



# Bushfire Management Plan

HQPL COVER PAGE

## Revision History

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## Terms, Definitions and Abbreviations

Abbreviation/ Term	Meaning
AEMR	Annual Environmental Management Report
AQMP	Air Quality Monitoring Program
CCC	Community Consultative Committee
DA	Development Application
DDG	Dust Deposition Gauge
DPE	NSW Department of Planning and Environment (former Department of Planning Industry and Environment)
EA	Environmental Assessment
EIS	Environmental Impact Statement
EMP	Environmental Monitoring Program
EMS	Environmental Management Strategy
EPL	NSW Environment Protection Licence
Ha	Hectare
HQPL	Hunter Quarries Pty Ltd
km	Kilometre
L	Litre
LDP	Licensed Discharge Point
MCC	MidCoast Council
NPWS	NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service, now part of Environment, Energy and Science
POEO Act	Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997
RAR	Response to Audit Recommendations
RFS	NSW Rural Fire Service
SWMP	Site Water Management Plan
tpa	tonnes per annum

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## 1.0 Introduction

Mountain Industries obtained approval to operate the Karuah Quarry in 1997, with the site subsequently purchased by Hunter Quarries Pty Ltd (HQPL) in 2002. In October 2004, HQPL applied to the then Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Natural Resources (now known as the Department of Planning and Environment – DPE) for approval to expand the quarry into adjoining lands (the Stage 2 area) to allow the extraction of further hard rock resources.

Development Consent was granted by the Minister for Infrastructure, Planning and Natural Resources on 3 June 2005 (ref. DA 265-10-2004), with the approved development including:

- Implementing the remainder of the approved Stage 1 quarry operation;
- Extending the quarry operations into the Stage 2 area;
- Upgrading and using existing infrastructure on site;
- Rehabilitating the site by re-contouring and revegetating exposed surfaces; and
- Producing up to 500,000 tonnes of andesite product a year over the next 22 years.

HQPL contributes materials to the construction industries in the Hunter, New England, and Sydney Regions. The site is located approximately four kilometres north east of the town of Karuah, NSW. HQPL encompasses Lot 21 DP 1024564, Lot 11 DP 1024564 and part of Lot 12 DP 1024564. Quarrying activities take place on Lot 21 and Lot 11 (staged workings) and a conservation offset area has been established on part Lot 12. The overall site covers an area of 78.5 approximately hectares (ha), with the active quarrying area encompassing approximately 11 ha.

HQPL holds and maintains an Environment Protection Licence 11569 (EPL 11569) with the fee-based licence comprising of:

- Crushing, grinding, or separating works (>100,000-500,000 t processed); and
- Hard-rock gravel quarrying (>100,00-500,000 t obtained).

The site layout and locality is shown in **Figure 1**.

This *Bushfire Management Plan* (BfMP) has been prepared to address the bushfire management conditions of Development Consent DA 265-10-2004.

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## 1.1 Key Legislative Requirements

The key legislative requirements and where they are addressed in this plan are outlined in **Table 1**. Further details of the relevant legislation are contained in **Section 8.0**.

**Table 1 – Development Consent (DA 265-10-2004) Requirements**

Condition Number	Condition Requirement	Section
36 (a)	<i>The Applicant shall ensure that the development is suitably equipped to respond to any fires on-site; and</i>	Section Error! Reference source not found.
36 (b)	<i>The Applicant shall assist the Rural Fire Service and Emergency Services as much as possible if there is a fire on-site.; and within 6 months of the date of this consent, the Applicant shall prepare a conservation sensitive Bushfire Management Plan for the development, to the satisfaction of Council and the Rural Fire Service</i>	Whole BfMP

In addition to the abovementioned Development Consent Requirements, Section 63 of the RF Act 1997 requires landowners to ‘take all practical steps’ to prevent the occurrence of bushfires on their land, and to minimise the danger of the spread of bushfires on or from, their land which is discussed further in **Section 2.0**.

