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EMA84037



## Australian Government

### Crisis Coordination Centre

#### Incident Brief

As of 1800 hrs (AEST), 12 September 2019

#### Queensland and northern New South Wales bushfires – Version 10

*New information is in italics*

#### Key Issues

- Parts of southern Qld 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 1800 hrs AEST on **Thursday 12 September**, there are more than 57 fires burning across the state with all at ADVICE level or below. More than 36,000 ha have been burnt in the past week.
- 399 damage assessments have been completed and remain ongoing.
- A total of 17 houses have been destroyed and another 86 houses damaged.
- Today, **Thursday 12 September** more than 885 firefighters and specialist personnel supported firefighting operations, which has decreased from the peak of 1721 personnel on **Tuesday 10 September**.*
- 175 interstate personnel are currently deployed to Qld, approximately 110 of these are from NSW. 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.

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under the Freedom of Information Act 1982

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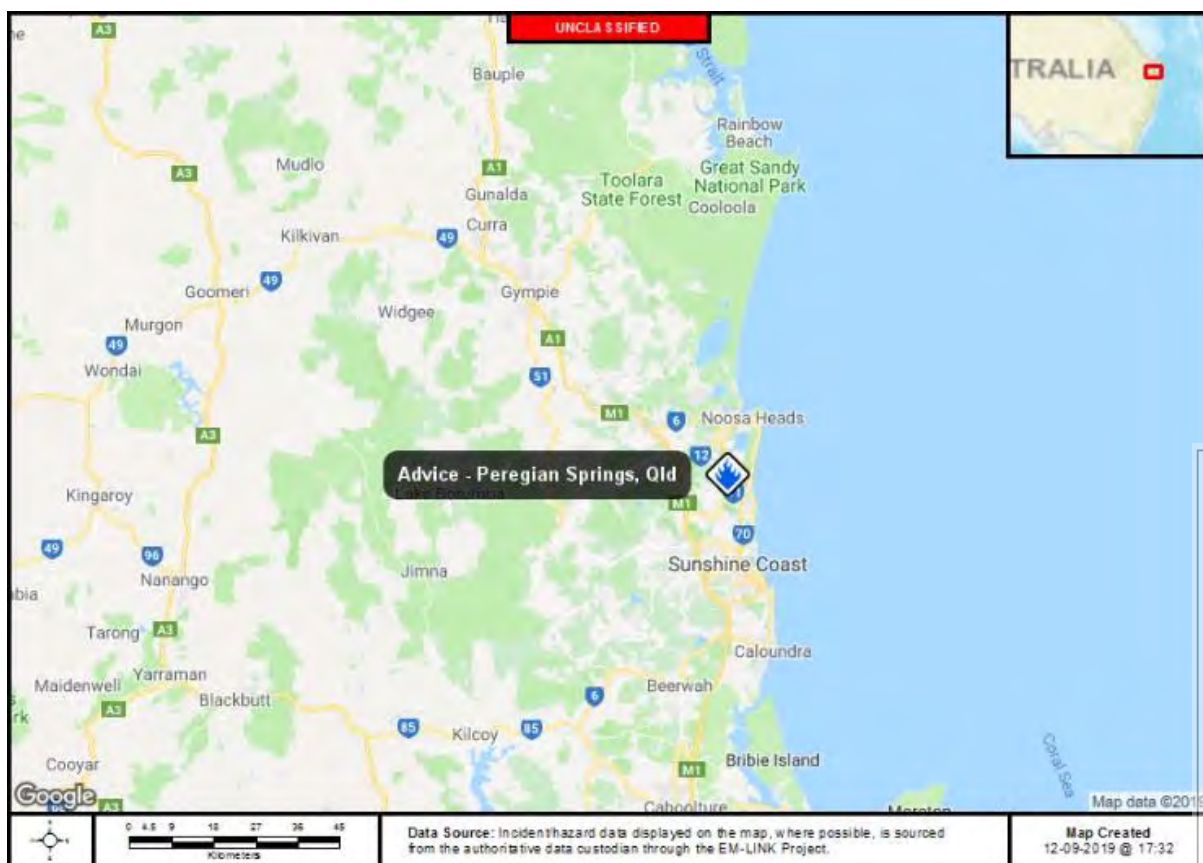
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- 15 Early Childhood Education and Care Services were closed today **Thursday 12 September** as a result of the fires.
- There are currently no evacuation centres open across the state.

**New South Wales**

- As at 1800 hrs AEST on **Thursday 12 September**, there are approximately 55 active bush and grass fires currently burning across the state with one at WATCH AND ACT and the remainder 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.
- All Telstra 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****Peregian Springs**

- A bushfire burning in the vicinity of Peregian 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 Peregian Beach towards the southern end of Lake Weyba.

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- 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.

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

### Situation Details – New South Wales



#### Red Range fire

- A fire burning at Kingsgate, Red Range is at the WATCH AND ACT level.
  - The fire is out of control and has burnt approximately 1081 ha.

#### Armidale fire

- The bushfire burning in the vicinity of Bees Nest, 30 km northeast of Armidale is at the ADVICE level.
  - The bushfire has burnt approximately 78,627 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.

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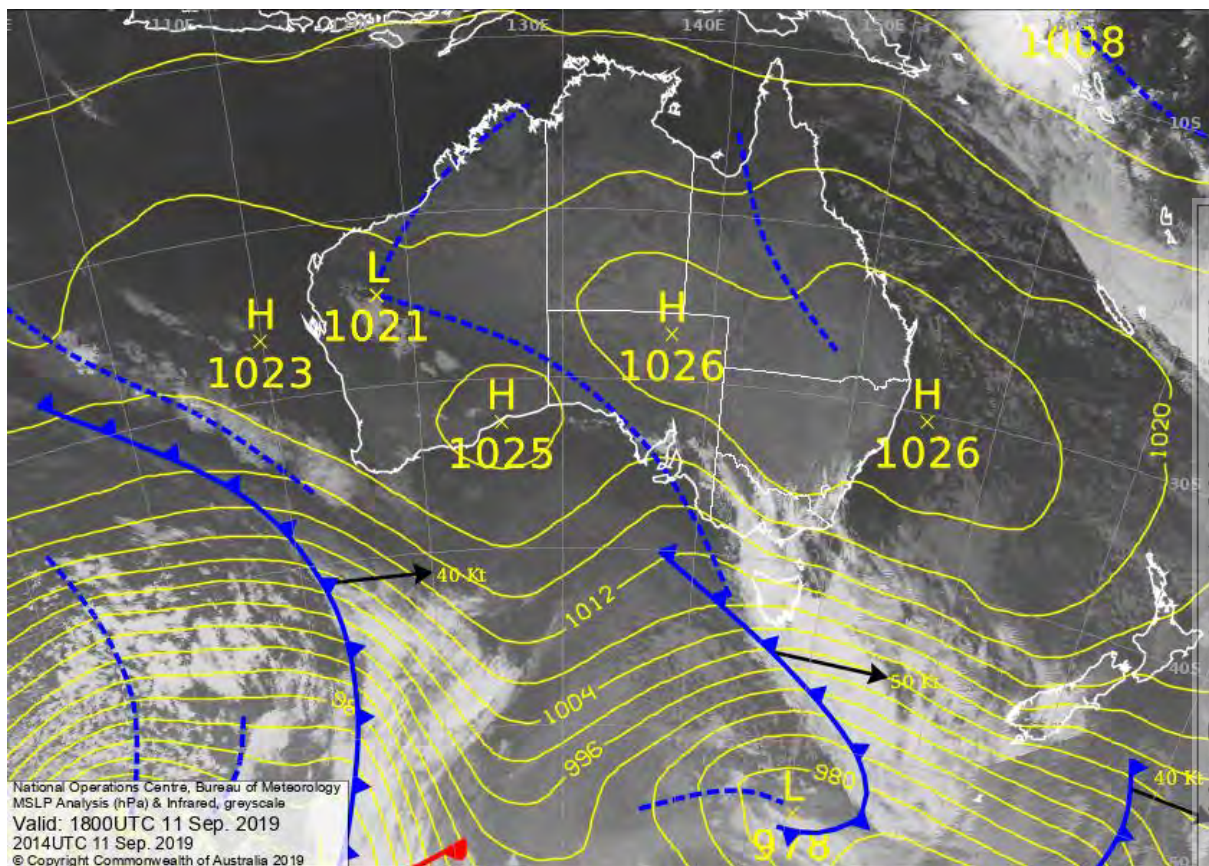
**Tenterfield fire**

- 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 now open.*
  - 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 10,675 ha 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 Angourie and Wooloweyah. *Fire is also burning to south of Gulmarrad, however fire activity has eased.*
  - *Firefighters are continuing to work in the area, undertaking back burning where required. Threats to property has eased.*
  - The evacuation centre at Yamba Bowling Club, Yamba has now closed.

Source: Telstra, NSW RFS

**Weather**
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## Queensland

- **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

- **Friday 13 and Saturday 14 September**
  - Very high Fire Danger ratings remain over the north and northeastern parts of the state and are expected to remain over the weekend.
  - *Warmer than average temperatures are forecast for both days.*

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.
- *QPS have deployed 33 officers to support QFES / RFS field operations across the state.*

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

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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 Qld 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

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**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](http://www.disasterassist.gov.au).
- Version 11 of this Incident Brief will be distributed at 1800 AEST on **Friday 13 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) <a href="mailto:cc@homeaffairs.gov.au">@homeaffairs.gov.au</a>	

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## Australian Government

### Crisis Coordination Centre

#### Incident Brief

As of 1800 hrs (AEST), 13 September 2019

#### Queensland and northern New South Wales bushfires – Version 11

New information is in italics

#### Key Issues

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

#### Queensland

- As at 1800 hrs AEST on **Friday 13 September**, there are more than 57 fires burning across all at the ADVICE level or below. More than 36,000 ha have been burnt in the past week.
- The Prime Minister the Hon. Scott Morrison MP, The Director-General Emergency Management Australia, Mr Robert Cameron OAM, accompanied by Qld State and Federal representatives visited fire affected areas today. Areas visited included Binna Burra Lodge, Beechmont and Canungra.*
- 399 damage assessments have been completed and remain ongoing. 40 structures are assessed as destroyed, 17 of those being residential properties.
- 164 interstate firefighters and assisting personnel are currently deployed from ACT, SA, VIC, WA, as well as two aviation specialists from New Zealand.*
- There are 130 vehicles and 20 aircraft assisting or available for tasking, including water bombing, mapping and line scan capability.
- Energex have restored power to all properties throughout the fire effected areas.
- Telstra services in Peregrin, Peregrin 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.
- Queensland Police Service (QPS) have charged two teenagers with endangering particular property by fire following an investigation into the Peregrin Springs fire.

#### New South Wales

- As at 1800 hrs AEST on **Friday 13 September**, there are approximately 44 active fires currently burning across the state at the ADVICE level or below.
- A total of 16 houses have been destroyed and *nine* houses damaged. At least 59 outbuildings have been destroyed and 38 have been damaged, as well as three commercial buildings destroyed plus another damaged.

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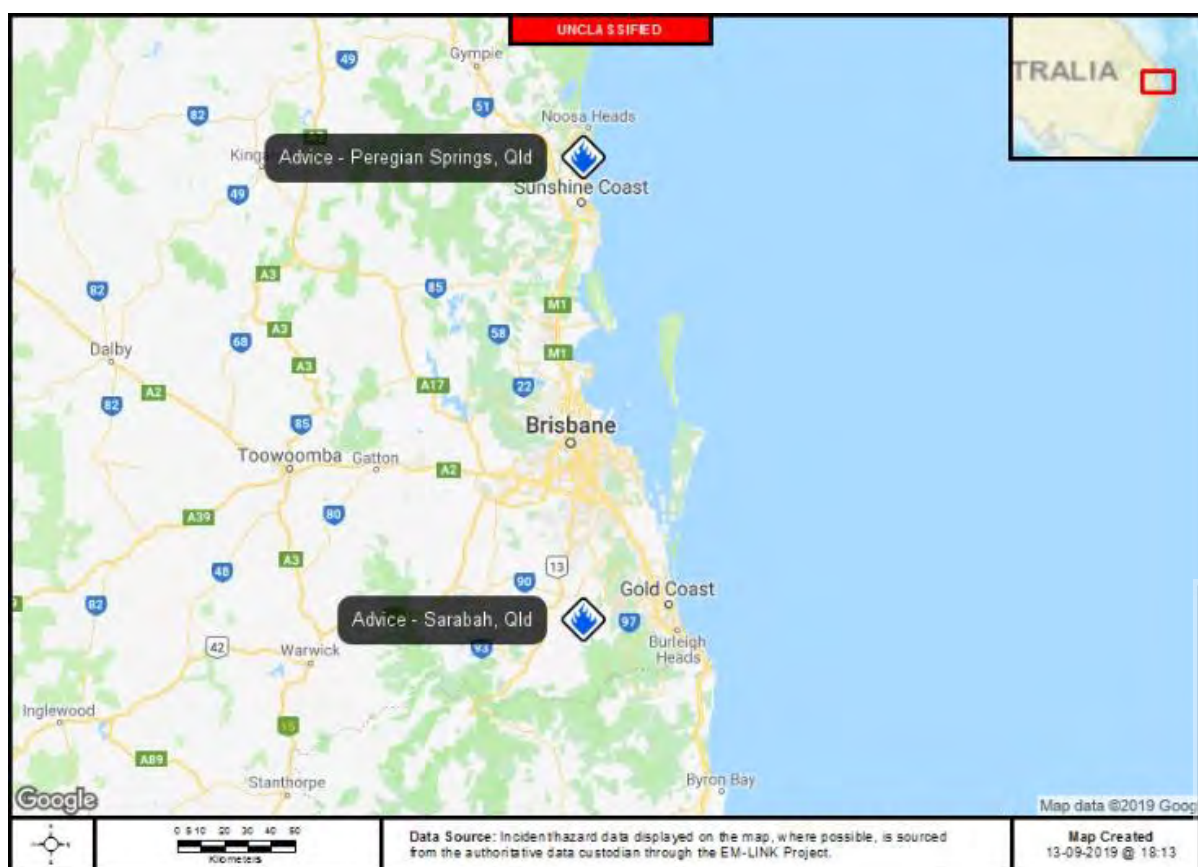
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- The NSW RFS Large Air Tanker has returned to RAAF Base Richmond for maintenance however, will be based at Coffs Harbour over coming days to support firefighting operations in the northern parts of the State.
- There are 41 aircraft either deployed or on standby.
- Operational Mitigation Services is currently establishing a base camp at the Dorrigo Polo Cross Grounds to accommodate 200 fire fighters working in the area. The base camp is expected to be operational during the course of the weekend.
- All NSW Incident Management personnel and fire fighters deployed to Queensland last week have now returned.
- All Telstra services in fire affected areas in the state have now been restored.

Source: Telstra, Qld SDCC, Qld RFS, NSW SEOC, NSW RFS, Energex, Qld Department of Education, NRSC, [DHS](#)

### Situation Details - Queensland



### Sarabah

- A bushfire burning in the vicinity of Sarabah is currently at ADVICE level.
  - The fire is moving in a north-westerly direction from Pyramid Creek in Lamington National Park towards Lamington National Park Road, Sarabah.
  - The fire is likely to impact Lamington National Park Road, north of Kamarun Lookout Road and Sarabah Road.

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## Peregian Springs

- A bushfire burning in the vicinity of Peregian Springs, Breeze Estate, Weyba Downs, Marcus Beach and Castaways Beach is currently at ADVICE level.
  - *QFES crews remain on scene dampening down hotspots in the Peregian area. There is no threat to property at this time.*
  - QPS have revoked the Peregian Springs and Peregian Beach Public Safety Preservation Act enabling residents to return to their homes.
  - *Bushfire impacted NBN services have all been restored in the Peregian Springs area.*

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 northeast of Armidale is at the ADVICE level.
  - The bushfire has burnt approximately 83,353 ha and is being controlled.
  - *The fire continues to burn on multiple fronts within the Guy Fawkes National Park, the Mount Hyland Nature Reserve and Nymboi Binderay National Park.*
  - 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.

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- An evacuation centre remains open today, **Friday 13 September** until 2000 hrs AEST.

**Red Range fire**

- The bushfire burning in the vicinity of Kingsgate, Red Range is currently at the ADVICE level.
  - The bushfire is located approximately 15 kilometres east of Glen Innes, in the area of the Brother State Forest to the west of Newton Boyd.
  - The fire is out of control and has burnt approximately 2,704 ha.
  - Due to strong winds spot fires have occurred a number of kilometres ahead of the main fire. These spot fires may threaten properties in the area of Newton Boyd.

**Shark Creek fire**

- A bushfire in the Shark Creek area is currently burning at the ADVICE level.
  - The bushfire has burnt approximately 10,869 ha and is contained.
  - The fire burning south of Yamba in the area of Wooloweyah, Angourie and Gulmarred.
  - Firefighters will continue to patrol the area over coming days and mop up and black out remaining hot spots.

**Tenterfield fire**

- A bushfire burning in the vicinity of Long Gully Road, Drake, and is currently burning at the ADVICE level.
  - The bushfire has burnt approximately 49,447 ha and is being controlled.
  - The fire is burning in bushland south of Drake, Tabulum, and the Bruxner Highway.
  - The fire continues to burn to the west of the Clarence River in the Girard State Forest.
  - The fire is continuing to spread in a number of directions due to winds and local terrain.
  - The Bruxner Highway is now open.
  - An evacuation centre at Tenterfield Showgrounds has closed and a Disaster Assistance Point is open at the Drake Information Centre and will operate between 1300 hrs to 1600 hrs AEST on **Saturday 14 September**.

