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EMA 84440



## Australian Government

### Crisis Coordination Centre

#### Incident Brief

As of 0630 hrs (AEDT), 21 November 2019

#### New South Wales and Queensland bushfires – Version 26

*New information in Italics*

#### Key Issues

- *VERY HIGH to SEVERE fire danger is forecast across NSW and the ACT, with VERY HIGH fire danger forecast for Southeast Qld.*
- Thunderstorms may develop through central Qld and NSW over the next few days, and are likely to bring isolated rainfall and dry lightning to some areas.
- *Fire danger conditions eased across SA overnight. Four fires reached EMERGENCY WARNING level yesterday; however, these were downgraded with one fire remaining at WATCH AND ACT. At 0600 hrs (AEDT) this morning, an EMERGENCY WARNING was issued for Edithburgh in the Lower Yorke Peninsula.*
  - *Unconfirmed reports of structures destroyed.*
  - An Emergency Management Australia Liaison Officer (EMA LO) has been deployed to SA.
- *SEVERE to CODE RED (CATASTROPHIC) fire danger is forecast across the Mallee and Northern Country districts in Vic. There are currently no fires at or above the ADVICE level.*
- In New South Wales:
  - *There are currently **51** active fires burning across the state.*
  - *All fires across the state are burning at the ADVICE level or below.*
  - The total area burnt across NSW for this event now exceeds **1,366,261** hectares.
  - **Four** fatalities have been confirmed.
  - More than **30** people have been injured, including approximately **20** firefighters.
  - **483** houses are confirmed destroyed, with a further **28** facilities and an additional **946** outbuildings.
  - ***Two** Evacuation Centres remain activated to support fire affected communities.*
  - *A total fire ban is in place for **12** areas across the state.*
  - An EMA LO has been deployed to the NSW RFS State Operations Centre.
- In Queensland:
  - There are currently **67** active fires across the state.

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- *Two bushfires are burning at the WATCH AND ACT level. All other fires across the state are burning at the ADVICE level or below.*
- The total area burnt across Qld for this event since **Monday 9 September** exceeds **173,940** hectares.
- **47** firefighters have been injured.
- **20** houses and **44** outbuildings are confirmed destroyed.
- **Four** Evacuation Centres remain activated to support fire affected communities.
- A total fire ban is current for **42** Local Government Areas.
- A State of Fire Emergency has been declared across **42** Local Government Areas in Qld.
- An EMA LO has been deployed to the Qld State Disaster Coordination Centre.

## Situation Details

### New South Wales

- There are currently **53** active fires burning across the state.
- The total area burnt across NSW for this event now exceeds **1,366,261** hectares.
- *All fires across the state are burning at the ADVICE level or below.*
- **90** aircraft are currently deployed or available.
- **450** vehicles are on scene at fires across the state.
- **1393** firefighters are currently deployed (excluding interstate assistance).
- **533** interstate and international firefighters (including assisting personnel) are currently deployed from ACT, SA, Tas., Vic., WA, and New Zealand.
  - Liaison officers from the United States and Canada have arrived to scope potential support to RFS.
- **483** houses, **28** facilities and an additional **946** outbuildings are confirmed destroyed. Damage assessments are ongoing and the numbers of destroyed structures are expected to rise.
- NSW SES members continue to assist NSW RFS with the northeast NSW bushfires.
- Telstra has advised that telecommunications infrastructure has been impacted by the fires.
  - **178** fixed line telephony customers are unable to make and/or receive voice calls in locations including Newton Boyd, Killabakh and Comara.
  - ADSL service outages have impacted **97** users at Koorainghat and Killabakh Creek.
  - *Due to the extensive fire damage at Killabakh exchange, a Mobile Exchange on Wheels (MEoW) was deployed. The MEoW will require extensive fibre and copper cabling work before the fixed line and ADSL services at Killabakh can be restored.*
  - There is a loss of AC Mains power to **nine** network sites of which **eight** sites are being supported by portable power generators
  - Telstra has issued a disaster relief package to affected customers in both NSW and Qld.
- All NBN outages as a result of the bushfires have now been restored.
- Approximately **600** electricity poles have been damaged, and approximately **820** customers are currently without power.

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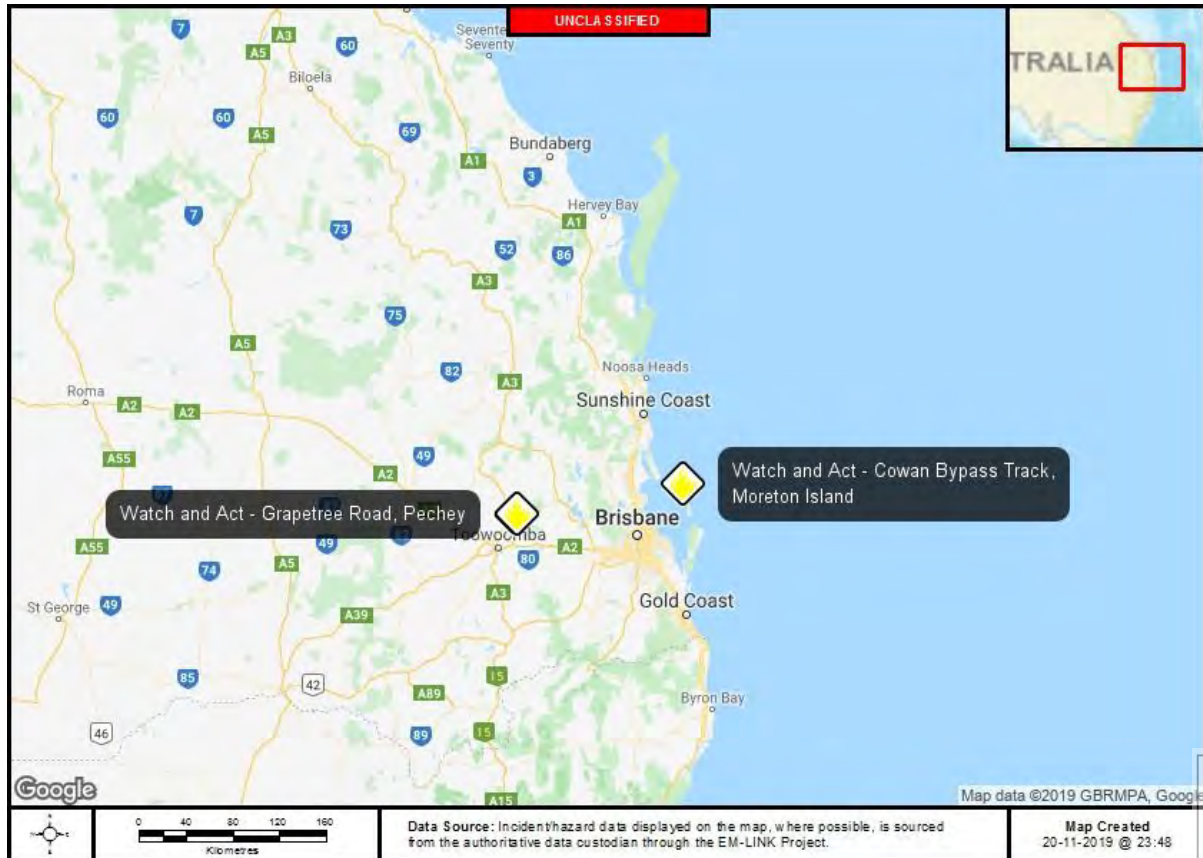
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- The NSW Public Information and Inquiry Centre (PIIC), which was activated on **Friday 8 November**, has now been closed due to recent low numbers of calls.
- *Two Evacuation Centres remain open at:*
  - *Kempsey Showground*
  - *Maclean Showground*

Source: EMALO sitrep, Commissioner and Chief Officers Strategic Committee brief – 11 November 2019, Telstra update 23, Notification of Service Disruption NBN 19 November 2019, NSW SEOC Situational Report – Significant Fires – 20 November 2019, [NSW RFS](#), [NSW Pol](#), [NSW Education Department](#)

## Queensland



- There are currently **67** active fires across the state.
- *Two bushfires are burning at the WATCH AND ACT level.*
  - *Grapetree Road, Pechey*
  - *Moreton Island*
- All other fires across the state are burning at the ADVICE level or below.
- The total area burnt across Qld for this event since **Monday 9 September** exceeds **173,940** hectares.
- **35** aircraft are currently available to conduct air observations and water bombing.
- More than **127** appliances are on scene at fires across the state.
- More than **3,600** firefighters have been on the frontline since **Friday 8 November**.
- **149** interstate and international firefighters (including assisting personnel) are currently deployed from ACT, NT, Tas., Vic., WA and New Zealand.

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- Liaison officers from the United States and Canada have arrived to scope potential support to QFES.
- **20** houses are confirmed destroyed. Damage assessments are ongoing and the number of destroyed structures is expected to rise.
- A hoop pine plantation has been significantly impacted by the Pechey bushfire resulting in more than **\$2.8 million** of damage. There has also been significant impacts to pineapple, banana and mango plantations due to the bushfire in Cobraball.
- Power has been lost to Cressbrook Pump Station due to the Pechey fire with potential for loss to Perseverance Pump Station. This may reduce Toowoomba cities town water capacity.
- All Telstra and Optus services are functional within the fire region.
- **Four** Evacuation Centres remain open at:
  - Highfields Indoor Sports and Recreation Centre
  - Crow's Nest Showgrounds
  - Tangalooma Resort (refuge)
  - Beaudesert Showgrounds (refuge)
- Department of Housing and Public Works staff will be at Recovery Hubs in Noosaville and Yeppoon to assist renters and owners with housing options.
- On **Sunday 17 November** the Esk Hospital self-evacuated and has now reopened for new presentations.

Source: EMALO sitrep, Qld SDCC State Update –Tuesday 20 November, [QFES](#), Qld SDCC Whole of Government Key Messaging –Tuesday 20 November, QLD SDCC – verbal, Telstra update 23, [Department of Education](#)

## Weather Forecast

### Thursday 21 November

- *VERY HIGH to SEVERE fire danger ratings are forecast across most of NSW, the ACT and southeast Qld.*
- Thunderstorms are forecast to develop through central Qld over the next several days. The thunderstorms are likely to bring some isolated rainfall, but may cause dry lightning in some areas.
- *SEVERE to CODE RED (CATASTROPHIC) fire danger is forecast for Vic. across the Mallee and Northern Country districts.*

### Friday 22 November

- HIGH to VERY HIGH fire danger is forecast over the central coast and the northeast of NSW.
- Thunderstorms may extend into eastern NSW, which may bring isolated rainfall and dry lightning in some areas.

### Saturday 23 November

- A broad trough through Qld and into northeast parts of NSW will maintain heat, whilst producing showers and storms.

Source: BOM Critical Event Brief 2019/30 – Update 14, [Bureau of Meteorology](#)

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## Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements

### New South Wales

#### Joint funded Commonwealth-State Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DRFA)

- Disaster recovery assistance is being provided under the DRFA in response to the bushfires that have affected the NSW.
- DRFA assistance is available in the local government areas of Armidale, Ballina, Bellingen, Blue Mountains, Byron, Cessnock, Clarence Valley, Coffs Harbour, Glen Innes Severn, Gwydir, Hawkesbury, Inverell, Kempsey, Ku-ring-gai, Kyogle, Lake Macquarie, Lismore, Lithgow, Mid-Coast, Nambucca, Narrabri, Oberon, Penrith, Port Macquarie-Hastings, Richmond Valley, Singleton, Sutherland, Tamworth, Tenterfield, Tweed, 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 cover counter disaster operations costs, including firefighting activities
  - 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.

#### Australian Government financial assistance

- 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, Cessnock, Clarence Valley, Coffs Harbour, Glen Innes Severn, Hawkesbury, Kempsey, Lismore, 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 DRA has been activated in the local government areas of: Armidale, Ballina, Bellingen, Blue Mountains, Byron, Cessnock, Clarence Valley, Coffs Harbour, Glen Innes Severn, Gwydir, Hawkesbury, Kempsey, Inverell, Ku-ring-gai, Kyogle, Lake Macquarie, Lismore, Lithgow, Mid Coast, Nambucca, Narrabri, Oberon, Penrith, Port Macquarie-Hastings, Richmond Valley, Singleton, Sutherland, Tamworth, Tenterfield, Tweed, Uralla and Walcha.
- These Australian Government payments are administered by the Department of Human Services (DHS).
- Anyone who has been adversely affected by the bushfires in NSW should contact DHS on 180 22 66 and test their eligibility for assistance.

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## Queensland

- Disaster recovery assistance is being provided under the DRFA in response to the bushfires that have affected eastern Queensland.
- DRFA assistance is available in the local government areas of Bundaberg, Gold Coast, Livingstone, Lockyer Valley, Noosa, Scenic Rim and Toowoomba.
- 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 cover counter disaster operations costs, including firefighting activities,
  - Concessional interest rate loans for primary producers, and
  - Freight Subsidies for primary producers.
- 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.

## Australian Government financial assistance

- 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: Livingstone, Noosa and Toowoomba.
  - 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 DRA has been activated in the local government areas of: Bundaberg, Gold Coast, Livingstone, Lockyer Valley, Noosa, Scenic Rim, and Toowoomba.
- These Australian Government payments are administered by the Department of Human Services (DHS).
- Anyone who has been adversely affected by the bushfires in Queensland should contact DHS on 180 22 66 and test their eligibility for assistance.

Source: Disaster Recovery Branch, Emergency Management Australia

## Australian Government Actions

- Emergency Management Australia is maintaining ongoing engagement with NSW and Qld.
- Australian Government Crisis Committee and National Crisis Committee meetings were held on **11 November 2019**.
- Commissioners and Chief Officers Strategic Committee meetings have been held on **11 November 2019** and **19 November 2019**.

