

# **PRM Property Pty Ltd**

# **Bushfire Management Plan Lot 30 Armadale Road, Piara Waters**

# **11 February 2019**

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# **Disclaimer**

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- PRM Property Pty Ltd
- City of Armadale
- Purchasers of Lots in designated fire prone areas.

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# 1.0 Background Information

PRM Property Pty Ltd commissioned Natural Area Holdings Pty Ltd, trading as Natural Area Consulting Management Services (Natural Area), to update the Bushfire Management Plan they prepared in for Mr Steve Robertson for Lot 30 Armadale Road Piara Waters in 2016. This updated Bushfire Management Plan documents conditions that influence bushfire management at the site currently and will support the sale of Lots to new owners, providing a measure of certainty in relation to BAL-ratings for potential owners and developers. When preparing the Plan, Natural Area has considered the requirements outlined in the *Guidelines for Planning in Bushfire Prone Areas* prepared by the Department of Planning, Department of Fire and Emergency Services and the Western Australian Planning Commission (V1.3, 2017), *Statement of Planning Policy 3.7 Planning in Bushfire Prone Areas* (Department of Planning and Western Australian Planning Commission, 2015), and *AS 3959 – 2009 Construction of Buildings in Bushfire Prone Areas*.

# 1.1 Location and Zoning

Lot 30 Armadale Road is:

- located approximately 22 km south east of the Perth Central Business District within the City of Armadale (Figure 1)
- 2.55 ha (approx.)
- bounded by Armadale Road to the south, private property to the east and Greywacke Entrance to the north and current development by others to the north and west (Figure 1)
- zoned urban development under City of Armadale Town Planning Scheme 4
- is located in area that has been designated as bushfire prone.

# 1.2 Aim and Objectives

The aim of the Bushfire Management Plan (BMP) is to outline the bushfire management methods and requirements that will be implemented within the proposed subdivision. Accordingly, broad aims include:

- reduce the occurrence of and minimise the impact of fire to the life and property of future residents and the environment
- allow easy access of fire-fighters if a fire does occur
- protect the landscape within the site as far as is possible
- document fire prevention requirements of the area to which it relates.

The objectives of this Bushfire Management Plan are to:

- define land use areas and values within the subdivision, with the subdivision being developed as urban residential Lots
- define and rank fire hazard areas according to the vegetation Class and fire fuels present
- outline the roles and responsibilities of individuals and organisations in relation to fire management within the subdivision
- document fire management strategies for the subdivision, taking into consideration:
  - vegetation to be retained within and in proximity to the site
  - the need, if any, for building construction standards where vegetated areas interface with the urban development

- identify access for fire-fighting operations and daily maintenance in an around vegetated areas and stages of development
- define an assessment procedure that will evaluate the effectiveness and impact of existing and proposed fire prevention activities and strategies
- document the acceptable solutions adopted for the site.

# 1.3 Document Preparation

This document has been prepared by Sue Brand, a Level 2 Bushfire Planning and Design Practitioner (BPAD) accredited by the Fire Protection Association Australia. Activities involved with the plan preparation process included:

- assessing the vegetation Class present within and adjacent to the proposed development site using descriptions provided in AS 3959 – 2009 Construction of Buildings in Bushfire Prone Areas, with the assessment carried out on 17 January 2019
- assigning hazard ratings based on the vegetation Class present
- determining indicative areas where BAL-ratings are likely to apply and suggesting management strategies that could be implemented based on current and projected site considerations
- preparing the management plan.

# 1.4 Compliance Statement

This Bushfire Management Plan has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of *State Planning Policy 3.7 Planning in Bushfire Prone Areas* (Department of Planning and Western Australian Planning Commission, 2015) and *Guidelines for Planning in Bushfire Prone Areas* (Department of Planning Lands and Heritage, Department of Fire and Emergency Services and the Western Australian Planning Commission, V1.3, 2017). The information contained in this document represents current site conditions and associated planning.

