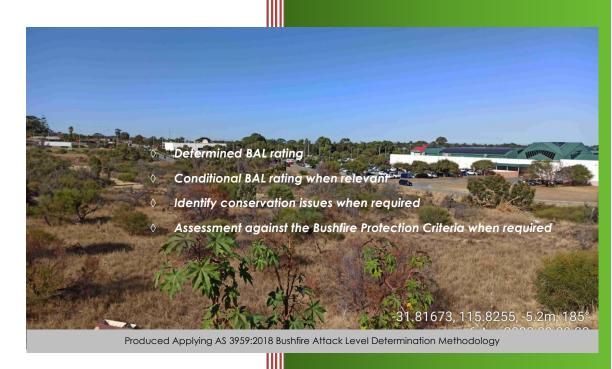
Local Government Use



# Bushfire Attack Level Assessment Report



168 Waneroo, Madeley(Kingsway Shopping Centre)

City of Wanneroo

Report Date: 12 April 2023

Job Reference No: 168692

#### **COMPANY AND BUSHFIRE CONSULTANT DETAILS**

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I hereby declare that I am a BPAD accredited bushfire practitioner.

Accreditation No. BPAD 27794

Signature

24 April 2023

**Authorised Practitioner Stamp** 

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#### **ASSESSMENT AND REPORT DETAILS**

Version	Details	Site Assessment Date	Report Date	
1.0	Original	6 April 2023	12 April 2023	

BAL (Master) Template v14.6

**Report Preparation:** This report has been prepared by an accredited BPAD practitioner using the simplified BAL determination procedure (Method 1) as detailed in section 2 of AS 3959:2018

**Warranty of the Accrediting Body:** FPA Australia makes no warranties as to the accuracy of the information provided in the report. All enquiries related to the information and conclusions presented in this report must be made to the BPAD Accredited Practitioner.

**Period of Validity:** Reliance on the assessment and determination of the Bushfire Attack Level contained in this report should not extend beyond a period of 12 months from the date of issue of the report. If this report was issued more than 12 months ago, it is recommended that the validity of the determination be confirmed with the accredited practitioner and where required an updated report and/or BAL certificate issued.

**Limitations:** The protection measures that will be implemented based on information presented in this report are minimum requirements and they do not guarantee that buildings or infrastructure will not be damaged in a bushfire, persons injured, or fatalities occur either on the subject site or off the site while evacuating.

This is substantially due to the unpredictable nature and behaviour of fire and fire weather conditions. Additionally, the correct implementation of the required protection measures (including bushfire resistant construction) and any other required or recommended measures, will depend upon, among other things, the ongoing actions of the landowners and/or operators over which Bushfire Prone Planning has no control.

All surveys, forecasts, projections and recommendations made in this report associated with the proposed development or use are made in good faith based on information available to Bushfire Prone Planning at the time. All maps included herein are indicative in nature and are not to be used for accurate calculations.

Notwithstanding anything contained therein, Bushfire Prone Planning will not, except as the law may require, be liable for any loss or other consequences whether or not due to the negligence of their consultants, their servants or agents, arising out of the services provided by their consultants.

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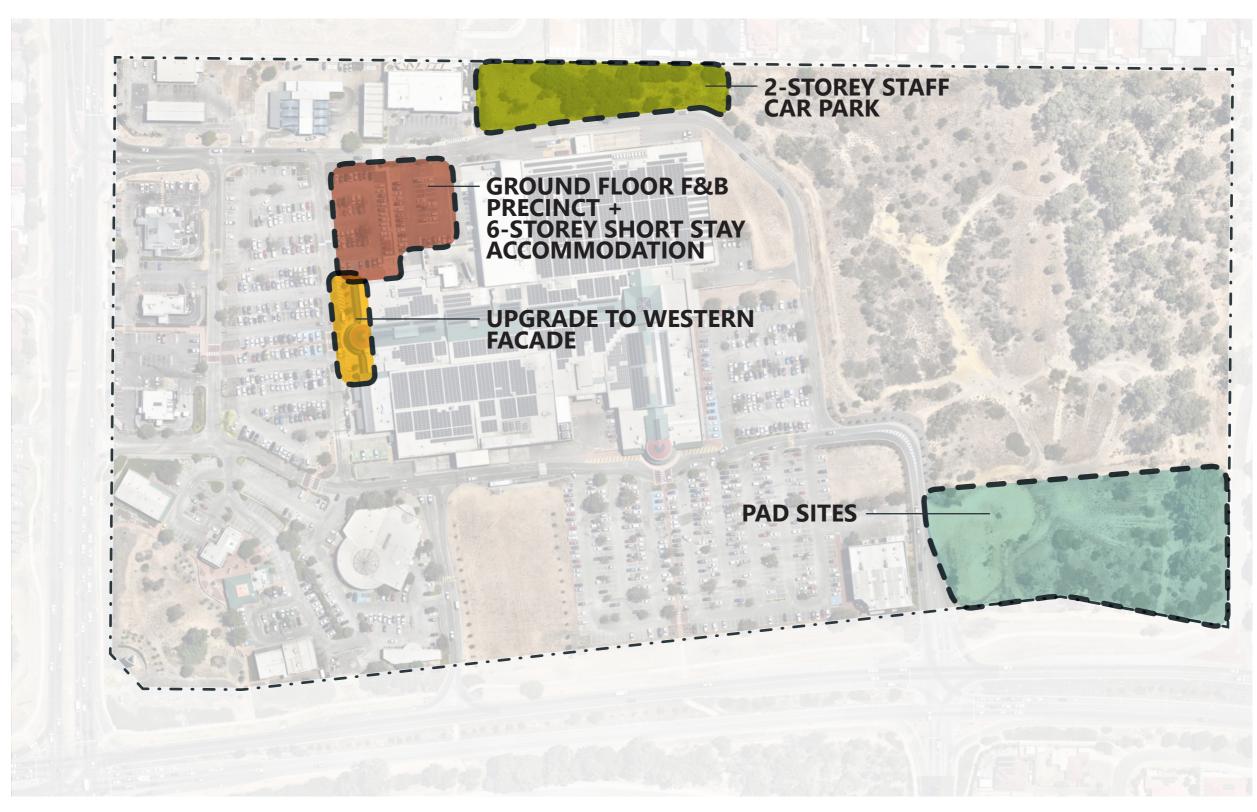


# 1 PROPOSED BUILDING WORKS OR USE

Planning Stage:	Development Application						
Subject lot/site total area:	12.92 hectares						
Primary Building Work and/or Use	Existing building - extension						
Associated Building	N/A						
Main Class of Building - Building Code of Australia (NCC)	Class 3						
Description of the proposed development/use:	Description of the proposed development/use:						
Short Term Accommodation and Upgrade to Western Front of retail centre.							

