

To: Minister for Water Resources, Drought, Rural Finance, Natural Disaster and Emergency Management

Subject: Bushfire & Natural Hazards CRC - Northern Australia Seasonal Bushfire Outlook

Purpose

The Bushfire & Natural Hazards CRC has released the *Northern Australia* Seasonal Bushfire Outlook for 2019 on the fire potential for the Northern Territory, Queensland, northern Western Australia and northern South Australia.

Background

1. The Bushfire & Natural Hazards CRC normally release the *Northern Australia Seasonal Bushfire Outlook* in late July. The outlook has been released early due to requests from fire managers in Queensland, Northern Territory and Western Australia.
2. The reason for the earlier release of the outlook is to cover areas at risk between now and the next outlook (*Southern Australia* Seasonal Bushfire Outlook 2019), which is released in late August 2019.
3. The *Northern Outlook* is the work of the scientists from the Bureau of Meteorology and fire and land management agencies from Queensland, Western Australia, South Australia and the Northern Territory.
4. The outlook provides information to assist fire authorities in making strategic resource and planning decisions leading up to the fire season.

Key Issues

5. The Queensland Fire and Emergency Services and the South Australian Country Fire Service have both indicated that there is high potential that their fire seasons may have commenced before the normal release time (late July) of the *Northern Outlook*.
6. Inclusion of Queensland as a whole and northern South Australia for the first time in the *Northern Outlook* is not reflective of new areas at risk. It's just a shift to include areas that have their fire season now rather than later in the year.
7. Weather conditions for 2019 in Queensland are on trend with last year, which saw record forest fire danger indices.
8. The Bureau of Meteorology forecast suggests that the start of the 2018-19 wet season is likely to be delayed. The rainfall outlook for July to September is likely to be below average across much of Australia.
9. Record warmth and significant rainfall deficiencies have shaped the fire outlook potential across most of northern Australia this year, except for parts of northern and central Queensland that received record rainfall and flooding.

Consultation

10. Bushfire & Natural Hazards CRC – reason for early release of *Northern Outlook* – due to request from QLD, WA and SA fire managers.

Authorising Officer	Contact Officer
<p>Robert Cameron Director General Emergency Management Australia</p> <p>27/06/2019 Ph: s. 22(1)(a)(ii)</p>	<p>s. 22(1)(a)(ii) Assistant Director CCC Planning & Engagement Section / Crisis Management Branch</p> <p>Ph: s. 22(1)(a)(ii)</p>



Australian Government

Crisis Coordination Centre

Incident Brief

As of 1800 hrs (AEST), 7 September 2019

Queensland and northern New South Wales bushfires – Version 1

Key Issues

- Parts of southern Queensland and northern NSW experienced SEVERE to EXTREME fire weather conditions on **Friday 6 September** and **Saturday 7 September**.

New South Wales:

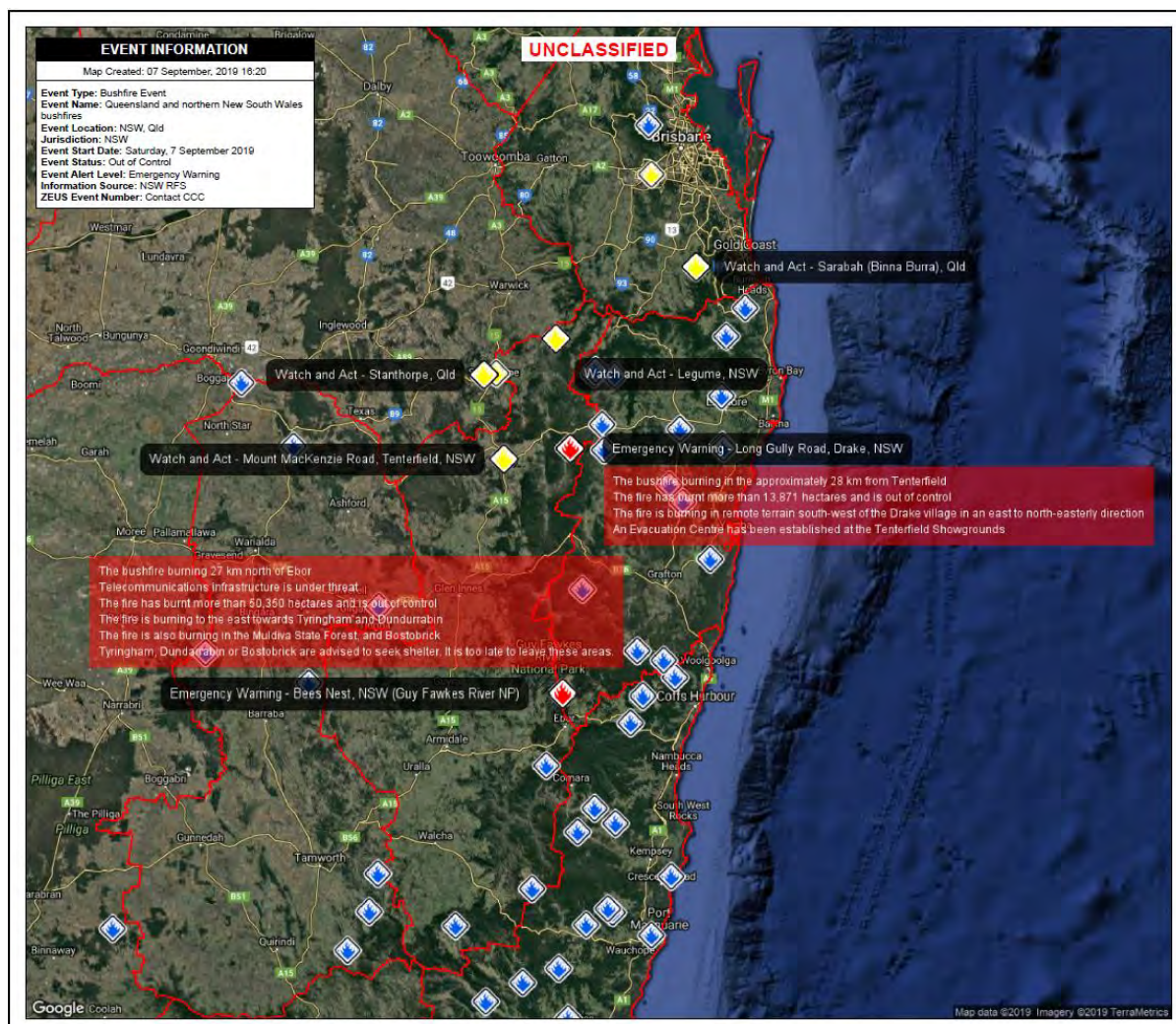
- NSW Rural Fire Service (NSW RFS) has completed an initial assessment of bushfire affected areas. One home has been destroyed, with another 5 damaged. A number of outbuildings have been destroyed or damaged. NSW RFS advised that the assessment is not complete, and numbers are subject to change.
- An EMERGENCY WARNING is current for a bushfire burning at Bees Nest in the vicinity of Armidale.
- An EMERGENCY WARNING is current for a bushfire burning at Long Gully Road, Drake, in the vicinity of Tenterfield.
- An EMERGENCY WARNING previously issued for a bushfire burning in the vicinity of Flagstone Road, Legume, has been downgraded to WATCH AND ACT.
- An EMERGENCY WARNING previously issued for a bushfire burning in the vicinity of Mount MacKenzie Road, Tenterfield, has been downgraded to WATCH AND ACT.
- An EMERGENCY WARNING previously issued for a bushfire burning in the vicinity of Princes Road, Cobargo, has been downgraded to WATCH AND ACT.
- Widespread dust and smoke haze is impacting northeast and southeast Queensland. This remains a concern for asthmatics and people with existing respiratory conditions today.

Queensland:

- The Queensland State Disaster Coordination Centre (SDCC) has confirmed that 15 houses and 6 other structures have been lost.
- 422 properties in Kingaroy, 67 in Stanthorpe and 83 Applethorpe remain without power.
- An EMERGENCY WARNING previously issued for a bushfire burning in the vicinity of Binna Burra, has been downgraded to WATCH AND ACT level (also formerly known as the Sarabah or Beechmont bushfire).

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under the Freedom of Information Act 1982

- An EMERGENCY WARNING previously issued for a bushfire burning in the vicinity of Plant Lane and Amiens Road, Stanthorpe, has been downgraded to WATCH AND ACT.
- There are currently 68 active bushfires burning across Queensland.



Situation details – New South Wales

Armidale Fire

- An EMERGENCY WARNING is current for a bushfire burning 27 km north of Ebor, approximately 30 km from Armidale.
 - Telecommunications infrastructure is under threat from this fire. There is an exchange and a mobile base station at Hernani. The fire is currently heading in that direction and it is the only mobile site in the area. It has been listed by the Rural Fire Service (RFS) as a critical site and they will undertake all necessary measures to protect the site from fire.
 - The fire has burnt more than 50,350 hectares and is out of control.
 - The fire continues to burn north of Ebor, along Armidale Road and in the vicinity of Marengo Road.
 - The fire is burning quickly to the east towards Tyringham and Dundurrabin.
 - The fire is also burning in the Muldiva State Forest, and burning towards Bostobrick.
 - The areas of Tyringham, Dundurrabin and Bostobrick are advised to seek shelter as the fire front approaches. It is too late to leave these areas.
 - Crews are contacting residents, working to protect properties and slow the spread of the fire.



Tenterfield fire

- An EMERGENCY WARNING is current for a bushfire burning in the vicinity of Long Gully Road, Drake, approximately 28 km from Tenterfield.
 - The fire has burnt more than 13,871 hectares and is out of control.
 - The fire is burning in remote terrain south-west of the Drake village, within the Girard State Forest. It has crossed Long Gully Road, Rocky (Timbarra) River.
 - The fire is now burning in an east to north-easterly direction towards the Bruxner Highway and Plains Station Road.
 - An evacuation centre has been established at the Tenterfield Showgrounds.



- An EMERGENCY WARNING previously issued for a bushfire burning in the vicinity of Mount MacKenzie Road, NSW, has been downgraded to WATCH AND ACT level.
 - NSW RFS have confirmed one home destroyed and four damaged as a result of this bushfire.
 - The bushfire has burnt more than 3,518 hectares and is out of control.
 - A bushfire is burning in the Mount Mackenzie Road area, on the southern outskirts of Tenterfield.
 - The fire has moved to the north east towards Billirimba Road and the Bruxner Highway. Crews remain on scene.
 - The Bruxner Highway is currently open but may be affected by smoke.
 - NSW SEOC advised that property losses are expected.
 - Open source media is reporting that four homes and a shooting range have been lost to the fire, but this has not been confirmed.
 - An evacuation centre has been established at the Tenterfield Showgrounds.



- An EMERGENCY WARNING previously issued for a bushfire burning in the vicinity of Flagstone Road, Legume, has been downgraded to a WATCH AND ACT.
 - The fire has burnt more than 1,329 hectares and is out of control.
 - The fire is moving in a north easterly direction towards Mount Lindsey Road and Oaky Hill.
 - The fire is burning in the vicinity of Flagstone Road and Koreelah Creek Road, Legume.
 - Conditions have eased slightly, reducing the threat to homes.



Cobargo fire

- An EMERGENCY WARNING previously issued for a bushfire burning in the vicinity of Princes Road, Cobargo, has been downgraded to WATCH AND ACT.
 - The fire is out of control and strong winds are causing it to spread in an easterly direction. NSW RFS has advised residents of Cobargo-Bermagui Road and Barrabaroo Road to enact any plan to leave now, and to head towards Bermagui.



Source: [NSW RFS](#), Telstra emergency management team, [ABC News](#)

Situation Details - Queensland

Stanthorpe fire

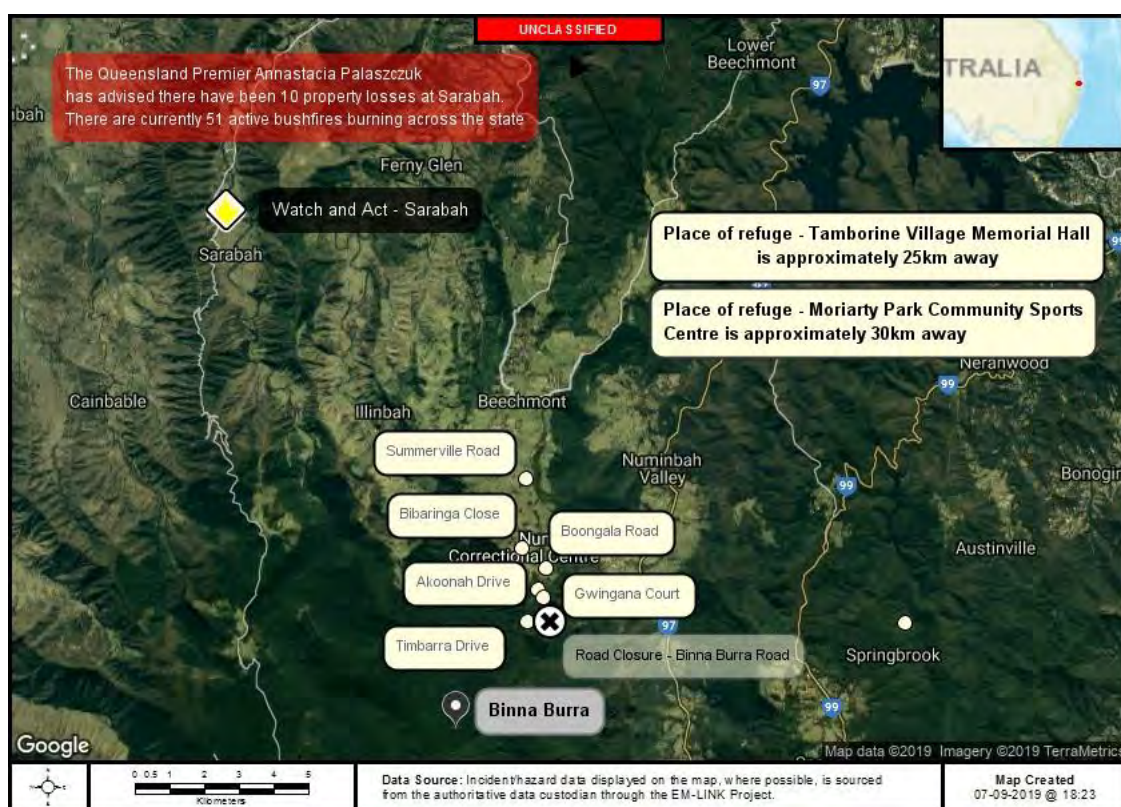
- An EMERGENCY WARNING previously issued for a bushfire burning in the vicinity of Plant Lane and Amiens Road, Stanthorpe, has been downgraded to WATCH AND ACT.
 - The fire has burnt approximately 200 hectares.
 - The New England Highway is currently open but may be closed at short notice.
 - An evacuation centre remains open at the Stanthorpe Fitness Centre.
 - The fire has impacted Glenlyon Drive, Amiens Road and the New England Highway, travelling in a north easterly direction impacting Passmore Road, Caves Road, Nelson Crescent, McLeod Court and Michelle Road.
 - Firefighters remain on the scene but are currently unable to prevent the fire advancing.
 - Queensland Police Service (QPS) has declared an emergency situation under the Public Safety Preservation Act 1986 (Qld) and are urging people not to enter the declared zone bounded by Cannon Creek Road, Bamberry Road, Donnellys Castle Road, New England Highway, Dalcouth Road, Sugarloaf Road and Hale Haven Drive and to avoid travel unless directed by emergency services.
 - Authorities have confirmed a number of minor injuries, including a firefighter who suffered smoke inhalation.
 - Approximately 1,700 homes and businesses in the Stanthorpe and Warwick regions are without power due to a precautionary shutdown on a substation due to potential fire impact.



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under the Freedom of Information Act 1982

Binna Burra Fire (formerly known as the Sarabah or Beechmont bushfire).

- An EMERGENCY WARNING previously issued for a bushfire burning in the vicinity of Binna Burra, has been downgraded to WATCH AND ACT level. (Formerly known as the Sarabah or Beechmont bushfire).
 - The fire has burnt approximately 2000 hectares.
 - The fire currently is travelling from Binna Burra Road in an easterly direction towards Numinbah Valley and Springbrook and in a southerly direction towards Binna Burra.
 - The fire is currently impacting Binna Burra. The fire is expected to have a significant impact on the community.
 - A place of refuge has been established at Tamborine Village Memorial Hall, Moriarty Park community sports centre Canungra.
 - Department of Defence conducted a precautionary relocation of Kokoda Barracks, Canungra.

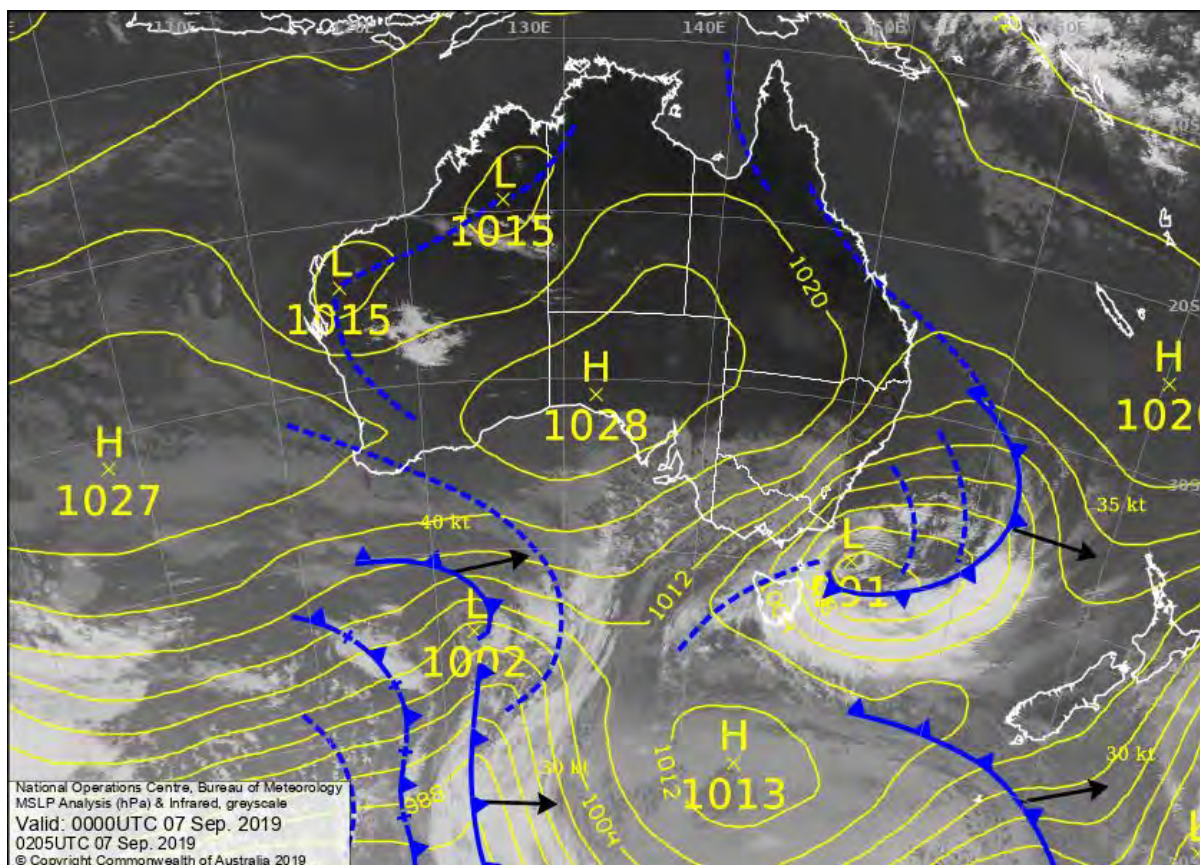


Source: QFES State Disaster Coordination Centre (SDCC), [Qld RFS](#), [Ergon Energy](#)

Weather

Sunday 8 September

- No rainfall is forecast for Queensland or northern NSW.
- A west to south-westerly wind will persist across NSW and southeastern Queensland.
- Maximum temperatures will be average for coastal locations and slightly below average inland.
- Fire Danger Ratings are expected to be High to Very High for northeast NSW and southeast Queensland.



