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PO Box 363 Balgowlah, NSW, 2093

Bush Fire Assessment Report

In relation to a proposed development at:

34 Mary Street, Beacon Hill, NSW

This assessment has been prepared and	
certified by: Matthew Toghill.	Mala.
BPAD certified practitioner	
FPAA Accreditation No: BPAD31642	
Report No: 34Mar-02 Date: 03/11/2021	
Architectural plans provided by:	Three Letters Design
	Dated: 25.10.2021 (Rev B)

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Executive Summary

The purpose of the report is to determine the category of bushfire attack and subsequent construction standard for the proposed alterations and additions to the existing dwelling at No. 34 Mary Street, Beacon Hill, NSW.

The site had been identified as 'bush fire prone land' for the purpose of Section 146 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* and the Legislative requirements for building on bush fire prone lands are applicable.

The proposed development is in infill development as defined within Chapter 7 of *Planning for*Bushfire *Protection 2019* and this report has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of Section 4.14 of the Environment Planning and Assessment Act.

This assessment includes an analysis of the hazard, threat and subsequent risk of the development proposal and provides recommendations that satisfy the Objective and Performance requirements of the Building Code of Australia, Planning for Bushfire Protection 2019 [PBP] and Australian Standard AS3959, 2018.

Following a site assessment, it was determined the distance of the development from the closest hazard would keep the Bushfire Attack Level (BAL) to BAL-19, in accordance with the methodology described in PBP and AS3959-2018. The development also meets performance criteria as set out in chapter 7 of PBP in relation to APZ's, siting and design, construction standards, access and egress requirements, water and utility services and landscaping.

1. Description of the subject property

Property address: Lot 21/D/DP18253, 34 Mary Street, Beacon Hill

Local Government Area: Northern Beaches

The development site is a residential block on the northern side of Mary Street. The following sections 4-8 describe in detail the vegetation, slope, access and egress, availability of water supplies and environmental considerations for the site.



Figure 1: Location of the subject site

2. Development Proposal and Building Classification

The development proposal is for the alterations and additions to the existing dwelling.

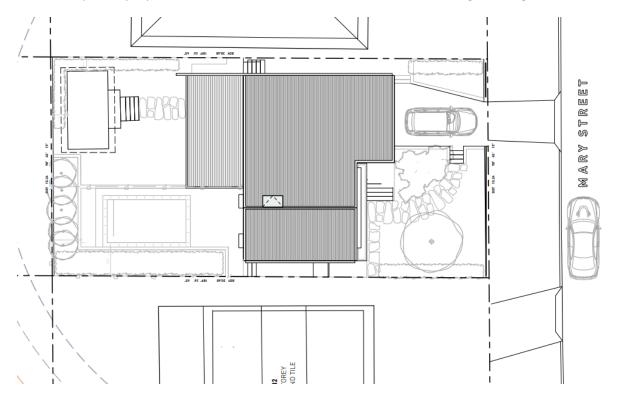


Figure 2: Site plan.



Figure 3: Bushfire prone land map showing the location of the subject site.

3. Classification of the Vegetation on and surrounding the site

For the purpose of a Bush Fire Risk Assessment, vegetation within 140m of the site is assessed and classified. In this instance there is an area of Category 1 vegetation that lies to the south of the site which is of significance. The vegetation formation within this area consists of Sydney Coastal Dry Sclerophyll Forest (Refer to Figure 5) and for the purpose for this assessment will be classified as 'Forest'.



Figure 4: Aerial photo showing vegetation within 140m of the site.



