

Bush Fire Assessment Report

Proposed:
**Additions and
Alterations**

At:
**3 Cootamundra Drive,
Allambie Heights**

Reference Number: 210357

Prepared For:

Steve & Amy Firth

25th May 2022



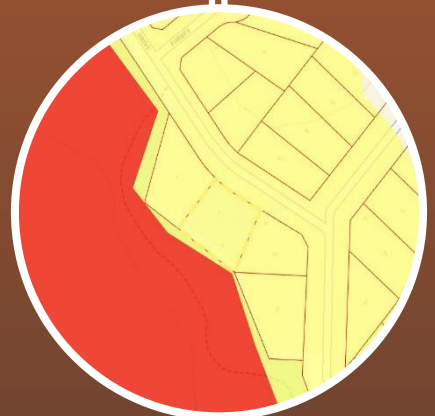
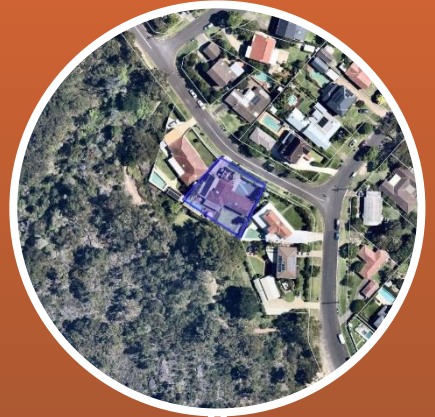
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**SILVER
MEMBER**
Fire Protection
Association Australia



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S4.14 applications (under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979) and all infill development applications *may* be referred by Council to the NSW Rural Fire Service for review and concurrence during the DA process. S100B applications under the Rural Fires Act 1997 (subdivisions and Special Fire Protection Purpose Developments), Flame Zone determinations and Alternate Solutions *must* be referred by Council to the NSW Rural Fire Service for review and receipt of a Bushfire Safety Authority (BSA) or other such recommended conditions from the NSW Rural Fire Service before the consent can be granted.

The onus is on the applicant to cross reference this document with any conditions of consent issued by Council or any requirements supplied by the NSW Rural Fire Service following development approval. BCBHS can review and cross reference these documents however the onus is on the applicant to provide them to us and request this review – Building Code and Bushfire Hazard Solutions Pty. Ltd. is not in a position to track every DA through Council and we rely upon the applicant to undertake this role as project co-ordinator.

Where any discrepancy between this document and the development approval or the NSW Rural Fire Service requirements is found, the conditions of consent always take precedence until such time as an application to review, amend or vary these conditions is approved.

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Version Control				
Version	Date	Author	Reviewed by	Details
1	02/03/2022	Duncan Armour	Ian Tyerman	Final Report
2	25/05/2022	Duncan Armour	Ian Tyerman	Updated plans

List of Abbreviations:

APZ	Asset Protection Zone
AS3959	Australian Standard 3959 – 2018
BAL	Bushfire Attack Level
BPMs	Bushfire Protection Measures
BPLM	Bushfire Prone Land Map
Council	Northern Beaches Council
DA	Development Application
ELVIS	Elevation and Depth Foundation Spatial Data
EP&A Act	<i>Environmental Planning and Assessment Act - 1979</i>
ESD	Ecologically Sustainable Development
FRNSW	Fire and Rescue NSW
IPA	Inner Protection Area
NASH	National Association of Steel-framed Housing
NCC	National Construction Code
NP	National Park
NSP	Neighbourhood Safer Place
OPA	Outer Protection Area
PBP	<i>Planning for Bush Fire Protection – November 2019</i>
ROW	Right of Way
RF Act	<i>Rural Fires Act - 1997</i>
RFS	NSW Rural Fire Service
SEPP	State Environmental Planning Policy
SFPP	Special Fire Protection Purpose
SWS	Static Water Supply

1.0 Introduction

The development proposal relates to the demolition of the existing dwelling and the construction of a new sole occupancy dwelling within an existing residential allotment located at 3 Cootamundra Drive, Allambie Heights (Lot 2 DP 241969).

The subject property is an existing residential allotment and has a street frontage to Cootamundra Drive to the northeast and abuts similar private allotments to the southeast and northwest and abuts Manly Warringah War Memorial Park to the southwest.

Properties considered to be affected by possible bushfire impact are determined from the local Bushfire Prone Land Map as prepared by Council and or the Rural Fire Service. All property development within affected areas is subject to the conditions detailed in the document 'Planning for Bush Fire Protection - 2019' (PBP).

PBP formally adopted on the 1st March 2020 provides for the protection of property and life (including fire-fighters and emergency service personnel) from bushfire impact.

Northern Beaches Council's Bushfire Prone Land Map identifies the subject property as containing the 100 metre buffer zone from Category 1 Vegetation therefore PBP must apply in this instance.

The subject development relates to the construction of a sole occupancy dwelling within an existing residential allotment. The development is classified as infill development and assessed as a s4.14 application under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 and Chapter 7 of PBP applied.