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Figure 1

Figure 1 – HQPL Regional Context

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## 2.0 Performance Criteria and Guidelines

The key performance criteria of the legislation relating to bushfire management is under Section 63 of the Rural Fires Act 1997 which states that it is the duty of HQPL (as the land owner or occupier) “to take the notified steps (if any) and any other practicable steps to prevent the occurrence of bush fires on, and to minimise the danger of the spread of bush fires on or from, that land.”. To fulfil the purpose of the BfMP, the following objectives have been established:

- Minimise the risk of unplanned outbreak of fire occurring;
- Have mitigation measures in place to contain any fire outbreak;
- Have appropriately trained personal and firefighting equipment available to suppress localised fires;
- Have arrangements in place to communicate and coordinate actions with the Rural Fire Service (RFS) in the event of any fire outbreak; and
- Investigate any occurrence of fire to identify the cause and to assess the effectiveness of BfMP in preventing and controlling the fire.

## 3.0 Mitigation and Management Measures

### 3.1 Annual Hazard Assessment

Annual inspections of the site will be undertaken in autumn (following the previous bushfire season) to determine what actions are required to reduce fuel loads in the areas surrounding the Quarry in accordance with **Section Error!** Reference source not found.. This will be taken prior to the start of the upcoming bushfire season which typically occurs from mid-spring to early autumn (October to March).

If considered necessary by HQPL, the RFS may be consulted annually to determine the most appropriate method of assessing the fuel load, and the level of fuel load that would warrant a hazard reduction burn. In general, fuel loads exceeding 8-10 t/ha are considered to pose a hazard. In addition to fuel loads, other considerations will include assessment of climatic condition (e.g., rainfall) for the preceding year, climate predictions, and any advice from the RFS.

The RFS offer assessments for sites that have an increased bushfire risk. Where appropriate, HQPL will consult with the RFS to ensure that the fuel load assessments are completed, and an appropriate hazard reduction strategy is employed on the site. Records of this consultation with the RFS will be maintained and stored on the site as part of the overall Environmental Management Strategy (EMS).

### 3.2 Asset Protection Zones (APZ)

An APZ is a fuel reduced area surrounding a built asset or structure, typically including residential buildings or major sheds for commercial, industrial, or farming purposes. Whilst there are no habitable buildings on site, there are structures on site that would benefit from an APZ, these are the office, amenities, and fuel storage. For these structures an APZ of 20 m has been established, with the fuel load within the APZ reduced by “raking or manual removal of fine fuels” and “removal or pruning of trees, shrubs and understorey” in accordance with the methods contained in the “Standards for Asset Protection Zones” (NSW RFS), which is included in **Appendix 2**.

In addition to the APZ around the fuel storage, fuel will be stored in self-contained bunded structure in accordance with *Australian Standard – The storage and handling of flammable and combustible liquids (AS 1940:2017)*.

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### 3.3 Perimeter Fire Trails & Fire Breaks

Existing tracks within the site will also be maintained in a trafficable condition to allow vehicle movement during firefighting.

The Pacific Highway (as well as Andersite Road and Blue Rock Close) located to the south of the site acts as a substantial fire break to prevent fires coming from the south, and the perimeter fire trails/powerline easements will act as fire breaks for fires that could come from other directions. The Branch Lane acts as a fire break to the west of the site. A small track off Branch Lane allows some access to the northern sections of Lot 21 and Lot 11. Any easement within the Project Area is maintained by HQPL.

### 3.4 Hazard Reduction & Fire Regime

There are three main methods of hazard reduction:

- Hand clearing: raking up leaves, clippings, clearing out gutters.
- Mechanical clearing: mowing, slashing, ploughing, trittering, bulldozing, grading.
- Burning: pile burning, or “controlled” or “prescribed” burning which use fire to reduce the amount of flammable fuel.

If necessary, hazard reduction management such as cool burning of the bushland to reduce the fuel load will be undertaken. A hazard reduction burn would only be undertaken where there are heavy fuels loads that could support an uncontrolled bushfire and would be undertaken in consultation and notification to RFS.

