

Wingecarribee Backyard Burning Policy Map Communication, Education and Empowerment using GIS

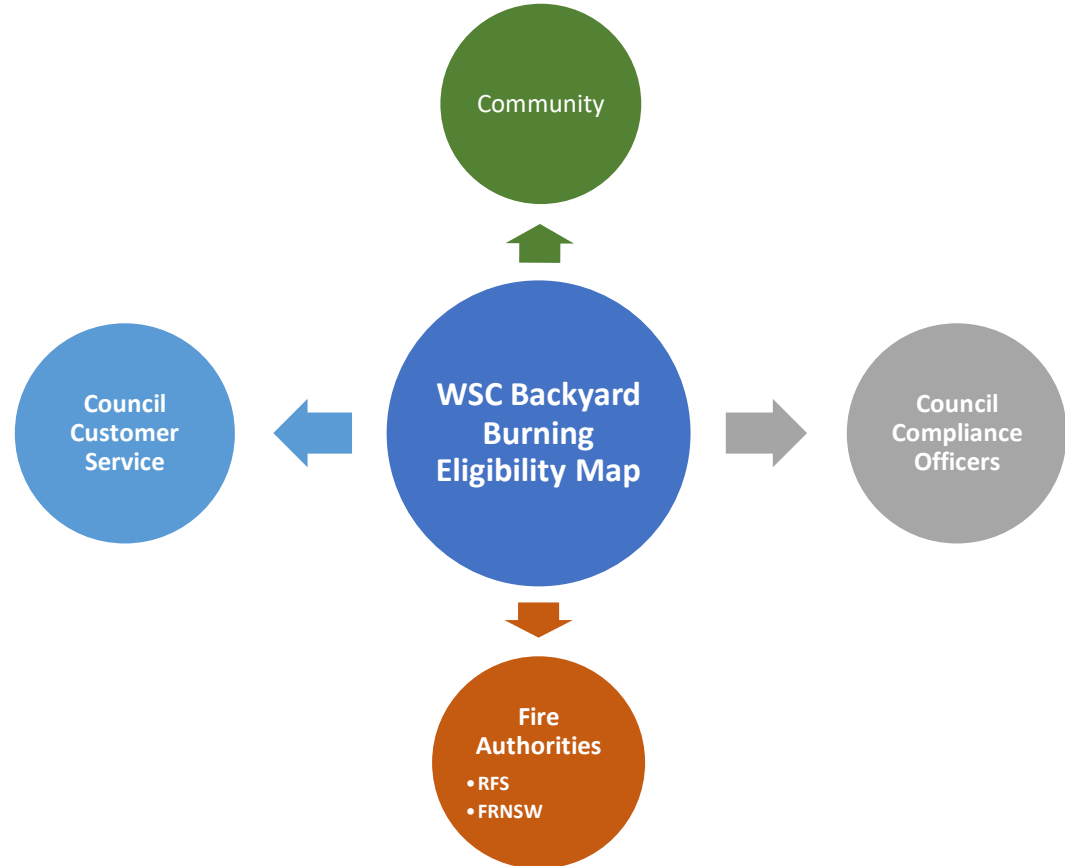
Ian Perkins – Natural Resource Projects Coordinator
Gillian Sutherland-Harris – Environment Policy Officer

WSC.NSW.GOV.AU



What is WSC Urban Backyard Burning of Vegetation Policy Map?

A collaborative project to manage policy change, improve community understanding and enhance delivery of Government services.



Key Points: WSC Urban Backyard Burning of Vegetation Policy

Where and when is burning allowed?



All properties > **4000 square metres** + **not zoned medium density (R3)** are able to burn.



Burning is not allowed during a **Total Fire Ban** or on **No Burn Days**.



A **Permit** from **Fire Authority** also required.

