




Reference number 2712

Member of the Fire Protection Association of Australia

Lot 48, DP 216410, 60 Epping Drive, Frenchs Forest, NSW 1639.

Wednesday, 11 December 2019

Prepared and certified by:	Matthew Willis <i>BPAD – Level3 Certified Practitioner</i> Certification No: BPD-PA 09337		11/12/2019
Can this proposal comply with AS3959-2009 (inc PBP addendum 3)?	Yes		
What is the recommended AS 3959-2009 level of compliance?	BAL-LOW		
Is referral to the RFS required?	No		
Can this development comply with the requirements of PBP?	Yes		
Plans by " John Haines" (Appendix 1) dated.	10/5/2019		

© This document is copyright. It is a breach of copyright for this document to be used to support a development application or any other purpose for any persons/entities other than those for whom this document was prepared. Other than for the purpose for which this document has been prepared and subject to conditions prescribed under the Copyright Act no part of this document may in any form nor by any means be reproduced or stored in a retrieval system or transmitted without the prior written permission of the company (Bushfire Planning Services Pty Ltd ACN 115 714 826).



Bushfire Planning Services

15 Parkcrest Place

Kenthurst NSW 2156

02 96543228

0428408577

mattw@bushfireconsultants.com.au

Bushfire Risk Assessment

Wednesday, 11 December 2019

Contact

Gitte and Michael Vilnis

60 Epping Drive

Frenchs Forest NSW 2086

0402 082 321

Subject Property

Lot 48, DP 216410

60 Epping Drive

Frenchs Forest NSW 1639

BUSHFIRE RISK ASSESSMENT CERTIFICATE

THIS FORM IS TO BE COMPLETED BY A RECOGNISED CONSULTANT IN BUSHFIRE RISK ASSESSMENT IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 79BA 1(b) OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING AND ASSESSMENT ACT 1979 NO 203

Property Address	Lot 48, DP 216410, number 60 Epping Drive Frenchs Forest
Description of the Proposal	Alterations and additions to an existing dwelling
Plan Reference	10/5/2019
BAL Rating	BAL-LOW
Does the Proposal Rely on Alternate Solutions?	No

I, **Matthew Willis of Bushfire Planning Services Pty Ltd** have carried out a bushfire risk assessment on the above-mentioned proposal and property. A detailed Bushfire Assessment Report is attached which includes the submission requirements set out in Appendix 4 of Planning for Bushfire Protection 2006 together with recommendations as to how the relevant Specifications and requirements are to be achieved.

I hereby certify, in accordance with Section 79BA of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 No 203:

1. That I am a person recognised by the NSW Rural Fire Service as a qualified consultant in bushfire risk assessment; and
2. That subject to the recommendations contained in the attached Bushfire Risk Assessment Report the proposed development conforms to the relevant specifications and requirements*


*The relevant specifications and requirements being specifications and requirements of the document entitled Planning for Bush Fire Protection prepared by the NSW Rural Fire Service in co-operation with the Department of Planning and any other document as prescribed by Section 79 BA(1)(a) of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 No 203.

I am aware that the Bushfire Assessment Report, prepared for the above-mentioned site is to be submitted in support of a development application for this site and will be relied upon by Northern Beaches Council as the basis for ensuring that the bushfire risk management aspects of the proposed development have been addressed in accordance with Planning for Bushfire Protection 2006.

REPORT REFERENCE	Wednesday, 11 December 2019
REPORT DATE	Wednesday, 11 December 2019
CERTIFICATION NO/ACCREDITED SCHEME	FPA A BPAD A BPD-PA 09337

Attachments:

- Bushfire Risk Assessment Report
- Recommendations

SIGNATURE: ---  ----- **DATE:** ----Wednesday, 11 December 2019

Contents

1	Executive Summary	5
2	General	6
3	Block Description	6
4	Vegetation	8
5	Known constraints on subject block	9
6	Slope	10
7	Utilities	11
7.1	Water	11
7.2	Electricity	11
7.3	Gas	11
8	Access/Egress	11
9	Compliance with AS 3959-2009	12
10	Siting	12
11	Construction and design.	13
12	Utilities	13
12.1	Water	13
12.2	Electricity and Gas	13
13	Asset Protection Zone (APZ)	13
14	Landscaping	13
15	Constraints on the subject block	14
16	Access/Egress	14
17	Compliance or non compliance with the specifications and requirements for bushfire protection measures	15
18	Conclusions	16
19	References	17
20	Appendix 1 - Plans	18

1 Executive Summary

Bushfire Planning Services has been requested by Gitte and Michael Vilnis to supply a bushfire compliance report on lot 48, DP 216410, 60 Epping Drive, Frenchs Forest.