# scope of works

Overview





# 2 INFORMATION FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT BUILDING SERVICES (& THE LANDOWNER)

#### **BUSHFIRE ATTACK LEVELS (BAL) - UNDERSTANDING THE RESULTS**

The potential transfer (flux/flow) of radiant heat from the bushfire to a receiving object is measured in kW/m<sup>2</sup>. The AS 3959:2018 BAL determination methodology establishes the ranges of radiant heat flux that correspond to each bushfire attack level. These are identified as BAL-LOW, BAL-12.5, BAL-19, BAL-29, BAL-40 and BAL-FZ.

The bushfire performance requirements for certain classes of buildings are established by the Building Code of Australia (Vol. 1 & 2 of the NCC). The BAL will establish the bushfire resistant construction requirements that are to apply in accordance with AS 3959:2018 - Construction of buildings in bushfire prone areas and the NASH Standard – Steel framed construction in bushfire areas (NS 300 2021), whose solutions are deemed to satisfy the NCC bushfire performance requirements.

#### **DETERMINED BAL RATINGS**

A BAL Certificate <u>can</u> be issued for a determined BAL. A BAL can only be classed as 'determined' for an existing or future building/structure when:

- 1. It's final design and position on the lot are known and the stated separation distance from classified bushfire prone vegetation exists and can justifiably be expected to remain in perpetuity; or
- 2. It will always remain subject to the same BAL regardless of its design or position on the lot after accounting for any regulatory or enforceable building setbacks from lot boundaries as relevant and necessary (e.g., R-codes, restrictive covenants, defined building envelopes) or the retention of any existing classified vegetation either onsite or offsite.

#### INDICATIVE BAL RATINGS

A BAL Certificate <u>cannot</u> be issued for an indicative BAL. A BAL will be classed as 'indicative' for an existing or future building/structure when the required conditions to derive a determined BAL are not met.

This class of BAL rating indicates what BAL(s) could be achieved and the conditions that need to be met are stated.

Converting the indicative BAL into a determined BAL is conditional upon the currently unconfirmed variable(s) being confirmed by a subsequent assessment and evidential documentation. These variables will include the future building(s) location(s) being established (or changed) and/or classified vegetation being modified or removed to establish the necessary vegetation separation distance. This may also be dependent on receiving approval from the relevant authority for that modification/removal.

# 2.1 BAL Assessment Summary (Table Format)

#### 2.1.1 BAL Determination Method(s) Applied and the Location of Detailed Data and Results

		Locatio	n of the Site A	Location of the Results		
Procedure	Applied to	Site	Calcula	tion Input Variables		
Method (AS 3959:2018)	the BAL Assessment	Assessment Map	Summary Data	Detailed Data with Explanatory and Supporting Information	Assessed Bushfire Attack Levels and/or Radiant Heat Levels	
Method 1	Vos	Eiguro O	Table 1	Appandiy Al	Section 2.1.1	
(Simplified)		Figure 2	Table 1	Appendix A1	BAL Contour Map	



#### 2.1.2 BAL Results

# ASSESSMENT RESULT - THE BUSHFIRE ATTACK LEVEL (BAL)

The Bushfire Attack Level (the highest assessed BAL) for the site (being the part of the allotment of land on which a building stands or is to be erected) / proposed development, has been determined in accordance with AS 3959:2018 clause 2.2.6 for the Method 1 procedure and/or AS 3959:2018 Appendix B for the Method 2 procedure (as relevant). The applicable site data applied to calculations is presented in the next section of this report.

Proposed Building	Short Stay Accommodation	DETERMINED BUSHFIRE ATTACK LEVEL	BAL-LOW
Proposed Building	Upgrade to Western Façade (retail)	DETERMINED BUSHFIRE ATTACK LEVEL	BAL-LOW

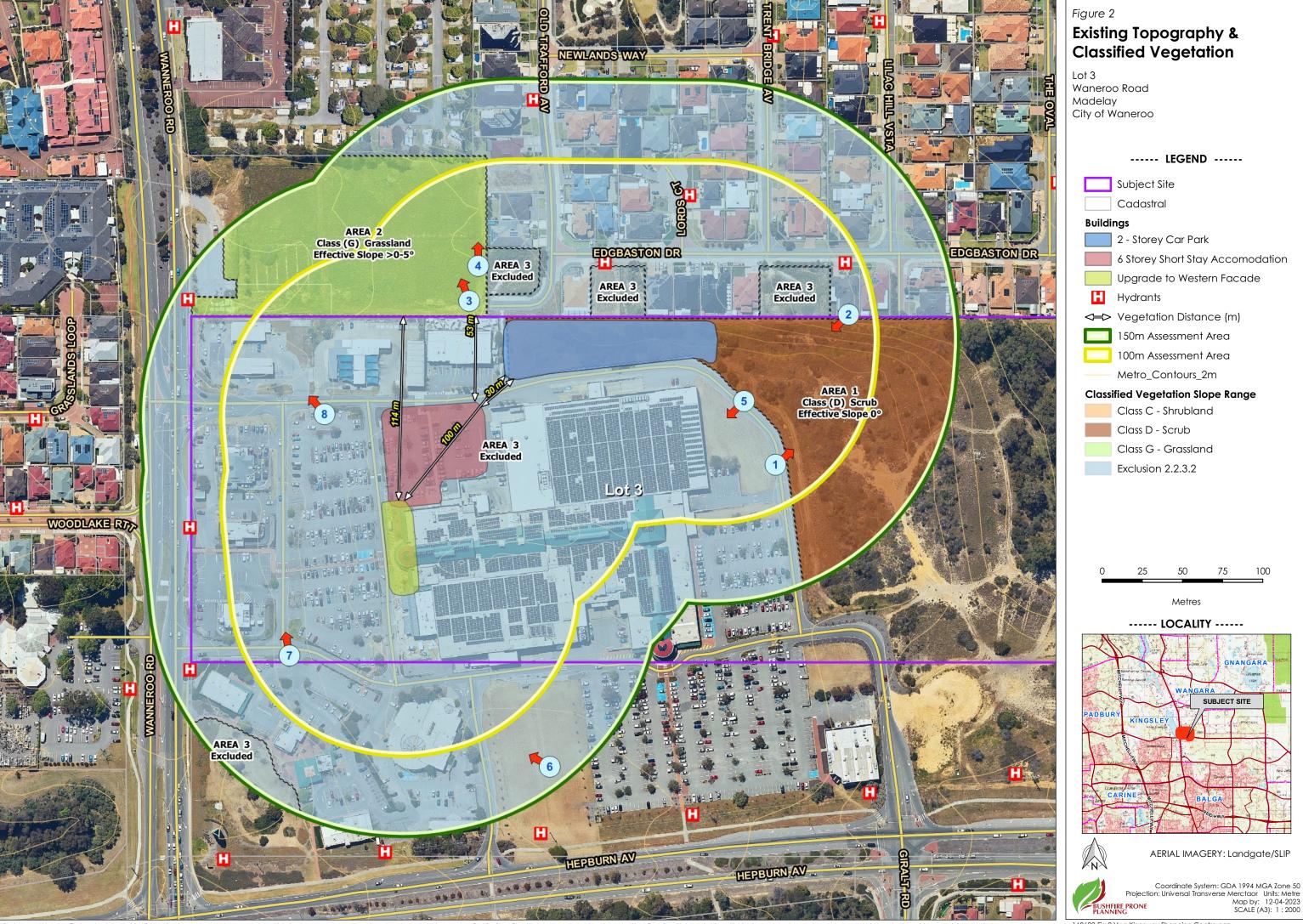
#### 2.1.3 Identification of Shielded Elevations

