdivision along the eastern and southern boundary of the subject site.

A plan of the proposed residential subdivision is shown in **Figure 4** and detailed plans contained in **Appendix A**.

2.3.1. Rural Fire Service Pre-DA Advice – Performance Solution for Access: Parking within Carriageway

A Pre-DA Advice application was submitted to the RFS in September 2022 seeking advice regarding the proposed network of perimeter and non-perimeter roads; specifically the width of the proposed roads and the availability for on-street vehicle parking.

The design proposes a Performance Solution to permit parking within the carriegway. The proposed development includes minimum 8m wide non-perimeter roads and 10.5m perimeter roads; exceeding the minimum required carriegway by 2.5m.

The RFS provided a Pre-DA Advice Summary (**Appendix E**) on 9 February 2023 confirming the Performance Solution is supported.



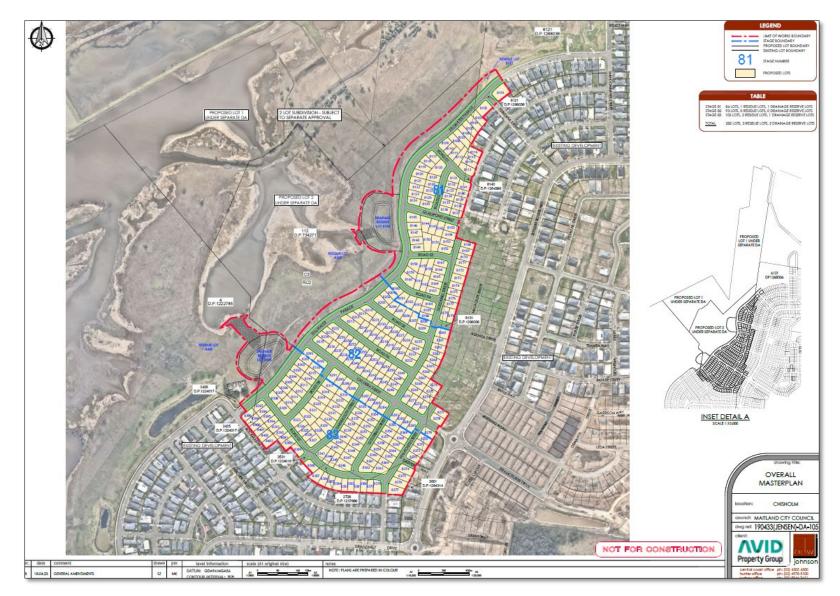


Figure 4: Proposed Development



2.4. Aims and Objectives

The assessment aims to consider and assess the bushfire hazard and associated potential bushfire threat relevant to the proposed development, and to outline the minimum mitigative measures which would be required in accordance with the provisions of the New South Wales Rural Fire Service (RFS) publication *Planning for Bushfire Protection 2019* (PBP 2019) and the *Rural Fires Regulation 2013*.

This assessment has been undertaken in accordance with clause 44 of the Rural Fires Regulation 2013. This BAR also addresses the aims and objectives of PBP 2019, being:

- □ Afford buildings and their occupants protection from exposure to a bushfire;
- Provide a defendable space to be located around buildings;
- Provide appropriate separation between a hazard and buildings which, in combination with other measures, prevent the likely fire spread to buildings;
- Ensure that appropriate operational access and egress for emergency service personnel and occupants is available;
- Provide for ongoing management and maintenance of bushfire protection measures (BPMs); and
- Ensure that utility services are adequate to meet the needs of firefighters.



3. Bushfire Hazard Assessment

3.1. Vegetation Assessment

Vegetation classification over the site and surrounding area has been carried out as follows:

- Aerial Photograph Interpretation to map the vegetation classification and extent;
- Review of LiDAR point cloud data (NSW LPI);
- Reference to NSW State Vegetation Type, NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment 2022 (Figure 5); and
- Site inspection by Stuart Greville on 1 September 2022.

In accordance with PBP 2019, an assessment of the existing vegetation over a distance of 140m in all directions from the site was undertaken.

The findings of the site inspection were compared to the NSW State Vegetation Type mapping (**Figure 5**). The inconsistencies between the mapping sources were quantified during the site inspection.

The vegetation mapped as a bushfire prone to the east of the site as shown on **Figure 5**, was observed to have been removed as part of the approved residential development. All remaining mapped vegetation within the site mapped as a *forest* has been extensively modified and therefore assessed as a *grassland*. This is inconsistent with the current NSW State Vegetation Type that identifies the south-eastern portion of the site as *forest*, namely Hunter Macleay Dry Sclerophyll Forest. The existing vegetation within the balance of the site will continue to be managed identical to the current land management practices.

All remaining vegetation within 140m of the subject site has a history of being actively grazed and also regularly inundated by long-standing floodwaters. Notwithstanding, as the floodwater may recede to a point where the surface is revealed, and management of the vegetation cannot be guaranteed, the vegetation up to 100m from the site is classified as *grassland* or non-vegetated areas (roads, buildings and other structures).





Plate 1: Southern corner looking west across approved subdivision



Plate 2: Looking west across southern portion of site towards floodplain – through grazed paddock





Plate 3: Looking north east along eastern boundary towards approved residential development