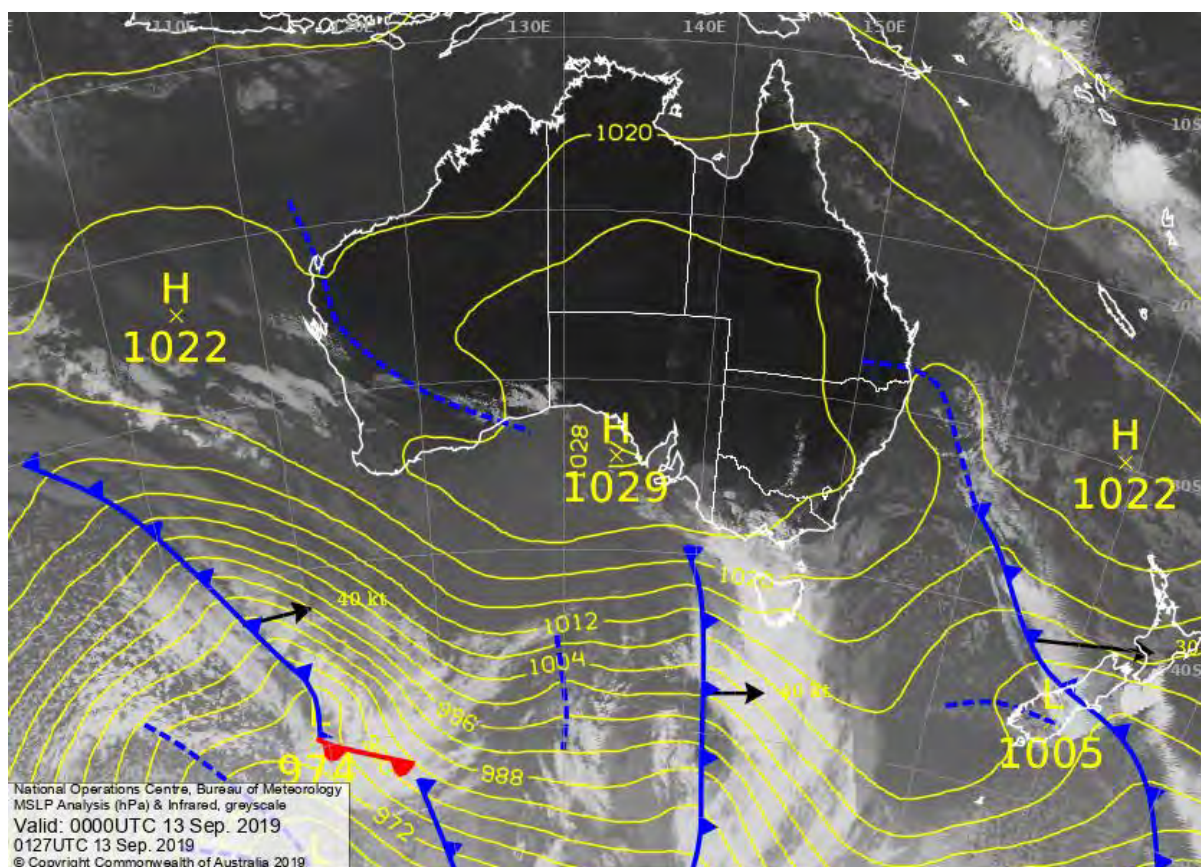
Source: NSW RFS



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## Weather



## Queensland

- **Saturday 14 and Sunday 15 September**
  - Fire dangers will increase to be Very High in parts of the southeastern quarter of Queensland as maximum temperatures will be several degrees above average.
  - Winds will increase behind a weak southwesterly change.

## New South Wales

- **Saturday 14 and Sunday 15 September**
  - Very High Fire Danger ratings remain over the north and northeastern parts of the state and are expected to remain over the weekend.
  - Daytime temperatures remain above average. Light to moderate northeast to northwest winds are forecast.

Source: Bureau of Meteorology

## State and Territory Actions

## Queensland

- 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.



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- QPS have deployed 33 officers to support QFES / RFS field operations across the state.

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 Qld 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 assistance 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

Jointly funded Commonwealth-state Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DRFA)

- Disaster recovery assistance is being provided under the 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 Qld Government.

*Australian Government Disaster Recovery Allowance (DRA)*

- *The DRA has been made available to provide further support to bushfire affected individuals.*
- *The DRA is a short-term income support payment to assist individuals who can demonstrate their income has been affected as a direct result of the bushfires.*
- *The DRA is available in the four (4) local government areas (LGAs) of Noosa, Scenic Rim, Southern Downs and Sunshine Coast.*
- *This assistance is administered by the Department of Human Services and is available from **Monday 16 September** – Ph: 180 22 66.*

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**Northern New South Wales Bushfires**

- Jointly funded Commonwealth-state Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DRFA)
- Disaster recovery assistance is being provided under the 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.

**Australian Government Disaster Recovery Allowance (DRA)**

- *The DRA has been made available to provide further support to bushfire affected individuals.*
- *The DRA is a short-term income support payment to assist individuals who can demonstrate their income has been affected as a direct result of the bushfires.*
- *The DRA is available in the eight (8) local government areas (LGAs) of Armidale, Bellingen, Clarence Valley, Glen Innes, Inverell, Tenterfield, Uralla and Walcha.*
- *This assistance is administered by the Department of Human Services and is available from **Monday 16 September** – Ph: 180 22 66.*

Source: EMA Recovery, Home Affairs Media and Portfolio Engagement Branch,  
Emergency Management Australia, [ATO](#), [DHS](#)

**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](http://www.disasterassist.gov.au).
- Version 12 of this Incident Brief will be distributed at 1800 AEST on **Saturday 14 September**, unless required earlier.

<b>Prepared by:</b>	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)
<b>Approved by:</b>	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) <a href="mailto:@homeaffairs.gov.au">@homeaffairs.gov.au</a>	

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## Australian Government

### Crisis Coordination Centre

#### Incident Brief

As of 1730 hrs (AEST), 14 September 2019

#### Queensland and northern New South Wales bushfires – Version 12 (Final)

*New information is in italics*

#### Key Issues

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

#### Queensland

- As at 1800 hrs AEST on **Saturday 14 September**, there are more than 67 fires burning across the state, all at the ADVICE level or below. More than 36,000 ha have been burnt in the past week.
- The Prime Minister, the Hon. Scott Morrison MP, the Director-General Emergency Management Australia, Mr Robert Cameron OAM, accompanied by Qld State and Federal representatives visited fire affected areas yesterday **Friday 13 September**. Areas visited include Binna Burra Lodge, Beechmont and Canungra.
- 399 damage assessments have been completed and remain ongoing. 40 structures are assessed as destroyed, 17 of those being residential properties.
- 166 interstate firefighters and assisting personnel are currently deployed from ACT, SA, Vic. and WA, as well as two aviation specialists from New Zealand.
- There are 133 vehicles and 19 aircraft assisting or available for tasking, including water bombing, mapping and line scan capability.
- Energex has restored power to all properties throughout the fire effected areas.
- Telstra services affected by the fires have been restored. Telstra continues to support emergency services with communication requirements through deploying a Cell on Wheels at several locations.
- Queensland Police Service has charged two teenagers with endangering particular property by fire following an investigation into the Peregrine Springs fire.

#### New South Wales

- An EMERGENCY WARNING is current for a bushfire burning in the vicinity of Long Gully Road, Drake.*
- An EMERGENCY WARNING is current for a bushfire burning in the vicinity of Kingsgate, Red Range.*

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under the Freedom of Information Act 1982

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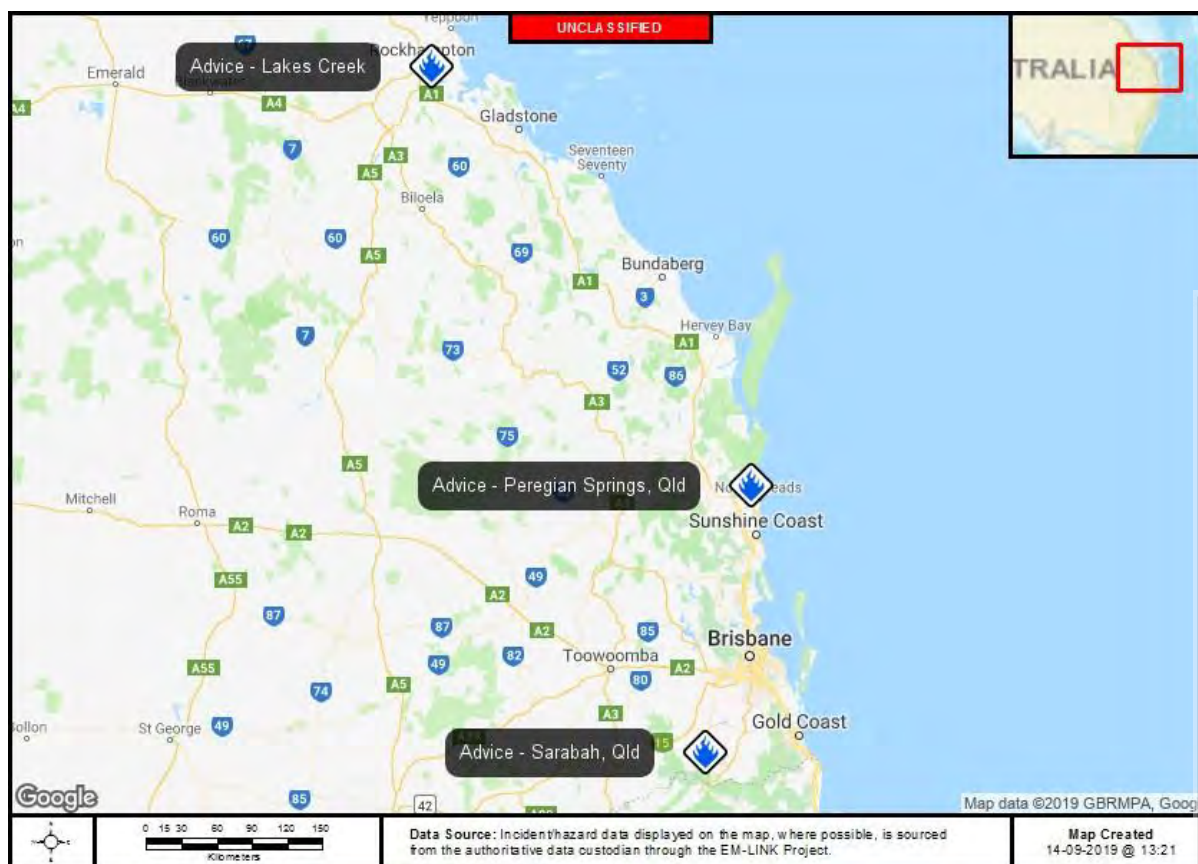
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- As at 1800 hrs AEST on **Saturday 14 September**, there are approximately 46 active fires burning across the state at the ADVICE level or below.
- A total of 23 houses have been destroyed and 10 houses damaged. At least 64 outbuildings have been destroyed and 42 have been damaged, as well as three commercial buildings destroyed, plus another damaged.
- The NSW RFS Large Air Tanker will be based at Coffs Harbour over coming days to support firefighting operations in the northern parts of the State.
- There are 40 aircraft either deployed or on standby.
- Operational Mitigation Services is currently establishing a base camp at the Dorrigo PoloCrosse Grounds to accommodate 200 fire fighters working in the area. The base camp is expected to be operational during the course of the weekend.
- All NSW Incident Management personnel and fire fighters deployed to Queensland last week have now returned.
- All Telstra services in fire affected areas in the state have now been restored.

Source: Telstra, Qld SDCC, Qld RFS, NSW SEOC, NSW RFS, Energex, Qld Department of Education, NRSC, [DHS](#)

**Northern Territory (for information on the national overview)**

- An **EMERGENCY WARNING** was issued for a bushfire burning in the vicinity of Girraween on **Friday 13 September**. This was later downgraded to **ADVICE** level.

**Situation Details - Queensland**



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**Sarabah**

- A bushfire burning in the vicinity of Sarabah is currently at ADVICE level.
  - *The bushfire is travelling in a north-westerly direction from Pyramid Creek in Lamington National Park, towards Lamington National Park Road, Sarabah.*
  - *The bushfire has burnt over 5,000 ha and expected to burn for some time.*

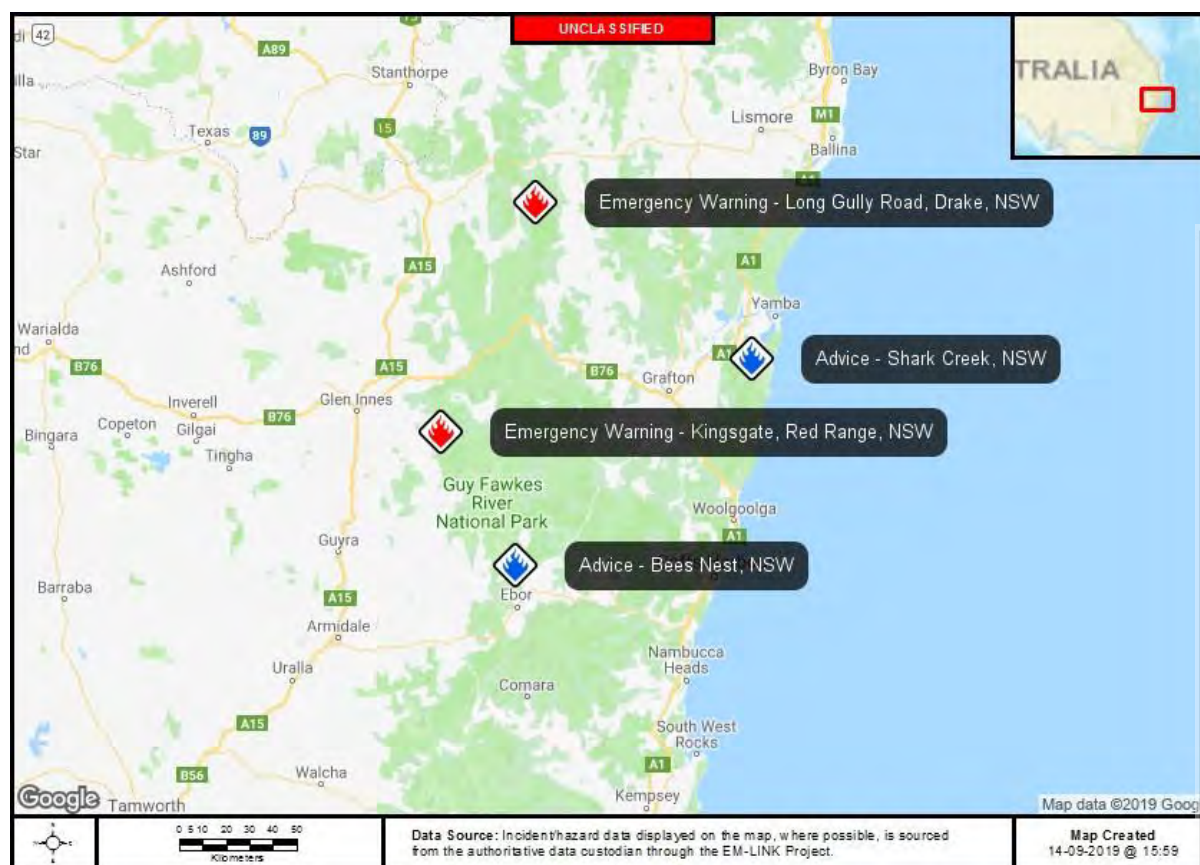
**Peregian Springs**

- A bushfire burning in the vicinity of Woodland Drive, west of Cormorant Crescent, Peregian Springs, is currently at ADVICE level.
  - QFES crews remain on scene dampening down hotspots in the Peregian area. There is no threat to property at this time.
  - Bushfire impacted NBN services have all been restored in the Peregian Springs area.

**Lakes Creek**

- A bushfire burning in the vicinity of Mount Archer is currently at ADVICE level.
  - *This bushfire has burnt over 1,300 ha and is still burning.*
  - *No Emergency Alerts have been issued for this bushfire.*
  - *QFES crews are continuing to monitor and ensure the fire is kept within containment lines.*

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

**Situation Details – New South Wales**

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**Tenterfield fire**

- An EMERGENCY WARNING is current for a bushfire burning in the vicinity of Long Gully Road, Drake.
  - The bushfire has burnt approximately 52,317 ha and is out of control.
  - The fire is burning in bushland south of Drake, Tabulum, and the Bruxner Highway.
  - The fire crossed the Bruxner Highway and is moving in a north-easterly direction towards rural homes in Red Rock and Rover Park.
  - The fire continues to burn to the west of the Clarence River in the Girard State Forest.
  - The fire is continuing to spread in a number of directions due to winds and local terrain.
  - The Bruxner Highway is closed at some locations.

**Red Range fire**

- An EMERGENCY WARNING is current for a bushfire burning in the vicinity of Kingsgate, Red Range.
  - The bushfire is located approximately 15 km east of Glen Innes, in the area of the Brother State Forest to the west of Newton Boyd.
  - The fire is burning in a northerly direction towards the vicinity of Wyaliba.
  - The fire has burnt approximately 7,422 hectares and is out of control. Spot fires are starting ahead of the main fire.

**Armidale fire**

- The bushfire burning in the vicinity of Bees Nest, 30 km northeast of Armidale is at the ADVICE level.
  - The bushfire has burnt approximately 88,221 ha and is being controlled.
  - The fire continues to burn on multiple fronts within the Guy Fawkes National Park, the Mount Hyland Nature Reserve and Nymboi-Binderay National Park.
  - 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.

