

# Gladstone Area Water Board

## Bushfire Management and Mitigation Management Plan

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### Gladstone Area Water Board

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

The Bushfire Management Sub-Plan (BMP) is one component of the GAWB Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) for the East End Pipeline Project (hereafter referred to as “the Project”). Section 4.1 of the CEMP provides further background and detailed description of the Project.

The BMP describes how bushfires will be managed and any potential impact minimised during construction. This BMP has been prepared with consideration of Project requirements, and to address the legal and other requirements outlined in Section 3

### 1.1 Plan purpose

The purpose of this BMP is to:

- Describe how GAWB and its contractor(s) will manage and control risks associated with bushfires during the construction of the Project
- Provide strategies to control potential impacts of bushfires during construction
- Address the requirements of applicable legislation
- Address approval, permit/licence and contractual requirements.

### 1.2 Management objective and performance criteria

Objectives and performance criteria for the Project in relation to bushfires include the following:

Objectives	Performance Criteria
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To provide a strategic and systematic framework to enable construction of the project with minimal environmental or social impact due to bushfires</li> <li>• To ensure all construction activities are undertaken with the objective of preventing such impacts</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No uncontrolled bushfires caused by GAWB or its contractors</li> <li>• No loss of protected or native fauna and flora due to uncontrolled bushfires caused by GAWB or its contractors</li> <li>• No damage to property, plant or equipment resulting in delays to the Project due to uncontrolled bushfire</li> </ul>

### 1.3 Plan Scope

This plan applies to all works associated with the Project.

### 1.4 Interface with other documents

This BMP forms part of the overall CEMP for the Project.

## 2. LEGAL AND OTHER COMPLIANCE REQUIREMENTS

### 2.1 Relevant legislation

- *Environmental Protection Act 1994*
- *Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*
- *Fire and Emergency Services Act 1990*

## **2.2 Australian Standard and Industry guidelines**

- Gladstone Regional Council - Local Disaster Management Plan
- Permits, approvals and licence conditions
- Landowners' requirements
- MCU development permits
- Operational works development permits