In accordance with RFS requirements, an environmental assessment would be undertaken prior to undertaking hazard reduction work. As part of the environmental approval for the hazard reduction a Bush Fire Hazard Reduction Certificate may be required. The following points should be taken into consideration, prior to undertaking any hazard reduction burning:

- Clearing of vegetation using mechanical methods should not be undertaken. As per recommendations from MCC, only sensitive hand clearing and controlled/prescribed burning within the appropriate ecological thresholds for particular vegetation communities should be used where necessary to reduce the fuel load within the Conservation Areas.
- Any burning should be undertaken in accordance with the RFS Standards for Low Intensity Bush Fire Hazard Reduction Burning (for private landholders), which is included in Appendix 2.
- Strategic rotational burning (mosaic burning) of portions of the bushland area should be used so that burning of the whole Project Area in any burning event or three (3) year period is avoided.
- The burning regime should be managed such that overly frequent fires are avoided and in general, each portion of the BfMP area should not be subject to fire more often than once every ten (10) years.
- The avoidance of burns in the Tall Moist Forest (potential *Asperula asthenes* habitat) should have an adopted 25 – 30-year minimum bushfire interval in accordance with the RFS Environmental Assessment Code.
- Burning during the flowering period should be avoided. and
- The *Flora and Fauna Management Plan* (IEMA, 2023) recommends that:

“Bushfire management regimes should consider the ecological communities present on the subject site and the natural fire regime that this community is adapted to. There are some areas of the Blue Gum – Brushbox Forest that contains a highly mesic understorey comprising a number of rainforest species that are generally not adapted to fire. Therefore, when implementing management activities such as hazard reduction burns the sensitivity of these areas should be considered. Areas surrounding creek lines and gullies as a rule should not be included in bushfire hazard reduction activities, considering the ecological sensitivity of these areas.”

Conservation sensitive areas (within the offset area shown in **Figure 2**) require prescriptive fire management methods. These sensitive areas consist of known *Tetratheca juncea* habitat and the Tall Moist Forest (potential habitat for *Asperula athenes*) habitat. The *Flora and Fauna Management Plan* (IEMA, 2023) contains the following recommendations for the management of these areas.

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*Tetratheca juncea* (including *Tetratheca juncea* within the offset area)

The boundary of the potential *Tetratheca juncea* habitat is shown in **Figure 2** of the *Flora and Fauna Management Plan* (IEMA, 2023), and the recommendations from this management plan should be applied to this area, which are that any hazard reduction burns should have the following fire regime:

**Fire Intensity:** Cool fire, fast burning

Period between fires: 7 years

**Season:** After fruiting (i.e., Autumn)

An appropriate fire regime is required for the viability of the local *Tetratheca juncea* population to promote germination of *Tetratheca juncea* seeds, to maintain a diversity of flowering species which provide foraging for pollinators and to control competition with shrub species. In any areas where *Tetratheca juncea* populations are present, hazard reduction burns should consider the following criteria:

- When was the last fire in this area? If 7 years or over hazard reduction required;
- Is *Tetratheca juncea* finished flowering and fruits are present? (i.e., after February);
- Have potential food sources for pollinators finished flowering; and
- Are the fuel loadings and conditions appropriate to have a cool/fast burning fire.

#### Offset Area

Management of bush fire within the Offset Area is needed to limit impacts of bushfires on mesic vegetation (sensitive to fire) and control fuel loads below residential dwellings on the eastern side of the Offset Area. It is recommended that bush fire management be implemented through a mosaic pattern of hazard reduction burns (*Flora and Fauna Management Plan*, IEMA 2023).

Hazard reduction **burns should not be located within the Tall Moist Forest**. To limit impacts on foraging habitat for threatened fauna species the hazard reduction burns should only burn small patches at a time (i.e., no more than 3 ha). This allows adequate areas for fauna to find refuge during fires and to forage in whilst burnt areas regenerate. Fire frequency, intensity, seasonality, and location must also be considered. The following fire regime is considered adequate to maintain biodiversity, fuel loadings and threatened species:

**Fire Intensity:** Cool fire, fast burning

Period between fires: 7 years

**Season:** autumn-winter

It should be noted that whilst the *Flora and Fauna Management Plan* (IEMA, 2023) recommended a bushfire interval of 7 years for the offset area, Tall Moist Forest (potential habitat for *Asperula athenes*) requires a minimum bushfire interval of 25 – 30-years; as specified in the RFS Environmental Assessment Code.

