

BEECROFT WEAPONS RANGE

BUSHFIRE SAFETY INFORMATION

Bushfire is a natural and sometimes dramatic part of the Australian Environment. This leaflet is a guide for campers and other visitors to assist personal safety, to help prevent bushfires, and as advice what to do in the event of a bushfire.

BUSHFIRE PREVENTION

Bushfire Danger signs are posted at the entry to BWR, at Long Beach South carpark, Honeymoon Bay Campground, at the Bindijine gate, and in the Point Perpendicular Lighthouse carpark. Please be aware of the Fire Danger level - Take extra care as the Fire Danger increases !

Open fires are NOT permitted in Honeymoon Bay Campground or any part of BWR without prior authorisation from the Department of Defence.

A penalty of up to \$500 applies for lighting a fire on BWR without a permit.

Gas cookers are permitted for use under adult supervision. All gas appliances should be well maintained and gas cylinders comply with safety inspection requirements.

During a Total Fire Ban it is an offence under NSW legislation to maintain or light any fire (including gas cookers, unless inside a caravan).

Liquid fuel stoves, cookers or heaters are prohibited from use at ALL times.

BUSHFIRE RESPONSE

It is important for campers and visitors to assist the Defence Environmental Rangers, Security and Navy personnel, and other emergency authorities if a bushfire happens.

When a fire occurs on BWR it is important to make immediate contact with an emergency authority by phoning 000, then contact the Defence Environmental Rangers or other emergency contacts provided below. Provide as much information as possible regarding the location and size of the fire and then move to the nearest **EMERGENCY ASSEMBLY and REFUGE AREA**.

EMERGENCY ASSEMBLY and REFUGE AREAS

In the event of a bushfire visitors should initially gather at one of the three **EMERGENCY ASSEMBLY and REFUGE AREAS** located at:

- Honeymoon Bay Rock Platform (northern end)
- Bindijine Beach (adjacent the wharf), and
- Point Perpendicular Lighthouse grounds

Defence Environmental Rangers or Emergency Services will provide instructions at each Emergency Assembly and Refuge Area as soon as possible. In the event that these personnel cannot reach you prior to the arrival of a bushfire follow the instructions provided on the Emergency Assembly and Refuge area signpost. Additional information can be obtained from the "Fires Near Me" App, which can be downloaded onto smart phones.

Do not evacuate on foot or in your vehicle unless instructed to do so by Rangers or Emergency Services as you may be walking or driving into a far more dangerous situation.

EMERGENCY TELEPHONE NUMBERS:

Defence Environmental Rangers	4448 3411
BWR Security Guards	4448 3248
Navy Range Control	4448 3839



defence environment
.....sustaining defence capability

FIRE PREPAREDNESS - **PREPARE - ACT - SURVIVE !!**

When the Fire Season commences, towards summer, routine fire patrols and firewatch observation begins. Firefighting equipment is checked and maintained ready for use. Other provisions designed to minimise risks to visitors and make it as easy and safe as possible to account for and ensure peoples' safety during an emergency may also come into effect:

- When the Fire Danger reaches **HIGH or above**, especially when a **TOTAL FIRE BAN** comes into force, the Rangers may be required to close walking tracks and some roads to public access &/or restrict day visitors to places closest to BWR's designated **EMERGENCY ASSEMBLY and REFUGE AREAS** (see map below).
- As the Fire Danger increases further to **VERY HIGH, SEVERE** or **EXTREME**, BWR may need to be closed to day visitors & campers may be asked to remain within the campground areas.
- If the Fire Danger reaches **CATASTROPHIC (Code Red)** you will be asked to vacate BWR to go to a safer place, away from BWR, until the Fire Danger reduces.
- **Fire prevention starts with each of us - Most bushfires are started by people. Please take additional care to prevent fires igniting and comply with ALL safety requirements, especially as the Fire Danger increases.**

WANTED & UNWANTED FIRES

BWR is subject to both wanted and unwanted bushfires which are managed as an integral and planned part of activities undertaken by the Department of Defence.

BWR has a Bushfire Management Plan that balances ecological requirements for fire with protection of life and property.

An active bushfire hazard reduction program is undertaken during the cooler months in accordance with this Plan and other activities are undertaken throughout the year to assist with fire prevention, prepare for the fire season, respond to unplanned bushfires and assist the environment to recover from bushfire.

Management activities include the use of planned fire to encourage biodiversity and survival of fire-dependent species, as well as for the protection of visitors, campers, neighbours and Defence personnel working and training at BWR.

FIRE RECOVERY

Following a bushfire planned recovery activities take place on BWR, including monitoring of flora and fauna returning to the site.

Sediment controls may be put in place to reduce erosion, and re-planting of some species may be undertaken if they do not recover naturally.



Map showing BWR's designated **EMERGENCY ASSEMBLY** and **REFUGE AREAS**