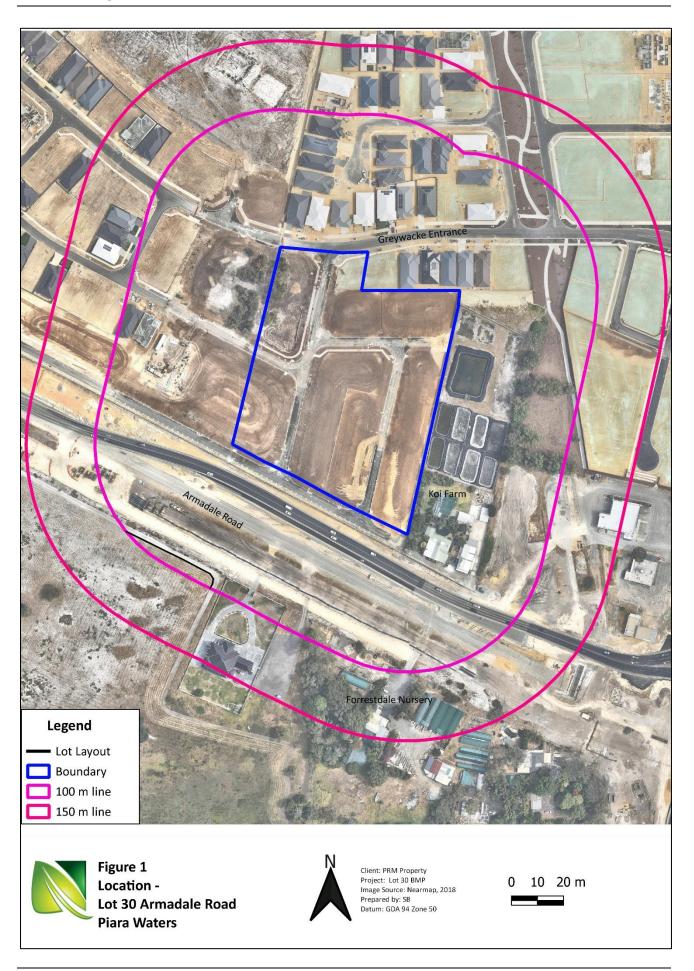
Signed:

Date: 11 February 2019 Accreditation Number: 36638

Accreditation Expiry Date: 30 April 2019

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## 2.0 Consideration of Bushfire Threat

#### 2.1 Site Characteristics

#### 2.1.1 Regional Context

Piara Waters is located within the Swan Coastal Plain region of the Interim Biogeographical Regionalisation of Australia (IBRA). The Swan Coastal Plain comprises two major divisions, namely Swan Coastal Plain 1 — Dandaragan, and Swan Coastal Plain 2 — Perth Coastal Plain. The site is in the Perth subregion, which is broadly characterised as including areas of Jarrah and Banksia woodlands on sandy soils in a series of sand dunes, along with wetland areas, often within the interdunal swales (Mitchell, Williams and Desmond, 2002).

#### 2.1.2 Vegetation

Vegetation present within the broader area includes:

- Piara Nature Reserve to the north
- A small patch of native vegetation to be retained in a POS within the site
- Pastureland a minimum of 50 m to the south.

#### 2.1.3 Contours

Lot 30 Armadale Road is flat land, thus are upslope or flat land for the purposes of the BAL-assessment.

#### 2.1.4 Land Use

Lot 30 Armadale Road has been cleared of all vegetation, with civil engineering works associated with the subdivision process complete. Engineering and other works have been completed in neighbouring subdivisions to the west and north, with road widening works along Armadale Road commenced.



Figure 2: Land use, Lot 30

#### 2.1.5 Environmental Considerations

The environmental values within Lot 30 have been considered during the subdivision process, with a small amount of native vegetation being retained on site within a landscaped public open space (POS) area.

# 2.2 Vegetation Classification

All vegetation within 100 m of the proposed development site was classified in accordance with Clause 2.2.3 of AS 3959 – 2009 Construction of Buildings in Bushfire-prone Areas. Each distinguishable area of vegetation with the potential to determine the bushfire attack level (BAL) is discussed (Figure 8), with three main vegetation Classes being present.

# 2.2.1 Area 1: Class G Grassland

Area 1 is unmanaged Class G Grassland located more than 50 m across Armadale Road in private property (Figure 3).



Area 1 Classification or Exclusion Clause

Photo ID: 1

Figure 3: Class G Grassland

#### 2.2.2 Area 2: Low-threat Vegetation

Low-threat vegetation is present in three locations (Figure 4):

- POS within the development site
- line of trees that provides a vegetated buffer between Lot 30 and the Koi farm in Lot 627 to the east
- landscaped parkland being created in Lot 8005.

These locations are subject to exclusion clause 2.2.3.2(f) as they are (or will be) actively managed as parkland areas.