### 3.5 Electricity Transmission Line

Electricity transmission lines on site will be regularly inspected to ensure that the transmission lines are in good condition and that the vegetation has not grown high enough that it may come in contact with the transmission lines. This is routinely done by HQPL who act if a risk is present. Any existing easements within the Project Area are maintained by HQPL. Additionally, transmission lines are inspected by Essential Energy as per their schedule.

### 3.6 Plant & Equipment Operations

Vehicle movement will be restricted to designated vehicle routes and cleared areas within the Quarry to minimise the potential for spark ignition. The operation of any equipment that may emit sparks or hot particles (such as welding, grinding, soldering or gas cutting) will generally be restricted to the cleared areas within the Quarry operations. Where the operation of such equipment is necessary within 20 metres of bushland it will be done in accordance with, the NSW RFS Bushfire Safety Publication for “Equipment & Machinery use in Bushfire Prone Areas”, which is included in **Appendix 4**. Additionally, a Work Permit and Risk Assessment would be prepared by those undertaking works.

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### 3.7 Firefighting Equipment and Water Supply

HQPL will maintain firefighting plant and equipment on-site to contain any small fire outbreaks and to assist firefighting crews in fighting fires where necessary.

- The plant and equipment includes:
  - Water storage dam (Sediment Dam 2) with a permanent fill point for tankers,
  - 2x 15,000 L clean water tanks;
  - Water tanker;
  - Earth moving equipment (e.g., bulldozers, excavators);
  - Fire extinguishers;
  - Portable radios.

HQPL will maintain access to the main water storage dam (Sediment Dam 2) so water can be sourced by the RFS during any fires in the area.

### 3.8 Staff Training

The HQPL Site Induction includes specific reference to emergency response procedures and contact lists as well as locations of the on-site firefighting plant and equipment. Evacuation from the site will be undertaken in accordance with the HQPL site safety plan. Emergency response procedures will include basic firefighting training so that they are able to provide a first response capability.

### 3.9 Communication

The Quarry Manager (or suitable delegate) will make regular contact via email or phone with the RFS to ensure that HQPL is aware of any issues that may affect bushfire management on-site, and that bushfire management activities are in accordance with RFS requirements.

Any outbreak of fire on site is to be immediately reported to the Quarry Manager (or suitable delegate). The Quarry Manager (or suitable delegate) is to make contact with emergency services where there is any risk that the outbreak cannot be contained with the land subject to the BfMP. HQPL will also make contact with the neighbouring residences to ensure that any bushfire response is coordinated with neighbours.

**Section 6.0** contains addition reporting to be completed annually, and in response to a fire outbreak.

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## 4.0 Monitoring and Measurement

As per MCCs requirements an ecological monitoring schedule will be designed and adopted to sample and test for any positive and negative effects of actual fire regimes on the ecological condition and function of the offset area and habitats of conservation significance, particularly *Tetratheca juncea* habitats and *Asperula asthenes* habitat. The monitoring schedule has been designed considering the fire management requirements (where applicable) of the offset area and habitats of conservation significance stated in the *Flora and Fauna Management Plan* (IEMA, 2023)

The Quarry Manager (or suitable delegate) will regularly monitor the effectiveness of the mitigation and management measures, including:

- Level of training of staff, including the maintenance of a training register;
- Condition of firefighting equipment;
- Condition of water storage structures, the amount of water stored and the access for water supply;
- Condition of firebreaks, perimeter trails and internal fire trail;
- Condition of APZ around structures;
- Condition of electricity easements; and
- The effectiveness of the monitoring schedule

The Quarry Manager (or suitable delegate) will also assess the bushfire hazard annually in accordance with **Section 3.1**. In accordance with MCC’s requirements, any area identified to be affected by bushfire events and areas where controlled burns were conducted will be mapped digitally on GIS on an annual basis and will be reported in the AEMR. Monitoring these areas will assist in determining the frequency of bushfires over specified land portions around the Quarry. Through digital mapping, a detailed and graphic picture of the land portions of and around the Quarry that are over-frequently burnt, under-frequently burnt or adequately managed for bushfire can be depicted. This monitoring approach will allow the Quarry Manager (or suitable delegate) and the relevant authorities to adapt to site conditions and implement bushfire management actions proactively and appropriately.

