



National
Operational
Guidance

Control measure

Defined paths and tracks



NFCC

National Fire
Chiefs Council

Developed and maintained by the NFCC



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Control measure knowledge

Nature conservation sites often have defined paths and tracks that are usually located away from the protected areas most susceptible to physical environmental damage. If present, and once it has been established that they are suitable for fire service use including access for vehicles, these paths and tracks should be used.

Strategic actions

Fire and rescue services should:

- ensure that the location of defined paths and tracks are included within any operational risk plans or maps

Tactical actions

Incident commanders should:

- Consider the least damaging routes to incidents
- Consider the least damaging routes to incidents and where possible, stay on marked paths and tracks
- Ensure that tracks and pathways are suitable for fire service vehicles
- Take care when deciding where to place equipment or tool dumps or siting control points
- Carry out an [environmental risk assessment](#)
- Establish 'exclusion zones' to protect sensitive assets that may be affected by firefighting