The works proposed for the subject lot are for the alterations and additions to an existing dwelling, see attached plans for details.

The subject lot is marked as bushfire prone land in the council's bushfire prone land map (see page 7 of this assessment) however the buffer area only touches the eastern edge of the lot and the proposed works are beyond 100m from the hazard/managed land interface.

As the area on which the proposed new works are to take place is beyond 100m of any significant bushfire hazard the new works are considered to be at a BAL-LOW bushfire risk level and are therefore considered to be beyond the construction requirements of AS 3959 2009.

All the vegetation within the study area for this proposal is contained within the boundaries of established residential allotments and is considered to be managed land and of low threat to this proposal.

The calculations and assumptions outlined in this report show that the development, when assessed using the methodology of AS 3959 2009, is considered to be at an AS 3959-2009 BAL-LOW threat level and is therefore considered to be at a 'very low' risk of bush fire attack.

All vegetation within a 100m study area is contained within the boundaries of established residential allotments and is managed land and of low threat to this proposal.

Table 1 is a summary of the relevant findings of this assessment.

Aspect	North	East	South	West
Vegetation type	Managed land	Managed land/forest	Managed land	Managed land
Slope	N/A	5-10 degrees downslope	N/A	N/A
Setback within lot 48	N/A	7.3m	N/A	N/A
Setback outside lot 48	N/A	93.0m	N/A	N/A
Total setback	N/A	100.3m	N/A	N/A
Bal level	LOW	LOW	LOW	LOW

Table 1 - Any item marked with "N/A" in the table above indicates that it is considered there is any hazard in that direction. THIS TABLE IS NOT CONSTRUCTION ADVICE.

2 General

This proposal relates to the alterations and additions to an existing dwelling on the subject lot and its ability to comply with the rules and regulations for building in a bushfire prone area.

The methodology used on this report is based on Planning for Bushfire Protection 2006 (PBP) as published by the New South Wales Rural Fire Service.

Any wording that appears in *blue italics* is quotes from Planning for Bushfire Protection 2006. Some of the measurements used in this report have been taken from aerial photographs and as such are approximate only. Should doubt exist a qualified surveyor should be consulted.

3 Block Description

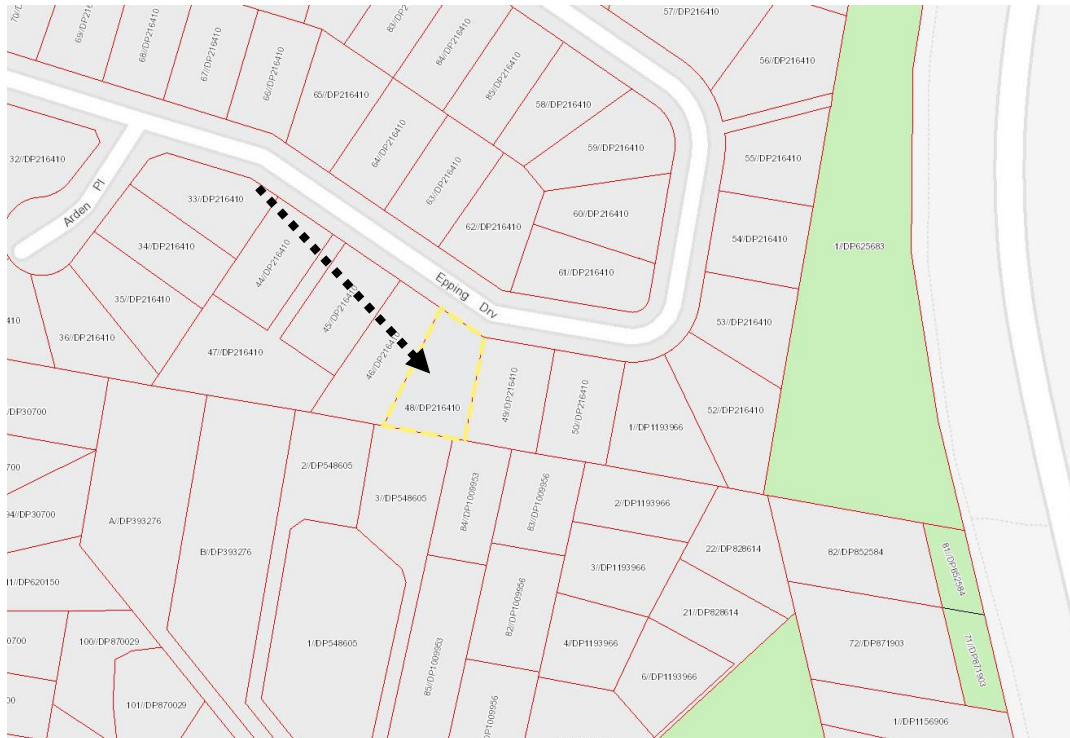
The subject block is situated on the southern side of Epping Drive in an established area of Frenchs Forest.