All monitoring conducted as part of the bushfire management activities will be documented and reported in the AEMR.

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## 5.0 Potential Impacts and Key Issues

Lightning is the predominant source of fires not resulting from human activity which is otherwise the most serious source of bush fires, with (on average) nearly twice the number of bush fires having arisen from careless, legal use of fire than illegal fires. These are important considerations for use of fire in management controls on the site.

Bushfires present potential impacts to life, property and the environment. The majority of the land surrounding the Quarry is bushland, with the cleared area comprising of the previously mined area, active quarrying and production areas, and various access tracks.

An uncontrolled bushfire outbreak within the bushland area has the potential to endanger the lives of quarry personnel, neighbouring residents and firefighters attending the fire. Similarly, uncontrolled bushfires have the potential to damage assets within and adjacent to the Quarry (such as vehicles, machinery, crushers, fencing and buildings) and also assets on neighbouring properties (such as houses, fences, domestic constructions).

The approved HQPL development DA 265-10-2004 includes the utilisation of the existing infrastructure, that was established under a previous conditional Development Consent issued on 3 November 1997. Prior to the 1997 consent the Quarry also operated under continuing use rights as the Quarry pre-dated the EP&A act. The EIS for the HQPL (Asquith & deWitt, 2004) states that “Bushfire was not identified as a major issue” and that the “development application for the existing site facilities will provide detail of any bushfire requirements for the site”. The approval granted in November 1997 approval did not contain any requirements for bushfire protection measures such as Asset Protection Zones, however, the nature of the development is such that there are substantially cleared areas around the infrastructure, water supply on site, and access paths around the site. There are no habitable buildings on site.

There is one nearby residence located to the north east of the Quarry on Lot 4 DP 838128 (located on the same side as of the highway (north) as the HQPL. This residence is located approximately 470 m from the Quarry and has access from the Branch Lane. It is important that bushfire management activities are coordinated such that this residence is considered in the plan. The location of this residence is shown in **Figure 2**.

Bushfires also have the potential to impact the environment. Inappropriate fire regimes can lead to loss of particular flora and fauna species and communities. With respect to conservation aspects, bushfires can cause threatened fauna species to experience major habitat disruption. Terrestrial, aquatic and avian species can have their habitats burnt or transformed as a result of fires, including nesting/roost trees and terrestrial food sources. Aquatic habitats can also be heavily disturbed by increased sedimentation and water quality change to waterways. For this reason frequent fire has been listed as a ‘key threatening process’ by the NSW Scientific Committee under the Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016. Fire also creates bare soil and increased soil erosion, particularly on steep sites.

Vegetation at the site is open eucalypt forest on steep elevated land. Generally, more vegetation exists on the steep south facing slopes and some lower sections constitute closed forests which are well outside the HQPL area. Dominant vegetation types are Blue Gum, Spotted Gum and Smooth-barked Apple. Generally, the understorey comprises a number of rainforest species. The most previous bushfire passed through the site in 2002.

Forest offset area during investigations for a previously proposed telecommunications tower on Lot 12. The locations of the more conservation sensitive areas are shown in **Figure 2**.