Source: Bureau of Meteorology

State and Territory Actions

Queensland and New South Wales

Staff from the State Disaster Coordination Centre (SDCC) and State Operations Centre (SOC) are liaising with disaster management stakeholders in areas of Queensland being impacted by significant fires. Forward planning is being conducted, with aerial assets on standby across the state.

- Both the SOC and QFES SDCC are activated to Stand Up.
- Line scan aircraft are operating under mutual aid mission planning with New South Wales, with a total of 31 aircraft available.

Source: QFES SDCC

Australian Government Actions

- On **Friday 6 September**, the Director-General of Emergency Management Australia approved the activation of COMDISPLAN in relation to bushfires burning in southeast Queensland and northern New South Wales.
 - Task request #001: ADF to assist with the provision of accommodation, transportation and sustenance for firefighting and IMT personnel at Kokoda Barracks, Canungra for approximately 56 firefighters and incident management personnel from NSW is Ongoing.
 - Assistance is being provided through the jointly funded Commonwealth-State Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DRFA).
 - Minister for Natural Disaster and Emergency Management David Littleproud said the Commonwealth and NSW governments were working together to provide support

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during a joint media release with the NSW minister for Police and Emergency Services on **7 September 2019**.

Source: CCC Planning, CCC Media

Further Information

- The CCC has contacted all relevant agencies and continues to monitor the situation closely.
- Version 2 of this incident brief will be distributed at 1800hrs **Sunday 8 September**, unless required earlier.

Prepared by:	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)
Approved by:	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)
<p>Issued under the authority of the Director General Emergency Management Australia.</p> <p>For enquiries please contact the CCC on s. 22(1)(a)(ii) @homeaffairs.gov.au</p>	



Australian Government

Crisis Coordination Centre

Incident Brief

As of 1800 hrs (AEST), 8 September 2019

Queensland and northern New South Wales bushfires – Version 2 (Final)

Key Issues

- Parts of southern Queensland and northern NSW experienced SEVERE to EXTREME fire weather conditions on **Friday 6 September** and **Saturday 7 September**.

New South Wales:

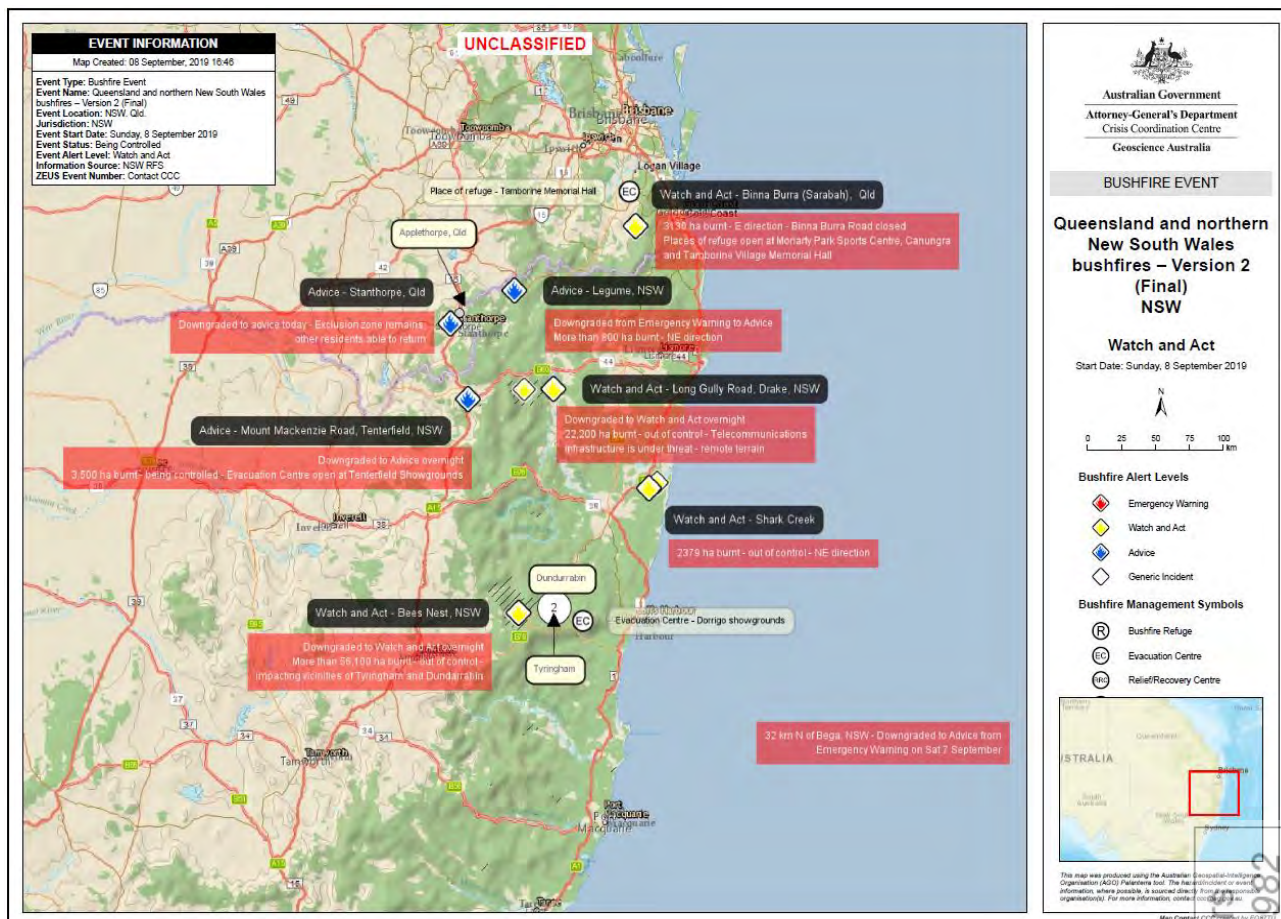
- NSW Rural Fire Service (NSW RFS) has completed an initial assessment of bushfire affected areas.
- One house has been destroyed and another five houses have been damaged.
- At least 15 outbuildings have been destroyed and eight have been damaged.
- At least three commercial buildings have been destroyed.
- NSW RFS advised that their assessments are not complete, and numbers are subject to change.
- An EMERGENCY WARNING previously issued for a bushfire burning in the vicinity of Bees Nest, Armidale, has been downgraded to WATCH AND ACT.
- An EMERGENCY WARNING previously issued for a bushfire burning in the vicinity of Long Gully Road, Drake, has been downgraded to WATCH AND ACT.
- An EMERGENCY WARNING previously issued for a bushfire burning in the vicinity of Flagstone Road, Legume, has been downgraded to ADVICE.
- An EMERGENCY WARNING previously issued for a bushfire burning in the vicinity of Mount Mackenzie Road, Tenterfield, has been downgraded to ADVICE.
- An EMERGENCY WARNING previously issued for a bushfire burning in the vicinity of Princes Road, Cobargo, has been downgraded to WATCH AND ACT.

Queensland:

- The Queensland State Disaster Coordination Centre (SDCC) has confirmed that 17 houses and three other structures have been destroyed.
- In addition to this, five houses have sustained severe damage, four have sustained moderate damage, and 15 have sustained minor damage.
- Damage assessments are ongoing and this number is likely to increase as damage assessment teams gain access to areas currently impacted by fire and fallen trees.
- An EMERGENCY WARNING previously issued for a bushfire burning in the vicinity of Binna Burra, has been downgraded to WATCH AND ACT level (also formerly known as the Sarabah or Beechmont bushfire).

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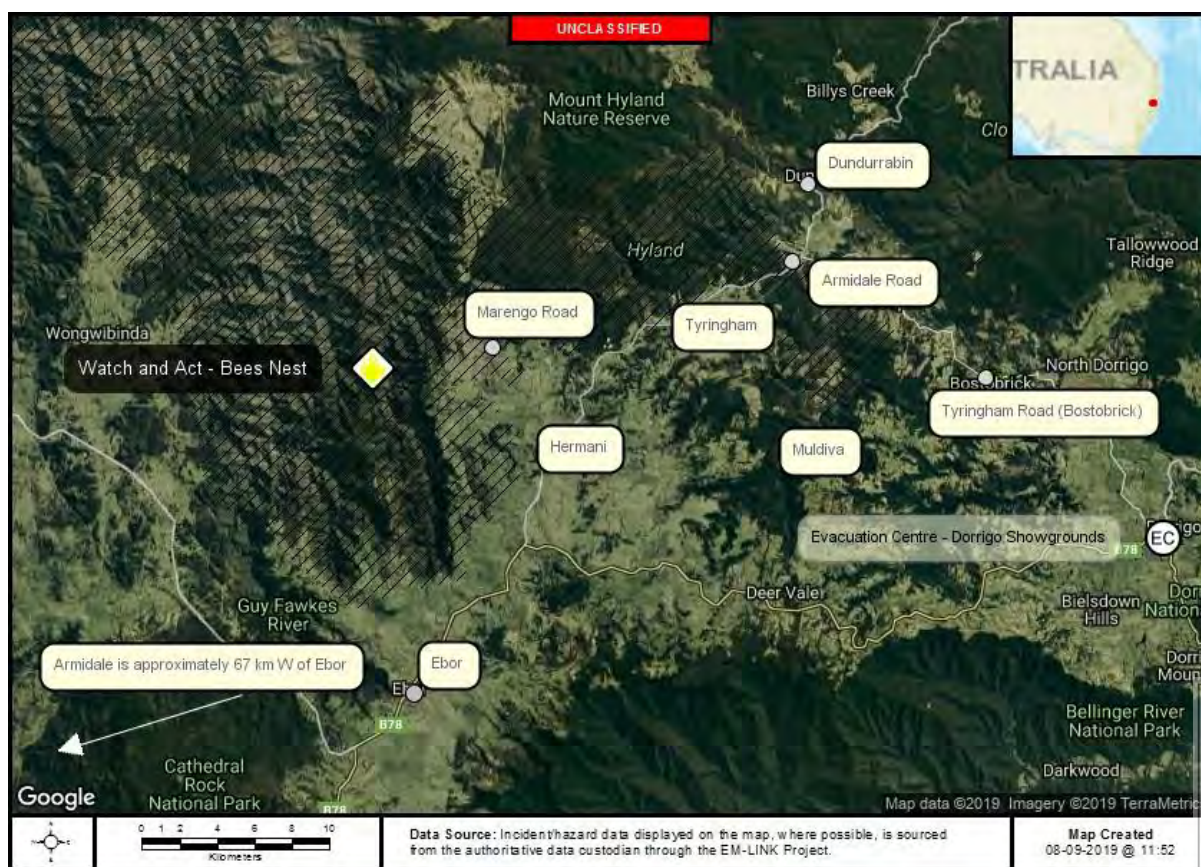
- An EMERGENCY WARNING previously issued for a bushfire burning in the vicinity of Plant Lane and Amiens Road, Stanthorpe, has been downgraded to WATCH AND ACT.
- There are currently 69 active bushfires burning across Queensland.
- There are 27 aircraft assisting or available for tasking, including water bombing, mapping and line scan capability.
- A 52 person Rural Fire Service contingent from NSW and ACT were scheduled to arrive at Brisbane Airport from 1600 hrs today to relieve 52 NSW Rural firefighters at Canungra.



Situation details – New South Wales

Armidale Fire

- An EMERGENCY WARNING previously issued for a bushfire burning in the vicinity of Bees Nest, 30 km from Armidale, has been downgraded to WATCH AND ACT.
 - The fire has burnt more than 56,183 hectares and is out of control.
 - The fire continues to burn north of Ebor, on multiple fronts near Armidale Road and in the vicinity of Marengo Road.
 - The fire is burning in the vicinity of Tyringham and Dundurrabin.
 - Firefighters are conducting back-burning operations to protect properties.
 - Strong winds are expected to return again today **8 September 2019**.
 - A large spot fire is also burning in the Muldiva State Forest, burning towards Tyringham Road, Bostobrick.
 - There is an evacuation centre at Dorrig Showgrounds.



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Tenterfield fire

- An EMERGENCY WARNING previously issued for a bushfire burning in the vicinity of Long Gully Road, Drake, approximately 28 km from Tenterfield, has been downgraded to WATCH AND ACT.
 - The fire has burnt more than 22,290 hectares and is out of control.
 - The fire is burning in remote terrain south of the Drake and Tabulam, in the Girard State Forest. The bushfire has crossed Plains Station Road and is burning on the Western side of the Clarence River.
 - The bushfire continues to burn along Long Gully Road, towards the Bruxner Highway and the village of Drake. It is expected to reach this area later today.
 - An evacuation centre has been established at the Tenterfield Showgrounds.
 - Firefighters are working to hold the fire to the west of the Clarence River. Crews are also working with local residents to protect properties.
 - Strong winds are expected to continue before easing overnight. It is expected strong winds will return tomorrow.

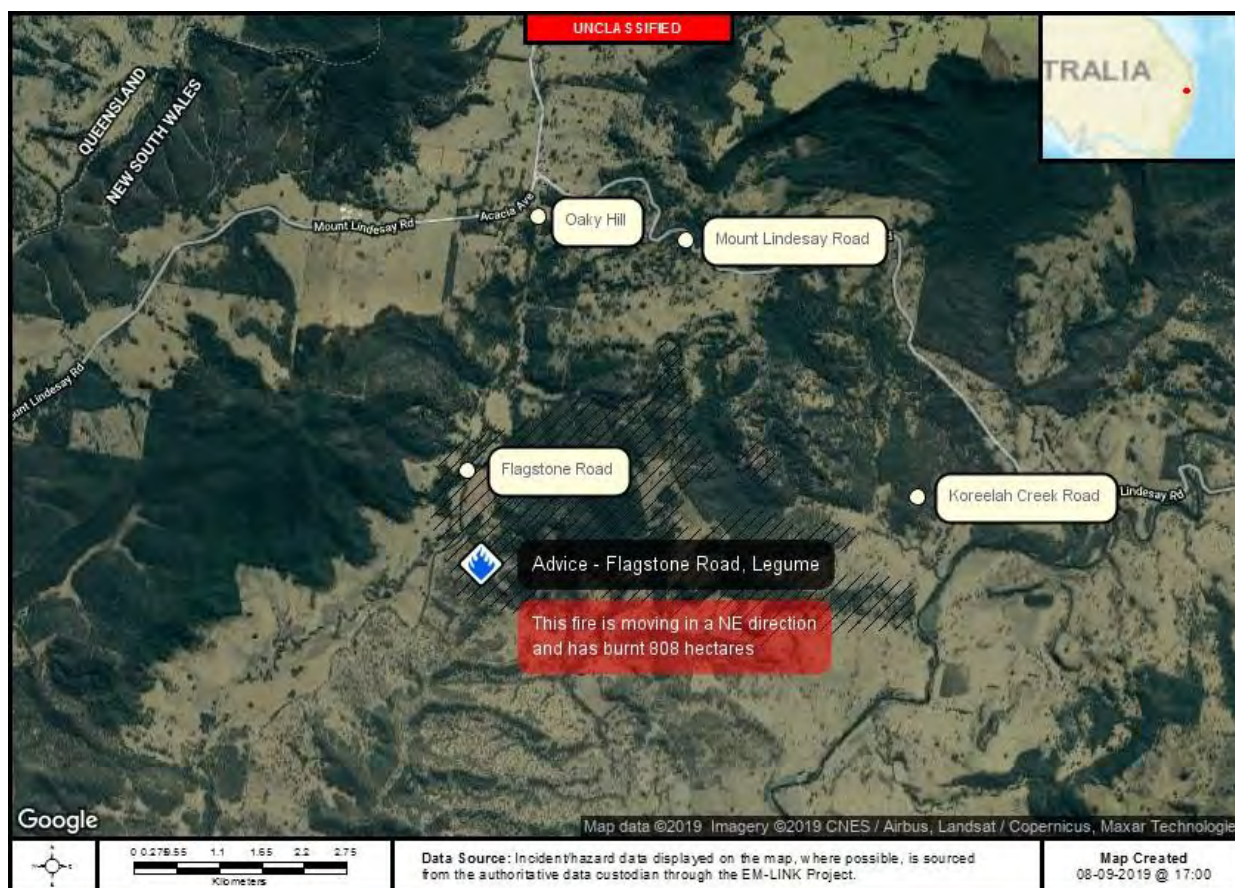


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- An EMERGENCY WARNING previously issued for a bushfire burning in the vicinity of Mount Mackenzie Road, NSW, has been downgraded to ADVICE.
 - NSW RFS have confirmed one home destroyed and four damaged as a result of this bushfire.
 - The bushfire has burnt more than 3,518 hectares.
 - It is burning in the Mount Mackenzie Road area, on the southern outskirts of Tenterfield.
 - The fire has moved to the northeast towards Billirimba Road and the Bruxner Highway. Crews remain on scene.
 - The Bruxner Highway is currently open but may be affected by smoke.
 - NSW SEOC advised that further property losses are expected.
 - Open source media is reporting that four homes and a shooting range have been lost to the fire, but this has not been confirmed.
 - An evacuation centre has been established at the Tenterfield Showgrounds.