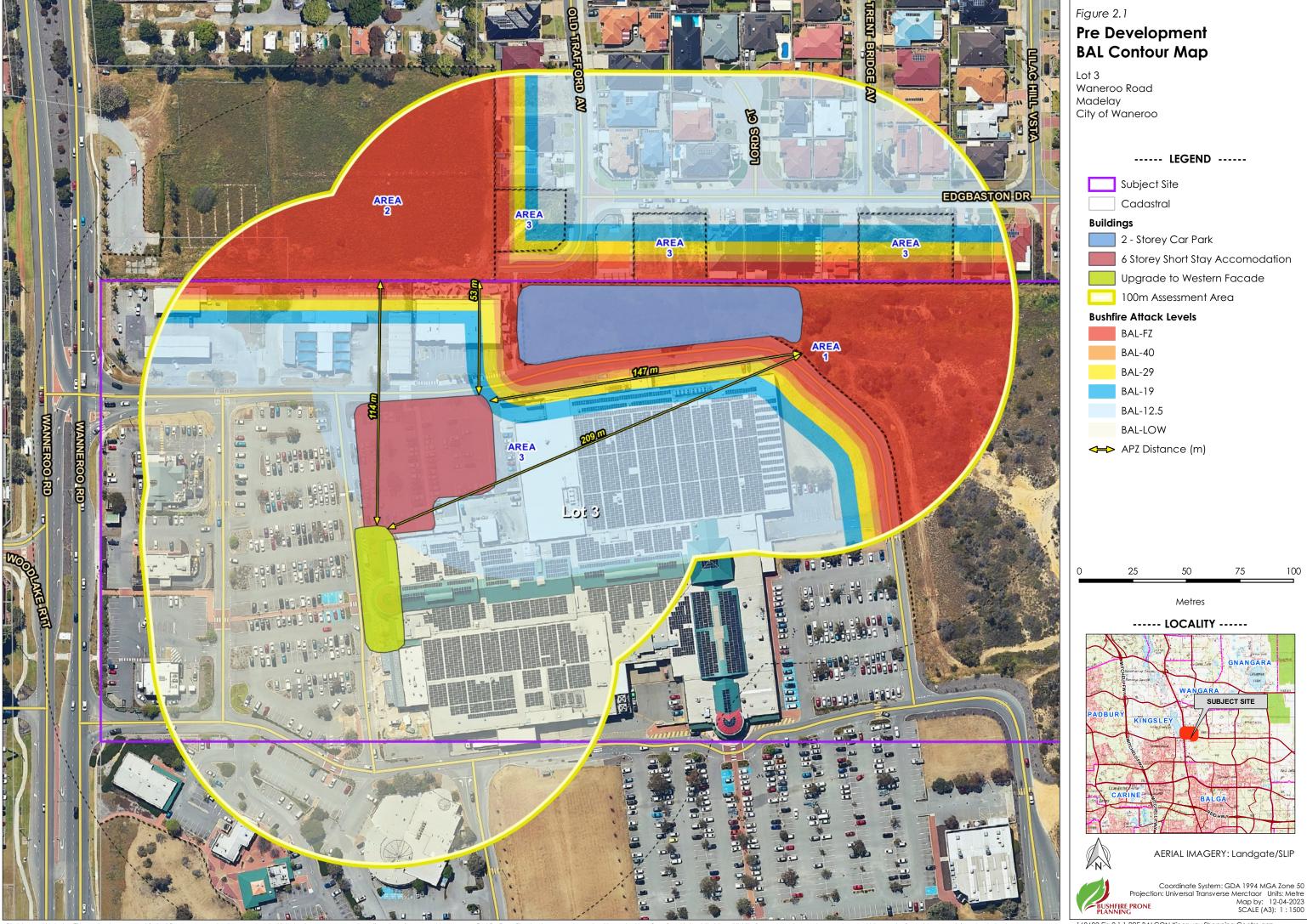
#### IDENTIFICATION OF SHIELDED ELEVATION(S) – REDUCTION IN CONSTRUCTION REQUIREMENTS