## 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.
- **One** overarching Request for Assistance (RFA) was for the Australian Defence Force to provide air transport for operational firefighters and support staff as a contingency measure. Under this request there have been **thirteen** sub-taskings:

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- Task Request #001A – **8 November 2019**: ADF to provide urgent air movement of interstate Strike Teams from Canberra to Port Macquarie.
- Task Request #001B – **8 November 2019**: ADF to provide urgent air movement of interstate Strike Teams from South Australia to Port Macquarie.
- Task Request #001C – **9 November 2019**: ADF to provide urgent air movement of interstate Strike Teams from Tasmania to Port Macquarie.
- Task Request #001D – **11 November 2019**: ADF to provide urgent air movement of interstate Strike Teams from Victoria to Armidale.
- Task Request #001E – **13 November 2019**: ADF to provide air movement of interstate Strike Teams from Victoria to Sydney.
- Task Request #001F – **14 November 2019**: ADF to provide air movement of interstate Strike Teams from Sydney to Victoria.
- Task Request #001G – **16 November 2019**: ADF to provide air movement of interstate Strike Teams from Melbourne to Coffs Harbour.
- Task Request #001H – **16 November 2019**: ADF to provide air movement of interstate Strike Teams from Coffs Harbour to Melbourne.
- Task Request #001I – **16 November 2019**: ADF to provide air movement of interstate Strike Teams from RAAF Richmond to Melbourne.
- Task Request #001J – **17 November 2019**: ADF to provide air movement of interstate Strike Teams from Melbourne to RAAF Richmond.
- Task Request #001K – **18 November 2019**: ADF to provide air movement of interstate Strike Teams from Melbourne to Coffs Harbour.
- Task Request #001L – **18 November 2019**: ADF to provide air movement of interstate Strike Teams from Coffs Harbour to Melbourne.
- Task Request #001M – **19 November 2019**: ADF to provide air movement of interstate Strike Teams from Coffs Harbour to Melbourne.
- Task Request #002 – **11 November 2019**: Provision of accommodation, food and appliance parking at Singleton Army Base for up to **149** personnel until the morning of **Thursday 14 November**.
- Task Request #003 – **12 November 2019, 13 November 2019**: Provide airframes for night fly and map fire progression and other intelligence tasking for current fires: provide airframes for firefighter movements, search and rescue operations and civilian movements; provide Air Liaison Officer to NSW Rural Fire Services State Operation Centre.
- Task Request #004 – **13 November 2019**, activation of International Charter for Space and National Disasters in order to provide High Resolution Satellite Imagery to NSW Rural Fire Service *for 10 days*.
- Task Request #005 – **13 November 2019**, ADF to provide accommodation, meals, parking and maintenance areas for interstate firefighting personnel at Richmond RAAF Base.
- Task Request #006 – **16 November 2019**: ADF to provide provision of catering support to the Northern Region for **250** firefighters for **seven** days.
- Task Request #007 – **17 November 2019** (extension to Task Request #005): ADF to provide accommodation, meals, parking and maintenance areas for interstate firefighting personnel at Richmond RAAF Base.
- An EMA LO has been deployed to the NSW RFS State Operations Centre.
- An EMA Disaster Recovery LO was deployed to the NSW Office of Emergency Management, who has since returned.

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**Queensland**

- On **11 November 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 Qld.
- Task Request #001 – **11 November 2019**: ADF to provide 30 personnel with equipment to clear overgrown fire breaks in Beechmont.
- Task Request #002 – **13 November 2019**: ADF to provide airframes to undertake night flights to map fire grounds with geotagged output.
- An EMA LO has been deployed to the Qld State Disaster Coordination 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 **21 November 2019**.*

|   |                 |
|---|-----------------|
| <b>Prepared by:</b>   | s. 22(1)(a)(ii) |
| <b>Approved by:</b>   | s. 22(1)(a)(ii) |
| <p>Issued under the authority of the Director General Emergency Management Australia.<br/>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), 21 November 2019

#### New South Wales and Queensland bushfires – Version 27

*New information in Italics*

#### Key Issues

- **VERY HIGH to SEVERE** fire danger is forecast across NSW tomorrow, **Friday 22 November**, with **VERY HIGH** fire danger forecast for southeast Qld.
- In Victoria **CODE RED (CATASTROPHIC)** fire conditions are current for the Mallee and Northern Country districts. **Two** WATCH AND ACTS are in place and all other fires across the state are burning at the **ADVICE** level or below. There is a loss of mobile services for **five** 3G and **two** 4G mobile base stations. There are no reports of structural losses at this time.
- **SEVERE** and **EXTREME** fire danger is forecast for parts of Tas. tomorrow, **Friday 22 November**.
- In New South Wales:
  - There are currently **62** active fires burning across the state.
  - **One** EMERGENCY WARNING and **two** WATCH AND ACTS are current. All other fires across the state are burning at the **ADVICE** level or below.
  - The total area burnt across NSW for this event now exceeds **1,388,150** hectares.
  - **Four** fatalities have been confirmed.
  - More than **30** people have been injured, including approximately **20** firefighters.
  - **503** houses are confirmed destroyed, with a further **28** facilities and an additional **972** outbuildings.
  - **Two** Evacuation Centres remain activated to support fire affected communities.
  - A total fire ban is in place for **12** areas across the state.
  - An EMA LO has been deployed to the NSW RFS State Operations Centre.
- In Queensland:
  - There are currently **65** active fires across the state.
  - **One** WATCH AND ACT is current. All other fires across the state are burning at the **ADVICE** level or below.
  - The total area burnt across Qld for this event since **Monday 9 September** exceeds **179,355** hectares.
  - **50** firefighters have been injured.

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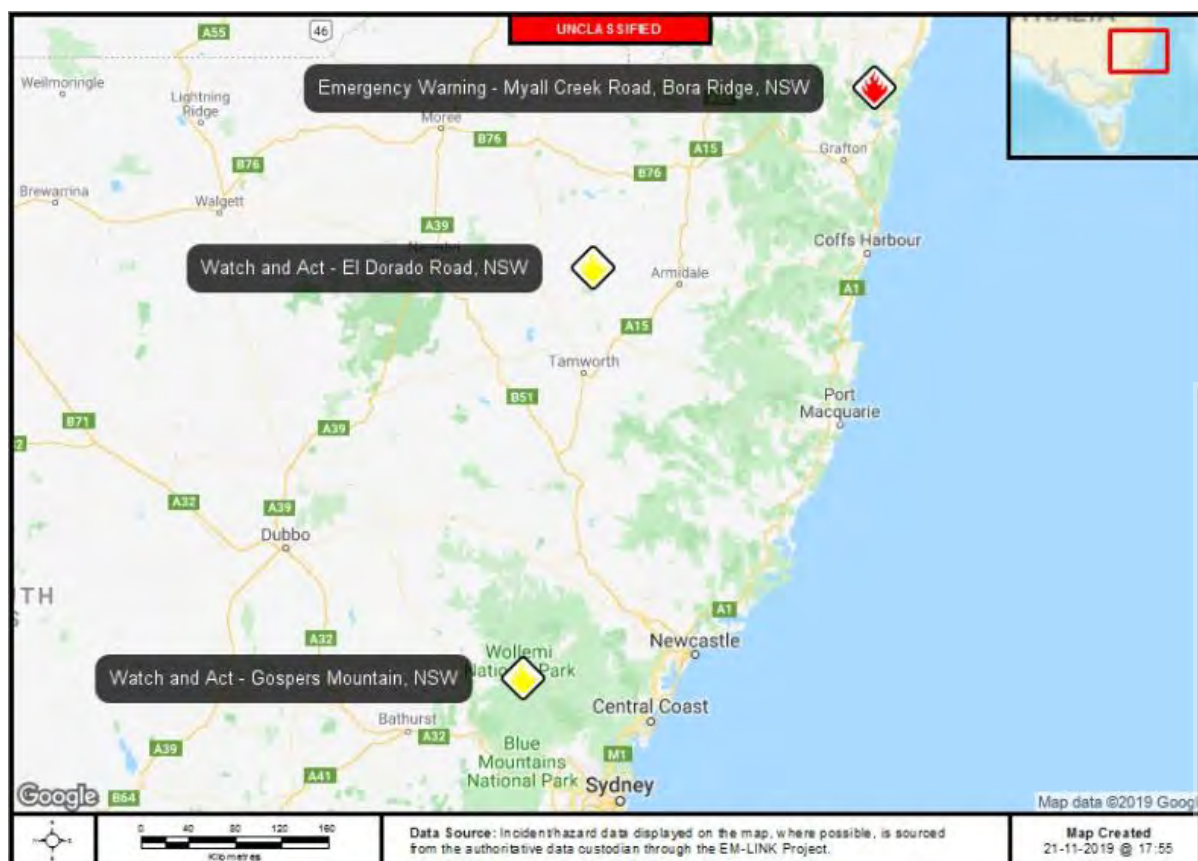
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- **20** houses and **44** outbuildings are confirmed destroyed.
- **Four** Evacuation Centres remain activated to support fire affected communities.
- *A total fire ban is current for **six** Local Government Areas (LGA).*
- *The State of Fire Emergency has been amended to remove LGAs where the bushfire danger has fallen. A State of Emergency is now in place for **six** LGAs in Qld.*
- An EMA LO has been deployed to the Qld State Disaster Coordination Centre.
- *In South Australia:*
  - On **Wednesday 20 September** SA experienced **CATASTROPHIC** fire conditions.
  - All fires across the state are now burning at the **ADVICE** level or below.
  - **Four** firefighters have been injured.
  - **16** houses and **15** outbuildings were destroyed, with **six** houses receiving major damage and **10** with minor damage.
  - **One** relief centre is open in Stansbury.
  - An EMA LO was deployed to the SA State Emergency Centre.

## Situation Details

### New South Wales



- There are currently **62** active fires burning across the state.
- **One** EMERGENCY WARNING has been issued for a bushfire burning in the vicinity of Myall Creek Road, Bora Ridge.
- **Two** WATCH AND ACTS are current:

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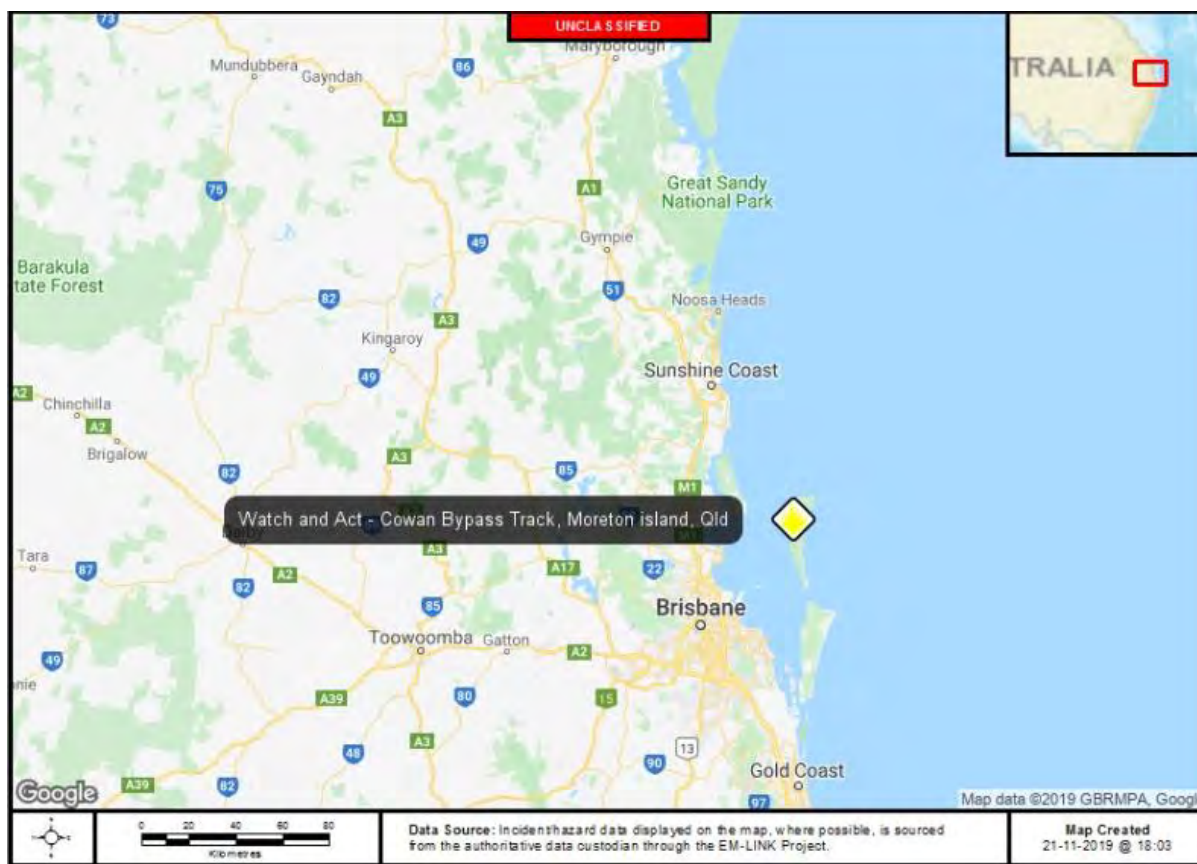
- *El Dorado Road*
- *Gospers Mountain*
- *The total area burnt across NSW for this event now exceeds **1,388,150** hectares.*
- *121 aircraft are currently deployed or on standby for tasking.*
- *598 vehicles are on scene at fires across the state.*
- *1621 firefighters are currently deployed (excluding interstate assistance).*
- *533 interstate and international firefighters (including assisting personnel) are currently deployed from ACT, SA, Tas., Vic., WA, and New Zealand.*
  - *Liaison officers from the United States and Canada are scoping potential support to RFS.*
- *503 houses, 28 facilities and an additional 972 outbuildings are confirmed destroyed. Damage assessments are ongoing and the numbers of destroyed structures are expected to rise.*
- *NSW SES members continue to assist NSW RFS with the northeast NSW bushfires.*
- *The rail line west of Summerland Way at Camira is closed due to the Myall Creek Road fire. The train services have been replaced with buses.*
- *Telstra has advised that telecommunications infrastructure has been impacted by the fires.*
  - *178 fixed line telephony customers located at Newton Boyd and Killabakh are unable to make and/or receive voice calls.*
  - *All ADSL services are now restored.*
  - *Due to the extensive fire damage at Killabakh Exchange, a Mobile Exchange on Wheels (MEoW) was deployed and is onsite. Technicians have performed pre-configuration work in preparation for services to be cut-over to the MEoW, which is expected to occur today, **Thursday 21 November**.*
  - *Telstra has issued a disaster relief package to affected customers in both NSW and Qld.*
- *All NBN outages as a result of the bushfires have now been restored.*
- *Approximately 600 electricity poles have been damaged and are currently being replaced. Approximately 700 customers are without power.*
- *The NSW Public Information and Inquiry Centre (PIIC), which was activated on **Friday 8 November**, has now been closed due to recent low numbers of calls.*
- *Two Evacuation Centres remain open at:*
  - *Kempsey Showground*
  - *Macleay Showground*
- *16 public schools are scheduled to be closed across the state tomorrow, **Friday 22 November**.*