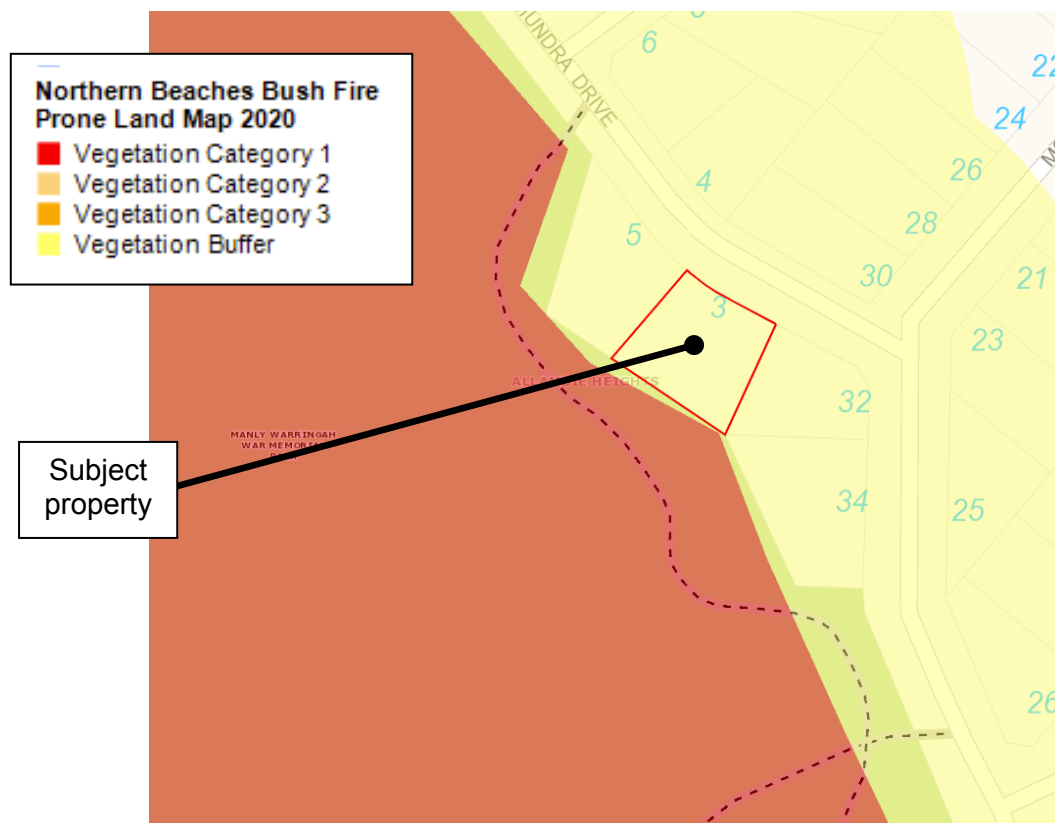


Figure 01: Extract from Northern Beaches Council's Bushfire Prone Land Map

2.0 Purpose of Report

The purpose of this Bushfire Assessment Report is to provide the owners and Council with an independent bushfire assessment together with appropriate recommendations for both new building construction and bushfire mitigation measures considered necessary having regard to construction within a designated 'bushfire prone' area.

The recommendations contained within this report may assist in forming the basis of any specific construction conditions and/or bushfire mitigation measures that Council and/or the NSW Rural Fire Service may elect to place within any consent conditions issued for the subject Development Application.

3.0 Scope of this Report

The scope of this report is limited to providing a bushfire assessment and recommendations for the subject property. Where reference has been made to the surrounding lands, this report does not purport to directly assess those lands; rather it may discuss bushfire impact and/or progression through those lands and possible bushfire impact to the subject property.

4.0 Compliance Tables & Notes

The following table sets out the projects compliance with *Planning for Bush Fire Protection – 2019*.

	Northeast	Southwest	Southeast	Northwest
Vegetation Structure	Maintained curtilages	Tall Heath	Maintained curtilages	Forest
Slope	N/A	10 - 15 degrees down	N/A	0 - 5 degrees down
Asset Protection Zone	N/A	>26 metres	N/A	>40 metres
Significant Landscape Features	Cootamundra Drive	Manly - Warringah War Memorial Park	Neighbouring private residential allotment	Neighbouring private residential allotment
Threatened Species	APZ Existing	APZ Existing	APZ Existing	APZ Existing
Aboriginal Relics	APZ Existing	APZ Existing	APZ Existing	APZ Existing
Bushfire Attack Level	N/A	BAL 29	N/A	BAL 19
Required Construction Level	BAL 19	BAL 29	BAL 29	BAL 29

Compliance Summary of Bushfire Protection Measures			
Bushfire Protection Measure (s7.4 PBP)	Acceptable Solution	Performance Solution	Report Section
Asset Protection Zones	☒	☐	7.02
Construction Standard	☒	☐	7.03
Access	☒	☐	7.04
Water Supply	☒	☐	7.05
Gas and Electrical Supplies	☒	☐	7.05

Asset Protection Zones

The available Asset Protection Zone to the existing dwelling was measured to be >26 metres to the southwest and >40 metres to the northwest. The APZ consists of maintained grounds within the subject property and an existing APZ that is in place and maintained under the Manly - Warringah War Memorial Park Fire Regime Management Plan.