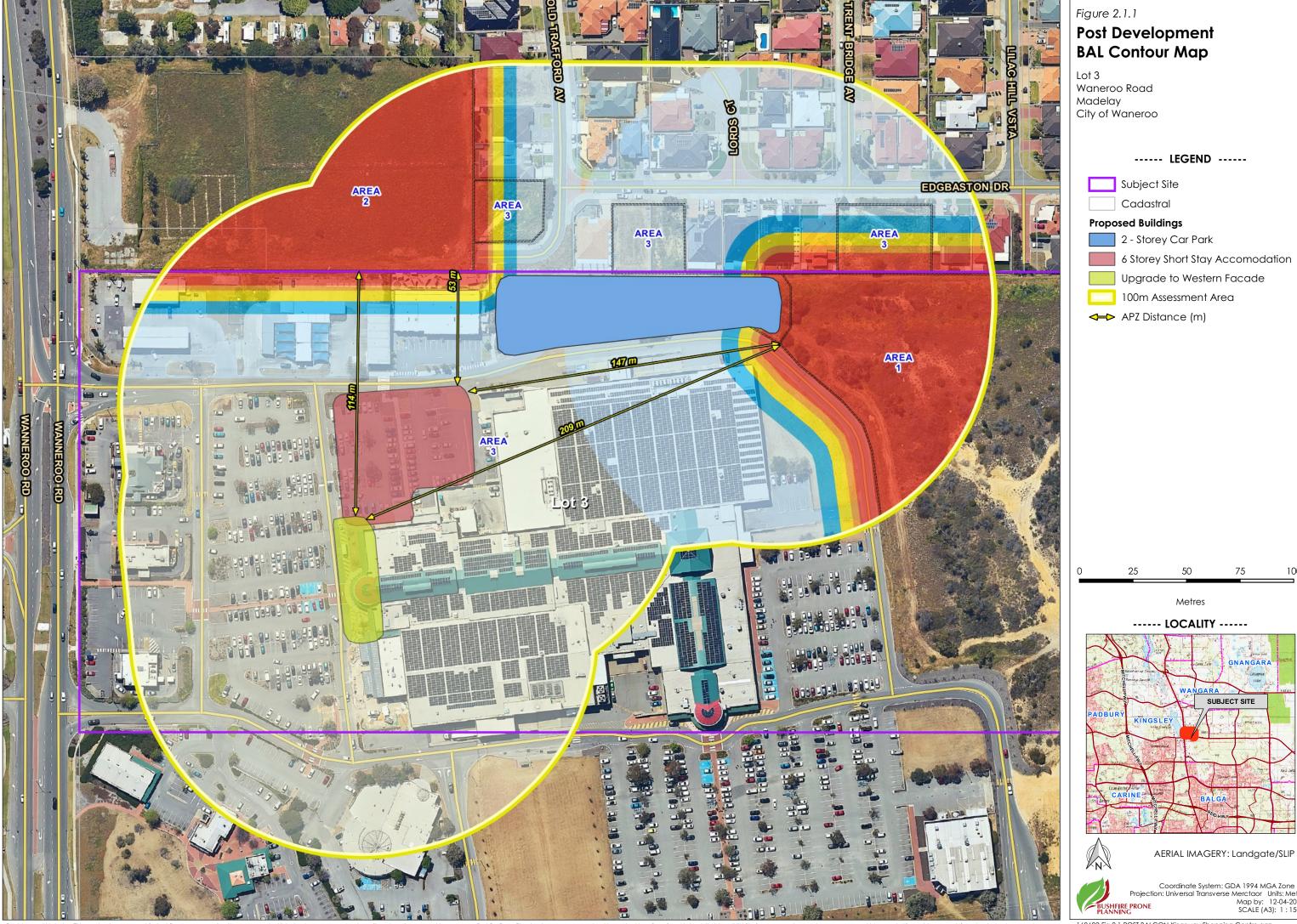
In accordance with AS 3959:2018 Clause 3.5, where an elevation is not exposed to the source of bushfire attack, the construction requirements for that elevation can reduce to the next lower BAL, but not below BAL-12.5. This shall apply to all elements of the wall, including openings, but shall not apply to subfloors or roofs.

When applicable, the shielded elevation(s) are identified on the site plan when practical, otherwise a separate diagram is provided as an addendum.

Proposed Building Works	Short Stay Accommodation	The shielding provisions cannot be applied.
Proposed Building Works	Upgrade Western Façade (retail)	The shielding provisions cannot be applied









#### 2.1.5 Site Assessment Data

Table 1: Summary of applied calculation input variables applied to deriving the BAL rating for the identified exposed element (the relevant building/structure).

DATA APPLIED TO THE DERIVATION OF THE BUSHFIRE ATTACK LEVELS (BAL) 1								
BAL Determination Method	METHOD 1 -	AS 3959	2:2018 CLAUSE 2.2 - SIMPLIF	IED PROCEDU	JRE	Applied Fire Danger Index	FDI 80	
The Receiver of Radiant Heat			Vegetation Classification		ective Slope	Separation Distance(Post Development)	Bushfire Attack Level	
Relevant Buildin	Relevant Building(s) / Structure(s)				Applied Range	Total	(AS 3959:2018 Table 2.5)	
				degrees	degree range	(Metres)		
			(D) Scrub	flat 0	Upslope or flat 0	147	BAL-LOW	
Chart Ctay Assassassassassas			(G) Grassland	d/slope 4	Downslope >0-5	53	BAL-LOW	
Short Stay Accommodation		3	Excluded cl 2.2.3.2(e & f)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	
		Determined Bushfire Attack Level						
		1	(D) Scrub	flat 0	Upslope or flat 0	209	BAL-LOW	
His arranda da Mandarra Farancia (Dalari)	(Potail)	2	(G) Grassland	d/slope 4	Downslope >0-5	114	BAL-LOW	
Upgrade to Western Façade	(Keruii)	3	Excluded cl 2.2.3.2(e & f)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	
		Determined Bushfire Attack Level						

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> All data and information supporting the determination of the classifications and values stated in this table and any associated justification, is presented in Appendix A.



# APPENDIX A: BAL ASSESSMENT DATA (DETAILED) AND SUPPORTING INFORMATION

# A1: Assessed Site Inputs Common to the Method 1 and Method 2 Procedures

#### A1.1: FIRE DANGER INDICES (FDI/FDI/GFDI)

When using Method 1 the relevant FDI value required to be applied for each state and region is established by AS 3959:2018, Table 2.1. Each FDI value applied in Tables 2.4 – 2.7 represents both the Forest Fire Danger Index (FFDI) and a deemed equivalent for the Grassland Fire Danger Index (GFDI), as per Table B2 in Appendix B. When using Method 2, the relevant FFDI and GFDI are applied.

The values may be able to be refined within a jurisdiction, where sufficient climatological data is available and in consultation with the relevant authority.

				Method 1	Applied FDI:	80
Relevant Jurisdiction:	WA R	Region:	Whole State	Method 2	Applied FFDI:	N/A
				Memod 2	Applied GFDI:	N/A

#### A1.2: VEGETATION ASSESSMENT AND CLASSIFICATION

#### **Vegetation Types and Classification**

In accordance with AS 3959:2018 clauses 2.2.3 and C2.2.3.1, all vegetation types within 100 metres of the 'site' (defined as "the part of the allotment of land on which a building stands or is to be erected"), are identified and classified. Any vegetation more than 100 metres from the site that has influenced the classification of vegetation within 100 metres of the site, is identified and noted. The maximum excess distance is established by AS 3959: 2018 cl 2.2.3.2 and is an additional 100 metres.