- An EMERGENCY WARNING previously issued for a bushfire burning in the vicinity of Flagstone Road, Legume, has been downgraded to ADVICE.
 - The fire has burnt more than 808 hectares and is out of control.
 - The fire is moving in a north-easterly direction towards Mount Lindesay Road and Oaky Hill.
 - The fire is burning in the vicinity of Flagstone Road and Koreelah Creek Road, Legume.
 - Conditions have eased, reducing the threat to homes.



Cobargo fire

- An EMERGENCY WARNING previously issued for a bushfire burning in the vicinity of Princes Road, Cobargo, has been downgraded to ADVICE.
 - The fire is being controlled and has burnt 100 hectares.

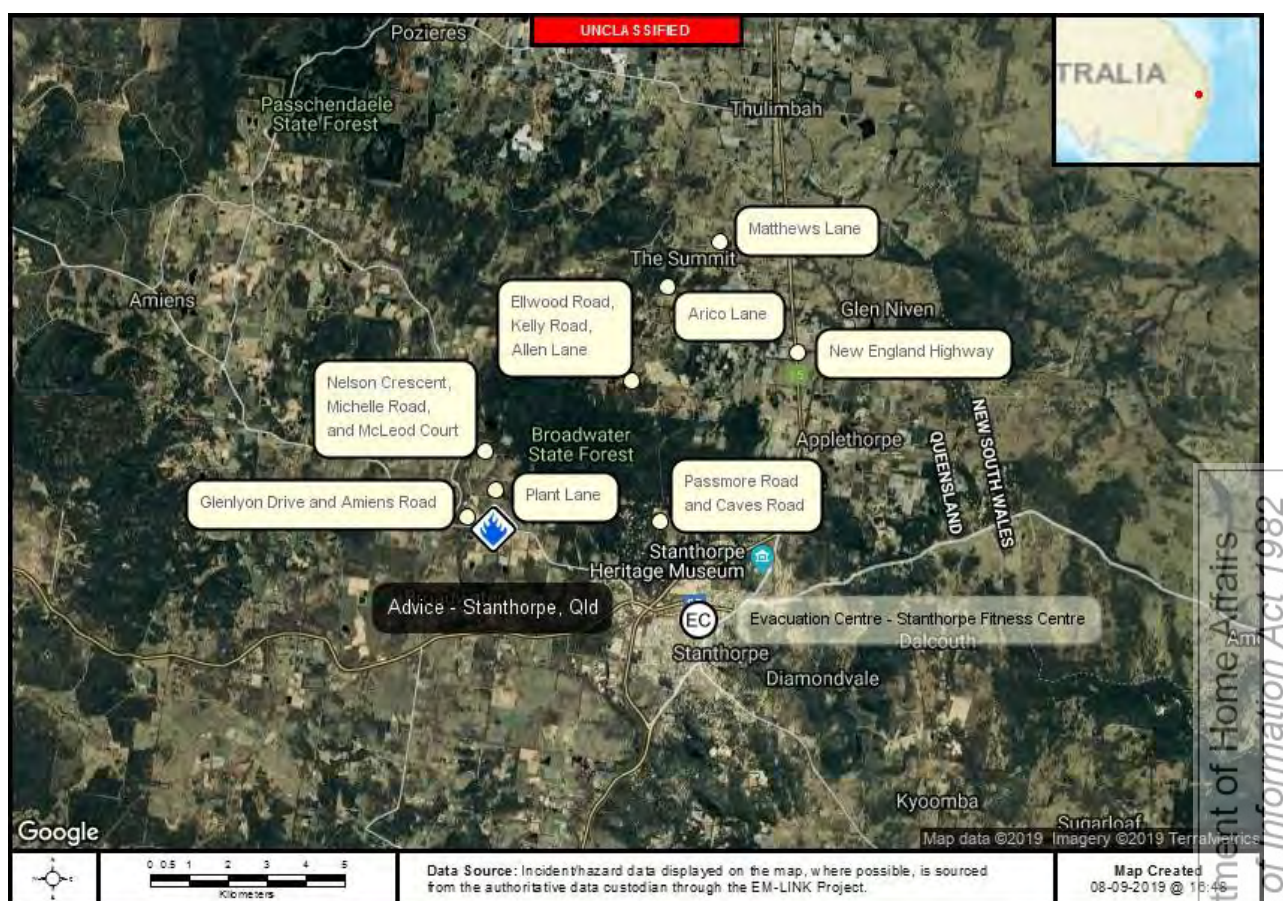


Source: [NSW RFS](#), [ABC News](#)

Situation Details - Queensland

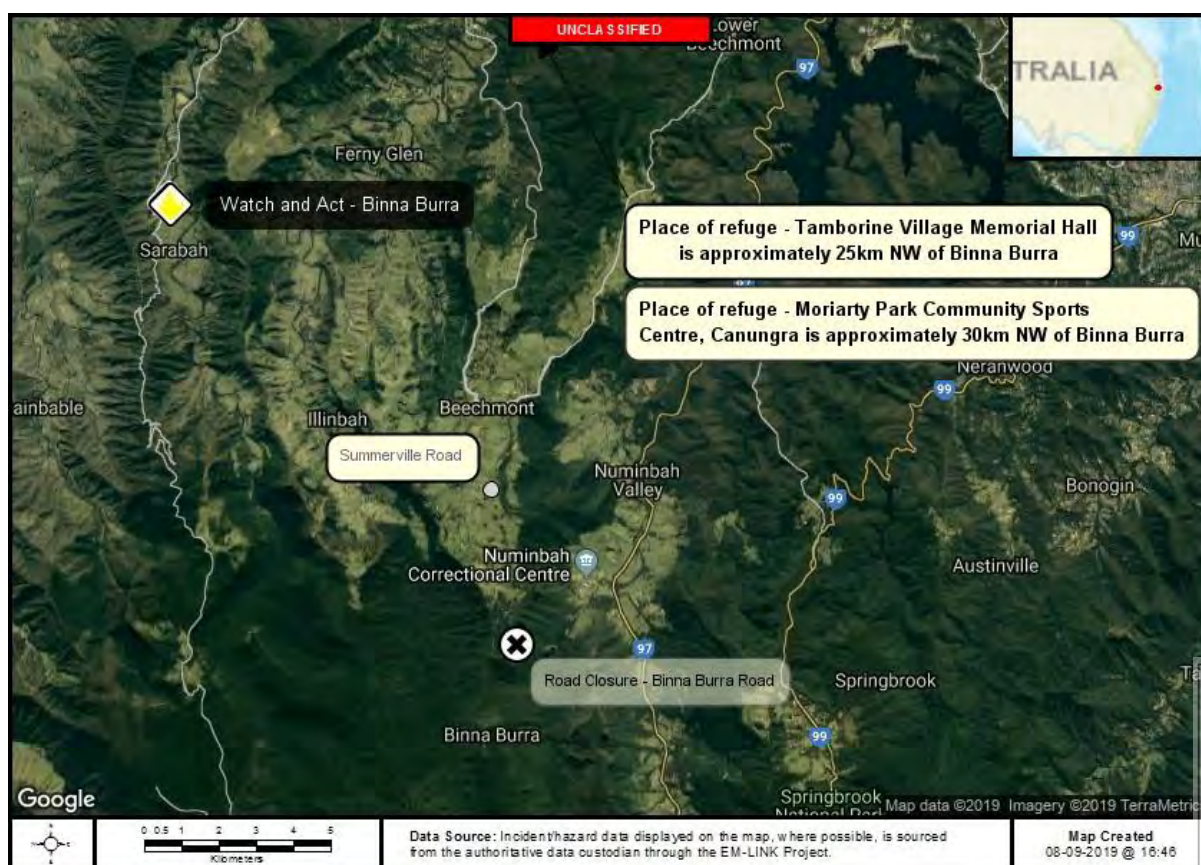
Stanthorpe fire

- An EMERGENCY WARNING previously issued for a bushfire burning in the vicinity of Plant Lane and Amiens Road, Stanthorpe, has been downgraded to ADVICE.
 - The fire has burnt approximately 200 hectares.
 - The New England Highway is currently open but may be closed at short notice.
 - An evacuation centre remains open at the Stanthorpe Fitness Centre.
 - The bushfire has impacted Glenlyon Drive, Amiens Road and the New England Highway, and is travelling in a north-easterly direction impacting Passmore Road, Caves Road, Nelson Crescent, McLeod Court and Michelle Road towards Applethorpe.
 - Firefighters remain on the scene but are currently unable to prevent the fire advancing.
 - The bushfire is expected to further impact the properties on Ellwood Road, Kelly Road, Allen Lane and Applethorpe.
 - A declaration of a disaster situation has been declared, for the scenic rim regional council local government area, as of 1725 hrs **7 September 2019**.
 - Authorities have confirmed a number of minor injuries, including a firefighter who suffered smoke inhalation.



Binna Burra Fire (formerly known as the Sarabah or Beechmont bushfire)

- An EMERGENCY WARNING previously issued for a bushfire burning in the vicinity of Binna Burra, has been downgraded to WATCH AND ACT level.
 - The fire has burnt approximately 2000 hectares.
 - The fire is burning on both sides of Binna Burra Road, south of Summerville Road, travelling in an easterly direction towards Numinbah Valley and Springbrook. The fire is currently impacting Binna Burra.
 - The bushfire has destroyed the historic Binna Burra Lodge in the Gold Coast Hinterland. It is part of an Australian World Heritage-listed rainforest reserve.
 - Places of refuge have been established at Tamborine Village Memorial Hall, and the Moriarty Park Community Sports Centre, Canungra.
 - Department of Defence conducted a precautionary relocation of Kokoda Barracks, Canungra.
 - A declaration of a disaster situation has been declared, for the scenic rim regional council local government area, as of 1725 hrs **7 September 2019**.

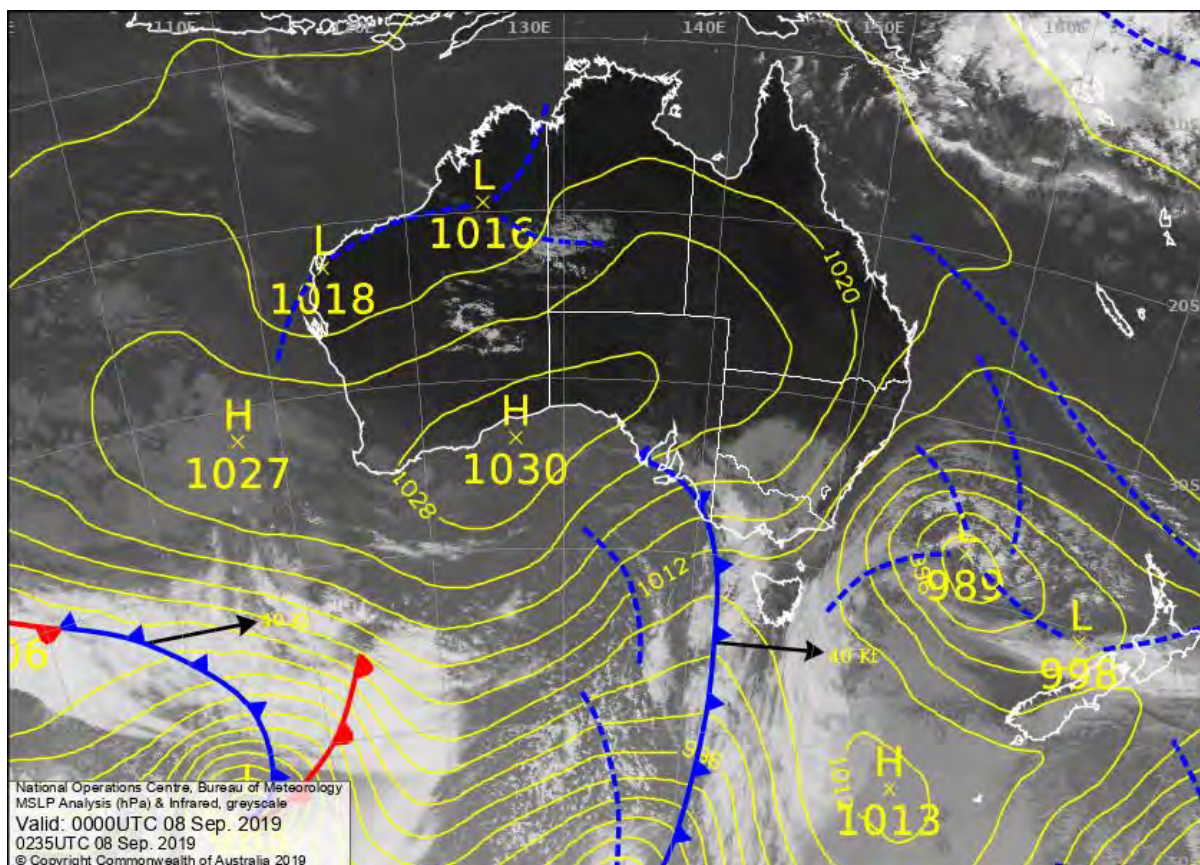


Source: [QLD RFS](#)

Weather

Monday 9 September

- No rainfall is forecast for Queensland.
- Winds are forecast to be westerly tending southwesterly in the morning, then decreasing in the evening across southeastern Queensland.
- For north eastern NSW, winds are forecast to be west to northwesterly turning south-westerly and increasing into the evening.
- Maximum temperatures will average in the mid 20's for south-eastern Queensland, while in northeast NSW temperatures will be in the mid to high teens with showers expected.
- Fire Danger Ratings are Very High for northeast NSW and southeast Queensland.



Source: Bureau of Meteorology

State and Territory Actions

Queensland and New South Wales

- Staff from the Qld SDCC and State Operations Centre (SOC) are liaising with disaster management stakeholders in areas of Queensland being impacted by significant fires. Forward planning is being conducted, with aerial assets on standby across the state.
 - Both the SOC and QFES SDCC are activated to Stand Up.
 - Line scan aircraft are operating under mutual aid mission planning with NSW, with a total of 31 aircraft available.

Source: Qld SDCC

Australian Government Actions

- On **Friday 6 September**, the Director-General of Emergency Management Australia approved the activation of COMDISPLAN in relation to bushfires burning in southeast Queensland and northern NSW.
 - Task request #001: ADF assisting with the provision of accommodation, transportation and sustenance for firefighting and IMT personnel at Kokoda Barracks,

Canungra for approximately 56 firefighters and incident management personnel from NSW is ongoing.

Northern NSW Bushfires

- Disaster recovery assistance is being provided under the jointly funded Commonwealth-state Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DRFA).
- DRFA assistance is available in the local government areas of Armidale, Clarence Valley, Glen Innes, Inverell, Tenterfield, Uralla and Walcha.
- A range of assistance is available including:
 - Personal hardship and distress assistance for individuals and families;
 - Support for affected local councils and state agencies to help with operational response costs and restoring damaged essential public assets;
 - Concessional interest rate loans for small businesses, primary producers and non-profit organisations;
 - Freight subsidies for primary producers, and
 - Grants to eligible non-profit organisations.
 - This assistance is administered by the NSW Government.

Southern Queensland Bushfires

- Disaster recovery assistance is being provided under the jointly funded Commonwealth-state DRFA.
- DRFA assistance is available in the local government areas of Scenic Rim and Southern Downs.
- A range of assistance is available including:
 - Personal hardship and distress assistance for individuals and families; and
 - Support for affected local councils and state agencies to help with operational response costs.
- This assistance is administered by the Queensland Government.

Source: CCC Planning, Home Affairs Media and Portfolio Engagement Branch, Emergency Management Australia Further Information

- The CCC has contacted all relevant agencies and continues to monitor the situation closely.

Prepared by:	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)
Approved by:	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)
Issued under the authority of the Director General Emergency Management Australia. For enquiries please contact the CCC on s. 22(1)(a)(ii) @homeaffairs.gov.au	

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Australian Government

Crisis Coordination Centre

Incident Brief

As of 1100 hrs (AEST), 9 September 2019

Queensland and northern New South Wales bushfires – Version 3

New information is in italics

Key Issues

- Parts of southern Queensland and northern NSW experienced SEVERE to EXTREME fire weather conditions on **Friday 6 September** and **Saturday 7 September**.

New South Wales:

- *NSW Rural Fire Service (NSW RFS) has completed an initial assessment of bushfire affected areas.*
- *At total of five house has been destroyed and another five houses have been damaged.*
- *At least 22 outbuildings have been destroyed and 14 have been damaged.*
- *At least three commercial buildings have been destroyed.*
- *There are approximately 51 active bushfires currently burning across New South Wales.*
- NSW RFS advised that their assessments are not complete, and numbers are subject to change.

Queensland:

- The Queensland State Disaster Coordination Centre (SDCC) has confirmed that Queensland Bushfires have damaged 52 houses and 20 other structures.
- *In addition to this, 15 houses have been totally destroyed, five have sustained severe damage, 11 have sustained moderate damage, and 19 have sustained minor damage.*
- 101 damage assessments have been completed so far and are ongoing. This number is likely to increase as damage assessment teams gain access to areas currently impacted by fire and fallen trees.
- *There are currently 50 active bushfires burning across Queensland.*
- There are 27 aircraft assisting or available for tasking, including water bombing, mapping and line scan capability.
- A 50 person Rural Fire Service contingent from NSW and ACT arrived on Sunday 8 September at Canungra.
- *Ten schools have confirmed that they will be closed today, Monday 9 September.*

Situation details – New South Wales

Armidale Fire

- The bushfire burning in the vicinity of Bees Nest, 30 km from Armidale, is currently burning at the WATCH AND ACT level.
 - The fire has burnt more than 62,913 hectares and is out of control.*
 - A large spot fire is also burning in the Muldiva State Forest, burning towards Tyringham Road, Bostobrick.
 - Firefighters have continued working overnight with landlords to protect properties in the area.*
 - There is an evacuation centre at Dorrigo Showgrounds.