Plate 4: Looking north along approximate R2 zone boundary

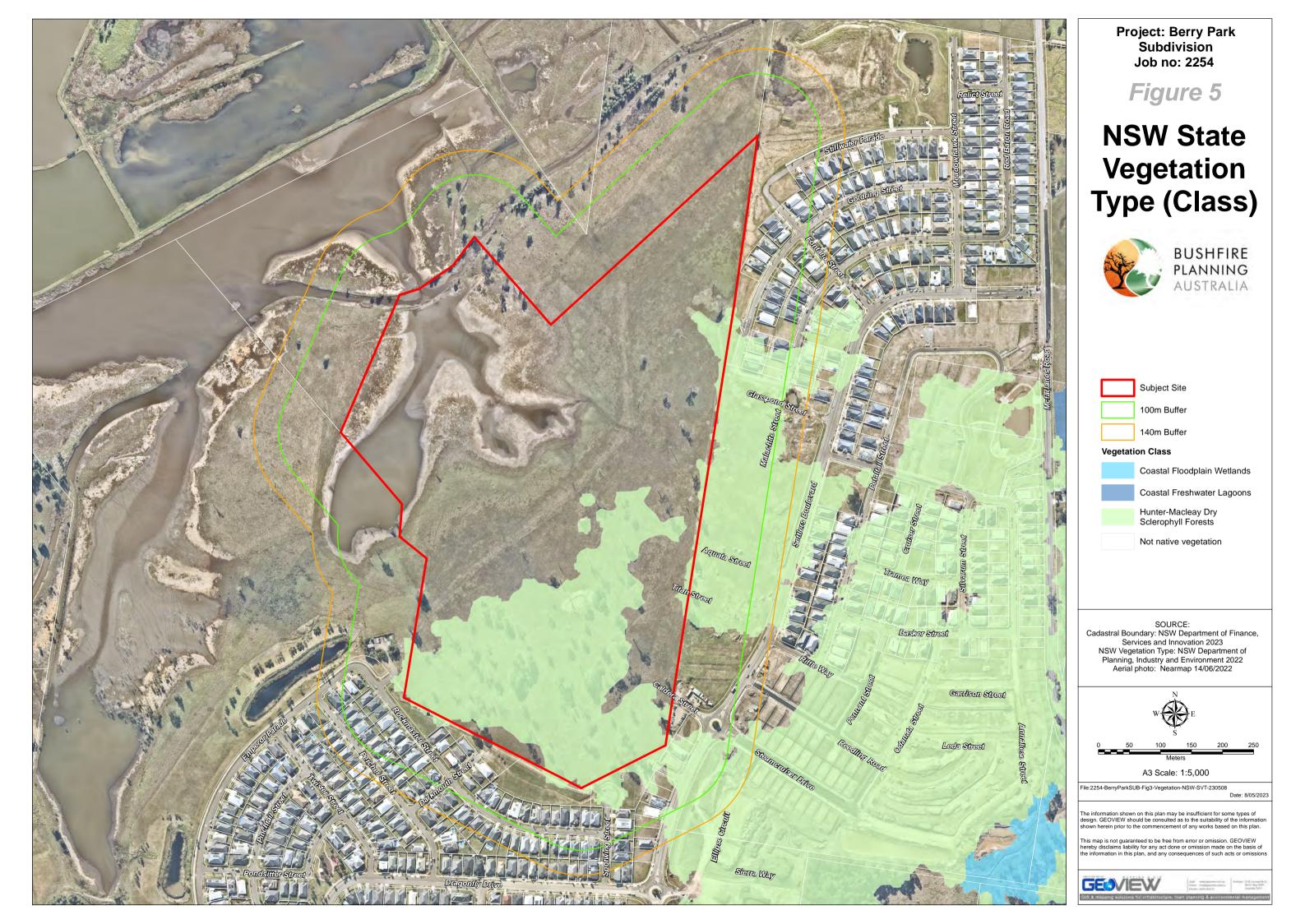




Plate 5: Looking north of the subject site



Plate 6: Looking west across the site towards floodplain





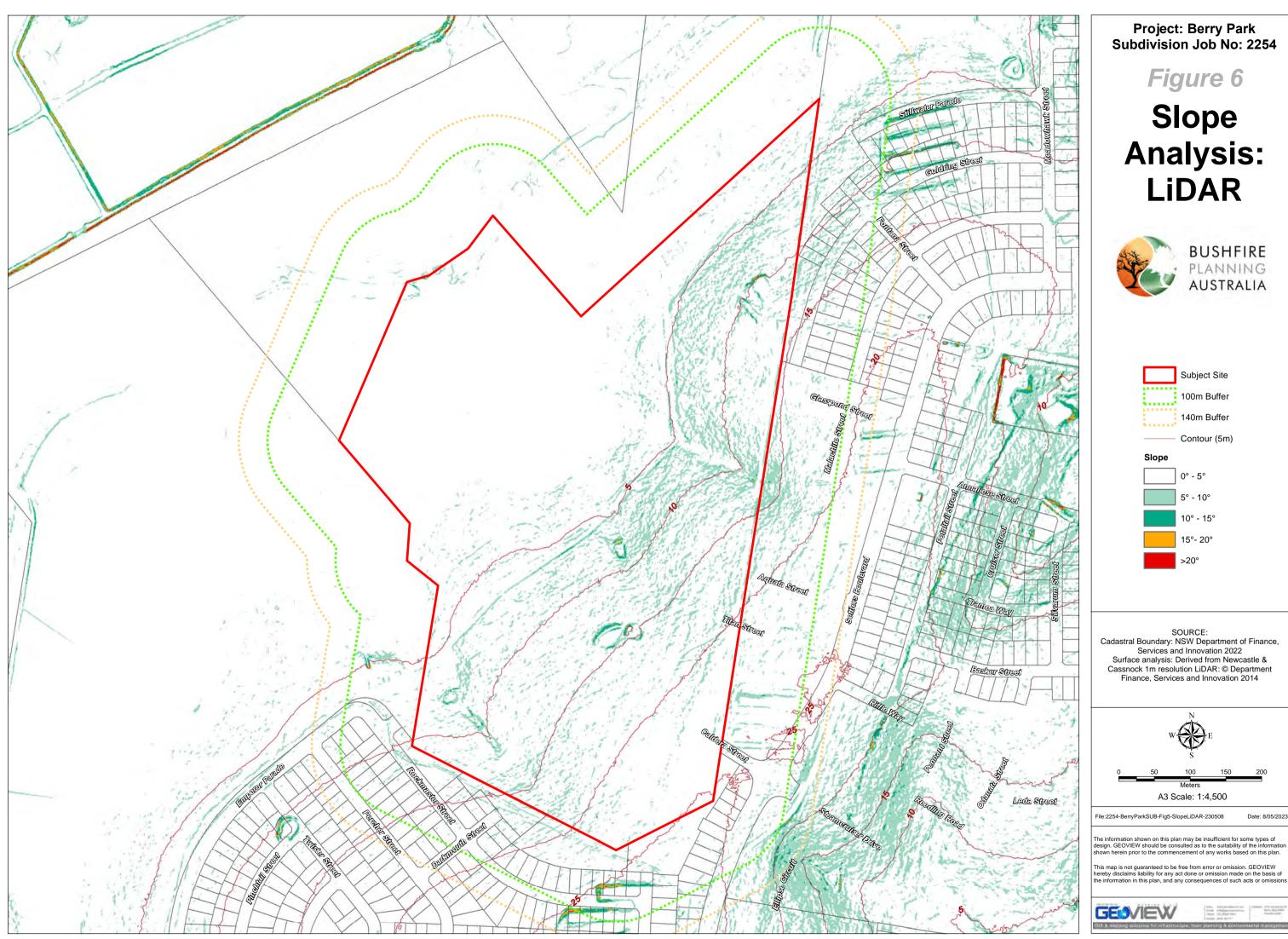
3.2. Slope Assessment

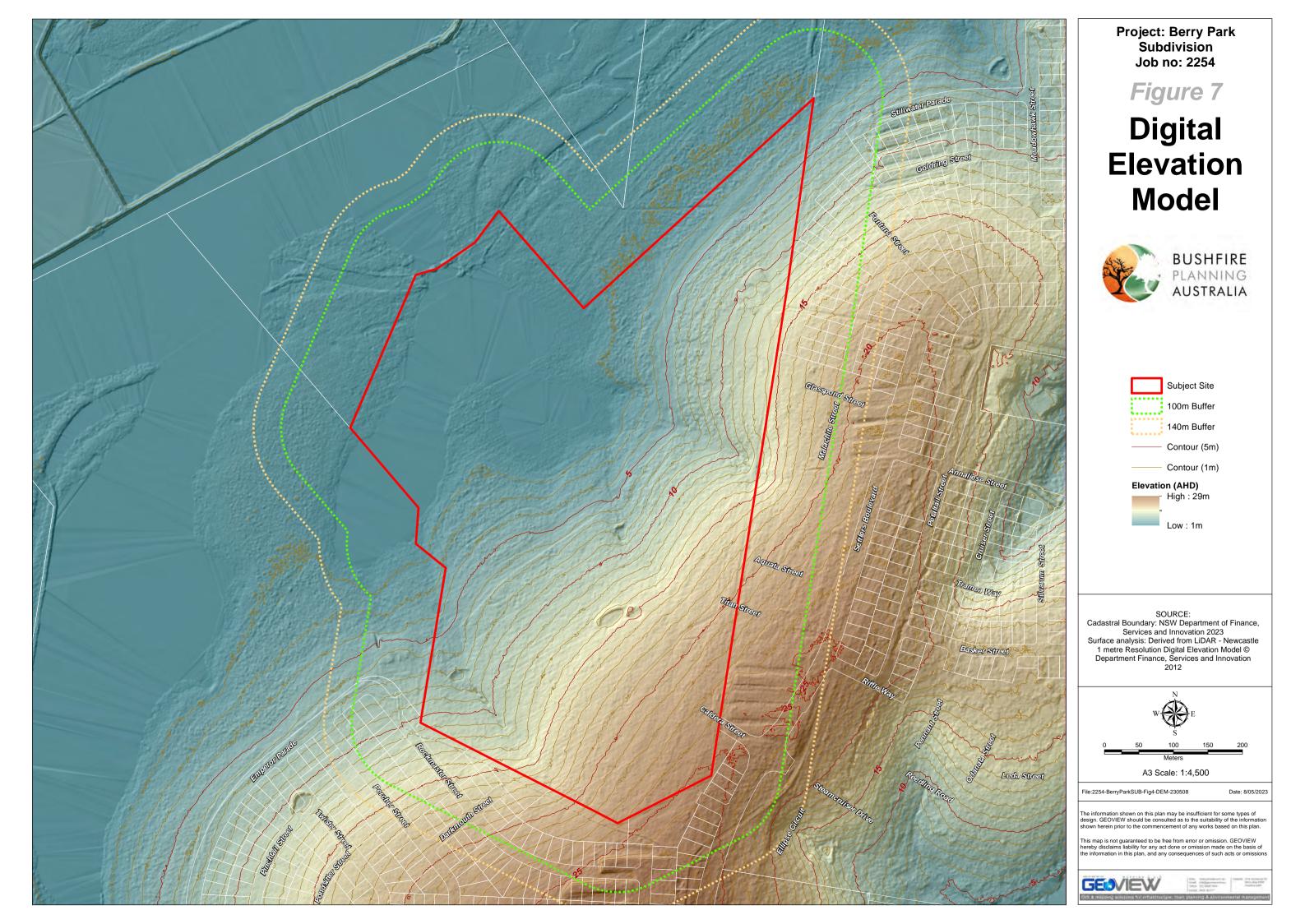
The slope assessment was undertaken as follows:

- Review of LiDAR point cloud data including DEM (NSW LPI);
- Detail survey of existing contours; and
- □ Site inspection on 1 September 2022.

An assessment of the slope over a distance of 140m in the hazard direction from the site boundary was undertaken. The effective slope was then calculated under the classified vegetation where there was a fire run greater than 50m. The topography of the site has been evaluated to identify both the average slope and by identifying the maximum slope present. These values help determine the level of gradient which will most significantly influence the fire behaviour of the site.

The effective slope in all directions is shown in Figure 6, Figure 7 and Table 2.







3.3. Results

The site inspection formed part of a reliability assessment to determine whether the site's mapped characteristics were consistent with the actual slope and vegetation characteristics observed on the site. It was confirmed on site the predominant vegetation classification presenting as a bushfire hazard, located to the west within and beyond the proposed development site, was identified as a *grassland* in accordance with the descriptions contained in Keith. The vegetation formation is used to assess the hazard as shown in **Table 2**.

The vegetation class and effective slope in all directions is shown in Figure 8.

Transect	Vegetation Description	Vegetation Classification (PBP 2019)	Slope	
T1 East	Existing residential subdivision east of the site	Non-Hazard (Existing development)	-2.2° Upslope	
T2 East	Existing residential subdivision south of the site	Non-Hazard (Existing development)	-2.5° Upslope	
T3 On-site	Grassland vegetation within the subject site, west of the proposed development site	Grassland	1.9° Downslope	
T4 On-site	Grassland vegetation within the subject site, west of the proposed development site	Grassland	2.5° Downslope	
T5 Drainage reserve (water basin) surrounded by grassland within On-site the subject site, west of the proposed development site		Grassland	1.9° Downslope	

Table 2: Slope and Vegetation





3.4. Significant Environmental Features

There are no known environmental features of significance within the development footprint or the balance of the site. The development footprint is wholly located within that part of the site that is predominantly cleared.

3.5. Threatened Species, populations or ecological communities

The area of the site to be affected by the proposed development has been identified to minimise impact on any threatened species, population or EEC. All bushfire mitigation measures; including APZs have considered the existing and potential biodiversity values to avoid impact where possible.

3.6. Aboriginal Objects

A search of the AHIMS database (results contained in **Appendix B**) revealed there are no Aboriginal sites or places recorded in or near the subject site.

3.7. Bushfire Planning - Urban Release Area

The subject site is identified within a Bushfire Planning – Urban Release Area (URA) as indicated on **Figure 9** and **10**. As a subdivision of land within an URA, the assessment undertaken as part of the preparation of the BMP may exempt the proposed lots from reassessment of bushfire matters when future land owners are ready to construct a dwelling on their lot/s. For the future landowners to benefit from the available exemptions, a Post-Subdivision Bush Fire Attack Level Certificate (PSBC) must be obtained to allow for the streamlined process. To facilitate the PSBC, a Subdivision BAL Plan is required that demonstrates the location of APZs and that all new lots can suitably accommodated a dwelling envelope achieving BAL-29 or less.

A **Subdivision BAL Plan** has been prepared and contained in **Appendix D**. As part of the application for a BFSA it is requested the RFS endorse the included **Subdivision BAL Plan**.

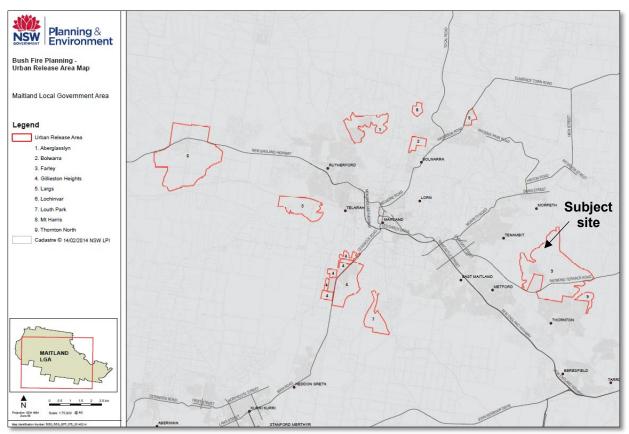


Figure 9: Bushfire Planning - Urban Release Area Map (Maitland LGA)



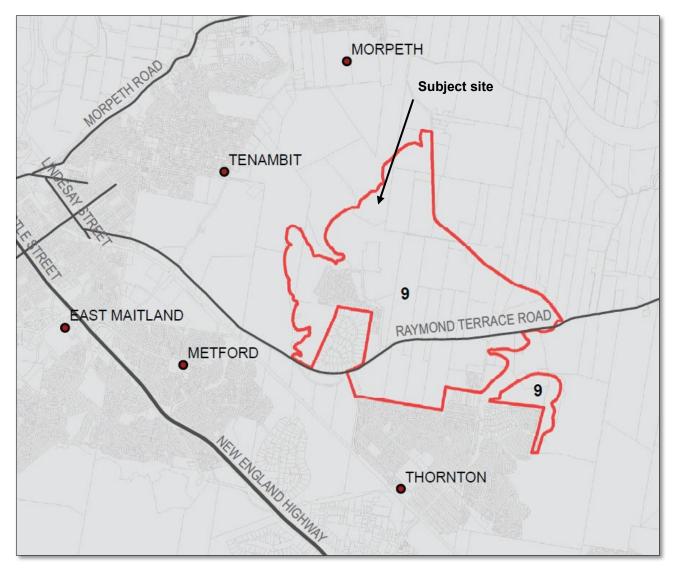


Figure 10: Bushfire Planning - Urban Release Area: Thornton North



4. Bushfire Protection Measures

This BAR has adopted the methodology to determine the appropriate Bushfire Protection Measures (BPMs) detailed in PBP 2019. As part of the BAR, the recommended BPMs demonstrate the aims and objectives of PBP 2019 have been satisified; including the matters considered by the RFS necessary to protect persons, property and the environment from the danger that may arise from a bushfire.