Coastal Dune Dry Sclerophyll Forest Coastal Floodplain Wetlands Coastal Freshwater Lagoons Coastal Headland Heat Coastal Heath Swamps Coastal Swamp Forests Coastal Valley Grassy Woodlands Cumberland Dry Sclerophyll Forests Dry Rainforests Eastern Riverine Forests Littoral Rainforests Mangrove Swamps Maritime Grasslands N/A North Coast Wet Sclerophyll Forests Northern Hinterland Wet Sclerophyll Forests Northern Warm Temperate Rainforests Seagrass Meadows Southern Lowland Wet Sclerophyll Forests Subtropical Rainforests Sydney Coastal Dry Sclerophyll Forests Sydney Coastal Heaths Sydney Hinterland Dry Sclerophyll Forests Sydney Sand Flats Dry Sclerophyll Forests Wallum Sand Heaths

Figure 5: Aerial photo showing vegetation formations surrounding the subject site (Source: NSW Government Central Resource for Sharing and Enabling Environmentla Data)

4. Assessment of effective slope



Legend:

______ Direction of effective slope

Figure 6: Contour map.

Transect Line	Effective slope	
T1	Downslope 12.5 degrees	

5. Access and Egress

The site has direct access to Mary Street, which is a public road, access and egress for emergency vehicles appears adequate.

6. Adequacy of water supply

The area has reticulated water supply and hydrants are spaced at a regular distance along Mary Street.

7. Features that may mitigate the impact of a high intensity bushfire

There are no significant features on or adjoining the site that may mitigate the impact of a high intensity bushfire on the proposed development.

8. Environmental impact of any proposed bushfire protection measures.

The scope of this assessment has not been to provide an environmental assessment. However, the bushfire protection measures that are proposed will have no adverse environmental effects. All protection measures are either within the boundaries of the allotment or part of the constructed building.

9. Bushfire Risk Assessment

Alterations and additions to the existing dwelling



Figure 7: Aerial photo showing distance to surrounding vegetation.

Table 1; Determination of the category of bushfire attack for the site, and subsequent required building standards (Reference: Method 2 AS3959-2018, see Appendix 4).

Transect	Distance to classified vegetation	Vegetation Classification	Assessment of effective slope	FDI	Bushfire Attack Level
T1	59.539m (52.29m off site, 7.249m onsite)	Forest	Downslope 12.5 degrees	100	BAL-19

<u>Summary:</u> Based upon the relevant provisions of PBP and AS3959-2018, the maximum anticipated radiant heat attack for the dwelling is <19kW/m2 and the subsequent minimum construction standard is BAL-19 AS 3959- 2018.

The principle of shielding allows for the next lower BAL level than that determined for the site to be applied to an elevation of the building where the elevation is not exposed to the source of bushfire attack. In this instance the east, south and west elevations must be BAL-19 and the north elevation can be reduced by one level to BAL-12.5.

[There can only be a reduction of one BAL and this can only apply to the elevation directly opposite the exposed side]

10. The extent to which the construction conforms or deviates from Chapter 7 of 'Planning for Bushfire Protection 2019'.

Performance Criteria	How this development meets acceptable solutions		
The intent may be achieved where:			
In relation to APZ's: -Defendable space is provided onsiteAn APZ is provided and maintained for the life of the building.	Defendable space is provided on all sides of the building. Asset protection zones are provided for on site and by adjoining development and public roads.		
In relation to construction standards: It is demonstrated that the proposed building can withstand bushfire attack in the form of wind, smoke, embers, radiant heat and flame contact.	Construction standards have been recommended in accordance with the requirements of <i>Planning for Bushfire Protection 2019</i> and <i>AS 3959-2018 Construction of buildings in bushfire prone areas</i> .		
In relation to access requirements: Safe operational access is provided [and maintained] for emergency service personnel in suppressing a bushfire while residents are seeking to relocate, in advance of a bushfire.	This site has direct access to public roads, and the access and egress for emergency vehicles and evacuation appears to be adequate.		
In relation to water and utility services: -Adequate water and electrical services are provided for fire fighting operations.	The area has reticulated water supply with hydrants spaced at a regular distance along Mary Street and surrounding residential streets.		
In relation to landscaping: It is designed and managed to minimise flame contact and radiant heat to buildings, and the potential for wind driven embers to cause ignition.	All new landscaping should Appendix 4 of <i>Planning for Bushfire Protection 2019</i> which outlines the requirements for landscaping and property maintenance.		
In relation to emergency and evacuation planning	It is advised the residents should complete a <i>Bushfire Survival Plan</i> as formulated by the NSW Rural Fire Service and Fire and Rescue NSW.		