Construction Level – Better outcome.

The highest Bushfire Attack Level to the proposed works was determined from Table A1.12.5 of PBP to be 'BAL 29'. The proposed works will be constructed to section 7 (BAL 29) under AS 3959 – 2018 and the additional construction requirements detailed in section 7.5 of PBP.

Access and Services

Guideline Ref.	Proposed Development Determinations
Property Access (Driveway)	The most distant external point of the subject dwelling is within 70 metres of a public road supporting a hydrant network and therefore the Access requirements detailed in Table 7.4a of PBP are <u>not</u> applicable.
Water Supply	The most distant external point of the building footprint is within 70 metres from a public road supporting a hydrant network and therefore a Static Water Supply is <u>not</u> required under Chapter 7 of PBP. Regardless the existing swimming pool provides an additional supply.
Evacuation	Evacuation is possible by utilising existing road infrastructure. It is encouraged that the occupants complete a Bush Fire Survival Plan.
Electrical Supply	Existing aerial supply provided.
Gas Supply	New connections must comply with Table 7.4a of PBP.

5.0 Aerial view of the subject allotment



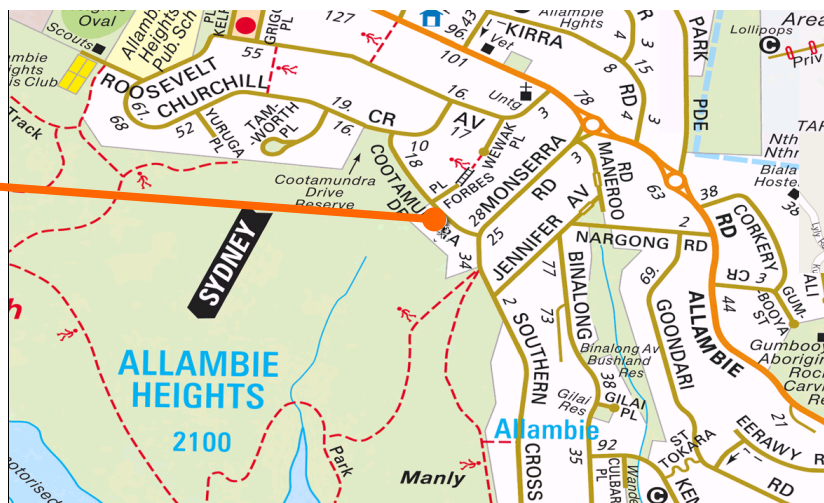
Figure 02: Aerial view of the subject area C/- Nearmap – December 2021

6.01 Location

The subject property has a street frontage to Cootamundra Drive to the northeast and abuts similar private allotments to the northwest and southeast and Manly - Warringah War Memorial Park to the southwest.

A photograph of a residential property. In the foreground, there is a dark asphalt road with white double lines. Behind the road is a concrete curb and a green lawn. A white fence runs across the middle ground, with a wooden gate. Behind the fence is a red-tiled roof and a large, leafy tree. An orange arrow points from the top right towards the roofline.

Location of
the subject
property



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6.02 Vegetation

The predominant vegetation within the subject property and the neighbouring private residential allotments consists of landscaped gardens and mown lawns.

The vegetation identified as being a hazard is located to the southwest and northwest within Manly - Warringah War Memorial Park. The vegetation posing a hazard was found to consist of scattered trees 5 - 15 metres in height with a 10% foliage cover. The understory was found to contain a high fuel load. However little mid story shrub.

In applying a assessment under 'Planning for Bush Fire Protection' and with reference to the letter from GIS Environmental Consultants (See Attachment 02), the vegetation posing a hazard to the proposed works has been determined to be Tall Heath.

Tall Heath



Photograph 02: View into the vegetation within Manly - Warringah War Memorial Park to the west of the subject property



Photograph 03: View into the vegetation within Manly - Warringah War Memorial Park to the southwest of the subject property

6.03 Slope and Topography

The slope that would most significantly influence bushfire behaviour must be assessed for a distance of 100 metres from within the bushfire hazard. The most significant bushfire impact from the southwest and northwest is expected to be a bushfire travelling up slope toward the subject dwelling.