Challenges: Development and Practical Implementation of Policy

Council Limited Available GIS Resources

- Limited GIS team support
- Need for easy upskilling of Environment and Sustainability Team Members
- ArcGIS + ArcGIS Online

Modelling of Policy Options

- Visualising options for policy review
- Great tool for discussing complicated policy options with Councillors



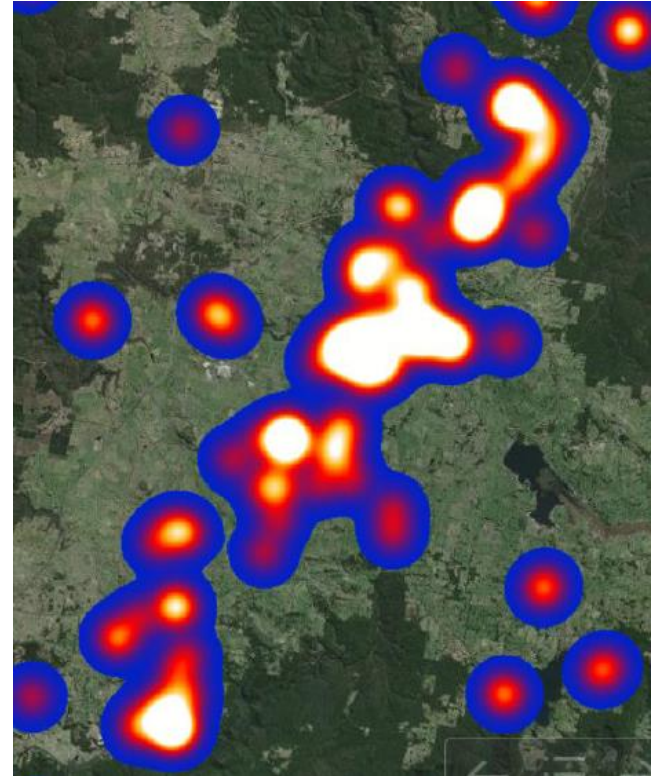
Challenges: Development and Practical Implementation of Policy

Community Understanding

- **Complaints – *can my neighbour burn?***
 - Analysis of complaints for common themes
- ***What is the size of my property?***
- ***What is my zoning?***
- ***Which Fire Authority do I speak to?***

Fire Authority Relationships

- Varying fire authority boundaries
- Varying requirements for time of year

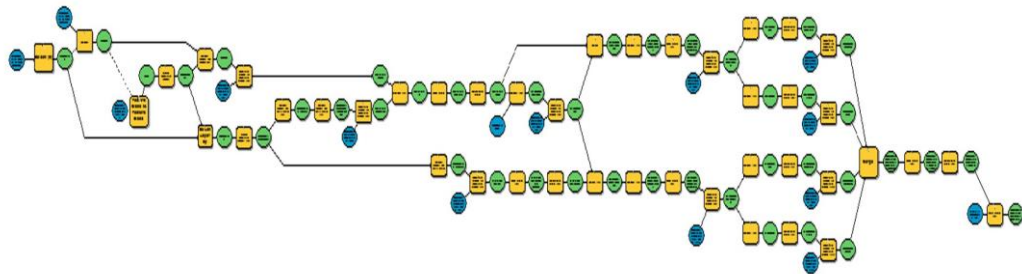


We wanted to answer some very important policy questions:

- How can we best manage this change?
- Why are policies so complicated?
- Why are policies so boring?
- What does this policy mean for me?
- Is there a way out of this silo?

So...

- Let's make the policy easy to understand
- Let's make it personal
- Let's make it useful in the field
- Let's make it easy to update



Property_Boundaries



Backyard_Burning_Property_Eligibility

- No - Not Eligible to Burn
- Yes, Eligible to burn with conditions. Fire and Rescue Permit Area. Click 'More Info' link below for conditions.
- Yes, Eligible to burn with conditions. RFS Permit Area. Click 'More Info' link below for conditions.