4.1. Asset Protection Zones – Performance Solution

An 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. 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). In this instance the balance of the development site shall be managed as an IPA.

An APZ can include the following:

- Lawns;
- Discontinuous gardens;
- Swimming pools;
- □ Roads, driveways and managed verges;
- □ Unattached non-combustible garages with suitable separation from the dwelling;
- Open space / parkland; and
- Car parking.

The presence of a few shrubs or trees in the APZ 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 recommended in the APZ.

4.1.1. Determining the Appropriate Setbacks

To achieve compliance with the performance criteria for APZs (Table 5.3a), the Acceptable Solutions outlined in Table A1.12.2 of PBP 2019 may be adopted as a deemed-to-satisify solution. Specifically, the recommended APZs have been calculated to ensure a building is able to be constructed will not be exposed to radiant heat levels greater than 29kW/m².

Refer to **Table 3** for the required APZs.



Transect	Vegetation Classification (PBP 2019)	Slope	PBP 2019 (Table A1.12.2)	APZ Provided
T1 East	Non-Hazard (Existing development)	-2.2° Upslope	N/A	>100m
T2 East	Non-Hazard (Existing development)	-2.5° Upslope	N/A	>100m
T3 On-site	Grassland	1.9° Downslope	12m	>12m
T4 On-site	Grassland	2.5° Downslope	12m	>12m
T5 On-site	Grassland	1.9° Downslope	12m	>12m

Table 3: Required APZ setback - FDI @ 100

The recommended APZ is considered to be reasonable in this instance and satisfies the Performance Criteria for APZs outlined in Table 5.3a of PBP 2019.



4.2. Access – Performance Solution

In the unlikely event of a serious bushfire, it will be essential to ensure that adequate ingress / egress and the provision of defendable space are afforded in the subdivision layout. All dwellings must have direct access to a public road. Section 5.3.2 of PBP 2019 requires a development to provide safe operational access to structures and water supply for emergency services while residents are seeking to evacuate.

Primary access to the proposed development will be available from several interconnecting streets via the neighbouring existing eastern and southern subdivisions. The proposed development provides a 10.5m wide perimeter road (Stillwater Parade) that separates the residential lots from the bushfire hazard. There are also several non-perimeter roads providing safe, direct access and egress to each residential lot. All non-perimeter roads are a minimum of 8m wide; with 2 non-perimeter roads being 10.5m and 11.0m wide (Glasspond Street and Caldera Street). Accordingly, all new roads comply with the Acceptable Solutions for public access roads (5.5m and 8m respectively).

Although the proposed road design complies with the Acceptable Solutions under Table 5.3b of PBP 2019, it is understood Maitland City Council requires on-street parking on both sides of the public roads. Consequently, an 8m wide non-perimeter road cannot fulfil this requirement as parking is only possible on 1 side of a road where a minimum 5.5m wide carriageway is required.

Accordingly, to ensure the proposed development complies with all relevant Acceptable Solutions of PBP 2019, a Performance Solution has been prepared to ensure the proposal is able to comply with the Performance Criteria detailed in Table 5.3b of PBP 2019.

A Pre-DA Advice application was submitted to the RFS in September 2022. The advice sought by the RFS aimed to obtain support for the proposed Performance Solution; specifically, the requirement to provide vehicle parking outside of road carriageway. The following information was provided to support the Performance Solution.

All new perimeter roads and non-perimeter roads are required to be designed in accordance with Maitland City Council development control plan and engineering specifications. The proposed 8m wide internal local streets (non-perimeter roads) are considered sufficiently wide enough to accommodate parking for light vehicles on both sides of road, outside of the primary vehicle carriageway. It is noted the standard for on-street parking required by Australian Standard AS2890.5:2020 Parking facilities On-street parking for roads with a speed limit of 50km/hr or less is to be between 2.0m and 2.3m. It is also noted that a RFS Category 1 Firefighting vehicle is 2.4m wide. Furthermore, applying the option of permitting short constrictions where the width of the access road may be reduced for sections less than 30m, an 8m wide road is considered wide enough to provide a continuous unobstructed carriageway with parking on both sides of the road. The combination of double width driveways along a typical residential local street will prevent a continuous line of parked cars on both sides of the local street. It is also unlikely that on-street parking demand in the locality would result in vehicles parked along both sides of non-perimeter (or perimeter) roads.

Due to the lower risk bushfire hazard to the east, we request the RFS customise the conditions of the BFSA to omit the Acceptable Solution requiring "parking is provided outside of the carriageway width". This will permit some infrequent parking within the carriageway without compromising emergency services vehicles. Alternatively, the RFS may consider a minimum 4m wide carriageway for non-perimeter roads and a 6.5m wide carriageway for perimeter roads. Both options are still able to achieve the Intent of Measures for Access.

The RFS provided their Pre-DA Advice Summary on 9 February 2023 and is contained **in Appendix E**. The RFS confirmed support for the proposed Performance Solution as it was considered an appropriate design solution commensurate with the bushfire risk profile of the site.

In summary, it is considered the proposed road network provides safe, all-weather two-way through roads and safe operational access for emergency service personnel and evacuation purposes; complying with the relevant provisions contained in Section 5.3.2 of PBP. Accordingly, the access requirements can be achieved by meeting the Performance Criteria under Table 5.3b of PBP 2019.



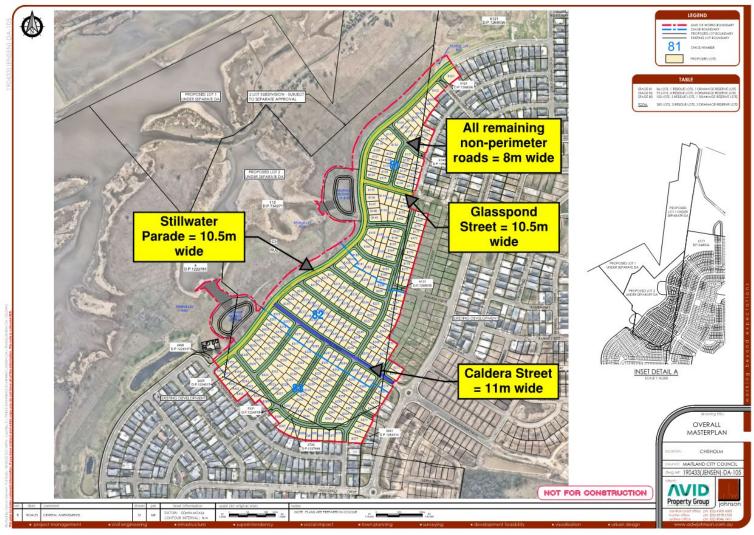


Figure 11: Road Hierarchy Plan



4.3. Services - water, electricity and gas

4.3.1. Water

The proposed development is able to be connected to a reticulated water supply in accordance with Table 5.3c of PBP 2019.

4.3.2. Electricity

The electricity services for the proposed development will be located underground.

4.3.3. Gas

Any existing or future reticulated or bottled gas will be installed and maintained according to the requirements of the relevant authorities and AS 1596-2002. It is expected that the location of gas services will not lead to ignition of surrounding bushland or the fabric of buildings.



4.4. Construction Standards - Bushfire Attack Level

All buildings must satisfy the Performance Requirements of the National Construction Code: Building Code of Australia (BCA). Part 2.3 of Volume 2 of the BCA applies to dwellings located within designated bushfire areas, which are defined as:

Land which has been designated under a power in legislation as being subject, or likely to be subject to, bushfires.

Accordingly, any forthcoming habitable buildings must satisfy the requirements of Part 3.7.4 of the BCA. The *Deemed-to-Satisfy* (DTS) provision of the BCA can only be achieved if dwellings in bushfire prone areas are constructed in accordance with Australian Standard *AS3959-2018 Construction of buildings in bushfire prone areas*. Alternatively, the DTS provisions can also be achieved if the habitable building is constructed in accordance with the NASH Standard 'Steel Framed Construction in Bushfire Areas'.

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.

The determinations of the appropriate bushfire attack level (BAL) is based on the maximum potential radiant heat exposure. BALs 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 BAL is derived by assessing the:

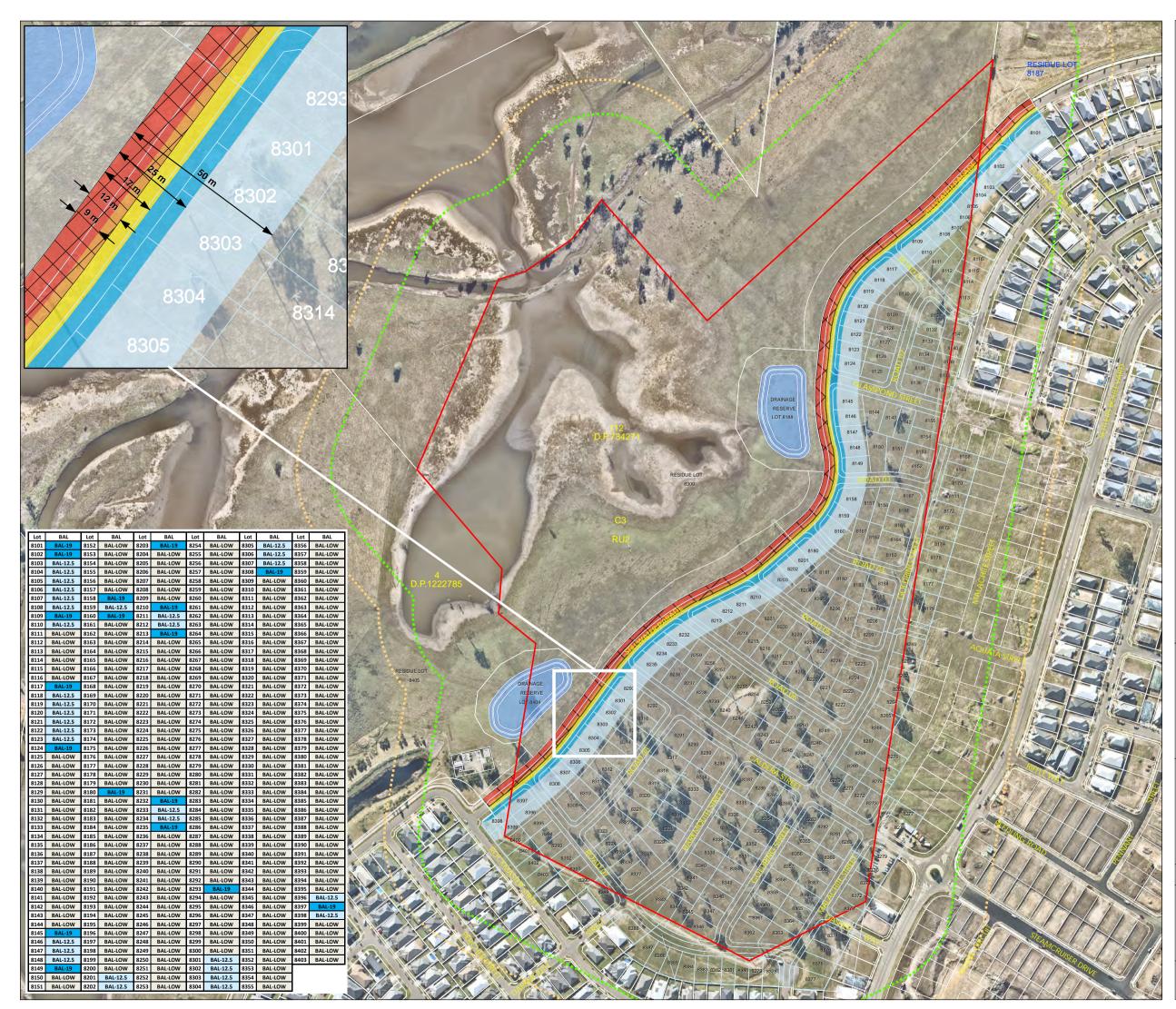
- □ Relevant GFDI = 100;
- □ Flame temperature = *1090K*;
- □ Slope = *downslope*;
- □ Vegetation classification = *grassland*; and
- Building location.

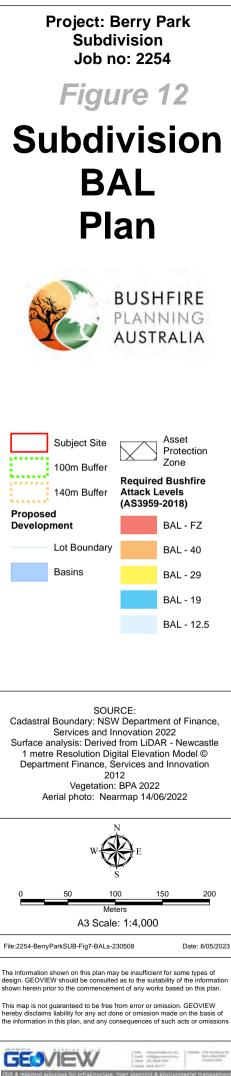
The greatest bushfire hazard was found to the west of the site being a *grassland*. All sites with the development layout are exposed to BAL-29 or less.

Refer to Table 4 and Figure 12 for the required Bushfire Attack Levels (BALs).

Transect	Vegetation Classification (PBP 2019)	Slope	APZ (PBP 2019 A1.12.5)	Distance from Hazard	Bushfire Attack Level (BAL)
				0m-<9m	BAL-FZ
T3 to T5	Grassland	<5.0° Downslope	12m	9m-<12m	BAL-40
On-site				12m-<17m	BAL-29
West				17m-<25m	BAL-19
				25m-<50m	BAL-12.5

Table 4: Required BALs (Table A1.12.5 PBP 2019)







4.5. Landscaping and Vegetation Management

In APZs and IPAs, the design and management of the landscaped areas in the vicinity of buildings have the potential to improve the chances of survival of people and buildings. Reduction of fuel does not require the removal of all vegetation. Trees and plants can provide some bushfire protection from strong winds, intense heat and flying embers (by filtering embers) and changing wind patterns.

Generally landscaping in and around a bushfire hazard should consider the following:

- Priority given to retaining species that have a low flammability;
- Priority given to retaining species which do not drop much litter in the bushfire season, and which do not drop litter that persists as ground fuel in the bush fire season;
- Priority given to retaining smooth barked species over stringy bark; and
- Create discontinuous or gaps in the vegetation to slow down or break the progress of fire towards the dwellings.

Landscaping within APZs and IPAs should give due regard to fire retardant plants and ensure that fuel loads do not accumulate as a result of the selected plant varieties.

The principles of landscaping for bushfire protection aim to:

- Prevent flame impingement on dwellings;
- □ Provide a defendable space for property protection;
- □ Reduce fire spread;
- Deflect and filter embers;
- □ Provide shelter from radiant heat; and
- □ Reduce wind speed.

Plants that are less flammable have the following features;

- □ High moisture content;
- High levels of salt;
- □ Low volatile oil content of leaves;
- Smooth barks without 'ribbons' hanging from branches or trunks; and
- Dense crown and elevated branches.

Avoiding understorey planting and regular trimming of the lower limbs of trees also assists in reducing fire penetration into the canopy. Rainforests species such as Syzygium and figs are preferred to species with high fine fuel and/or oil content.

Careful thought must be given to the type and physical location of any proposed site landscaping. Inappropriately selected and positioned vegetation has the potential to 'replace' any previously removed fuel load.

Bearing in mind the desired aesthetic and environment sought by site landscaping, some basic principles have been recommended to help minimise the chance of such works contributing to the potential hazard on site.

Whilst it is recognised that fire-retardant plant species are not always the most aesthetically pleasing choice for site landscaping, the need for adequate protection of life and property requires that a suitable balance between visual and safety concerns be considered.

It is reiterated again that it is <u>essential</u> that any landscaped areas and surrounds are subject to ongoing fuel management and reduction to ensure that fine fuels do not build up.



4.6. Emergency Services

In the event of an emergency, there is a NSW Rural Fire Service located at 169 Swan Street, Morpeth within 2.2km (approximately 4 minutes) from the site (**Figure 13**). A second NSW Rural Fire Brigade is located Kooralbyn Street, Thornton within 8.8kms (approximately 12 minutes) from the site (**Figure 14**).

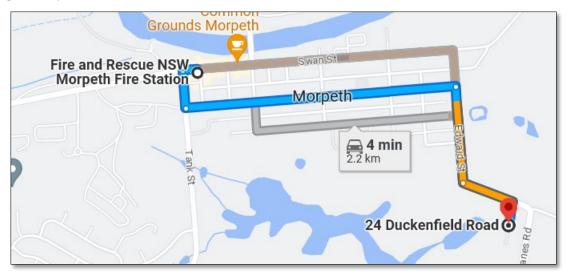


Figure 13: NSW Fire & Rescue Service - Morpeth

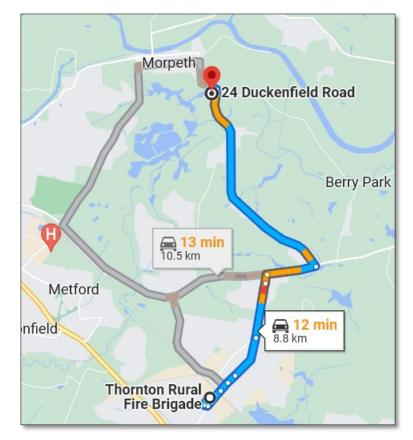


Figure 14: NSW Rural Fire Brigade - Thornton



5. Conclusion and Recommendations

Bushfire Planning Australia prepared a Bushfire Assessment Report for the proposed residential subdivision at 24 Duckenfield Road, Berry Park; legally referred to as Lot 112 DP734271.

This BAR found the site was exposed to a marginal bushfire hazard contained to the actively grazed paddocks; primarily to the west of the site which is also subject to regular inundation. The vegetation mapped as bushfire prone has either been cleared or heavily modified and has been assessed as a *grassland* due to extensive tree clearing and the absence of any vegetation apart from pasture grasses.

Accordingly, the predominant vegetation surrounding the site in unmanaged conditions is consistent with a *grassland* vegetation formation as described in the NSW Rural Fire Service document Planning for Bushfire Protection 2019 (PBP 2019). Primarily as it cannot be guaranteed that the paddocks will continue to be actively grazed.

The BAR concludes that the hazard identified can be successfully mitigated by applying the requirements of PBP 2019, including Asset Protection Zones (APZs).

The following key recommendations have been designed to enable the proposed development to achieve the aims and objectives of PBP 2019:

- 1. All land within the development site zoned R1 Residential shall be managed as an inner protection area (IPA) as outlined Appendix 4 of PBP 2019 and the RFS document *Standards for asset protection zones*;
- 2. The APZs shown in **Figure 12 Subdivision BAL Plan** shall be maintained in perpetuity in accordance with the requirements of Appendix 4 of PBP 2019;
- **3.** Access shall be provided in accordance with the Performance Criteria detailed in Table 5.3b of PBP 2019. This will require the provision of a minimum of four (4) separate road access points provided from the development site to the east and west to ensure safe evacuation for all residents;
- **4.** On-street vehicle parking may be permitted within road carriageways as all roads are a minimum 8m wide;
- 5. All temporary turning heads shall be constructed in accordance Appendix A3.3 of PBP 2019;
- 6. Vegetation within road verges (including swales) to be consistent with a grassland vegetation classification with tree canopy less than 10% at maturity (and considered unmanaged);
- 7. The Bushfire Attack Level (BAL) ratings identified in Figure 12 Subdivision BAL Plan apply to all future dwellings to be constructed on the proposed lots. All future dwellings to be constructed on the proposed lots shall have due regard to the specific considerations given in the National Construction Code: Building Code of Australia (BCA) which makes specific reference to Australian Standard AS3959-2018 Construction of buildings in bushfire prone areas (AS3959-2018) and the NASH Standard Steel Framed Construction in Bushfire Prone Areas;
- 8. All new lots are to be connected to a reliable water supply network and that suitable fire hydrants are located throughout the development site that are clearly marked and provided for the purposes of bushfire protection. Fire hydrant spacing, sizing and pressure shall comply with AS2419.1 2005 and section 5.3.3 of PBP 2019;
- **9.** Consideration should be given to landscaping and fuel loads on site to decrease potential fire hazards on site; and
- 10. The Rural Fire Service endorse the Subdivision BAL Plan contained in Appendix D.