## **3. CONTEXT**

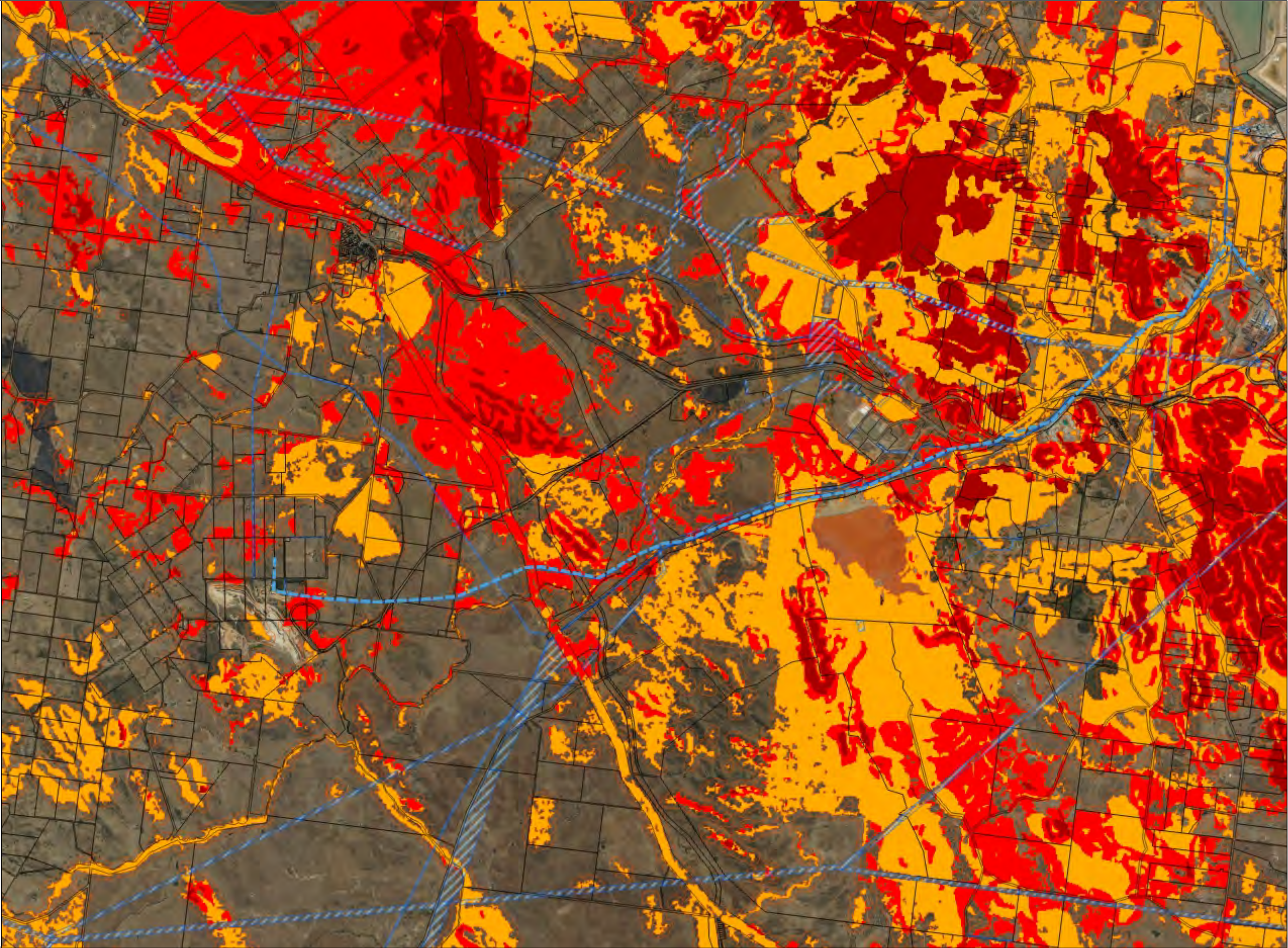
### **3.1 Key risks**

Where work is in and around native bushland and grasslands, fuel/fuel load of any type there is a potential risk of bushfire/fire. A robust understanding of bushfire risk is vital to minimising its potential impact and increasing resilience in the Region. By considering a range of factors, including wind, ecology, topography, climate, bushfire prone area mapping, fuel load, fire history and community consequence.

Under the Gladstone Regional Council Planning Scheme, the project predominately passes through high and medium bush fire hazard areas.



- Road Centrelines
- Easement
- Base Parcel
- Base Point
- Bushfire Prone Areas
- Very High Potential Bushfire Intensity
- High Potential Bushfire Intensity
- Medium Potential Bushfire Intensity
- Potential Impact Buffer



Map Title



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### **3.1.1 Risk assessment process**

Due to the inherent nature and seasonal variability of bushfire hazards, bushfire risks shall be incorporated into the Project Risk Register. The risk assessment will consider:

- [BOM](#) and [Bushfire CRC](#) seasonal and daily predictions
- Existing and predicted fire danger ratings / predicted fuel loads
- Fire history
- Geographic location of project works and local knowledge
- [QFRS](#) and other relevant agency advice and recommendations; and
- Status of the project and project activities.

### **3.1.2 Risk controls**

Bushfire risk controls are specific to the particular risk, and are prioritised in the order of reduction, mitigation, and suppression activities. All risk controls shall be reviewed annually. Risk treatment shall seek to:

- Provide training to all employees/contractors on fire hazard minimisation
- eliminate all possible ignition sources
- eliminate or restrict available fuel sources
- enable a prompt and effective suppression response to an outbreak
- enable situational awareness of current circumstances (fire risk)
- encourage partnerships with adjoining landowners
- enable safer work practices aligned to Fire Danger Ratings
- consultation and engagement.

### **3.1.3 Queensland Fire and Rescue Service (QFRS) and Rural Fire Brigades**

GAWB (or its contractor) will leverage the existing Fitzroy to Gladstone Pipeline's (FGP) close working relationship with the local Queensland Fire and Emergency Services (QFES) / Rural Fire Services (RFS) and Gladstone Regional Councils Disaster Management Committees in its area of operations, including:

- Conduct of emergency response exercises and joint training activities
- consideration of resource support
- corridor and rollingstock familiarisation
- operational communication protocols
- participate in ongoing liaison with Queensland Fire and Emergency Services (QFES) / RFS, including
- membership of appropriate consultative groups and committees
- providing location information regarding the corridor
- providing location of corridor access roads
- providing location of staging areas
- provision of local knowledge for inclusion in CEMP
- review of emergency response plans and procedures
- sharing of fire risk intelligence.

### **3.1.4 Emergency Contact list**

Up to-date emergency contact list shall be compiled and maintained for owners and occupiers of all properties adjoining the EEPL site enabling relevant stakeholders to be contacted and advised of any bushfire related activity, threat, or issues.

### 3.1.5 Accessibility

GAWB acknowledges that access to a bushfire is critical in successfully combating the bushfire and its impact. The Contractor, in coordination will aid the QFES and RFS in gaining access to bushfire by providing up-to-date maps and locations of:

- Site access gates and roads
- Signed staging areas

### 3.1.6 Fire suppression equipment

The GAWB engaged principal contractor will provide and maintain in operational condition the following fire suppression equipment for use in fire suppression activities, which will be compatible with QFES and RFS:

- Fire extinguishers (appropriate to the hazard)
- Water Tankers (can be used for dust control and firefighting).