11. Recommendations

The following recommendations are made for the bushfire protection measures for the proposed alterations and additions to the existing dwelling at No. 34 Mary Street, Beacon Hill, NSW and are based upon the relevant provisions of the NSW RFS guideline entitled *Planning for Bushfire Protection 2019*.

1) Construction standard. North elevation	All new construction shall comply with a minimum standard of section 3 [construction general] and section 5 (BAL-12.5), AS 3959-2018 and Chapter 7 of Planning for Bushfire Protection 2019.
2) Construction standard. East, south and west elevations	All new construction shall comply with a minimum standard of section 3 [construction general] and section 6 (BAL-19), AS 3959-2018 and Chapter 7 of Planning for Bushfire Protection 2019.
3) <u>Asset Protection</u> <u>Zones</u>	All new landscaping should be designed in accordance with the Asset protection Zone principles of Appendix 4 of PBP 2019.
4) Emergency Risk Management	It is advised the residents should complete a <i>Bushfire Survival Plan</i> as formulated by the NSW Rural Fire Service and Fire and Rescue NSW. An emergency evacuation is not recommended as a condition of consent.
5) Adjacent Structures [class 10a & 10b]	Where Class 10a & 10b structures are within 6m from a dwelling in bush fire prone areas it must be built in accordance with the NCC.
6) Water supplies	Reticulated water supply is located on the adjoining road at regular intervals and is easily accessible. No additional water supplies have been recommended.
7) Fences and gates	All fences in bush fire prone areas should be made from either hardwood or non-combustible material. However, in circumstances where the fence connects directly to the dwelling, or in areas of BAL-29 or greater, they should be made of non-combustible material.

12. Summary

This report consists of a bushfire risk assessment for alterations and additions to the existing dwelling at No. 34 Mary Street, Beacon Hill, NSW.

The report concludes that the proposed development is on designated bushfire prone land and the legislative requirements for development of bushfire prone areas are applicable. The proposed development will be constructed to the minimum standard required in accordance with the guidelines of *Planning for Bushfire Protection 2019* and *AS 3959-2018 Construction of buildings in bushfire prone areas*.

This report has considered all of the elements of bushfire attack and provided the proposed development is constructed in accordance with the recommendations of Section 11 of this report, it is my considered opinion that the development satisfies the Objectives and Performance requirements of the *Building Code of Australia, Planning for bushfire Protection 2019 and Australian Standard AS3959, 2018.*

Note: Not with standing the precautions adopted, it should always be remembered that bushfires burn under a wide range of conditions and 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 a bushfire attack on every occasion. This report is a Bushfire Hazard Assessment that provides the required information to assist Local Councils and the Rural fire Service in determining compliance in accordance with Planning for Bushfire Protection 2019 and AS3959, 2018. The local Council is the final consenting authority and the construction of the building must comply with the recommendations included in the council's conditions of consent.

Mh.

Matthew Toghill- Bushfire Consultant
Accreditation No: BPAD31642
Grad Cert in Bushfire Protection, UWS 2012
Certificate IV Building and Construction
Certificate III in Public Safety (firefighting and emergency operations)



RE Offs

BPAD-A Certified Practitioner/Certified Business - Certification No BPD-PA09328

Ron Coffey - Bushfire Safety Engineer

Grad I Fire E [Institute of Fire Engineers - 1973]

Grad Cert Fire Safety Eng. [UWS - 2003]

Grad Dip Building in Bushfire Prone Areas [UWS – 2005]

Ass Prof Cert in Expert Evidence in the Land & Environment Court [UTS – 2005]

Member - Institute of Fire Engineers

Member - Fire Protection Association Australia

13. References

Australian Building Codes Board

Building Code of Australia

Volume 1 & 2

Canprint

Australian Building Codes Board [2001]