This assessment has been made based on the bushfire hazards observed in and around the site at the time of inspection and production (May 2023).



Should the above recommendations be implemented, the existing bushfire risk should be suitably mitigated to offer an acceptable level of protection to life and property for those persons and assets occupying the site, but they do not and <u>cannot</u> guarantee that the area will <u>not</u> be affected by bushfire at some time.



6. References

- NSW Rural Fire Service (2005). Standards for Asset Protection Zones. NSW Rural Fire Service.
- NSW Rural Fire Service (2019). Planning for Bushfire Protection A Guide for Councils, Planners, Fire Authorities, Developers and Home Owners.
- Ramsay, GC and Dawkins, D (1993). Building in Bushfire-prone Areas Information and Advice. CSIRO and Standards Australia.
- **u** Rural Fires and Environmental Assessment Legislation Amendment Act 2002.
- Standards Australia (2018). AS 3959 2018: Construction of Buildings in Bushfire-prone Areas.

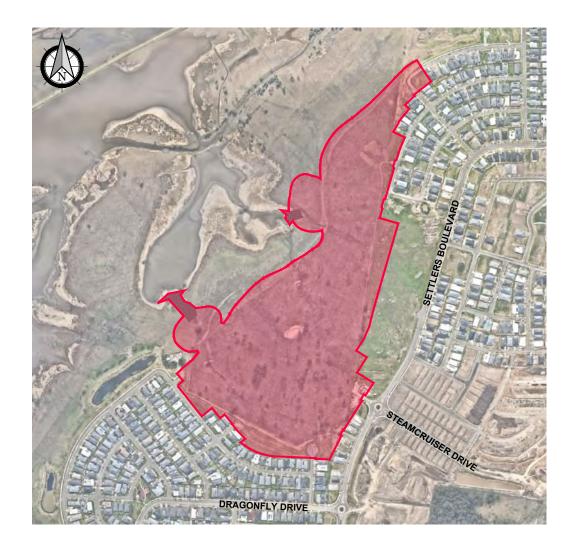


Appendix A: Proposed Plan of Subdivision

DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION

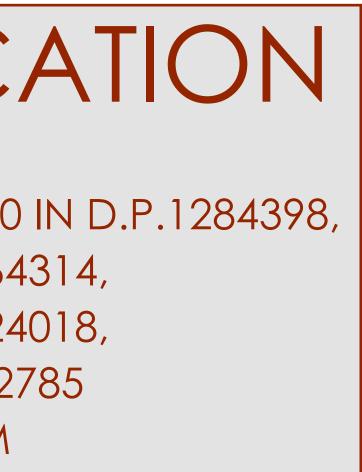
"WATERFORD" JENSEN

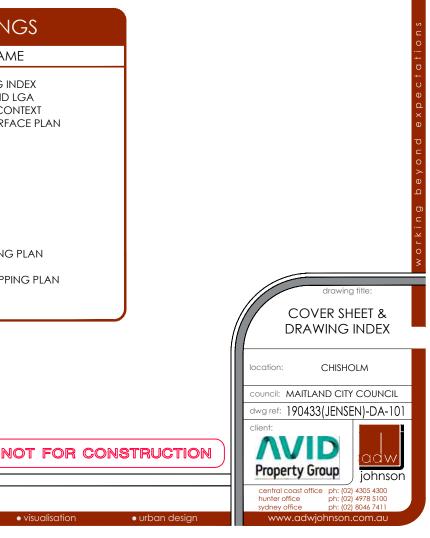
LOT 112 IN D.P.734271, LOT 6121 IN D.P.1268036, LOT 6140 IN D.P.1284398, LOT 6131 IN D.P.1268036, LOT 3001 IN D.P.1264314, LOT 2726 IN D.P.1237666, LOT 2531 IN D.P.1224018, LOT 2425 IN D.P.1224017 & LOT 4 IN D.P.1222785 RAYMOND TERRACE ROAD, CHISHOLM



DRAWING No. TITLE NAME	١N	IDEX OF DRAWINGS
	DRAWING No.	TITLE NAME
DA-102LOCALITY PLAN - MAITLAND LGADA-103LOCALITY PLAN - LOCAL CONTEXTDA-104EXISTING SITE NATURAL SURFACE PLADA-105OVERALL MASTERPLANDA-106DETAIL PLAN - SHEET 1DA-107DETAIL PLAN - SHEET 2DA-108DETAIL PLAN - SHEET 3DA-109DETAIL PLAN - SHEET 4DA-110DETAIL PLAN - SHEET 5DA-111DETAIL PLAN - SHEET 6DA-112DETAIL PLAN - SHEET 7DA-113LOT SIZE PLANDA-115LOT DIVERSITY PLAN	DA-103 DA-104 DA-105 DA-106 DA-107 DA-108 DA-109 DA-110 DA-111 DA-112 DA-113 DA-114 DA-115 DA-116	LOCALITY PLAN - LOCAL CONTEXT EXISTING SITE NATURAL SURFACE PLAN OVERALL MASTERPLAN DETAIL PLAN - SHEET 1 DETAIL PLAN - SHEET 2 DETAIL PLAN - SHEET 3 DETAIL PLAN - SHEET 4 DETAIL PLAN - SHEET 5 DETAIL PLAN - SHEET 5 DETAIL PLAN - SHEET 7 LOT SIZE PLAN ZONING & FLOOD MAPPING PLAN LOT DIVERSITY PLAN ACID SULPHATE SOILS MAPPING PLAN

This This		• pro	ject management	• civil enginee	ring	 infrastructure 	 superintendency 	 social impact 	 town planning 	 surveying 	 development feasibility 	 visualisati
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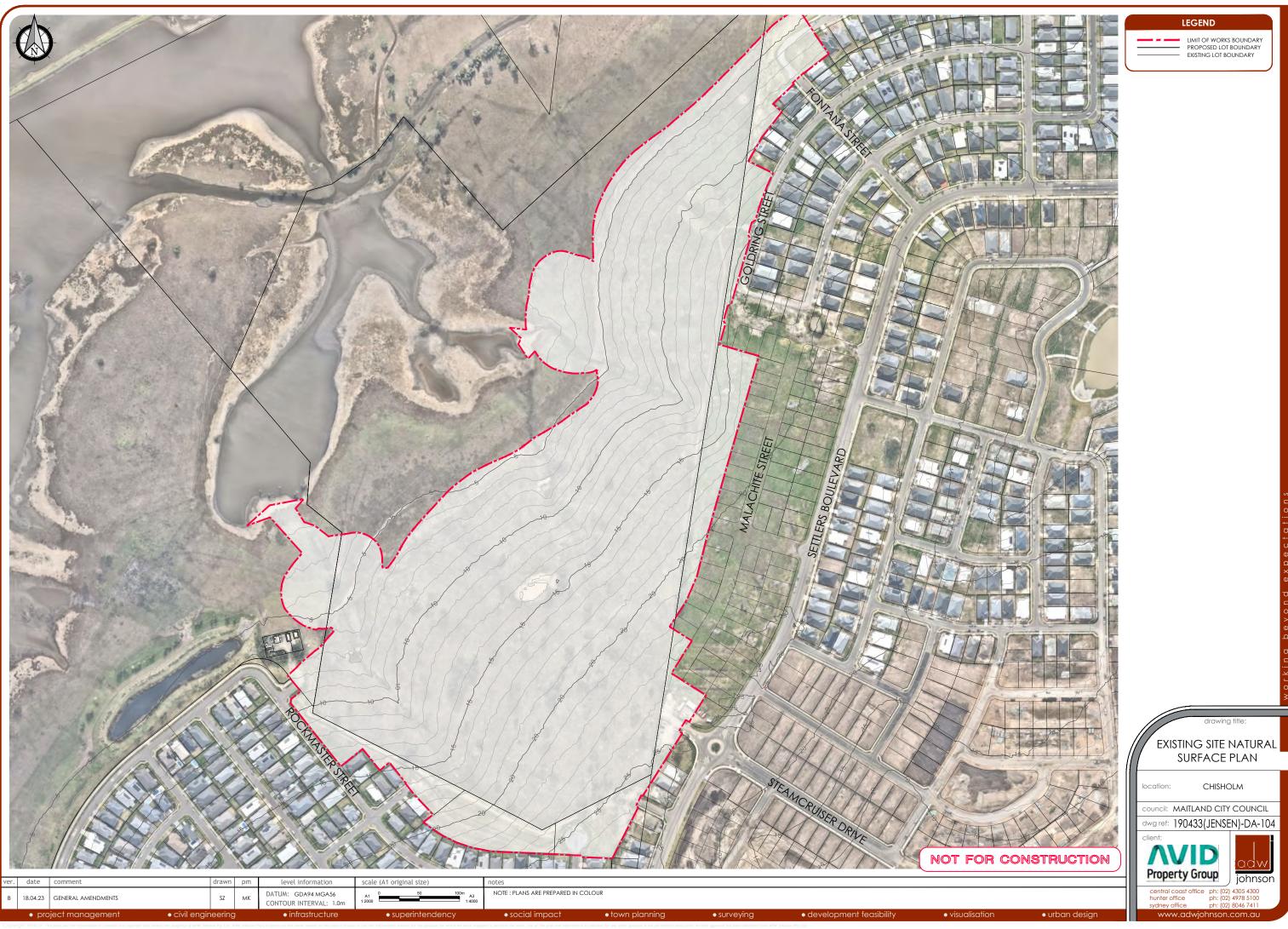
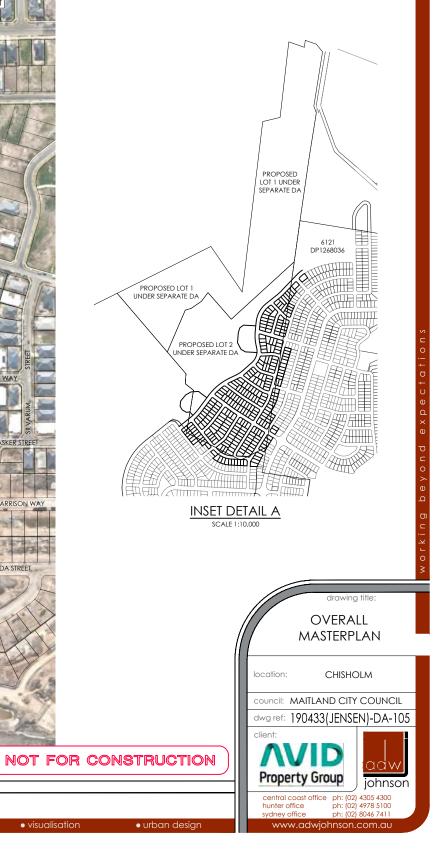
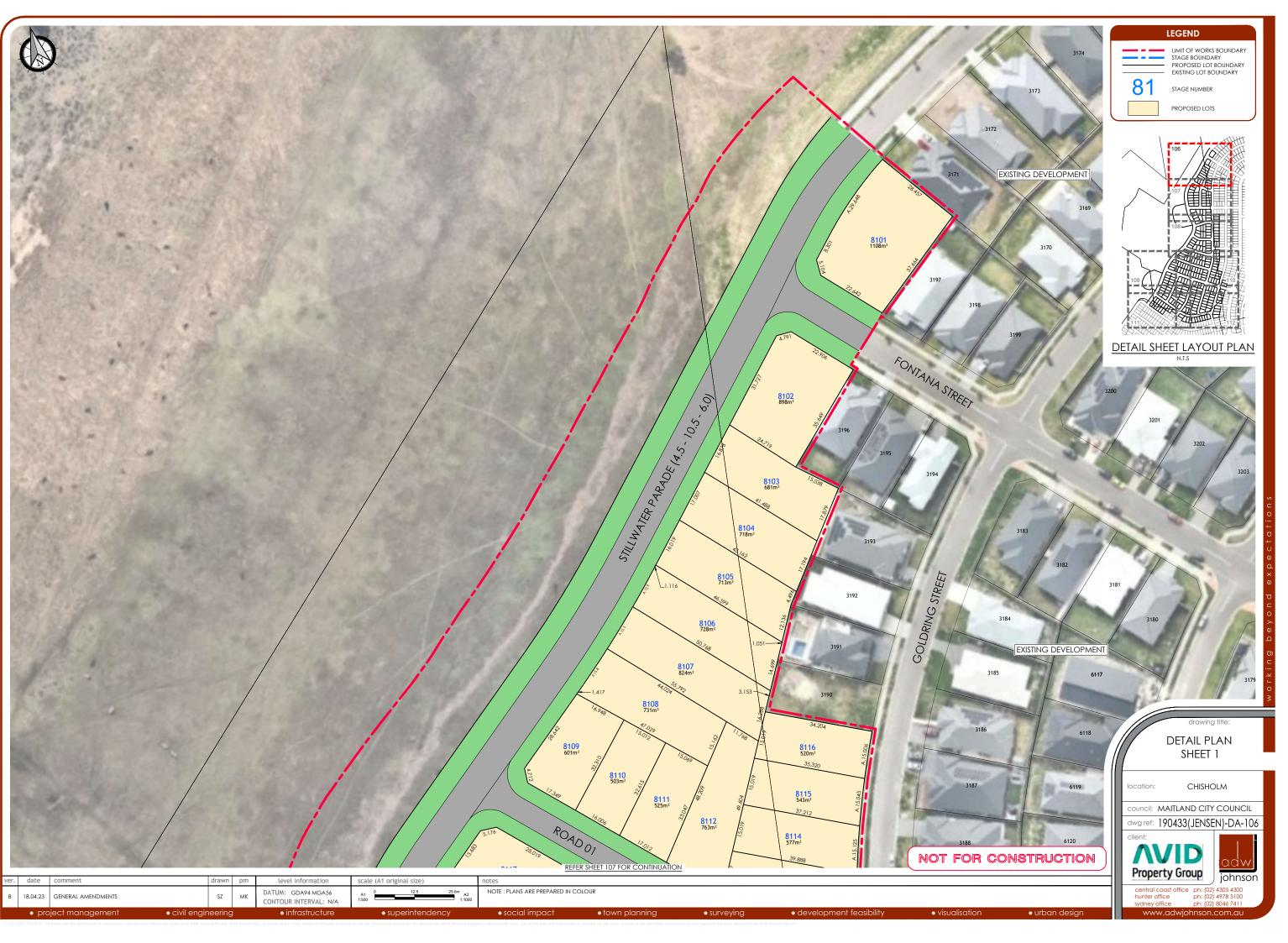