The lot currently contains a single-level class 1a dwelling.

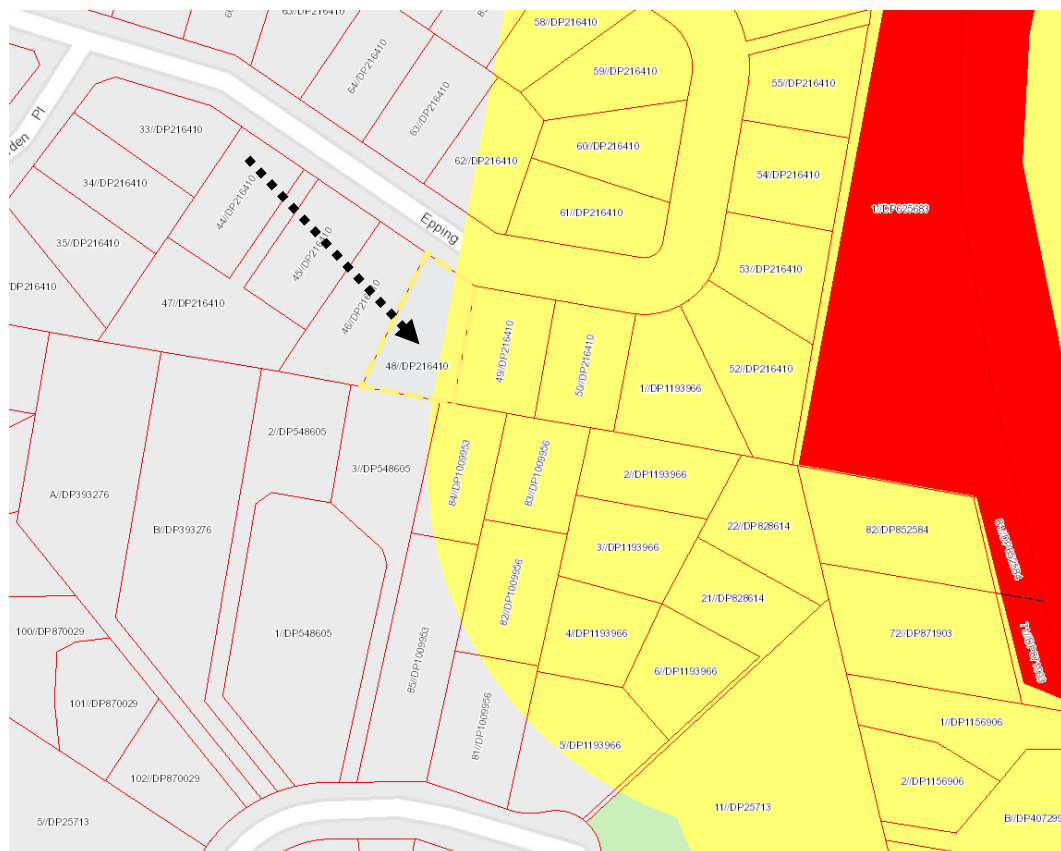
The lands surrounding the proposed site on the subject lot to a distance of at least 100m contain existing residential development and associated gardens or land that is otherwise not considered to be a significant bushfire hazard.

- Lot; 48
- DP; 216410.
- LGA; Northern Beaches.
- Area; 716m².
- Address; 60 Epping Drive, Frenchs Forest.

This section has been left blank.



Map 1 shows the cadastral layout around the subject lot.



Map 2 is an extract from the councils' bushfire prone land map. The map shows lot 48 to be partially within the buffer zone of category 1 bushfire vegetation.

4 Vegetation

The study area for the vegetation is 140m surrounding the subject block.

The vegetation within the study area for this development is considered to be largely managed land.

The major potential hazard to this development is the vegetation within an area of undeveloped land to the east.