Tenterfield fire

- The bushfire burning in the vicinity of Drake, 28 km from Tenterfield, is currently burning at the WATCH AND ACT level.
 - The fire has burnt more than 32,100 hectares and is out of control.*
 - The fire is burning in remote terrain south of the Drake and Tabulum, in the Girard State Forest.
 - An evacuation centre has been established at the Tenterfield Showgrounds.
 - Firefighters are working with property owners to protect properties as the fire front approaches.*
 - Strong winds are expected to continue today.*

Shark Creek fire

- The bushfire burning in the Shark Creek area, is currently burning at the WATCH AND ACT level.*
 - The fire has burnt more than 3,700 hectares and is out of control.*
 - Strong winds are expected to impact the fore ground today, with the strongest gusts expected in the evening.*



Situation Details - Queensland

Stanthorpe fire

- The bushfire burning in the vicinity of Plant Lane and Amiens Road, Stanthorpe, is currently burning at the ADVICE level.
 - *The bushfire is burning within containment lines in the Stanthorpe and Applethorpe area.*
 - *Crews will continue to consolidate containment lines throughout the entire burn area today.*

Binna Burra fire (formerly known as the Sarabah or Beechmont bushfire)

- The bushfire burning in the vicinity of Binna Burra, is currently burning at the ADVICE level.
 - The fire has burnt approximately 2000 hectares.
 - The fire is burning on both sides of Binna Burra Road, south of Summerville Road,
 - Department of Defence conducted a precautionary relocation of Kokoda Barracks, Canungra.
 - On 7 September, a declaration of a disaster situation has been declared for the Scenic Rim regional council local government area.



Released by Department of Home Affairs
under the Freedom of Information Act 1982

Weather

Monday 9 September

- *Fine and sunny weather is forecast across Queensland.*
- *Dry, fresh and gusty south-westerly winds over the southeast Queensland will maintain elevated fire dangers.*
- *Temperatures will remain below average in most parts, but slightly above average along the east coast.*
- *Fire Danger Ratings are Very High for large areas of Queensland and a small area of north-eastern NSW.*

Source: Bureau of Meteorology

State and Territory Actions

Queensland and New South Wales

- Staff from the Qld SDCC and State Operations Centre (SOC) are liaising with disaster management stakeholders in areas of Queensland being impacted by significant fires. Forward planning is being conducted, with aerial assets on standby across the state.
 - Both the SOC and QFES SDCC are activated to Stand Up.
 - Line scan aircraft are operating under mutual aid mission planning with NSW, with a total of 31 aircraft available.

Source: Qld SDCC

Australian Government Actions

- On Friday 6 September, the Director-General of Emergency Management Australia approved the activation of COMDISPLAN in relation to bushfires burning in southeast Queensland and northern NSW.
 - Task request #001: ADF assisting with the provision of accommodation, transportation and sustenance for firefighting and IMT personnel at Kokoda Barracks, Canungra for approximately 56 firefighters and incident management personnel from NSW is ongoing.

Northern NSW Bushfires

- Disaster recovery assistance is being provided under the jointly funded Commonwealth-state Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DRFA).
- DRFA assistance is available in the local government areas of Armidale, Clarence Valley, Glen Innes, Inverell, Tenterfield, Uralla and Walcha.
- A range of assistance is available including:
 - Personal hardship and distress assistance for individuals and families;
 - Support for affected local councils and state agencies to help with operational response costs and restoring damaged essential public assets;
 - Concessional interest rate loans for small businesses, primary producers and non-profit organisations;
 - Freight subsidies for primary producers, and
 - Grants to eligible non-profit organisations.
 - This assistance is administered by the NSW Government.

Southern Queensland Bushfires

- Disaster recovery assistance is being provided under the jointly funded Commonwealth-state DRFA.
- DRFA assistance is available in the local government areas of Scenic Rim and Southern Downs.
- A range of assistance is available including:
 - Personal hardship and distress assistance for individuals and families; and
 - Support for affected local councils and state agencies to help with operational response costs.
- This assistance is administered by the Queensland Government.

Source: CCC Planning, Home Affairs Media and Portfolio Engagement Branch, Emergency Management Australia

Further Information:

- The CCC has contacted all relevant agencies and continues to monitor the situation closely.

Prepared by:	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)
Approved by:	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)
<p>Issued under the authority of the Director General Emergency Management Australia.</p> <p>For enquiries please contact the CCC on s. 22(1)(a)(ii) @homeaffairs.gov.au</p>	



Australian Government

Crisis Coordination Centre

Incident Brief

As of 1800 hrs (AEST), 9 September 2019

Queensland and northern New South Wales bushfires – Version 4

New information is in italics

Key Issues

- Parts of southern Queensland and northern NSW experienced SEVERE to EXTREME fire weather conditions on **Friday 6 September** and **Saturday 7 September**.

New South Wales:

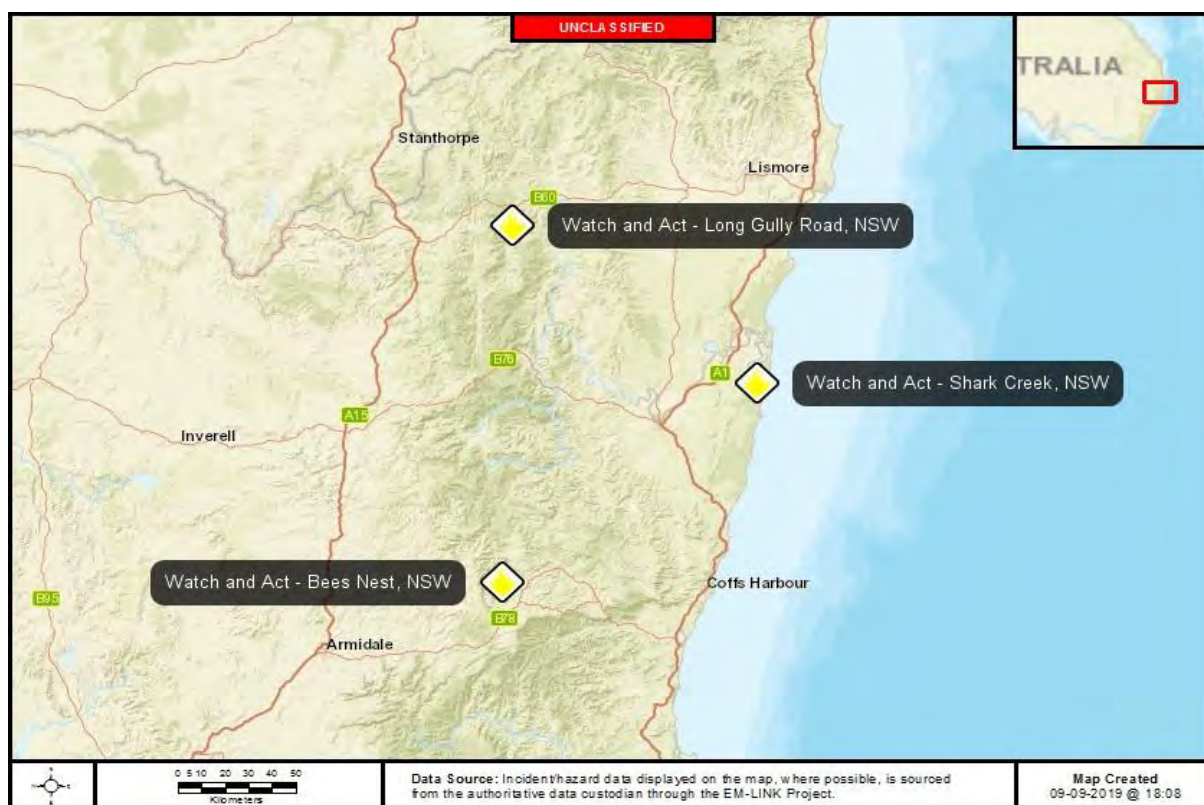
- NSW Rural Fire Service (NSW RFS) has completed an initial assessment of bushfire affected areas.
- At total of five houses have been destroyed and another five houses have been damaged.
- At least 22 outbuildings have been destroyed and 14 have been damaged.
- *At least three commercial buildings have been destroyed and another has been damaged.*
- *There are approximately 51 active bush and grass fires currently burning across New South Wales.*
- NSW RFS advised that their assessments are not complete, and numbers are subject to change.

Queensland:

- *The Queensland State Disaster Coordination Centre (SDCC) has confirmed that Queensland Bushfires have damaged or destroyed at least 47 structures, including 12 houses.*
- *200 damage assessments have been completed statewide so far and remain ongoing. This number is likely to change as damage assessment teams gain access to areas currently impacted by fire and fallen trees.*
- *There are currently 80 active bushfires burning across Queensland.*
- There are 29 aircraft assisting or available for tasking, including water bombing, mapping and line scan capability.
- A 50 person Rural Fire Service contingent from NSW arrived on Sunday 8 September at Canungra.
- *11 schools were closed today as a result of the fires.*

Released by Department of Home Affairs
under the Freedom of Information Act 1982

Situation Details – New South Wales



Shark Creek fire

- An EMERGENCY WARNING previously issued for a bushfire burning in the Shark Creek area has been downgraded to WATCH AND ACT level.
 - *The fire has burnt more than 6,923 hectares and is out of control.*
 - *The fire is burning in bushland in the Yuraygir National Park and Shark Creek area.*
 - *A large air tanker has dropped a line of retardant to the south of villages in an effort to slow the fire.*
 - *Fire crews are conducting backburning near properties in the Angourie area, in an effort to slow the spread of the fire.*
 - *Residents in the Wooloweyah and Angourie areas have been warned that embers may be blown ahead of the main fire front.*

Armidale fire

- The bushfire burning in the vicinity of Bees Nest, 30 km from Armidale, is currently burning at the WATCH AND ACT level.
 - *The fire has burnt more than 63,270 hectares and is out of control.*
 - A large spot fire is also burning in the Muldiva State Forest, burning towards Tyringham Road, Bostobrick.
 - Firefighters have continued working overnight with landlords to protect properties in the area.
 - *Strong west to south-westerly winds are affecting the area.*
 - There is an evacuation centre at Dorrigo Showgrounds.

Tenterfield fire

- The bushfire burning in the vicinity of Drake, 28 km from Tenterfield, is currently burning at the WATCH AND ACT level.
 - *The fire has burnt more than 32,866 hectares and is out of control.*
 - The fire is burning in remote terrain south of the Drake and Tabulum, in the Girard State Forest.

- An evacuation centre has been established at the Tenterfield Showgrounds.
- Firefighters are working with property owners to protect properties as the fire front approaches.
- Strong winds are expected to continue today.

Situation Details - Queensland



Stanthorpe fire

- The bushfire burning in the vicinity of Plant Lane and Amiens Road, Stanthorpe, is currently burning at the ADVICE level.
 - The bushfire is burning within containment lines in the Stanthorpe and Applethorpe area.
 - Crews will continue to consolidate containment lines throughout the entire burn area today.
 - *An evacuation centre has been established at the Ballandean Hall and Sports Club.*

Sarabah fire (formerly known as the Binna Burra or Beechmont bushfire)

- An EMERGENCY WARNING has been issued for a bushfire burning in the vicinity of Sarabah.
 - The fire has burnt approximately 2000 hectares.
 - *The fire is moving in a south-easterly direction towards O'Reilly and is forecast to have a significant impact on the community.*
 - *Two places of refuge have been established at O'Reilly Guest House and Moriarty Park.*
 - A declaration of a disaster situation has been declared for the Scenic Rim and Southern Downs regional council local government areas.

A separate bushfire in the vicinity of Taunton, approx. 75 km NW of Bundaberg, is currently burning at the WATCH AND ACT level and moving in a northerly direction.

Weather

Tuesday 10 September

- Fine and sunny weather is forecast across Queensland and northern New South Wales.
- Dry, fresh and gusty southerly winds over the southeast of Queensland and northern New South Wales will maintain elevated fire dangers.
- Possible damaging winds gusts in the morning may affect the Scenic Rim.

Source: Bureau of Meteorology

State and Territory Actions

Queensland and New South Wales

- Staff from the Qld SDCC and State Operations Centre (SOC) are liaising with disaster management stakeholders in areas of Queensland being impacted by significant fires. Forward planning is being conducted, with aerial assets on standby across the state.
 - Both the SOC and QFES SDCC are activated to Stand Up.
 - Line scan aircraft are operating under mutual aid mission planning with NSW, with a total of 29 aircraft available.

Source: Qld SDCC

Australian Government Actions

- On Friday 6 September, the Director-General of Emergency Management Australia approved the activation of COMDISPLAN in relation to bushfires burning in southeast Queensland and northern NSW.
 - Task request #001: ADF assisting with the provision of accommodation, transportation and sustenance at Kokoda Barracks, Canungra for approximately 56 firefighters and incident management personnel from NSW Rural Fire Service from 6 September to 10 September 2019.
 - Task Request #002: ADF assisting with the provision of accommodation, transportation and sustenance at Kokoda Barracks, Canungra for approximately 120 personnel from Qld Fire and Emergency Services and NSW Rural Fire Service from 10 September to 17 September 2019
- *The Australian Government Crisis Coordination Centre have deployed a Liaison Officer to the Queensland SDCC.*

Northern NSW Bushfires

- Disaster recovery assistance is being provided under the jointly funded Commonwealth-state Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DRFA).
- DRFA assistance is available in the local government areas of Armidale, Clarence Valley, Glen Innes, Inverell, Tenterfield, Uralla and Walcha.
- A range of assistance is available including:
 - Personal hardship and distress assistance for individuals and families;
 - Support for affected local councils and state agencies to help with operational response costs and restoring damaged essential public assets;
 - Concessional interest rate loans for small businesses, primary producers and non-profit organisations;
 - Freight subsidies for primary producers, and

- Grants to eligible non-profit organisations.
- This assistance is administered by the NSW Government.

Southern Queensland Bushfires

- Disaster recovery assistance is being provided under the jointly funded Commonwealth-state DRFA.
- *DRFA assistance is available in the local government areas of Scenic Rim and Southern Downs.*
- *A range of assistance is available including:*
 - *personal hardship and distress*
 - *counter disaster operations*
- This assistance is administered by the Queensland Government.

Source: CCC Planning, Home Affairs Media and Portfolio Engagement Branch, Emergency Management Australia

Further Information

- The CCC has contacted all relevant agencies and continues to monitor the situation closely.
- The Australian Government's Disaster Assist website provides an overview of the natural disaster events that have recently impacted Australia. Funding for recovery assistance is provided through the Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DRFA), Australian Government Disaster Recovery Payment (AGDRP) as well as the Disaster Recovery Allowance (DRA).
- Information on these programmes are available on www.disasterassist.gov.au.

Prepared by:	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)
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<p>Issued under the authority of the Director General Emergency Management Australia.</p> <p>For enquiries please contact the CCC on s. 22(1)(a)(ii) @homeaffairs.gov.au</p>	



Australian Government

Crisis Coordination Centre

Incident Brief

As of 1030 hrs (AEST), 10 September 2019

Queensland and northern New South Wales bushfires – Version 5

Key Issues

- Parts of southern Queensland and northern NSW experienced SEVERE to EXTREME fire weather conditions on **Friday 6 September** and **Saturday 7 September**.
- Both areas continue to experience adverse fire conditions.

New South Wales:

- NSW Rural Fire Service (NSW RFS) has completed an initial assessment of bushfire affected areas.
- At total of nine houses have been destroyed and another five houses have been damaged.
- At least 22 outbuildings have been destroyed and 14 have been damaged.
- At least three commercial buildings have been destroyed and another has been damaged.
- *Telstra has reported a loss of 3G and 4G mobile coverage in Hernani and disruptions to internet connections in the area. Restoration activities will be undertaken as sites become accessible.*
- *There are approximately 51 active bush and grass fires currently burning across NSW.*
- NSW RFS advised that their assessments are not complete, and numbers are subject to change.

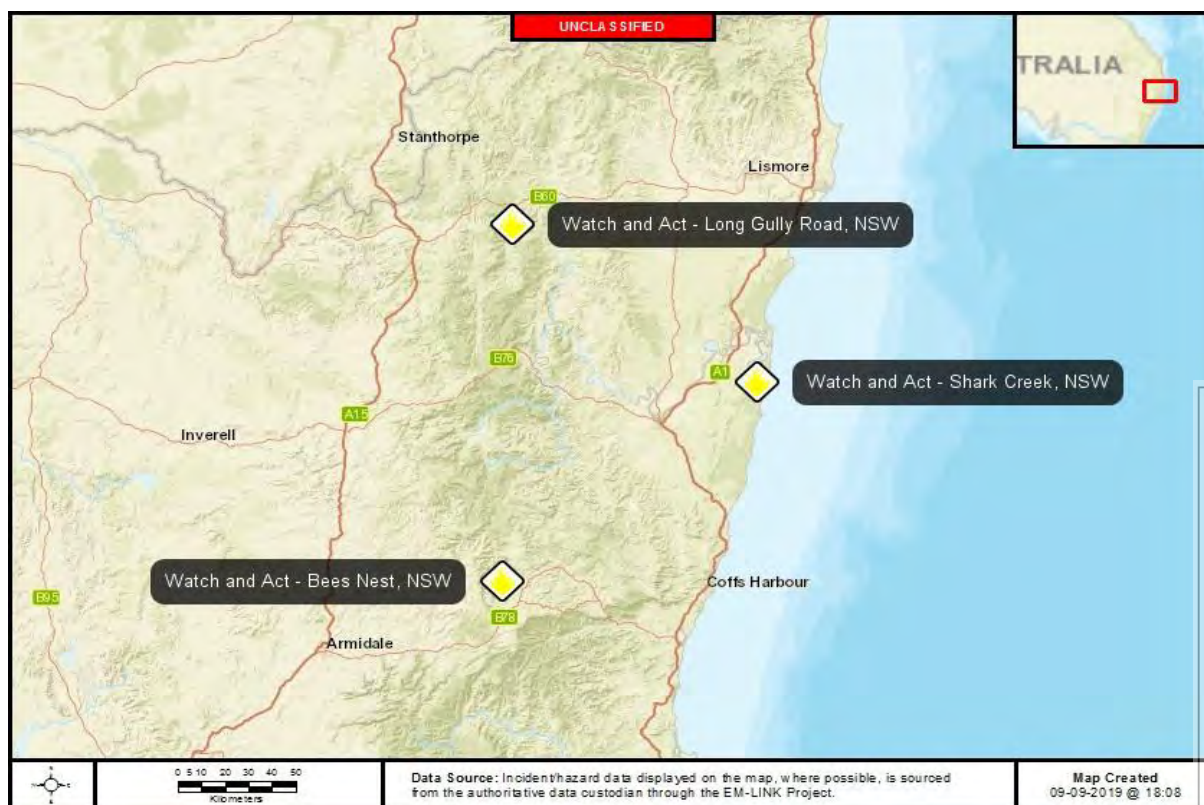
Queensland:

- The Queensland State Disaster Coordination Centre (SDCC) has confirmed that Queensland bushfires have damaged or destroyed at least 47 structures, including 12 houses, *these numbers do not include updated figures from any damage as result of the Peregrian Springs bushfire overnight. Damage assessments in this area are yet to be conducted due to access.*
- *Open source media is reporting that at least ten structures have been damaged and at least one destroyed overnight in the Peregrian Springs bushfire, but this is yet to be officially confirmed.*
- *As at 0930 hrs this morning there are 87 active bushfires burning across Queensland and 30 warnings in place for multiple fires across the state including LEAVE IMMEDIATELY in place at the Peregrian Springs bushfire.*

Released by Department of Home Affairs
under the Freedom of Information Act 1982

- More than 15,000 ha have been burnt in the past week, including 10,600 ha at Hawkewood, 3,600 ha at Sarabah and 2,000 ha at Stanthorpe.
- Energy Queensland reports 15 customers without supply in the Binna Burra Lodge area. Energex reports that 1048 properties in Peregrine Beach are without power due to the bushfire. Crews are unable to undertake repairs until the area is safe for access.
- Telstra has reported a loss of 3G and 4G mobile telephone coverage at Drake on the Queensland, New South Wales border, with reduced mobile coverage at Ballandean. Restoration activities will be undertaken as sites become accessible.
- 13 schools and 20 Early Childhood Education and Care Services will be closed today as a result of the fires.
- 200 damage assessments have been completed statewide so far and remain ongoing. This number is likely to change as damage assessment teams gain access to areas currently impacted by fire and fallen trees.
- There are 130 vehicles and 32 aircraft assisting or available for tasking, including water bombing, mapping and line scan capability.
- A 50 person Rural Fire Service contingent from NSW arrived on **Sunday 8 September** at Canungra.

