

# Reducing bushfire risk

## Bunyip State Park and Kurth Kiln Regional Park

### 2022-2023 planned activities

Forest Fire Management Victoria (FFMVIC) works year-round to reduce the risk of bushfires in Bunyip State Park and Kurth Kiln Regional Park. 2022-2023 bushfire risk reduction activities include planned burning, hazardous tree removal, fuel break creation and maintenance, weed control, grass slashing and mulching.

Bushfires are a natural part of the Australian landscape and cannot be eliminated. However, effective planning and preparation can reduce their negative impacts.

One of the main ways to reduce bushfire risk is to reduce the amount of fuels – fuels are grass, leaf litter, twigs, bark and other vegetation that can burn during a bushfire. We also use fuel breaks to reduce bushfire risk.



*Bunyip State Park after the 2019 bushfire*



*Bunyip State Park fire recovery, 2022*

### Planned burning

Planned burning involves lighting controlled fires under mild weather conditions to reduce fuels. The frequency and intensity of these risk reduction activities is determined by Fire Management Zones – areas of public land that our modelling and experience tells us are the most effective for reducing risk.

The following fuel reduction burns will be carried out in autumn 2023 if conditions are suitable:

- 216 hectares (ha) at **Yarrabubba Track** near **Tynong North**
- 80 ha at **Clarks Creek Track** near **Gembrook**
- 72 ha at **Back Creek Road** near **Gembrook**
- 17 ha at **Wrights Track** near **Cockatoo**

Sign up for notifications about planned burns about to happen near you at 'Planned Burns Victoria' [www.vic.gov.au/plannedburns](http://www.vic.gov.au/plannedburns).

Or call the VicEmergency Hotline on freecall 1800 226 226 or download the Vic Emergency app to see the location of ignited burns.

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### Fuel breaks and mechanical fuel reduction

Fuel breaks create a break in vegetation in the landscape. A fuel break alone won't stop a fire but can be very helpful to firefighters by providing access for vehicles and machinery to respond if a fire occurs.

Controlled fires called backburns can also be lit between a fuel break and an approaching bushfire to remove fuel and stop the fire or reduce its intensity. Fuel breaks tend to be 6–20 m wide.

In 2022-2023 we will carry out the following activities to reduce bushfire risk in and around Bunyip State Park and Kurth Kiln Regional Park:

- **Mechanical fuel reduction:**
  - Over 120 kms of fuel break and track maintenance **slashing** in Bunyip State Park, Kurth Kiln Regional Park, Yellingbo Nature Conservation Area and Wrights Forest as per the Joint Fuel Management Plan (JFMP) 2022-2023.
- **Road improvement along Towt Road and Heath Track.** This involves improving drainage and vehicle access, resurfacing and replacing many culverts.
- Continued **weed control** work within previous planned burns and fuel break upgrades such as **Dingo Ridge Track** and **Boyd Road**.

Maps of planned activities are included in this flyer. If you have any questions contact the VicEmergency Hotline 1800 226 226.

For information on the location of bushfire risk reduction activities, visit [www.ffm.vic.gov.au/jfmp](http://www.ffm.vic.gov.au/jfmp).

### Values management

Cultural and environmental assessments are carried out for all works to ensure any potential impacts from operations are mitigated or reduced.

Databases such as the Victorian Biodiversity Atlas and the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Register and Information System (ACHRIS) are used alongside knowledge from local staff and on-site observations.



*Fuelbreak improvement along Gembrook-Tonimbuk Road*

### What you can do to help

For your safety, you need to understand your risk and plan ahead. Know what to do on hot, dry, windy days and plan for all situations.

Anyone entering parks and forests during the bushfire season needs to stay aware of forecast weather conditions. Check the Fire Danger Rating and for days of Total Fire Ban at [www.emergency.vic.gov.au](http://www.emergency.vic.gov.au), on the VicEmergency smartphone app or call the VicEmergency Hotline on 1800 226 226. No fires may be lit on Total Fire Ban days.

On Catastrophic Fire Danger Rating days Bunyip State and Kurth Kiln Regional Park will be closed for public safety. Warnings signs may be erected, but do not expect a personal warning.