For the purpose of this assessment and compliance with AS3959 this area of undeveloped land is considered to be Forest and is the hazard to this proposal.

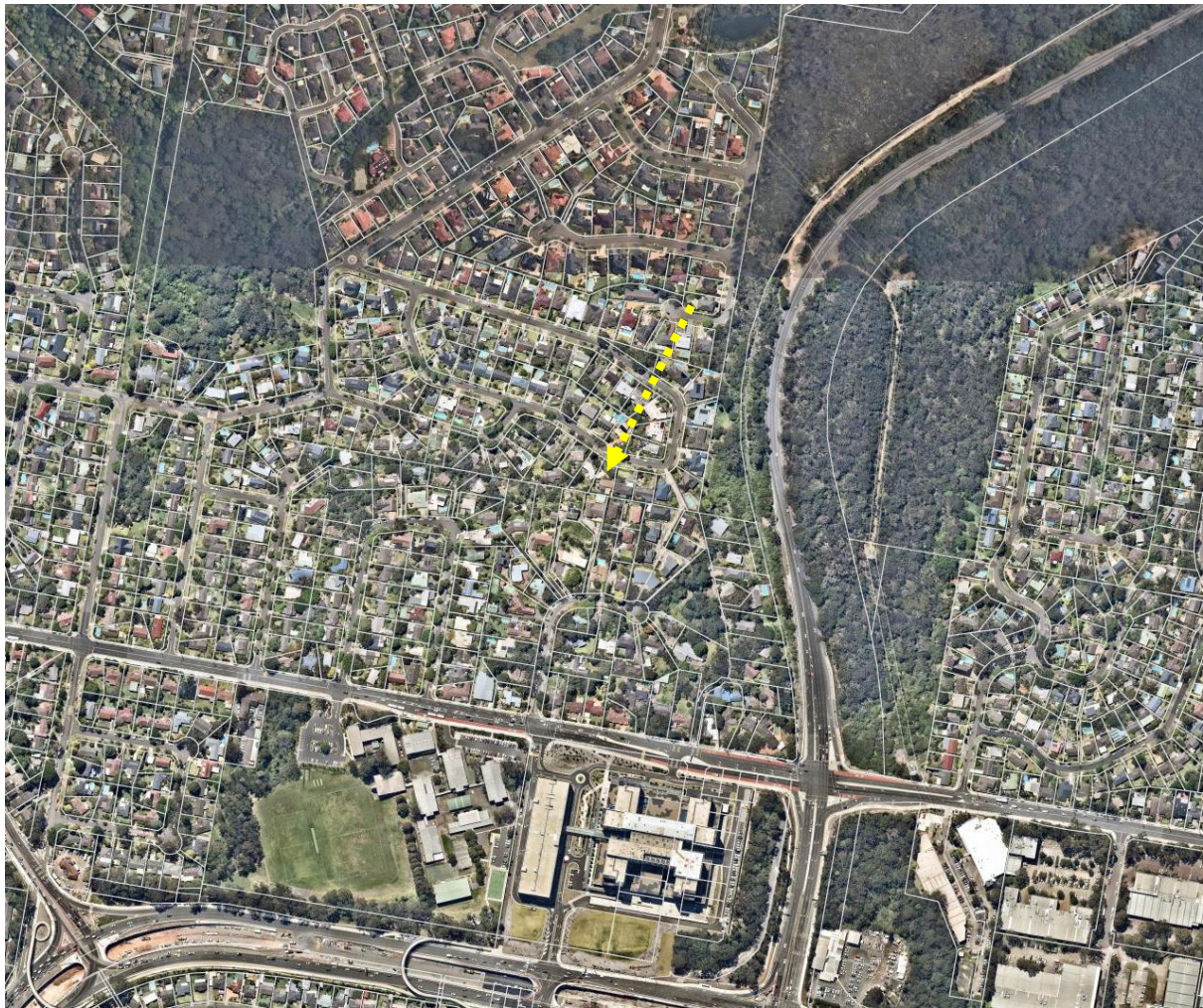


Photo 1 - An overview of the vegetation within the general area.

This area has been left intentionally blank.