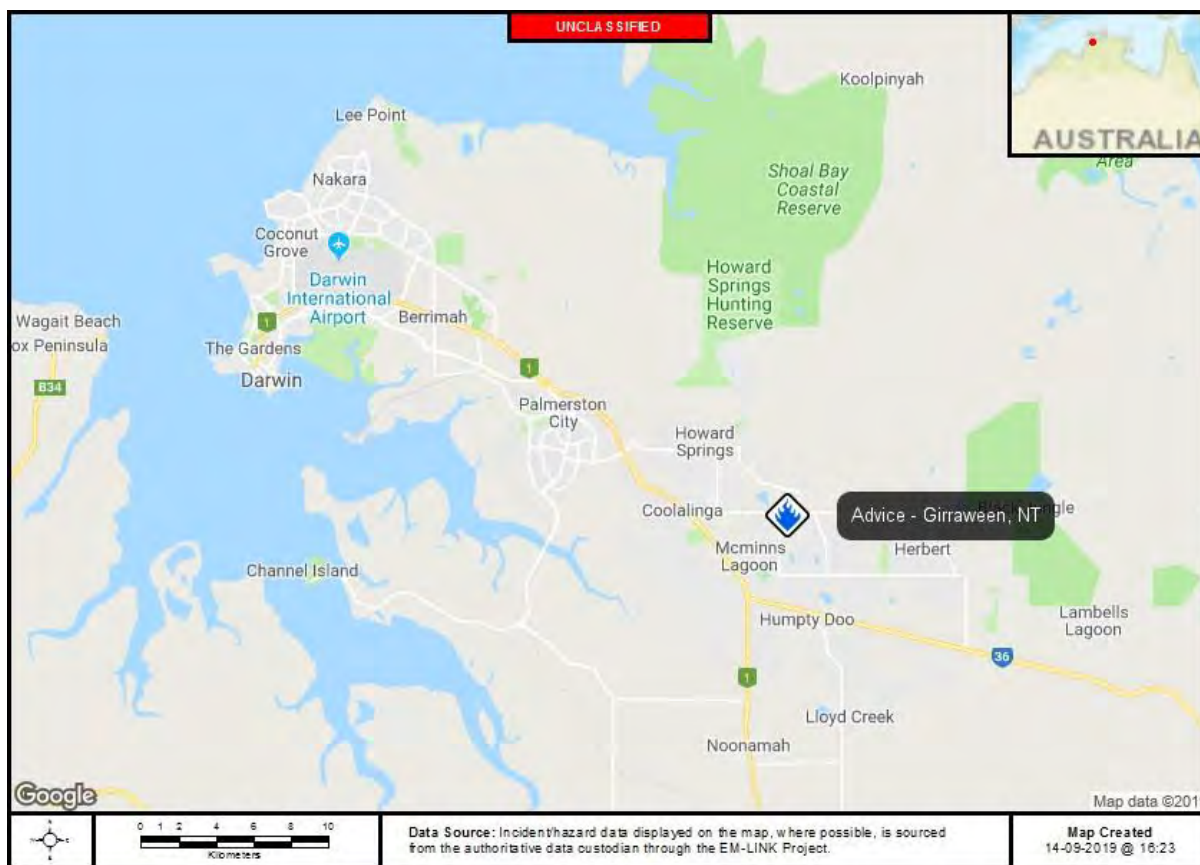
**Shark Creek fire**

- A bushfire in the Shark Creek area is currently burning at the ADVICE level.
  - The bushfire has burnt approximately 10,932 ha and is contained.
  - The fire burning south of Yamba in the area of Wooloweyah, Angourie and Gulmarrad.
  - Firefighters will continue to patrol the area over coming days and mop up and black out remaining hot spots.

Source: NSW RFS

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**Situation Details – Northern Territory****Girraween fire**

- An **EMERGENCY WARNING** was issued for a bushfire burning in the vicinity of Girraween on **Friday 13 September**. This was later downgraded to **ADVICE** level.
- Properties in the vicinity of Power Road, Kareela Drive and Donaldo Court were under threat.
- Girraween Public School was evacuated as a precaution.
- The fire has now been contained. No major assets were destroyed.

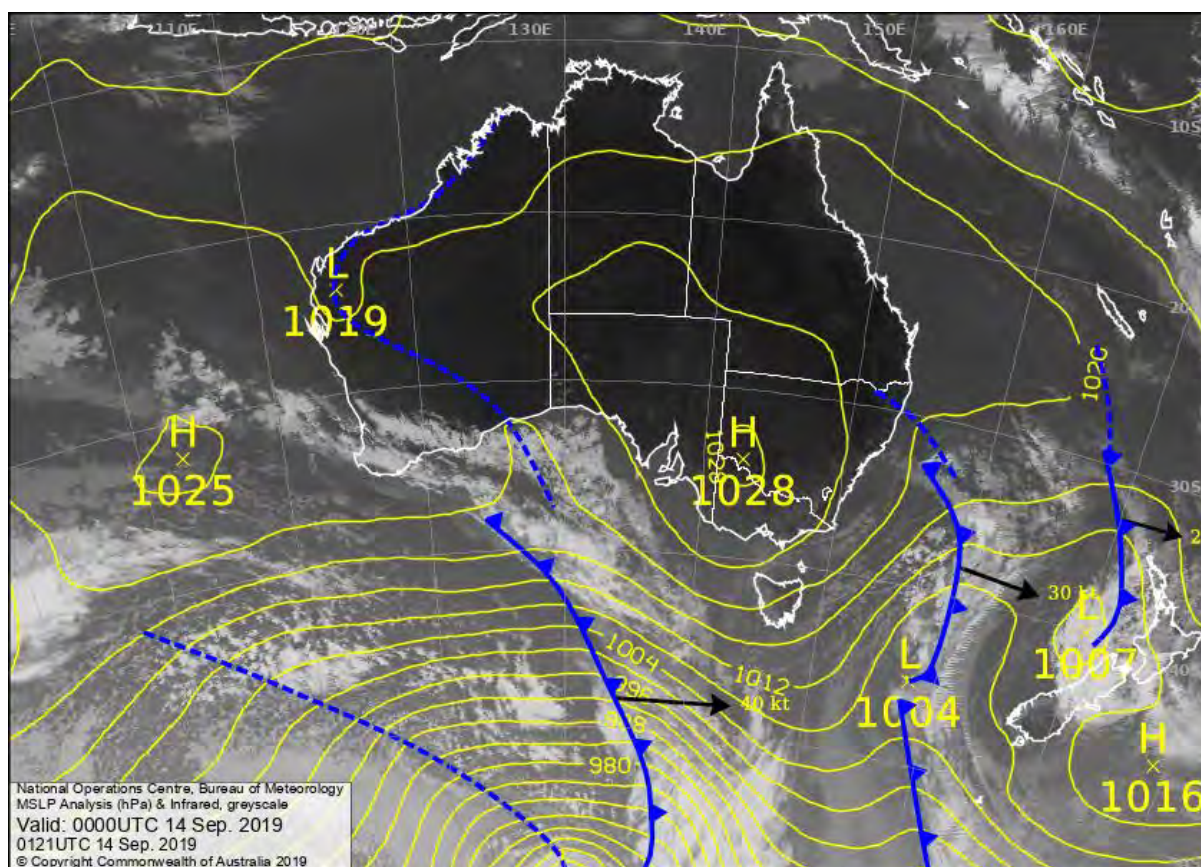
Source: NT FRS



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## Weather



## Queensland

- **Saturday 14 and Sunday 15 September**
  - Very High Fire Danger ratings continued today over south eastern and central districts, with warm south-westerly winds over southeast Queensland today bringing dry air to the coastal strip south of Bundaberg.
  - Another south-easterly wind change will move through the far southeast of the state this afternoon, weakening as it moves north towards the Wide Bay area, delivering higher humidity as it moves through.
  - Very High Fire Danger ratings continue across the far north today and into the weekend with dry, fresh and gusty south-easterly winds.
  - A more humid east to north-easterly flow about eastern districts on Sunday will see High Fire Dangers around eastern districts south of the Peninsula on Sunday.
  - Increasing heat, and warm to hot, dry north-westerly winds over southern Queensland are likely to see Very High Fire Danger ratings continuing about southern and central districts next week.
  - A weak trough is forecast to move through the southern interior during Tuesday, with a wind change likely to reach the southeast late Tuesday or Wednesday.
  - A stronger trough with more significant wind speeds should move into the far southwest of the state next Friday or Saturday.

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## New South Wales

- **Saturday 14 and Sunday 15 September**
  - *Very High Fire Danger ratings remain over the north and northeastern parts of the state and are expected to remain over the weekend.*
  - *Daytime temperatures remain above average. Light to moderate northeast to northwest winds are forecast.*

Source: Bureau of Meteorology

## State and Territory Actions

## Queensland

- 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.
- QPS have deployed 33 officers to support QFES / RFS field operations across the state.

Source: Qld SDCC

## Victoria

- *Emergency Management Victoria is providing support to Queensland, with 36 incident management and specialist personnel who commenced duty on **Thursday 12 September**. These personnel from various Victorian emergency response agencies will be deployed to Kendron, Boonah Airfield, Canungra, Rockhampton and Toowoomba.*

Source: Vic SCC

## 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 Qld 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 assistance 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 assistance 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 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.

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- 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**

Jointly funded Commonwealth-state Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DRFA)

- Disaster recovery assistance is being provided under the 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.
  - *Concessional interest rate loans for small businesses, primary producers and non-profit organisations; and*
  - *Freight subsidies for primary producers; and*
- This assistance is administered by the Qld Government.

Australian Government Disaster Recovery Allowance (DRA)

- The DRA has been made available to provide further support to bushfire affected individuals.
- The DRA is a short-term income support payment to assist individuals who can demonstrate their income has been affected as a direct result of the bushfires.
- The DRA is available in the four (4) local government areas (LGAs) of Noosa, Scenic Rim, Southern Downs and Sunshine Coast.
- This assistance is administered by the Department of Human Services and is available from **Monday 16 September** – Ph: 180 22 66.

### **Northern New South Wales Bushfires**

Jointly funded Commonwealth-State Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DRFA)

- Disaster recovery assistance is being provided under the 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.

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## Australian Government Disaster Recovery Allowance (DRA)

- The DRA has been made available to provide further support to bushfire affected individuals.
- The DRA is a short-term income support payment to assist individuals who can demonstrate their income has been affected as a direct result of the bushfires.
- The DRA is available in the eight (8) local government areas (LGAs) of Armidale, Bellingen, Clarence Valley, Glen Innes, Inverell, Tenterfield, Uralla and Walcha.
- This assistance is administered by the Department of Human Services and is available from **Monday 16 September** – Ph: 180 22 66.

Source: EMA Recovery, Home Affairs Media and Portfolio Engagement Branch,  
Emergency Management Australia, [ATO](#), [DHS](#)

## 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](http://www.disasterassist.gov.au).
- This will be the final incident brief unless the situation changes.

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) <a href="mailto:@homeaffairs.gov.au">@homeaffairs.gov.au</a>	

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Australian Government  
Department of Home Affairs

**Background Brief**

For information

PDMS Number: MB19-001081

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

**Subject:** Preparing for the Upcoming Season

**Purpose**

To provide information about the Australian Government's planning and preparation activities ahead of the upcoming severe weather season.

**Background**

1. Australian communities are vulnerable to hazards including severe weather, cyclones, floods, and bushfires.
2. The Bureau of Meteorology has recorded the fifth-driest start to the year on record and forecasts a drier than average end to 2019 for much of Australia. The Australian Seasonal Bushfire Outlook, released by the Bushfire and Natural Hazards Cooperative Research Centre (BHCRC) on 28 August 2019, forecasts above normal fire potential across Australia due to unusually warm and dry conditions and notes that fire season severity is increasing across southern Australia. An early start to the fire season has been declared in many areas across Eastern Australia.
3. State and territory governments have primary responsibility for the protection of life, property and environment within their jurisdiction but can request Commonwealth disaster assistance when a crisis overwhelms their capacity and/or capabilities.
4. The Australian Government, through Emergency Management Australia (EMA) is leading a number of initiatives that support Australian communities to prepare for natural disasters.

**Key Issues**

5. National Crisis Arrangements

The Australian Government has a number of initiatives to support Australian communities to prepare for natural disasters. Through EMA, the Government:

- maintains a suite of national plans to ensure the Commonwealth stands ready to provide non-financial and physical assistance to state and territory jurisdictions, including Australian Defence Force assistance
- operates the Australian Government Crisis Coordination Centre, a 24/7 facility for all-hazards situational awareness, response coordination, and Australian Government Crisis Committee (AGCC) the National Crisis Committee (NCC) meetings.

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### 6. Annual Preparedness Briefings

The Australian Government, through EMA, is delivering Annual Preparedness Briefings to all state and territory emergency management and associated agencies on the summer season outlook and potential risk for disasters in Australia.

- The briefings are valuable for strengthening relationships, information sharing arrangements and communication with jurisdictional agencies and facilitating early engagement about procedures for requesting Australian Government physical assistance.

### 7. Emergency Alert

The Australian Government is providing \$2 million to ensure that the Commonwealth's component of the national telephone based warning system, Emergency Alert, is available during 2019-20.

- The warning system provides emergency services agencies with immediate access to telephone and mobile phone numbers within an area impacted by a disaster to issue emergency warnings via voice and text messages.

### 8. National Aerial Firefighting Centre (NAFC) funding

The Australian Government is providing almost \$15 million annually to the National Aerial Firefighting Centre to coordinate a fleet of highly specialised firefighting aircraft readily available to support states and territories.

- The final standing and positioning costs are at \$99,239,946 (excluding GST). This year the funding has contributed to the lease of 135 aircraft, including aircrews, fixed wing firebombing and specialist mapping aircraft, and helicopters with night firebombing capabilities.

### 9. Australian Disaster Preparedness Framework

The Australian Government has developed the Australian Disaster Preparedness Framework by which all jurisdictions collectively prepare for severe to catastrophic disasters.

- The Framework informs the strategic governance, policy and investment required for disaster preparedness. It incorporates consideration of risk and consequence, and new and emerging ideas and technologies, to inform the strategic capability requirements and arrangements across governments and the private, non-government community and international sectors.

### 10. National Disaster Risk Reduction Framework

The Australian Government is investing \$130.5 million over five years from 2019-20 to implement the Framework nationally and to support states and territories in reducing disaster risks at the state and local levels.

- The Framework was publicly released on 5 April 2019 and sets out the foundational work required nationally, across all sectors, to help manage existing climate and disaster risk, minimise new risk, and deliver better climate and disaster risk information to policy and decision makers.

### **Consultation**

11. If relevant, include details of internal/external consultation here.

### **Client service implications**

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12. Summarise client service implications here.

### Sensitivities

13. If the information contained in this brief is classified the following statement must be included:

In accordance with our long standing practices, should you wish for unclassified media lines to be prepared in relation to this issue please contact the Home Affairs Media Coordination team – media@homeaffairs.gov.au.

14. Include a short description of any additional sensitivities here.

15. Provide a summary of events if item is overdue. Delete if not applicable.

Authorising Officer	Contact Officer
Name Here Position (AS or above) Branch  _____ Ph: XX XXXX XXXX	Name Here Section  Ph: XX XXXX XXXX

**Through:** Include the name and title of any additional officers who also need to review the background brief (it is for your area to determine if the brief needs to go through any additional review officers).

**Copies:** Include the name and title of any officer who you will provide a copy of the brief to.

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**QUESTION TIME BRIEF (QTB)**  
**NSW/QLD FIRES**

**QUESTION: NSW and Qld Fires**

**KEY TALKING POINTS:**

**SITUATION**

- Firstly, my thoughts are with those communities who have been impacted by the bushfires in New South Wales and Queensland.
- I would also like to commend the efforts of the first responders who are working to keep these communities safe.
- Although conditions have eased, there is no sign of significant rain in the immediate future over the affected areas of Queensland and New South Wales.
- I urge everyone to stay aware of their surroundings and follow advice from local emergency management authorities.
- The full impact of the fires is still being assessed. The impacts that have been confirmed so far include:
  - In Queensland, 17 houses have been destroyed and five severely damaged.
  - 18 structures (including sheds, outbuildings) have been destroyed and eight severely damaged.
  - Five commercial structures destroyed at Binna Burra (including the historic Binna Burra Lodge).
  - In NSW, 28 homes have been destroyed, another 13 damaged, and 79 outbuildings have been destroyed and 51 have been damaged.
  - Fire has also destroyed six commercial structures with two damaged.
- Sadly, a NSW Rural Fire Service volunteer firefighter, Neville Smith, was seriously injured while fighting a fire near Tenterfield on Friday 6 September. Our thoughts are with him and his loved ones.
- The Australian Government is in regular contact with the affected jurisdictions and will provide assistance if requested.
- On Friday 6 September, the Australian Government approved the activation of COMDISPLAN in relation to bushfires burning in southeast Queensland and northern NSW.
  - I have since approved three tasking's to the Australian Defence Force to assist with the provision of accommodation, transportation and sustenance at Kokoda Barracks, Canungra for approximately 200 firefighting personnel from NSW, Vic, WA, SA and ACT.