Source: EMA LO sitrep, NSW SEOC Situational Report – Significant Fires – 20 November 2019, RFS State Operations Overview – 21 November 2019, [NSW RFS](#), [NSWPol](#), [NSW Education Department](#)

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**Queensland**

- There are currently **65** active fires across the state.
- **One WATCH AND ACT** is current:
  - Cowan Bypass Track, Moreton Island
- The total area burnt across Qld for this event since **Monday 9 September** exceeds **179,355** hectares.
- **36** aircraft are currently available to conduct air observations and water bombing.
- More than **90** appliances are on scene at fires across the state.
- More than **3,600** firefighters have been on the frontline since **Friday 8 November**.
- **155** interstate and international firefighters (including assisting personnel) are currently deployed from ACT, NT, Tas., Vic., WA and New Zealand.
  - Liaison officers from the United States and Canada are scoping potential support to RFS.
- **20** houses are and **44** outbuildings are confirmed destroyed.
- A hoop pine plantation has been significantly impacted by the Pechey bushfire resulting in more than **\$2.8 million** of damage. There has also been significant impacts to pineapple, banana and mango plantations due to the bushfire in Cobraball.
- The economy loss for agriculture and infrastructure as a result of the Cobraball fire is initially estimated at \$18 million.
- Power has been lost to Cressbrook Pump Station due to the Pechey fire with potential for loss to Perseverance Pump Station. This will reduce Toowoomba cities town water capacity to 60%.

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- All Telstra and Optus services are functional within the fire region.
- **Four** Evacuation Centres remain open at:
  - Highfields Indoor Sports and Recreation Centre
  - Crow's Nest Showgrounds
  - Tangalooma Resort (refuge)
  - Beaudesert Showgrounds (refuge)
- Department of Housing and Public Works staff will be at Recovery Hubs in Noosaville and Yeppoon to assist renters and owners with housing options.
- *The Queensland Building and Construction Commission has activated its Bushfire Rebuild Register available for homeowners and insurers to find local licenced tradespeople to repair damage, reconnect power or remove asbestos.*
- *The State Disaster Coordination Centre has moved from STAND UP to ALERT status and operations have decreased.*

Source: EMA LO sitrep, Qld SDCC State Update – Wednesday 21 November, [QFES](#), Qld SDCC Whole of Government Key Messaging – 21 November, Telstra

### Weather Forecast

#### Friday 22 November

- *HIGH to VERY HIGH fire danger is forecast over the central coast and the northeast of NSW.*
- *VERY HIGH fire danger is forecast for southeast Qld.*
- *Daily showers and thunderstorms are possible across the NSW and Qld bushfire regions.*

#### Saturday 23 November

- *VERY HIGH fire danger will continue across northeast NSW and southeast Qld.*

#### Sunday 24 November

- *LOW-MODERATE to VERY HIGH fire danger is forecast for the central coast and northeast NSW, while VERY HIGH fire danger remains for southeast Qld.*

Source: BOM Critical Event Brief 2019/30 – Update 15, [Bureau of Meteorology](#)

### Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements

#### New South Wales

##### Joint funded Commonwealth-State Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DRFA)

- Disaster recovery assistance is being provided under the DRFA in response to the bushfires that have affected the NSW.
- DRFA assistance is available in the local government areas of Armidale, Ballina, Bellingen, Blue Mountains, Byron, Cessnock, Clarence Valley, Coffs Harbour, Glen Innes Severn, Gwydir, Hawkesbury, Inverell, Kempsey, Ku-ring-gai, Kyogle, Lake Macquarie, Lismore, Lithgow, Mid-Coast, Nambucca, Narrabri, Oberon, Penrith, Port Macquarie-Hastings, Richmond Valley, Singleton, Sutherland, Tamworth, Tenterfield, Tweed, 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 cover counter disaster operations costs, including firefighting activities

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- 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.

#### Australian Government financial assistance

- 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, Cessnock, Clarence Valley, Coffs Harbour, Glen Innes Severn, Hawkesbury, Kempsey, Lismore, 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 DRA has been activated in the local government areas of: Armidale, Ballina, Bellingen, Blue Mountains, Byron, Cessnock, Clarence Valley, Coffs Harbour, Glen Innes Severn, Gwydir, Hawkesbury, Kempsey, Inverell, Ku-ring-gai, Kyogle, Lake Macquarie, Lismore, Lithgow, Mid Coast, Nambucca, Narrabri, Oberon, Penrith, Port Macquarie-Hastings, Richmond Valley, Singleton, Sutherland, Tamworth, Tenterfield, Tweed, Uralla and Walcha.
- These Australian Government payments are administered by the Department of Human Services (DHS).
- Anyone who has been adversely affected by the bushfires in NSW should contact DHS on 180 22 66 and test their eligibility for assistance.

#### **Queensland**

- Disaster recovery assistance is being provided under the DRFA in response to the bushfires that have affected eastern Queensland.
- DRFA assistance is available in the local government areas of Bundaberg, Gold Coast, Livingstone, Lockyer Valley, Noosa, Scenic Rim and Toowoomba.
- 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 cover counter disaster operations costs, including firefighting activities,
  - Concessional interest rate loans for primary producers, and
  - Freight Subsidies for primary producers.
- 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.

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Australian Government financial assistance

- 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: Livingstone, Noosa and Toowoomba.
  - 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 DRA has been activated in the local government areas of: Bundaberg, Gold Coast, Livingstone, Lockyer Valley, Noosa, Scenic Rim, and Toowoomba.
- These Australian Government payments are administered by the Department of Human Services (DHS).
- Anyone who has been adversely affected by the bushfires in Queensland should contact DHS on 180 22 66 and test their eligibility for assistance.

Source: Disaster Recovery Branch, Emergency Management Australia

**Australian Government Actions**

- Emergency Management Australia is maintaining ongoing engagement with NSW and Qld.
- Australian Government Crisis Committee and National Crisis Committee meetings were held on **11 November 2019**.
- Commissioners and Chief Officers Strategic Committee meetings have been held on **11 November 2019** and **19 November 2019**.

**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.
- **One** overarching Request for Assistance (RFA) was for the Australian Defence Force to provide air transport for operational firefighters and support staff as a contingency measure. Under this request there have been **thirteen** sub-taskings:
  - Task Request #001A – **8 November 2019**: ADF to provide urgent air movement of interstate Strike Teams from Canberra to Port Macquarie.
  - Task Request #001B – **8 November 2019**: ADF to provide urgent air movement of interstate Strike Teams from South Australia to Port Macquarie.
  - Task Request #001C – **9 November 2019**: ADF to provide urgent air movement of interstate Strike Teams from Tasmania to Port Macquarie.
  - Task Request #001D – **11 November 2019**: ADF to provide urgent air movement of interstate Strike Teams from Victoria to Armidale.
  - Task Request #001E – **13 November 2019**: ADF to provide air movement of interstate Strike Teams from Victoria to Sydney.
  - Task Request #001F – **14 November 2019**: ADF to provide air movement of interstate Strike Teams from Sydney to Victoria.

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- Task Request #001G – **16 November 2019**: ADF to provide air movement of interstate Strike Teams from Melbourne to Coffs Harbour.
- Task Request #001H – **16 November 2019**: ADF to provide air movement of interstate Strike Teams from Coffs Harbour to Melbourne.
- Task Request #001I – **16 November 2019**: ADF to provide air movement of interstate Strike Teams from RAAF Richmond to Melbourne.
- Task Request #001J – **17 November 2019**: ADF to provide air movement of interstate Strike Teams from Melbourne to RAAF Richmond.
- Task Request #001K – **18 November 2019**: ADF to provide air movement of interstate Strike Teams from Melbourne to Coffs Harbour.
- Task Request #001L – **18 November 2019**: ADF to provide air movement of interstate Strike Teams from Coffs Harbour to Melbourne.
- Task Request #001M – **19 November 2019**: ADF to provide air movement of interstate Strike Teams from Coffs Harbour to Melbourne.
- Task Request #002 – **11 November 2019**: Provision of accommodation, food and appliance parking at Singleton Army Base for up to **149** personnel.
- Task Request #003 – **12 November 2019, 13 November 2019**: Provide airframes for night fly and map fire progression and other intelligence tasking for current fires: provide airframes for firefighter movements, search and rescue operations and civilian movements; provide Air Liaison Officer to NSW Rural Fire Services State Operation Centre.
- Task Request #004 – **13 November 2019**: Activation of International Charter for Space and National Disasters in order to provide High Resolution Satellite Imagery to NSW Rural Fire Service.
- Task Request #005 – **13 November 2019**: ADF to provide accommodation, meals, parking and maintenance areas for interstate firefighting personnel at Richmond RAAF Base.
- Task Request #006 – **16 November 2019**: ADF to provide provision of catering support to the Northern Region for **250** firefighters.
- Task Request #007 – **17 November 2019** (extension to Task Request #005): ADF to provide accommodation, meals, parking and maintenance areas for interstate firefighting personnel at Richmond RAAF Base.
- An EMA LO has been deployed to the NSW RFS State Operations Centre.
- An EMA Disaster Recovery LO was deployed to the NSW Office of Emergency Management, who has since returned.

#### Queensland

- On **11 November 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 Qld.
- Task Request #001 – **11 November 2019**: ADF to provide **30** personnel with equipment to clear overgrown fire breaks in Beechmont.
- Task Request #002 – **13 November 2019**: ADF to provide airframes to undertake night flights to map fire grounds with geotagged output.
- An EMA LO has been deployed to the Qld State Disaster Coordination Centre.

Source: CCC Operations and CCC Planning, Emergency Management Australia

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under the Freedom of Information Act 1982

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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 22 November 2019.*

|  |                 |
|--|-----------------|
| 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.<br>For enquiries please contact the CCC on s. 22(1)(a)(ii) <a href="mailto:s.22(1)(a)(ii)@homeaffairs.gov.au">@homeaffairs.gov.au</a> |                 |

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## Australian Government

### Crisis Coordination Centre

#### Incident Brief

As of 0630 hrs (AEDT), 22 November 2019

#### New South Wales and Queensland bushfires – Version 28

*New information in Italics*

#### Key Issues

- **New South Wales:**
  - *There are currently **70** active fires burning across the state.*
  - *All fires across the state are burning at the **ADVICE** level or below.*
  - The total area burnt across NSW for this event now exceeds **1,388,150** hectares.
  - **Four** fatalities have been confirmed.
  - More than **30** people have been injured, including approximately **20** firefighters.
  - **503** houses are confirmed destroyed, with a further **28** facilities and an additional **972** outbuildings.
  - **Two** Evacuation Centres remain activated to support fire affected communities.
  - An EMA LO has been deployed to the NSW RFS State Operations Centre.
- **Queensland:**
  - *There are currently **63** active fires across the state.*
  - **One** WATCH AND ACT is current. All other fires across the state are burning at the **ADVICE** level or below.
  - The total area burnt across Qld for this event since **Monday 9 September** exceeds **179,355** hectares.
  - **50** firefighters have been injured.
  - **20** houses and **44** outbuildings are confirmed destroyed.
  - **Three** Evacuation Centres remain activated to support fire affected communities.
  - The State of Fire Emergency has been amended to remove LGAs where the bushfire danger has fallen. A State of Emergency is now in place for **six** LGAs in Qld.
  - An EMA LO has been deployed to the Qld State Disaster Coordination Centre.

