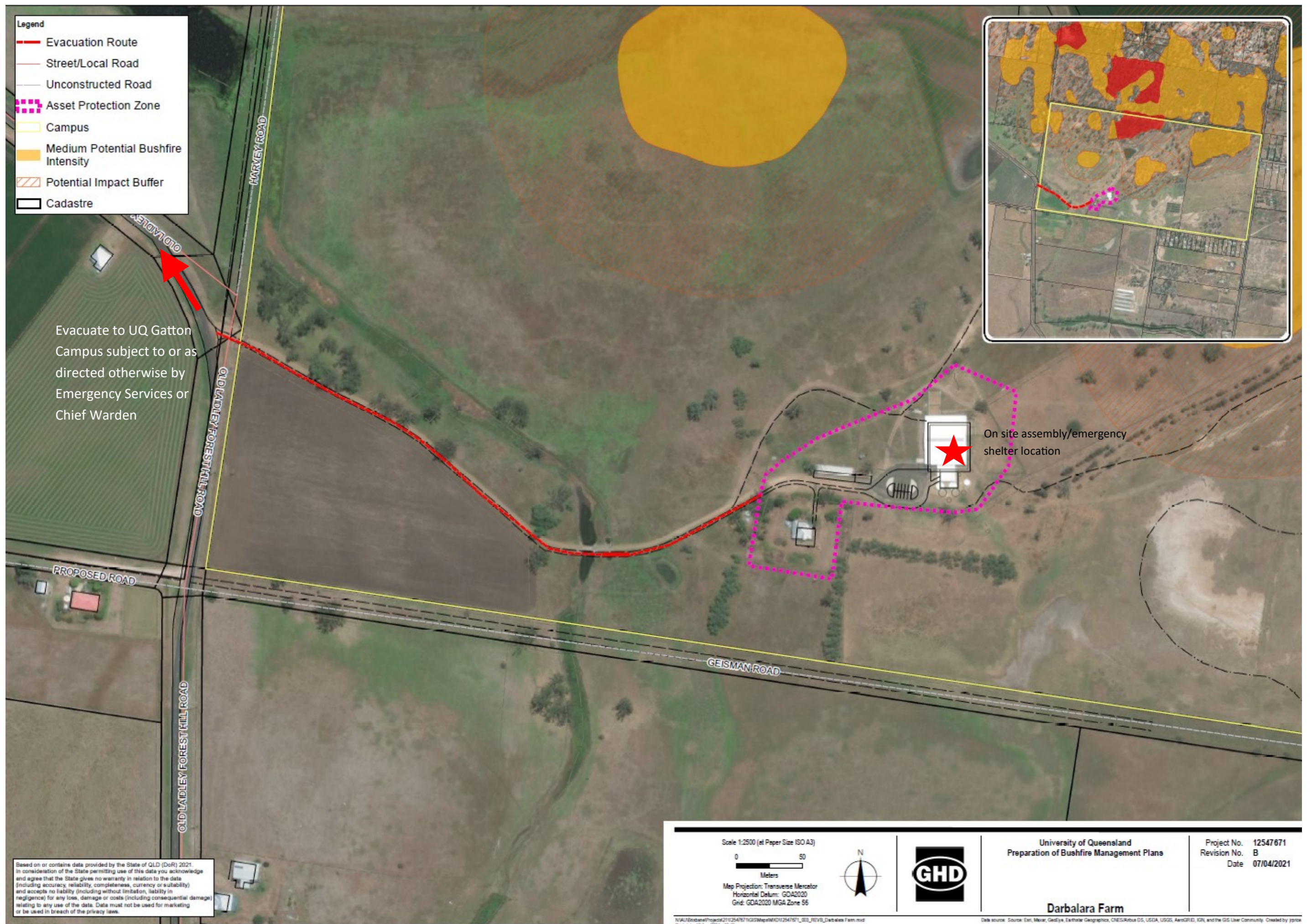


Darbalara Farm Campus



Based on or contains data provided by the State of QLD (DoR) 2021. In consideration of the State permitting use of this data you acknowledge and agree that the State gives no warranty in relation to the data (including accuracy, reliability, completeness, currency or suitability) and accepts no liability (including without limitation, liability in negligence) for any loss, damage or costs (including consequential damage) relating to any use of the data. Data must not be used for marketing or be used in breach of the privacy rules.