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**JOINTLY FUNDED COMMONWEALTH-STATE DISASTER RECOVERY FUNDING ARRANGEMENTS (DRFA)**

**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 eight 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;
    - Includes immediate emergency assistance, grants for essential household contents and grants for essential structural repairs to homes.
    - The amounts granted depend on the assessed needs of the affected individuals/households.
  - support for affected local councils and state agencies to help with operational response costs and restoring damaged essential public assets;
    - Includes funding for counter disaster operations (e.g. firefighting operations) and to repair damaged assets.
    - The amount available is not capped.
  - concessional interest rate loans for small businesses, primary producers and non-profit organisations;
    - Up to \$130,000 at a fixed concessional interest rate for small businesses and primary producers and up to \$25,000 for non-profit organisations.
  - freight subsidies for primary producers, and
    - Up to \$15,000 per annum.
  - grants to eligible non-profit organisations.
    - Up to \$2,000.
- This assistance is administered by the NSW Government.
- For personal hardship and distress assistance contact the NSW Government Disaster Welfare Assistance Line on 1800 018 444.
- For concessional interest rate loans for small businesses, primary producers and non-profit organisations contact the Rural Assistance Authority on 1800 678 593.

**Southern Queensland Bushfires**

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

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**NSW/QLD FIRES**

- DRFA assistance is available in the local government areas of Noosa, Scenic Rim, Southern Downs and Sunshine Coast.
- A range of assistance is available in these local government areas, including:
  - personal hardship and distress assistance for individuals and families; and
    - **Emergency Hardship Assistance Grant** – provides assistance as a contribution to support people directly impacted by an eligible disaster to meet their immediate essential needs for food, clothing, medical supplies or temporary accommodation. \$180 per individual and up to \$900 for families of five or more.
    - **Essential Services Hardship Assistance** – provides assistance for people directly impacted by an eligible disaster to meet their immediate needs where they have experienced the loss of one or more essential services for more than five days. \$150 for individuals and up to \$750 for families of five or more.
    - **Essential Household Contents Grant** – provides a contribution towards replacing or repairing essential household contents, such as beds, linen and whitegoods that have been lost or damaged by an eligible disaster. \$1,765 per individual or \$5,300 for couples or families. Assistance is subject to means testing.
    - **Structural Assistance Grant** – provides a contribution towards repairs or replacement of a dwelling damaged by an eligible disaster, to return it to a safe, habitable and secure condition. \$10,995 for single adults or \$14,685 for couples or families. Assistance is subject to means testing.
    - **Essential Services Safety and Reconnection Scheme** – To assist residents with the inspection and reconnection of essential services that have been damaged by an eligible disaster. The scheme provides financial assistance to individuals and families as a contribution towards safety inspections of and repairs to residential essential services (i.e. electricity, gas, water and sewerage) damaged by an eligible disaster. Up to \$5,000 per household. Assistance is subject to means testing.
    - This assistance is administered by the Queensland Government.
    - Anyone in need of assistance should contact the Queensland Government Community Recovery Hotline on 1800 173 349.
  - support for affected local councils and state agencies to help with operational response costs.
    - **Counter Disaster Operations** – To assist local governments and state agencies to undertake activities that alleviate personal hardship and distress, address the immediate needs of individuals and protect the general public immediately prior to, during or immediately after an eligible disaster (e.g. firefighting operations).
    - The amount available is not capped.

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- . In addition:
  - o Assistance for the restoration of damaged essential public assets has been made available in Scenic Rim.
  - o Concessional interest rate loans of up to \$250,000 for primary producers, small businesses and not-for-profit organisations have been made available in Scenic Rim and Southern Downs.
    - Contact the Queensland Rural and Industry Development Authority on 1800 623 946.
  - o Freight subsidies of up to \$5,000 for primary producers have been made available in Scenic Rim and Southern Downs.
    - Contact the Queensland Department of Agriculture and Fisheries Customer Service Centre on 13 25 23.

**Australian Government Disaster Recovery Allowance (DRA)**

- . The DRA has been activated to provide additional support for people who have been affected by the bushfires in Queensland and NSW.
- . The DRA is designed to assist those who have experienced a loss of income as a direct result of the bushfires.
- . The DRA provides fortnightly payments equivalent to the maximum rate of Newstart Allowance or Youth Allowance.
- . The DRA can be paid for up to 13 weeks or until the individual regains their pre-disaster income.
- . In Queensland, the DRA has been activated in the four local government areas of Noosa, Scenic Rim, Southern Downs and Sunshine Coast.
- . In New South Wales, the DRA has been activated in the eight local government areas of Armidale, Bellingen, Clarence Valley, Glen Innes, Inverell, Tenterfield, Uralla and Walcha.
- . Claims for DRA can be made through the Australian Government Department of Human Services (DHS) from Monday 16 September 2019.
- . Customers can call DHS on 180 22 66 to enquire about the DRA.

*If asked: Are the current bushfires in NSW and Qld unusual or influenced by climate change?*

- . This is an early start to the fire season.
- . It is not possible to attribute a single bushfire event to the changing climate.

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- Evidence shows that there has been a long term increase in extreme fire weather, and the longer fire season across large parts of Australia since the 1970s.
- The state of the climate report 2018 says that climate change is attributing to the long term changes. The number of days with weather conducive to fire in southern and eastern Australia is projected to increase.

## **BACKGROUND AND CHRONOLOGY**

### **Queensland**

- The Queensland State Disaster Coordination Centre (SDCC) have completed 399 impact assessment and confirm:
  - 17 homes have been destroyed, with another five damaged.
  - 18 structures (including sheds, outbuildings) have been destroyed with another eight damaged.
  - Five commercial structures destroyed at Binna Burra (including the historic Binna Burra Lodge).
- There are no active bushfires above ADVICE level.
- There are 37 fires currently active burning across Queensland (as at 0700hrs 19/09/2019).
- There are 13 aircraft assisting or available for tasking, including water bombing, mapping and line scan capability.
- 80 interstate firefighters and assisting personnel are currently deployed from ACT, SA, Tas, and Vic, this includes three personnel from New Zealand.

### **New South Wales**

- NSW Rural Fire Service (NSW RFS) have completed 1434 impact assessments and confirm:
  - 28 homes have been destroyed, with another 13 damaged.
  - 79 outbuildings have been destroyed with another 51 damaged.
  - Six commercial structures destroyed and two damaged.
- NSW RFS advised that their assessments are ongoing, and numbers are subject to change.
- There are approximately 35 active bush and grass fires currently burning across NSW (as at 0900hrs 19/09/2019).
- There are no active bushfires above ADVICE level.

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- There are 42 aircraft assisting or available for tasking, including water bombing, mapping and line scan capability.

Lead Division

Contact: Rob Cameron

Division: Emergency Management Australia

Date first prepared: 09 September 2019

Originating Source: (MO/HA)

Phone: s. 22(1)(a)(ii)

Action Officer: Joe Buffone

Date last Updated: 8/05/2020 - 1:45 PM

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## Australian Government

### Crisis Coordination Centre

#### Incident Brief

As of 1900 hrs (AEDT), 8 November 2019

#### New South Wales and Queensland bushfires – Version 1

#### Key Issues

- Parts of north-eastern New South Wales and southern Queensland experienced SEVERE to EXTREME fire weather conditions on **Friday 8 November**.
- New South Wales:
  - There are currently 17 EMERGENCY WARNING and seven WATCH AND ACT bushfires burning throughout the state.
  - Multiple school and road closures occurred today, **Friday 8 November**, to assist with precautionary and operational activities of fire and emergency services.
  - Multiple evacuation centres were stood-up and remain activated to support fire affected communities.
  - A cold front is forecast to move through north-east NSW later tonight **Friday 8 November** and south-east Qld early tomorrow **Saturday 9 November** with winds shifting cooler west to south-westerly. Fire dangers will remain Very High throughout the weekend.
  - Unconfirmed property loss and damage is expected across fire affected areas. This will be confirmed once Rapid Damage Assessment Teams can safely access fire grounds to undertake assessments.
  - Two COMDISPLAN Task Requests were issued to ADF today **Friday 8 November** to assist with the air movement of interstate Strike Teams into Port Macquarie this evening (ACT) and tomorrow morning (SA).
  - An EMA LO has been deployed to the NSW SEOC, which is currently operating out of the NSW RFS HQ.
- Queensland:
  - There are currently two EMERGENCY WARNING and five WATCH AND ACT bushfires burning throughout the state.
  - Evacuation centres remain activated to support fire affected communities. Approximately 780 properties have been evacuated as a result of the Cooroibah fire.

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**Situation Details****New South Wales**

- 17 EMERGENCY WARNING level bushfires are current for the following areas:
  - Crowdy Bay National Park
  - Carrai Creek
  - Gulf Road, Torrington
  - Guyra Road, Wandsworth
  - Hillville Road, Hillville
  - Kangawalla, Glen Innes
  - Kian Road and Fortescue Creek
  - Liberation Trail in the Chaelundi and Marara State Forests, south of the Boyd River
  - Lindfield Park Road, Port Macquarie
  - Muck Creek, Clouds Creek State Forest
  - Myall Creek Road, Bora Bridge
  - Riches Avenue, Woodford
  - Rumba Dump
  - Schultz Road Tyringham
  - Stockyard Flat
  - Willararrin
  - Willi Willi National Park
- Over 50 NSW SES members are assisting NSW RFS with the bushfires in Northern NSW.
- The NSW Public Information and Inquiry Centre (PIIC) was activated today, **Friday 8 November** to support the provision of information to the community of impacts from current fire activity.
- Evacuation centres remain activated at:
  - Anglican Church Hall and Macksville High School at Bowraville
  - Club Taree
  - Grafton Community Centre
  - Hazlebrook Bowling Club
  - Laurieton United Services
  - Tuncurry Bowling Club
  - Wauchope High School and Wauchope Showground

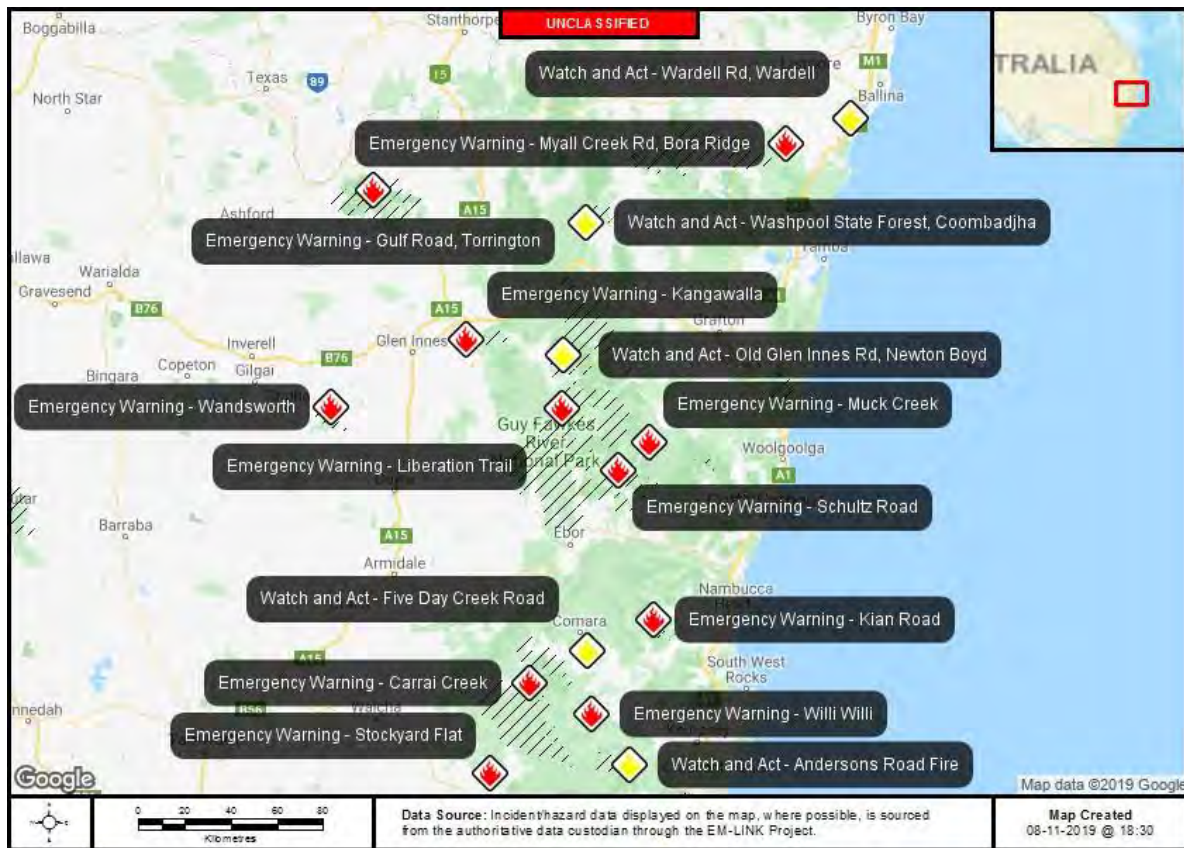
Source: NSW SEOC, NSW SES Sitrep1 – 1700hrs 8 November 2019

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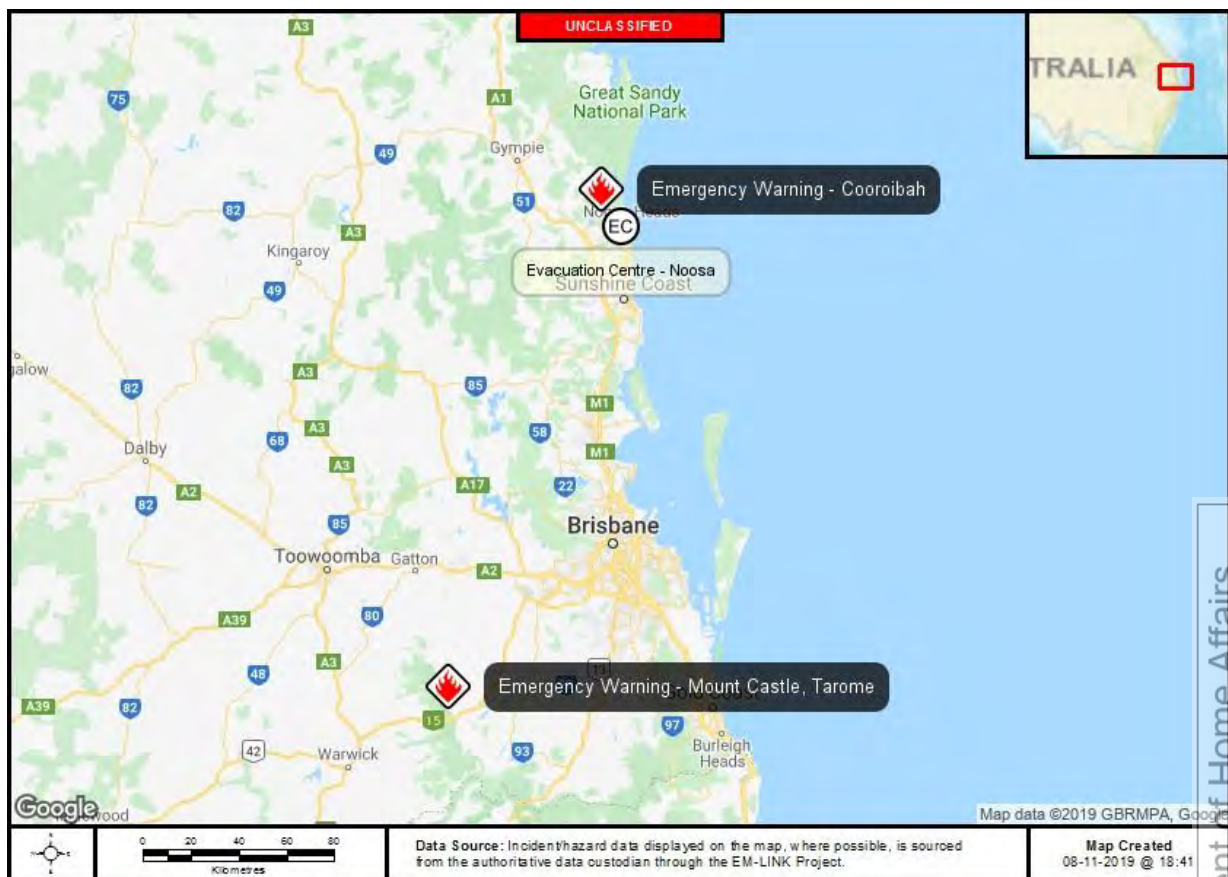
CCC84348  
Queensland

**Cooroibah**

- An EMERGENCY WARNING has been issued for a bushfire burning in the vicinity of Cooroibah.
  - A fast moving bushfire is travelling in a south westerly direction towards Johns Landing Camping Ground and Johns Road, Cooroibah. It is expected to impact Johns Road, Cooroibah and could have significant impact on the community.
  - An evacuation centre has been established at Noosa Leisure Centre,

**Mount Castle**

- An EMERGENCY WARNING has been issued for a bushfire burning in the vicinity of Mount Castle, Tarome.
  - The fire is travelling in a south-easterly direction towards Tarome Road, Ryan Road, Simmonds Road, Hinrichsen Road, Campsite Road, Rose Road and the Cunningham Highway. The fire is expected to have a significant impact on this area.
  - Residents have been advised to enact their bushfire survival plans, and to leave immediately if they do not have a plan.
  - A place of refuge has been opened at Aratula Community Centre



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**Weather Forecast****New South Wales****Friday 8 November**

- Fire weather warnings remain current for north-east NSW and south-east & central Qld
- A cold front is forecast to move through north-east NSW tonight **Friday 8 November** and south-east Qld early tomorrow **Saturday 9 November** with winds shifting cooler west to south-westerly.
- Cooler conditions persist over the weekend and into **Monday 11 November**, but fire dangers will remain Very High. Smoke from on-going fires is resulting in reduced air quality and this is likely to be further exacerbated during **Sunday 10 November** and into **Monday 11 November** as a high pressure ridge establishes over the region.