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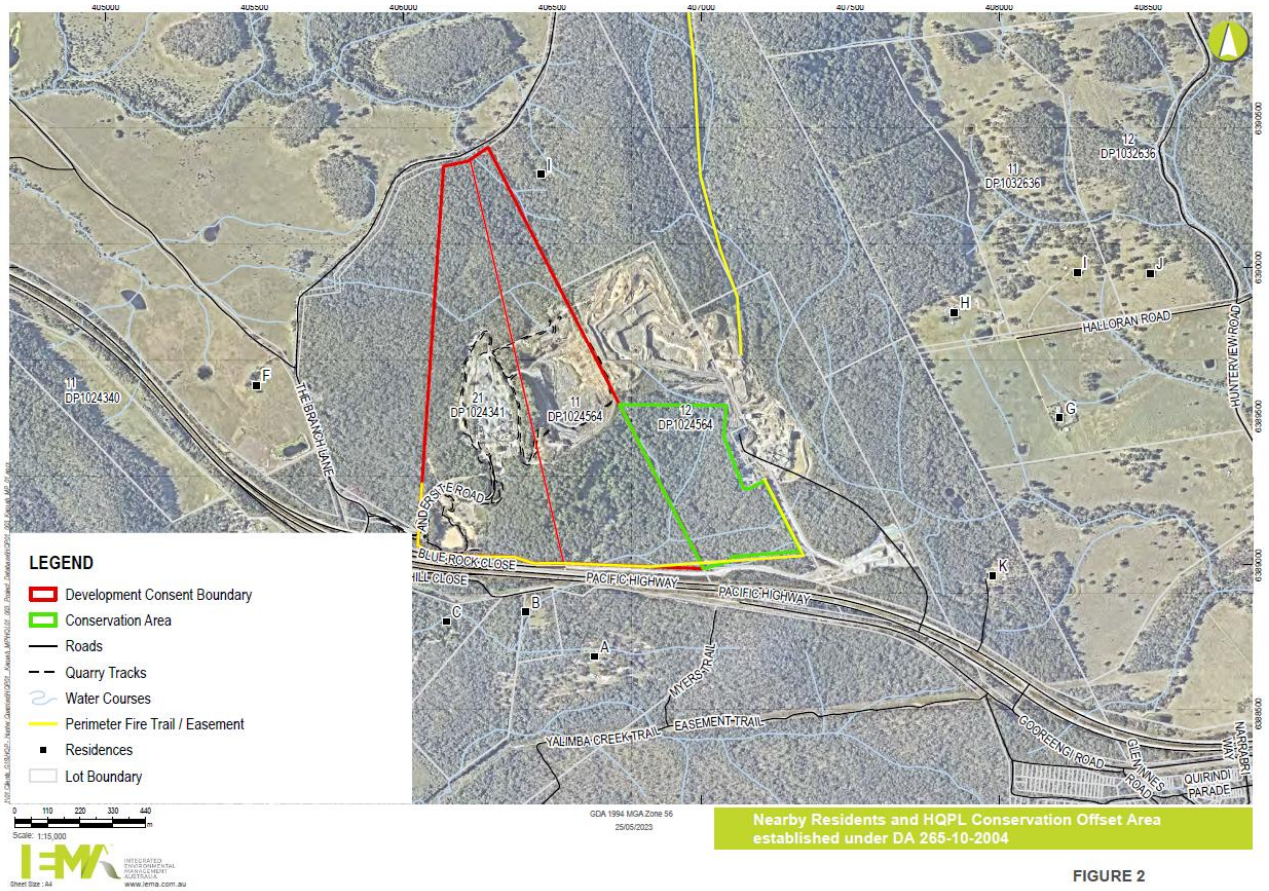


FIGURE 2

Figure 2 – Nearby Residents and Conservation Offset Area

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## 5.1 Potential Hazardous Materials

A range of chemicals and substances are utilised and stored onsite for purposes which include water treatment, cleaning, fuel, and lubricants for machinery maintenance. An inventory of pollutants is provided in **Table 2**.

In the event of a fire emergency, the HQPL Pollution Incident Response Management Plan (PIRMPL) is to be activated.

