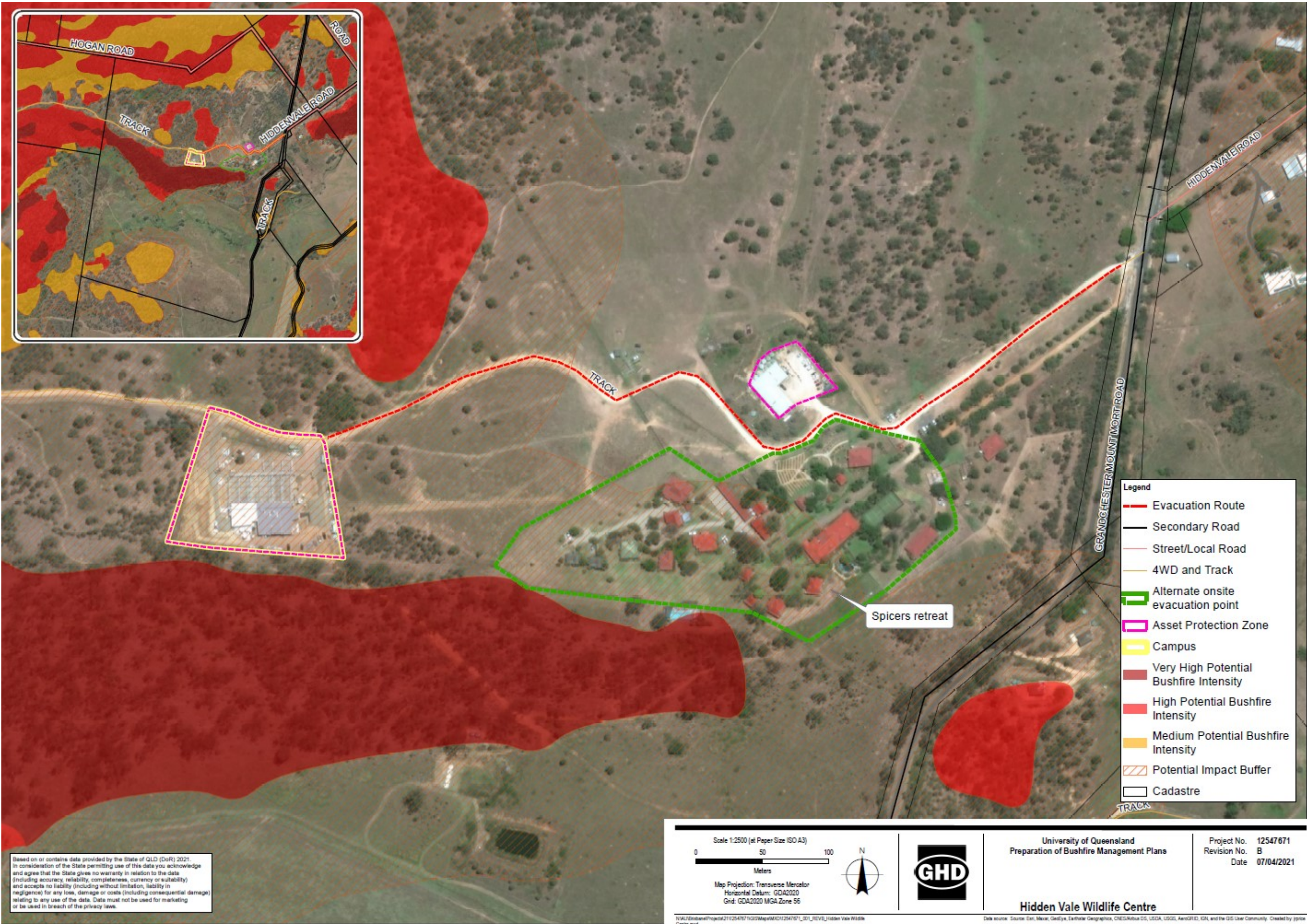


Hidden Vale Campus



LOCATION DETAILS

Location
Situatued west of the Spicers Hidden Vale country retreat, within the Grandchester region. Approximately 30 km southwest of Ipswich.

Buildings and Infrastructure
There are a number of built assets on the campus, including offices, laboratories, kitchen/mess hall, fauna enclosures and infrastructure and perimeter fencing.

Property use
Research and education. Several enclosures are constructed around site which support captive native species. Hospitality and accommodation are located on adjacent blocks.