Classification is also guided by the Visual Guide for Bushfire Risk Assessment in WA (WA Department of Planning February 2016) and any relevant FPA Australia practice notes.

#### **Modified Vegetation**

The vegetation types have been assessed as they will be in their natural mature states, rather than what might be observed on the day. Vegetation destroyed or damaged by a bushfire or other natural disaster has been assessed on its expected re-generated mature state. Modified areas of vegetation can be excluded from classification if they consist of low threat vegetation or vegetation managed in a minimal fuel condition, satisfying AS 3959:2018 s2.2.3.2(f), and there is sufficient justification to reasonable expect that this modified state will exist in perpetuity.

#### The Influence of Ground Slope

Where significant variation in effective slope exists under a consistent vegetation type, these will be delineated as separate vegetation areas to account for the difference in potential bushfire behaviour, in accordance with AS 3959:2018 clauses 2.2.5 and C2.2.5.

THE INFLUENCE OF VEGETATION GREATER THAN 100 METRES FROM THE SUBJECT SITE							
Vegetation area(s) within 100m of the site whose classification has been influenced by the existence of bushfire prone vegetation from 100m – 200m from the site:							
Assessment Statement:	No vegetation types exist close enough, or to a sufficient exinfluence classification of vegetation within 100 metres of the	tent, within the relevant area to e subject site.					



VEGETATION AREA 1									
Classification				D. SC	CRUB				
Types Identified	С	pen:	scrub D-1	4 Low	oper	shrubland G-19			
Exclusion Clause	N/A								
Effective Slope	Measui	ed	flat	0 degrees A		Applied Range (Method 1		Upslope o	r flat 0 degrees
Foliage Cover (all	layers)	;	>30%	Shrub/Heath H	eight >2m		Tr	ee Height	N/A
Dominant & Sub-Dominant Layers (species as relevant)		Mixe	Mixed native shrubs and scrub scattered across and sandy lot						
Understorey: M			Mixed invasive grasses and weeds.						
Additional Justification:			Not Required.						
Post Development Assumptions:			N/A						





PHOTO ID: 1 PHOTO ID: 2



VEGETATION AREA 2									
Classification				G. GRAS	SLANI	)			
Types Identified	Tusso	ock g	rassland (	G-22					
Exclusion Clause	N/A								
Effective Slope	Measui	red	d/slop	oe 4 degrees	Applied Range (Method 1)		Downslope	e >0-5 degrees	
Foliage Cover (all	ayers)		<30% Shrub/Heath He		eight	N/A	Tr	ee Height	N/A
Dominant & Sub-Dominant Layers (species as relevant)		Tall i	nvasive gr	asses up to 1m (	on a n	orth facing gentle s	lope	÷.	
Additional Justification:		Not Required.							
Post Development Assumptions:		N/A.							





PHOTO ID: 3 PHOTO ID: 4



VEGETATION AREA 3							
Classification		N/A					
Exclusion Clause	2.2.3.2 (e	e) Non-vegetated areas and (f) Low threat vegetation - minimal fuel condition.					
Additional Justification:		Areas include managed grasses and vegetation strips surrounding the retail centre.					
Post Development Assumptions:		Areas to remain managed in perpetuity.					





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PHOTO ID: 7 PHOTO ID: 8



#### A1.3: EFFECTIVE SLOPE

#### Measuring

Effective slope refers to the slope "under the classified vegetation which most significantly influences bushfire behaviour (AS 3959:2018, clause B4, CB4). It is not the average slope.

It is described as upslope, flat or downslope when viewed from the exposed element (e.g., building) looking towards the vegetation – and measured in degrees. Ground slope has a direct and significant influence on a bushfire's rate of spread and intensity, which increases when travelling up a slope.

The slope under the vegetation in closest proximity to the exposed element(s), over the distance that will most likely carry the entire depth of the flaming front, will be a significant consideration in the determination of the effective slope. This distance is determined as a function of the potential quasi-steady rate of spread and expected residence time (i.e., the flaming combustion period at a single point on the ground), of a bushfire in the specific vegetation type/landscape scenario.

#### Slope Variation Within Areas of Vegetation

Where a significant variation in effective slope exists under a consistent vegetation type, these will be delineated as separate vegetation areas to account for the difference in potential bushfire behaviour, in accordance with AS 3959:2018 clauses 2.2.5 and C2.2.5.

#### Slope Variation Due to Multiple Development Sites

When the effective slope, under a given area of bushfire prone vegetation, will vary significantly relative to multiple proposed development sites (exposed elements), then the effective slopes corresponding to each of the different locations, are separately identified.

The relevant (worst case) effective slope is determined in the direction corresponding to the potential directions of fire spread towards the subject building(s).

#### Differences in Application of Effective Slope - AS 3959:2018 Method 1 versus Method 2 Procedures

The Method 1 procedure provides five different slope ranges from flat (including all upslopes) to 20 degrees downslope to define the effective slope and bushfire behaviour model calculations apply the highest value in each range (i.e., 0°, 5°, 10°, 15° or 20°).

The Method 2 procedure requires an actual slope (up or down in degrees) to be determined. AS 3959:2018, clause B1 limits the effective slope that can be applied to 30 degrees downslope and 15 degrees upslope. Where any upslope is greater than 15 degrees, then 15 degrees is to be used.

#### SITE ASSESSMENT DETAILS - EXPLANATION & JUSTIFICATION

The effective slopes determined from the site assessment are recorded in Table 1 of this report. When their derivation requires additional explanation and justification, this is provided below. N/A

#### A1.4: SEPARATION DISTANCE

#### Measuring

The separation distance is the distance in the horizontal plane between the receiver (building/structure or area of land being considered) and the edge of the classified vegetation (AS 3959:2018, clause 2.2.4)

The relevant parts of a building/structure from which the measurement is taken is the nearest part of an external wall or where a wall does not exist, the supporting posts or columns. Certain parts of buildings are excluded including eaves and roof overhangs.

The edge of the vegetation, for forests and woodlands, will be determined by the unmanaged understorey rather than either the canopy (drip line) or the trunk (AS 3959:2018, clause C2.2.5).

# Measured Separation Distance as a Calculation Input

If a separation distance can be measured because the location of the building/structure relative to the edge of the relevant classified vegetation is known, this figure can be entered into the BAL calculation. The result is a <u>determined</u> BAL rating.