The slope that would **most significantly** influence bushfire impact was determined onsite using an inclinometer and verified from topographic imagery to be:

- 10 - 15 degrees down slope within the hazard to the southwest
- 0 - 5 degrees down slope within the hazard to the northwest

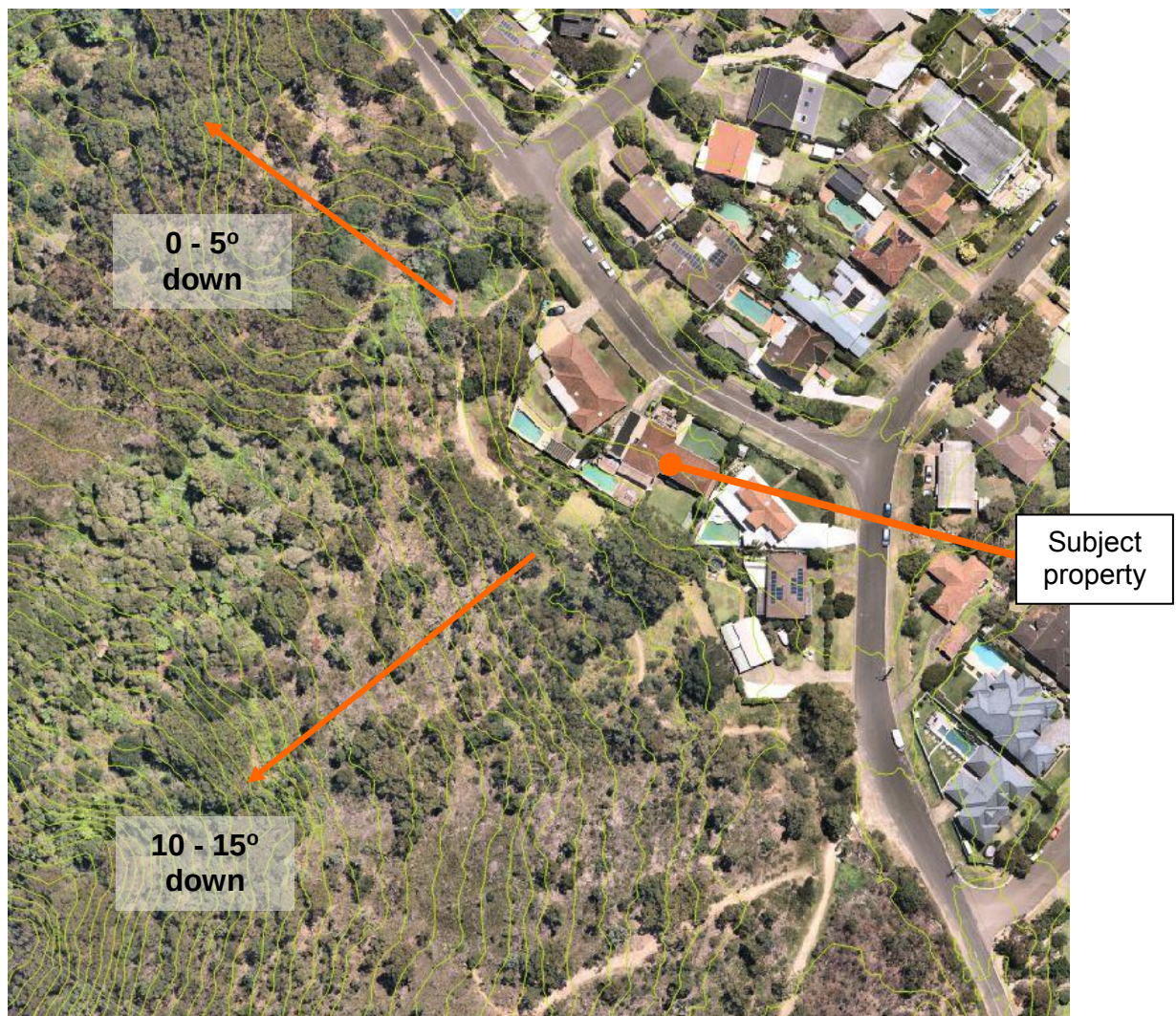


Figure 04: Extract from ELVIS – Geoscience Australia (1m contours)

7.0 Bushfire Protection Measures

7.01 Planning for Bush Fire Protection - 2019

Planning for Bush Fire Protection – 2019 (PBP) is applicable to development located on land determined as being 'bushfire prone' in accordance with the local Bushfire Prone Land Map.

Bushfire prone land are defined as those areas;

- containing or within 100m of Category 1 Vegetation; or
- containing or within 30m of Category 2 or 3 Vegetation.

Northern Beaches Council's Bushfire Prone Land Map identifies the subject property as containing the 100 metre buffer zone from Category 1 Vegetation therefore PBP must apply in this instance.

The application of Planning for Bush Fire Protection requires satisfactory demonstration of the aim and objectives and the following bushfire protection measures (BPMs):

- Asset Protection Zones
- Building construction, siting & design
- Access arrangements
- Water supply & utilities
- Emergency management arrangements
- Landscaping

As the proposal relates to the construction of a sole occupancy dwelling, the proposal must comply with the bushfire protection measures detailed within Chapter 7 'Residential Infill Development' of PBP.

7.02 Asset Protection Zones

The subject property is a residential allotment located in an area of similar properties. The vegetation identified as being a hazard is located to the southwest within Manly - Warringah War Memorial Park.