Wingecarribee Shire Boundary



Road Names

Find address or place



About

Map of properties within the Wingecarribee Shire and the eligibility for backyard burning (subject to conditions).

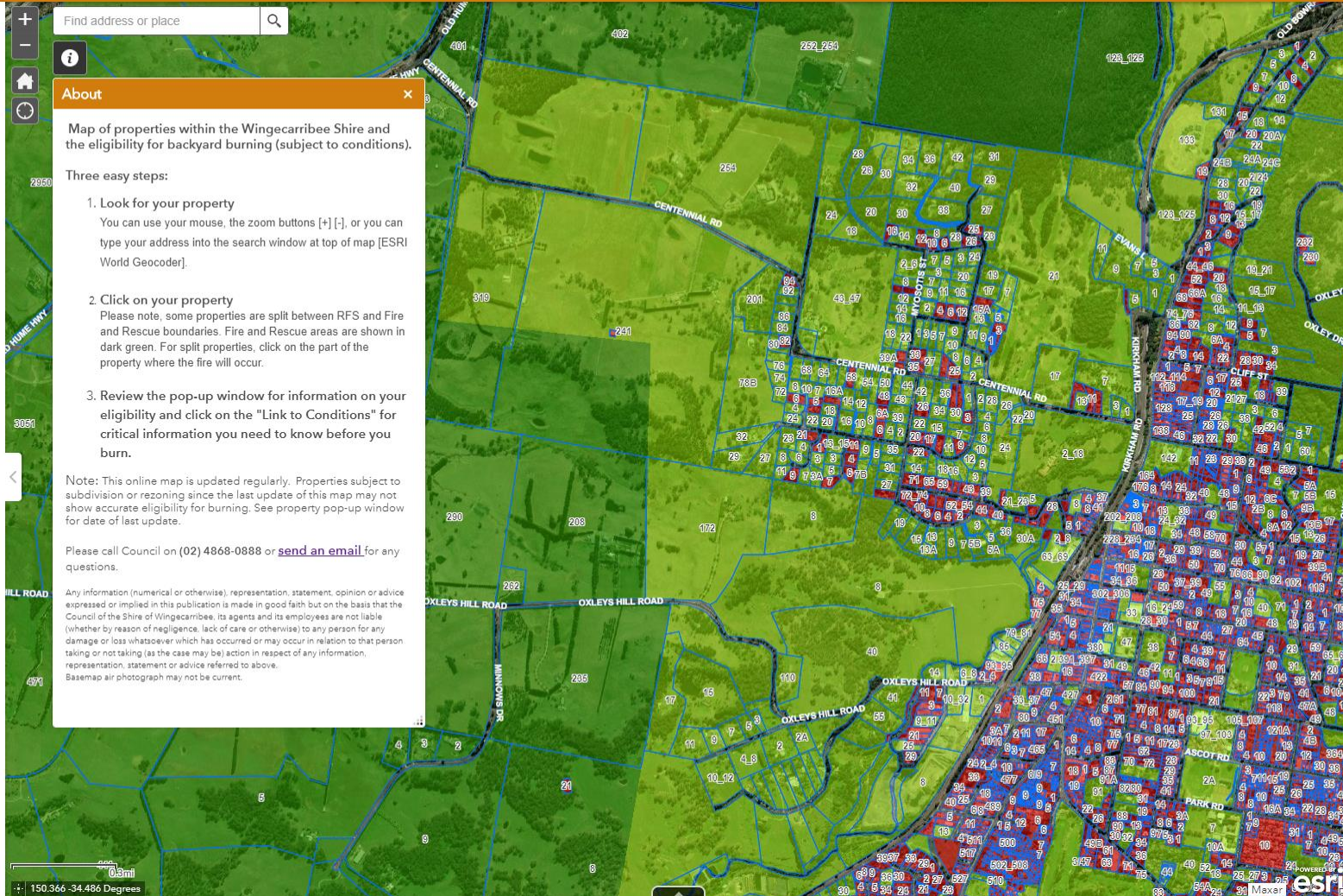
Three easy steps:

1. **Look for your property**
You can use your mouse, the zoom buttons [+], [-], or you can type your address into the search window at top of map [ESRI World Geocoder].
2. **Click on your property**
Please note, some properties are split between RFS and Fire and Rescue boundaries. Fire and Rescue areas are shown in dark green. For split properties, click on the part of the property where the fire will occur.
3. **Review the pop-up window for information on your eligibility and click on the "Link to Conditions" for critical information you need to know before you burn.**

Note: This online map is updated regularly. Properties subject to subdivision or rezoning since the last update of this map may not show accurate eligibility for burning. See property pop-up window for date of last update.

Please call Council on (02) 4868-0888 or [send an email](#) for any questions.

Any information (numerical or otherwise), representation, statement, opinion or advice expressed or implied in this publication is made in good faith but on the basis that the Council of the Shire of Wingecarribee, its agents and its employees are not liable (whether by reason of negligence, lack of care or otherwise) to any person for any damage or loss whatsoever which has occurred or may occur in relation to that person taking or not taking (as the case may be) action in respect of any information, representation, statement or advice referred to above. Basemap air photograph may not be current.



Scale bar: 0, 50, 100 meters. Coordinates: +150.366 -34.486 Degrees



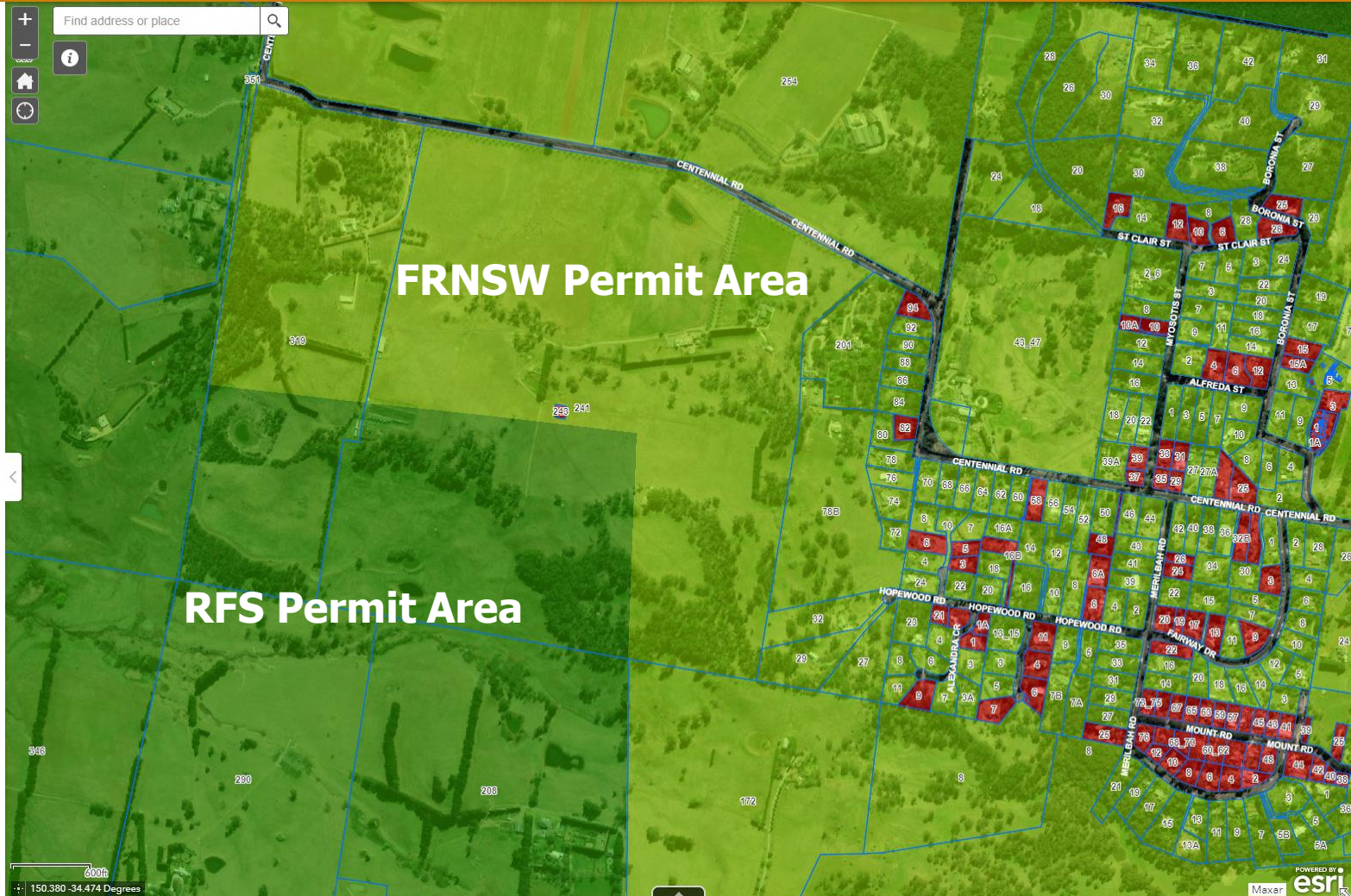
Property_Boundaries

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Wingecarribee Shire Boundary

Road Names



0 100 200
+ 150.380 -34.474 Degrees

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Wingecarribee Shire Boundary



Road Names





Property_Boundaries



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Wingecarribee Shire Boundary