Scale 1:2500 (at Paper Size ISO A3)

0 50 Meters

Map Projection: Transverse Mercator
Horizontal Datum: GDA2020
Grid: GDA2020 MGA Zone 56

University of Queensland
Preparation of Bushfire Management Plans

Project No. 12547871
Revision No. B
Date 07/04/2021

GHD

Darbalara Farm

LOCATION DETAILS

Facility type
Darbalara is 184 hectares in size. It is the home of the School of Veterinary Science Droughtmaster herd and beef cattle teaching facility, along with other grazing and crop production.

Location
Located 10 kilometers south-east from the main campus.

Buildings and Infrastructure
Research centre and laboratories, paddock and crop networks and associated farming infrastructure. Residence on the property is leased out.

Property use
Research and education

Access
Access is directly off the Old Laidley Forest Hill Road. An unsealed track connects paddocks and research facilities to the main road.

Evacuation
On-site assembly/emergency shelter point is the School of Veterinary Science building. Off site evacuation point is Hugh Courtney Rugby Oval, UQ Gatton Campus, Galletly Road unless otherwise advised by Emergency Services.

Fire Weather District (BOM)
Southeast Coast (Qld)

COMMUNICATIONS

Mobile
Mobile reception is generally good across all areas of the site – however, mobile communications may be unreliable during bushfire emergencies due to the volume of usage.

Radio
ABC Brisbane (612 AM); ABC Southern Queensland (747 AM)

CONTACT

Fire, Police and Emergency Reporting	000
Queensland Fire and Emergency Services (Gatton)	07 3294 4944
Ambulance (Gatton)	000
Police (Gatton)	07 4631 6999
UQ Security (Emergency)	07 3365 3333
UQ Security (non emergency)	07 3365 1234

SUMMARY OF BUSHFIRE RISK FACTORS AND MITIGATION MEASURES

Risk: The principal fire risk within Darbalara Farm is a grass fire, including in the northern part of the property where the regenerating woodland cover has an open grass dominated understorey largely clear of shrubs. With existing management to keep grass slashed short and green around built assets, the risk of fire causing severe impacts to site users, educational, and operational assets is low, however there is a moderate risk to livestock. The main facility is constructed largely of bushfire resilient materials (metal).

Objective: The objectives of bushfire management and mitigation are:

- protect human life;
- protect assets (including livestock); and
- minimise the physical and environmental impact of bushfires.

Strategies: Management of the immediate surrounds of built infrastructure (see figure) to Asset Protection Zones standards. Maintenance of fire breaks on property perimeter and access roads, and slashing along fence lines. Movement of livestock to a short-grazed paddock on days > VH fire danger. Site user and visitor awareness of bushfire risks and management for any users/visitors the site. Good relations with local fire agencies and neighbouring properties.

Risk Control Measures (prior to and during fire season):

- During the fire season all access and fire breaks are to be maintained clear of obstructions to a width of 4 m to allow the safe passage of tankers
- Avoid/remove flammable vegetation adjacent to windows, timber and other vulnerable building features). Maintain grass areas within 15m of buildings and high-value assets in a minimal fuel condition (slashed /grazed (<100mm)
- Inspect/maintain operability of all Static Water Supply (SWS) including water level, hydrants, valves and connections
- Grazing of the property and slashing along fence lines to reduce fuel loads

BUSHFIRE PREPAREDNESS MATRIX

ACTION	No rating	Moderate	HIGH	EXTREME	CATASTROPHIC
Site manager to perform daily check (after 4 pm) on the QFES and BoM websites to determine the Fire Danger Rating (FDR) for the following day and weekly prediction. Update users and visitors if there is a likelihood of the site being closed to visitors due to FDR.					
Wardens to monitor QFES current incidents or ABC Radio for fire incidents		Min. 1 pm	Min. 1pm, 3pm	Hourly from 9am—7pm	Restrict use to essential activities until FDR reduced to Extreme or less Ensure livestock are in fuel reduced paddocks
Maintain register of all persons present on site, including daily movement plans and point of contact				Yes	
Livestock preparedness			Move livestock to fuel reduced (short grazed) paddocks and where possible leave gates open to allow access to adjoining paddocks		
Additional actions			No open fires (BBQ/fire pit); no outdoor works with potential ignition sources (hot works, sparks, slashing)		
RISK STATUS	No rating	Moderate	HIGH	EXTREME	CATASTROPHIC
Fire predicted to impact site or egress (i.e. Emergency warning)	Evacuate to off site evacuation point (Hugh Courtney Rugby Oval, UQ Gatton Campus, Galletly Road) unless otherwise advised by Emergency Services Pre-evacuation briefing to be conducted at Assembly Area before moving off site. Details of all evacuating the site to be recorded in a register to be provided to the Incident Controller				
Time to fire impact is <time available to evacuate	If safe to do so; move directly to On-site assembly/emergency shelter location (School of Veterinary Science Building—see map)				
Fires exist within 10 km radius	Monitor fire on QFES current incidents website hourly		Continue monitoring and consider evacuation if the direction of the fire spread is towards the site	No staff or visitors to enter site.	Site restricted to essential staff and residents until FDR is Extreme or less
Fires exist within 20 km but no risk to site	Monitor fire on QFES current incidents website every 3 hours		Monitor fire on QFES current incidents website hourly	Continue monitoring and seek Emergency Services advice on whether to close/evacuate the site	
No fires	Maintain appropriate monitoring as per Bushfire Preparedness Matrix				