Situation Details – New South Wales



Shark Creek fire

- An EMERGENCY WARNING previously issued for a bushfire burning in the Shark Creek area has been downgraded to WATCH AND ACT level.
 - The bushfire has burnt more than 7,750 hectares and is out of control.
 - The bushfire is burning in bushland in the Yuraygir National Park and Shark Creek area.

- *The bushfire is burning to the north and south of Angourie and Wooloweyah and is impacting the southern side of the villages.*
- *Strong winds with gusts up to 80 km/h are expected mid-morning, **Tuesday 10 September** which may push the fire towards the township of Yamba.*
- *A large air tanker has dropped lines of retardant to the south of villages in an effort to slow the fire.*
- *Fire crews are conducting backburning near properties in the Angourie area, in an effort to slow the spread of the fire.*
- *Residents in the Wooloweyah, Angourie, Yamba and Gulmarrad areas have been warned that embers may be blown ahead of the main fire front.*
- *An evacuation centre has been established at Yamba Bowling club, 44 Wooli Street, Yamba.*

Armidale fires

- *A bushfire burning in the vicinity of Bees Nest, 30 km from Armidale, is currently burning at the WATCH AND ACT level.*
 - *The bushfire has burnt more than 66,500 hectares and is out of control.*
 - *A large spot fire is also burning in the Muldiva State Forest, burning towards Tyringham Road, Bostobrick.*
 - *The bushfire has impacted Armidale Road and Tyringham Road, in the vicinity of Tyringham and Dundarrabin.*
 - *Firefighters have conducted backburns to protect properties.*
 - *Strong west to south-westerly winds are affecting the area which will push the fire in a north-easterly direction.*
 - *The bushfire remains a threat to the areas of Tyringham, Marengo, Moonpar, Billys Creek, Dundarrabin and Bostobrick.*
 - *An evacuation centre has been established at Dorrig Showgrounds.*
 - *Telstra has deployed a Satellite Cell on Wheels at the Tyringham RFS station to support operations in the area.*
- *A bushfire burning in the vicinity of Drake, 28 km from Tenterfield, is currently burning at the WATCH AND ACT level.*
 - *The fire has burnt more than 40,000 hectares and is out of control.*
 - *The fire is burning in remote terrain south of Drake and Tabulam, to the west of the Clarence River, in the Girard State Forest and Timbarra National Park.*
 - *The bushfire is burning in a north-easterly direction along Long Gully Road and Plains Station Road, towards the Bruxner Highway and the villages of Drake and Tabulam.*
 - *The Bruxner Highway is closed between Tabulam and Tenterfield.*
 - *An evacuation centre has been established at the Tenterfield Showgrounds.*

Source: Telstra, NSW RFS

Situation Details - Queensland



Peregian Springs fire

- An EMERGENCY WARNING has been issued for a bushfire burning in the vicinity of Peregian Beach and Marcus Beach.
 - A fast-moving bushfire is travelling in a north-easterly direction from Emu Mountain Road towards Peregian Beach and Marcus Beach.
 - Residents of Peregian Beach and Marcus Beach have been advised to evacuate along Old Emu Mountain Road in a northerly direction towards Noosa.
 - Open source media is reporting that at least two houses have been destroyed, but this is yet to be officially confirmed.
 - Evacuation centres are open for people affected at the Cooroy Library, The J Theatre Noosa, Cooroy and the Noosa Leisure Centre, Multi Sport Centre, Fishermans Road, Maroochydore and the Nambour Showgrounds.

Sarabah fire (formerly known as the Binna Burra or Beechmont bushfire)

- An EMERGENCY WARNING previously issued for a bushfire burning in the vicinity of O'Reilly, Sarabah, has been downgraded to ADVICE level.
 - The bushfire has burnt approximately 2000 hectares.
 - The bushfire is travelling in an easterly direction towards Lower Beechmont.
 - Two places of refuge have been established at O'Reilly Guest House and Moriarty Park.
 - A declaration of a disaster situation has been declared for the Scenic Rim and Southern Downs regional council local government areas.

Stanthorpe fire

- A bushfire burning in the vicinity of Plant Lane and Amiens Road, Stanthorpe, is currently burning at the ADVICE level.
 - The bushfire is burning within containment lines in the Stanthorpe and Applethorpe areas.
 - Crews will continue to consolidate containment lines throughout the entire burn area today.
 - *An evacuation centre has been established at the Ballandean Hall and Sports Club.*

Taunton fire

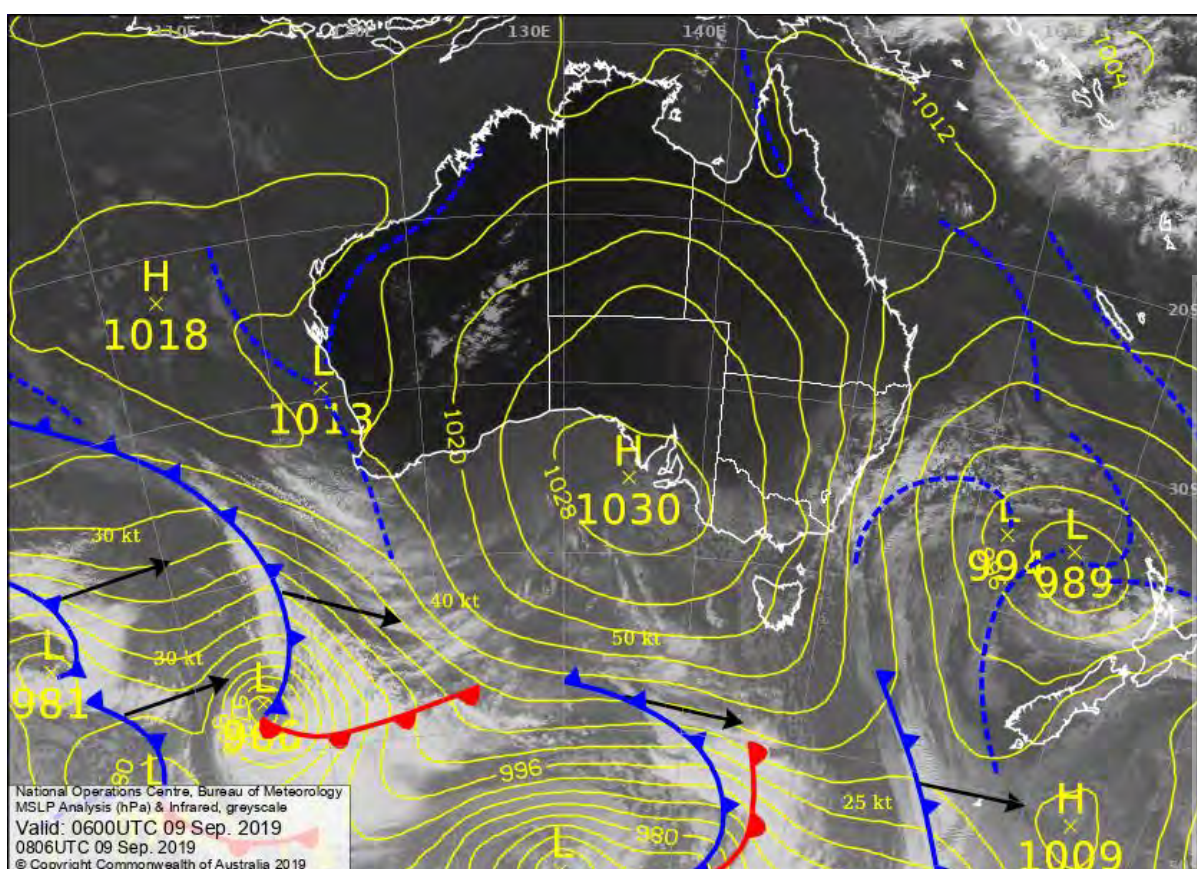
- A bushfire burning in the vicinity of Lowmead, Taunton, approximately 75 km NW of Bundaberg, is currently burning at the WATCH AND ACT level.
 - *A bushfire is travelling in a northerly direction from Seeds Road toward Tableland Road.*

Source: Qld RFS, QPS - verbal, Qld SDCC

Weather

Tuesday 10 September

- Fine and sunny weather is forecast across Southeast Queensland, with south-westerly winds during the morning turning south to south-easterly at 30 to 45 km/h in the early afternoon.
- Between Port Macquarie and Newcastle around 5mm of rain is expected along the coast. This is unlikely to provide relief.



Source: Bureau of Meteorology

State and Territory Actions

Queensland and New South Wales

- Staff from the Qld SDCC and State Operations Centre (SOC) are liaising with disaster management stakeholders in areas of Queensland being impacted by significant fires. Forward planning is being conducted, with aerial assets on standby across the state.
 - Both the SOC and Qld SDCC are activated to Stand Up.
 - Line scan aircraft are operating under mutual aid mission planning with NSW, with a total of 32 aircraft available.

Source: Qld SDCC

Australian Government Actions

- On **Friday 6 September**, the Director-General of Emergency Management Australia approved the activation of COMDISPLAN in relation to bushfires burning in southeast Queensland and northern NSW.
 - *Task Request #001: ADF assisting with the provision of accommodation, transportation and sustenance at Kokoda Barracks, Canungra for approximately 56 firefighters and incident management personnel from NSW RFS from **6 September to 10 September 2019**.*
 - *Task Request #002: ADF assisting with the provision of accommodation, transportation and sustenance at Kokoda Barracks, Canungra for approximately 120 personnel from Qld Fire and Emergency Services and NSW RFS from **10 September to 17 September 2019**.*
- *The Australian Government Crisis Coordination Centre have deployed a Liaison Officer to the Queensland SDCC.*
- On **Monday 9 September**, the Director-General of Emergency Management Australia chaired an emergency teleconference of the fire and emergency services Commissioners and Chief Officers Strategic Committee to assist and map the way forward for interstate assistance to QLD.

Northern NSW Bushfires

- Disaster recovery assistance is being provided under the jointly funded Commonwealth-state Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DRFA).
- DRFA assistance is available in the local government areas of Armidale, Clarence Valley, Glen Innes, Inverell, Tenterfield, Uralla and Walcha.
- A range of assistance is available including:
 - Personal hardship and distress assistance for individuals and families;
 - Support for affected local councils and state agencies to help with operational response costs and restoring damaged essential public assets;
 - Concessional interest rate loans for small businesses, primary producers and non-profit organisations;
 - Freight subsidies for primary producers; and
 - Grants to eligible non-profit organisations.
 - This assistance is administered by the NSW Government.

Southern Qld Bushfires

- Disaster recovery assistance is being provided under the jointly funded Commonwealth-state DRFA.

- *DRFA assistance is available in the local government areas of Scenic Rim and Southern Downs.*
- *A range of assistance is available including:*
 - personal hardship and distress; and
 - counter disaster operations.
- This assistance is administered by the Queensland Government.

Source: CCC Planning, Home Affairs Media and Portfolio Engagement Branch, Emergency Management Australia

Further Information

- The CCC has contacted all relevant agencies and continues to monitor the situation closely.
- The Australian Government's Disaster Assist website provides an overview of the natural disaster events that have recently impacted Australia. Funding for recovery assistance is provided through the Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DRFA), Australian Government Disaster Recovery Payment (AGDRP) as well as the Disaster Recovery Allowance (DRA).
- Information on these programmes are available on www.disasterassist.gov.au.

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Australian Government

Crisis Coordination Centre

Incident Brief

As of 1800 hrs (AEST), 10 September 2019

Queensland and northern New South Wales bushfires – Version 6

Key Issues

- Parts of southern Queensland and northern NSW experienced SEVERE to EXTREME fire weather conditions on **Friday 6 September** and **Saturday 7 September**.
- Both areas continue to experience adverse fire conditions.

New South Wales:

- NSW Rural Fire Service (NSW RFS) has completed an initial assessment of bushfire affected areas.
- *There are approximately 54 active bush and grass fires currently burning across NSW.*
- NSW RFS advised that their assessments are not complete, and numbers are subject to change.
- *At total of nine houses have been destroyed and another six houses have been damaged.*
- *At least 34 outbuildings have been destroyed and 23 have been damaged.*
- At least three commercial buildings have been destroyed and another has been damaged.
- Telstra has reported a loss of 3G and 4G mobile coverage in Hernani and disruptions to internet connections in the area. Restoration activities will be undertaken as sites become accessible.

Queensland:

- *As at 1600 hrs on **Tuesday 10 September**, there are more than 80 fires burning across the state.*
- *The Queensland State Disaster Coordination Centre (SDCC) have confirmed that the Queensland bushfires have damaged or destroyed a total of 23 houses.*
- *More than 15,000 ha have been burnt in the past week, including 10,500 ha at Hawkewood, 3,700 ha at Sarabah and 2,000 ha at Stanthorpe.*
- Energy Queensland reports 15 customers without supply in the Binna Burra Lodge area. Energex reports that 1048 properties in Peregrine Beach are without power due to the bushfire. Crews are unable to undertake repairs until the area is safe for access.

Released by Department of Home Affairs
under the Freedom of Information Act 1982

- Telstra has reported service interruptions to a total of 27 fixed telephone services in Beechmont and Mount Larcom, a reduction in 3G mobile coverage in Ballandean and up to 994 NBN voice and data services in Peregrine Springs. Services in Moore and Linville have been restored.
- 13 schools and 10 Early Childhood Education and Care Services will be closed today as a result of the fires.
- Approximately 370 damage assessments have been completed statewide to date and remain ongoing. This number is likely to change as damage assessment teams gain access to areas currently impacted by fire and fallen trees.
- There are 130 vehicles and 32 aircraft assisting or available for tasking, including water bombing, mapping and line scan capability.
- A deployment of 52 firefighters from NSW and ACT arrived on **Sunday 8 September** to relieve the 50 NSW firefighters based at Canungra.

Situation Details – New South Wales



Armidale fire

- An EMERGENCY WARNING has been issued for a bushfire burning in the vicinity of Bees Nest, 30 km from Armidale.
 - The bushfire has burnt approximately 67,186 hectares and is out of control.
 - The fire has breached containment lines and is burning towards homes and properties in the Billys Creek area.
 - Strong winds are currently affecting the area and continue to push the fire in a north-easterly direction.
 - Smoke from the fire may be affecting the areas of Dorrigo and Coffs Harbour.

- An evacuation centre has been established at Dorrigo Showgrounds.
- Telstra has deployed a Satellite Cell on Wheels at the Tyringham RFS station to support operations in the area.

Tenterfield fire

- *An EMERGENCY WARNING previously issued for a bushfire burning in the vicinity of Drake, 28 km from Tenterfield, has been downgraded to WATCH AND ACT level.*
 - *The fire has burnt more than 40,000 hectares and is out of control.*
 - *The fire is continuing to spread in a number of directions due to strong winds and local terrain.*
 - *The Bruxner Highway is closed between Tabulam and Tenterfield.*
 - *Fallen trees and the fire may impact local roads.*
 - An Evacuation Centre has been established at the Tenterfield Showgrounds.