Photo ID: 2 – landscaped parkland under construction



Photo ID: 3 - line of trees and grassed area, Lot 627 to east



Photo ID: 4

Figure 4: Low-threat vegetation

# 2.2.3 Area 3: Non-vegetated Areas

Non-vegetated areas are present across the site and in nearby areas in the form of engineered Lots, roads, and footpaths (Figure 5).

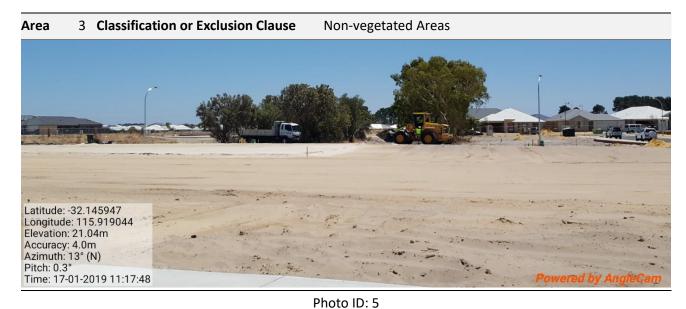
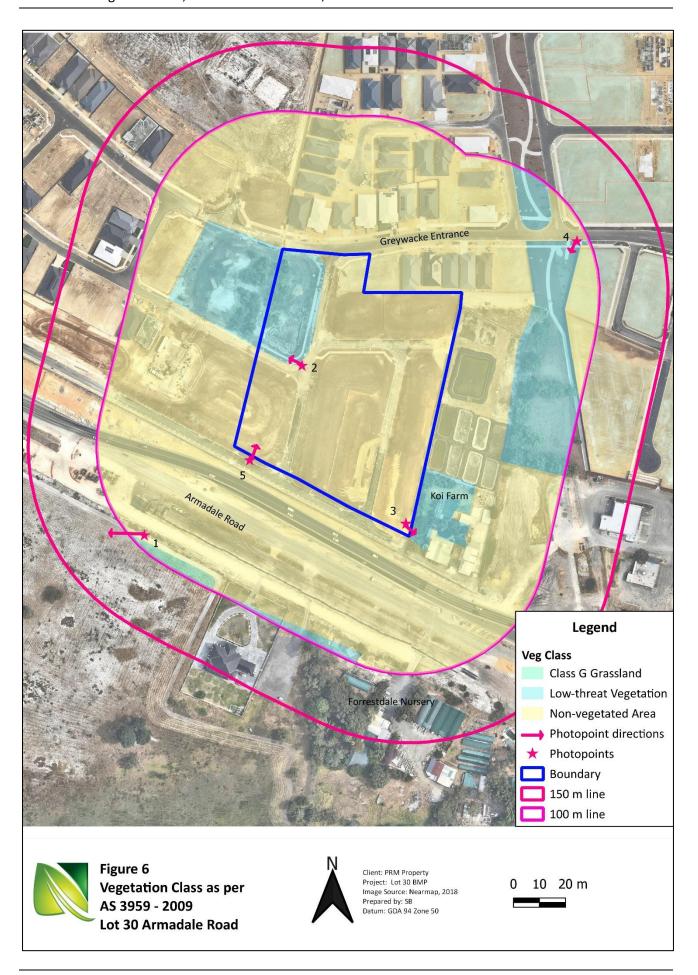


Figure 5: Non-vegetated areas



#### 2.3 Bushfire Hazard Level

#### 2.3.1 Bushfire Hazard Assessment

Depending on the vegetation Class, a hazard rating of low, moderate or extreme is assigned. The nature of the vegetation in and around Lot 30 Armadale Road means that the current hazard level is low across the development area as the grassland is more than 50 m from the site boundary, and other vegetation that could be considered classified is more than 100 m away.

#### 2.3.2 Fire Danger Index (FDI)

The fire danger index for this site is FDI 80, as documented in Table 2.4.3 of AS 3959 and which is the nominated FDI for Western Australia.

#### 2.3.3 Potential Fire Impacts

Given the distance to classified vegetation, the likely potential fire impacts will include smoke and ember attack if the grassland to the south of the site burns.

#### 2.4 BAL-Assessment

The site assessment and later analysis of separation distances between the site and vegetated areas mean that the closest classified vegetation is the Class G Grassland is more than 50 m from the site boundary (Figure 1, Table 1). All other vegetation in or in proximity to the site is considered low-threat due to its status as managed parkland, with any other vegetation being more than 100 m from the site boundary (Figure 7). Accordingly, all Lots are rated BAL-Low.