Source: BOM Critical Event Brief 2019/30 - Update2

**Infrastructure****New South Wales****School Closures**

- The following schools temporarily ceased operations today, **Friday 8 November**:
- Bobin Public School
- Coolongolook Public School.
- Coopernook Public School
- Dundurrabin Public School.
- Hannam Vale Public School
- Harrington Public School
- Huntingdon Public School
- Johns River Public School
- Lowanna Public School
- Mitchells Island Public School
- Moorland Public School
- Nymboida Public School
- Tinonee Public School
- Upper Coopers Creek Public School
- Yarrowitch Public School

Source: NSWPol, FRNSW, Department of Education

**Disaster Recovery Assistance**

- The Australian Government is liaising with the NSW Government regarding recovery assistance for bushfire affected communities.
- Under the jointly funded Commonwealth-State Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DRFA) recovery assistance can be activated immediately by the NSW Government to help people in need.

Source: Disaster Recovery Branch EMA

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**Australian Government Actions****New South Wales**

- On **31 October 2019**, the A/Director General Emergency Management Australia approved the activation of COMDISPLAN in response to a formal request for Australian Government non-financial assistance to support the bushfire activity in New South Wales:
  - Task request #001: Request for the Australian Defence Force (ADF) to provide air transport for operational firefighters and support staff as a contingency when commercial options are not available, feasible or meet operational tempo and based on operational requirements and asset availability.
  - Task request #001A – **8 November 2019**: Due to extreme fire conditions and reports of multiple property losses and persons trapped/isolated by fire, ADF to provide urgent air movement of interstate Strike Teams from Canberra to Port Macquarie.
  - Task Request #001B – **8 November 2019**: Due to extreme fire conditions and reports of multiple property losses and persons trapped/isolated by fire, ADF to provide urgent air movement interstate Strike Teams from South Australia to Port Macquarie.
- Emergency Management Australia has deployed one Liaison Officer to the NSW State Emergency Operations Centre.

Source: CCC Planning, Emergency Management Australia

**Further Information**

- The CCC has contacted relevant agencies and continues to monitor the situation closely.
- The next CCC Incident Brief will be issued at 0630hrs **9 November 2019**.

<b>Prepared by:</b>	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)
<b>Approved by:</b>	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) <a href="mailto:homeaffairs.gov.au">@homeaffairs.gov.au</a>	

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## Australian Government

### Crisis Coordination Centre

#### Incident Brief

As of 0630 hrs (AEDT), 9 November 2019

#### New South Wales and Queensland bushfires – Version 2

##### Key Issues

- Parts of north eastern New South Wales and southern Queensland experienced SEVERE to EXTREME fire weather conditions on **Friday 8 November**.
- In New South Wales:
  - There are currently *eight* EMERGENCY WARNING and *eight* WATCH AND ACT bushfires burning throughout the state.
  - Multiple school and road closures occurred on **Friday 8 November**, to assist with precautionary and operational activities of fire and emergency services.
  - Multiple evacuation centres remain activated to support fire affected communities.
  - A cold front is forecast to move through south-east Qld today, **Saturday 9 November** morning with winds shifting cooler west to south-westerly. Fire dangers will remain Very High throughout the weekend.
  - *Open source media has reported that two properties have been lost in the Coraki area on the far-north coast. A firefighter and a local resident were transported to hospital due to smoke inhalation.*
  - Unconfirmed property loss and damage is expected across fire affected areas. This will be confirmed once Rapid Damage Assessment Teams can safely access fire grounds to undertake assessments.
  - Two COMDISPLAN Task Requests were issued to ADF on **Friday 8 November** to assist with the air movement of interstate Strike Teams into Port Macquarie on **Friday 8 November** (ACT) and the morning of **Saturday 9 November** (SA).
  - An EMA LO has been deployed to the NSW SEOC, which is currently operating out of the NSW RFS HQ.
- In Queensland:
  - There is currently *two* EMERGENCY WARNING and *four* WATCH AND ACT bushfires burning throughout the state.
  - Evacuation Centres remain activated to support fire affected communities. Approximately 780 properties have been evacuated as a result of the Cooroibah fire.

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**Situation Details****New South Wales**

- *Eight* EMERGENCY WARNING level bushfires are current for the following areas:
  - Crowdy Bay National Park
  - Coombes Gap Complex
  - Hillville Road, Hillville
  - Kangawalla, Glen Innes
  - Liberation Trail in the Chaelundi and Marara State Forests, south of the Boyd River
  - Clouds Creek State Forest, Muck Creek
  - Tapin Tops National Park, Rumba Dump
  - Stockyard Flat
- Over 50 NSW SES members are assisting NSW RFS with the bushfires in Northern NSW.
- The NSW Public Information and Inquiry Centre (PIIC) was activated on **Friday 8 November** to support the provision of information to the community of impacts from current fire activity.
- *Open source media has reported that two properties have been lost in the Coraki area on the far-north coast. A firefighter and a local resident were transported to hospital due to smoke inhalation.*
- Evacuation Centres remain activated at:
  - Anglican Church Hall, Bowraville
  - Macksville High School
  - Club Taree
  - Grafton Community Centre
  - Hazlebrook Bowling Club
  - Laurieton United Services Club
  - Tuncurry Bowling Club
  - Wauchope High School and Wauchope Showground
  - Sherwood Hall, Sherwood
  - Grafton Community Centre
  - Coraki Bowling Club
  - Richmond Rooms Ballina
  - Glen Innes Showground

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Source: NSW SEOC, NSW SES Sitrep1 – 1700 hrs 8 November 2019, [ABC News](#)**UNCLASSIFIED**

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**Queensland****Cooroibah**

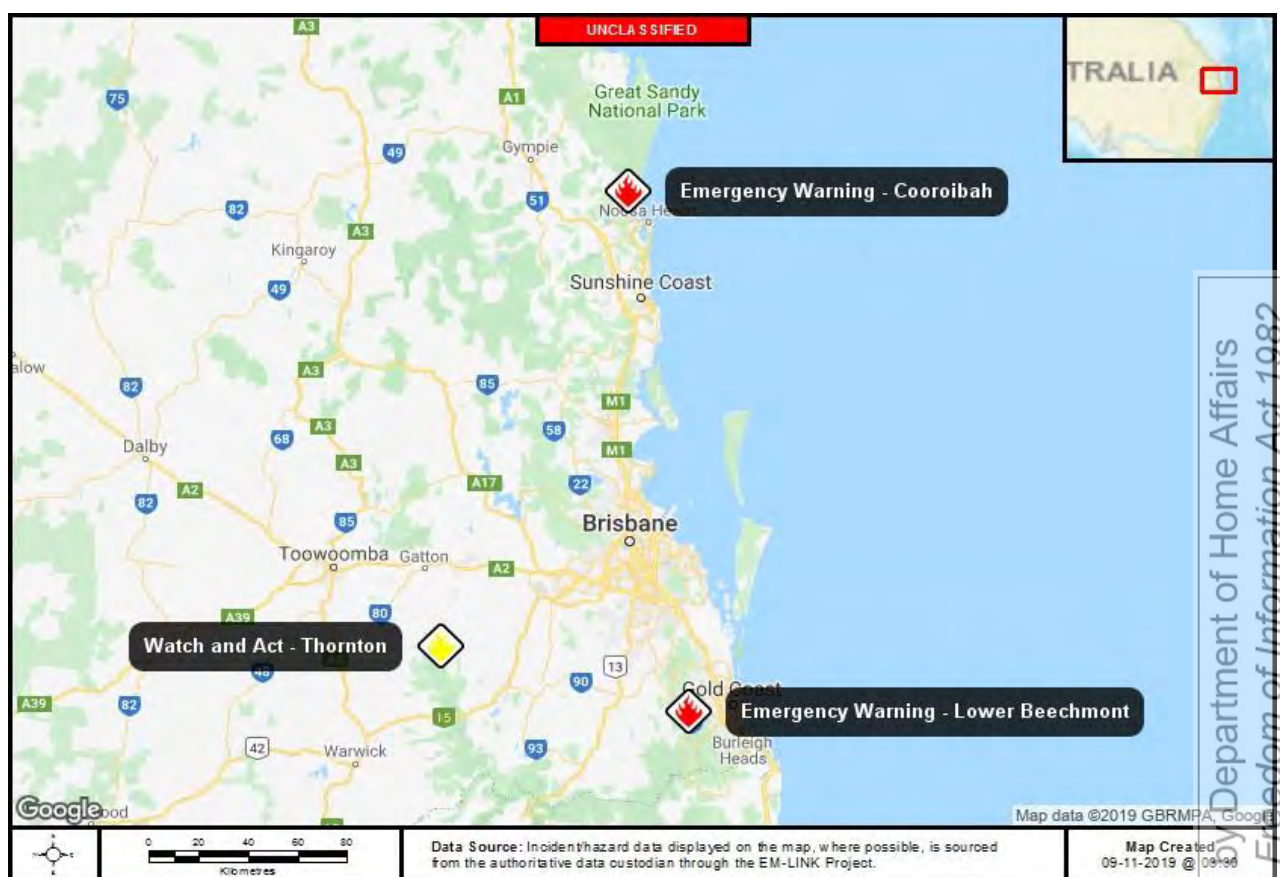
- An EMERGENCY WARNING is current for a bushfire burning in the vicinity of Cooroibah.
  - A fast moving bushfire is travelling in a south westerly direction towards Johns Landing Camping Ground and Johns Road, Cooroibah. It is expected to impact Johns Road, Cooroibah and could have significant impact on the community.
  - An evacuation centre has been established at Noosa Leisure Centre.

**Lower Beechmont**

- An EMERGENCY WARNING has been issued for a bushfire burning in the vicinity of Freemans Road, Lower Beechmont.
  - The bushfire is travelling in a north-easterly direction towards Hellfire Pass and is impacting North Road, Freemans Road and Outlook Avenue.
  - Conditions are very dangerous, and firefighters may soon be unable to prevent the fire advancing.
  - Power, water, and mobile phone service may be lost, and road conditions may become very dangerous over the next several hours.
  - An evacuation centre has been set up at Nerang Bicentennial Community Centre at 833 Southport Nerang Road, Nerang.

**Thornton**

- An EMERGENCY WARNING previously issued for a bushfire burning in the vicinity of Main Camp Creek Road, Thornton, Qld (formerly referred to as the Mount Castle, Tarome fire) was downgraded to WATCH AND ACT level.

Source: Qld SDCC, [QFES](#)**UNCLASSIFIED**

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**Weather Forecast****Saturday 9 November**

- In New South Wales, a fire weather warning has been issued for the Far North Coast fire area, which has a **VERY HIGH** fire danger rating.
- In Queensland, a fire weather warning has been issued for the Northern Goldfields and Upper Flinders, Herbert and Lower Burdekin, Central Coast and Whitsundays, Capricornia and Wide Bay and Burnett forecast districts, which have a **SEVERE** fire danger rating.
- A cold front is forecast to move through south-east Qld today, **Saturday 9 November**, with winds shifting cooler west to south-westerly.
- Cooler conditions are expected to persist over the weekend and into **Monday 11 November**, but fire dangers will remain Very High. Smoke from on-going fires is resulting in reduced air quality and this likely to be further exacerbated during **Sunday 10 November** and into **Monday 11 November** as a high-pressure ridge establishes over the region.

Source: BOM Critical Event Brief 2019/30 – Update 2, [Bureau of Meteorology](#)

**Disaster Recovery Assistance**

- The Australian Government is liaising with the NSW Government regarding recovery assistance for bushfire affected communities.
- Under the jointly funded Commonwealth-State Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DRFA) recovery assistance can be activated immediately by the NSW Government to help people in need.

Source: Disaster Recovery Branch EMA

**Australian Government Actions****New South Wales**

- On **31 October 2019**, the Director General Emergency Management Australia approved the activation of COMDISPLAN in response to a formal request for Australian Government non-financial assistance to support the bushfire activity in New South Wales:
  - Task request #001: Request for the Australian Defence Force (ADF) to provide air transport for operational firefighters and support staff as a contingency when commercial options are not available, feasible or meet operational tempo and based on operational requirements and asset availability.
  - Task request #001A – **8 November 2019**: Due to extreme fire conditions and reports of multiple property losses and persons trapped/isolate by fire, ADF to provide urgent air movement of interstate Strike Teams from Canberra to Port Macquarie.
  - Task Request #001B – **8 November 2019**: Due to extreme fire conditions and reports of multiple property losses and persons trapped/isolate by fire, ADF to provide urgent air movement interstate Strike Teams from South Australia to Port Macquarie.
- Emergency Management Australia has deployed one Liaison Officer to the NSW State Emergency Operations Centre.

Source: CCC Planning, Emergency Management Australia

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**Further Information**

- The CCC has contacted relevant agencies and continues to monitor the situation closely.
- The next CCC Incident Brief will be issued at 1900 hrs **9 November 2019**.

<b>Prepared by:</b>	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)
<b>Approved by:</b>	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) <a href="mailto:ccc@homeaffairs.gov.au">@homeaffairs.gov.au</a>	

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## Australian Government

### Crisis Coordination Centre

#### Incident Brief

As of 1830 hrs (AEDT), 9 November 2019

#### New South Wales and Queensland bushfires – Version 3

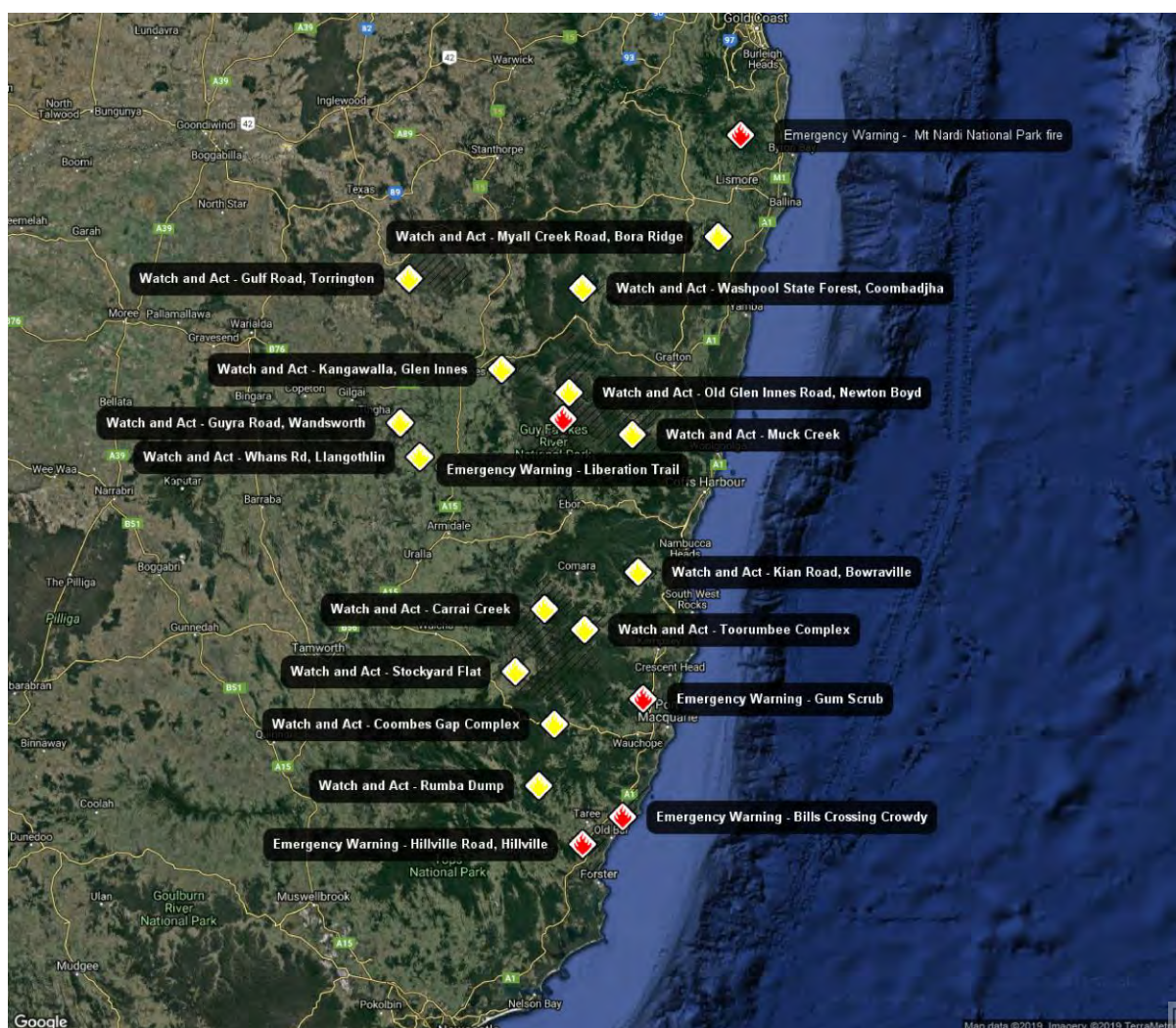
#### Key Issues

- Parts of north eastern New South Wales and southern Queensland experienced SEVERE to EXTREME fire weather conditions on **Friday 8 November**.
- Conditions eased to VERY HIGH fire danger on **Saturday 9 November**.
- In New South Wales:
  - There are currently *five* EMERGENCY WARNING and *16* WATCH AND ACT level bushfires burning throughout the state.
  - *Three* fatalities have been confirmed and *seven* people have been reported missing.
  - At least *150* structures have been destroyed. Damage assessments are ongoing and the numbers of destroyed structures are expected to rise.
  - Twelve evacuation centres remain activated to support fire affected communities.
  - A cool change moved across the fire ground today, **Saturday 9 November**, easing conditions, however no significant rain is forecast for at least seven days.
  - Three COMDISPLAN Task Requests have been issued to ADF since **Friday 8 November** to assist with the air movement of interstate Strike Teams.
  - An EMA LO has been deployed to the NSW SEOC, which is currently operating out of the NSW RFS HQ.
- In Queensland:
  - There is currently *one* EMERGENCY WARNING and there are *seven* WATCH AND ACT level bushfires burning across the state.
  - Evacuation Centres remain activated to support fire affected communities. *Approximately 414 people have been evacuated as a result of the Cooroibah fire.*
- In Western Australia:
  - There is currently one EMERGENCY WARNING level bushfire burning in the state.
  - *SEVERE to EXTREME fire conditions are forecast for the rest of today, **Saturday 9 November**.*
  - *SEVERE to CATASTROPHIC fire conditions are forecast for tomorrow, **Sunday 10 November**.*