## 4. ROLES, RESPONSIBILITIES AND AUTHORITIES

All site personnel are responsible to ensure that they minimise environmental nuisance or harm by adherence to all Project Management Plans and other documentation. Site personnel are also responsible for ensuring they do not act in contravention of any Environmental Approval or the Contract. Field Supervisors are responsible for implementation and maintenance of mitigation measures outlined in the BMP for all activities or work areas under their control.

The Environmental Manager is responsible for routine surveillance and monitoring, communication of requirements of this Sub-plan, coordination of visual monitoring, and all other responsibilities related to bushfire management identified within this Sub-plan and overall CEMP. Importantly the Environmental Manager is responsible for the immediate notification of State and/or Commonwealth government authorities of impacts that have mandatory reporting requirements

The Construction Director is responsible for overseeing implementation of this Sub-plan and overall CEMP.

## 5. IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY

### 5.1 Mitigation and Management Actions

The Table below outlines the mitigation and management measures to be carried out to ensure the Project meets all necessary requirements.

Reference	Mitigation and Management Action	Timeframe/s	Responsibility
01	Intent of this sub-plan will be communicated through the Site Induction process, to ensure all site personnel are aware and take ownership of sub-plan requirements relating to this element	Prior to construction	Construction Director
02	Requirements relating to this sub-plan to be revisited frequently (during the induction, site mobilisation and high-risk days such as extreme heat waves) through Toolbox and Prestart meetings	During construction	Environment Team
03	Fire risks will be assessed for each work area prior to works commencing	During construction	Safety Team Superintendent Supervisors
04	Work areas will have adequate road access for emergency vehicles and evacuation.	During construction	Superintendent Supervisors

05	An adequate and accessible water supply will be provided for firefighting purposes. Water will be supplied from local councils, dams and licenced bores in remote locations. It will be stored in dams, water trucks and small mobile firefighting trailers.	During construction	Superintendent Supervisors
06	Fire breaks will be developed to provide setbacks between buildings/structures and hazardous vegetation, and provide access for emergency vehicles	During construction	Superintendent Supervisors
07	Hot works to be undertaken as per requirements of Hot Works Permits.	During construction	Superintendent Supervisors Safety Team Engineers
08	Fire breaks shall be checked regularly and maintained as necessary.	During construction	Superintendent Supervisors
09	Bushfire response methods and evacuation plans will be included in the Emergency Response Plan.	During construction	Safety Team Superintendent
10	Electrical cables will be kept in good condition	During construction	Superintendent Supervisors
11	Chemical and hydrocarbon storage areas will be located in areas with low bushfire potential	During construction	Superintendent Supervisors
12	Water carts on site will be suitable for use in firefighting circumstances (e.g. compatible with QFES).	During construction	Superintendent Supervisors
13	Smoking will not be permitted outside of designated smoking areas.	During construction	All Persons
14	Any stockpiles of vegetation to be used as mulch will be kept moist to prevent outbreak of fire.	During construction	Superintendent Supervisors
15	All site vehicles and access areas will contain a fire extinguisher	During construction	All Persons
16	No intentional fires or wood fired barbeques will be permitted.	During construction	All Persons

## 6. PERFORMANCE EVALUATION

### 6.1 Monitoring

General inspections and auditing will be undertaken in accordance with Section 8 of the CEMP. The Environmental Team will undertake environmental inspections to develop and evaluate the effectiveness of environmental controls. This will include:

Monitoring action	Record	Frequency	Responsibility
Routine daily visual observance by all personnel during construction to monitor the site.	Daily Visual Inspection	Daily	Environmental Manager
Weekly inspections using the Weekly Environmental Checklist.	Weekly Environmental Checklist Report	Daily	Site Supervisor
Monthly reporting will be recorded through Project Monthly Reports.	Monthly Report submitted to GAWB	Monthly	Environmental Manager

Regular inspections will be undertaken in relation to bushfires and include the following:

- Effectiveness of the mitigation measures
- Any environmental incidents, hazards or near-misses documented in relation to bushfire management
- Community complaints in relation to bushfire management, and the construction contractor's response
- Bushfire management objectives and tracking against these.



## **7. REVIEW AND IMPROVEMENT**

### **7.1 Reporting**

The Environmental Weekly Checklist, monthly reporting and annual independent audits undertaken throughout the construction phase of the project will be documented and kept on record by the Environmental Manager or their delegate for the duration of the Project.

In the event of a complaint, non-compliance or incident, an investigation will be undertaken to determine the cause of the problem and will be led by the Construction Director. Any identified impacts on bushfire management.

## **8. DOCUMENT UPDATES**

The Site Environmental Management Representative will amend, update, and continue to develop and improve this BMP on an ongoing as the construction program progresses and continual improvement opportunities are identified.

## **11.6 Appendix F - Bushfire Management and Mitigation Plan**