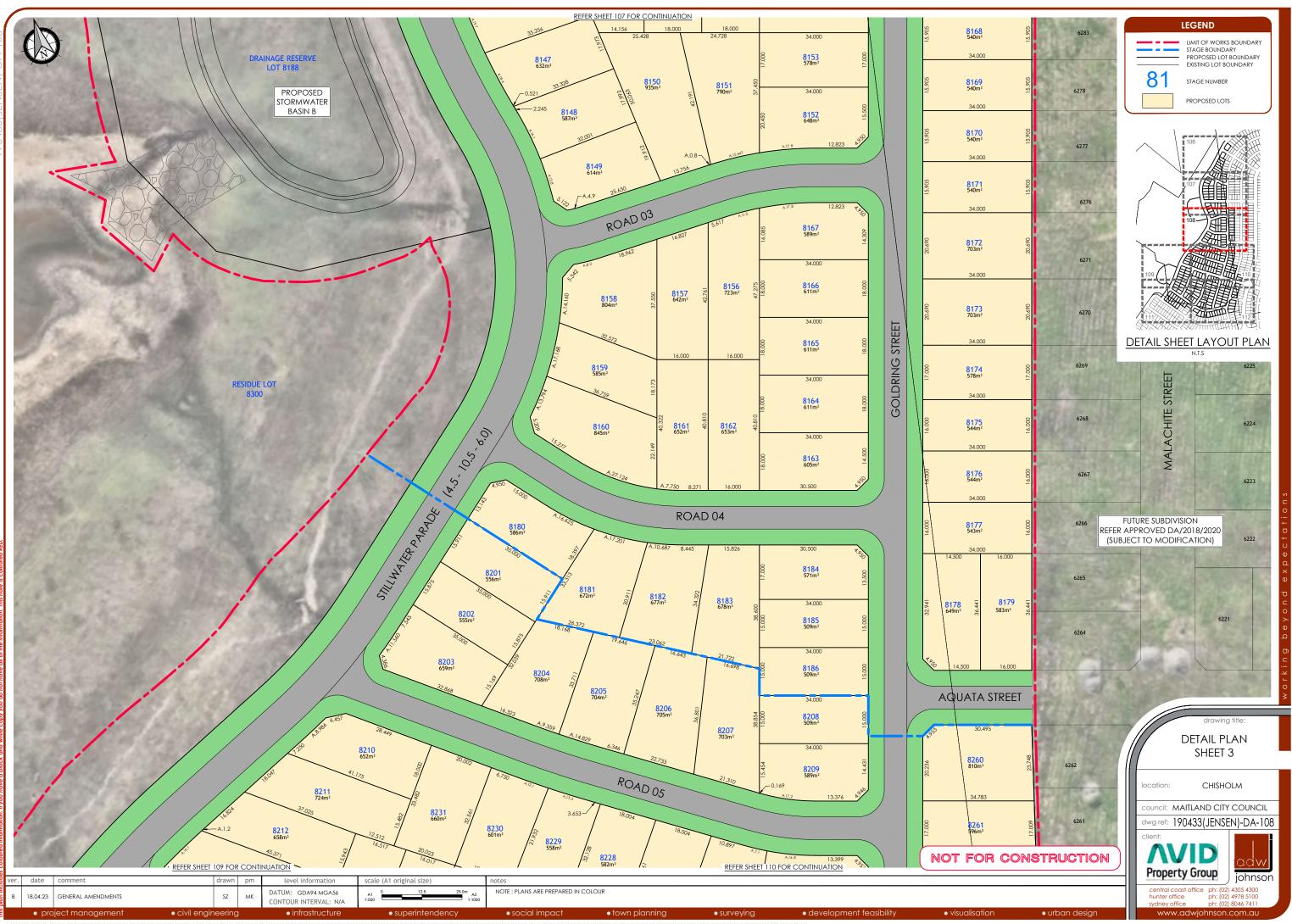


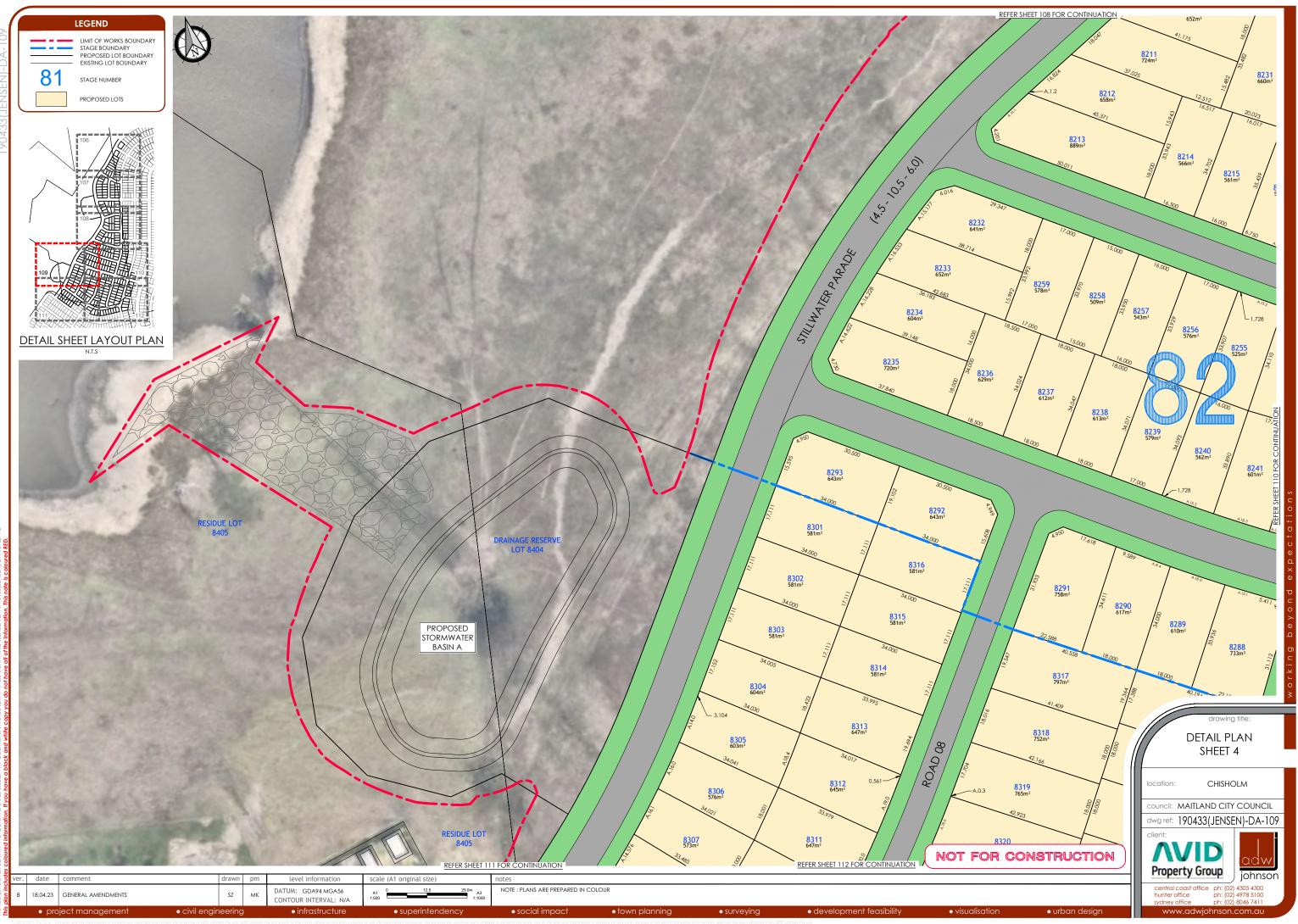
	TABLE
STAGE 81 STAGE 82 STAGE 83	86 LOTS, 1 RESIDUE LOTS, 1 DRAINAGE RESERVE LOTS 93 LOTS, 0 RESIDUE LOTS, 0 DRAINAGE RESERVE LOTS 103 LOTS, 2 RESIDUE LOTS, 1 DRAINAGE RESERVE LOTS
TOTAL	282 LOTS, 3 RESIDUE LOTS, 2 DRAINAGE RESERVE LOTS