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## Situation Details

### New South Wales



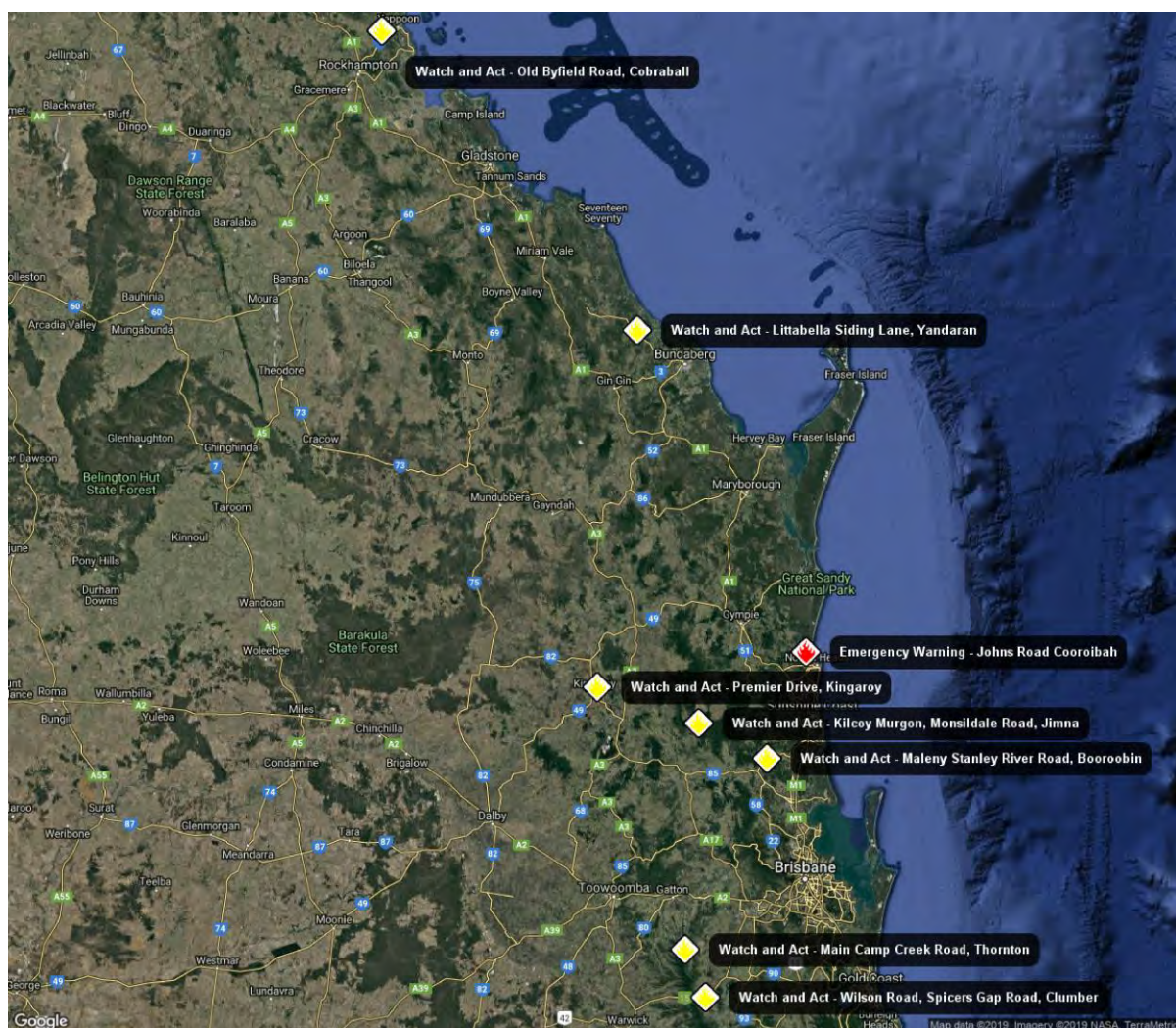
- *Three fatalities have been confirmed and seven people have been reported missing.*
- *At least 150 structures have been destroyed, including two schools and two NSW RFS Brigade Stations, since **Friday 8 November**. Damage assessments are ongoing and the numbers of destroyed structures are expected to rise.*
- *Five fires are burning at EMERGENCY WARNING level:*
  - Crowdy Bay National Park;
  - Gum Scrub;
  - Hillville Road, Hillville;
  - Liberation Trail; and
  - Mt Nardi National Park.
- *Four fires previously burning at EMERGENCY WARNING level have been downgraded to WATCH AND ACT level:*
  - Coombes Gap Complex;
  - Kangawalla;
  - Muck Creek; and

- *Rumba Dump.*
- WATCH AND ACT warnings also remain in place for fires burning at:
  - Carrai Creek;
  - Kangawalla;
  - Kian Road; and
  - Wandsworth.
- *More than 80 bushfires are burning across the state, with 46 yet to be contained.*
- *More than 1300 fire fighters have been deployed and 77 aircraft.*
- NSW SES members continue to assist NSW RFS with the northeast NSW bushfires.
- *More than 250 interstate deployments are active across the fire ground.*
- The NSW Public Information and Inquiry Centre (PIIC) was activated on **Friday 8 November** to support the provision of information to the community of impacts from current fire activity.
- *Twelve Evacuation Centres remain open at:*
  - Anglican Church Hall, Bowraville
  - Club Taree
  - Grafton Community Centre
  - Laurieton United Services Club
  - Tuncurry Bowling Club
  - Wauchope High School and Wauchope Showground
  - Grafton Community Centre
  - Coraki Bowling Club
  - Glen Innes Showground
  - *Kempsey Showground*
  - *North Haven Bowling Club.*
  - *Old Bar Club*
- *Telstra has advised that telecommunications infrastructure has been impacted by the fires, including:*
  - *up to 235 fixed landline serves impacted at Toorooka, in the vicinity of the Carrai Creek fire*
  - *up to 125 fixed landline services impacted at Wherrol Flat, in the vicinity of the Rumba Dump fire*
  - *Three 3G and three 4G mobile services sites at Bellbrook, Toorooka and Taylor's Arm, in the vicinity of the Carrai Creek and Kian Road fires*
  - *A loss of mains power at Bellbrook and Toorooka base stations and at Taylors Arm and Wherrol Flat exchanges, in the vicinity of the Carrai Creek, Kian Road and Rumba Dump fires.*
  - *Both landline and ADSL services at the Koorainghat, Halliday's Point and Tallwood Village exchanges in the vicinity of the Hillville Road, Hillville fire.*

Source: NSW SEOC, EMALO – verbal, Telstra – verbal, NSW SES Sitrep1 – 1700 hrs 8 November 2019, NSW RFS – State Operations Overview – 1600 hrs Saturday 9 November 2019



## Queensland



### Johns Road, Cooroibah

- An EMERGENCY WARNING is current for a bushfire burning in the vicinity of Noosa North Shore, a part of the Cooroibah fire complex.
  - *The fire is expected to have a significant impact on the community at Noosa North Shore.*
  - *Residents have been advised to leave immediately.*
  - *Approximately 414 people have been evacuated from the area.*
  - *Evacuation Centres have been established at:*
    - *The J Noosa*
    - *Noosa Leisure Centre*
    - *Cooroy Library*
    - *Christian Outreach Centre, Noosaville.*
    - *Noosa Library (aged care residents only)*

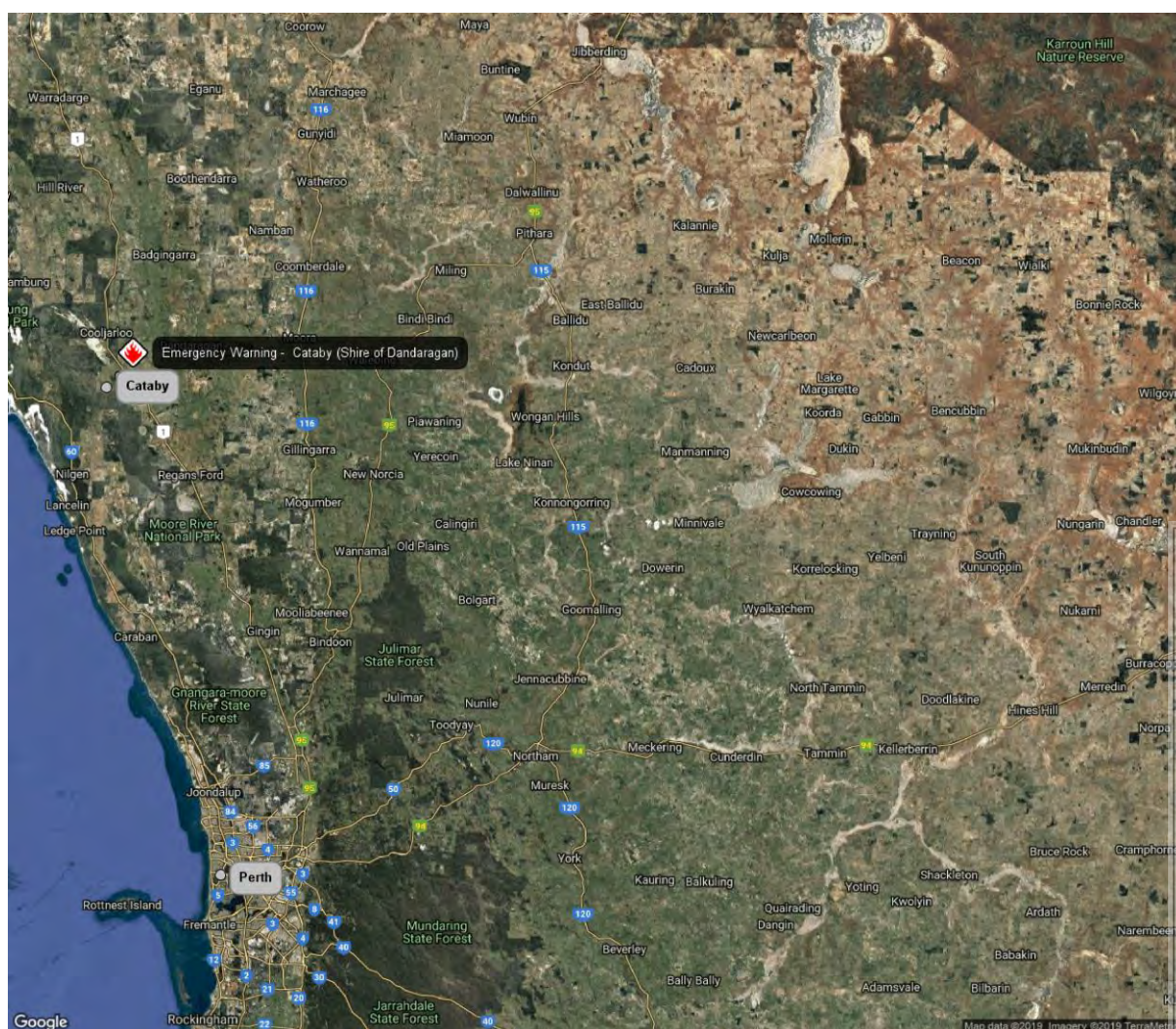


## Other areas

- An **EMERGENCY WARNING** issued for fire burning at Main Camp Creek Road, Thornton, was downgraded to **WATCH AND ACT** level.
- An **EMERGENCY WARNING** issued for fire burning at Lower Beechmont was downgraded to **ADVICE** level.
- **WATCH AND ACT** warnings also remain in place for fires burning at:
  - Kilcoy Murgon Road and Monsildale Road, Jimna;
  - Littabella Siding Lane, Yandaran;
  - Old Byfield Road, Cobraball;
  - Premier Drive, Kingaroy;
  - Maleny Stanley River Road, Booroobin; and
  - Wilson Road and Spicers Gap Road, Clumber

Source: Qld SDCC, [QFES](#)

## Western Australia



- An **EMERGENCY WARNING** is current for a bushfire burning in the vicinity of Cataby.



- For the rest of **Saturday 9 November**:
  - A fire weather warning has been issued for the Inland Central West, West Kimberley Coast, Kimberley Inland, East Pilbara Coast, West Pilbara Coast, Gascoyne Inland, North Interior, Coastal Central West - South and Mortlock fire weather areas, which have an **EXTREME** fire danger rating.
  - A fire weather warning has been issued for the Lower West (including Perth), East Pilbara Inland, Ashburton Inland, Gascoyne Coast, Coastal Central West - North, Ninghan, Avon and Jilbadgie fire weather areas, which have a **SEVERE** fire danger rating.
- For tomorrow, **Sunday 10 November**:
  - A fire weather warning has been issued for the Esperance Shire, Goldfields and Ninghan fire weather areas, which have a **CATASTROPHIC** fire danger rating.
  - A fire weather warning has been issued for the Ravensthorpe Shire, Eucla, Roe, Lakes and Jilbadgie fire weather areas, which have a **CATASTROPHIC** fire danger rating.
  - A fire weather warning has been issued for the South Coastal, East Pilbara Coast, West Pilbara Coast, Ashburton Inland, Gascoyne Inland and North Interior fire weather areas, which have a **SEVERE** fire danger rating.

Source: [Bureau of Meteorology](#)

## Weather Forecast

### New South Wales and Queensland – Saturday 9 November and Sunday 10 November

- For the rest of **Saturday 9 November**, **VERY HIGH** fire danger ratings are current for northeastern New South Wales and southeast Queensland.
- In Queensland, a fire weather warning remains current for the rest of **Saturday 9 November** in the Northern Goldfields and Upper Flinders, Herbert and Lower Burdekin, Central Coast and Whitsundays, Capricornia and Wide Bay and Burnett forecast districts, which have a **SEVERE** fire danger rating.
- For tomorrow, **Sunday 10 November**, **HIGH** to **VERY HIGH** fire danger is forecast for northeastern New South Wales and southeast Queensland.
- Cooler conditions are currently moving through New South Wales and southeast Queensland. This change will slightly ease the immediate fire conditions, however no rain is expected for at least the next seven days.
- Dry, northwesterly winds are expected to impact the region on **Tuesday 12 November**. Temperatures in the region are expected to be well above 30 degrees with isolated areas above 40 degrees.

### Western Australia – Saturday 9 November and Sunday 10 November

- A trough is forecast to move eastwards across the state for the rest of the weekend.
- On **Sunday 10 November**, very hot, dry conditions and gusty thunderstorms are possible over parts of the South West Land Division and adjacent Goldfields and Eucla region, with little or no rainfall.

Source: BOM Critical Event Brief 2019/30 – Update 3, [Bureau of Meteorology](#)

## Disaster Recovery Assistance

### Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements

- *Disaster recovery assistance is being provided under the jointly funded Commonwealth-state Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DRFA) in response to the bushfires that have affected the Mid North Coast and Northern NSW.*
- *DRFA assistance is available for the:*
  - *Mid-North Coast Bushfires in the local government areas of: Coffs Harbour, Kempsey, Mid-Coast, Nambucca and Port Macquarie Hastings.*
  - *Northern NSW Bushfires in the local government areas of: Armidale, Bellingen, Clarence Valley, Glen Innes Severn, Inverell, Richmond Valley, Tenterfield, Uralla and Walcha.*
- *A range of assistance is available including:*
  - *support for people suffering personal hardship to help with their immediate emergency needs.*
  - *help for eligible people whose homes or belongings have been damaged;*
  - *funding to support firefighting operations;*
  - *support for affected local councils to help with the costs of cleaning up 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.*
- *Anyone in need of assistance should contact the NSW Government Disaster Welfare Assistance Line on 1800 018 444.*

### Further recovery assistance

- *The Prime Minister has announced that the Australian Government Disaster Recovery Payment will be made available in response to the bushfires.*
- *The Australian Government is liaising with the NSW Government regarding recovery assistance for bushfire affected communities.*

*Further assistance will be made available to support affected communities.*

Source: Disaster Recovery Branch EMA

## Australian Government Actions

- *Today **9 November 2019** a Commissioners and Chief Officers Strategic Committee (CCOSC) was convened between Emergency Management Australia and jurisdictional Emergency Service Commissioners and Chief Officers to discuss the current fire situation.*

### New South Wales

- *On **31 October 2019**, the A/Director General Emergency Management Australia approved the activation of COMDISPLAN in response to a formal request for Australian Government non-financial assistance to support the bushfire activity in New South Wales.*
  - *Task Request #001: Request for the Australian Defence Force (ADF) to provide air transport for operational firefighters and support staff as a contingency when*

commercial options are not available, feasible or meet operational tempo and based on operational requirements and asset availability.