#### Assumed Separation Distance as a Calculation Input

When the building/structure location within the lot is not known, an assumed building location may be applied that would establish the closest positioning of the building/structure relative to the relevant area of vegetation.

The assumed location would be based on a factor that puts a restriction on a building location such as:



- An established setback from the boundary of a lot, such as a residential design code setback or a restrictive covenant; or
- Within an established building envelope.

The resultant BAL rating would be <u>indicative</u> and require later confirmation (via a Compliance Report) of the building/structure actual location relative to the vegetation to establish the determined BAL rating.

#### SITE ASSESSMENT DETAILS - EXPLANATION & JUSTIFICATION

Measured and assumed separation distances determined from the site assessment are recorded in Table 1 of this report.

When their derivation requires additional explanation and justification, including when the relevant R-Code or other regulated building setbacks are being applied, this is provided below. N/A



#### APPENDIX B: ADVICE - ONSITE VEGETATION MANAGEMENT - THE APZ

#### THE ASSET PROTECTION ZONE (APZ) - DESCRIPTION

This is an area surrounding a habitable building containing low threat fire fuel fuels (including vegetation), or vegetation managed in a minimal fuel condition, no fire fuels or any combination. The primary objectives include:

- To ensure the building is sufficiently separated from the bushfire hazard to limit the impact of its direct attack
  mechanisms. That is, the dimensions of the APZ will, for most site scenarios, remove the potential for direct
  flame contact on the building, reduce the level of radiant heat to which the building is exposed and ensure
  some reduction in the level of ember attack (with the level of reduction being dependent on the vegetation
  types of present);
- To ensure any vegetation retained within the APZ is low threat and prevents surface fire spreading to the building;
- To ensure other combustible materials that can result in consequential fire (typically ignited by embers) within
  both the APZ and parts of the building, are eliminated, minimised and/or appropriately located or protected.
  (Note: The explanatory notes in the Guidelines provide some guidance for achieving this objective and other
  sources are available. Research shows that consequential fire, ignited by embers, is the primary cause of
  building loss in past bushfire events); and
- To provide a defendable space for firefighting activities.

# **B1:** Asset Protection Zone (APZ) Dimensions

#### APZ DIMENSIONS - DIFFERENCES IN REQUIREMENTS FOR PLANNING ASSESSMENTS COMPARED TO IMPLEMENTATION

#### THE 'PLANNING BAL-29' APZ DIMENSIONS

The 'Planning BAL-29' APZ is not necessarily the size of the APZ that must be physically implemented and maintained by a landowner. Rather, its purpose is to identify if an acceptable solution for planning approval can be met i.e., can a specified minimum separation distance from bushfire prone vegetation exist.

An assessment against the Bushfire Protection Criteria is conducted for planning approval purposes. To satisfy 'A2.1: Asset Protection Zone', it must be demonstrated that certain minimum separation distances between the relevant building/structure and different classes of bushfire prone vegetation, either exist or can be created and will remain in perpetuity. These minimum separation distances determine the 'Planning BAL-29' APZ dimensions.

**Dimensions:** The minimum dimensions are those that will ensure the potential radiant heat impact on subject buildings does not exceed 29 kW/m<sup>2</sup>. These dimensions will vary dependent on the vegetation classification, the slope of the land they are growing on and certain other factors specific to the subject site.

Note: For certain purposes associated with vulnerable land uses, the 'Planning BAL-29' APZ may be replaced with dimensions corresponding to radiant heat impact levels of 10 kW/m² and 2 kW/m² and calculated using 1200K flame temperature.

**Location:** The identified 'Planning BAL-29' APZ must not extend past lot boundaries onto land the landowner has no control over either now or potentially at some point in the future. Limited exceptions include:

- When adjoining land is not vegetated (e.g., built out, roads, carparks, drainage, rock, water body etc.);
- When adjoining land currently or, will in the short term, contain low threat vegetation and or vegetation
  managed in a minimal fuel condition as per AS 3959:2018 cl. 2.2.3.2. It must be reasonable (justifiable) to
  expect this low threat vegetation and/or level of management will continue to exist or be conducted in
  perpetuity and require no action from the owner of the subject lot.

Such areas of land include formally managed areas of vegetation (e.g., public open space / recreation areas / services installed in a common section of land). For specific scenarios, evidence of the formal



commitment to manage these areas to a certain standard may be required and would be included in the BMP.

These areas of land can also be part of the required APZ on a neighbouring lot for which the owner of that lot has a recognised responsibility to establish and maintain; and

 When there is a formalised and enforceable capability and responsibility created for the subject lot owner, or any other third party, to manage vegetation on land they do not own in perpetuity. This would be rare, and evidence of the formal authority would be included in the BMP.

The bushfire consultant's 'Supporting Assessment Detail', that is presented in the assessment against the acceptable solution A2.1, will identify and justify how any adjoining land within the 'Planning BAL-29 APZ will meet the APZ standards. Or otherwise, explain how this condition cannot be met.

#### THE 'BAL RATING' APZ DIMENSIONS

The applicable BAL rating will have been stated in the BAL Assessment Data section of the BAL Assessment Report or BMP (as relevant). The BAL rating can be assessed as 'determined' or 'indicative' or be 'conditional', dependent of the specific conditions associated with the site and the stage of assessment or planning. It is the eventual assessment of the 'Determined' BAL that will establish both the BAL rating that is to apply and its corresponding 'BAL Rating' APZ dimensions.

**Dimensions:** The minimum dimensions of the 'BAL Rating' APZ to be established and maintained will be those that correspond to the determined BAL rating for the subject building/structure that has accounted for surrounding vegetation types, the slope of the land they are growing on and certain other factors specific to the subject site and surrounding land.

Establishing the 'BAL Rating' APZ will ensure that the potential radiant heat exposure of the building/structure will be limited to the level that the applied construction requirements are designed to resist when that building/structure is required to be constructed to the standard corresponding to the Determined BAL.

Note: For certain purposes associated with vulnerable land uses, the 'BAL Rating' APZ dimensions may be replaced with dimensions corresponding to the specific radiant heat impact levels of 10 kW/m² and 2 kW/m² and calculated using 1200K flame temperature.

**Location:** The same conditions will apply as for the 'Planning BAL-29' APZ.

#### THE 'LOCAL GOVERNMENT' APZ DIMENSIONS

Some Local Government's establish the dimensions of the APZ that must be established surrounding buildings in their annual Firebreak/Hazard Reduction Notice. Or for a specific site they may establish a maximum allowable dimension (typically that corresponding to BAL-29). When established, the landowner will need to be comply with these.

