

<p>Bushfire Management Planner</p>	<p>MELANIE JACKSON</p>
<p>QUALIFICATIONS: Bachelor of Applied Science (Environmental Resource Management) (Southern Cross University, 2004)</p>	<p>B AppSc (EnvResMgt)</p>
<p>CAREER SUMMARY: <i>February 2009- Bushfire Management Planner, Chenoweth EPLA</i></p> <p><i>August 2008- Planning and Environmental Administration Assistant, Casual Kyogle Council</i></p> <p><i>2008 Environmental Officer, Landpartners Ltd</i></p> <p><i>2007 Field & Office Assistant, Forest Enterprises Australia Pty Ltd</i></p> <p><i>2004-2007 Fire Mitigation Officer, NSW Rural Fire Service</i></p> <p><i>2003-2004 Fire Fighter/Fieldworker, State Forests of NSW</i></p> <p><i>2003 Research Assistant – Geology and Geophysics, University of New Orleans</i></p> <p><i>2002 Research Assistant – Biology, University of New Orleans</i></p> <p>CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Graduate Diploma in Bushfire Protection (University of Western Sydney)</i> • <i>Certificate IV Business (Frontline Management)</i> • <i>Volunteer Firefighter, (NSW Rural Fire Service)</i> • <i>Wildfire Investigator (NSW Rural Fire Service)</i> • <i>Senior First Aid (St. Johns Ambulance)</i> • <i>Green card (OHS Induction for Construction work in NSW)</i> • <i>Scientific Licence, (DECC – NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service)</i> • <i>NSW Rural Fire Service Regional Exercise, (2003 & 2005)</i> <p>As a volunteer fire fighter Melanie attends local wildfires, structural fires, road traffic incidents and training sessions with her local Brigade in addition to courses run by TAFE NSW and NSW Rural Fire Service in order to maintain skills and experience in rural fire fighting techniques.</p>	<p><i>Melanie has 7 years experience in bushfire behaviour, mitigation and management. Melanie has skills in identifying vegetation communities, GIS mapping, building in bushfire prone areas, wildfire investigation community consultation and fire fighting as well as a thorough understanding of bushfire ecology and management processes. Melanie is also familiar with the requirements of Federal, State and Local bushfire legislation. Professional expertise includes:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Detailed Bushfire Hazard Assessments</i> • <i>Bushfire Management Plans</i> • <i>Bushfire vegetation identification and mapping</i> • <i>Risk Assessments</i>

PROJECT EXPERIENCE:

Chenoweth EPLA

Bushfire Management:

Bushfire Management Plan:

Melanie recently completed a Bushfire Management Plan and associated field and risk assessment for a proposed Community Title Scheme in the Mackay Regional Council Hinterland. The project required assessing aspect, slope, topography and vegetation through on site assessment and a review of State (Qld) and Local Planning scheme overlays, database and maps in order to identify potential bushfire threat. Based on the findings, recommendations and bushfire mitigation measures were established.

NSW Rural Fire Service

Fire Mitigation:

Hazard Reduction Certificate Issuing Officer:

Melanie was responsible for managing and maintaining the NSW RFS Northern Rivers Team Hazard Reduction Certificates, in the Richmond Valley, Kyogle and Lismore Council areas. Hazard Reduction Certificates outlining methodology for fuel reduction were issued to public and private property owners after assessing flora, fauna, aspect, slope, soil and risk analysis using GPS, GIS Map-Info and Bushfire Risk Information Management System (BRIMS) database. Hazard reduction certificates were issued under NSW legislation, policy and codes.

Bushfire Hazard Complaint Notices:

Bushfire hazard complaints and associated notices were served by Melanie within the Richmond Valley, Kyogle and Lismore Council areas. Dealing with this matter meant that Melanie displayed excellent negotiating skills during consultation with private landholders, government organizations, and volunteer firefighters to establish a balanced outcome to mitigate the effects of bushfire hazards under NSW legislation.

Prescribed Burn Plans:

Melanie is experienced in planning prescribed burns having practiced in the Northern Rivers Area. Consultation between community, volunteers, staff and contractors was vital to successfully achieve prescribed burn outcomes. Detailed, risk and environmental assessments were conducted in order to minimize risk to life, property and the environment. Those involved in prescribed burns were provided with detailed documentation in order to carry out safe and successful burns, engaging Brigade Captains and interested volunteers in the process.

Permit Issuing Officer:

Throughout the bushfire danger period Melanie and many volunteers issue Permits to burn. Melanie was responsible for the administration of such permits and assisted in training and information sessions.

Fire Trail Register:

Melanie was responsible for mapping and monitoring the Northern Rivers Fire trail Register. Many fire trails were located in isolated bushfire prone areas on public and private land. Melanie was responsible for the collection and collation of data utilizing GPS, ArcView GIS mapping systems, various databases, Local and State Government Guidelines.

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Born: 03/08/70

Cheshire, UK

Nationality: British, Australian

International Exchange Program:

In 2002 Melanie was one of two pioneering students to be granted a place to attend the University of New Orleans for a semester which counted towards her degree in Environmental Resource Management. Throughout the duration of the exchange program Melanie worked as a research assistant for the Department of Geology and Geophysics and Department of Biology, embracing the challenges put before her. Learning outcomes include:

- *Barrier Island Restoration & Re-vegetation*
- *Louisiana Delta System Form & Function*
- *Oil Spill, Mitigation & Cleanup Processes*
- *Plant Physiological Ecology*

Conferences:

- *National Women in Fire Fighting Forum (2005)*
- *NSW Rural Fire Service Community Safety Conference (2003 - 2005)*

Landpartners Ltd.**Development Applications:*****Building in Bushfire Prone Areas:***

Melanie has experience assessing development applications for building in bushfire prone areas and associated reports for single dwellings and sub-division applications under NSW legislation and Planning for Bushfire Protection. Recent examples include:

- s.100B Rural Fires Act 1997, Proposed Sub-Division, Student Accommodation, Goonellabah, NSW.
- s.100B Rural Fires Act 1997, Proposed Residential Dual Occupancy Development, Goonellabah, NSW.
- s.79BA EP&A Act 1979, Proposed Two Storey Dwelling, Broken Head, NSW.

Flora and Fauna Assessment:

As a project assistant Melanie has experience in Environmental assessment including Review of Environmental Factors, Flora, Fauna and targeted species searches. Recent examples include:

- Cumbulum Sub-division, Lennox Head, NSW
- Wollongbar Urban Expansion Area, Wollongbar, NSW

Forest Enterprises Australia Pty Ltd.**Plantation Applications:*****Mapping:***

Melanie has skills in processing plantation applications utilizing stakeholder communication, documentation and mapping generating Arc-View GIS OH&S, site safety, fire management, infrastructure, vegetation and operational plans.