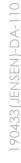


















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Appendix B: AHIMS Search Results

AHIMS Web Services (AWS) Search Result

Katrina Greville

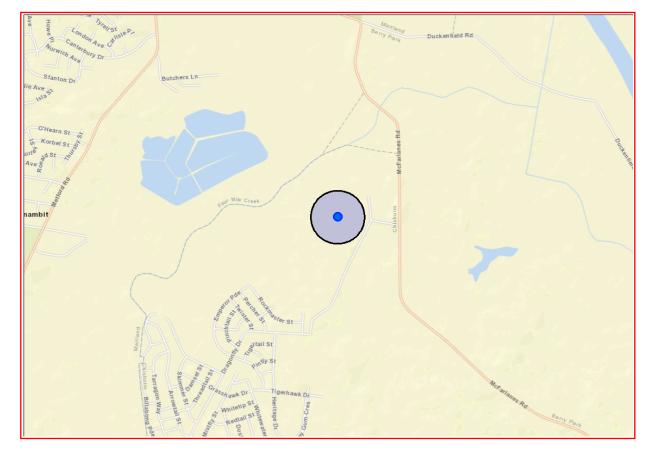
21 Costata Crescent Adamstown New South Wales 2289 Attention: Katrina Greville

Email: klmukevski@bigpond.com

Dear Sir or Madam:

AHIMS Web Service search for the following area at Address : 39 GOLDRING STREET CHISHOLM 2322 with a Buffer of 200 meters, conducted by Katrina Greville on 23 April 2023.

The context area of your search is shown in the map below. Please note that the map does not accurately display the exact boundaries of the search as defined in the paragraph above. The map is to be used for general reference purposes only.



A search of Heritage NSW AHIMS Web Services (Aboriginal Heritage Information Management System) has shown that:

0	Aboriginal sites are recorded in or near the above location.
0	Aboriginal places have been declared in or near the above location. *

Your Ref/PO Number : 2254 Berry Park (Jensen) Client Service ID : 775626

Date: 23 April 2023

If your search shows Aboriginal sites or places what should you do?

- You must do an extensive search if AHIMS has shown that there are Aboriginal sites or places recorded in the search area.
- If you are checking AHIMS as a part of your due diligence, refer to the next steps of the Due Diligence Code of practice.
- You can get further information about Aboriginal places by looking at the gazettal notice that declared it. Aboriginal places gazetted after 2001 are available on the NSW Government Gazette (https://www.legislation.nsw.gov.au/gazette) website. Gazettal notices published prior to 2001 can be obtained from Heritage NSW upon request

Important information about your AHIMS search

- The information derived from the AHIMS search is only to be used for the purpose for which it was requested. It is not be made available to the public.
- AHIMS records information about Aboriginal sites that have been provided to Heritage NSW and Aboriginal places that have been declared by the Minister;
- Information recorded on AHIMS may vary in its accuracy and may not be up to date. Location details are recorded as grid references and it is important to note that there may be errors or omissions in these recordings,
- Some parts of New South Wales have not been investigated in detail and there may be fewer records of Aboriginal sites in those areas. These areas may contain Aboriginal sites which are not recorded on AHIMS.
- Aboriginal objects are protected under the National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974 even if they are not recorded as a site on AHIMS.
- This search can form part of your due diligence and remains valid for 12 months.



Appendix C: Planning for Bushfire Protection 2019 – Compliance Table



	Objectives	Satisfied	Comment
>	Afford buildings and their occupants protection from exposure to a bush fire	\checkmark	All lots within the proposed development are provided with sufficient separation from the nearest bushfire hazard by public roads.
>	Provide for a defendable space to be located around buildings	\checkmark	Defendable space by way of an APZ is provided between all new lots and the bushfire hazard to ensure radiant heat levels are below critical limits (well below 29kW/m²).
>	Provide appropriate separation between a hazard and buildings, which, in combination with other measures, prevent the likely fire spread to buildings	\checkmark	Appropriate APZs are provided between the proposed lots and the hazard; provided by the perimeter road, which in addition to other mitigation measures such as suitable construction, will provide an acceptable level of protection to the buildings, and prevent the spread of fire to the buildings and onto adjoining buildings.
>	Ensure that safe operational access and egress for emergency service personnel and residents is available	\checkmark	Public road access will be provided from multiple non-perimeter roads of the neighbouring existing developments located to the east and south of the proposed development; including two connecting roads with carriageway widths 10.5m or greater (Glasspond Street and Caldera Street -11m). These two non-perimeter roads provide access from the 10.5m perimeter road to the existing public road network.
>	Provide for ongoing management and maintenance of BPMs	\checkmark	All owners will be responsible for the management and maintenance of the private property.
>	Ensure that utility services are adequate to meet the needs of firefighters	\checkmark	The development includes all essential utility services to meet the needs of firefighters; including a reliable water supply.

Table 1: Aims and Objectives of Planning for Bushfire Protection 2019



Intent of Measure	Performance Criteria	Acceptable Solution	Complies	Comment
			🗸 = Ac	ceptable Solution
			PS - Per	formance Solution
5.3.1	Potential building footprints must not be exposed to radiant heat levels exceeding 29kW/m ² on each proposed lot.	APZs are provided in accordance with Tables A1.12.2 and A1.12.3 based on the FFDI.	✓	All proposed lots may be exposed to a maximum potential radiant heat level no greater than 19kW/m ² .
ASSET PROTECTION ZONES				
Table 5.3a To provide sufficient space and maintain reduced fuel loads, so as to ensure radiant heat levels at buildings are below critical limits and to prevent direct flame contact with a building.	APZs are managed and maintained to prevent the spread of a fire towards the building.	The APZ is managed in accordance with the requirements of Appendix 4	\checkmark	All new landowners will be required to manage their respective lot as an IPA.
	The APZ is provided in perpetuity.	APZs are wholly within the boundaries of the development site.	\checkmark	There are no exceptional circumstances that would require an APZ to be located external to the development site.
	APZ maintenance is practical, soil stability is not compromised and the potential for crown fires is negated.	The APZ is not located on lands with a slope exceeding 18°	\checkmark	The site does not have a slope greater than 5°.
LANDSCAPING	Landscaping is designed and managed to minimise flame contact and radiant heat to buildings, and the potential for wind-driven embers to cause ignitions.	Landscaping is in accordance with APZ standards (see Appendix 4). Fencing is constructed in accordance with section 7.6.	\checkmark	All new landscaping has considered the requirements of APZs per Appendix 4. All new fencing will be colorbond or similar non-combustible material; where installed.
5.3.2 ACCESS (General		Property access roads are two-wheel drive, all- weather roads	\checkmark	
Requirements) Table 5.3b To provide safe	Fire fighters are provided with safe all weather	Perimeter roads are provided for residential subdivisions of three or more allotments		Public road access will be provided from multiple non-perimeter roads (8m – 11m wide) from neighbouring existing
operational access for emergency services personnel in suppressing a bush fire, while residents are accessing or egressing an area.	access to structures	Subdivisions of three or more allotments have more than one access in and out of the development	✓	developments located to the east and south of the proposed development.

Table 2: Performance Criteria and Acceptable Solutions for residential subdivisions (Chapter 5 PBP 2019)



Intent of Measure	Performance Criteria	Acceptable Solution	Complies	Comment
				ceptable Solution
		Traffic management devices are constructed to not prohibit access by emergency services vehicles.	\checkmark	
		Access roads must provide suitable turning areas in accordance with Appendix 3.	\checkmark	
ACCESS ROAD CAPACITY	The capacity of access roads is adequate for firefighting vehicles.	The capacity of road surfaces and any bridges/ causeways is sufficient to carry fully loaded firefighting vehicles (up to 23 tonnes); bridges and causeways are to clearly indicate load rating.	~	
	There is appropriate access to water supply.	Hydrants are located outside of parking reserves and road carriageways to ensure accessibility to reticulated water for fire suppression.	~	
ACCESS TO WATER		Hydrants are provided in accordance with AS2419.1:2005	\checkmark	All proposed lots should be connected to a reticulated water supply.
		There is suitable access for Category 1 fire appliance to within 4m of the static water supply where no reticulated supply is available.	~	
		There are two-way sealed roads.	\checkmark	
	Perimeter access roads are designed to allow	8m carriageway width kerb to kerb.	\checkmark	A 10.5m wide perimeter road, Stillwater Parade, will be constructed on the western side of the development continuing along
	safe access and egress for medium rigid firefighting vehicles while	Hydrants are to be located clear of parking areas.	\checkmark	the entire urban interface. Due to the lower risk bushfire hazard to the
PERIMETER ROADS	occupants are evacuating as well as providing a safe operational environment for emergency service personnel during firefighting and emergency management on the interface.	There are through roads, and these are linked to the internal road system at an interval of no greater than 500m.	\checkmark	east, we request the RFS customise the conditions of the BFSA to omit the Acceptable Solution requiring <i>"parking is provided outside of the carriageway width"</i> . This will permit some infrequent parking within the carriageway without
		Curves of roads have a minimum inner radius of 6m.	\checkmark	compromising emergency services vehicles.
		The maximum grade road is 15° and average grade is 10°.	\checkmark	-