Fire Safety Engineering Guidelines

Edition 2001

ABCB Canberra

D. Drysdale D. [1998]

Introduction to Fire Dynamics 2nd Edition

John Wiley & Sons Ltd

NSW Government Environmental Planning and Assessment Act [1979]

Part 79BA-Consultation and development consent- Certain bushfire prone land

NSW Government Printer

Planning for Bushfire Protection 2019

A guide for Councils, Planners, Fire Authorities and Developers

This document provides the necessary planning considerations when developing areas for residential use in residential, rural residential, rural and urban areas when development sites are in close proximity to areas likely to be affected by bushfire events and replaces Planning for Bushfire Protection 2006.

This document is essential reading. Download a copy from the RFS website or purchase a copy through the NSW Government online shop or phone 9228 6333.

Ramsay C & Rudolph L [2003]

Landscape and building design for bushfire prone areas

CSIRO Publishing

Standards Australia [2018]

Australian Standards 3959

Australian Building Code Board

Appendix 1: Performance criteria and acceptable solutions as per Table 7 *Planning for bushfire Protection 2019*



Appendix 2: 7.5.2 NSW State Variations under G5.2(a)(i) and 3.10.5.0(c)(i) of the NCC

Certain provisions of AS 3959 are varied in NSW based on the findings of the Victorian Bush Fires Royal Commission and bush fire industry research.

The following variations to AS 3959 apply in NSW for the purposes of NSW G5.2(a)(i) of Volume One and NSW 3.10.5.0(c)(i) of Volume Two of the NCC; clause 3.10 of AS 3959 is deleted and any sarking used for BAL-12.5, BAL-19, BAL-29 or BAL-40 shall:

- be non-combustible; or
- comply with AS/NZS 4200.1, be installed on the outside of the frame and have a flammability index of not more than 5 as determined by AS 1530.2; and
- clause 5.2 and 6.2 of AS 3959 is replaced by clause 7.2 of AS 3959, except that any wall
 enclosing the subfloor space need only comply with the wall requirements for the respective
 BAL; and
- clause 5.7 and 6.7 of AS 3959 is replaced by clause 7.7 of AS 3959, except that any wall
 enclosing the subfloor space need only comply with the wall requirements for the respective
 BAL; and
- fascias and bargeboards, in BAL-40, shall comply with:
- clause 8.4.1(b) of AS 3959; or
- clause 8.6.6 of AS 3959.

The interpretation of this variation is:

<u>Enclosed subfloors</u>: For subfloor supports there are no requirements for supporting posts, columns, stumps, stringers piers and poles for subfloor supports for BAL 12.5 and BAL 19 when the subfloor space is enclosed with a wall that complies with the determined BAL level for the site.

<u>Unenclosed subfloors</u>: For unenclosed subfloor supporting posts, columns, stumps, stringers piers and poles the requirements are upgraded from BAL 12.5 and BAL 19 to BAL 29 level.

<u>Enclosed verandas</u>: There are no requirements for supporting posts, columns, stumps, stringers piers and poles for verandas, decks, steps and landings when the subfloor space is enclosed with a wall that complies with the determined BAL level for the site.

<u>Unenclosed verandas</u>: The requirements for supporting posts, columns, stumps, stringers piers and poles for verandas, decks, steps, and landings are upgraded from BAL 19 and BAL 12.5 to BAL 29 level.

For unenclosed subfloors of the main building or verandas, decks, steps and landings for BAL 12.5, 19 and BAL29 supporting posts, columns, stumps, stringers piers and poles shall be:

- 1. A non-combustible material; or
- 2. A Bushfire resistant timber; or
- 3. A combination of 1 and 2

Acceptable timber species:

Black-butt, Turpentine, Silver Top Ash, Spotted Gum, Red Iron Bark, Kwila, Red River Gum

Sarking: To comply with the NSW State variation any sarking used for BAL 12.5 shall:

- Be Non-combustible; or
- Comply with AS/NZ 4200.1 be installed on the outside of the frame and have a flammability index of not more than 5 as determined by AS1530.2

Appendix 3: Northern Beaches Council Bushfire Certificate.