The available Asset Protection Zone was measured to be >26 metres to the southwest and >40 metres to the northwest of the proposed works. The APZ consists of maintained grounds within the subject property, Manly Dam Bike track and an existing APZ.

It is noted that the APZ to the southwest and northwest includes existing managed grounds outside the identified property boundary. This land is managed in accordance with the Manly - Warringah War Memorial Park Fire Regime Management Plan. The subject property is located along APZ 17 on map 5 of Appendix 6, Manly Warringah War Memorial Park Fire Regime Management Plan.

It is noted that Northern Beaches Council has provided a letter confirming that the APZ within Manly - Warringah War Memorial Park will continue to be managed as an APZ, (See Attachment 03).

All grounds within the subject property not built upon are to continue to be maintained in accordance with an Inner Protection Area (IPA) as detailed in the NSW Rural Fire Service's document 'Standards for Asset Protection Zones'.

At the time of our inspection, the subject property was considered to meet the performance requirements of an APZ and no vegetation modification or tree removal is required to implement the aforementioned APZs.

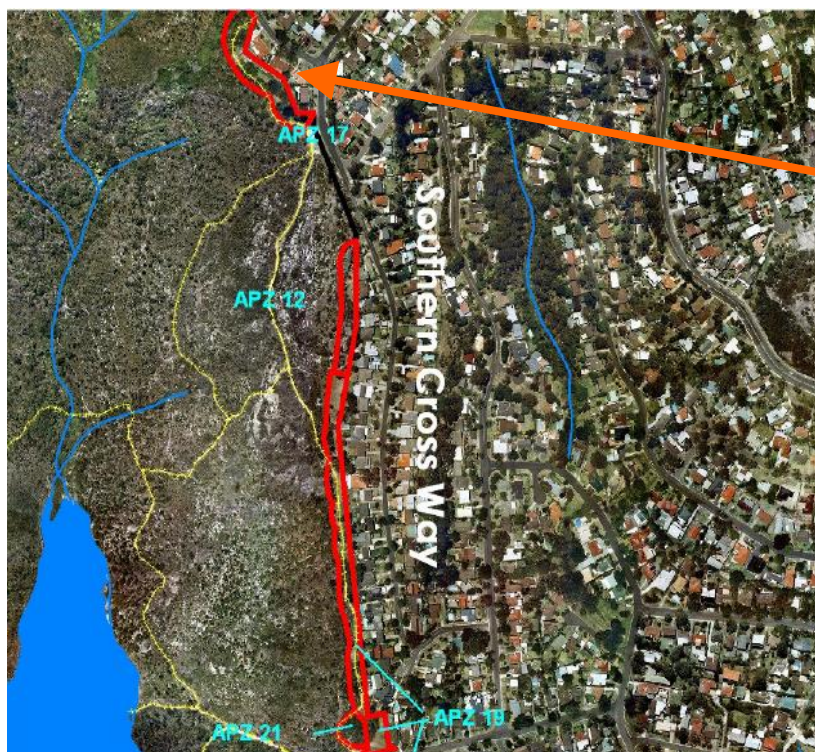
APZ 17	APZ (IPA)	Initial weed removal and long term weed suppression, hand removal of fuels within areas of build up	-	-	Subject to Council's FMAZ program priorities*	Sewer Pipe, Track	-	Historically significant area	Crown land CCM Warringah Council	IPA - 30m
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Figure 05: Extract from *Manly Warringah War Memorial Park Fire Regime Management Plan* outlining the zones and treatments of the APZ's.

External
APZ



Photograph 04: View of the external APZ within Manly - Warringah War Memorial Park to the southwest of the subject property



Subject
property

Figure 06: APZ Map 5 subject property is located in area of APZ 17 c/- Appendix 6, Manly Warringah War Memorial Park Fire Regime Management Plan

7.03 Building construction, siting & design

Australian Standard 3959 – 2018 'Construction of buildings in bushfire-prone areas' (AS3959) specifies construction standards for buildings within various Bushfire Attack Levels as determined by Planning for Bush Fire Protection – 2019.

AS3959 provides for six (6) levels of building construction these being BAL - Low, BAL - 12.5, BAL - 19, BAL - 29, BAL - 40 and BAL - FZ.

Bushfire Attack Level	Maximum radiant heat impact (kW/m ²)	Level of construction under AS3959-2018
Low		No special construction requirements
12.5	≤12.5	BAL - 12.5
19	12.6 to 19.0	BAL - 19
29	19.1 to 29.0	BAL - 29
40	29.1 to 40.0	BAL - 40
Flame Zone	>40.0	BAL FZ No deemed to satisfy provisions

Table 01: Correlation between bushfire impact and AS3959

The highest Bushfire Attack Level to the proposed works was determined from Table A1.12.5 of PBP to be 'BAL 29'. The proposed works will be constructed to section 7 (BAL 29) under AS 3959 – 2018 and the additional construction requirements detailed in section 7.5 of PBP.