Intent of Measure	Performance Criteria	Acceptable Solution	Complies	Comment
				ceptable Solution
		The road crossfall does not exceed 3°.	\checkmark	
		A minimum vertical clearance of 4m to any overhanging obstructions, including tree branches; and	\checkmark	
		Minimum 5.5m width kerb to kerb.	\checkmark	
		Parking is provided outside of the carriageway.	PS	Several new non-perimeter roads are proposed as part of the residential subdivision; including a 10.5m (Glasspond Street) and a 11m wide collector road
		Hydrants are to be located clear of parking areas.	\checkmark	Caldera Street). All of the non-perimeter roads are 8m wide and connect to the existing neighbouring residential
NON-PERIMETER	Non-perimeter access roads are designed to allow safe access and egress for medium rigid firefighting vehicles while occupants are evacuating.	There are through roads, and these are linked to the internal road system at an interval of no greater than 500m.	\checkmark	developments. Due to the lower risk bushfire hazard to the east, we request the RFS customise the conditions of the BFSA to omit the Acceptable Solution requiring " <i>parking is</i>
ROADS		Curves of roads have a minimum inner radius of 6m.	\checkmark	<i>provided outside of the carriageway width</i> ". This will permit some infrequent parking within the carriageway without compromising emergency services
		The maximum grade road is 15° and average grade is 10°.	\checkmark	vehicles. The Pre-DA Advice Summary provided by the RFS (Appendix E) confirms the RFS support the proposed Performance Solution
		The road crossfall does not exceed 3°.	\checkmark	seeking to remove the requirement to provide parking outside the road
		A minimum vertical clearance of 4m to any overhanging obstructions, including tree branches; and	\checkmark	-carriageway.
5.3.3 SERVICES Table 5.3c		Reticulated water is to be provided to the development, where available	\checkmark	
To provide adequate services for water for the protection of buildings during and after the passage of a bushfire, and not to locate gas and electricity so as not to contribute to the risk	Adequate water supplies is provided for firefighting purposes	A static water supply is provided where no reticulated water is available	N/A	A reticulated water supply is provided.
		Static water supplies shall comply with Table 5.3d	N/A	
of fire to a building.	Water supplies are located at regular intervals	Fire hydrant spacing, design and sizing comply with AS2419.1:2005;	\checkmark	A reticulated water supply is provided.



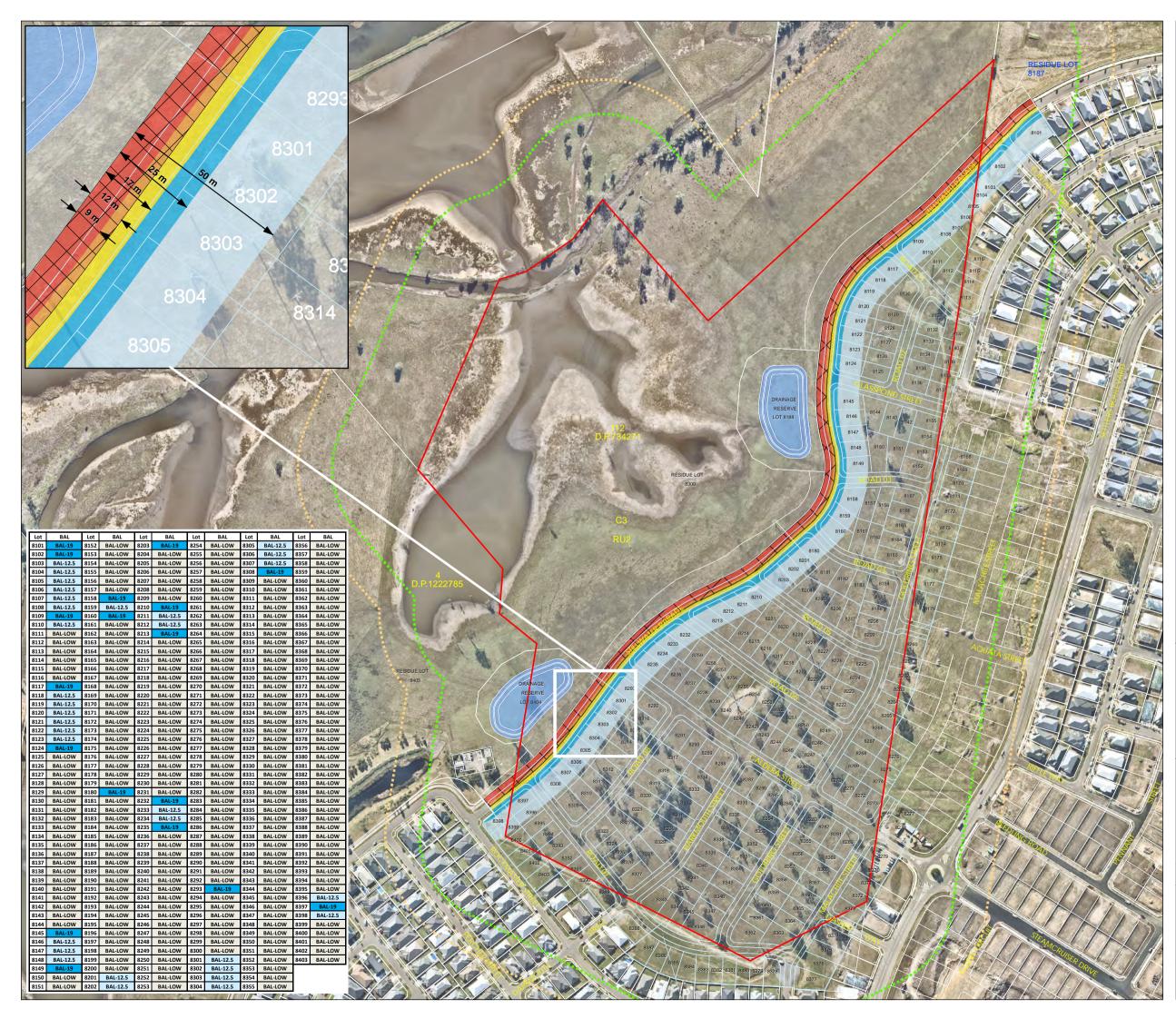
Intent of Measure	Performance Criteria	Acceptable Solution	Complies	Comment
		-	_	ceptable Solution formance Solution
	The water supply is accessible and reliable	Hydrants are not located within any road carriageway;	\checkmark	
	for firefighting operations	Reticulated water supply to urban subdivisions uses a ring main system for areas with perimeter roads.	\checkmark	
	Flows and pressures are appropriate	Fire hydrant flows and pressures comply with AS2419.1:2005.	\checkmark	A reticulated water supply is provided.
	The integrity of the water supply is maintained	All above ground water service pipes are metal, including and up to any taps.	Able to comply	
		Where practicable, electrical transmission lines are underground.	\checkmark	
ELECTRICITY	Location of electricity services limits the possibility of ignition of surrounding bushland or the fabric of buildings.	 Where overhead electrical transmission lines are proposed as follows: → lines are installed with short pole spacing (30 metres), 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 accordance with the specifications in ISSC3 Guideline for Managing Vegetation Near Power Lines 	N/A	
GAS	Location of gas services will not lead to ignition of surrounding bushland or the fabric of buildings.	Reticulated or bottled gas is installed and maintained in accordance with AS 1596:2014 and the requirements of relevant authorities, metal piping is to be used.	✓	Any new gas connections will be underground and will be unlikely to create an additional hazard risk to surrounding bushland.

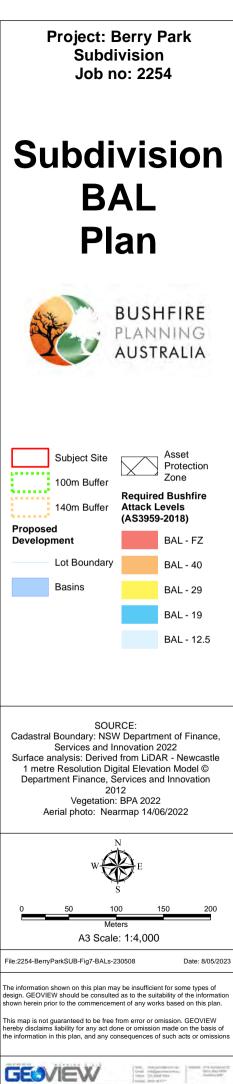


Intent of Measure	Performance Criteria	Acceptable Solution	Complies	Comment
			🗸 = Ac	ceptable Solution
			PS - Per	formance Solution
		All fixed gas cylinders are kept clear of all flammable materials to a distance of 10 metres and shielded on the hazard side;		
		Connections to and from gas cylinders are metal:		
		Polymer-sheathed flexible gas supply lines are not used; and	V	
		Above-ground gas service pipes are metal, including and up to any outlets.		



Appendix D: Subdivision BAL Plan







Appendix E: RFS Pre-DA Advice



PRE-DA ADVICE SUMMARY

Applicant:	Stuart Greville – Bushfire Planning Australia
Subject:	112//DP734271 – 24 Duckenfield Road, Berry Park NSW 2321
	RFS Ref. PRE-DA20220928000181

Details of the proposal

SFPP

Residential subdivision

C Other

Bush fire protection issues discussed

- Hazard Assessment
- Asset Protection Zones
- Access

Reduction in carriageway widths on identified roads.

Construction Standar	ds
----------------------	----

- Services
- Emergency and Evacuation Planning

Documentation / plans referenced

- Preliminary Road Design plans prepared by adwJohnson (Ref: 190433-SK-362, Version B, dated 21.09.2022)
- Slope and Vegetation Assessment prepared by Bushfire Planning Australia (Ref: 2254, dated 14/09/2022)
- > Site photographs provided by Bushfire Planning Australia.

Advice Provided

- > The proposed performance solution for access is supported in this instance as it is considered appropriate and commensurate with the bush fire risk profile of the site.
- > The bush fire report, to be submitted in support of the development application, needs to clearly identify the proposed amendments to the acceptable solutions for access with an assessment of the potential bush fire risk of the site to justify these variations and to demonstrate compliance with the performance criteria for access in chapter 5 of *Planning for Bush Fire Protection 2019*.

Disclaimer

RFS advice is based on information provided and policy and legislative requirements applicable at the time. The advice should be copied into, or referenced in, any subsequent development application.

All efforts are made to identify issues of relevance and likely concern with the preliminary proposal. However, the comments and views in this document are based only on the plans and information submitted for preliminary assessment and discussion at the pre-DA meeting. You are advised that: -

- > The views expressed may vary once detailed plans and information are submitted and formally assessed in the development application process, or as a result of issues contained in submissions by interested parties;
- Given the complexity of issues often involved and the limited time for full assessment, no guarantee is given that every issue of relevance will be identified;
- > Amending one aspect of the proposal could result in changes which would create a different set of impacts from the original plans and therefore require further assessment and advice; and,
- > The Pre-DA advice given does not bind Council officers, the elected Council members, or other parties to the DA process.

Submitted by:

Approved by:

Adam Small Development Assessment and Planning Coordinator Planning & Environment Services (East) Built and Natural Environment Kalpana Varghese Supervisor - Development Assessment and Planning Planning & Environment Services (East) Built and Natural Environment

Date: 09 February 2023