Shark Creek fire

- A bushfire in the Shark Creek area is currently burning at the ADVICE level.
 - *The bushfire has burnt approximately 9,325 hectares and is now being controlled.*
 - *Firefighters and aircraft have slowed the spread of the fire.*
 - *Conditions are easing and the immediate threat to properties has lessened.*
 - *A fire is burning to the south of Gulmarrad, however fire activity is easing.*

Source: Telstra, NSW RFS

Situation Details - Queensland



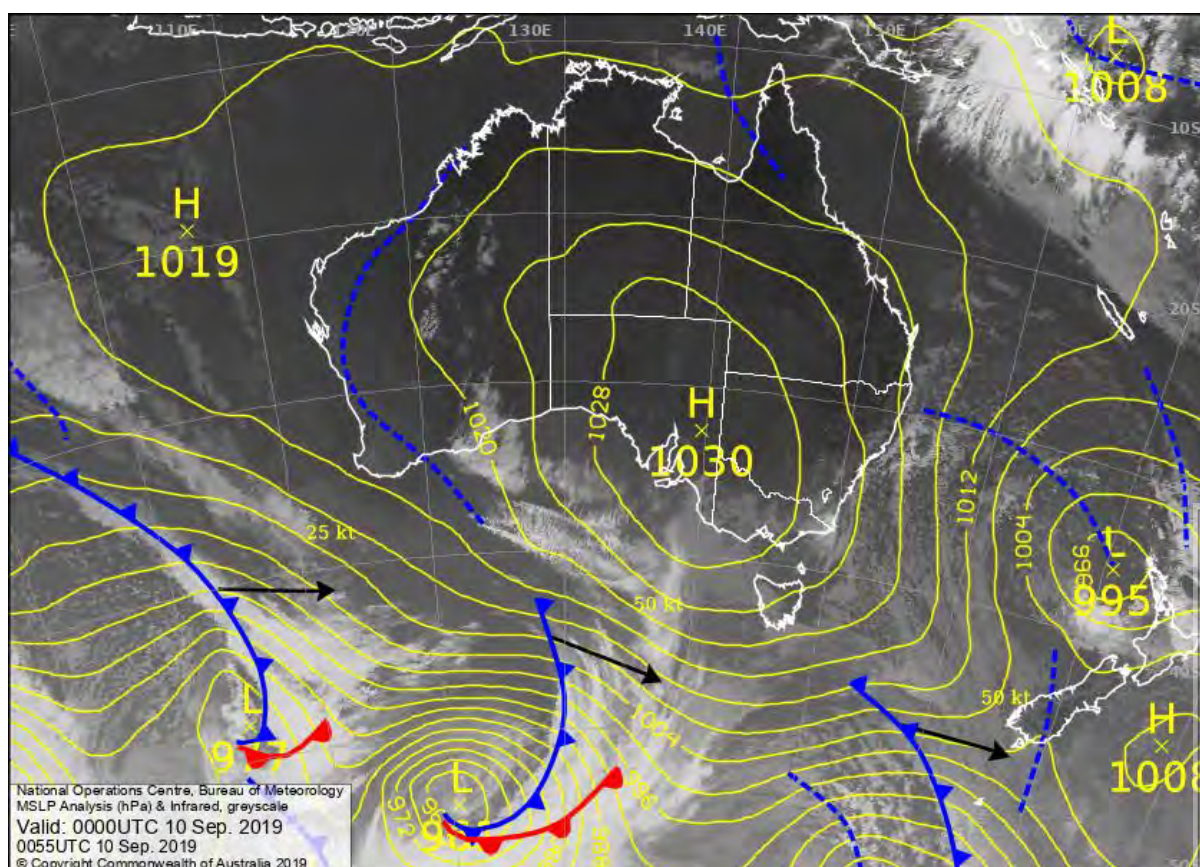
Released by Department of Home Affairs
under the Freedom of Information Act 1982

Peregrin Springs fire

- An EMERGENCY WARNING remains current for a bushfire burning in the vicinity of Peregrin Beach and Marcus Beach.
 - *The bushfire is moving in a north to north-westerly direction from Peregrin Beach towards the southern end of Lake Weyba.*
 - *Residents of Peregrin Beach, Peregrin Breeze Estate and the south of Lake Weyba have been advised to evacuate immediately.*
 - *Approximately 800 properties are experiencing a power outage in the Peregrin Beach and Peregrin Springs areas. Restoration time is unknown until access is granted and asset inspections can be completed.*
 - Evacuation centres are open for people affected at the Cooroy Library, The J Theatre Noosa, Cooroy and the Noosa Leisure Centre, Multi Sport Centre, Fishermans Road, Maroochydore and the Nambour Showgrounds.

Source: Qld RFS, QPS - verbal, Qld SDCC

Weather



Wednesday 11 September

- *NSW is forecast to be dry and sunny, apart from a showers along the coastal fringe north of about Ulladulla. Fresh and gusty southerly winds are forecast along the coast.*
- *A high will move slowly eastwards across New South Wales and southern Queensland. This will allow winds to become lighter over southeast Queensland.*

Source: Bureau of Meteorology

State and Territory Actions

Queensland and New South Wales

- Staff from the Qld SDCC and State Operations Centre (SOC) are liaising with disaster management stakeholders in areas of Queensland being impacted by significant fires. Forward planning is being conducted, with aerial assets on standby across the state.
 - Both the SOC and Qld SDCC are activated to Stand Up.
 - Line scan aircraft are operating under mutual aid mission planning with NSW, with a total of 32 aircraft available.

Source: Qld SDCC

Australian Government Actions

- On **Friday 6 September**, the Director-General of Emergency Management Australia approved the activation of COMDISPLAN in relation to bushfires burning in southeast Queensland and northern NSW.
 - Task Request #001: ADF assisting with the provision of accommodation, transportation and sustenance at Kokoda Barracks, Canungra for approximately 56 firefighters and incident management personnel from NSW RFS from **6 September to 10 September 2019**.
 - Task Request #002: ADF assisting with the provision of accommodation, transportation and sustenance at Kokoda Barracks, Canungra for approximately 120 personnel from Qld Fire and Emergency Services and NSW RFS from **10 September to 17 September 2019**.
- The Australian Government Crisis Coordination Centre have deployed a Liaison Officer to the Queensland SDCC.
- On **Monday 9 September**, the Director-General of Emergency Management Australia chaired an emergency teleconference of the fire and emergency services Commissioners and Chief Officers Strategic Committee to assist and map the way forward for interstate assistance to Qld.

Northern NSW Bushfires

- Disaster recovery assistance is being provided under the jointly funded Commonwealth-state Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DRFA).
- DRFA assistance is available in the local government areas of Armidale, Clarence Valley, Glen Innes, Inverell, Tenterfield, Uralla and Walcha.
- A range of assistance is available including:
 - Personal hardship and distress assistance for individuals and families;
 - Support for affected local councils and state agencies to help with operational response costs and restoring damaged essential public assets;
 - Concessional interest rate loans for small businesses, primary producers and non-profit organisations;
 - Freight subsidies for primary producers; and
 - Grants to eligible non-profit organisations.
 - This assistance is administered by the NSW Government.

Southern Qld Bushfires

- Disaster recovery assistance is being provided under the jointly funded Commonwealth-state DRFA.
- DRFA assistance is available in the local government areas of Scenic Rim and Southern Downs.
- A range of assistance is available including:
 - personal hardship and distress; and
 - counter disaster operations.
- This assistance is administered by the Queensland Government.

Source: EMA Recovery, Home Affairs Media and Portfolio Engagement Branch, Emergency Management Australia

Further Information

- The CCC has contacted all relevant agencies and continues to monitor the situation closely.
- The Australian Government's Disaster Assist website provides an overview of the natural disaster events that have recently impacted Australia. Funding for recovery assistance is provided through the Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DRFA), Australian Government Disaster Recovery Payment (AGDRP) as well as the Disaster Recovery Allowance (DRA).
- Information on these programmes are available on www.disasterassist.gov.au.

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Australian Government

Crisis Coordination Centre

Incident Brief

As of 1030 hrs (AEST), 11 September 2019

Queensland and northern New South Wales bushfires – Version 7

Key Issues

- Parts of southern Queensland and northern NSW experienced SEVERE to EXTREME fire weather conditions on **Friday 6 September** and **Saturday 7 September**.
- Both areas continue to experience adverse fire conditions.

New South Wales:

- As at 0930hrs on **Wednesday 11 September**, there are approximately 48 active bush and grass fires currently burning across NSW.
- NSW Rural Fire Service (NSW RFS) are completing their assessments and numbers are subject to change.
- A total of nine houses have been destroyed and another seven houses have been damaged.
- At least 41 outbuildings have been destroyed and 26 have been damaged.
- At least three commercial buildings have been destroyed and another has been damaged.
- Telstra has reported a loss of 3G and 4G mobile coverage in Hernan and Drake as a result of the bushfires. Restoration activities will be undertaken as sites become accessible.
- Telstra has reported that 60 ADSL services located in Tyringham, Dundurrabin and Billys Creeks are unable to establish an internet connection due to the impact of the Bees Nest Fire.
- There are 45 aircraft are either deployed or on standby.

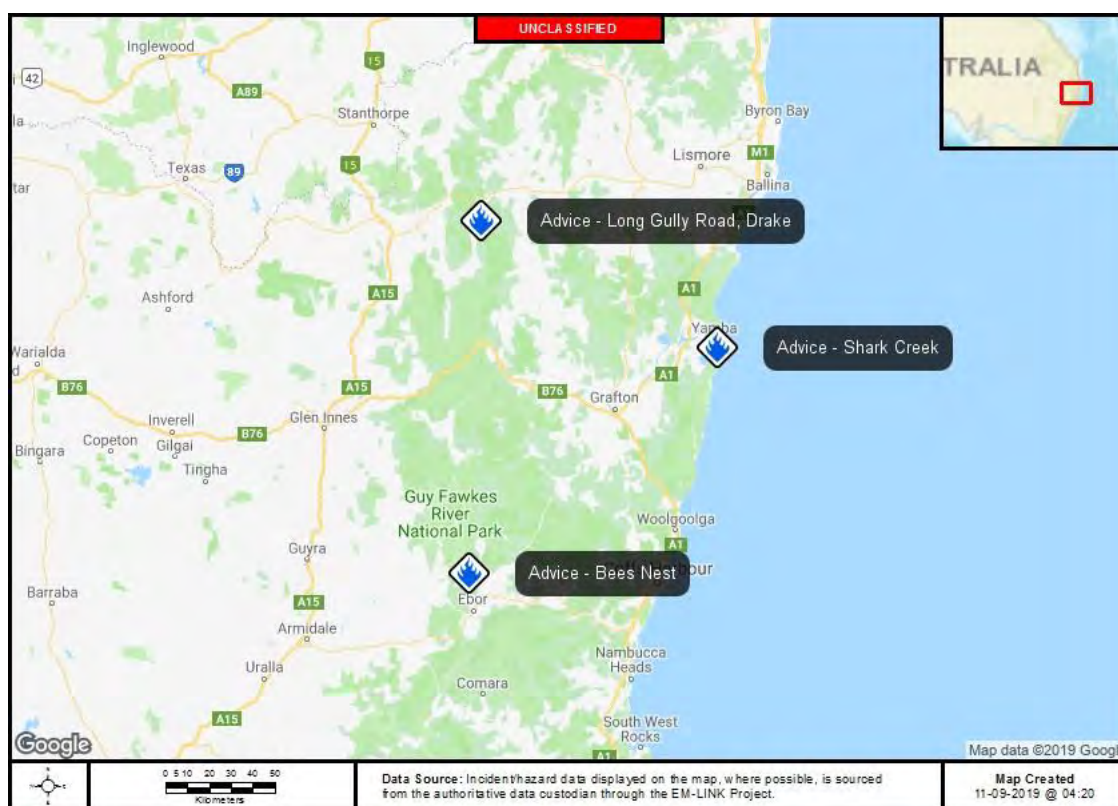
Queensland:

- As at 0930hrs on **Wednesday 11 September**, there are more than 74 fires burning across the state.
- Approximately 383 damage assessments have been completed statewide to date and remain ongoing. This number is likely to change as damage assessment teams gain access to areas currently impacted by fire and fallen trees.
- At total of 17 houses have been destroyed and another 86 houses damaged.
- More than 33,000 ha have been burnt in the past week, including 10,600 ha at Hawkewood, 5000 ha at Sarabah, 2000 ha at Stanthorpe and almost 1000 ha as a result of the Peregrin Springs fire.

- *Energex reports that five properties are without power due to emergency repairs in the Binna Burra and Beechmont areas, with a further four in Peregrine Beach due to damage caused by bushfires.*
- *Telstra has reported service interruptions to a total of 795 fixed line telephone services, a reduction in 540 ADSL data services and disruption to up to 994 NBN voice and data services in Peregrine Springs and Peregrine Beach; as well as reduced 3G and 4G mobile coverage in Peregrine South. At Coolumb Beach around 500 Fibre To The Premise (FTTP) services are down.*
- *Telstra are waiting on clearance to be able to enter the Peregrine area to undertake repairs and assessments and have arranged a Cell on Wheels to be located in the Noosa area on request of QFES.*
- *Telstra has reported service interruptions to a total of 27 fixed telephone services in Beechmont and Mount Larcom, a reduction in 3G mobile coverage in Ballandean. Services in Moore and Linville have been restored.*
- *Four schools and 17 Early Childhood Education and Care Services are closed today **11 September 2019** as a result of the fires.*
- *There are 130 vehicles and 35 aircraft assisting or available for tasking, including water bombing, mapping and line scan capability.*
- *The deployment of 53 firefighters from NSW and ACT, will be relieved today **11 September 2019**, by 30 Victorian and 18 South Australian firefighters.*

Source: Telstra, Qld SDCC, Qld RFS, NSW SEOC, NSW RFS, Energex, Qld Department of Education

Situation Details – New South Wales



Released by Department of Home Affairs
under the Freedom of Information Act 1982

Armidale fire

- *An EMERGENCY WARNING previously issued for a bushfire burning in the vicinity of Bees Nest, 30 km north-east of Armidale, has been downgraded to ADVICE.*
 - *The bushfire remains out of control and has burnt approximately 72,989 hectares.*
 - *Conditions on the fire ground have eased.*
 - *The fire is burning close to homes and properties.*
 - *Smoke from the fire may be affecting the areas of Dorrigo and Coffs Harbour.*
 - *An evacuation centre has been established at the Dorrigo Showgrounds.*
 - *Telstra has deployed a Satellite Cell on Wheels at the Tyringham RFS station to support operations in the area.*

Tenterfield fire

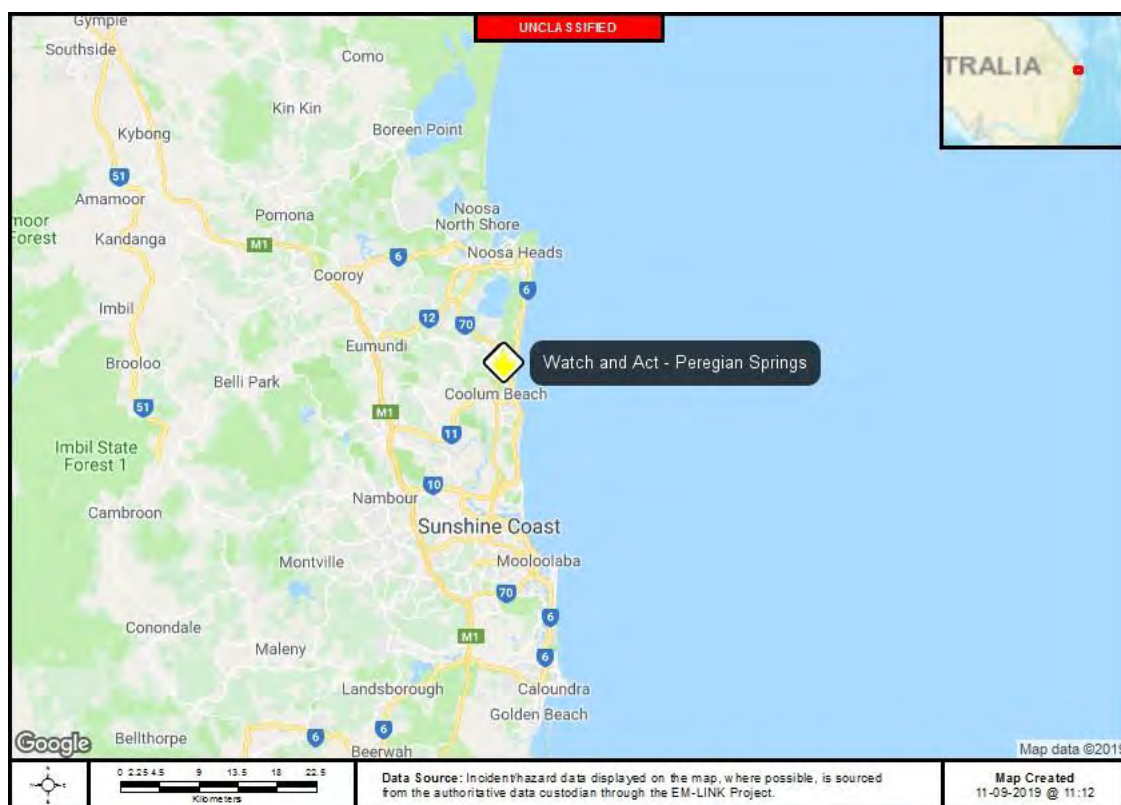
- *An EMERGENCY WARNING previously issued for a bushfire burning in the vicinity of Drake, 28 km east of Tenterfield, has been downgraded to ADVICE.*
 - *The fire has burnt more than 43,452 hectares and is not under control.*
 - *The fire is continuing to spread in a number of directions due to strong winds and difficult local terrain.*
 - *The fire continues to burn to the west of the Clarence River in the Girard State Forest.*
 - *The Bruxner Highway is closed between Tabulam and Tenterfield.*
 - *An Evacuation Centre has been established at the Tenterfield Showgrounds.*

Shark Creek fire

- *A bushfire in the Shark Creek area is currently burning at the ADVICE level.*
 - *The bushfire has burnt approximately 9,325 hectares and is being controlled.*
 - *The fire is burning in bushland in the Yuraygir National Park and Shark Creek area, south of Yamba.*
 - *The bushfire is burning to the north and south of the villages of Angourie and Wooloweyah.*
 - *Firefighters and aircraft have slowed the spread of the fire.*
 - *Conditions are easing and the immediate threat to properties has lessened with backburning operations undertaken overnight.*
 - *Fire is also burning to the south of Gulmarrad, however, fire activity has eased.*
 - *An Evacuation Centre is open at Yamba Bowling Club, Yamba.*