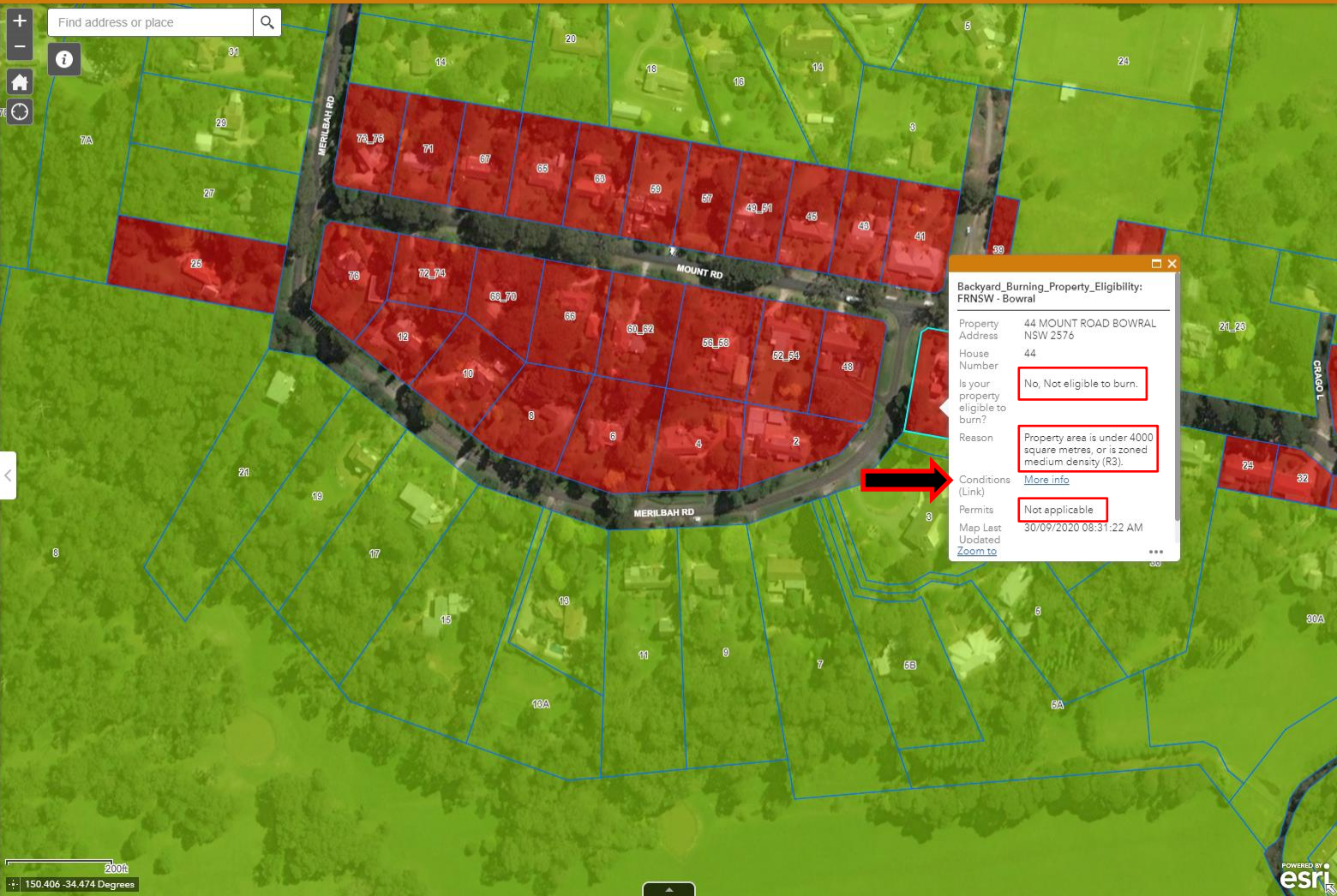


Road Names

Find address or place



200m
150.406 -34.474 Degrees



Backyard_Burning_Property_Eligibility:
FRNSW - Bowral

Property Address 44 MOUNT ROAD BOWRAL NSW 2576

House Number 44

Is your property eligible to burn? **No, Not eligible to burn.**

Reason **Property area is under 4000 square metres, or is zoned medium density (R3).**

Conditions (Link) [More info](#)

Permits **Not applicable**

Map Last Updated 30/09/2020 08:31:22 AM

[Zoom to](#)

Property_Boundaries



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Wingecarribee Shire Boundary



Road Names



Backyard_Burning_Property_Eligibility:
FRNSW - Bowral

Property Address: WIRREANDA 15 MERILBAH ROAD BOWRAL NSW 2576

House Number: 15

Is your property eligible to burn? Yes, Conditional. Click "More Info" link below for conditions.

Reason: Property area is 4000 square metres and above, and is not zoned medium density (R3).

Conditions (Link): [More info](#)

Permits: Fires in this location are in the Fire and Rescue zone. A permit is required all year round.

Zoom to: ...

Backyard Burning Conditions: Link from Map to Council Website

Home / [Environment](#) / Pollution Information / **Backyard Burning Conditions 1**

In This Section

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[Bushcare and Rivercare](#)

[Bushfire Management](#)

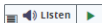
[Environmental Events](#)

[Environment Forms](#)

[Environment Levy](#)

[Environmental Information](#)

Backyard Burning Conditions 1



The Bush Fire Danger Period commences on 1 October 2020 and will end on 1 April 2021. During the Bush Fire Danger Period a permit to light a fire is required from the relevant fire authority.

Urban Backyard Burning Conditions

These conditions apply to owners or occupiers of properties that are 4000 square metres and above and not zoned medium density.

See our [online map](#) to confirm your property is within this area.

Am I allowed to undertake backyard burning on my property?

Yes - however conditions apply (see below).

[Flood Studies](#)

[Get Involved](#)

[Management of Trees and Vegetation](#)

[Pollution Information](#)

[Asbestos Management](#)

[Backyard Burning](#)

[Backyard Burning Policy Map](#)

[Business & The Environment](#)

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Conditions

Owners or occupiers are allowed to burn dead and dry vegetation on this property under Council's Notice of Approval subject to all the following burning conditions being met.