WHAT TO DO IF CAUGHT IN A BUSHFIRE

Bushfire Warning	Information Type	Action required
Advice	Provides information on where the fire is plus related general information. No immediate danger.	Chief Warden to monitor location of the fire events on QFES Current incidents site, and initiate actions in accordance with the bushfire evacuation matrix (above)
Watch and Act	A fire is approaching. There is a threat to life and property. Take action to protect yourself and others.	Chief Warden should contact all staff and visitors on site and advise them to evacuate the site. Pre-evacuation briefing to occur at Assembly Area.
Emergency Warning	The highest level of alert. You are in immediate danger and need to take immediate action.	If it has not yet occurred, Chief Warden should contact all staff and visitors and advise them to evacuate the site or seek refuge. Any directions of Emergency Services should be followed, including any emergency warnings received via text message directly to individuals.

WHAT TO DO IF CAUGHT IN A BUSHFIRE

The following provide current guidelines* on what to do if caught in a bushfire in a building or on foot. Each requires a different response involving critical decisions for your survival.

Outside your building

- Ensure you drink plenty of water so you do not dehydrate.
- Block downpipes if possible, (a sock full of sand/soil will help) and fill gutters with water.
- Move flammable items such as outdoor furniture.
- Gas cylinders should have the valve facing away from the building.
- Patrol the outside of the building, putting out any embers and spot fires that may start.
- Just before the fire arrives, wet down gardens close to the building.
- Move any firefighting equipment to a place where it will not get burnt.

Inside your building

- Advise Chief Warden that you have been unable to evacuate, and advise number of people and location (building identification) that you are taking shelter in
- Continue to drink water so you do not dehydrate.
- Close doors, windows and vents to prevent flames, smoke and embers from entering.
- Put tape across the inside of the windows so they stay in place if they break.
- Shut off gas at the meter or bottle.
- Move any furniture away from the windows to prevent any embers that enter the building from igniting.
- Fill sinks and buckets with water for putting out any fires that may start inside.
- Place wet towels around window and door edges to stop smoke and embers from entering.

During the fire

- When the fire arrives, go inside to protect yourself (and others) from the radiant heat.
- Ensure you have torches ready as it is likely to become completely dark and you will not be able to see.
- Patrol the inside of the building, including the roof space for sparks and embers.
- Remember – if your life is at risk, call Triple Zero (000) immediately.

After the fire

- Once the fire has passed, go outside and put out any part of the building which is alight.
- An ember or spark from a fire can impact a structure many hours after the main fire front has passed and small spot fires can quickly get out of control.

What to do if caught in a bushfire ON FOOT

- Try to move on to bare or burnt ground at least 100 m from where fire is likely to burn, if this is not feasible find the largest bare or burnt ground possible.
- Do not run uphill or away from the fire unless you know a safe refuge can be reached before the fire arrives. Try and position yourself downhill of the on-coming fire.
- Move across the slope out of the path of the fire front and work your way down slope towards the back of the fire or onto burnt ground.
- Do not attempt to run through flames unless you can see clearly behind them. This generally means that the flames are less than 1 metre high and less than 1 to 2 metres deep at the back or on the flanks of the fire.
- Lulls in the fire often result in the flames in these parts being low enough to step or run through to the burnt ground beyond.
- When conditions become severe use every possible means to protect yourself from radiation. On bare ground cover yourself, use wheel ruts, depressions, large rocks or logs to give protection.
- Take refuge in ponds, running streams or culverts, behind solid objects such as a rock.
- Remain calm and do not run blindly from the fire. If you become exhausted you are much more prone to heat stroke and you may easily overlook a safe refuge.