Table 1: Minimum separation distance (metres) to vegetation for BAL-ratings – upslope or flat land

	BAL-12.5	BAL-19	BAL-29	BAL-40	BAL-FZ
Class G Grassland	17 - <50	12 - <17	8 - <12	6 - <8	<6

#### 2.4.1 Asset Protection Zone

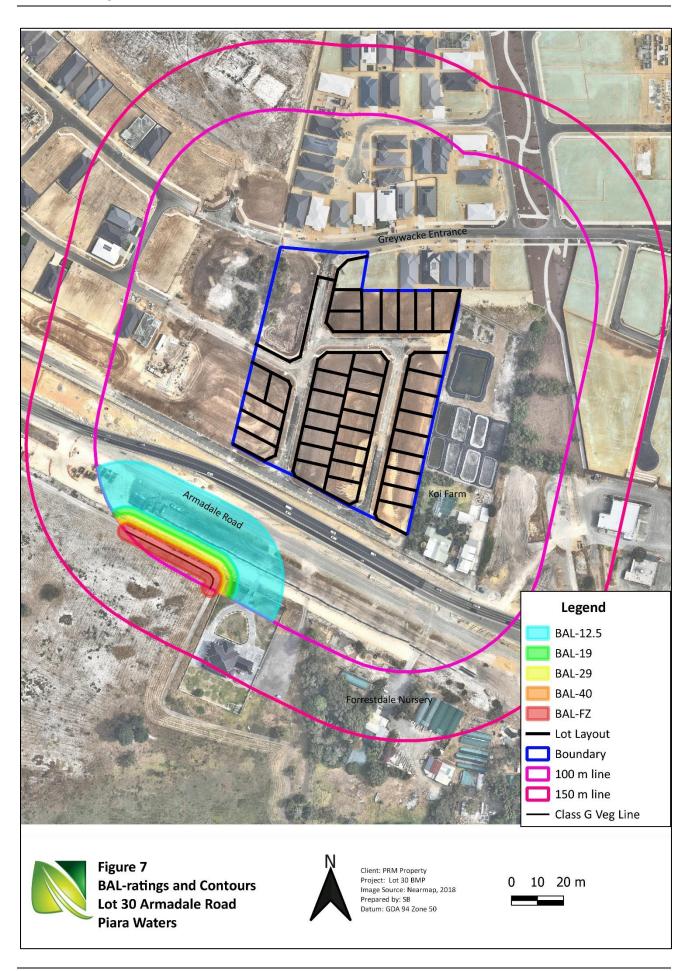
The asset protection zone is defined as a low fuel area immediately surrounding a building and is of sufficient size to ensure the potential radiant heat impact of a fire does not exceed 29 kW/m², or BAL-29. As all Lots are rated BAL-Low, the asset protection zone is located outside the site boundary and includes the cleared areas associated with this and neighbouring subdivisions, roads and other low-threat areas.

#### 2.5 Landscaping

The POS area to be retained within the subdivision area is in the process of being landscaped, with minimal retention of native vegetation (Figures 4, 6).

#### 2.6 Bushfire Risk Management Measures

The low threat level associated with Lot 30 Armadale Road Piara Waters mean that specific bushfire risk management measures are not required.



# 3.0 Implementation, Roles and Responsibilities

#### 3.1 Implementation

The developer, PRM Property Pty Ltd, is responsible for implementing the requirements detailed in this bushfire management plan until Lots are sold and the public open space area is ceded to the City of Armadale.

# 3.2 Roles and Responsibilities

Development of Lot 30 Armadale Road Piara Waters will meet minimum criteria outlined in Guidelines for Planning in Bushfire Prone Areas, AS 3959 – 2009, City of Armadale Town Planning Scheme No. 4, City of Armadale annual fire break notice and bushfire information, and other requirements.

#### 3.2.1 Developer

The developer is responsible for implementing the requirements detailed in this bushfire management plan until Lots are sold and the public open space area is ceded to the City of Armadale. This will include:

- providing appropriate information, including a copy of this bushfire management plan if required, to
  potential purchasers and owners of lots within the development to inform them of the bushfire risks
- arrange for the Section 70A notification on the titles of all lots within the subdivision boundary indicating a bushfire management plan applies.