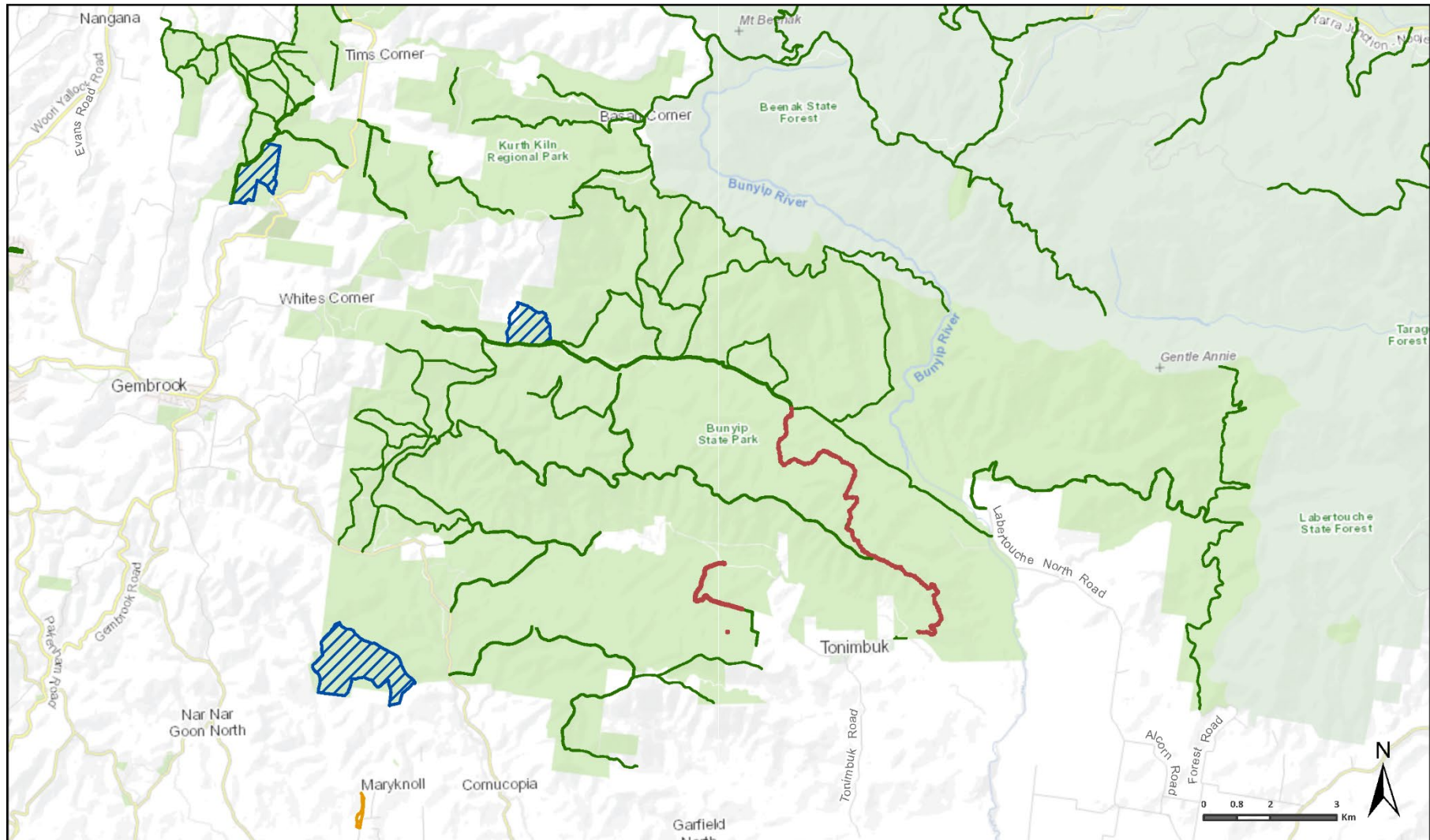
Check the latest conditions at [www.parks.vic.gov.au](http://www.parks.vic.gov.au) or by calling 13 1963.