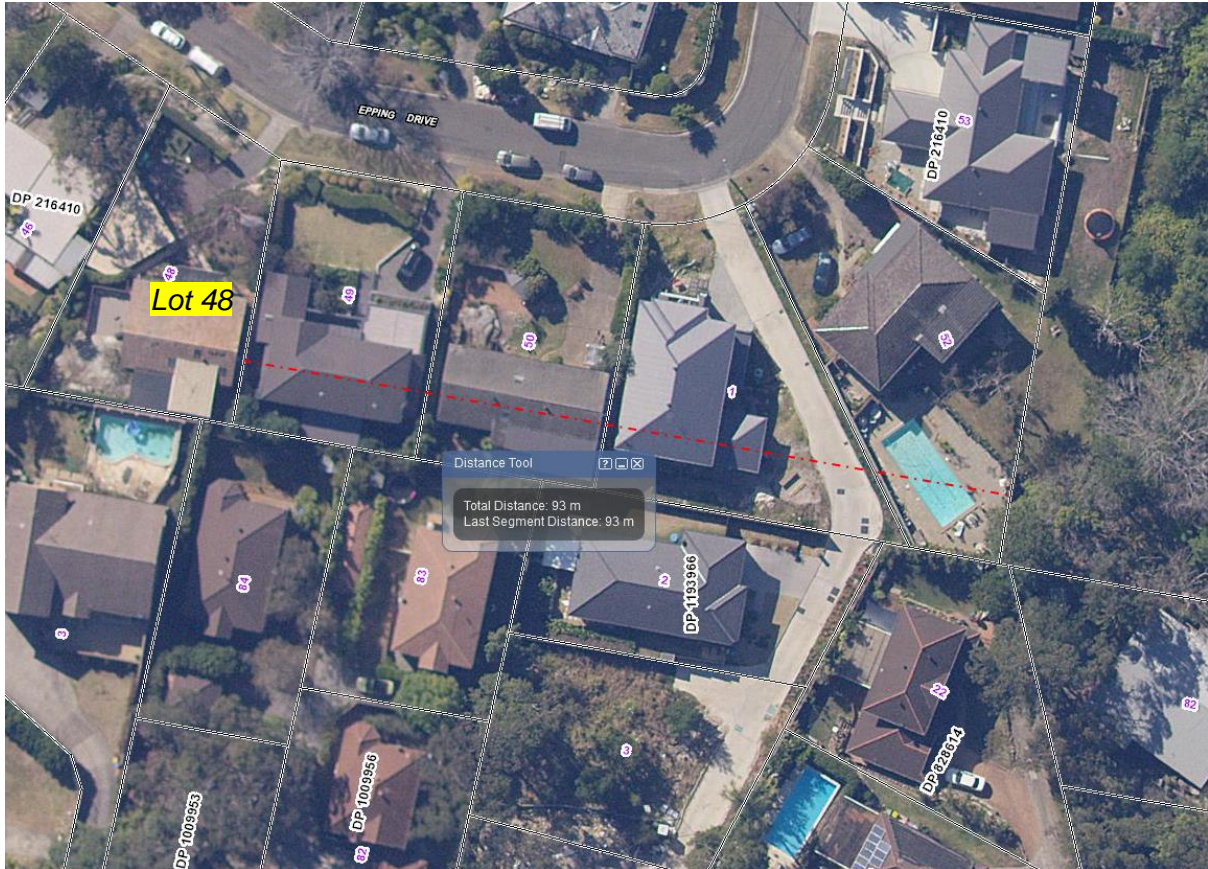


Photo 2 is a closer view of the vegetation in the area.

Table 2 outlines the vegetation orientation and distance from the development area.

Aspect	North	East	South	West
Vegetation type	Managed land	Managed land/forest	Managed land	Managed land
Setback within lot 48	N/A	7.3m	N/A	N/A
Off-site setback	N/A	93.0m	N/A	N/A
Total setback	N/A	100.3m	N/A	N/A

Table 2 - Any aspect marked with "N/A" in the table above indicates that it is considered there is none or only a secondary hazard in that direction.

This area has been left intentionally blank.

5 Known constraints on subject block

I have not been informed or know of any places of cultural or environmental significance within the boundaries of the subject block.

Given the nature of the surrounding land it is considered highly unlikely that anything of significance will be affected by this development.

6 Slope

In this particular instance the slope beneath the hazard is irrelevant to the outcome of this assessment as the remaining hazard is at a distance of greater than 100m from the area on the lot where the work is to be undertaken.

The topographical map below is included for information and audit purposes only.

An extract of the topographical map for the area is shown below and the relevant slope analysis is shown in Table 3.



Table 3 shows the slope beneath the hazard.