#### THE 'REQUIRED' APZ DIMENSIONS

This is the APZ that is to be established and maintained by the landowner within the subject lot and surrounding the subject building(s). It will be identified on the Property Bushfire Management Statement when it is required to be included in this Report/Plan.

**Dimensions:** The 'Required APZ' dimensions are the minimum (or maximum when relevant) distances away from the subject building(s) that the APZ must extend. These distances will not necessarily be the same all around the building(s). They can vary and are dependent on the different vegetation types (and their associated ground slope) that can exist around the building(s), and specific local government requirements. The dimensions to implement are determined by:

- A. The 'BAL Rating APZ' of the subject building(s) when distances are greater than 'B' below (except when 'B' establishes a maximum distance); or
- B. The 'Local Government' APZ' derived from the Firebreak/Hazard Reduction Notice when distances are greater than 'A' above, other than when a maximum distance is established, in which case this will apply; or
- C. A combination of 'A' and 'B'.

Location: The same conditions will apply as for the 'Planning BAL-29' APZ.



#### B1.1: THE APZ DIMENSIONS REQUIRED TO BE IMPLEMENTED BY THE LANDOWNER

DETERMINATION OF THE 'REQUIRED' APZ DIMENSIONS TO BE IMPLEMENTED AND MAINTAINED BY LANDOWNER WITHIN THEIR LOT										
	Vegetation Classification [Refer to Fig 3.1]		Minimum Required Separation Distances from Building to Vegetation (metres)							
Relevant Buildings(s)			Established by the 'BAL Rating' APZ Dimension				Established by the "Local Government' APZ Dimension		The 'Required'	
			Determined Radiant Heat	Stated 'Indicative' or 'Conditional' BAL				Firebreak / Hazard Reduction	Maximum Allowed	APZ Dimensions [see note]
	Area	Class	Impact	BAL-29	BAL-19	BAL-12.5	BAL-LOW	Notice	Stated Metres	
Short Stay Accommodation	1	(D) Scrub	BAL-LOW					None Stated	100	Lot Boundary
	2	(G) Grassland						None Stated	50	
	3	Excluded cl 2.2.3.2(e & f)						N/A	N/A	
Upgrade to Western Façade (Retail)	1	(D) Scrub	BAL-LOW					None Stated	100	
	2	(G) Grassland						None Stated	50	
	3	Excluded cl 2.2.3.2(e & f)						N/A	N/A	N/A

**Note:** The 'Required' APZ Dimension corresponding to each area of vegetation is the greater of the 'BAL Rating' or the 'Firebreak/Hazard Reduction Notice' APZ dimensions - unless a local government maximum distance is to apply (as a consequence of their environmental considerations). The area of the APZ will also be limited to the subject lot boundary unless otherwise justified in this Report/Plan. Final determination of the dimensions will require that any indicative or conditional BAL becomes a 'Determined' BAL.

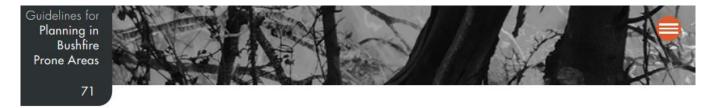
Comments: In accordance with the City of Wanneroo Firebreak Notice the grass must be maintained on the land to a height no greater than 50 millimetres.



# B2: The Standards for the APZ as Established by the Guidelines (DPLH, v1.4)

Within the Guidelines (source: https://www.wa.gov.au/government/document-collections/state-planning-policy-37-planning-bushfire-prone-areas), the management Standards are established by:

- Schedule 1: Standards for Asset Protection Zones (see extract below) established by the Guidelines; and
- The associated explanatory notes (Guidelines E2) that address (a) managing an asset protection zone (APZ) to a low threat state (b) landscaping and design of an asset protection zone and (c) plant flammability.



#### **ELEMENT 2: SITING AND DESIGN OF DEVELOPMENT**

# **SCHEDULE 1: STANDARDS FOR ASSET PROTECTION ZONES**

	ECT

#### Fences within the AP7

# REQUIREMENT

 Should be constructed from non-combustible materials (for example, iron, brick, limestone, metal post and wire, or bushfire-resisting timber referenced in Appendix F of AS 39591.

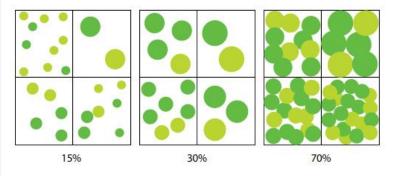
Fine fuel load (Combustible, dead vegetation matter <6 millimetres in thickness)

- Should be managed and removed on a regular basis to maintain a low threat state.
- Should be maintained at <2 tonnes per hectare (on average).</li>
- Mulches should be non-combustible such as stone, gravel or crushed mineral earth or wood mulch >6 millimetres in thickness.

Trees\* (>6 metres in height)

- Trunks at maturity should be a minimum distance of six metres from all elevations of the building
- · Branches at maturity should not touch or overhang a building or powerline.
- Lower branches and loose bark should be removed to a height of two metres above the ground and/or surface vegetation.
- Canopy cover within the APZ should be <15 per cent of the total APZ area.</li>
- Tree canopies at maturity should be at least five metres apart to avoid forming a
  continuous canopy. Stands of existing mature trees with interlocking canopies may
  be treated as an individual canopy provided that the total canopy cover within the
  APZ will not exceed 15 per cent and are not connected to the tree canopy outside
  the APZ.

Figure 19: Tree canopy cover – ranging from 15 to 70 per cent at maturity





Shrub* and scrub* (0.5 metres to six metres in height). Shrub and scrub >6 metres in height are to be treated as trees.	<ul> <li>Should not be located under trees or within three metres of buildings.</li> <li>Should not be planted in clumps &gt;5 square metres in area.</li> <li>Clumps should be separated from each other and any exposed window or door by at least 10 metres.</li> </ul>
Ground covers* (<0.5 metres in height. Ground covers >0.5 metres in height are to be treated as shrubs)	<ul> <li>Can be planted under trees but must be maintained to remove dead plant material, as prescribed in 'Fine fuel load' above.</li> <li>Can be located within two metres of a structure, but three metres from windows or doors if &gt;100 millimetres in height.</li> </ul>
Grass	<ul> <li>Grass should be maintained at a height of 100 millimetres or less, at all times.</li> <li>Wherever possible, perennial grasses should be used and well-hydrated with regular application of wetting agents and efficient irrigation.</li> </ul>
Defendable space	<ul> <li>Within three metres of each wall or supporting post of a habitable building, the area is kept free from vegetation, but can include ground covers, grass and non- combustible mulches as prescribed above.</li> </ul>
LP Gas Cylinders	<ul> <li>Should be located on the side of a building furthest from the likely direction of a bushfire or on the side of a building where surrounding classified vegetation is upslope, at least one metre from vulnerable parts of a building.</li> <li>The pressure relief valve should point away from the house.</li> <li>No flammable material within six metres from the front of the valve.</li> <li>Must sit on a firm, level and non-combustible base and be secured to a solid structure.</li> </ul>