**Table 2 – Potential Hazardous Materials**

DESCRIPTION	SITE	LOCATION	DANGEROUS GOODS	QUANTITY	
<b>FUEL TANK</b>					
TANK 1	HQ	Opposite Workshop	Diesel	28,000 Litres	
<b>PLANT EQUIPMENT</b>					
FINLAY - 693	HQ	Crushing Plant	Diesel	300 Litres	
FINLAY - 984	HQ	Crushing Plant	Diesel	300 Litres	
GEN- SET	HQ	Crushing Plant	Diesel	300 Litres	
MOBILE CONE (NORBERG)	HQ	Crushing Plant	Diesel	300 Litres	
MOBILE JAW (NORBERG)	HQ	Crushing Plant	Diesel	300 Litres	
POWER SCREEN	HQ	Crushing Plant	Diesel	300 Litres	
TRACKER STACKER	HQ	Crushing Plant	Diesel	250 Litres	
<b>QUARRY UTES</b>					
RANGER FUEL UTE	HQ	PARK UP AREA	Diesel	75 Litres	
RANGER FUEL UTE POD	HQ	PARK UP AREA	Diesel	300 Litres	
FITTER TRUCK	HQ	WORKSHOP	Diesel	300 Litres	
<b>OTHERS</b>					
DIESEL TANK	HQ	Left Of Workshop	Diesel	25,000 Litres	
Workshop - Oil Bay	HQ	Eastern Side of Workshop	Lube Oil	1000 Litres	
Workshop - Oil Bay	HQ	Eastern Side of Workshop	Engine Oil	1000 Litres	
Workshop - Oil Bay	HQ	Eastern Side of Workshop	30 Weight Oil	1000 Litres	
Workshop - Oil Shed	HQ	Eastern Side of Workshop	Gear Oil	3 x 20 Litres Drum	
Workshop - Oil Shed	HQ	Eastern Side of Workshop	Torque Oil	2 x 20 Litre Drum	
Workshop - Oil Shed	HQ	Eastern Side of Workshop	Grease	3 x 20 Litre Drum	
Workshop - Main Bay	HQ	Eastern Wall Inside Workshop	Acetolyne	4 x E Size Bottle	
Workshop - Main Bay	HQ	Eastern Wall Inside Workshop	Mig Gas	2 x G Size Bottle	
Workshop - Main Bay	HQ	Eastern Wall Inside Workshop	Oxy	3 x G Size Bottles	
Workshop - Main Bay	HQ	Eastern Wall Inside Workshop	Oxy	2 x E Size Bottles	
Workshop - Main Bay	HQ	Centre Inside Workshop	LPG	9 Kg Bottle	
Workshop - Main Bay	HQ	Eastern Wall Inside Workshop	Pre Wash	2 Litres	
<b>LOADERS</b>					
Volvo Loader #220 #2	HQ	ALL LOCATIONS	Diesel	430 Litres	
Komatsu Wa480 - Hired	HQ	ALL LOCATIONS	Diesel	460 Litres	
<b>DUMP TRUCKS</b>					
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DESCRIPTION	SITE	LOCATION	DANGEROUS GOODS	QUANTITY
Volvo A40F - Dump truck	HQ	ALL LOCATIONS	Diesel	550 Litres
HD405 - KOMATSU - HIRED	HQ	ALL LOCATIONS	Diesel	750 Litres
<b>EXCAVATORS</b>				
CAT 345D Excavator	HQ	EXTRACTION AREA	Diesel	705 Litres
<b>OTHER EQUIPMENT</b>				
POSITRAC#2	HQ	KEQ & KQ Quarries - all locations	Diesel	100 Litres
TELEHANDLER	HQ	KEQ & KQ Quarries - all locations	Diesel	80 Litres

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## 6.0 Reporting And Reviewing

An annual statement on bushfire management activities will be included within the AEMR to be submitted to DPE. Additionally, a report will be submitted to the RFS after any occurrence of bushfire which will include an assessment of the effectiveness of the BfMP.

This BfMP will be reviewed at a minimum of every five (5) years to assess its effectiveness. In addition, the plan will be reviewed after any occurrence of a nearby bushfire or if there is a significant variation to the Quarry which affects the BfMP.

The BfMP will be revised to increase its effectiveness where any changes are recommended as a result of the review. Any amendments to the BfMP will be undertaken in consultation with the appropriate regulatory authorities, including DPE, MCC and the RFS.

### 6.1 Consultation

#### 6.1.1 Pre 2022 Consultation

The BfMP was initially developed in 2006 in consultation with relevant regulators and authorities including the Great Lakes Council (now MCC), the RFS and DPE. The 2020 update incorporated the comments raised during the 2019 Independent Environmental Audit.

#### 6.1.2 2023 Consultation

A copy of the BfMP was sent to the MCC and RFS on 31/05/2023 and receive the following comments **Table 3**.

RFS also conducted a site visit at HQPL on 20 July 2023 with members from the Lower Hunter and MidCoast Fire Districts.