Aspect	North	East	South	West
Slope	N/A	5-10 degrees downslope	N/A	N/A

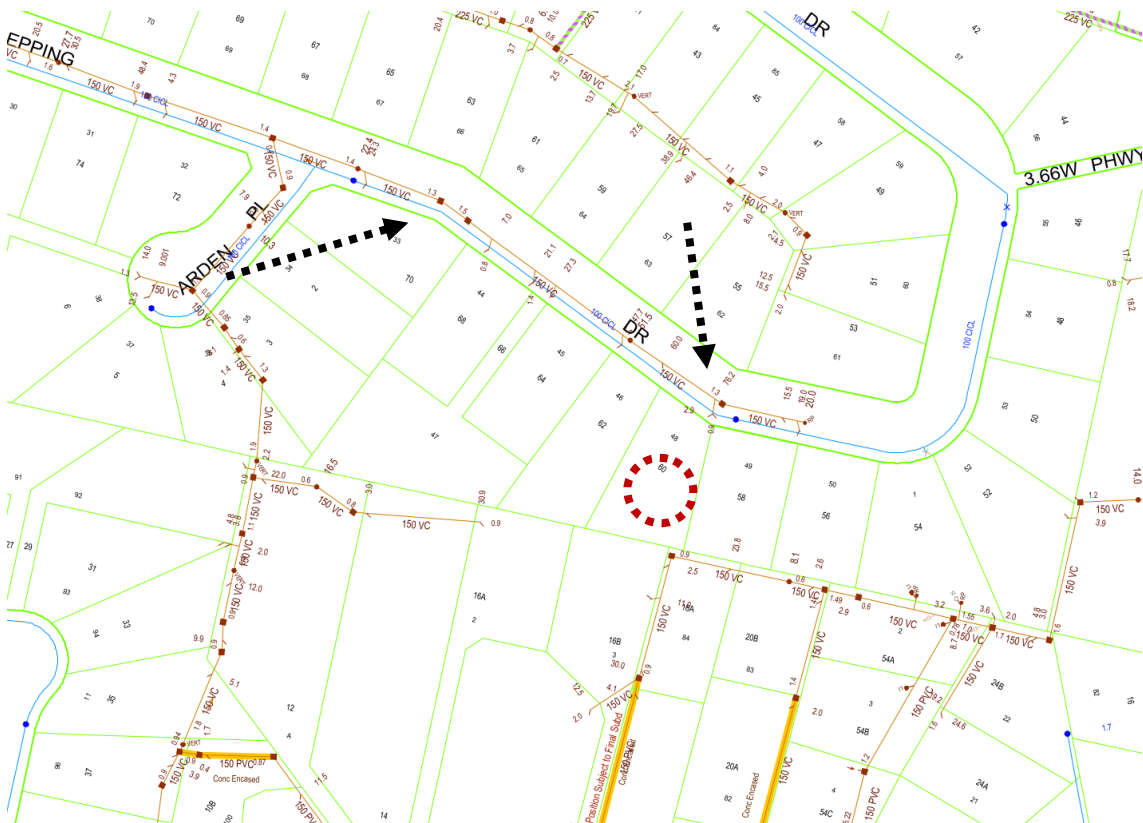
Table 3 - Any aspect marked with "N/A" in the table above indicates that it is considered there is no hazard in that direction.

7 Utilities

7.1 Water

The subject block will be serviced by a reticulated water supply.

The following map is an extract from Sydney waters hydrant map. Hydrants are indicated by a blue dot on a blue line. As can be seen there is at least one hydrant point indicated within close proximity of the property.



7.2 Electricity

Mains electricity is available to the block.

7.3 Gas

It is unknown if either bottled or mains gas is to be altered or installed in this proposal.

8 Access/Egress

Access to the development site will be via a short private driveway from Epping Drive.

