



NSW RURAL FIRE SERVICE

MEDIA RELEASE

Early start to bush fire season in the Wollondilly and Wingecarribee Local Government Areas (LGA's)

15th August 2019

The Southern Highlands Team area (incorporating the Wollondilly and Wingecarribee LGA's) will start the Bush Fire Danger Period (BFDP) early this year due to ongoing warm and dry conditions.

While the bush fire season traditionally starts on 1 October each year, the Southern Highlands Team areas will begin the fire season on Sunday 1st September 2019.

NSW RFS District Manager, Superintendent Martin Surrey is urging residents to know the risks and take precautions now.

"We have experienced a long dry and warm spell, which is increasing the bush fire danger across the region," Supt. Surrey said.

"There are simple things you can do now to get ready for bush fire season – such as talking with your family about your bush fire survival plan, preparing your home or property, knowing the bush fire alert levels and making sure you know where to get information during a fire.

"The things you do now can make a big difference to your safety during a fire, and whether your home survives."

Landholders are also encouraged to use fire safely if conducting hazard reduction activities.

"Many people use fire to reduce the fire risk on their property – but if fire's not used properly, you can end up being the fire risk to your community.

"Permits are required during the bush fire danger period. They're free and easy to get by contacting your Fire Control Centre.

"Don't be the fire risk to your community. Use fire safely and only light up if conditions are safe."

"Never leave a fire unattended and if a fire does escape, it is essential to call Triple Zero (000) immediately so that emergency services can respond accordingly and minimise the damage," Supt Surrey said.

For information on planning and preparing for fire, visit www.myfireplan.com.au.

Information on permits and total fire bans can be found at www.rfs.nsw.gov.au or by contacting the Wollondilly Fire Control Centre on 4677 000 or the Wingecarribee Fire Control centre on 4868 5500.

Media Contact: Inspector David Stimson 0427 788 801

For more information contact the Media Contact: Inspector David Stimson 0427 788 801
For current incidents or major fire updates visit www.rfs.nsw.gov.au