1. Burning is not allowed on days declared a Total Fire Ban by the fire authorities or when a No Burn Notice has been issued by the EPA.
2. A permit is required from the relevant fire authority. For fires in Fire and Rescue zones, a permit is required all year round. Contact the local brigade.

For fires in Rural Fire Service zones, a permit is required during the Bushfire Danger Period, generally 1 October to 31 March (check RFS Website to confirm). A permit is also required where a fire is likely to be dangerous to a building. Contact the Rural Fire Service on (02) 4868 5500.

3. Any burning must meet all the conditions of the Urban Backyard Burning Policy, listed below:

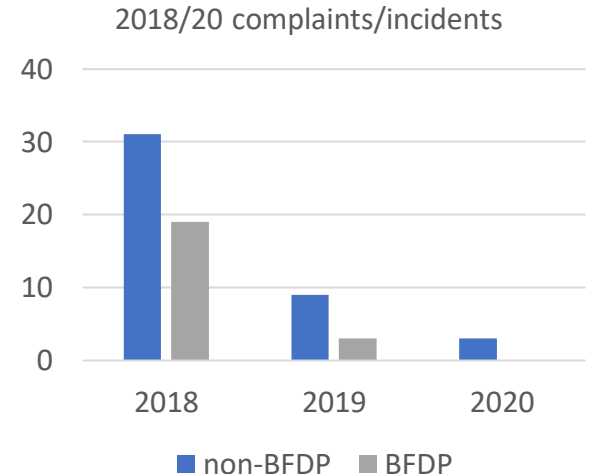
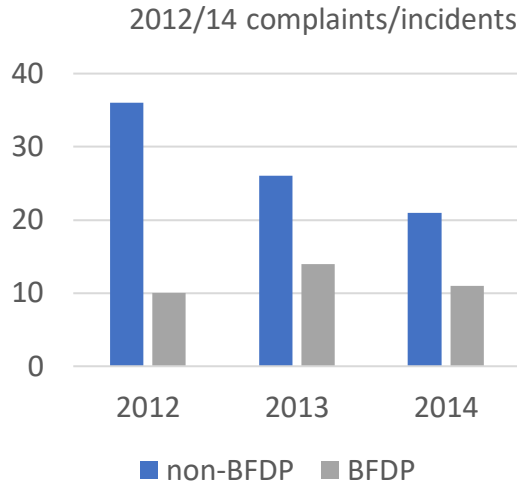
- Only dead and dry vegetation can be burnt, no other items.
- You must take into consideration alternative ways to dispose of the vegetation.
- You must take into consideration the impact of smoke on neighbours and traffic. This includes considering the wind, weather and length of burn.
- Follow the Rural Fire Services Standards for Pile Burning. These are simple things you can do to burn safely and reduce the impacts of smoke on

Awareness: Use of the Map and Website

Website hits for all backyard burning pages

2017	2018	2019	2020
3,850	5,967	6,402	10,448

36% drop in number of complaints and incidents between pre and post Map periods monitored



Awareness: Use of the Map and Website

Urban Backyard Burning Eligibility Map for Public

Overview

Usage

Settings

Usage details for the period:

March 1, 2020 - March 1, 2021

Past 12 Months

Item Views this Period

5,093

Avg Item Views Per Day

13.95

Usage Time Series



Fire Authorities: **Feedback**

- RFS and Fire and Rescue NSW noted that the policy is being understood by the community
- Map created a drop in their general enquiries
- Ongoing collaboration on compliance

Questions

Ian Perkins
Natural Resource Projects Coordinator
Wingecarribee Shire Council
e. ian.perkins@wsc.nsw.gov.au
t. (02) 4868 0888 m. 0408435519