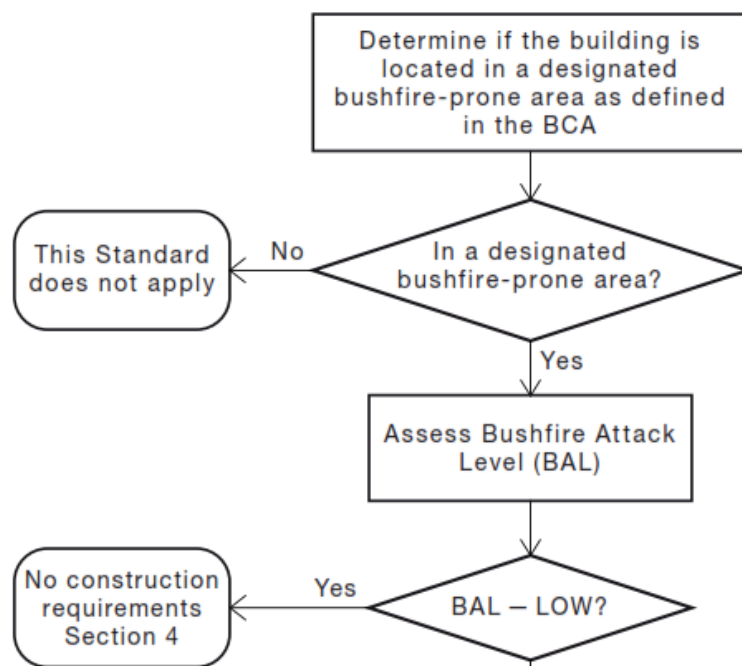
All roads in the vicinity are considered to be capable of carrying emergency services vehicles and pedestrian access onto the lot is also considered to be adequate.

Analysis of development and recommendation.

9 Compliance with AS 3959-2009

Based on the development design, vegetation classification, effective slope estimate and setback distance already outlined in this report the subject development has been assessed as AS 3959-2009 BAL-LOW

The following picture is a section of the assessment flowchart from AS 3959 that covers the requirements for an assessment of BAL-LOW.



Section 4 of AS 3959 2009 states “The bushfire attack level Bal low is based on insufficient risk to warrant specific bushfire construction requirements. It is predicated on low threat vegetation and non-vegetated areas.”

10 Siting

The current site provides adequate separation between the proposed building and surrounding vegetation for a compliance structure to be built.

Recommendation;

Nil

11 Construction and design.

Although the construction requirements of AS 3959 are not considered to apply to this proposal the proposal is still required to comply with the “measures in combination” of the RFS document Planning for Bushfire Protection.

The following recommendations are made for compliance with that document.

Recommendation;

1. Any new fencing to be property should be in accordance with Rural Fire Service "Fast Fact 2/06".

12 Utilities

12.1 Water

The proposed development will have access to a reticulated water supply. There is at least one hydrant indicated within the required distance from the dwelling.

Recommendation;

Nil

12.2 Electricity and Gas

Recommendation;

2. Any new electricity or gas connections are to comply with the requirements of section 4.1.3 of Planning for Bushfire Protection.

13 Asset Protection Zone (APZ)

The Asset Protection Zone is *“An area surrounding a development managed to reduce the bushfire hazard to an acceptable level. The width of an APZ will vary with slope, vegetation and construction level”*.

Recommendation;

3. At the commencement of building works and in perpetuity the entire property shall be managed as an Asset Protection Zone in accordance with the requirements of Planning for Bushfire Protection, the RFS document Standards for Asset Protection Zones and in a manner that does not create a bushfire hazard to the property.

14 Landscaping

No specific landscaping plan has been provided as part of this assessment.

Recommendation;

4. Any new landscaping to the site is to comply with the principles of Appendix 5 of Planning for Bush Fire Protection 2006. In this regard the following landscaping principles are, where applicable, to be incorporated into the development:
 - Suitable impervious areas being provided immediately surrounding the building such as courtyards, paths and driveways;
 - Grassed areas/mowed lawns/ or ground cover plantings being provided in close proximity to the building;
 - Restrict planting in the immediate vicinity of the building which may over time and if not properly maintained come in contact with the building;
 - Maximum tree cover should be less than 30%, and maximum shrub cover less than 20%;
 - Planting should not provide a continuous canopy to the building (i.e. trees or shrubs should be isolated or located in small clusters);
 - When considering landscape species consideration needs to be given to estimated size of the plant at maturity;
 - Avoid species with rough fibrous bark, or which retain/shed bark in long strips or retain dead material in their canopies;
 - Use smooth bark species of trees species which generally do not carry a fire up the bark into the crown;
 - Avoid planting of deciduous species that may increase fuel at surface/ ground level (i.e. leaf litter);
 - Avoid climbing species to walls and pergolas;
 - Locate combustible materials such as woodchips/mulch, flammable fuel stores away from the building;
 - Locate combustible structures such as garden sheds, pergolas and materials such timber garden furniture way from the building; and
 - Use of low flammability vegetation species.

15 Constraints on the subject block

None known.

Recommendation;

Nil

16 Access/Egress

All roads in the area are considered to be capable of handling emergency service vehicles. Access from the roadway onto the property is also considered to be adequate for firefighting purposes.