#### 3.2.2 Property Owners

Individual property owners/occupiers are responsible for complying with, undertaking and implementing appropriate measures to protect their home and assets from the threat and risk of bushfire.

#### 3.2.3 City of Armadale

The City of Armadale has the responsibility and powers under the Town Planning Scheme and the *Bush Fires Act 1954* to ensure that this bushfire management plan, City of Armadale annual fire break notice and bushfire information notice and any special orders issued under the *Bush Fires Act 1954* are complied with. The City of Armadale will be responsible for:

- providing appropriate advice in relation to City requirements for firebreaks, hazard reduction, and similar to the Developer and property owners as required
- maintaining the road network and hydrants
- ensuring appropriate information is included on titles of lots within the subdivision boundary to which this bushfire management plan applies.

#### 3.3 Evaluation

The development of this fire management plan is based on current site conditions and recognises that changes can occur over time and may be subject to review based on altered conditions at the site or in surrounding areas.

# 4.0 Compliance and Justifications

# 4.1 SPP 3.7 Objectives and Application of Policy Measures

The intent of *State Planning Policy (SPP) 3.7 Planning in Bushfire Prone Areas* (Department of Planning and Western Australian Planning Commission, 2015) is to ensure that bushfire risks are considered in a timely manner and that planning documents demonstrate the appropriate application of the various policy measures. Table 2 summarises the intent and objectives of SPP 3.7 and provides evidence of how the structure plan for Lot 30 Armadale Road Piara Waters complies.

Table 2: Evidence of compliance with SPP 3.7 intent and objectives

SPP Reference	Description	Evidence of Compliance		
Intent	<ul> <li>Ensure that risks associated with bushfires are planned using a risk-based approach</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Preparation of a bushfire management plan in accordance with SPP 3.7</li> <li>Hazard assessment indicates risks associated with classified vegetation are low</li> </ul>		
Objective 1	<ul> <li>Avoid any increase in the threat of bushfire to people, property and infrastructure</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Hazard assessment indicates risks associated with classified vegetation are low</li> <li>All Lots rated BAL-Low</li> </ul>		
Objective 2	Reduce vulnerability to bushfire	<ul> <li>Hazard assessment indicates risks associated with classified vegetation are low</li> <li>All Lots rated BAL-Low</li> </ul>		
Objective 3	<ul> <li>Ensure that higher order strategic planning documents and proposals consider bushfire protection requirements at an early stage</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Planning at the site is largely complete, with bushfire risk being considered in previous planning stages</li> <li>This bushfire management reconfirms the low-risk nature of the site</li> </ul>		
Objective 4	<ul> <li>Achieve an appropriate balance between bushfire risk management and biodiversity conservation</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Site environmental values have been considered during previous subdivision design processes</li> <li>Biodiversity values will remain in the Piara Natura Reserve to the north outside the subdivision and in the bushland pocket that will remain in the landscaped POS area on site</li> </ul>		

# 4.2 Bushfire Protection Criteria

Table 3 demonstrates the Site's Compliance with Bushfire Protection Criteria; Figure 7 indicates that all Lots are rated BAL-Low.

Table 3: Compliance with bushfire protection criteria

Intent	Acceptable Solutions	Solution
Element 1: Location		
Ensure that strategic planning proposals, subdivision and development applications are located in areas with the least possible risk of bushfire to facilitate the protection of people, property and infrastructure	<ul> <li>A1.1 Development Location</li> <li>Bushfire hazard assessment is or will on completion be moderate or low</li> <li>BAL-rating is BAL-29 or lower</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Bushfire hazard assessment indicates risk is Low</li> <li>All lots are rated BAL-Low as none are within 50 m of unmanaged grassland or 100 m of classified vegetation</li> </ul>
Element 2: Siting and Design of De	•	
To ensure that the siting and design of development minimises the level of bushfire impact	<ul> <li>A2.1 Asset Protection Zone (APZ)</li> <li>Every habitable building is surrounded by, and every proposed lot can achieve an APZ depicted on plans that meets the following:         <ul> <li>Width – bushfire radiant heat does not exceed radiant heat of 29 kW/m² (BAL-29) as measured from any external wall or supporting post or column in all circumstances</li> <li>Location – APZ contained solely within the boundaries of the lot on which the building is situated, except in instances where the neighbouring lot(s) will be managed in a low-fuel state on an ongoing basis, in perpetuity</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	N/A – all Lots rated BAL-Low