- Task Request #001A – **8 November 2019**: Due to extreme fire conditions and reports of multiple property losses and persons trapped/isolate by fire, ADF to provide urgent air movement of interstate Strike Teams from Canberra to Port Macquarie.
- Task Request #001B – **8 November 2019**: Due to extreme fire conditions and reports of multiple property losses and persons trapped/isolate by fire, ADF to provide urgent air movement of interstate Strike Teams from South Australia to Port Macquarie.
- Task Request #001C – **9 November 2019**: Due to extreme fire conditions and reports of multiple fatalities and property losses, ADF to provide urgent air movement of interstate Strike Teams from Tasmania to Port Macquarie.
- Emergency Management Australia has deployed one Liaison Officer to the NSW State Emergency Operations Centre.
- The Australian Government is in contact with the New South Wales government and agencies and remains ready to assist, including the ongoing support from the ADF.

Source: CCC Operations and CCC Planning, Emergency Management Australia

### Further Information

- The CCC has contacted relevant agencies and continues to monitor the situation closely.
- The next CCC Incident Brief will be issued at 0630 hrs **10 November 2019**.

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) <a href="mailto:cc@homeaffairs.gov.au">@homeaffairs.gov.au</a></p>	

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## Australian Government

### Crisis Coordination Centre

#### Incident Brief

As of 1830 hrs (AEDT), 10 November 2019

#### New South Wales and Queensland bushfires – Version 4

*New information in Italics*

#### Key Issues

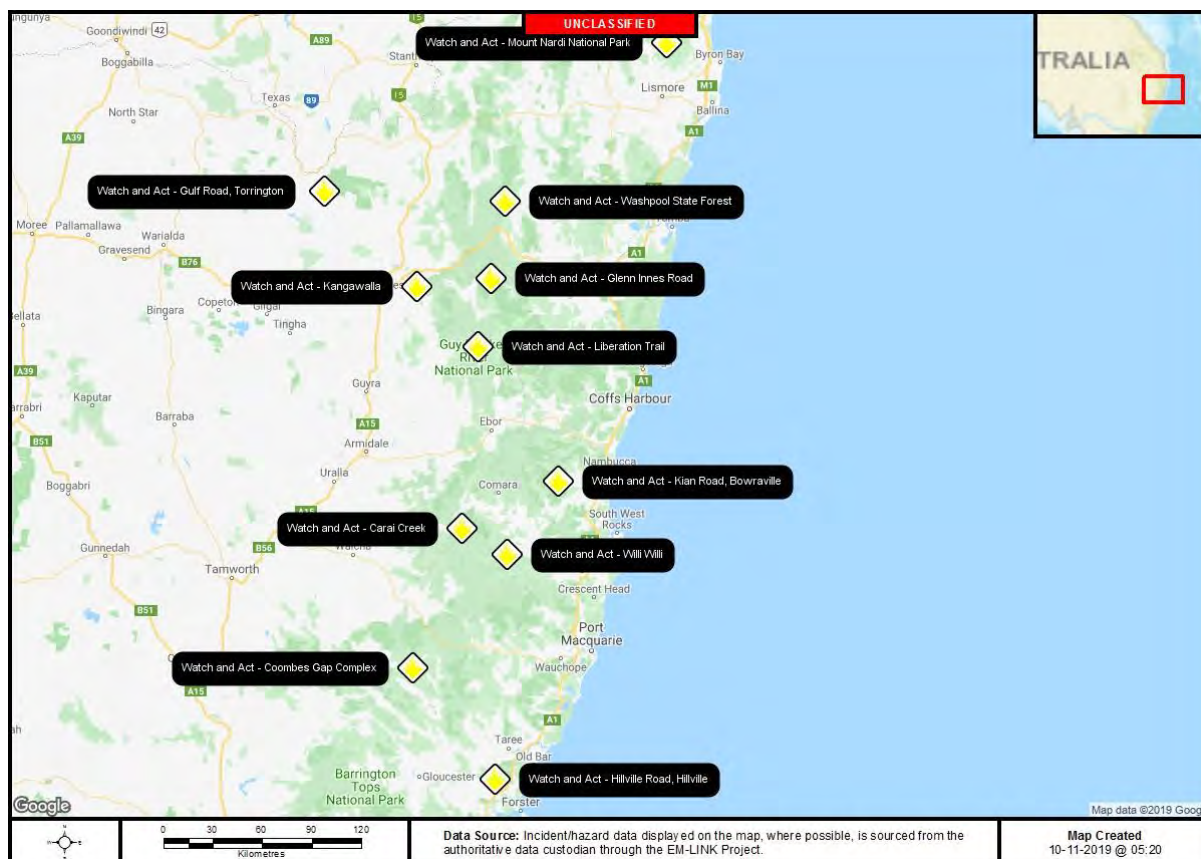
- Parts of north eastern New South Wales and southern Queensland experienced SEVERE to EXTREME fire weather conditions on **Friday 8 November**.
- Conditions eased to VERY HIGH fire danger on **Saturday 9 November**.
- In New South Wales:
  - There are *11* WATCH AND ACT level bushfires burning throughout the state.
  - *Three* fatalities have been confirmed and *seven* people have been reported missing.
  - *More than 30 people have been injured, including around 20 firefighters.*
  - *At least 150 structures have been destroyed. Property damage and loss includes telecommunications and power infrastructure, bridges, and two schools.*
  - Twelve evacuation centres remain activated to support fire affected communities.
  - A cool change moved across the fire ground yesterday evening, easing conditions, however no significant rain is forecast for at least seven days.
  - Three COMDISPLAN Task Requests have been issued to ADF since **Friday 8 November** to assist with the air movement of interstate Strike Teams.
  - An EMA LO has been deployed to the NSW SEOC, which is currently operating out of the NSW RFS HQ.
- In Queensland:
  - There are two EMERGENCY WARNINGS and *three* WATCH AND ACT level bushfires burning across the state.
  - Evacuation Centres remain activated to support fire affected communities. Approximately 414 people have been evacuated as a result of the Cooribah fire.
- In Western Australia:
  - There are no EMERGENCY WARNINGS current for the state.
  - SEVERE to CATASTROPHIC fire conditions are forecast for today, **Sunday 10 November**.

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**Situation Details****New South Wales**

- *Three fatalities have been confirmed and seven people have been reported missing.*
- *At least 150 structures have been destroyed. Property damage and loss includes telecommunications and power infrastructure, bridges, and two schools. Damage assessments are ongoing and the numbers of destroyed structures are expected to rise.*
- Four fires previously burning at EMERGENCY WARNING level have been downgraded to WATCH AND ACT level:
  - Liberation Trail
  - Hillville Road, Hillville
  - Mt Nardi National Park
  - Crowdy Bay National Park
  - Gum Scrub
- WATCH AND ACT warnings also remain in place for fires burning at:
  - Carrai Creek
  - Kangawalla
  - Coombes Gap Complex
  - Gulf Road, Torrington
  - Willi Willi
  - Kian Road
- *More than 72 bushfires are burning across the state.*

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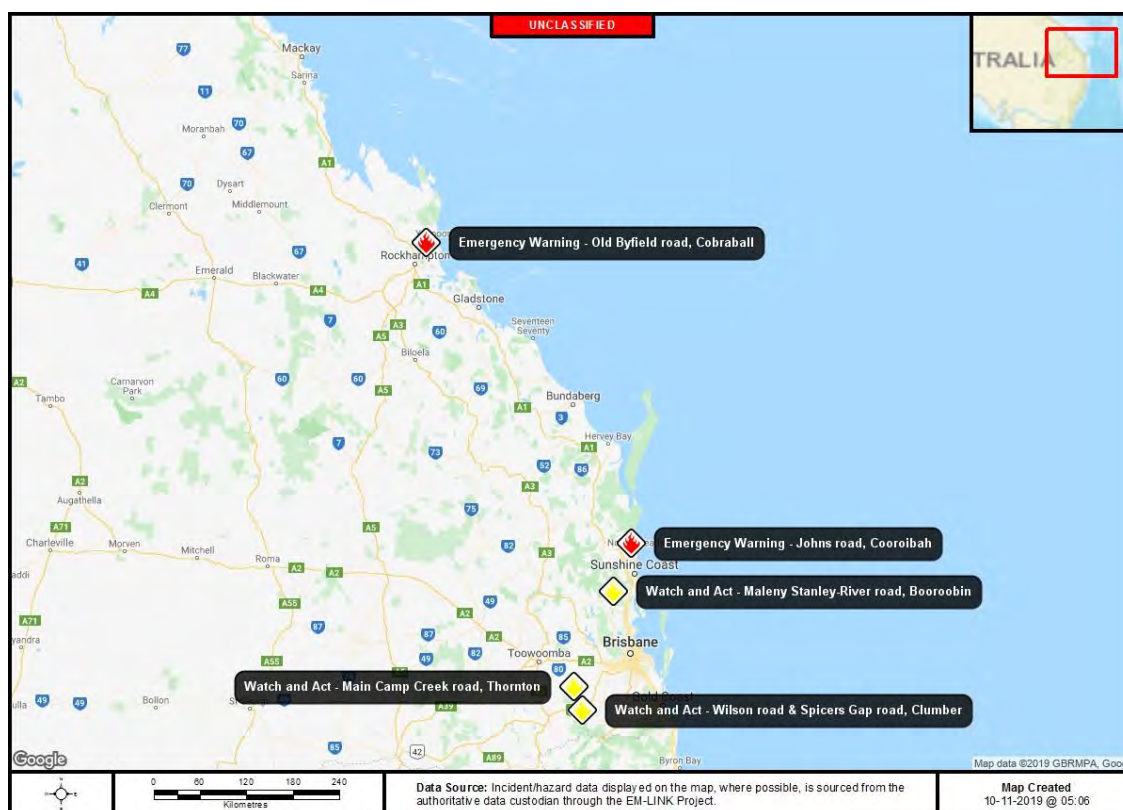
- More than 1300 fire fighters have been deployed and 77 aircraft.
- NSW SES members continue to assist NSW RFS with the northeast NSW bushfires.
- More than 250 interstate deployments are active across the fire ground.
- The NSW Public Information and Inquiry Centre (PIIC) was activated on **Friday 8 November** to support the provision of information to the community of impacts from current fire activity.
- Twelve Evacuation Centres remain open at:
  - Anglican Church Hall, Bowraville
  - Club Taree
  - Grafton Community Centre
  - Laurieton United Services Club
  - Tuncurry Bowling Club
  - Wauchope High School and Wauchope Showground
  - Grafton Community Centre
  - Coraki Bowling Club
  - Glen Innes Showground
  - Kempsey Showground
  - North Haven Bowling Club.
  - Old Bar Club
- Telstra has advised that telecommunications infrastructure has been impacted by the fires, including:
  - Up to 235 fixed landline serves impacted at Toorooka, in the vicinity of the Carrai Creek fire.
  - Up to 125 fixed landline services impacted at Wherrol Flat, in the vicinity of the Rumba Dump fire.
  - Three 3G and three 4G mobile services sites at Bellbrook, Toorooka and Taylor's Arm, in the vicinity of the Carrai Creek and Kian Road fires.
  - A loss of mains power at Bellbrook and Toorooka base stations and at Taylors Arm and Wherrol Flat exchanges, in the vicinity of the Carrai Creek, Kian Road and Rumba Dump fires.
  - Both landline and ADSL services at the Koorainghat, Halliday's Point and Tallwood Village exchanges in the vicinity of the Hillville Road, Hillville fire.

Source: EMALO – verbal, Telstra – verbal, NSW Daily Operational Update – 9 November 2019, [NSW RFS](#)

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**Queensland****Johns Road, Cooroibah**

- There are two fires burning at the EMERGENCY WARNING level (Cobraball/Bungundarra and Cooroibah).
  - Residents in the vicinity of both fires have been advised to leave immediately.
  - *The Cobraball fire is expected to have a significant impact on the community.*
  - Evacuation Centres have been established at:
    - The J Noosa
    - Noosa Leisure Centre
    - Cooroy Library
    - Christian Outreach Centre, Noosaville.
    - Noosa Library (aged care residents only)

**Other areas**

- WATCH AND ACT warnings remain in place for fires burning at:
  - *Camp Creek Road, Thornton.*
  - *Maleny Stanley River Road, Booroobin.*
  - *Wilson Road and Spicers Gap Road, Clumber.*

Source: Qld SDCC, [QFES](#)**UNCLASSIFIED**

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## Western Australia

- An EMERGENCY WARNING previously issued for a bushfire burning in the vicinity of Cataby, has been downgraded to ADVICE.
- For today, **Sunday 10 November**:
  - A fire weather warning has been issued for the Esperance Shire, Goldfields and Ninghan fire weather areas, which have a CATASTROPHIC fire danger rating.
  - A fire weather warning has been issued for the Ravensthorpe Shire, Eucla, Roe, Lakes and Jilbadgie fire weather areas, which have a CATASTROPHIC fire danger rating.
  - A fire weather warning has been issued for the South Coastal, East Pilbara Coast, West Pilbara Coast, Ashburton Inland, Gascoyne Inland and North Interior fire weather areas, which have a SEVERE fire danger rating.

Source: [Bureau of Meteorology](#)

## Weather Forecast

### Sunday 10 November

- For today, VERY HIGH fire danger is forecast for northeastern New South Wales and southeast Queensland.
- Cooler conditions are currently moving through New South Wales and southeast Queensland. This change will slightly ease the immediate fire conditions, however no rain is expected for at least the next seven days.
- Dry, northwesterly winds are expected to impact the region on **Tuesday 12 November**. Temperatures in the region are expected to be well above 30 degrees with isolated areas above 40 degrees.

Source: BOM Critical Event Brief 2019/30 – Update 3, [Bureau of Meteorology](#), Disaster Recovery Assistance

### Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements

- Disaster recovery assistance is being provided under the jointly funded Commonwealth-state Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DRFA) in response to the bushfires that have affected the Mid North Coast and Northern NSW.
- DRFA assistance is available for the:
  - Mid-North Coast Bushfires in the local government areas of: Coffs Harbour, Kempsey, Mid-Coast, Nambucca and Port Macquarie Hastings.
  - Northern NSW Bushfires in the local government areas of: Armidale, Bellingen, Clarence Valley, Glen Innes Severn, Inverell, Richmond Valley, Tenterfield, Uralla and Walcha.
- A range of assistance is available including:
  - Support for people suffering personal hardship to help with their immediate emergency needs.
  - Help for eligible people whose homes or belongings have been damaged;
  - Funding to support firefighting operations.
  - Support for affected local councils to help with the costs of cleaning up and restoring damaged essential public assets.
  - Concessional interest rate loans for small businesses, primary producers and non-profit organisations.
  - Freight subsidies for primary producers.
  - Grants to eligible non-profit organisations.

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- This assistance is administered by the NSW Government.
- Anyone in need of assistance should contact the NSW Government Disaster Welfare Assistance Line on 1800 018 444.

#### Further recovery assistance

- The Prime Minister has announced that the Australian Government Disaster Recovery Payment will be made available in response to the bushfires.
- The Australian Government is liaising with the NSW Government regarding recovery assistance for bushfire affected communities.

Further assistance will be made available to support affected communities.

Source: Disaster Recovery Branch EMA

#### Australian Government Actions

- On **9 November 2019** a Commissioners and Chief Officers Strategic Committee (CCOSC) was convened between Emergency Management Australia and jurisdictional Emergency Service Commissioners and Chief Officers to discuss the current fire situation.

#### New South Wales

- On **31 October 2019**, the Director General Emergency Management Australia approved the activation of COMDISPLAN in response to a formal request for Australian Government non-financial assistance to support the bushfire activity in New South Wales.
  - Task Request #001: Request for the Australian Defence Force (ADF) to provide air transport for operational firefighters and support staff as a contingency when commercial options are not available, feasible or meet operational tempo and based on operational requirements and asset availability.
  - Task Request #001A – **8 November 2019**: Due to extreme fire conditions and reports of multiple property losses and persons trapped/isolate by fire, ADF to provide urgent air movement of interstate Strike Teams from Canberra to Port Macquarie.
  - Task Request #001B – **8 November 2019**: Due to extreme fire conditions and reports of multiple property losses and persons trapped/isolate by fire, ADF to provide urgent air movement of interstate Strike Teams from South Australia to Port Macquarie.
  - Task Request #001C – **9 November 2019**: Due to extreme fire conditions and reports of multiple fatalities and property losses, ADF to provide urgent air movement of interstate Strike Teams from Tasmania to Port Macquarie.
- Emergency Management Australia has deployed one Liaison Officer to the NSW State Emergency Operations Centre.

Source: CCC Operations and CCC Planning, Emergency Management Australia

#### Further Information

- The CCC has contacted relevant agencies and continues to monitor the situation closely.
- The next CCC Incident Brief will be issued at 1830 hrs **10 November 2019**.

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) <a href="mailto:@homeaffairs.gov.au">@homeaffairs.gov.au</a></p>	

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## Australian Government

### Crisis Coordination Centre

#### Incident Brief

As of 1830 hrs (AEDT), 10 November 2019

#### New South Wales, Queensland and Western Australia bushfires – Version 5

*New information in Italics*

#### Key Issues

- Parts of north eastern New South Wales and southern Queensland experienced SEVERE to EXTREME fire weather conditions on **Friday 8 November**. Conditions eased to VERY HIGH fire danger on **Saturday 9 November** and currently remain between HIGH and VERY HIGH.
- CATASTROPHIC *fire danger conditions are forecast in parts of New South Wales for Tuesday 12 November.*
- *Parts of Western Australia have experienced SEVERE to CATASTROPHIC fire weather conditions commencing today, Sunday 10 November.*
- In New South Wales:
  - *There are two EMERGENCY WARNING level and 12 WATCH AND ACT level bushfires burning throughout the state.*
  - *There are 73 total fires active across the state.*
  - Three fatalities have been confirmed.
  - *All persons previously unaccounted for have been located.*
  - More than 30 people have been injured, including approximately 20 firefighters.
  - At least 150 structures have been destroyed. Property damage and loss includes telecommunications and power infrastructure, bridges, and two schools.
  - *Nine* evacuation centres remain activated to support fire affected communities.
  - A cool change moved across the fire ground on the evening of **Saturday 9 November**, easing conditions, however no significant rain is forecast for at least seven days.
  - Three COMDISPLAN Task Requests have been issued to ADF since **Friday 8 November** to assist with the air movement of interstate Strike Teams.
  - An EMA LO has been deployed to the NSW RFS State Operations Centre.
- In Queensland:
  - There are two EMERGENCY WARNINGS and *five* WATCH AND ACT level bushfires burning across the state.
  - There are 25 total fires active across the state.