Source: Telstra, NSW RFS

Situation Details - Queensland

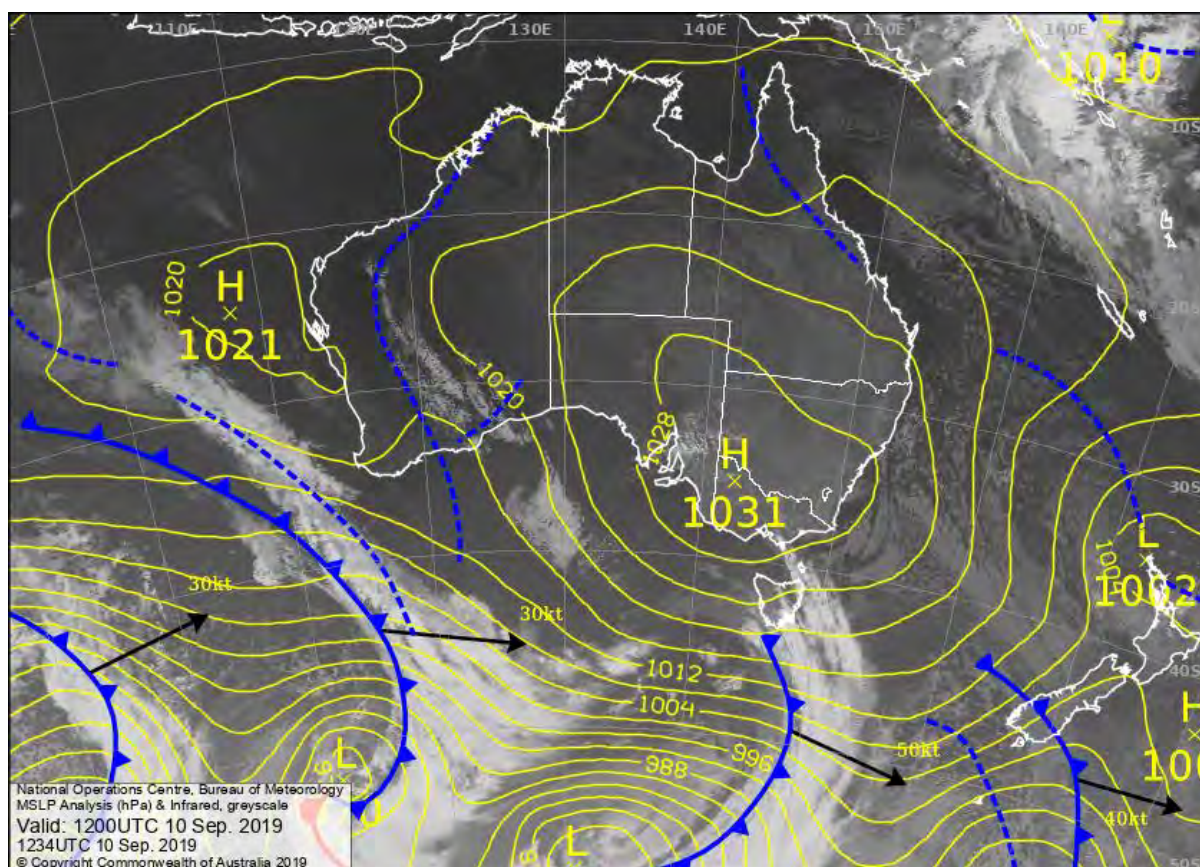


Peregian Springs fire

- An EMERGENCY WARNING previously issued for a bushfire burning in the vicinity of Peregian Beach and Marcus Beach, had been downgraded to a WATCH AND ACT.
 - *The bushfire is moving in a north to north-westerly direction from Peregian Beach towards the southern end of Lake Weyba.*
 - *Residents of Peregian Beach, Peregian Breeze Estate and the south of Lake Weyba have been advised to prepare to leave.*
 - *Crews have managed to slow the progress of the fire however it remains uncontained.*
 - *A large number of properties are experiencing internet, phone and mobile coverage disruptions due to the impact of the fires.*
 - *Evacuation centres are open for people affected at the Maroochydore Multisports Complex, Nambour Showgrounds, The J Noosa, and the Noosa Leisure Centre.*
 - *Approximately 1200 residents have been evacuated from the Lake Weyba and Peregian Breeze area.*

Source: Qld RFS, QPS - verbal, Qld SDCC, EMA LO

Weather



Wednesday 11 September

- NSW is forecast to be dry and sunny, apart from showers along the coastal fringe north of Ulladulla. Fresh and gusty southerly winds are forecast along the coast.
- A high will move slowly eastwards across New South Wales and southern Queensland. This will allow winds to become lighter over southeast Queensland.

Source: Bureau of Meteorology

State and Territory Actions

Queensland and New South Wales

- Staff from the Qld SDCC and State Operations Centre (SOC) are liaising with disaster management stakeholders in areas of Queensland being impacted by significant fires. Forward planning is being conducted, with aerial assets on standby across the state.
 - Both the SOC and Qld SDCC are activated to Stand Up.

Source: Qld SDCC

Australian Government Actions

- On **Friday 6 September**, the Director-General of Emergency Management Australia approved the activation of COMDISPLAN in relation to bushfires burning in southeast Queensland and northern NSW.
 - Task Request #001: ADF assisting with the provision of accommodation, transportation and sustenance at Kokoda Barracks, Canungra for approximately 56 firefighters and incident management personnel from NSW RFS from **6 September to 10 September 2019**.
 - Task Request #002: ADF assisting with the provision of accommodation, transportation and sustenance at Kokoda Barracks, Canungra for approximately 120 personnel from Qld Fire and Emergency Services and NSW RFS from **10 September to 17 September 2019**.
- The Australian Government Crisis Coordination Centre have deployed a Liaison Officer to the Queensland SDCC.
- On **Monday 9 September**, the Director-General of Emergency Management Australia chaired an emergency teleconference of the fire and emergency services Commissioners and Chief Officers Strategic Committee to assist and map the way forward for interstate assistance to Qld.

Northern NSW Bushfires

- Disaster recovery assistance is being provided under the jointly funded Commonwealth-state Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DRFA).
- DRFA assistance is available in the local government areas of Armidale, Clarence Valley, Glen Innes, Inverell, Tenterfield, Uralla and Walcha.
- A range of assistance is available including:
 - Personal hardship and distress assistance for individuals and families;
 - Support for affected local councils and state agencies to help with operational response costs and restoring damaged essential public assets;
 - Concessional interest rate loans for small businesses, primary producers and non-profit organisations;
 - Freight subsidies for primary producers; and
 - Grants to eligible non-profit organisations.
 - This assistance is administered by the NSW Government.

Southern Qld Bushfires

- Disaster recovery assistance is being provided under the jointly funded Commonwealth-state DRFA.
- DRFA assistance is available in the local government areas of Scenic Rim and Southern Downs.
- A range of assistance is available including:
 - personal hardship and distress; and
 - counter disaster operations.
- This assistance is administered by the Queensland Government.

Source: EMA Recovery, Home Affairs Media and Portfolio Engagement Branch, Emergency Management Australia

Further Information

- The CCC has contacted all relevant agencies and continues to monitor the situation closely.
- The Australian Government's Disaster Assist website provides an overview of the natural disaster events that have recently impacted Australia. Funding for recovery assistance is provided through the Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DRFA), Australian Government Disaster Recovery Payment (AGDRP) as well as the Disaster Recovery Allowance (DRA).
- Information on these programmes are available on www.disasterassist.gov.au.

Prepared by:	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)
Approved by:	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)
<p>Issued under the authority of the Director General Emergency Management Australia.</p> <p>For enquiries please contact the CCC on s. 22(1)(a)(ii) @homeaffairs.gov.au</p>	



Australian Government

Crisis Coordination Centre

Incident Brief

As of 1800 hrs (AEST), 11 September 2019

Queensland and northern New South Wales bushfires – Version 8

New information is in italics

Key Issues

- Parts of southern Queensland and northern NSW experienced SEVERE to EXTREME fire weather conditions on **Friday 6 September** and **Saturday 7 September**.

Queensland:

- As at 1800 AEST on **Wednesday 11 September**, there are more than 75 fires burning across the state.
- Approximately 400 damage assessments have been completed state wide to date and remain ongoing.
- A total of 17 houses have been destroyed and another 86 houses damaged.
- More than 36,000 ha have been burnt in the past week, including 10,600 ha at Hawkewood, 5000 ha at Sarabah, 2000 ha at Stanthorpe and almost 1000 ha as a result of the Peregrine Springs fire.
- *110 interstate personnel from NSW are currently deployed to Queensland. These include firefighters and an Incident Management Team (IMT).*
 - *A rotation of firefighting, air operations and IMT personnel will be engaged from ACT, Vic. SA and WA.*
- *Two aviation specialists are arriving from New Zealand on **Friday 13 September** to assist.*
- There are 130 vehicles and 35 aircraft assisting or available for tasking, including water bombing, mapping and line scan capability. *This includes the New South Wales Rural Fire Service Large Air Tanker (LAT).*
- *Energex have restored power to all properties throughout the fire effected areas.*
- *Telstra assessments confirm no physical damage to the Peregrine exchange, however fire damage has impacted three customer access network optic fibre cables at Peregrine Beach and Coolumb Beach. Fibre repair technicians are being engaged to undertake assessments for repair options. There are currently three Red Zones declared across the state, including locations at Beechmont, Canungra and Ferny Glen.*
- Four schools and 17 Early Childhood Education and Care Services are closed today **Wednesday 11 September** as a result of the fires.

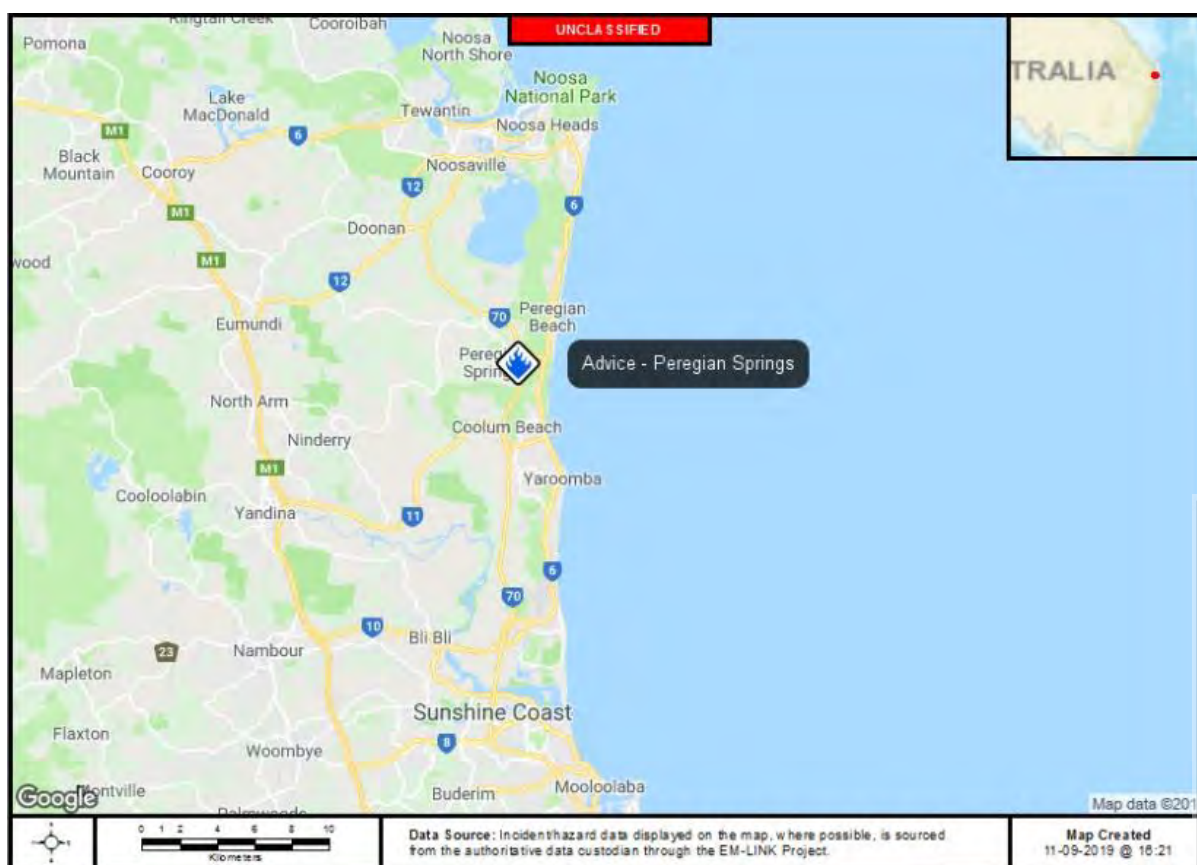
Released by Department of Home Affairs
under the Freedom of Information Act 1982

New South Wales:

- As at 1800 AEST on **Wednesday 11 September**, there are approximately 47 active bush and grass fires currently burning across NSW.
- NSW Rural Fire Service (NSW RFS) are completing their assessments and numbers are subject to change.
- A total of nine houses have been destroyed and another seven houses have been damaged.
- At least 41 outbuildings have been destroyed and 26 have been damaged.
- At least three commercial buildings have been destroyed and another has been damaged.
- *Telstra has advised that all services in fire affected areas throughout NSW have now been restored.*
- There are 45 aircraft either deployed or on standby.

Source: Telstra, Qld SDCC, Qld RFS, NSW SEOC, NSW RFS, Energex, Qld Department of Education, NRSC

Situation Details - Queensland



Peregian Springs fire

- A WATCH AND ACT previously issued for a bushfire burning in the vicinity of Peregian Breeze Estate and Weyba Downs, has been downgraded to ADVICE.
 - The bushfire is moving in a north to north-westerly direction from Peregian Beach towards the southern end of Lake Weyba.
 - *QPS have revoked the Peregian Springs and Peregian Beach Public Safety Preservation Act enabling residents to return to their homes.*

- This fire has been contained, and crews remain on scene dampening down hotspots.
- People in the area will be affected by smoke, which will reduce visibility and air quality.
- There are currently no evacuation centres open across the state.

Source: Qld RFS, QPS - verbal, Qld SDCC, EMA LO

Situation Details – New South Wales



Armidale fire

- The bushfire burning in the vicinity of Bees Nest, 30 km north-east of Armidale is at the ADVICE level.
 - The bushfire remains out of control and has burnt approximately 74,696 hectares.
 - Conditions on the fire ground have eased.
 - The fire is burning close to homes and properties. Firefighters remain on scene to continue to protect properties in the area.
 - Smoke from the fire may be affecting the areas of Dorrigo and Coffs Harbour.
 - Fire and fallen trees may continue to impact a number of local roads.
 - *An evacuation centre remains open at the Dorrigo Showgrounds, with approximately 81 people registered for this centre.*

Tenterfield fire

- A bushfire burning in the vicinity of Drake, 28 km east of Tenterfield is currently burning at the ADVICE level.
 - The fire has burnt more than 43,452 hectares and is not yet under control.

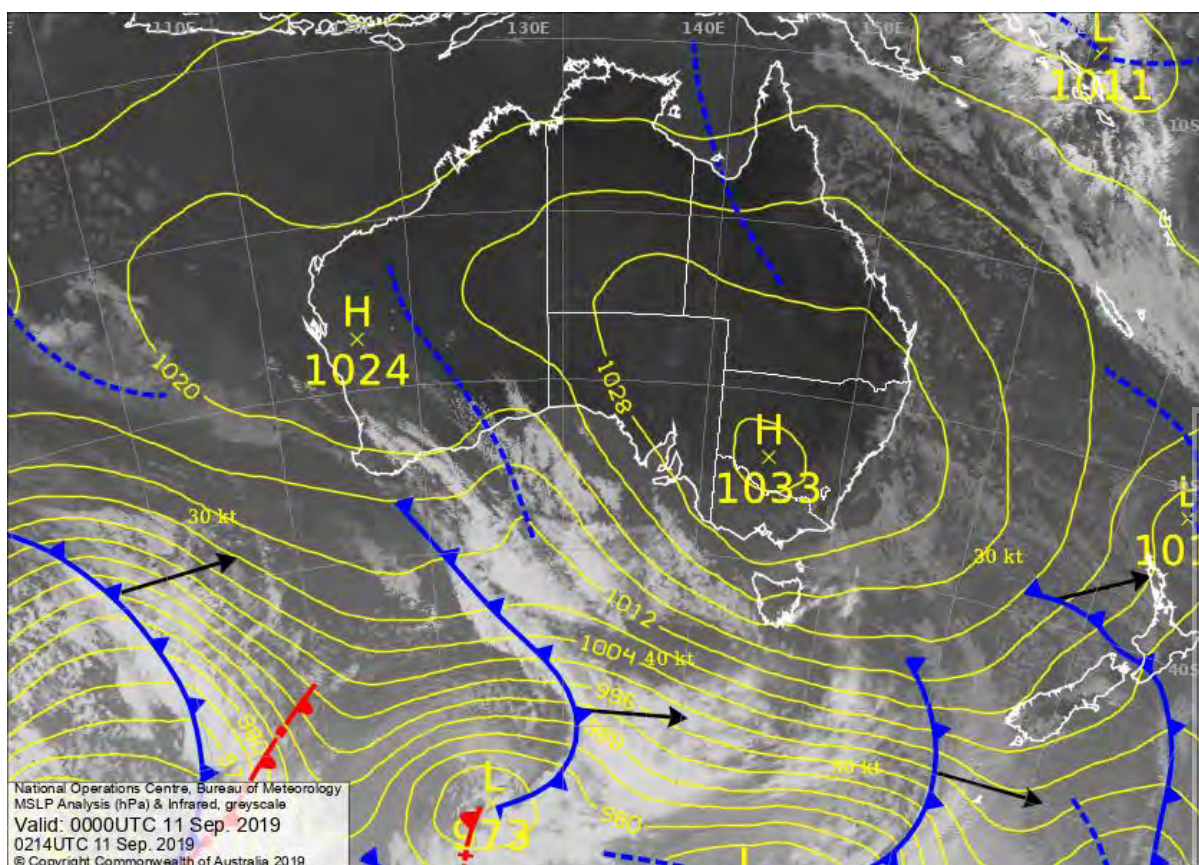
- The fire is continuing to spread in a number of directions due to winds and local terrain. *Embers may start spot fires ahead of the main fire front.*
- The Bruxner Highway is closed between Tabulam and Tenterfield.
- *An Evacuation Centre remains open at the Tenterfield Showgrounds with approximately 77 people registered for this centre.*

Shark Creek fire

- A bushfire in the Shark Creek area is currently burning at the ADVICE level.
 - The bushfire has burnt approximately 9,840 hectares and is *not under control*.
 - The fire is burning in bushland in the Yuraygir National Park and Shark Creek area, south of Yamba.
 - The bushfire is burning to the north and south of Angourie and Wooloweyah. Fire is also burning to the south of Gulmarad, however, fire activity has eased.
 - Firefighters and aircraft have slowed the spread of the fire.
 - *The Evacuation Centre at Yamba Bowling Club, Yamba has now closed.*

Source: Telstra, NSW RFS, EMA LO

Weather



Thursday 12 September

- A cold front clipping the southeast may bring showers to Tasmania, Victoria and New South Wales. Warm air moving ahead of this front and associated trough will lead to a warm day for parts of the east coast.

Source: Bureau of Meteorology

State and Territory Actions

Queensland and New South Wales

- Staff from the Qld SDCC and State Operations Centre (SOC) are liaising with disaster management stakeholders in areas of Queensland being impacted by significant fires. Forward planning is being conducted, with aerial assets on standby across the state.
- Both the SOC and Qld SDCC are activated to Stand Up.