For more information about preparing your home and staying safe, please visit: [www.cfa.vic.gov.au/planprepare](http://www.cfa.vic.gov.au/planprepare).



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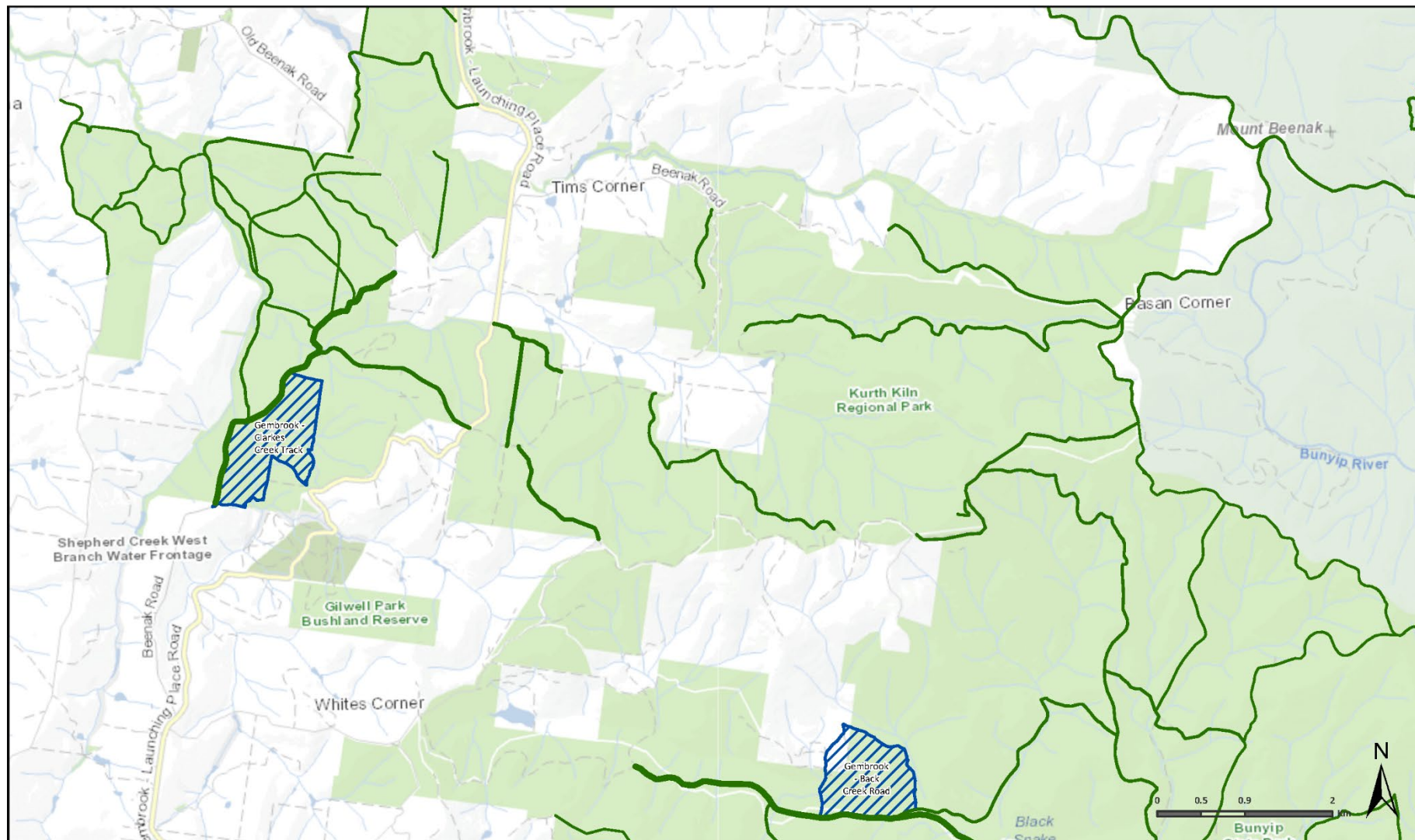
## Bunyip State Park and Kurth Kiln Regional Park 2022-2023