Intent	Acceptable Solutions	Solution
	<ul> <li>Management – the APZ is managed in accordance with the requirements of 'Standards for Asset Protection Zones' (Schedule 1)</li> </ul>	
Element 3: Vehicular Access		
Vehicular access servicing a subdivision/development is available and safe during a bushfire event	A3.1 Two Access Routes     Two different vehicular access routes are provided, both of which connect to the public road network, provide safe access and egress to two different destinations and are available to all residents/the public at all times and under all weather conditions      A3.2 Public Road     Public roads will be constructed in accordance with	<ul> <li>Access is available to Greywacke Entrance to the north or Hickman Drive to the south</li> <li>N/A – all planned roads constructed in</li> </ul>
	requirements detailed in Table 4, Column 1 on page 64 of the guidelines  A3.3 Cul-de-Sac (including a dead-end road)	accordance with technical requirements
	<ul> <li>A cul-de-sac and/or a dead-end road should be avoided in bushfire prone areas. Where no alternative exists (i.e. the lot layout already exists and/or will need to be demonstrated by the proponent), the following requirements are to be achieved:         <ul> <li>Requirements in Table 4, Column 2 on page 64 of the guidelines</li> <li>Maximum length: 200 metres (if public emergency access is provided between cul-de-sac heads maximum length can be increased to 600 metres provided no more than eight lots are serviced and the emergency access way is no more than 600 metres)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	■ N/A — no Cul-de-sacs within the subdivision

Intent	Acceptable Solutions Solution
	<ul> <li>Turn-around area requirements, including a minimum 17.5</li> </ul>
	metre diameter head.
	A3.4 Battle-axe Blocks
	Battle-axe access leg should be avoided in bushfire prone areas. • N/A – no battle-axe Lots within the subdivision
	Where no alternative exists, (this will need to be demonstrated
	by the proponent) all of the following requirements are to be
	achieved:
	<ul> <li>Requirements in Table 4, Column 3</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Maximum length: 600 metres</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Minimum width: six metres.</li> </ul>
	A3.5 Private Driveways longer than 50 m
	A private driveway is to meet all of the following requirements: • N/A – no private driveways are required
	<ul> <li>Requirements in Table 4, Column 3</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Required where a house site is more than 50 metres from a</li> </ul>
	public road
	<ul> <li>Passing bays: every 200 metres with a minimum length of</li> </ul>
	20 metres and a minimum width of two metres (i.e. the
	combined width of the passing bay and constructed private
	driveway to be a minimum six metres)
	<ul> <li>Turn-around areas designed to accommodate type 3.4 fire</li> </ul>
	appliances and to enable them to turn around safely every
	500 metres (i.e. kerb to kerb 17.5 metres) and within 50
	metres of a house
	<ul> <li>Any bridges or culverts are able to support a minimum</li> </ul>
	weight capacity of 15 tonnes
	<ul> <li>All-weather surface (i.e. compacted gravel, limestone or</li> </ul>
	sealed).

Acceptable Solutions	Solution				
A3.6 Emergency Access Way					
An access way that does not provide through access to a public road is to be avoided in bushfire prone areas. Where no alternative exists (this will need to be demonstrated by the proponent), an emergency access way is to be provided as an alternative link to a public road during emergencies. An emergency access way is to meet all of the following	<ul> <li>N/A – emergency access will be via the existing road network</li> </ul>				
<ul> <li>requirements:</li> <li>Requirements in Table 4, Column 4 on page 64 of the guidelines</li> <li>No further than 600 metres from a public road</li> <li>Provided as right of way or public access easement in gross to ensure accessibility to the public and fire services during an emergency</li> </ul>					
Fire service access routes are to be established to provide access within and around the edge of the subdivision and related development to provide direct access to bushfire prone areas for fire fighters and link between public road networks for fire-fighting purposes. Fire service access routes are to meet the following requirements:  Requirements Table 4, Column 5 on page 64 of the guidelines  Provided as right of ways or public access easements in gross to ensure accessibility to the public and fire services	<ul> <li>N/A – access will be via the existing road network</li> </ul>				
	A3.6 Emergency Access Way  An access way that does not provide through access to a public road is to be avoided in bushfire prone areas. Where no alternative exists (this will need to be demonstrated by the proponent), an emergency access way is to be provided as an alternative link to a public road during emergencies. An emergency access way is to meet all of the following requirements:  Requirements in Table 4, Column 4 on page 64 of the guidelines  No further than 600 metres from a public road  Provided as right of way or public access easement in gross to ensure accessibility to the public and fire services during an emergency  Must be signposted.  A3.7 Fire Service Access Routes (Perimeter Roads)  Fire service access routes are to be established to provide access within and around the edge of the subdivision and related development to provide direct access to bushfire prone areas for fire fighters and link between public road networks for fire-fighting purposes. Fire service access routes are to meet the following requirements:  Requirements Table 4, Column 5 on page 64 of the guidelines  Provided as right of ways or public access easements in				

