

Name of dataset or data source:

NSW Bush Fire Prone Land

Custodian of the dataset or data source:

Dep Sec National Parks & Wildlife Service

Description:

Bush Fire Prone Land is mapped within a local government area, which becomes the trigger for planning for bush fire protection. Bush Fire Prone Land mapping is intended to designate areas of the State that are considered to be higher bush fire risk for development control purposes. Not being designated bush fire prone is not a guarantee that losses from bush fires will not occur. The NSW Bush Fire Prone Land dataset is a map prepared in accordance with the Guide for Bush Fire Prone Land Mapping (BFPL Mapping Guide) and certified by the Commissioner of NSW RFS under purposes of Section 10.3 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 No 203.

Over time there has been various releases of the BFPL Mapping Guide, in which the categories and types of vegetation included in the BFPL map have changed. The version of the guide under which, each polygon or LGA was certified is contained in the data.

BFPL is an area of land that can support a bush fire or is likely to be subject to bush fire attack, as designated on a bush fire prone land map. The definition of bushfire vegetation categories under guideline version 5b: * Vegetation Category 1 consists of: > Areas of forest, woodlands, heaths (tall and short), forested wetlands and timber plantations. * Vegetation Category 2 consists of: > Rainforests. > Lower risk vegetation parcels. These vegetation parcels represent a lower bush fire risk to surrounding development and consist of: - Remnant vegetation; - Land with ongoing land management practices that actively reduces bush fire risk. * Vegetation Category 3 consists of: > Grasslands, freshwater wetlands, semi-arid woodlands, alpine complex and arid shrublands. * Buffers are created based on the bushfire vegetation, with buffering distance being 100 metres for vegetation category 1 and 30 metres for vegetation category 2 and 3.

Vegetation excluded from the bushfire vegetation categories include isolated areas of vegetation less than one hectare, managed lands and some agricultural lands. Please refer to BFPL Mapping Guide for a full list of exclusions.

The legislative context of this dataset is as follows: On 1 August 2002, the Rural Fires and Environmental Assessment Legislation Amendment Act 2002 (Amendment Act) came into effect. The Act amended both the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 and the Rural Fire Services Act 1997 to ensure that people, property and the environment are more fully protected against the dangers that may arise from bushfires. Councils are required to map bushfire prone land within their local government area, which becomes the trigger for the consideration of bushfire protection measures when developing land. BFPL Mapping Guidelines are available from www.rfs.nsw.gov.au

http://www.rfs.nsw.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0011/4412/Guideline-for-Councils-to-Bushfire-Prone-Area-Land-Mapping.pdf

Data quality rating:

- ★ Institutional Environment - 5
- ★ Accuracy - 4
- ★ Coherence - 5
- ☆ Interpretability - 3
- ☆ Accessibility - 3

- ✓ Does the information have the potential to enhance services or service delivery?
- ✓ The data aligns with the Data Quality Framework, including:
 - Legislation
 - Policies
 - Information Asset Governance
 - Standards
 - Data Management Plans
- ✓ The following governance roles and responsibilities for this asset are clearly assigned:
 - Information Asset Owner
 - Information Asset Custodian
 - Information Steward
- ✓ Data collection is authorised by law, regulation or agreement
- ✓ The Custodial agency has no commercial interest or conflict of interest in the data

ACCURACY

Very Good



- ✓ Data has been subject to a data assurance process (for example: Checking for errors at each stage of data collection and processing, or verifying data entry and making corrections if necessary.)
- ✓ Data is revised and the revision is published if errors are identified
- ✓ No changes have been made or other factors identified (for example: weighting, rounding, de-identification of data, changes or flaws in data collection or verification methods) that could affect the validity of the data; or any changes/factors have been identified in caveats attached to the asset.
- ✓ The data collection met the objectives of the primary user. The data correctly represents what it was designed to measure, monitor or report.