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- *Victoria:*
  - *On **Thursday 21 November**, Vic. experienced CATASTROPHIC fire conditions.*
  - *All fires across the state are now burning at the ADVICE level or below.*
  - *Strong winds brought down trees, damaged buildings and impacted power supply.*
  - *Over 100,000 customers were without power yesterday. As at 2000 hrs (AEDT) Thursday 21 November, 46,000 customers remain off power, including 900 power-dependant customers. There is a loss of mobile services for five 3G and two 4G mobile base stations.*
  - *There are unconfirmed reports of homes and structures being destroyed.*
  - *Mild weather is forecast for tomorrow and the weekend.*
- *South Australia:*
  - *On **Wednesday 20 November**, SA experienced CATASTROPHIC fire conditions.*
  - *All fires across the state are now burning at the ADVICE level or below.*
  - ***Four** firefighters have been injured.*
  - ***16** houses and **15** outbuildings were destroyed, with **six** houses receiving major damage and **10** with minor damage.*
  - ***One** relief centre is open in Stansbury.*
  - *An EMA LO was deployed to the SA State Emergency Centre.*

## Situation Details

### New South Wales

- *There are currently **70** active fires burning across the state.*
- *The total area burnt across NSW for this event now exceeds **1,388,150** hectares.*
- ***121** aircraft are currently deployed or on standby for tasking.*
- ***598** vehicles are on scene at fires across the state.*
- ***1621** firefighters are currently deployed (excluding interstate assistance).*
- ***533** interstate and international firefighters (including assisting personnel) are currently deployed from ACT, SA, Tas., Vic., WA, and New Zealand.*
  - *Liaison officers from the United States and Canada are scoping potential support to RFS.*
- ***503** houses, **28** facilities and an additional **972** outbuildings are confirmed destroyed. Damage assessments are ongoing and the numbers of destroyed structures are expected to rise.*
- *The rail line west of Summerland Way at Camira is closed due to the Myall Creek Road fire. The train services have been replaced with buses.*
- *Telstra has advised that telecommunications infrastructure has been impacted by the fires.*
  - ***178** fixed line telephony customers located at Newton Boyd and Killabakh are unable to make and/or receive voice calls.*
  - *All ADSL services are now restored.*
  - *Due to the extensive fire damage at Killabakh Exchange, a Mobile Exchange on Wheels (MEoW) was deployed and is onsite. Technicians performed pre-configuration work in preparation for services to be cut-over to the MEoW, which was expected to occur yesterday, **Thursday 21 November**.*

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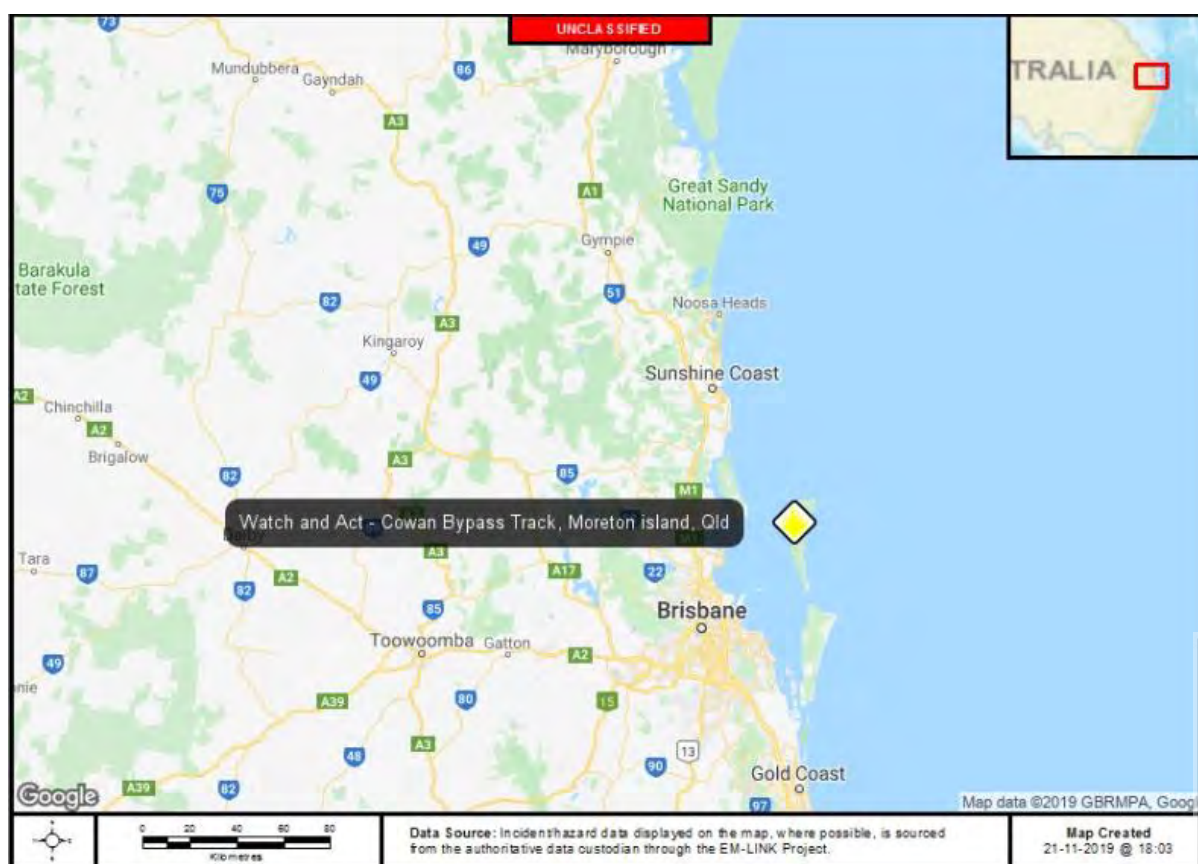
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- Telstra has issued a disaster relief package to affected customers in both NSW and Qld.
- Approximately **600** electricity poles have been damaged and are currently being replaced. Approximately **700** customers are without power.
- **Two** Evacuation Centres remain open at:
  - Kempsey Showground
  - Maclean Showground
- **16** public schools are scheduled to be closed across the state today due to bushfire related conditions.

Source: EMA LO sitrep, NSW SEOC Situational Report – Significant Fires – 20 November 2019, RFS State Operations Overview – 21 November 2019, [NSW RFS](#), [NSWPol](#), [NSW Education Department](#)

## Queensland



- *There are currently **63** active fires across the state.*
- **One** WATCH AND ACT is current:
  - Cowan Bypass Track, Moreton Island
- The total area burnt across Qld for this event since **Monday 9 September** exceeds **179,355** hectares.
- **36** aircraft are currently available to conduct air observations and water bombing.
- More than **90** appliances are on scene at fires across the state.
- More than **3,600** firefighters have been on the frontline since **Friday 8 November**.
- **149** interstate and international firefighters (including assisting personnel) are currently deployed from ACT, NT, Tas., Vic., WA and New Zealand.

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- Liaison officers from the United States and Canada are scoping potential support to RFS.
- **20** houses are and **44** outbuildings are confirmed destroyed.
- A hoop pine plantation has been significantly impacted by the Pechey bushfire resulting in more than **\$2.8 million** of damage. There has also been significant impacts to pineapple, banana and mango plantations due to the bushfire in Cobraball.
- The economy loss for agriculture and infrastructure as a result of the Cobraball fire is initially estimated at **\$18 million**.
- Power has been lost to Cressbrook Pump Station due to the Pechey fire with potential for loss to Perseverance Pump Station. This will reduce Toowoomba cities town water capacity to 60%.
- **Three Evacuation Centres remain open at:**
  - *Crow's Nest Showgrounds*
  - *Tangalooma Resort (refuge)*
  - *Beaudesert Showgrounds (refuge)*
- Department of Housing and Public Works staff will be at Recovery Hubs in Noosaville and Yeppoon to assist renters and owners with housing options.
- The Queensland Building and Construction Commission has activated its Bushfire Rebuild Register available for homeowners and insurers to find local licenced tradespeople to repair damage, reconnect power or remove asbestos.
- The State Disaster Coordination Centre has moved from STAND UP to ALERT status and operations have decreased.

Source: EMA LO sitrep, Qld SDCC State Update – Wednesday 21 November, [QFES](#), Qld SDCC Whole of Government Key Messaging – 21 November

### Weather Forecast

- *No significant widespread rainfall is forecast over northeast NSW or southeast Qld. for the next seven days.*

### Friday 22 November

- VERY HIGH fire danger is forecast over the central coast and the northeast of NSW.
- VERY HIGH fire danger is forecast for southeast Qld.

### Saturday 23 November

- VERY HIGH fire danger will continue across northeast NSW and southeast Qld.

### Sunday 24 November

- LOW-MODERATE to VERY HIGH fire danger is forecast for the central coast and northeast NSW, while VERY HIGH fire danger remains for southeast Qld.

Source: BOM Critical Event Brief 2019/30 – Update 15, [Bureau of Meteorology](#)

### Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements

#### New South Wales

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

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- Disaster recovery assistance is being provided under the DRFA in response to the bushfires that have affected the NSW.
- DRFA assistance is available in the local government areas of Armidale, Ballina, Bellingen, Blue Mountains, Byron, Cessnock, Clarence Valley, Coffs Harbour, Glen Innes Severn, Gwydir, Hawkesbury, Inverell, Kempsey, Ku-ring-gai, Kyogle, Lake Macquarie, Lismore, Lithgow, Mid-Coast, Nambucca, Narrabri, Oberon, Penrith, Port Macquarie-Hastings, Richmond Valley, Singleton, Sutherland, Tamworth, Tenterfield, Tweed, 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 cover counter disaster operations costs, including firefighting activities
  - 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.

#### Australian Government financial assistance

- 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, Cessnock, Clarence Valley, Coffs Harbour, Glen Innes Severn, Hawkesbury, Kempsey, Lismore, Mid Coast, Nambucca, Port Macquarie-Hastings, Richmond Valley, Tenterfield and Walcha.
  - The Australian Government's Disaster Recovery Allowance (DRA)
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- These Australian Government payments are administered by the Department of Human Services (DHS).
- Anyone who has been adversely affected by the bushfires in NSW should contact DHS on 180 22 66 and test their eligibility for assistance.

#### **Queensland**

- Disaster recovery assistance is being provided under the DRFA in response to the bushfires that have affected eastern Queensland.

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- **One** overarching Request for Assistance (RFA) was for the Australian Defence Force to provide air transport for operational firefighters and support staff as a contingency measure. Under this request there have been **thirteen** sub-taskings:

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- Task Request #001A – **8 November 2019**: ADF to provide urgent air movement of interstate Strike Teams from Canberra to Port Macquarie.
- Task Request #001B – **8 November 2019**: ADF to provide urgent air movement of interstate Strike Teams from South Australia to Port Macquarie.
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- Task Request #003 – **12 November 2019, 13 November 2019**: Provide airframes for night fly and map fire progression and other intelligence tasking for current fires: provide airframes for firefighter movements, search and rescue operations and civilian movements; provide Air Liaison Officer to NSW Rural Fire Services State Operation Centre.
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- An EMA LO has been deployed to the NSW RFS State Operations Centre.
- An EMA Disaster Recovery LO was deployed to the NSW Office of Emergency Management, who has since returned.

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- On **11 November 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 Qld.
- Task Request #001 – **11 November 2019**: ADF to provide 30 personnel with equipment to clear overgrown fire breaks in Beechmont.
- Task Request #002 – **13 November 2019**: ADF to provide airframes to undertake night flights to map fire grounds with geotagged output.
- An EMA LO has been deployed to the Qld State Disaster Coordination 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 **22 November 2019**.*

|   |                 |
|---|-----------------|
| <b>Prepared by:</b>   | s. 22(1)(a)(ii) |
| <b>Approved by:</b>   | s. 22(1)(a)(ii) |
| <p>Issued under the authority of the Director General Emergency Management Australia.<br/>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), 22 November 2019

#### New South Wales and Queensland bushfires – Version 29

*New information in Italics*

#### Key Issues

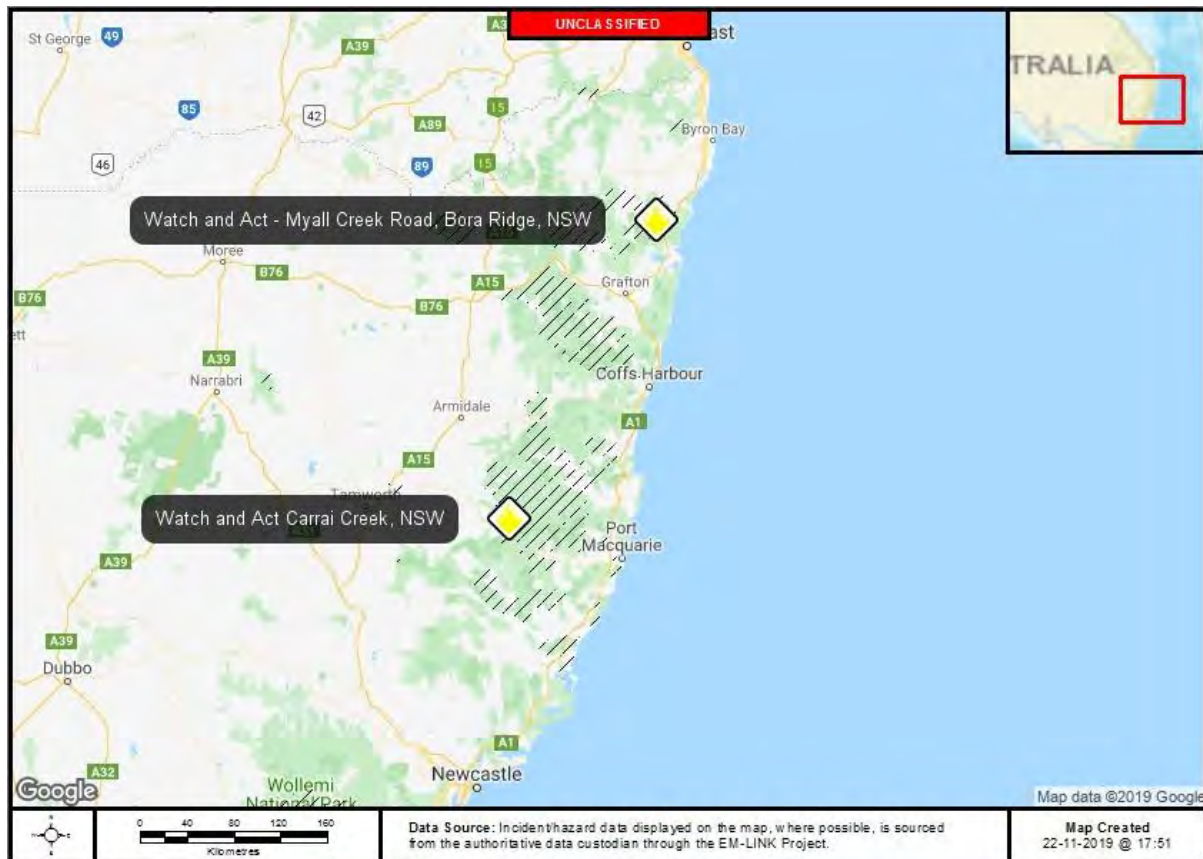
- *The next CCC Incident Brief will be issued at 1830 hrs **23 November 2019**.*
- **New South Wales:**
  - *There are currently **61** active fires burning across the state.*
  - ***Two** WATCH AND ACTS are current and all other fires across the state are burning at the ADVICE level or below.*
  - *The total area burnt across NSW for this event now exceeds **1,435,127** hectares.*
  - **Four** fatalities have been confirmed.
  - *More than **30** people have been injured, including approximately **20** firefighters.*
  - ***530** houses are confirmed destroyed, with a further **34** facilities and an additional **1022** outbuildings.*
  - **Two** Evacuation Centres remain activated to support fire affected communities.
  - *An EMA LO has been deployed to the NSW RFS State Operations Centre.*
- **Queensland:**
  - *There are currently **60** active fires across the state.*
  - *All fires across the state are burning at the ADVICE level or below.*
  - *The total area burnt across Qld for this event since **Monday 9 September** exceeds **182,274** hectares.*
  - ***51** firefighters have been injured.*
  - **20** houses and **44** outbuildings are confirmed destroyed.
  - **Two** Evacuation Centres remain activated to support fire affected communities.
  - *An EMA LO was deployed to the Qld State Disaster Coordination Centre.*