Intent	Acceptable Solutions	Solution
	<ul> <li>Surface: all-weather (i.e. compacted gravel, limestone or sealed)</li> <li>Dead end roads are not permitted</li> <li>Turn-around areas designed to accommodate type 3.4 appliances and to enable them to turn around safely every 500 metres (i.e. kerb to kerb 17.5 metres)</li> <li>No further than 600 metres from a public road</li> <li>Allow for two-way traffic</li> <li>Must be signposted.</li> </ul> A3.8 Firebreak Width	
	Lots greater than 0.5 hectares must have an internal perimeter firebreak of a minimum width of three metres or to the level as prescribed in the local firebreak notice issued by the local government.	<ul> <li>Owners must comply with the City of Armadale firebreak requirements detailed in its annual firebreak notice</li> </ul>
Element 4: Water	· ·	
Water is available to the	A4.1 Reticulated Areas	
subdivision, development or land use to enable people, property and infrastructure to be defended from bushfire	The subdivision, development or land use is provided with a reticulated water supply in accordance with the specifications of the relevant water supply authority and Department of Fire and Emergency Services	<ul> <li>Site is located in a developed area and is connected to scheme water</li> <li>Any additional hydrants will be in accordance with Water Corporation's 'No 63 Water Reticulation Standard'</li> </ul>
	A4.2 Non-reticulated Areas	• N/A
	A4.3 Individual Lots within Non-Reticulated Areas	■ N/A

# 4.3 Compliance with Relevant Documents

Sections 4.1 and 4.2 demonstrate how Lot 30 Armadale Road complies with *State Planning Policy 3.7* (Department of Planning and WA Planning Commission, 2015) and *Guidelines for Planning in Bushfire Prone Areas* (Department of Planning, Department of Fire and Emergency Services and WA Planning Commission, V1.3, 2017). The site is zoned urban development under Town Planning Scheme No. 4 and is not located in a special use zone that requires specific fire management or other construction requirements (Department of Planning, 2015). Lot owners must comply with relevant sections of the annual firebreak notice and bushfire information prepared by the City of Armadale, such as total fire ban and hazard reduction programs.

# 4.4 Compliance Statement

This Bushfire Management Plan has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of *State Planning Policy 3.7 Planning in Bushfire Prone Areas* (Department of Planning and Western Australian Planning Commission, 2015) and *Guidelines for Planning in Bushfire Prone Areas* (Department of Planning, Department of Fire and Emergency Services and Western Australian Planning Commission, V1.3, 2017).

Signed:

Date: 11 February 2019

Accreditation Number: BPAD36638
Accreditation Expiry Date: 30 April 2019

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## 5.0 References

AS 3959 – 2009 *Construction of Buildings in Bushfire-Prone Areas* (including Amendment 3 – November 2011). Standards Australia. NSW.

Department of Planning, Department of Fire and Emergency Services, and the Western Australian Planning Commission. (2017). *Guidelines for Planning in Bushfire Prone Areas* (V 1.3). Government of Western Australia. Perth. Western Australia.

Department of Planning and Western Australian Planning Commission. (2015). *State Planning Policy 3.7 – Planning in Bushfire Prone Areas*, Western Australian Planning Commission, Perth Western Australia.

Mitchell, Williams and Desmond. (2002). Swan Coastal Plain 2 (SWA2 – Swan Coastal Plain subregion), Department of Conservation and Land Management available World Wide Web URL: <a href="https://www.dpaw.wa.gov.au/images/documents/about/science/projects/waaudit/swan coastal plain02 p">https://www.dpaw.wa.gov.au/images/documents/about/science/projects/waaudit/swan coastal plain02 p</a> 606-623.pdf, accessed January 2019.