<sup>\*</sup> Plant flammability, landscaping design and maintenance should be considered – refer to explanatory notes

# B3: The Standards for the APZ as Established by the Local Government

Refer to the firebreak / hazard reduction notice issued annually (under s33 of the Bushfires Act 1954) by the relevant local government. It may state Standards that vary from those established by the Guidelines and that have been endorsed by the WAPC and DFES as per Section 4.5.3 of the Guidelines.

A copy of the relevant annual notice is not included here as they are subject to being reviewed and modified prior to issuing each year. Refer to ratepayers notices and/or the local government's website for the current version.



# B4: Vegetation and Areas Excluded from Classification - Ensure Continued Exclusion

AS 3959:2018 establishes the methodology for determining a bushfire attack level (BAL). The methodology includes the classification of the subject site's surrounding vegetation according to their 'type' and the application of the corresponding relevant bushfire behaviour models to determine the BAL.

Certain vegetation can be considered as low threat and be excluded from classification. Where this has occurred in assessing the site, the extract from AS3959:2018 below states the requirements that must continue to exist for the vegetation on those areas of land to be excluded from classification (including the size of the vegetation area if relevant to the assessment).

15 AS 3959:2018

#### 2.2.3.2 Exclusions—Low threat vegetation and non-vegetated areas

The following vegetation shall be excluded from a BAL assessment:

- (a) Vegetation of any type that is more than 100 m from the site.
- (b) Single areas of vegetation less than 1 ha in area and not within 100 m of other areas of vegetation being classified vegetation.
- (c) Multiple areas of vegetation less than 0.25 ha in area and not within 20 m of the site, or each other or of other areas of vegetation being classified vegetation.
- (d) Strips of vegetation less than 20 m in width (measured perpendicular to the elevation exposed to the strip of vegetation) regardless of length and not within 20 m of the site or each other, or other areas of vegetation being classified vegetation.
- (e) Non-vegetated areas, that is, areas permanently cleared of vegetation, including waterways, exposed beaches, roads, footpaths, buildings and rocky outcrops.
- (f) Vegetation regarded as low threat due to factors such as flammability, moisture content or fuel load. This includes grassland managed in a minimal fuel condition, mangroves and other saline wetlands, maintained lawns, golf courses (such as playing areas and fairways), maintained public reserves and parklands, sporting fields, vineyards, orchards, banana plantations, market gardens (and other non-curing crops), cultivated gardens, commercial nurseries, nature strips and windbreaks.

#### NOTES:

- 1 Minimal fuel condition means there is insufficient fuel available to significantly increase the severity of the bushfire attack (recognizable as short-cropped grass for example, to a nominal height of 100 mm).
- 2 A windbreak is considered a single row of trees used as a screen or to reduce the effect of wind on the leeward side of the trees.



# APPENDIX E: ADVICE - BAL RATINGS - CORRESPONDING THREATS AND CONSTRUCTION REFERENCES

		REFERENCES FOR CONSTRUCTION REQUIREMENTS			
BAL <sup>1</sup>	DESCRIPTION OF PREDICTED BUSHFIRE DIRECT ATTACK MECHANISMS (THREATS)	AS 3959:2018 Construction of Buildings in Bushfire Prone Areas	The NASH Standard (2021) – Steel Framed Construction in Bushfire Areas		
	AND LEVELS OF EXPOSURE	Referenced by the Building Code of Australia for Building Classes 1, 2, 3 & 10a	Referenced by the Building Code of Australia for Building Classes 1 & 10a		
BAL – LOW	There is insufficient risk to warrant specific construction requirements but there is still some risk. (Note: DFES recommend that ember attack protection features be incorporated into the design where practicable).	Section 4. No Requirements	No Requirements		
BAL - 12.5	There is a risk of ember attack. Construction elements are expected to be exposed to heat flux not greater than $12.5\mathrm{kW/m^2}$	Sections 3 & 5.	All construction requirements for BAL- 12.5 to BAL-40 are the same except for		
BAL – 19	There is a risk of ember attack and burning debris ignited by windborne embers and a likelihood of exposure to radiant heat. The construction elements are expected to be exposed to a heat flux not greater than 19 kW/m <sup>2</sup> .	Sections 3 & 6	windows and external doors, which must comply with AS 3959.  The construction requirements are set		
BAL - 29	There is an increased risk of ember attack and burning debris ignited by windborne embers and a likelihood of exposure to an increased level radiant heat. The construction elements are expected to be exposed to a heat flux not greater than 29 kW/m <sup>2</sup> .	Sections 3 & 7.	out as essentially non-combustible construction systems for each of the following building elements:  Section 1.4: General Requirements Section 2: Roof and Ceiling System Section 3: External Wall System Section 4: Floor System Section 5: Carports Verandahs and Decks.		
BAL – 40	There is a much increased risk of ember attack and burning debris ignited by windborne embers, a likelihood of exposure to a high level of radiant heat and some likelihood of direct exposure to flames from the fire front. The construction elements are expected to be exposed to a heat flux not greater than 40kW/m <sup>2</sup> .	Sections 3 & 8.			
BAL – FZ (Flame Zone)	There is an extremely high risk of ember attack and burning debris ignited by windborne embers, and a likelihood of exposure to an extreme level of radiant heat and direct exposure to flames from the fire front. The construction elements are expected to be exposed to a heat flux greater than 40 kW/m <sup>2</sup> .	Sections 3 & 9.	The construction requirements are set out in Sections 1-5 and differ from the requirements for all other BAL ratings.		

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> AS 3959:2018 Construction of buildings in bushfire prone areas, defines a Bushfire Attack Level (BAL) as a "means of measuring the severity of a building's potential exposure to ember attack, radiant heat and direct flame contact, using increments of radiant heat flux expressed in kW/m², and is the basis for establishing the requirements for construction to improve protection of building elements from attack by bushfire."