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## Situation Details

## New South Wales



- *There are currently **61** active fires burning across the state.*
- **Two WATCH AND ACTS** are current:
  - *Myall Creek Road, Bora Ridge*
  - *Carrai Creek*
- *The total area burnt across NSW for this event now exceeds **1,435,127** hectares.*
- *121 aircraft are currently deployed or on standby for tasking.*
- *569 vehicles are on scene at fires across the state.*
- *1983 firefighters are currently deployed (excluding interstate assistance).*
- *528 interstate and international firefighters (including assisting personnel) are currently deployed from ACT, SA, Tas., Vic., WA, and New Zealand.*
  - *Liaison officers from the United States and Canada are scoping potential support to RFS.*
- *530 houses, 34 facilities and an additional 1022 outbuildings are confirmed destroyed. Damage assessments are ongoing and the numbers of destroyed structures are expected to rise.*
- *The rail line west of Summerland Way at Camira is closed due to the Myall Creek Road fire. The train services have been replaced with buses.*
- *Telstra has advised that telecommunications infrastructure has been impacted by the fires.*

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- **45** fixed line telephony customers located at Newton Boyd and Killabakh are unable to make and/or receive voice calls, due to a damaged main copper cable approximately 3 km from Killabakh. A field technician was arranged to attend and assess the damage and repair work involved today, **Friday 22 November**.
- Telstra has issued a disaster relief package to affected customers in both NSW and Qld.
- *Approximately 600 customers are currently experiencing power outages as a result of the fires.*
- **Two** Evacuation Centres remain open at:
  - Kempsey Showground
  - Maclean Showground
- **16** public schools were closed across the state today **Friday 22 November**, due to bushfire related conditions.

Source: EMA LO sitrep, NSW SEOC Situational Report – Significant Fires – Friday 22 November 2019, RFS State Operations Overview – 22 November 2019, [NSW RFS](#), [NSWPol](#), [NSW Education Department](#)

## Queensland

- *There are currently 60 active fires across the state.*
- *All fires across the state are burning at the ADVICE level or below.*
- *The total area burnt across Qld for this event since Monday 9 September exceeds 182,274 hectares.*
- *31 aircraft are currently available to conduct air observations and water bombing.*
- *More than 80 appliances are on scene at fires across the state.*
- *More than 3,600 firefighters have been on the frontline since Friday 8 November.*
- *158 interstate and international firefighters (including assisting personnel) are currently deployed from NT, Tas., Vic., WA and New Zealand.*
  - Liaison officers from the United States and Canada are scoping potential support to RFS.
- **20** houses and **44** outbuildings are confirmed destroyed.
- *A hoop pine plantation has been significantly impacted by the Pechey bushfire resulting in more than \$2.8 million of damage. There has also been significant impacts to pineapple, banana and mango plantations due to the bushfire in Cobraball.*
- *The economy loss for agriculture and infrastructure as a result of the Cobraball fire is initially estimated at \$18 million.*
- *The north coast rail line is closed near Casino. The Brisbane to Sydney XPT train service has been replaced by coaches between Brisbane and Grafton.*
- **Five** main roads across the state remain closed whilst the installation of temporary barriers and replacing damaged signage is completed in readiness for reopening.
  - Cunningham Gap Road
  - Mount Lindesay Highway
  - New England Highway
  - Esk Hampton Road
  - Ravensbourne Road

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- Power has been restored to Cressbrook Pump Station averting the water shortage to Toowoomba.
- **Two Evacuation Centres remain open at:**
  - Crow's Nest Showgrounds
  - Tangalooma Resort (refuge)
- Department of Housing and Public Works staff will be at Recovery Hubs in Noosaville, Boonah cultural Centre and Yeppoon to assist renters and owners with housing options.
- The Queensland Building and Construction Commission has activated its Bushfire Rebuild Register available for homeowners and insurers to find local licenced tradespeople to repair damage, reconnect power or remove asbestos.
- The State Disaster Coordination Centre is operating at ALERT status.

Source: EMA LO sitrep, Qld SDCC State Update – Friday 22 November, [QFES](#), Qld SDCC Whole of Government Key Messaging – Friday 22 November

### Weather Forecast

- No significant widespread rainfall is forecast over northeast NSW or southeast Qld for the next seven days.

#### Saturday 23 November

- HIGH to VERY HIGH fire danger will continue across northeast NSW and southeast Qld.
- *There is the possibility of daily afternoon and evening showers for some parts of NSW and Qld over the next several days. Thunderstorms may produce lightning and erratic wind over bushfire areas.*

#### Sunday 24 November

- LOW-MODERATE to VERY HIGH fire danger is forecast for the central coast and northeast NSW, while VERY HIGH fire danger remains for southeast Qld.

#### Monday 25 November

- *HIGH to VERY HIGH fire danger will continue across northeast NSW and southeast Qld.*

Source: BOM Critical Event Brief 2019/30 – Update 16, [Bureau of Meteorology](#), SEOC – Situation Report – Significant fires from 08 November 2019 – 22 November 2019

### Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements

#### New South Wales

##### Joint funded Commonwealth-State Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DRFA)

- Disaster recovery assistance is being provided under the DRFA in response to the bushfires that have affected the NSW.
- DRFA assistance is available in the local government areas of Armidale, Ballina, Bellingen, Blue Mountains, Byron, Cessnock, Clarence Valley, Coffs Harbour, Glen Innes Severn, Gwydir, Hawkesbury, Inverell, Kempsey, Ku-ring-gai, Kyogle, Lake Macquarie, Lismore, Lithgow, Mid-Coast, Nambucca, Narrabri, Oberon, Penrith, Port Macquarie-Hastings, Richmond Valley, Singleton, Sutherland, Tamworth, Tenterfield, Tweed, 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 cover counter disaster operations costs, including firefighting activities

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- 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.

#### Australian Government financial assistance

- 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, Cessnock, Clarence Valley, Coffs Harbour, Glen Innes Severn, Hawkesbury, Kempsey, Lismore, 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 DRA has been activated in the local government areas of: Armidale, Ballina, Bellingen, Blue Mountains, Byron, Cessnock, Clarence Valley, Coffs Harbour, Glen Innes Severn, Gwydir, Hawkesbury, Kempsey, Inverell, Ku-ring-gai, Kyogle, Lake Macquarie, Lismore, Lithgow, Mid Coast, Nambucca, Narrabri, Oberon, Penrith, Port Macquarie-Hastings, Richmond Valley, Singleton, Sutherland, Tamworth, Tenterfield, Tweed, Uralla and Walcha.
- These Australian Government payments are administered by the Department of Human Services (DHS).
- Anyone who has been adversely affected by the bushfires in NSW should contact DHS on 180 22 66 and test their eligibility for assistance.

#### **Queensland**

- Disaster recovery assistance is being provided under the DRFA in response to the bushfires that have affected eastern Queensland.
- DRFA assistance is available in the local government areas of Bundaberg, Gold Coast, Livingstone, Lockyer Valley, Noosa, Scenic Rim and Toowoomba.
- 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 cover counter disaster operations costs, including firefighting activities,
  - Concessional interest rate loans for primary producers, and
  - Freight Subsidies for primary producers.
- 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.

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Australian Government financial assistance

- 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: Livingstone, Noosa and Toowoomba.
  - 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 DRA has been activated in the local government areas of: Bundaberg, Gold Coast, Livingstone, Lockyer Valley, Noosa, Scenic Rim, and Toowoomba.
- These Australian Government payments are administered by the Department of Human Services (DHS).
- Anyone who has been adversely affected by the bushfires in Queensland should contact DHS on 180 22 66 and test their eligibility for assistance.

Source: Disaster Recovery Branch, Emergency Management Australia

**Australian Government Actions**

- Emergency Management Australia is maintaining ongoing engagement with NSW and Qld.
- Australian Government Crisis Committee and National Crisis Committee meetings were held on **11 November 2019**.
- Commissioners and Chief Officers Strategic Committee meetings have been held on **11 November 2019** and **19 November 2019**.

**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.
- **One** overarching Request for Assistance (RFA) was for the Australian Defence Force to provide air transport for operational firefighters and support staff as a contingency measure. Under this request there have been **thirteen** sub-taskings:
  - Task Request #001A – **8 November 2019**: ADF to provide urgent air movement of interstate Strike Teams from Canberra to Port Macquarie.
  - Task Request #001B – **8 November 2019**: ADF to provide urgent air movement of interstate Strike Teams from South Australia to Port Macquarie.
  - Task Request #001C – **9 November 2019**: ADF to provide urgent air movement of interstate Strike Teams from Tasmania to Port Macquarie.
  - Task Request #001D – **11 November 2019**: ADF to provide urgent air movement of interstate Strike Teams from Victoria to Armidale.
  - Task Request #001E – **13 November 2019**: ADF to provide air movement of interstate Strike Teams from Victoria to Sydney.
  - Task Request #001F – **14 November 2019**: ADF to provide air movement of interstate Strike Teams from Sydney to Victoria.

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- Task Request #001G – **16 November 2019**: ADF to provide air movement of interstate Strike Teams from Melbourne to Coffs Harbour.
- Task Request #001H – **16 November 2019**: ADF to provide air movement of interstate Strike Teams from Coffs Harbour to Melbourne.
- Task Request #001I – **16 November 2019**: ADF to provide air movement of interstate Strike Teams from RAAF Richmond to Melbourne.
- Task Request #001J – **17 November 2019**: ADF to provide air movement of interstate Strike Teams from Melbourne to RAAF Richmond.
- Task Request #001K – **18 November 2019**: ADF to provide air movement of interstate Strike Teams from Melbourne to Coffs Harbour.
- Task Request #001L – **18 November 2019**: ADF to provide air movement of interstate Strike Teams from Coffs Harbour to Melbourne.
- Task Request #001M – **19 November 2019**: ADF to provide air movement of interstate Strike Teams from Coffs Harbour to Melbourne.
- Task Request #002 – **11 November 2019**: Provision of accommodation, food and appliance parking at Singleton Army Base for up to **149** personnel.
- Task Request #003 – **12 November 2019, 13 November 2019**: Provide airframes for night fly and map fire progression and other intelligence tasking for current fires: provide airframes for firefighter movements, search and rescue operations and civilian movements; provide Air Liaison Officer to NSW Rural Fire Services State Operation Centre.
- Task Request #004 – **13 November 2019**: Activation of International Charter for Space and National Disasters in order to provide High Resolution Satellite Imagery to NSW Rural Fire Service.
- Task Request #005 – **13 November 2019**: ADF to provide accommodation, meals, parking and maintenance areas for interstate firefighting personnel at Richmond RAAF Base.
- Task Request #006 – **16 November 2019**: ADF to provide provision of catering support to the Northern Region for **250** firefighters.
- Task Request #007 – **17 November 2019** (extension to Task Request #005): ADF to provide accommodation, meals, parking and maintenance areas for interstate firefighting personnel at Richmond RAAF Base.
- An EMA LO has been deployed to the NSW RFS State Operations Centre.
- An EMA Disaster Recovery LO was deployed to the NSW Office of Emergency Management.

