



NSW RURAL FIRE SERVICE

Fiona Friend
Secretary
Read Head Villages Association
PO Box 2015 Bendalong NSW 2539

Your reference: RHVA HR
Our reference: RHVA HR

August 17, 2023

Dear Fiona,

HAZARD REDUCTION BURNING IN MANYANA, BENDALONG, CUNJURONG POINT AND BERRINGER LAKE

Thank you for your letter dated August 12, 2023 enquiring about hazard reduction burning in the aforementioned areas. The Shoalhaven District is currently assessing hazard reduction needs in these areas and have identified an area approximately 12ha in size south of 'The Bounty' to be hazard reduced.

This area was identified by the Officers of Manyana Rural Fire Brigade and our Group Captain for that area.

It is our desire to complete these work prior to December 31, dependent upon suitable conditions. The District has tasked Mitigation teams to clean up a number of containment lines and we anticipate these works to be completed in the near future. The land tenure is Crown Lands and the RFS has been working with their team to commence the necessary environmental approvals. The proposed works will directly reduce the bush fire risk to approximately 70 properties and indirectly to approximately 100 others.

With consideration to the fact that vast areas surrounding Manyana, Bendalong, Cunjurong Point and Berringer Lake were affected in 2019/20 by the Currowan Fire, the risk of extended fire runs from the North, North West, West and South West are very low as bush fire fuel loads, whilst recovering, are more manageable from a fire suppression perspective. As such, areas within the Currowan Fire footprint are not yet ready to be hazard reduced by burning; the areas will however be monitored and future works considered by the District.

Likewise, areas to the north and south of Curvers Drive which are not mapped as within the Currowan footprint will be reviewed in 2024. In the longer term our goal is to have a mosaic hazard reduction pattern reducing the overall risk to these areas.

Information will be shared with the community in the lead up to the implementation of 'The Bounty' hazard reduction once preparatory works are complete and an appropriate weather window opens up. If it would be of assistance, I am more than happy to attend a RHVA meeting to discuss bush fire preparation advice and what residents can also do to reduce any risks. Please feel free to contact my office on tel. 4424 4424 or email shoalhaven@rfs.nsw.gov.au to discuss date options.

Sincerely,

Superintendent Matthew Reeves
District Manager
NSW RFS – Shoalhaven

CC: Manyana RFB Captain / Shoalhaven Group 4

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