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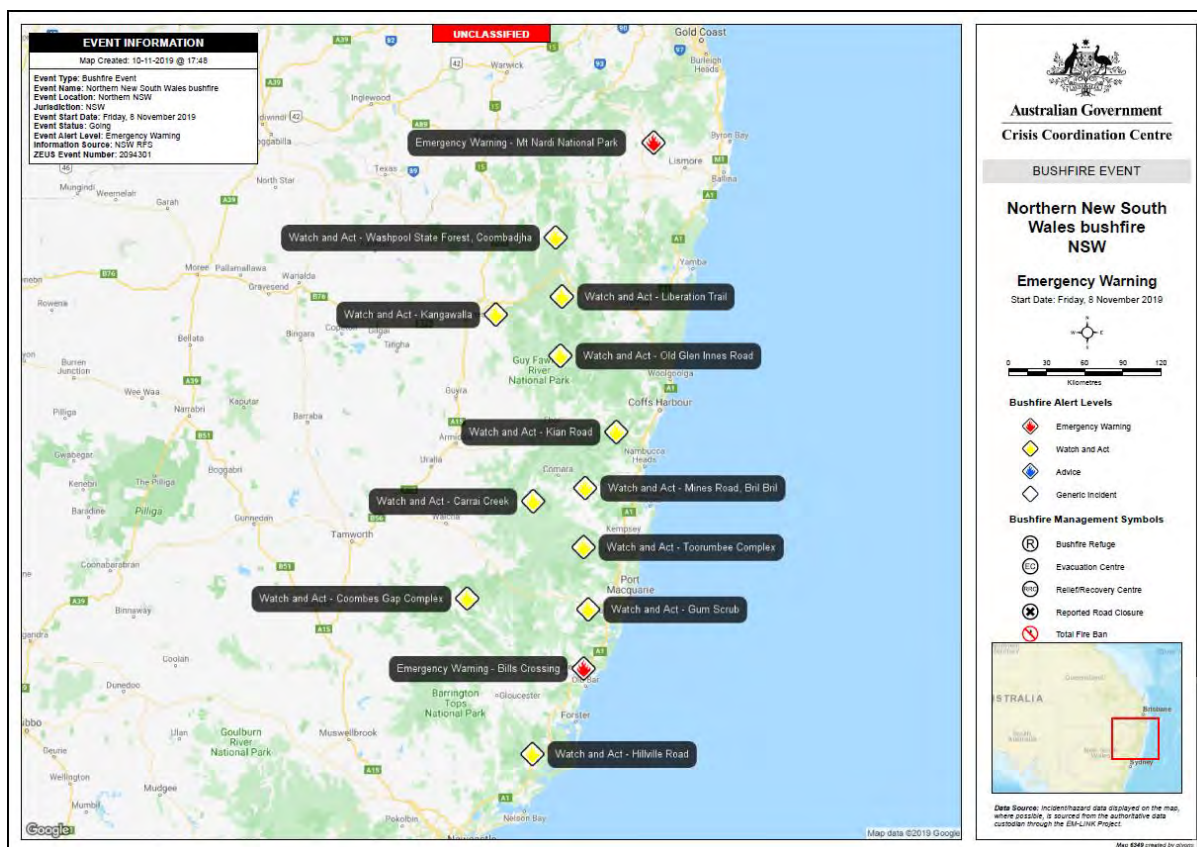
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- Evacuation Centres remain activated to support fire affected communities. Approximately 414 people have been evacuated as a result of the Cooroibah fire.
- *A State of Fire Emergency has been declared across 42 Local Government Areas in Queensland. [SDCC report 1000 10NOV]*
- In Western Australia:
  - Ten fire complexes across the state are currently burning at ADVICE level or below.
  - SEVERE to CATASTROPHIC fire conditions are forecast for today, **Sunday 10 November.**

## Situation Details

### New South Wales



- Three fatalities have been confirmed with *all others previously identified as missing, now accounted for.*
- At least 150 structures have been destroyed. Property damage and loss includes telecommunications and power infrastructure, bridges, and two schools. Damage assessments are ongoing and the numbers of destroyed structures are expected to rise.
- Two fires are currently burning at the EMERGENCY WARNING level:
  - *Bills Crossing, Crowdy Bay National Park*
  - *Mt Nardi National Park*
- WATCH AND ACT warnings also remain in place for fires burning at:
  - Carrai Creek
  - Coombes Gap Complex
  - Gum Scrub

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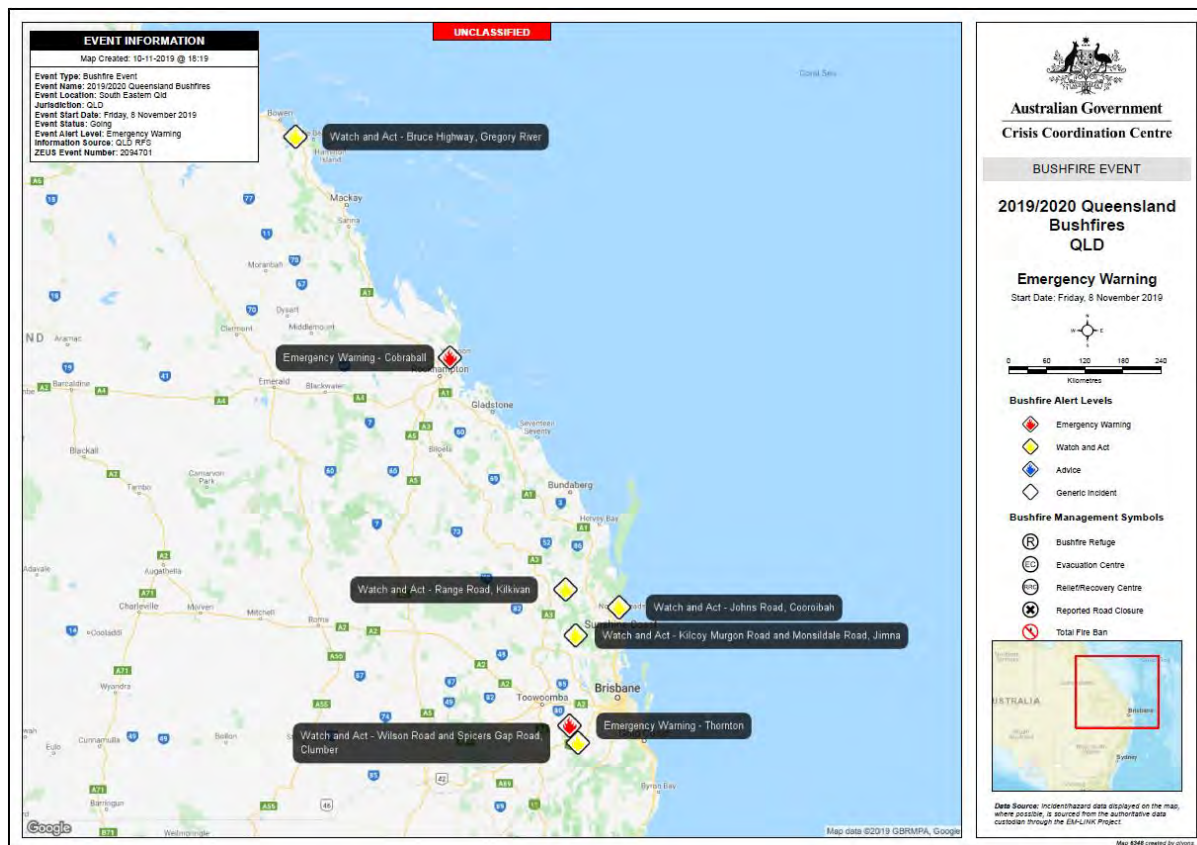
- Hillville Road
- Kangawalla
- Kian Road
- Liberation Trail
- Mines Road, Bril Bril
- Old Glen Innes Road, Newton Boyd
- Toorumbbee Complex
- Washpool State Forest
- *More than 74 bushfires are burning across the state.*
- More than 1300 fire fighters have been deployed and 78 aircraft.
- NSW SES members continue to assist NSW RFS with the northeast NSW bushfires.
- More than 250 interstate deployments are active across the fire ground.
- The NSW Public Information and Inquiry Centre (PIIC) was activated on **Friday 8 November** to support the provision of information to the community of impacts from current fire activity.
- Nine Evacuation Centres remain open at:
  - Club Taree
  - Coraki Bowling Club
  - Glen Innes Showground
  - Grafton Community Centre
  - Kempsey Showground
  - Laurieton United Services Club
  - Old Bar Club
  - Tuncurry Bowling Club
  - Wauchope High School
- Telstra has advised that telecommunications infrastructure has been impacted by the fires, including:
  - *Up to 1,304 fixed landline serves impacted at Toorooka, with the majority of impact in Toorooka, Wherrol Flat, Bellingen and Nymboida.*
  - *Due to impact to fixed line telephony services and mobile coverage in Nymboida, residents may be unable to contact triple zero emergency services and may be experiencing community isolation.*
  - *Three 3G and three 4G mobile services sites at Nymboida, Taylors Arm, Scotchys RT, Toorooka, Taree South, Forster and Bellbrook fires.*
  - A loss of mains power at Bellbrook and Toorooka base stations and at Taylors Arm and Wherrol Flat exchanges, in the vicinity of the Carrai Creek, Kian Road and Rumba Dump fires.
  - *Approximately 594 ADSL customer services cannot establish a data connection with the majority of impact in Nymboida, Halidays Point, Forster and Elands.*
- Telstra network and power technicians will be dispatched to Telstra's critical exchange sites to investigate AC Mains power and hardware issues, as per prioritisation, when and where safe to do so.

Source: EMALO – verbal, Telstra – verbal, NSW Daily Operational Update – 9 November 2019, [NSW RFS](#)

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**Queensland**

- There are two fires burning at the EMERGENCY WARNING level:
  - Cobraball
  - Thornton
- WATCH AND ACT warnings also remain in place for fires burning at:
  - Clumber
  - Cooroibah
  - Jimna
  - Kilkivan
  - Gregory River
- Evacuation Centres have been established at:
  - The J Noosa
  - Noosa Leisure Centre
  - Cooroy Library
  - Christian Outreach Centre, Noosaville.
  - Noosa Library (aged care residents only)
- Telstra ADSL services have now been restored across the state.

Source: Qld SDCC, [QFES](#)Released by Department of Home Affairs  
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## Western Australia

- For today, **Sunday 10 November**:
  - A fire weather warning has been issued for the Esperance Shire, Goldfields and Ninghan fire weather areas, which have a CATASTROPHIC fire danger rating.
  - A fire weather warning has been issued for the Ravensthorpe Shire, Eucla, Roe, Lakes and Jilbadgie fire weather areas, which have a CATASTROPHIC fire danger rating.
  - A fire weather warning has been issued for the South Coastal, East Pilbara Coast, West Pilbara Coast, Ashburton Inland, Gascoyne Inland and North Interior fire weather areas, which have a SEVERE fire danger rating.

Source: [Bureau of Meteorology](#)

## Weather Forecast

### Sunday 10 November

- For today, VERY HIGH fire danger is forecast for northeastern New South Wales and southeast Queensland.
- Cooler conditions are currently moving through New South Wales and southeast Queensland. This change will slightly ease the immediate fire conditions, however no rain is expected for at least the next seven days.
- Dry, northwesterly winds are expected to impact the region on **Tuesday 12 November**. Temperatures in the region are expected to be well above 30 degrees with isolated areas above 40 degrees.

### Monday 11 November

- *HIGH to VERY HIGH fire dangers are forecast across New South Wales and Queensland. South-westerly winds ease slightly over the ranges and east to northeast sea breezes are expected to extend 50 to 70km inland during the afternoon. Smoke and reduced air quality will continue to pose health impacts for communities particularly for asthmatics and people with existing respiratory conditions. Highly populated areas will be impacted.*
- *A statewide total fire ban has been declared for all areas of NSW for all of **Monday 10 November** and **Tuesday 11 November**.*
- *Conditions in Western Australia ease across the south of the state but SEVERE Fire danger remains for the Pilbara and Interior districts. Maximum temperatures will be in the low 40's for many locations across the Northern Interior.*

### Tuesday 12 November

- *CATASTROPHIC fire danger is now forecast for the Greater Sydney and Greater Hunter areas on **Tuesday 12 November**.*
- *Large areas of the state are also forecast to experience SEVERE and EXTREME fire danger. This includes in the north coast and northern NSW areas, where there is a large number of fires already burning.*
- *High temperatures, strong winds and low humidity are forecast, making conditions dangerous.*
- *This is the first time since new Fire Danger Ratings were introduced in 2009 that CATASTROPHIC fire danger has been forecast for Sydney.*

Source: BOM Critical Event Brief 2019/30 – Update 4, [Bureau of Meteorology](#), Disaster Recovery Assistance, RFS Media Release\_NSW Bushfire Season\_2019-20\_10November

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## Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements

### New South Wales

Joint funded Commonwealth-State Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements:

- Disaster recovery assistance is being provided under the jointly funded Commonwealth-state Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DRFA) in response to the bushfires that have affected the Mid North Coast and Northern NSW.
- DRFA assistance is available for the:
  - Mid-North Coast Bushfires in the local government areas of: Coffs Harbour, Kempsey, Mid-Coast, Nambucca and Port Macquarie-Hastings.
  - Northern NSW Bushfires in the local government areas of: Armidale, Bellingen, Clarence Valley, Glen Innes Severn, Inverell, Richmond Valley, Tenterfield, Uralla and Walcha.
- A range of assistance is available, including:
  - support for people suffering personal hardship to help with their immediate emergency needs.
  - help for eligible people whose homes or belongings have been damaged;
  - funding to support firefighting operations;
  - support for affected local councils to help with the costs of cleaning up 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.
- Anyone in need of assistance should contact the NSW Government Disaster Welfare Assistance Line on 1800 018 444.

The Australian Government is also providing additional financial assistance through the activation of:

- The Australian Government Disaster Recovery Payment (AGDRP)
  - A non-means tested payment of \$1000 for eligible adults and \$400 for eligible children.
  - The AGDRP is available to people whose homes have been lost or directly damaged, and people who have been seriously injured, or are an immediate family member of someone who has lost their life.
  - The AGDRP has been activated in the local government areas of: Armidale, Clarence Valley, Glen Innes Severn, Kempsey, Mid Coast, Nambucca, Port Macquarie-Hastings, Richmond Valley, Tenterfield and Walcha.
- The Australian Government's Disaster Recovery Allowance (DRA)
  - A short-term income support payment to assist individuals who have experienced a loss of income as a direct result of the bushfires.
  - The AGDRP has been activated in the local government areas of: Armidale, Bellingen, Clarence Valley, Coffs Harbour, Glen Innes Severn, Kempsey, Inverell, Mid Coast, Nambucca, Port Macquarie-Hastings, Richmond Valley, Tenterfield, Uralla and Walcha.
- These Australian Government payments are administered by the Department of Human Services (DHS).

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- Anyone who has been adversely affected by the bushfires in NSW should contact DHS on 180 22 66 and test their eligibility for the payment.

**Queensland bushfires**

- The Australian Government, through Emergency Management Australia, is in close liaison with Queensland authorities regarding the activation of recovery assistance.
- Importantly, assistance through the jointly funded DRFA can be made available immediately by the Queensland Government to help people in need.
- As soon as there is a better understanding of the situation the Australian Government, with the state, will provide whatever assistance is needed to help affected communities with their recovery.

Source: Disaster Recovery Branch EMA

**Australian Government Actions**

- Emergency Management Australia is maintaining ongoing engagement with NSW, Qld and WA.
- On **9 November 2019** a Commissioners and Chief Officers Strategic Committee (CCOSC) was convened between Emergency Management Australia and jurisdictional Emergency Service Commissioners and Chief Officers to discuss the current fire situation.

**New South Wales**

- On **31 October 2019**, the Director General Emergency Management Australia approved the activation of COMDISPLAN in response to a formal request for Australian Government non-financial assistance to support the bushfire activity in New South Wales.
  - Task Request #001: Request for the Australian Defence Force (ADF) to provide air transport for operational firefighters and support staff as a contingency when commercial options are not available, feasible or meet operational tempo and based on operational requirements and asset availability.
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  - *Task Request #001C – **9 November 2019**: Due to extreme fire conditions and reports of multiple fatalities and property losses, ADF to provide urgent air movement of interstate Strike Teams from Tasmania to Port Macquarie.*
- Emergency Management Australia has deployed one Liaison Officer to the NSW State Emergency Operations Centre.

Source: CCC Operations and CCC Planning, Emergency Management Australia

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**Further Information**

- The CCC has contacted relevant agencies and continues to monitor the situation closely.
- The next CCC Incident Brief will be issued at 0630 hrs **11 November 2019**.

<b>Prepared by:</b>	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)
<b>Approved by:</b>	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) <a href="mailto:ccc@homeaffairs.gov.au">@homeaffairs.gov.au</a>	

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