It is also noted that the existing timber decking around the existing pool will be replaced with BAL Flame Zone compliant materials and will provide for a better bushfire safety outcome and will not provide a pilot ignition source to the dwelling.

7.04 Property Access

The subject property has street frontage to Cootamundra Drive to the northeast. Persons seeking to egress from the subject property will be able to do so via the existing access drive and public roads.

The most distant external point of the proposed footprint is less than 70 metres from a public road supporting the operational use of fire fighting vehicles and therefore the Access requirements detailed in Table 7.4a of PBP are not applicable.

Access to the hazard is available via Cootamundra Drive and trails within Manly Dam Reserve for hazard reduction for fire suppression activities.

The existing and modified access is considered adequate for this development

7.05 Water Supply & Utilities

Hydrants are available throughout Cootamundra Drive and surrounding streets for the replenishment of fire service vehicles. The most distant external point of the subject dwelling is within 70 metres of a public road that supporting a hydrant network and therefore a Static Water Supply is not required.

Regardless the existing swimming pool provides an additional supply.

The existing water supply is considered adequate.

The proposed dwelling will have an aerial connection to the existing electrical network.

Any new gas connections must comply with Table 7.4a of PBP.

7.06 Emergency management arrangements

Evacuation is possible by utilising existing road infrastructure away from the hazard.

In acknowledging various evacuation routes that could be impacted by fire and the risk to the subject site it is encouraged that the occupants complete a Bush Fire Survival Plan. The template for this plan is available at <https://www.rfs.nsw.gov.au/resources/bush-fire-survival-plan>.

7.07 Landscaping

Any new landscaping must comply with Section 3.7 'Landscaping' of *Planning for Bush Fire Protection* 2019.

7.08 Aim & Objectives of PBP

The following table details the aim and objectives of Planning for Bush Fire Protection 2019 and the proposals ability to comply.

Aim / Objective	Comment
The aim of PBP is to provide for the protection of human life and minimise impacts on property from the threat of bush fire, while having due regard to development potential, site characteristics and protection of the environment.	With the inclusion of the recommendations made herein it is of our opinion that the aim of PBP has been satisfied.
(i) afford buildings and their occupants protection from exposure to a bush fire;	The proposed works will be constructed to BAL 29 under AS3959 2018, being the relevant Bushfire Attack Level.
(ii) provide for a defensible space to be located around buildings;	There is a defensible space available to the identified hazard, being maintained grounds and the existing external APZ.
(iii) provide appropriate separation between a hazard and buildings which, in combination with other measures, prevent the likely fire spread to buildings;	The existing APZ was measured to be >26 metres to the southwest and 40 metres to the northwest. In conjunction with the construction provisions the likely spread of fire is prevented.

Aim / Objective	Comment
(iv) ensure that appropriate operational access and egress for emergency service personnel and occupants is available;	The most distant external point of the proposed footprint is less than 70 metres from a public road supporting the operational use of fire fighting vehicles.
(v) provide for ongoing management and maintenance of bush fire protection measures, (BPMs); and	All grounds within the subject site will continue be maintained in accordance with an Asset Protection Zone / Inner Protection Area as detailed in Appendix 4 of Planning for Bush Fire Protection 2019 and the NSW Rural Fire Service publication 'Standards for Asset Protection Zones'. Any new landscaping is to comply with the provisions of Table 7.4a and Appendix 4 of PBP.
(vi) ensure that utility services are adequate to meet the needs of firefighters.	Hydrants are available throughout Cootamundra Drive and surrounding streets for the replenishment of fire service vehicles. The most distant external point of the subject dwelling is within 70 metres of a public road that supports a hydrant network.

It is therefore of our opinion that the proposal can satisfactorily comply with the aim and objectives of Planning for Bush Fire Protection 2019.

8.0 Recommendations

The following recommendations are provided as the minimum necessary for compliance with Planning for Bush Fire Protection – 2019 and Australian Standard 3959 'Construction of buildings in bushfire-prone areas - 2018. Additional recommendations are provided to supplement these minimum requirements where considered necessary.

Asset Protection Zones

1. That all grounds within the subject property not built upon continue to be maintained as an Asset Protection Zone (Inner Protection Area) as detailed in the NSW Rural Fire Service's document 'Standards for Asset Protection Zones' and Appendix 4 of *Planning for Bush Fire Protection* 2019.

Note: The Manly – Warringah War Memorial Reserve Fire Regime Management plan identifies the area behind the Subject property as a designated APZ. The subject property is located to the east of APZ 17 under APZ map 5.

Construction

2. That all new roofing and all new construction shall comply with section 7 (BAL 29) Australian Standard AS3959-2018 'Construction of buildings in bush fire-prone areas' and section 7.5 of "Planning for Bush Fire Protection".