**Table 3 – 2023 Consultation with agencies**

Agency	Comment	Company Response
Response from RFS (Planning and Environment)	Notes that the RFS does not endorse developer Bushfire Management Plans. Notwithstanding, the following comments were offered that the BFMP should address:	
	Access, water supply and location/type of hazardous materials	<b>Section 5.1</b> has been added to the Management Plan which details the hazardous materials kept on site
	Strategy to protect life and assets from a Bushfire	Covered in Section 3.0 of BfMP
	WHS provisions for any attending fire fighters	Document has been updated to reflect additional provisions
	Have an action sheet that includes: In case of fire call 000 The Site Environment Roles and responsibilities for staff when supporting fire agencies with fire suppression roles Plan shows access, water, hazards Communication Strategies with Site	HQPL have developed an Emergency Response Plan to address this feedback, and have attached as <b>Appendix 1</b> <b>Section 7.0</b> has been updated
MidCoast Council	No Comment	
RFS -Mid Coast District	No Comment	

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## 7.0 Responsibilities

The Quarry Manager (or suitable delegate) is responsible for the implementation of the BfMP. The Quarry Manager (or suitable delegate) will allocate responsibility for specific tasks where necessary.

It is the responsibility of all staff to operate in accordance with this BfMP. In the event of a fire outbreak, the Quarry Manager (or suitable delegate) is responsible for directing any first response in accordance with the level of training and ability of HQPL related to the scale of the outbreak.

Environmental responsibilities associated with this BfMP for the Quarry personnel are outlined in **Table 4**.

**Table 4 – Roles and Responsibilities**

Personnel	Responsibilities
Quarry Manager	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Implementation of this Plan</li> </ul>
Quarry Supervisor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Have a working knowledge of this BfMP.</li> <li>■ Be aware of the environmental legislative requirements associated with the Quarry and take measures to ensure compliance.</li> </ul>
Environment and Development Officer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Coordinate the bushfire monitoring requirements of this plan.</li> <li>■ Evaluate and report monitoring results as required.</li> <li>■ Coordinate water related incident investigations and reporting as required by legislation and internal standards and guidelines.</li> <li>■ Assist with the review of this plan.</li> </ul>
All employees and contractors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Comply with all requirements of this BfMP.</li> <li>■ Report all potential environmental incidents to the Environmental Officer and Quarry Manager immediately.</li> <li>■ Seek approval from the Environmental Officer and Quarry Manager prior to making changes to infrastructure/processes which may result in increased bushfire risks.</li> </ul>

In the event of a bushfire, all staff, and contractors will comply and assist with all reasonable requests for assistance from RFS personnel during bushfire events.

HQPL will always place personnel safety ahead of asset protection.

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## 8.0 Relevant Documents and Legislation

The following section lists the relevant documentation and legislation applicable to the BfMP. The list of relevant legislation is not comprehensive, and there may be some peripheral aspects of bushfire management that are covered under other legislation.

- *Rural Fires Act 1997;*
- *Planning for Bushfire Protection (NSW Rural Fire Service, November 2019);*
- *Standards for Low Intensity Bush Fire Hazard Reduction Burning (for private landholders) (NSW Rural Fire Service);*
- *Australian Standard AS 1940:2017 – The storage and handling of flammable and combustible liquids;*
- *Australian Standard 1851-2012, Routine Service of Fire Protection Systems and Equipment;*
- *Proposed Hard Rock Quarry Extension Environmental Impact Statement (Volume 1 of 3) (Asquith & de Witt, October 2004);*
- *Standards for Asset Protection Zones (NSW Rural Fire Service);*
- *Bushfire Safety Publication for Equipment & Machinery use in Bushfire Prone Areas (NSW Rural Fire Service, December 2004); and*
- *HQPL Flora and Fauna Management Plan (IEMA, 2023).*
- *Development Consent DA 265-10-2004.*

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## Appendix 1

# HQPL Emergency Bushfire Response Plan

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## Appendix 2

### Standards for Asset Protection Zones – NSW Rural Fire Service

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## Appendix 2

# Standards for Low Intensity Bush Fire Hazard Reduction – NSW Rural Fire Service

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## Appendix 3

# Equipment and Machinery Use in Bushfire Prone Areas

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