Source: Qld SDCC

Australian Government Actions

- On **Friday 6 September**, the Director-General of Emergency Management Australia approved the activation of COMDISPLAN in relation to bushfires burning in southeast Queensland and northern NSW.
- Under this arrangement, the Australian Defence Force is currently providing support to Queensland and New South Wales firefighters at Kokoda Barracks, Canungra.
 - Task Request #001: ADF assisting with the provision of accommodation, transportation and sustenance at Kokoda Barracks, Canungra for firefighters and incident management personnel from NSW RFS from **6 September to 10 September 2019**. *This Task request has now been completed.*
 - Task Request #002: ADF assisting with the provision of accommodation, transportation and sustenance at Kokoda Barracks, Canungra for approximately 120 personnel from Qld Fire and Emergency Services and NSW RFS from **10 September to 17 September 2019**.
- The Australian Government Crisis Coordination Centre have deployed a Liaison Officer to the Queensland SDCC.
- On **Monday 9 September**, the Director-General of Emergency Management Australia chaired an emergency teleconference of the fire and emergency services Commissioners and Chief Officers Strategic Committee to assist and map the way forward for interstate assistance to Qld.

Southern Qld Bushfires

- Disaster recovery assistance is being provided under the jointly funded Commonwealth-state DRFA.
- DRFA assistance is available in the local government areas of *Noosa*, *Scenic Rim*, *Southern Downs* and *Sunshine Coast*.
- A range of assistance is available including:
 - Personal hardship and distress assistance for individuals and families; and
 - Funding for operational response costs and to restore damaged essential public assets.
- This assistance is administered by the Queensland Government.

Northern NSW Bushfires

- Disaster recovery assistance is being provided under the jointly funded Commonwealth-state Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DRFA).
- DRFA assistance is available in the local government areas of *Armidale*, *Bellingen*, *Clarence Valley*, *Glen Innes*, *Inverell*, *Tenterfield*, *Uralla* and *Walcha*.
- A range of assistance is available including:
 - Personal hardship and distress assistance for individuals and families;

- Funding for operational response costs and to restore damaged essential public assets;
- Concessional interest rate loans for small businesses, primary producers and non-profit organisations;
- Freight subsidies for primary producers; and
- Grants to eligible non-profit organisations.
- This assistance is administered by the NSW Government.

Source: EMA Recovery, Home Affairs Media and Portfolio Engagement Branch, Emergency Management Australia

Further Information

- The CCC has contacted all relevant agencies and continues to monitor the situation closely.
- The Australian Government's Disaster Assist website provides an overview of the natural disaster events that have recently impacted Australia. Funding for recovery assistance is provided through the Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DRFA), Australian Government Disaster Recovery Payment (AGDRP) as well as the Disaster Recovery Allowance (DRA).
- Information on these programmes are available on www.disasterassist.gov.au.
- Version 9 of this Incident Brief will be distributed at 1100 AEST on **Thursday 12 September**, unless required earlier.

Prepared by:	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)
Approved by:	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)
<p>Issued under the authority of the Director General Emergency Management Australia.</p> <p>For enquiries please contact the CCC on s. 22(1)(a)(ii) @homeaffairs.gov.au</p>	



Australian Government

Crisis Coordination Centre

Incident Brief

As of 1100 hrs (AEST), 12 September 2019

Queensland and northern New South Wales bushfires – Version 9

New information is in italics

Key Issues

- Parts of southern Queensland and northern NSW experienced SEVERE to EXTREME fire weather conditions on **Friday 6 September** and **Saturday 7 September**.

Queensland

- Queensland Police Service (QPS) have charged two teenagers with endangering particular property by fire following an investigation into the Peregrine Springs fire.*
- As at 1100 AEST on **Thursday 12 September**, there are more than 65 fires burning across the state with all at ADVICE level or below.
- 399 damage assessments have been completed to date and remain ongoing.
- A total of 17 houses have been destroyed and another 86 houses damaged.
- More than 36,000 ha have been burnt in the past week, including 10,600 ha at Hawkewood, 5,000 ha at Sarabah, 2,000 ha at Stanthorpe and almost 1,000 ha as a result of the Peregrine Springs fire.
- 110 interstate personnel from NSW are currently deployed to Qld. These include firefighters and an Incident Management Team (IMT).
 - A rotation of firefighting, air operations and IMT personnel will be engaged from ACT, VIC, SA and WA.
 - A contingent of 33 firefighters from WA will arrive in Brisbane from today **Thursday 12 September**.*
- Two aviation specialists are arriving from New Zealand on **Friday 13 September** to assist.
- There are 130 vehicles and 25 aircraft assisting or available for tasking, including water bombing, mapping and line scan capability. This includes the NSW Rural Fire Service (RFS) Large Air Tanker.
- Energex have restored power to all properties throughout the fire effected areas.
- Telstra services in Peregrine, Peregrine Springs and Coolumb Beach have been restored. Telstra continues to support emergency services with communication requirements through deploying a Cell on Wheels at several locations.*
- 15 Early Childhood Education and Care Services are closed today **Thursday 12 September** as a result of the fires.*

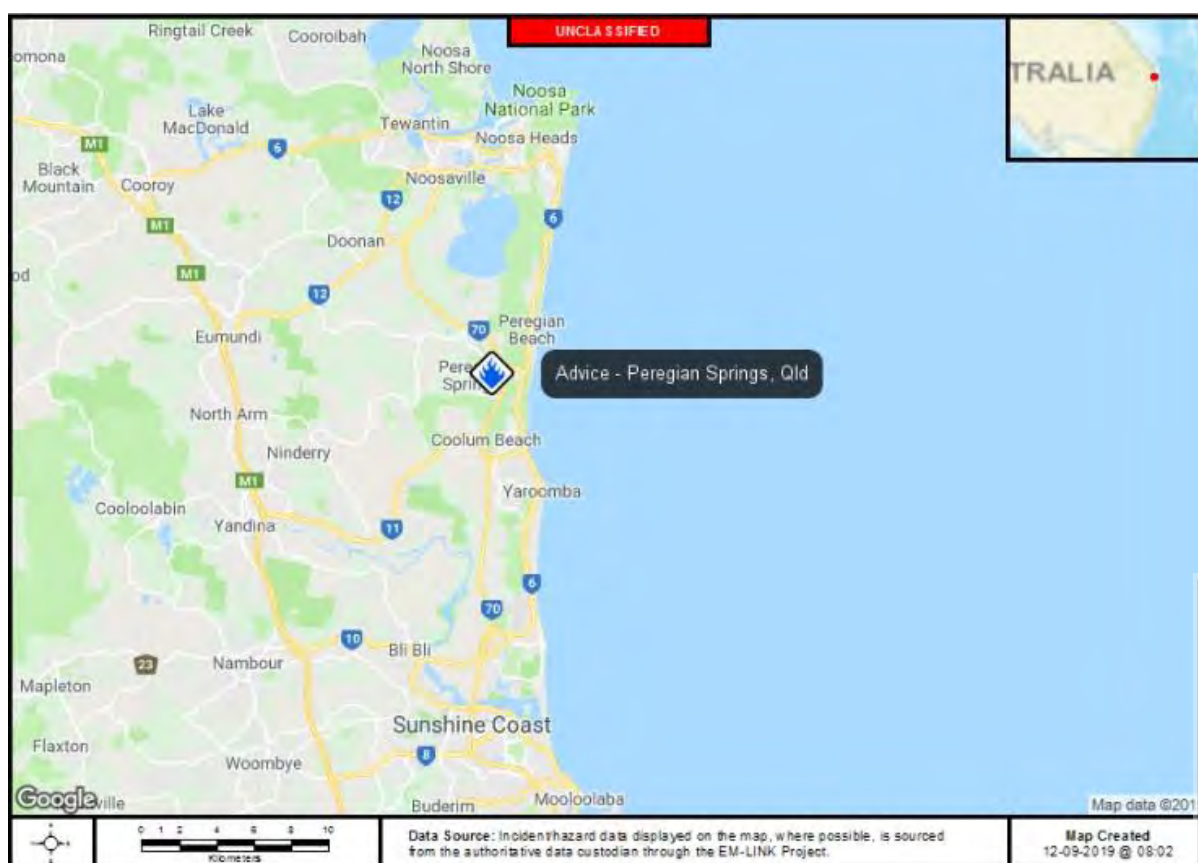
Released by Department of Home Affairs
under the Freedom of Information Act 1982

New South Wales

- As at 1100 AEST on **Thursday 12 September**, there are approximately 46 active bush and grass fires currently burning across NSW with all at ADVICE level or below.
- A total of *eleven* houses have been destroyed and another seven houses damaged.
- At least 48 outbuildings have been destroyed and 29 have been damaged.
- At least three commercial buildings have been destroyed and another has been damaged.
- Telstra has advised that all services in fire affected areas throughout NSW have now been restored.
- There are 44 aircraft either deployed or on standby.

Source: Telstra, Qld SDCC, Qld RFS, NSW SEOC, NSW RFS, Energex, Qld Department of Education, NRSC

Situation Details - Queensland



Peregrine Springs fire

- A bushfire burning in the vicinity of Peregrine Springs, Breeze Estate, Weyba Downs, *Marcus Beach and Castaways Beach* is currently at ADVICE level.
 - The bushfire is moving in a north to north-westerly direction from Peregrine Beach towards the southern end of Lake Weyba.
 - QPS have revoked the Peregrine Springs and Peregrine Beach Public Safety Preservation Act enabling residents to return to their homes.
 - This fire has been contained, and crews remain on scene dampening down hotspots.

- People in the area will be affected by smoke, which will reduce visibility and air quality.
- There are currently no evacuation centres open across the state.

Source: Qld RFS, QPS - verbal, Qld SDCC, EMA LO

Situation Details – New South Wales



Armidale fire

- The bushfire burning in the vicinity of Bees Nest, 30 km north-east of Armidale is at the ADVICE level.
 - *The bushfire has burnt approximately 78,610 ha and is out of control.*
 - Conditions on the fire ground have eased.
 - The fire is burning close to homes and properties and firefighters remain on scene to continue to protect properties in the area.
 - Fire and fallen trees may continue to impact a number of local roads.
 - An evacuation centre remains open at the Dorrigo Showgrounds, with approximately 81 people registered for this centre.

Tenterfield fire

- A bushfire burning in the vicinity of Drake, 28 km east of Tenterfield is currently burning at the ADVICE level.
 - *The bushfire has burnt approximately 47,565 ha and is out of control.*
 - The fire is continuing to spread in a number of directions due to winds and local terrain.

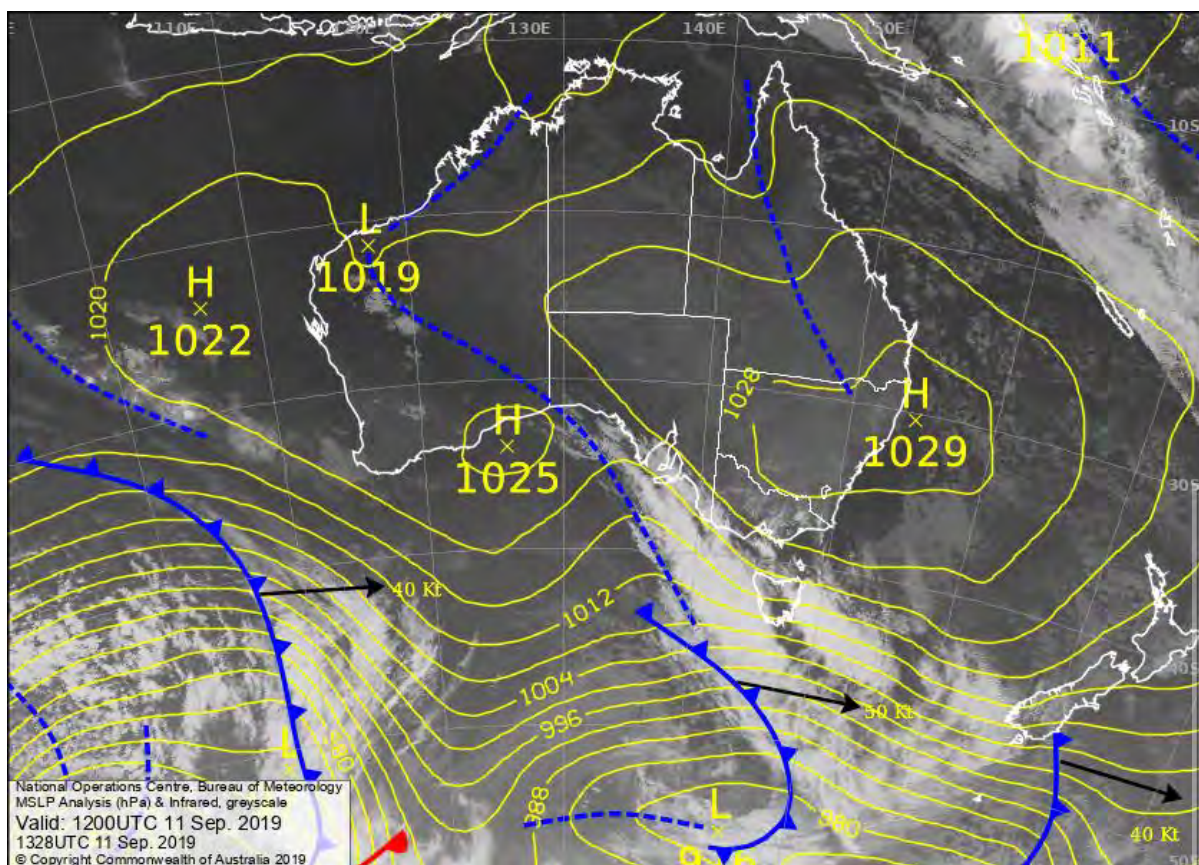
- The Bruxner Highway is closed between Tabulam and Tenterfield.
- An evacuation centre remains open at the Tenterfield Showgrounds with approximately 77 people registered for this centre.

Shark Creek fire

- A bushfire in the Shark Creek area is currently burning at the ADVICE level.
 - *The bushfire has burnt approximately 10,173 ha and is out of control.*
 - The fire is burning in bushland in the Yuraygir National Park and Shark Creek area, south of Yamba.
 - The bushfire is burning to the north and south of Angourie and Wooloweyah.
 - Firefighters and aircraft have slowed the spread of the fire and *back burning continues to be undertaken.*
 - The evacuation centre at Yamba Bowling Club, Yamba has now closed.

Source: Telstra, NSW RFS, EMA LO

Weather



Queensland

- **Thursday 12 September**
 - *Very High Fire Danger ratings remain over the northern interior and Peninsula today due to dry conditions and fresh and gusty southeasterly winds over the region.*
 - *High Fire Danger ratings are expected over remaining eastern districts today, with lighter onshore winds and increasing relative humidity.*

- **Friday 13 and Saturday 14 September**
 - *Very High Fire danger ratings are expected to return to the southeast and central parts, largely driven by warmer than average temperatures.*
 - *On Friday a moderate strength south to southwesterly change will move through far southeast Qld during the middle of the day, weakening as it travels further north. This will briefly bring dry air to the coast again about the southeast.*
 - *Warmer than average temperatures will continue about southern Qld over the weekend and into early next week.*

New South Wales

- **Thursday 12 September**
 - *NSW is forecast to be dry and mostly sunny with daytime temperatures to be above average. West to north-westerly winds tending north-easterly along the north coast.*
 - *Very high Fire Danger ratings remain over the north and northeastern parts of the state and are expected to remain over the weekend.*

Source: Bureau of Meteorology

State and Territory Actions

Queensland and New South Wales

- Staff from the Qld SDCC and State Operations Centre (SOC) are liaising with disaster management stakeholders in areas of Qld being impacted by significant fires. Forward planning is being conducted, with aerial assets on standby across the state.
- *The SOC remains at STAND UP and the SDCC is now positioned to LEAN FORWARD.*

Source: Qld SDCC

Australian Government Actions

- On **Friday 6 September**, the Director-General of Emergency Management Australia approved the activation of COMDISPLAN in relation to bushfires burning in southeast Queensland and northern NSW.
- Under this arrangement, the Australian Defence Force (ADF) is currently providing support to Qld and NSW firefighters at Kokoda Barracks, Canungra.
 - Task Request #001: ADF assisting with the provision of accommodation, transportation and sustenance at Kokoda Barracks, Canungra for firefighters and incident management personnel from NSW RFS from **6 September to 10 September 2019**. *This Task request has now been completed.*
 - Task Request #002: ADF assisting with the provision of accommodation, transportation and sustenance at Kokoda Barracks, Canungra for approximately 120 personnel from Qld Fire and Emergency Services and NSW RFS from **10 September to 17 September 2019**.
- *ADF has assisted with local fodder distribution in support of affected local farmers in the Canungra area.*
- The Australian Government Crisis Coordination Centre has deployed a Liaison Officer to the Qld SDCC.
- On **Monday 9 September**, the Director-General of Emergency Management Australia chaired an emergency teleconference of the fire and emergency services Commissioners and Chief Officers Strategic Committee to assist and map the way forward for interstate assistance to Qld.

- *The Australia Taxation Office has announced that residents in Qld and NSW affected by the current fires are able to postpone tax affairs if required.*

Southern Queensland Bushfires

- Disaster recovery assistance is being provided under the jointly funded Commonwealth-state DRFA.
- DRFA assistance is available in the local government areas of Noosa, Scenic Rim, Southern Downs and Sunshine Coast.
- A range of assistance is available including:
 - Personal hardship and distress assistance for individuals and families; and
 - Funding for operational response costs and to restore damaged essential public assets.
- This assistance is administered by the Queensland Government.

Northern New South Wales Bushfires

- Disaster recovery assistance is being provided under the jointly funded Commonwealth-state Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DRFA).
- DRFA assistance is available in the local government areas of Armidale, Bellingen, Clarence Valley, Glen Innes, Inverell, Tenterfield, Uralla and Walcha.
- A range of assistance is available including:
 - Personal hardship and distress assistance for individuals and families;
 - Funding for operational response costs and to restore damaged essential public assets;
 - Concessional interest rate loans for small businesses, primary producers and non-profit organisations;
 - Freight subsidies for primary producers; and
 - Grants to eligible non-profit organisations.
- This assistance is administered by the NSW Government.

Source: EMA Recovery, Home Affairs Media and Portfolio Engagement Branch,
Emergency Management Australia, ATO

Further Information

- The CCC has contacted all relevant agencies and continues to monitor the situation closely.
- The Australian Government's Disaster Assist website provides an overview of the natural disaster events that have recently impacted Australia. Funding for recovery assistance is provided through the Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DRFA), Australian Government Disaster Recovery Payment (AGDRP) as well as the Disaster Recovery Allowance (DRA).
- Information on these programmes are available on www.disasterassist.gov.au.
- Version 10 of this Incident Brief will be distributed at 1800 AEST on **Thursday 12 September**, unless required earlier.

Prepared by:	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)
Approved by:	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)
Issued under the authority of the Director-General Emergency Management Australia. For enquiries please contact the CCC on s. 22(1)(a)(ii) @homeaffairs.gov.au	