**Queensland**

- On **11 November 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 Qld.
- Task Request #001 – **11 November 2019**: ADF to provide **30** personnel with equipment to clear overgrown fire breaks in Beechmont.
- Task Request #002 – **13 November 2019**: ADF to provide airframes to undertake night flights to map fire grounds with geotagged output.
- Task Request #003 – **22 November 2019**: Provision of support to maintain an Incident Command Centre at Borneo Barracks.
- *An EMA LO was deployed to the Qld State Disaster Coordination 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 1830 hrs 23 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.<br/> For enquiries please contact the CCC on s. 22(1)(a)(ii) <a href="mailto:s.22(1)(a)(ii)@homeaffairs.gov.au">@homeaffairs.gov.au</a></p> |                 |

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New South Wales and Queensland bushfires - 23 November 2019 - version 30



## Australian Government

### Crisis Coordination Centre

#### Incident Brief

As of 1830 hrs (AEDT), 23 November 2019

#### New South Wales and Queensland bushfires – Version 30

*New information in Italics*

#### Key Issues

- *The next CCC Incident Brief will be issued at 1830 hrs **24 November 2019**.*
- **New South Wales:**
  - *There are currently **64** active fires burning across the state.*
  - ***One** WATCH AND ACT is current, all other fires across the state are burning at the ADVICE level or below.*
  - *The total area burnt across NSW for this event now exceeds **1,461,799** hectares since **Thursday 7 November**.*
  - **Four** fatalities have been confirmed.
  - More than **30** people have been injured, including approximately **20** firefighters.
  - **649** houses, **56** facilities and an additional **1345** outbuildings are confirmed destroyed.
  - **Two** Evacuation Centres remain activated to support fire affected communities.
  - An EMA LO has been deployed to the NSW RFS State Operations Centre.
- **Queensland:**
  - *There are currently **57** active fires across the state.*
  - All fires across the state are burning at the ADVICE level or below.
  - *The total area burnt across Qld for this event since **Monday 9 September** exceeds **183,587** hectares.*
  - **55** firefighters have been injured.
  - **20** houses and **44** outbuildings are confirmed destroyed.
  - ***One** Evacuation Centre remains activated to support fire affected communities.*
  - *An EMA LO was deployed to the Qld State Disaster Coordination Centre.*

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## Situation Details

## New South Wales



- *There are currently **64** active fires burning across the state.*
- ***One** WATCH AND ACT is current, all other fires across the state are burning at the ADVICE level or below.*
- *The total area burnt across NSW for this event now exceeds **1,461,799** hectares.*
- ***95** aircraft are currently deployed or on standby for tasking.*
- ***427** vehicles are on scene at fires across the state.*
- ***1103** firefighters are currently deployed (excluding interstate assistance).*
- ***830** interstate and international firefighters (including assisting personnel) are currently deployed from ACT, SA, Tas., Vic., WA, and New Zealand.*
  - *Liaison officers from the United States and Canada are scoping potential support to RFS.*
- ***Four** fatalities have been confirmed.*
- ***649** houses, **56** facilities and an additional **1345** outbuildings are confirmed destroyed. Damage assessments are ongoing and the numbers of destroyed structures are expected to rise.*
- *The rail line west of Summerland Way at Camira is closed due to the Myall Creek Road fire. The train services have been replaced with buses.*

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- Telstra has advised that telecommunications infrastructure has been impacted by the fires.
  - **45** fixed line telephony customers located at Newton Boyd and Killabakh are unable to make and/or receive voice calls, due to a damaged main copper cable approximately 3 km from Killabakh. A field technician was arranged to attend and assess the damage and repair work involved.
  - Telstra has issued a disaster relief package to affected customers in both NSW and Qld.
- *Approximately **450** customers are currently experiencing power outages as a result of the fires.*
- **Two** Evacuation Centres remain open at:
  - Kempsey Showground
  - Maclean Showground
- **16** public schools remain closed across the state due to bushfire related conditions.

Source: EMA LO sitrep, NSW SEOC Situational Report – Significant Fires – Saturday 23 November 2019, [NSW RFS](#), [NSWPol](#), [NSW Education Department](#)

## Queensland

- *There are currently **57** active fires across the state.*
- All fires across the state are burning at the ADVICE level or below.
- *The total area burnt across Qld for this event since **Monday 9 September** exceeds **183,587** hectares.*
- **31** aircraft are currently available to conduct air observations and water bombing.
- More than **152** appliances are on scene at fires across the state.
- More than **3,600** firefighters have been on the frontline since **Friday 8 November**.
- **181** interstate and international firefighters (including assisting personnel) are currently deployed from NT, Tas., Vic., WA and New Zealand.
  - Liaison officers from the United States and Canada are scoping potential support to RFS.
- **55** firefighters have been injured.
- **20** houses and **44** outbuildings are confirmed destroyed.
- A hoop pine plantation has been significantly impacted by the Pechey bushfire resulting in more than **\$2.8 million** of damage. There has also been significant impacts to pineapple, banana and mango plantations due to the bushfire in Cobraball.
- The economy loss for agriculture and infrastructure as a result of the Cobraball fire is initially estimated at **\$18 million**.
- *Brisbane to Sydney XPT train service departing from Brisbane has been cancelled due to NSW bushfires, rail and road closures.*
- *Bushfire activity has resulted in multiple road closures and changes to speed limits for the following roads:*
  - *Cunningham Highway, Mt Lindesay Highway and Esk Hampton Rd in the State's southeast are closed until further notice.*
- **One** Evacuation Centre remains open at Crow's Nest Showgrounds.
- Department of Housing and Public Works staff were at Recovery Hubs in Noosaville, Boonah cultural Centre and Yeppoon to assist renters and owners with housing options.

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- The Queensland Building and Construction Commission has activated its Bushfire Rebuild Register available for homeowners and insurers to find local licenced tradespeople to repair damage, reconnect power or remove asbestos.
- The State Disaster Coordination Centre is operating at ALERT status.

Source: EMA LO sitrep, Qld SDCC State Update – Saturday 23 November, [QFES](#)

### Weather Forecast

*No significant widespread rainfall is forecast over northeast NSW or southeast Qld for the next four days. Large scale dangerous fire weather conditions have eased for the short term, however, localised thunderstorm activity will impact ongoing fires through NSW over the next 4 days.*

### Sunday 24 November

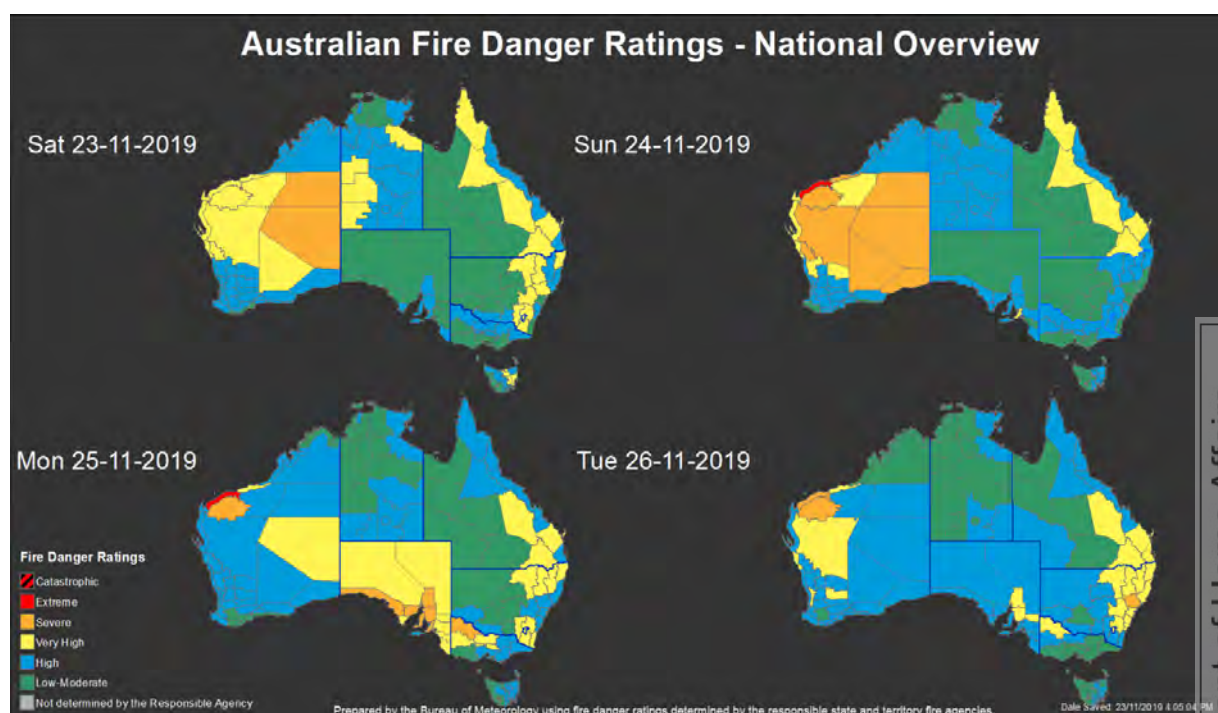
- LOW-MODERATE to VERY HIGH fire danger is forecast for the central coast and northeast NSW, while VERY HIGH fire danger remains for southeast Qld.

### Monday 25 November

- *HIGH to VERY HIGH fire danger will continue across northeast NSW and southeast Qld.*

### Tuesday 26 November

- *Elevated fire dangers are likely over NSW and QLD as a cold front moves across southeast Australia during the day. Hot conditions and northerly winds are expected ahead of the front through NSW and southern*



Source: BOM Critical Event Brief 2019/30 – Update 17, [Bureau of Meteorology](#)

### Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements

#### New South Wales

#### Joint funded Commonwealth-State Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DRFA)

- Disaster recovery assistance is being provided under the DRFA in response to the bushfires that have affected the NSW.

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- DRFA assistance is available in the local government areas of Armidale, Ballina, Bellingen, Blue Mountains, Byron, Cessnock, Clarence Valley, Coffs Harbour, Glen Innes Severn, Gwydir, Hawkesbury, Inverell, Kempsey, Ku-ring-gai, Kyogle, Lake Macquarie, Lismore, Lithgow, Mid-Coast, Nambucca, Narrabri, Oberon, Penrith, Port Macquarie-Hastings, Richmond Valley, Singleton, Sutherland, Tamworth, Tenterfield, Tweed, 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 cover counter disaster operations costs, including firefighting activities.
  - 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.

#### Australian Government financial assistance

- 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, Cessnock, Clarence Valley, Coffs Harbour, Glen Innes Severn, Hawkesbury, Kempsey, Lismore, 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 DRA has been activated in the local government areas of: Armidale, Ballina, Bellingen, Blue Mountains, Byron, Cessnock, Clarence Valley, Coffs Harbour, Glen Innes Severn, Gwydir, Hawkesbury, Kempsey, Inverell, Ku-ring-gai, Kyogle, Lake Macquarie, Lismore, Lithgow, Mid Coast, Nambucca, Narrabri, Oberon, Penrith, Port Macquarie-Hastings, Richmond Valley, Singleton, Sutherland, Tamworth, Tenterfield, Tweed, Uralla and Walcha.
- These Australian Government payments are administered by the Department of Human Services (DHS).
- Anyone who has been adversely affected by the bushfires in NSW should contact DHS on 180 22 66 and test their eligibility for assistance.

#### **Queensland**

- Disaster recovery assistance is being provided under the DRFA in response to the bushfires that have affected eastern Queensland.
- DRFA assistance is available in the local government areas of Bundaberg, Gold Coast, Livingstone, Lockyer Valley, Noosa, Scenic Rim and Toowoomba.
- A range of assistance is available, including:
  - support for people suffering personal hardship to help with their immediate emergency needs .

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- help for eligible people whose homes or belongings have been damaged,
- funding to cover counter disaster operations costs, including firefighting activities,
- Concessional interest rate loans for primary producers, and
- Freight Subsidies for primary producers.
- 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.

#### Australian Government financial assistance

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  - 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: Livingstone, Noosa and Toowoomba.
  - 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 DRA has been activated in the local government areas of: Bundaberg, Gold Coast, Livingstone, Lockyer Valley, Noosa, Scenic Rim, and Toowoomba.
- These Australian Government payments are administered by the Department of Human Services (DHS).
- Anyone who has been adversely affected by the bushfires in Queensland should contact DHS on 180 22 66 and test their eligibility for assistance.

Source: Disaster Recovery Branch, Emergency Management Australia

#### **Australian Government Actions**

- Emergency Management Australia is maintaining ongoing engagement with NSW and Qld.
- Australian Government Crisis Committee and National Crisis Committee meetings were held on **11 November 2019**.
- Commissioners and Chief Officers Strategic Committee meetings have been held on **11 November 2019** and **19 November 2019**.

#### **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.
- **One** overarching Request for Assistance (RFA) was for the Australian Defence Force to provide air transport for operational firefighters and support staff as a contingency measure. Under this request there have been **13** sub-taskings:
  - Task Request #001A – **8 November 2019**: ADF to provide urgent air movement of interstate Strike Teams from Canberra to Port Macquarie.
  - Task Request #001B – **8 November 2019**: ADF to provide urgent air movement of interstate Strike Teams from South Australia to Port Macquarie.
  - Task Request #001C – **9 November 2019**: ADF to provide urgent air movement of interstate Strike Teams from Tasmania to Port Macquarie.

