

State Planning Policy 1/03:

Mitigating the Adverse Impacts of Flood, Bushfire and Landslide

Frequently Asked Questions

BUSHFIRE ISSUES

ISSUE	QUESTION	RESPONSE
Bushfire Issues	What is meant by the term “hazardous vegetation” in the SPP Guideline?	Hazardous vegetation comprises those vegetation communities that have a hazard score of 4 or greater in Table A3.1 (p45) in the SPP Guideline.
Bushfire Issues	What is meant by the term “firebreak”?	A firebreak is an area maintained free of any hazardous vegetation (i.e. vegetation with a hazard score of 4 or greater in Table A3.1 [p45] in the SPP Guideline).
Bushfire Issues	What is the minimum area of hazardous vegetation that should be considered when conducting a natural hazard assessment for bushfire?	Small areas of vegetation (i.e. less than 5 hectares) and linking vegetation strips that comply with the requirements set out in response to the previous question do not need to be assessed.

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<p>Bushfire Issues</p>	<p>What is meant by “retained vegetation strips or small areas of vegetation” as mentioned in Solution 1.2(a) on page 60 of the SPP Guideline?</p>	<p>The setback requirements in Solution 1.2(a) apply only to hazardous vegetation (see above).</p> <p>A retained vegetation strip should have one dimension less than the maximum shown in Table 1, and should include firebreaks in accordance with Solution 1.5(c) on p.62 of the SPP Guideline:</p> <p>Table 1: Maximum Width of Hazardous Vegetation Strips</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="789 737 1471 926"> <thead> <tr> <th>Vegetation Hazard Score¹</th> <th>Maximum Dimension (metres)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>4, 5 or 6</td> <td>100</td> </tr> <tr> <td>8</td> <td>75</td> </tr> <tr> <td>10</td> <td>50</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Note: ¹ From Table A3.1 in the SPP Guideline</p> <p>A small area of vegetation should not exceed 5 hectares (excluding linking vegetation strips as described above), and should be either:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) separated from the main area of hazardous vegetation by a firebreak with a minimum width as shown in Table 2; or b) where the small area of vegetation is linked to the main area of hazardous vegetation by a retained vegetation strip, that vegetation strip should include at least one firebreak in accordance with Solution 1.5(c). <p>Table 2: Minimum Width of Firebreaks</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="789 1419 1471 1608"> <thead> <tr> <th>Vegetation Hazard Score¹</th> <th>Minimum Width of Firebreaks (metres)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>4, 5 or 6</td> <td>50</td> </tr> <tr> <td>8</td> <td>75</td> </tr> <tr> <td>10</td> <td>100</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Note: ¹ From Table A3.1 in the SPP Guideline</p>	Vegetation Hazard Score ¹	Maximum Dimension (metres)	4, 5 or 6	100	8	75	10	50	Vegetation Hazard Score ¹	Minimum Width of Firebreaks (metres)	4, 5 or 6	50	8	75	10	100
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