

Fire Prevention Works Plan for Coastal and Bushland Reserves
(using assessments from Building in a Wildfire Management Overlay CFA)

The purpose of this document is to stipulate works that need to be carried out to provide a level of protection to assets around or within the reserve

General Information

Reserve name	Grantville Foreshore Reserve
Locality (See Plan attached)	Broome Court to Pioneer Bay
Assets to be Protected	Residential properties to the north
Access	Deep Creek Street 4.5 m sealed, Stewart St 7 m sealed, Malcolm Drive unsealed 4m Malcolm Drive extension unsealed 3.5m Bonney Road unsealed 4.5m Panoramic Drive unsealed 4.5m
Water Supply	Grantville: Fire Plugs are located in Broom Court (1), on the foreshore reserve in front of the Stewart Street access track (1) and along Malcolm Drive (3 one each end and one in the middle). Pioneer Bay: Fire Plugs are located Beach Blvd (2) Kallay Drive
Bushfire Prone Area	Low probability



Works Program

Assets to be protected	How	Who	When	Where	Works Required/Comments
All residents, abutting houses, assets and infrastructure including flora and fauna	Provision of strategic fire breaks and emergency vehicle access	COM	Annual Works – depending on funding	Malcolm Drive, Grantville Malcolm Drive Numbers 19-41, Grantville. Beach Boulevard, Pioneer Bay	Ensure 6 metre horizontal and 4 metre vertical clearance along roads and access track to residences in Malcolm Drive extension (Number 19-41).
All residents, abutting houses, assets and infrastructure including flora and fauna	Provision of strategic fire fuel reduction zones	COM	Annual Works – depending on funding	Along the sides of official access tracks	A 2m wide pedestrian pathway to be cleared and maintained on foreshore behind Stewart St residences (west of properties). Clear and maintain 1.5m horizontal official access tracks to the beach for pedestrians.
All residents, abutting houses, assets and infrastructure including flora and fauna	Removal of garden waste and other dumped materials	COM	Annual Works – depending on funding	Whole reserve as funds allow	Clear dead/dried undergrowth and remove dumped dry vegetation and other items. Educate adjoining landholders and community regarding fire risk of dumped and dead garden vegetation.
Flora and Fauna	Weed removal	COM	Annual Works - depending on funding	Whole reserve as funds allow	Removal of woody weeds and control of identified weed species
All residents, abutting houses,	Provision of fire plugs	BCSC CS	As part of works	All areas	Posts cleared of obstructions, covers and hydrants painted where appropriate, reflective marker provided.

assets and infrastructure including flora and fauna			program		
Residential properties	Maintenance of properties	BCSC CS	Annually	All nominated properties	Send out Fire Hazard Notices where properties require maintenance
Residential properties	Education/Fire Planning	CFA	Annually	To properties in areas identified as at risk	Fire guide awareness for local residents through FRV meetings
Visitors to the reserve	Education	COM	When able - depending on funding	On all access tracks	Provide information about fire related regulations and advice to discourage the lighting of fires, fire works and other hazardous activities. Include information regarding the prevention of fire, regulations and emergency procedures including a map of the track network
COM – Grantville Foreshore and Districts Committee Of Management BCSC CS – Bass Coast Shire Council Community Safety Department CFA – Country Fire Authority					

Specific Works Identified During Inspections

Inspection date	26 November 2010	Attending	Diane Goeman COM, John Spencer COM, Mike Owen CFA, Dave Gallagher DSE, James Bremner BCSC		
Issues	Proposed works	Priority	Completed	Cost/Comment	
Improve access for Fire Fighting vehicles at the end of Malcolm Drive	COM to trim back vegetation to 6 metre horizontal and 4 metre vertical clearance in consultation with DSE and the Shire	High		In consultation and partnership with the Shire (Assets and Environment Departments) with assistance from DSE	
Remove dead and fallen timbers in foreshore reserve between Broome Court and Malcolm Drive	Along access tracks remove dead and fallen timbers in reserve, remove garden waste and weeds to reduce fuel loads	Low		Depending on grants and recognised community working bees.	
Site assessment on fire risks of foreshore vegetation to be completed by suitably qualified person and approved by DSE				DSE to finalise site assessment on fire risk	

Vegetation Management Prescriptions

One of the most critical local environmental issues for Bass Coast identified in the Environment Sustainability Plan 2008 to 2013 is that there is less than 10% of indigenous bush remaining from pre 1700's. There is research and a common acceptance that if there is 35% cover of native vegetation then 75-80% of species can survive, but below that level extinctions can accelerate rapidly. The natural bush which includes a diverse range of vegetation types from grasses and groundcovers to large trees is the habitat for the vast majority of native animals and birds and is essential to sustaining and increasing biodiversity across the area. The improvement of the quality and area of all Ecological Vegetation Classes (EVC's) from coastal species to the hinterland species is therefore essential.

The vast majority of the remaining natural bush in Bass Coast is within the coastal reserves and bushland reserves managed by Council, the Phillip Island Nature Park (on Phillip Island) and by Parks Victoria at Grantville, the Gurdies and the Wonthaggi heathland. The management of these reserves from fire prevention to weed control is the responsibility of the various land managers and considering the importance of the vegetation the balance between the need to reduce fire risk and enhance the vegetation is essential.

EVC classification (pre 1750's)

- Mangrove Shrubland (140)
- Berm Grassy Shrubland (311)
- Swamp Scrub (53)

EVC classification (current)

- Mangrove Shrubland (140)
- Berm Grassy Shrubland (311)
- Swamp Scrub (53)

The once dominant swamp scrub and shrubland is now restricted to fragmented remnant patches. Mudflats that were originally stable with indigenous plant communities have experienced severe erosion. The significance of the Grantville Foreshore Reserve is recognised through its reservation for Protection of the Coastline and inclusion into the Western Port Ramsar site.

Summary of Assessments

Actions

The identified annual works and programs need to be continued and specific works to address localised high risk issues need to be programmed. Annual inspections and updates carried out and works followed up.