✗ There are no known gaps in the data or if there are gaps (for example: non-responses, missing records, data not collected), they have been identified in caveats attached to the dataset.

COHERENCE

Excellent



- ✓ Standard definitions, common concepts, classifications and data recording practices have been used.
- ✓ Elements within the data can be meaningfully compared.
- ✓ This data is generally consistent with similar or related data sources from the same discipline
- ✓ The data can be analysed over time (for example, there have not been any significant changes in the way items are defined, classified or counted over time).
- ✓ The data does not form part of a collection or, if it is the latest in a series of data releases, there have not been any changes in methodology or external impacts since the last data release.

INTERPRETABILITY

Good



- ✓ A data dictionary is available to explain the meaning of data elements, their origin, format and relationships
- ✓ Information is available to explain concepts, help users correctly interpret the data and understand how it can be used

✓ Information is available to explain ambiguous or technical terms used in the data

✗ Information is available about the primary data sources and methods of data collection (e.g. instruments, forms, instructions).

✗ Information is available to help users evaluate the accuracy of the data and any level of error

i Find out more about the data dictionary from the Custodian (contact details below).

i Find out more about the primary data sources and methods of data collection from the Custodian (contact details below).

i Find out more about concepts used in this dataset and how to understand or interpret the data from the Custodian (contact details below).

i Find out more about ambiguous or technical terms used in the data from the Custodian (contact details below).

ACCESSIBILITY

Good



✓ Data is available online with an open licence

✓ Data is available in machine-processable, structured form (e.g. CSV format instead of an image scan of a table)

✓ Data is described using open standards (e.g. RDF, SPARQL) and persistent identifiers (URIs or DOIs)

✗ Data is available in a non-proprietary format (e.g. CSV, XML)

✗ Data is linked to other data, to provide context (e.g. employee ID is linked to employee name or species name is linked to genus)

DATA DISCLAIMER

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For more information about this dataset or data source, contact:

NSW Rural Fire Service

Data Broker email:

gis@rfs.nsw.gov.au

Understanding the Data Quality Statement

The data quality statement aims to help you understand how a particular dataset could be used and whether it can be compared with other, similar datasets. It provides a description of the characteristics of the data to help you decide whether the data will be fit for your specific purpose.

The Data Quality statement is prepared by the data custodian (provider of the dataset), using a questionnaire that has been developed in accordance with the NSW Government Standard for Data Quality Reporting.

About the quality rating:

The reporting questionnaire asks five questions for each of these data quality dimensions:

- Institutional Environment
- Accuracy
- Coherence
- Interpretability
- Accessibility

For each question: “yes” = 1 point; “no” = 0 points

The number of points determines the Quality Level for each dimension (high, medium, low).

Only dimensions with four or five points receive a star.

Points	Quality Level	Star / No Star
0	Poor	No Star
1	Poor	No Star
2	Fair	No Star
3	Good	No Star
4	Very Good	Star
5	Excellent	Star

Evaluating data quality

Quality relates to the data's “fitness for purpose”. Users can make different assessments about the data quality of the same data, depending on their “purpose” or the way they plan to use the data.

The following questions may help you evaluate data quality for your requirements. This list is not exhaustive. Generate your own questions to assess data quality according to your specific needs and environment.

- What was the primary purpose or aim for collecting the data?
- How well does the coverage (and exclusions) match your needs?
- How useful are these data at small levels of geography?
- Does the population presented by the data match your needs?
- To what extent does the method of data collection seem appropriate for the information being gathered?
- Have standard classifications (eg industry or occupation classifications) been used in the collection of the data? If not, why? Does this affect the ability to compare or bring together data from different sources?
- Have rates and percentages been calculated consistently throughout the data?
- Is there a time difference between your reference period, and the reference period of the data?
- What is the gap of time between the reference period (when the data were collected) and the release date of the data?
- Will there be subsequent surveys or data collection exercises for this topic?
- Are there likely to be updates or revisions to the data after official release?