Landscaping

4. That any new landscaping is to comply with Section 3.7 'Landscaping' under *Planning for Bush Fire Protection* 2019.

Gas (where applicable)

5. That any new gas services are to comply with Table 7.4a of Planning for Bush Fire Protection 2019 as follows:
 - reticulated or bottled gas is installed and maintained in accordance with AS/NZS 1596:2014 and the requirements of relevant authorities, and metal piping is used;
 - all fixed gas cylinders are kept clear of all flammable materials to a distance of 10m and shielded on the hazard side;
 - connections to and from gas cylinders are metal;
 - polymer-sheathed flexible gas supply lines are not used; and
 - above-ground gas service pipes are metal, including and up to any outlets.

Emergency management

6. That the occupants of the subject dwelling complete a Bush Fire Survival Plan.

9.0 Conclusion

Given that the property is deemed bushfire prone under Northern Beaches Council's Bushfire Prone Land Map any development would need to meet the requirements of Planning for Bush Fire Protection – 2019 and of the construction requirements of AS3959 – 2018. The determination of any bushfire hazard must be made on a site-specific basis that includes an assessment of the local bushland area and its possible impact to the subject property.

The subject property is a residential allotment within an area of similar properties. The vegetation identified as being a hazard is located to the southwest and northwest within Manly - Warringah War Memorial Park. The vegetation posing a hazard was determined to be Tall Heath.

The available Asset Protection Zone was measured to be >26 metres to the southwest and >40 metres to the northwest of the proposed works. The APZs consist of maintained grounds within the subject property, Manly Dam bike trail and land equivalent to an APZ within maintained neighbouring allotments. The existing external APZ is managed in accordance with the Manly Warringah War Memorial Park Fire Regime Management Plan.

The highest Bushfire Attack Level to the proposed works was determined from Table A1.12.5 of PBP to be 'BAL 29'. The proposed works will be constructed to section 7 (BAL 29) under AS 3959 – 2018 and the additional construction requirements detailed in section 7.5 of PBP.

The existing water supply and access provisions are considered adequate for this development.

In accordance with the bushfire safety measures contained in this report, and consideration of the site specific bushfire risk assessment it is our opinion that when combined, they will provide a significantly improved and satisfactory level of bushfire protection to the subject development.

We are therefore in support of the development application.

Should you have any enquiries regarding this project please contact me at our office.

Prepared by
Building Code & Bushfire Hazard Solutions



Duncan Armour

Reviewed and endorsed by
Building Code & Bushfire Hazard Solutions P/L



Ian Tyerman

Senior Bushfire Consultant
Graduate Certificate in Bushfire Protection
Planning for Bushfire Prone Areas - UTS Sydney
FPA Australia BPAD Level 2 Accredited Practitioner
BPAD Accreditation No. BPAD30356



10.0 Annexure 01

List of Referenced Documents

Australian Building Codes Board (2019). *National Construction Code Volume Two - Building Code of Australia*. ABCB

Ecological Australia (19 May 2006). "Manly Warringah War Memorial Park Fire Regime Management Plan".

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NSW Department of Planning and Environment (2019). *Planning Portal*. Accessed at: <https://www.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/>

NSW Rural Fire Service (2019). *Planning for Bushfire Protection. A Guide for Councils, Planners, Fire Authorities and Developers*.

OEH (2016). *The Native Vegetation of the Sydney Metropolitan Area. Volume 2: Vegetation Community Profiles*. Version 3.0. NSW Office of Environment and Heritage, Sydney.

Site Plan by Joseph Quarello Design and Management, Job No. 2102; Drawing No. DA-03; Issue: F; Dated 20 May 22.

Standards Australia (2018). *AS3959 Construction of buildings in bushfire-prone areas*.

Standards Australia (2014). *AS/NZS 1596 The storage and handling of LP Gas*

Rural Fire Service NSW (2005). *Standards for Asset Protection Zones*

Warringah Pittwater Bush Fire Management Committee (2008). "Bush Fire Risk Management Plan".

Acknowledgements to:

Geoscience Australia
Nearmaps
NSW Department of Lands – SIXMaps
Street-directory.com.au

Attachments

Attachment 01:	s4.14 Compliance Certificate
Attachment 02:	Letter from GIS Environmental Consultants
Attachment 03:	Council email advice - APZ



Bushfire Hazard Solutions

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BUSHFIRE RISK ASSESSMENT CERTIFICATE UNDER PART 4 DIVISION 4.3 SECTION 4.14 OF THE EP&A ACT 1979 NO 203

PROPERTY ADDRESS:	3 Cootamundra Drive, Allambie Heights
DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSAL:	Alterations and additions
PLAN REFERENCE: (relied upon in report preparation)	Site Plan by Joseph Quarello Design and Management, Job No. 2102; Drawing No. DA-03; Issue: F; Dated 20 May 22.
BAL RATING:	BAL 29
BUSHFIRE ASSESSMENT REPORT REFERENCE:	210357
REPORT DATE	25 th May 2022
CERTIFICATION NO/ACCREDITED SCHEME	BPAD30356

I Ian Tyerman of Building Code and Bushfire Hazard Solutions Pty Ltd hereby certify, in accordance with Part 4 Division 4.3 Section 4.14 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 Bushfire Risk Assessment Report the proposed development conforms specifications and requirements of the documents entitled *Planning for Bush Fire Protection* prepared by the NSW Rural Fire Service in co-operation with the Department of Planning and any other documents as prescribed by Part 4 Division 4.3 Section 4.14 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 Council as the basis for ensuring that the bushfire risk management aspects of the proposed development have been addressed in accordance with *Planning for Bush Fire Protection 2019*.