Access
Access is via an unsealed road directly off Grandchester Mount Mort Road.

Evacuation
On-site assembly/emergency shelter point is within the building. Off site evacuation point is Spicer's retreat unless otherwise advised by Emergency Services.

Fire Weather District (BOM):
Southeast Coast (Qld)

COMMUNICATIONS

Mobile:
Mobile reception is generally good – 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)

CONTACTS

Fire, Police and Emergency Reporting	000
Queensland Fire and Emergency Services (Rosewood)	07 5468 1572
Queensland Fire and Emergency Services (Laidley)	07 5465 3623
Ambulance	000
Police (Rosewood)	07 5466 8000
Police (Laidley)	07 3437 2670
Spicer Hidden Vale	07 5465 5900
UQ Security (Emergency)	07 3365 3333
UQ Security (non emergency)	07 3365 1234

SUMMARY OF BUSHFIRE RISK FACTORS

Risk: The risk of bushfire impact is considered high, due to the surrounding vegetation and landform, particularly the steep slopes to the south. Potential bushfire impact to animals, research and operational assets could severely affect the operation of the campus and result in injury or loss of life to both users and animals. The site is isolated with minimal infrastructure, though the main facility is constructed largely of bushfire resilient materials (metal). Due to the remote nature of the site, it is prone to being cut off in a bushfire event to the north and/or south. Spicers retreat is identified as an alternate evacuation point.

Objective: The objectives of bushfire management and mitigation are:

a. protect human life;

b. protect assets; and

c. minimise the physical and environmental impact of bushfires.

Strategies: Asset Protection Zone surrounds entire site, and extends external to the perimeter fence. Raising knowledge and understanding of bushfire risks and management for any users/visitors the site. Good relations with local fire agencies and Spicer's retreat.

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

- All access are free from all obstructions to a width of 4 m to allow the safe passage of tankers
- Ensure landscaping and garden beds adjoining buildings are managed (thinning/removing vegetation from adjoining windows, timber and other vulnerable building features). Minimal ground fuel is to be maintained (i.e. grass or bare ground or less than 3 tonnes per hectare of fine fuel)
- Inspect/maintain operability of all Static Water Supply (SWS) including water level, hydrants, valves and connections.
- Clean gutters, check screens properly fitted to all windows and openings etc)
- Maintain slashing of external perimeter fence lines to maintain grass to >100 mm height

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.					
All on site to monitor QFES current incidents or ABC Radio for fire incidents		Min. 1 pm	Min. 1pm, 3pm	Hourly from 9am—7pm	Site Closed until FDR reduced to EXTREME or less
Maintain register of all persons present on site, including daily movement plans and point of contact				Yes	
Additional actions			No open fires (BBQ/fire pit); no outdoor works with potential ignition sources (hot works, sparks, slash-		
Fire suppression equipment/ sprinkler system operational and checked			By 10am	By 8 am	
Visitor restrictions				Closed to non-essential users	

BUSHFIRE EVACUATION MATRIX

RISK STATUS	No rating	Moderate	HIGH	EXTREME	CATASTROPHIC
Fire predicted to impact site or egress	Evacuate to Spicer's Retreat unless otherwise advised by the Police or Emergency Services Pre-evacuation briefing to be conducted at Assembly Area/Spicer's Retreat before moving off site—consider direction of fire and evacuation routes. Details of all evacuating the site to be recorded in a register to be provided to the Incident Controller				Site closed to all visitors and staff until FDR is Extreme or less
Time to fire impact is <time available to evacuate	If safe to do so; move directly to On-site Refuge Area/ Spicer's retreat				
Fires exist with-in 20 km radius	Monitor fire on QFES current incidents website hourly	Continue monitoring and consider evacuation	No staff or visitors to enter site. Chief warden to order evacuation if safe to do so		
Fires exist with-in 50 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				

Bushfire Warning Issued	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

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.

What to do if caught in a bushfire

Outside your building

- Ensure you drink plenty of water so you do not dehydrate.
- Block downpipes where 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.
- Put on external sprinkler system.
- 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.

Inside your building

- Continue to drink water so you do not dehydrate.
- Close doors, windows, vents and blinds 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 for sparks and embers.
- Remember – if your life is at risk, call Triple Zero (000) immediately.

After the fire

- Once the fire has passed, you may need to patrol the property for hours. Go outside and put out any part of the building which is alight.
- An ember or spark from a fire can impact a building 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 downslope 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.