-  Planned Burn (FFMVic)
-  Planned Burn and/or Mechanical Fuel Treatment (CFA)
-  Fuel Break and Roothing Improvements
-  Fuel Break Slashing/Mulching

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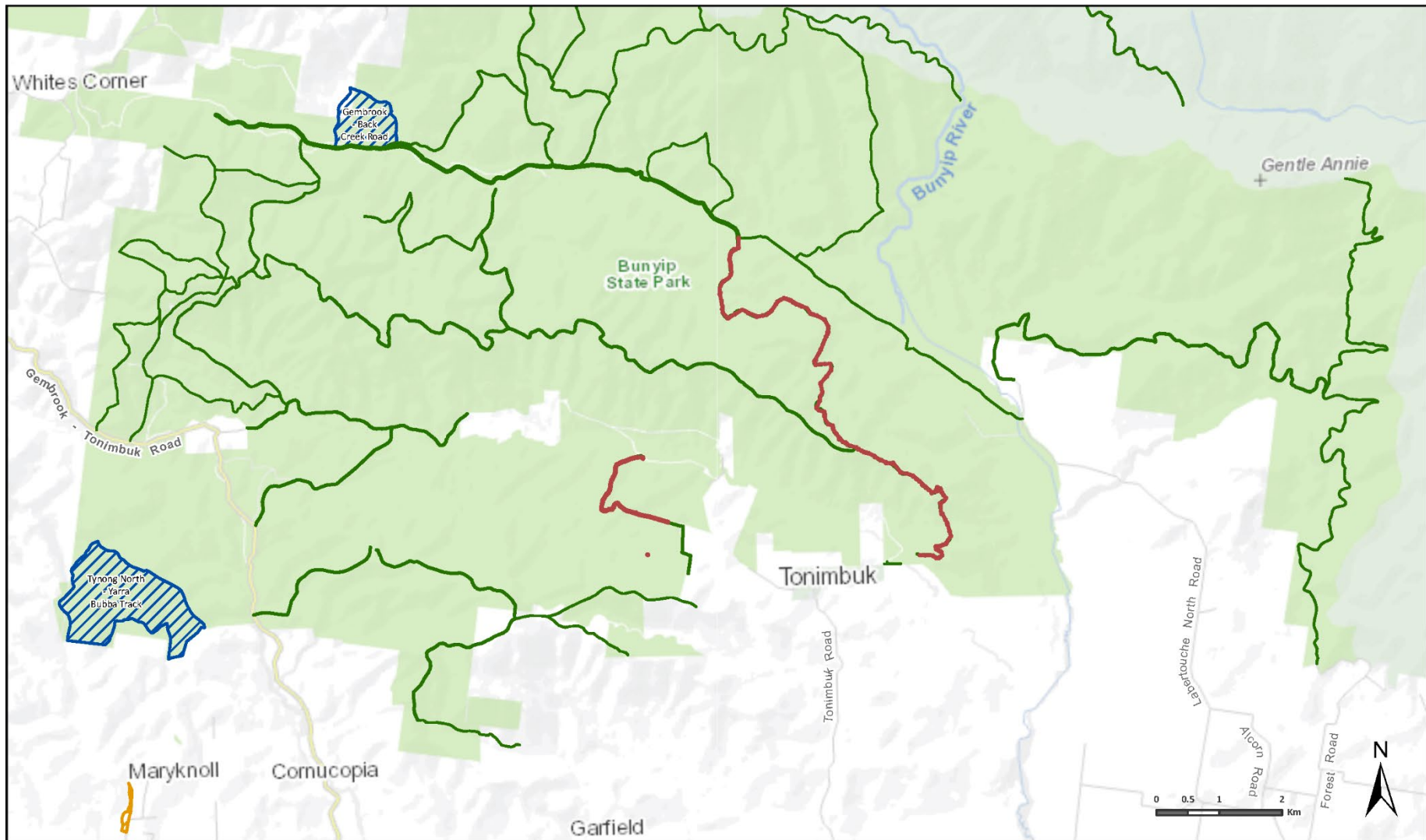
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