Signature:  Date: 25th May 2022



Northern Beaches Council Planner
c/o
Amy Firth
3 Cootamundra Dr, Allambie Heights
Email: amyfirth7@gmail.com
Amy Firth
Ph: 0409 369 424
Steve Firth
ph: 0411 889 409

19th March 2020

RE: Keith 2004 Classification of vegetation to the south-west of 3 Cootamundra Dr, Allambie Heights

Dear Council Planner,

The owner of 3 Cootamundra Drive is considering building an extension to the existing house. The property is directly adjacent to the large bushland area of Manly Dam Memorial Reserve and as a consequence the property is within an area mapped as bushfire prone. For the owner to be able to plan and design the alterations and additions to the house, the owners fire consultant needs to ascertain the level of bushfire building standard required, which is dependent on the slope and type of vegetation, in the direction of the fire threat, specifically the structural type in accordance with Keith 2004 and the document Planning for Bushfire Protection 2019.

I have inspected the vegetation within 200m south-west of the property 3 Cootamundra Drive at Allambie to determine the type of Keith 2004 vegetation present. I have recorded the height of the vegetation and species present and taken photos of the vegetation.

I note that the vegetation has been mapped as Scribbly Gum Woodland however this mapping is more than 10 years old and is not consistent with the current vegetation type. The vegetation has not been severely burnt within the last few years such that it would change the structure and species of the vegetation.

Adjacent to the property to the south west, for a width of 14m, there is a mown Buffalo lawn area with and area of exposed sandstone and a small strip of natives and weeds (<15% projected foliage cover) with some overhanging canopy from a large planted Blackbutt (*Eucalyptus pilularis*) (20%pfc). Further to the south west is the Manly Dam Bike Track crosses the area parallel to the rear boundary. Further to the southwest is partly disturbed Tall heathland with an extensive area (av. 45%) of exposed sandstone with a tree canopy (10% pfc) of *Corymbia gummifera* and *Eucalyptus punctata* (14-16m high) with a shrub layer (70% <2m high) dominated by *Acacia longifolia* and *Leptospermum* and a ground cover vegetation layer dominated by Blady Grass. The area has a large amount of dead tree trunks that appear to be due to *Phytophthora* fungal infection. No Threatened species or endangered ecological communities occur in the area to the southwest.

I have found that the vegetation in this area most closely resembles the Keith 2004 Vegetation Formation

of Tall Heath.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to ring me on 0419438672.

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Nick Skelton', with a stylized, flowing script.

Nick Skelton,
Director – GIS Environmental Consultants



View from the property, looking Southwest, lawn and bike path in the foreground.



14-50m from the house looking northeast back towards the house. Disturbed vegetation dominated by Blady Grass.



50-200m from the dwelling looking southwest. Showing exposed sandstone, dead trees and heathy understorey.

From: Jeremy Smith <Jeremy.Smith@northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au>

Sent: Wednesday, 14 October 2020 7:57 AM

To: AMY Firth <amyfirth7@gmail.com>; Matt Horwood
<Matt.Horwood@northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au>

Cc: Steve Firth <Steve.Firth@eaglelighting.com.au>

Subject: RE: Attention: Park Assets

Dear Mr and Mrs Firth

Thank you for contacting Council in regards to the existing Asset Protection Zone (APZ) within Manly Warringah War Memorial Park to the rear of your property at 3 Cootamundra Drive, Allambie Heights.

Council works closely with the Northern Beaches Bush Fire Management Committee to ensure that bush fire risk is managed throughout the Local Government Area. Accordingly, I can confirm that Council regularly maintains this APZ per the requirements of the Warringah Pittwater Bush Fire Risk Management Plan 2010 and Manly Warringah War Memorial Park Fire Regime Management Plan 2006. Council expects to continue to maintain this APZ into the future in accordance with available funding, resources and relevant environmental approvals.

Unfortunately Council does not provide permission for residents or their contractors to clear Council managed APZs due to risks of injury, liability and environmental damage. Should you be interested in preserving and maintaining natural bushland in your area, Council has a vibrant Bushcare program. More information is available on Council's website using the below link.

<https://www.northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au/environment/bushland/bushcare-volunteers>

I thank you for contacting Council. Should you require any further information please contact my office on 8495 6614.

Regards

Jeremy Smith

Manager, Park Assets - Planning Design & Delivery

Park Assets - Planning, Design & Delivery

t 02 8495 6614 m 0458 788 814

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