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- Task Request #001D – **11 November 2019**: ADF to provide urgent air movement of interstate Strike Teams from Victoria to Armidale.
- Task Request #001E – **13 November 2019**: ADF to provide air movement of interstate Strike Teams from Victoria to Sydney.
- Task Request #001F – **14 November 2019**: ADF to provide air movement of interstate Strike Teams from Sydney to Victoria.
- Task Request #001G – **16 November 2019**: ADF to provide air movement of interstate Strike Teams from Melbourne to Coffs Harbour.
- Task Request #001H – **16 November 2019**: ADF to provide air movement of interstate Strike Teams from Coffs Harbour to Melbourne.
- Task Request #001I – **16 November 2019**: ADF to provide air movement of interstate Strike Teams from RAAF Richmond to Melbourne.
- Task Request #001J – **17 November 2019**: ADF to provide air movement of interstate Strike Teams from Melbourne to RAAF Richmond.
- Task Request #001K – **18 November 2019**: ADF to provide air movement of interstate Strike Teams from Melbourne to Coffs Harbour.
- Task Request #001L – **18 November 2019**: ADF to provide air movement of interstate Strike Teams from Coffs Harbour to Melbourne.
- Task Request #001M – **19 November 2019**: ADF to provide air movement of interstate Strike Teams from Coffs Harbour to Melbourne.
- Task Request #002 – **11 November 2019**: Provision of accommodation, food and appliance parking at Singleton Army Base for up to **149** personnel.
- Task Request #003 – **12 November 2019, 13 November 2019**: Provide airframes for night fly and map fire progression and other intelligence tasking for current fires: provide airframes for firefighter movements, search and rescue operations and civilian movements; provide Air Liaison Officer to NSW Rural Fire Services State Operation Centre.
- Task Request #004 – **13 November 2019**: Activation of International Charter for Space and National Disasters in order to provide High Resolution Satellite Imagery to NSW Rural Fire Service.
- Task Request #005 – **13 November 2019**: ADF to provide accommodation, meals, parking and maintenance areas for interstate firefighting personnel at Richmond RAAF Base.
- Task Request #006 – **16 November 2019**: ADF to provide provision of catering support to the Northern Region for **250** firefighters.
- Task Request #007 – **17 November 2019** (extension to Task Request #005): ADF to provide accommodation, meals, parking and maintenance areas for interstate firefighting personnel at Richmond RAAF Base.
- An EMA LO has been deployed to the NSW RFS State Operations Centre.
- An EMA Disaster Recovery LO was deployed to the NSW Office of Emergency Management.

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**Queensland**

- On **11 November 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 Qld.
- Task Request #001 – **11 November 2019**: ADF to provide 30 personnel with equipment to clear overgrown fire breaks in Beechmont.
- Task Request #002 – **13 November 2019**: ADF to provide airframes to undertake night flights to map fire grounds with geotagged output.
- Task Request #003 – **22 November 2019**: Provision of support to maintain an Incident Command Centre at Borneo Barracks.
- *An EMA LO was deployed to the Qld State Disaster Coordination 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 **24 November 2019**.*

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

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## Australian Government

### Crisis Coordination Centre

#### Incident Brief

As of 1830 hrs (AEDT), 24 November 2019

#### New South Wales and Queensland bushfires – Version 31

*New information in Italics*

#### Key Issues

- **New South Wales:**
  - There are currently **64** active fires burning across the state.
  - A bushfire at Myall Creek Road, Bora Ridge, is currently burning at WATCH AND ACT, all other fires across the state are burning at the ADVICE level or below.
  - The total area burnt across NSW for this event now exceeds **1,464,661** hectares since **Thursday 7 November**.
  - **Four** fatalities have been confirmed.
  - More than **30** people have been injured, including approximately **20** firefighters.
  - Since **Friday 8 November** a total of **554** houses, **37** facilities and an additional **1076** outbuildings have been confirmed destroyed.
  - During the 2019/2020 bushfire season so far, a total of **649** houses, **56** facilities and an additional **1345** outbuildings have been confirmed destroyed.
  - **Two** Evacuation Centres remain activated to support fire affected communities.
  - An EMA LO has been deployed to the NSW RFS State Operations Centre.
- **Queensland:**
  - There are currently **59** active fires across the state.
  - A bushfire at Bilwon Road, Bibbohra, is currently burning at WATCH AND ACT, all other fires across the state are burning at the ADVICE level or below.
  - The total area burnt across Qld for this event since **Monday 9 September** exceeds **183,587** hectares.
  - **56** firefighters have been injured.
  - **20** houses and **44** outbuildings are confirmed destroyed.
  - All evacuation Centres are now closed.

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

There are currently **64** active fires burning across the state.

- A bushfire at Myall Creek Road, Bora Ridge, is currently burning at WATCH AND ACT, all other fires across the state are burning at the ADVICE level or below.
- Since **Friday 8 November** a total of **554** houses, **37** facilities and an additional **1076** outbuildings have been confirmed destroyed.
- During the 2019/2020 bushfire season so far, a total of **649** houses, **56** facilities and an additional **1345** outbuildings have been confirmed destroyed.
- The total area burnt across NSW for this event now exceeds **1,464,661** hectares.
- More than **30** people have been injured, including approximately **20** firefighters.
- **95** aircraft are currently deployed or on standby for tasking.
- **393** vehicles are on scene at fires across the state.
- **1089** firefighters are currently deployed (excluding interstate assistance).
- **830** interstate and international firefighters (including assisting personnel) are currently deployed from ACT, SA, Tas., Vic., WA, and New Zealand.
  - Liaison officers from the United States and Canada are scoping potential support to RFS.
- **Four** fatalities have been confirmed.

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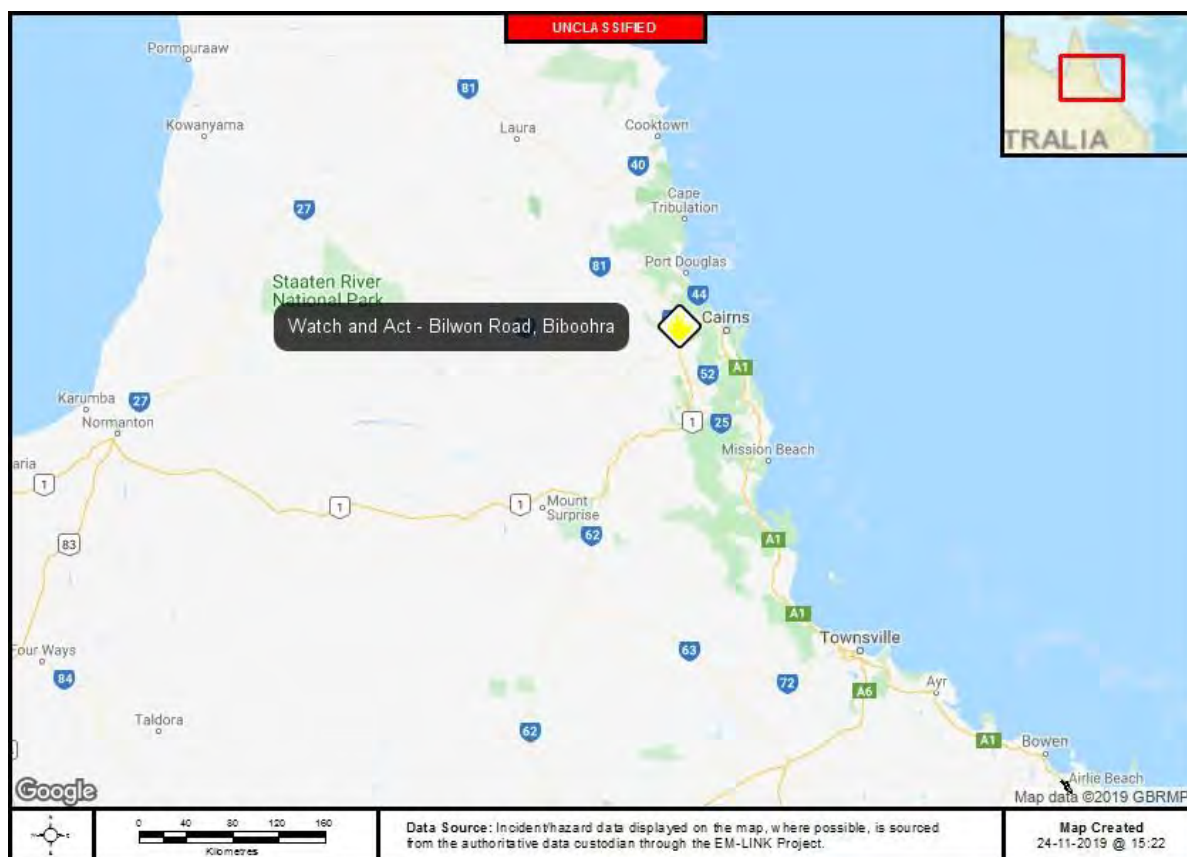
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- The rail line west of Summerland Way at Camira is closed due to the Myall Creek Road fire. The train services have been replaced with buses.
- Telstra has advised that telecommunications infrastructure has been impacted by the fires.
  - **45** fixed line telephony customers located at Killabakh are unable to make and/or receive voice calls, due to a damaged main copper cable approximately 3 km from Killabakh.
  - *Due to the extensive fire damage at the Killabakh Exchange, a Mobile Exchange on Wheels (MEoW) was deployed and technicians configured and connected the fixed line telephony and ADSL services to operate via the MEoW.*
  - Telstra has issued a disaster relief package to affected customers in both NSW and Qld.
- *Approximately **660** power poles have been damaged during these fires, with approximately **450** customers affected by outages.*
- **Two** Evacuation Centres remain open at:
  - Kempsey Showground
  - Maclean Showground
- **Seven** public schools remain closed for **25 November 2019** due to bushfire related conditions.

Source: EMA LO sitrep, NSW SEOC Situational Report – Significant Fires – Saturday 23 November 2019, NSW RFS Operations Overview 1400 hrs 24 November, [NSW RFS](#), [NSWPol](#), [NSW Education Department](#)

## Queensland



- There are currently **59** active fires across the state.

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- A bushfire at Bilwon Road, Bibbohra, is currently burning at WATCH AND ACT, all other fires across the state are burning at the ADVICE level or below.
- The total area burnt across Qld for this event since **Monday 9 September** exceeds **183,587** hectares.
- **22 aircraft** are currently available to conduct air observations and water bombing.
- **More than 152 appliances** are on scene at fires across the state.
- More than **3,600** firefighters have been on the frontline since **Friday 8 November**.
- **196 interstate and international firefighters (including assisting personnel)** are currently deployed from NT, Tas., Vic., WA and New Zealand.
  - Liaison officers from the United States and Canada are scoping potential support to RFS.
- **56 firefighters** have been injured.
- **20** houses and **44** outbuildings are confirmed destroyed.
- A hoop pine plantation has been significantly impacted by the Pechey bushfire resulting in more than **\$2.8 million** of damage. There has also been significant impacts to pineapple, banana and mango plantations due to the bushfire in Cobraball.
- The economic loss for agriculture and infrastructure as a result of the Cobraball fire is initially estimated at **\$18 million**.
- Brisbane to Sydney XPT train service departing from Brisbane has been cancelled due to NSW bushfires, rail and road closures.
- Bushfire activity has resulted in multiple road closures and changes to speed limits for the following roads:
  - Cunningham Highway, Mt Lindesay Highway and Esk Hampton Road in the State's southeast are closed until further notice.
- All evacuation Centres are now closed.
- Department of Housing and Public Works staff were at Recovery Hubs in Noosaville, Boonah cultural Centre and Yeppoon to assist renters and owners with housing options.
- The Queensland Building and Construction Commission has activated its Bushfire Rebuild Register available for homeowners and insurers to find local licenced tradespeople to repair damage, reconnect power or remove asbestos.
- The State Disaster Coordination Centre is operating at ALERT status.

Source: Qld SDCC State Update – Saturday 23 November, [QFES](#)

### Weather Forecast

*No significant widespread rainfall is forecast over northeast NSW or southeast Queensland for the next 7 days. Large scale dangerous fire weather conditions have eased for the short term, however, localised thunderstorm activity will impact ongoing fires through NSW over the next three days.*

### Monday 25 November

- *HIGH to VERY HIGH fire danger will continue across northeast NSW and southeast Qld.*

### Tuesday 26 November

- *Elevated fire dangers are likely over NSW and Qld as a cold front moves across southeast Australia during the day. Hot conditions and northerly winds are expected ahead of the front through NSW and southern Qld.*

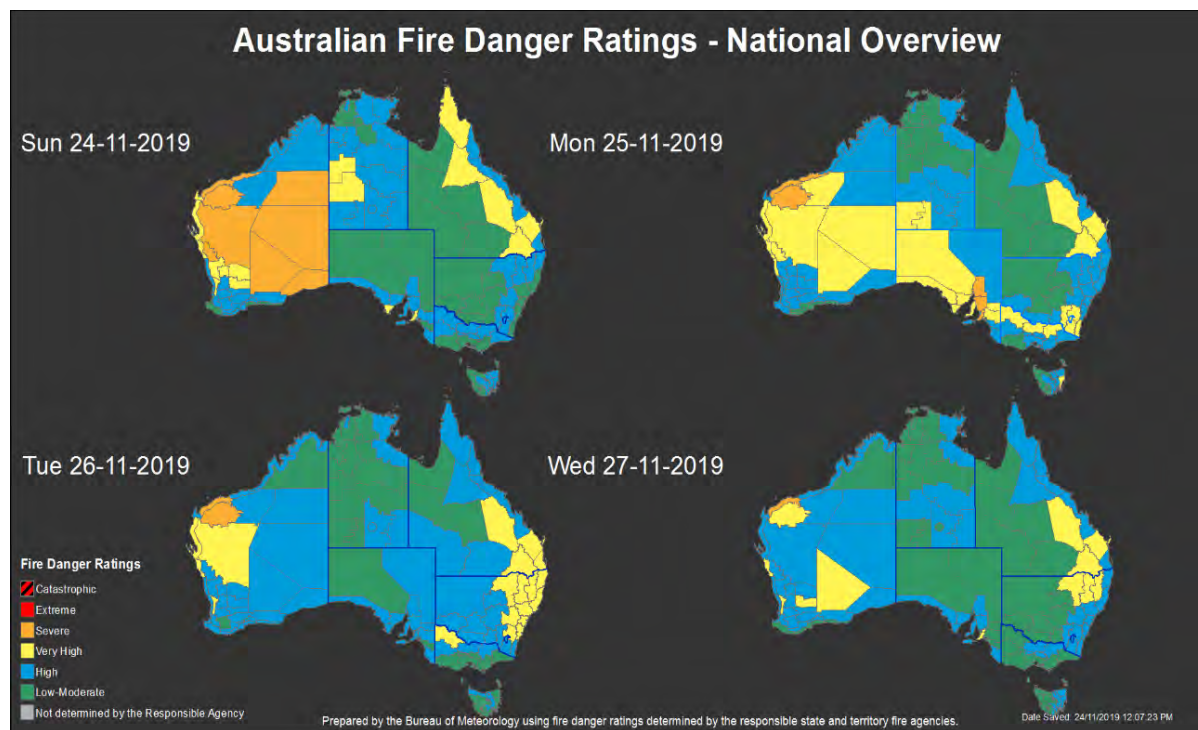
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**Wednesday 27 November**

- *VERY HIGH fire danger will continue across northeast NSW and southeast Qld.*



Source: BOM Critical Event Brief 2019/30 – Update 18, [Bureau of Meteorology](#)

## Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements

### New South Wales

#### Joint funded Commonwealth-State Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DRFA)

- Disaster recovery assistance is being provided under the DRFA in response to the bushfires that have affected the NSW.
- DRFA assistance is available in the local government areas of Armidale, Ballina, Bellingen, Blue Mountains, Byron, Cessnock, Clarence Valley, Coffs Harbour, Glen Innes Severn, Gwydir, Hawkesbury, Inverell, Kempsey, Ku-ring-gai, Kyogle, Lake Macquarie, Lismore, Lithgow, Mid-Coast, Nambucca, Narrabri, Oberon, Penrith, Port Macquarie-Hastings, Richmond Valley, Singleton, Sutherland, Tamworth, Tenterfield, Tweed, 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 cover counter disaster operations costs, including firefighting activities.
  - 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.
  - recovery grants of up to \$15,000 for primary producers and small businesses
  - freight subsidies for primary producers.
  - grants to eligible non-profit organisations.
  - a \$18.25 million Community Recovery Fund.