Recommendation

Nil

17 Compliance or non compliance with the specifications and requirements for bushfire protection measures

<p>APZ</p> <p>A defensible space is provided onsite.</p> <p>An APZ is provided and maintained for the life of the development.</p>	<p>Achievable with the implementation of the recommendations in section 13</p>
<p>SITING AND DESIGN:</p> <p>Buildings are sited and designed to minimise the risk of bush fire attack.</p>	<p>Achievable with the implementation of the recommendations in section 10</p>
<p>CONSTRUCTION STANDARDS:</p> <p>It is demonstrated that the proposed building can withstand bush fire attack in the form of wind, smoke, embers, radiant heat and flame contact.</p>	<p>Achievable with the implementation of the recommendations in section 11</p>
<p>ACCESS</p> <p>Safe, operational access is provided (and maintained) for emergency services personnel in suppressing a bush fire while residents are seeking to relocate, in advance of a bush fire, (satisfying the intent and performance criteria for access roads in sections 4.1.3 and 4.2.7).</p>	<p>Achievable with the implementation of the recommendations in section 16</p>
<p>WATER AND UTILITY SERVICES:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> adequate water and electricity services are provided for firefighting operations Gas and electricity services are located so as not to contribute to the risk of fire to a building. 	<p>Achievable with the implementation of the recommendations in section 12</p>
<p>LANDSCAPING:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> it is designed and managed to minimise flame contact and radiant heat to buildings, and the potential for wind driven embers to cause ignitions. 	<p>Achievable with the implementation of the recommendations in section 14</p>

18 Conclusions

Based on the above report and with the implementation of the recommendation contained within this report the consent authority should determine that this development can comply with the requirements of AS 3959-2009 and 'Planning for Bushfire Protection' guidelines.

The recommendations contained within this report are to be implemented in their entirety. Changing one aspect may have an adverse effect on the rest of the recommendations.

Bushfires are affected by many external influences such as climactic conditions, vegetation type, moisture content of the fuel, slope of the land and human intervention to name a few and are difficult to predict.

This report does not intend to provide a guarantee that the subject property will survive if a bushfire should impact the surrounding area. The purpose of this report is to show the developments level of compliance or in some cases non-compliance with the New South Wales legislation regarding building in bushfire prone areas.

Where non-compliance is found measures will be suggested that should make the building less susceptible to the various attack mechanisms of a bushfire and comply with the performance requirements of the Building Code of Australia.

The opinions expressed in this report are based on the writers' experience and interpretation of the relevant guidelines and standards. Notwithstanding the above, these guidelines and standards are open to interpretation. All care has been taken to ensure that the opinions expressed in this report are consistent with past successful outcomes.

Some of the information used in the compilation of this assessment has been provided by the proponent or the proponent's representatives. While we believe this information to be true and have accepted the information in good faith however this company or its representatives will not accept any responsibility if the provided information is determined to be incorrect.

This document is to assist the consenting authorities with their assessment of this proposal. The recommendations contained in this assessment reflect the normal conditions that are typically applied by the consent authority for a proposal such as this however the conditions of consent for the proposal will be supplied by the certifying authority on approval of the development and may not necessarily be the same as the recommendations of this assessment.

The recommendations in this assessment are for planning guidance only, construction details and compliance with all building requirements are the responsibility of the Architect/Designer, Builder and Certifier.

To avoid confusion, unless specifically referenced by the consenting authority, it is strongly recommended that once this proposal has been approved that this document is no longer referenced and that only the official conditions of consent as reflected in documentation by the certifying body are used for construction guidance.

If any further clarification is required for this report, please do not hesitate to contact me using the details above.

Yours Sincerely



Matthew Willis

Grad Dip Planning for Bushfire Prone Areas

Bushfire Planning Services Pty Limited

19 References

Australian Building Codes Board

National Construction Code

Volumes 1&2

Canprint

NSW Government Environmental Planning and Assessment Act [1979]

Part 79BA – Consultation and development Consent – Certain Bushfire Prone Land

NSW Government Printer

Planning NSW [2006]

Planning for Bushfire Protection

A Guide for Councils, Planners, Fire Authorities, Developers and Home Owners

Ramsay C & Rudolph L [2003]

Landscape and Building Design for Bushfire Prone Areas

CSIRO Publishing

Standards Australia [2009]

Australian Standards 3959 (amendments 1, 2 and 3)

Standards Australia

20 Appendix 1 - Plans