BUSHFIRE RISK ASSESSMENT CERTIFICATE

THIS FORM IS TO BE COMPLETED BY A RECOGNISED CONSULTANT IN BUSHFIRE RISK ASSESSMENT IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 4.14 1(b) OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING AND ASSESSMENT ACT 1979 NO 203

PROPERTY ADDRESS:	34 May street Beacon Hill
DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSAL:	Alterations & Activions
PLAN REFERENCE: (relied upon in report preparation)	Parec letters Design Dofed: 25.10.2021 (Rev B)
BAL RATING:	(If the BAL refing is FZ the application is to be referred to NSW RFS for assessment.)
DOES THE PROPOSAL RELY ON ALTERNATE SOLUTIONS:	YES (Circle the relevant response) (If YES the application is to be referred to NSW RFS for assessment.)

i.	Mathew	Togh:11	of	Bushcan	Australia	PL	Ltd.
	(Print	Name)		(Trading	or Company N	ame)	

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 2* of *Planning for Bushfire Protection 2019* together with recommendations as to how the relevant specifications and requirements are to be achieved.

REPORT REFERENCE: 3+Mar-02	
REPORT DATE:	03.11.2021
CERTIFICATION NO/ACCREDITED SCHEME:	13PAD 3M62.

I hereby certify, in accordance with Section 4.14 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 No 20:

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

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 2019.

Note: this certificate must be completed and signed by a person recognised by the NSW Rural Fire Service as a qualified consultant in bush fire risk assessment in accordance with Section 4.14 of the EP&A Act 1979 No 203.

This form has been prepared by Northern Beaches Council for attachment to the Bushfire Assessment Report.

Appendix 4: Method 2 AS35592018 calculations



NBC Bushfire Attack Assessment Report V4.1

A\$3959 (2018) Appendix B - Detailed Method 2

Print Date: 4/11/2021 Assessment Date: 4/11/2021

Site Street Address: 34 Mary Street, Beacon Hill

Matthew Toghill; Bushoon Australia Pty Ltd Assessor:

Local Government Area: Northern Beaches Alpine Area: No

Equations Used

Transmissivity: Fuss and Hammins, 2002 Flame Length: RFS PBP, 2001/Vesta/Catchpole Rate of Fire Spread: Noble et al., 1980

Radiant Heat: Drysdale, 1985; Sullivan et al., 2003; Tan et al., 2005

Peak Elevation of Receiver: Tan et al., 2005

Peak Flame Angle: Tan et al., 2005

Fire Intensity(kW/m): 110854

Run Description:	T1			
Vegetation Informatio	<u>n</u>			
Vegetation Type:	Forest (including Coastal Sv	vamp Forest)		
Vegetation Group:	Forest and Woodland			
Vegetation Slope:	12.5 Degrees	Vegetation Slope Type:	Downs	slope
Surface Fuel Load(t/ha):	22	Overall Fuel Load(t/ha):	36.1	
Vegetation Height(m):	2	Only Applicable to Shrub/Scrub and Vesta		
Site Information				
Site Slope:	11 Degrees	Site Slope Type:	Down	slope
Elevation of Receiver(m): Default	APZ/Separation(m):	59.53	9
Fire Inputs				
Veg./Flame Width(m):	100	Flame Temp(K):	1090	
Calculation Parameter	r <u>s</u>			
Flame Emissivity:	95	Relative Humidity(%):	25	
Heat of Combustion(kJ/k	kg) 18800	Ambient Temp(K):	308	
Moisture Factor:	5	FDI:	100	
Program Outputs				
Level of Construction:	BAL 19	Peak Elevation of Recei	iver(m):	9.58
Radiant Heat(kW/m2):	16.48	Flame Angle (degrees):		70
Flame Length(m):	44.99	Maximum View Factor:		0.283
Rate Of Spread (km/h): (8.25	Inner Protection Area(m	1):	35
Transmissivity:	0.765	Outer Protection Area(n	n):	25