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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.

#### Australian Government financial assistance

- 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, Cessnock, Clarence Valley, Coffs Harbour, Glen Innes Severn, Hawkesbury, Kempsey, Lismore, 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 DRA has been activated in the local government areas of: Armidale, Ballina, Bellingen, Blue Mountains, Byron, Cessnock, Clarence Valley, Coffs Harbour, Glen Innes Severn, Gwydir, Hawkesbury, Kempsey, Inverell, Ku-ring-gai, Kyogle, Lake Macquarie, Lismore, Lithgow, Mid Coast, Nambucca, Narrabri, Oberon, Penrith, Port Macquarie-Hastings, Richmond Valley, Singleton, Sutherland, Tamworth, Tenterfield, Tweed, Uralla and Walcha.
- These Australian Government payments are administered by the Department of Human Services (DHS).
- Anyone who has been adversely affected by the bushfires in NSW should contact DHS on 180 22 66 and test their eligibility for assistance.

#### **Queensland**

- Disaster recovery assistance is being provided under the DRFA in response to the bushfires that have affected eastern Queensland.
- DRFA assistance is available in the local government areas of Bundaberg, Gold Coast, Livingstone, Lockyer Valley, Noosa, Scenic Rim and Toowoomba.
- 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 cover counter disaster operations costs, including firefighting activities,
  - Concessional interest rate loans for primary producers, and
  - Freight Subsidies for primary producers.
- 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.

#### Australian Government financial assistance

- 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.

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- 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: Livingstone, Noosa and Toowoomba.
- 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 DRA has been activated in the local government areas of: Bundaberg, Gold Coast, Livingstone, Lockyer Valley, Noosa, Scenic Rim, and Toowoomba.
- These Australian Government payments are administered by the Department of Human Services (DHS).
- Anyone who has been adversely affected by the bushfires in Queensland should contact DHS on 180 22 66 and test their eligibility for assistance.

Source: Disaster Recovery Branch, Emergency Management Australia

### Australian Government Actions

- Emergency Management Australia is maintaining ongoing engagement with NSW and Qld.
- Australian Government Crisis Committee and National Crisis Committee meetings were held on **11 November 2019**.
- Commissioners and Chief Officers Strategic Committee meetings have been held on **11 November 2019** and **19 November 2019**.

### 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.
- **One** overarching Request for Assistance (RFA) was for the Australian Defence Force to provide air transport for operational firefighters and support staff as a contingency measure. Under this request there have been **13** sub-taskings:
  - Task Request #001A – **8 November 2019**: ADF to provide urgent air movement of interstate Strike Teams from Canberra to Port Macquarie.
  - Task Request #001B – **8 November 2019**: ADF to provide urgent air movement of interstate Strike Teams from South Australia to Port Macquarie.
  - Task Request #001C – **9 November 2019**: ADF to provide urgent air movement of interstate Strike Teams from Tasmania to Port Macquarie.
  - Task Request #001D – **11 November 2019**: ADF to provide urgent air movement of interstate Strike Teams from Victoria to Armidale.
  - Task Request #001E – **13 November 2019**: ADF to provide air movement of interstate Strike Teams from Victoria to Sydney.
  - Task Request #001F – **14 November 2019**: ADF to provide air movement of interstate Strike Teams from Sydney to Victoria.
  - Task Request #001G – **16 November 2019**: ADF to provide air movement of interstate Strike Teams from Melbourne to Coffs Harbour.
  - Task Request #001H – **16 November 2019**: ADF to provide air movement of interstate Strike Teams from Coffs Harbour to Melbourne.
  - Task Request #001I – **16 November 2019**: ADF to provide air movement of interstate Strike Teams from RAAF Richmond to Melbourne.

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- Task Request #001J – **17 November 2019**: ADF to provide air movement of interstate Strike Teams from Melbourne to RAAF Richmond.
- Task Request #001K – **18 November 2019**: ADF to provide air movement of interstate Strike Teams from Melbourne to Coffs Harbour.
- Task Request #001L – **18 November 2019**: ADF to provide air movement of interstate Strike Teams from Coffs Harbour to Melbourne.
- Task Request #001M – **19 November 2019**: ADF to provide air movement of interstate Strike Teams from Coffs Harbour to Melbourne.
- Task Request #002 – **11 November 2019**: Provision of accommodation, food and appliance parking at Singleton Army Base for up to **149** personnel.
- Task Request #003 – **12 November 2019, 13 November 2019**: Provide airframes for night fly and map fire progression and other intelligence tasking for current fires: provide airframes for firefighter movements, search and rescue operations and civilian movements; provide Air Liaison Officer to NSW Rural Fire Services State Operation Centre.
- Task Request #004 – **13 November 2019**: Activation of International Charter for Space and National Disasters in order to provide High Resolution Satellite Imagery to NSW Rural Fire Service.
- Task Request #005 – **13 November 2019**: ADF to provide accommodation, meals, parking and maintenance areas for interstate firefighting personnel at Richmond RAAF Base.
- Task Request #006 – **16 November 2019**: ADF to provide provision of catering support to the Northern Region for **250** firefighters.
- Task Request #007 – **17 November 2019** (extension to Task Request #005): ADF to provide accommodation, meals, parking and maintenance areas for interstate firefighting personnel at Richmond RAAF Base.
- *Task Request #008 – **24 November 2019**: ADF to provide crews and vehicles to support logistics and transport arrangements in several locations across NSW.*
- An EMA LO has been deployed to the NSW RFS State Operations Centre.
- An EMA Disaster Recovery LO was deployed to the NSW Office of Emergency Management.

#### Queensland

- On **11 November 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 Qld.
- Task Request #001 – **11 November 2019**: ADF to provide **30** personnel with equipment to clear overgrown fire breaks in Beechmont.
- Task Request #002 – **13 November 2019**: ADF to provide airframes to undertake night flights to map fire grounds with geotagged output.
- Task Request #003 – **22 November 2019**: Provision of support to maintain an Incident Command Centre at Borneo Barracks.

Source: CCC Operations and CCC Planning, Emergency Management Australia

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under the Freedom of Information Act 1982

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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 1830 hrs 25 November 2019.*

|  |                 |
|--|-----------------|
| 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.<br>For enquiries please contact the CCC on s. 22(1)(a)(ii) <a href="mailto:s.22(1)(a)(ii)@homeaffairs.gov.au">@homeaffairs.gov.au</a> |                 |

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## Australian Government

### Crisis Coordination Centre

#### Incident Brief

As of 1830 hrs (AEDT), 25 November 2019

#### New South Wales and Queensland bushfires – Version 32

*New information in Italics*

#### Key Issues

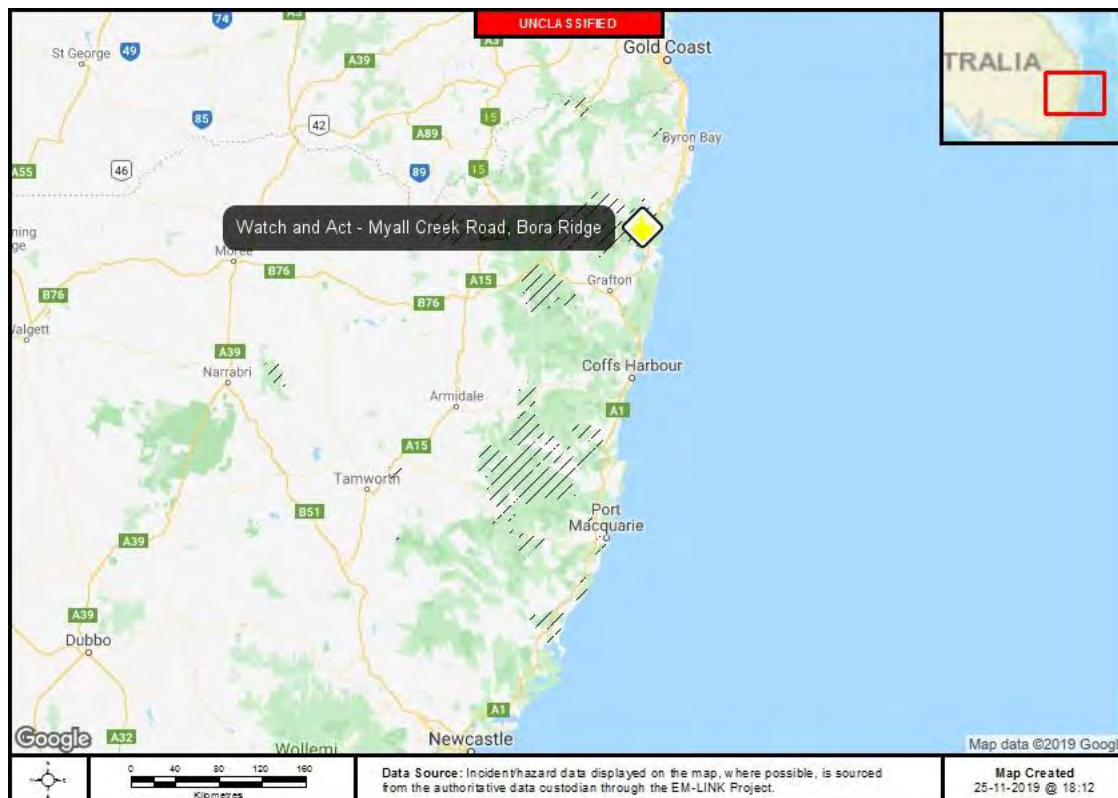
- **New South Wales:**
  - *There are currently **72** active fires burning across the state.*
  - ***One** WATCH AND ACT is current for a bushfire burning in the vicinity of Myall Creek Road, Bora Ridge.*
  - All other fires across the state are burning at the ADVICE level or below.
  - *The total area burnt across NSW for this event now exceeds **1,487,324** hectares since **Thursday 7 November**.*
  - **Four** fatalities have been confirmed.
  - More than **30** people have been injured, including approximately **20** firefighters.
  - *Since **Friday 8 November** a total of **562** houses, **37** facilities and an additional **1085** outbuildings have been confirmed destroyed.*
  - *During the 2019/2020 bushfire season so far, a total of **671** houses, **59** facilities and **1382** outbuildings have been confirmed destroyed.*
  - **Two** Evacuation Centres remain activated to support fire affected communities.
  - An EMA LO has been deployed to the NSW RFS State Operations Centre.
- **Queensland:**
  - *There are currently **60** active fires across the state.*
  - All fires across the state are burning at the ADVICE level or below.
  - The total area burnt across Qld for this event since **Monday 9 September** exceeds **183,587** hectares.
  - **56** firefighters have been injured.
  - **20** houses and **44** outbuildings are confirmed destroyed.
  - All Evacuation Centres are now closed.

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

- There are currently **72** active fires burning across the state.
  - **One** WATCH AND ACT is current for a bushfire burning in the vicinity of Myall Creek Road, Bora Ridge.
  - All other fires across the state are burning at the ADVICE level or below.
- Since **Friday 8 November** a total of **562** houses, **37** facilities and **1085** outbuildings have been confirmed destroyed.
- During the 2019/2020 bushfire season so far, a total of **671** houses, **59** facilities and additional **1382** outbuildings have been confirmed destroyed.
- The total area burnt across NSW for this event now exceeds **1,487,324** hectares.
- More than **30** people have been injured, including approximately **20** firefighters.
- **95** aircraft are currently deployed or on standby for tasking.
- **447** vehicles are on scene at fires across the state.
- **1178** firefighters are currently deployed (excluding interstate assistance).
- **470** interstate and international firefighters (including assisting personnel) are currently deployed from ACT, SA, Tas., Vic., WA, and New Zealand.
- **Four** fatalities have been confirmed.
- The rail line west of Summerland Way at Camira is closed due to the Myall Creek Road fire. The train services have been replaced with buses.

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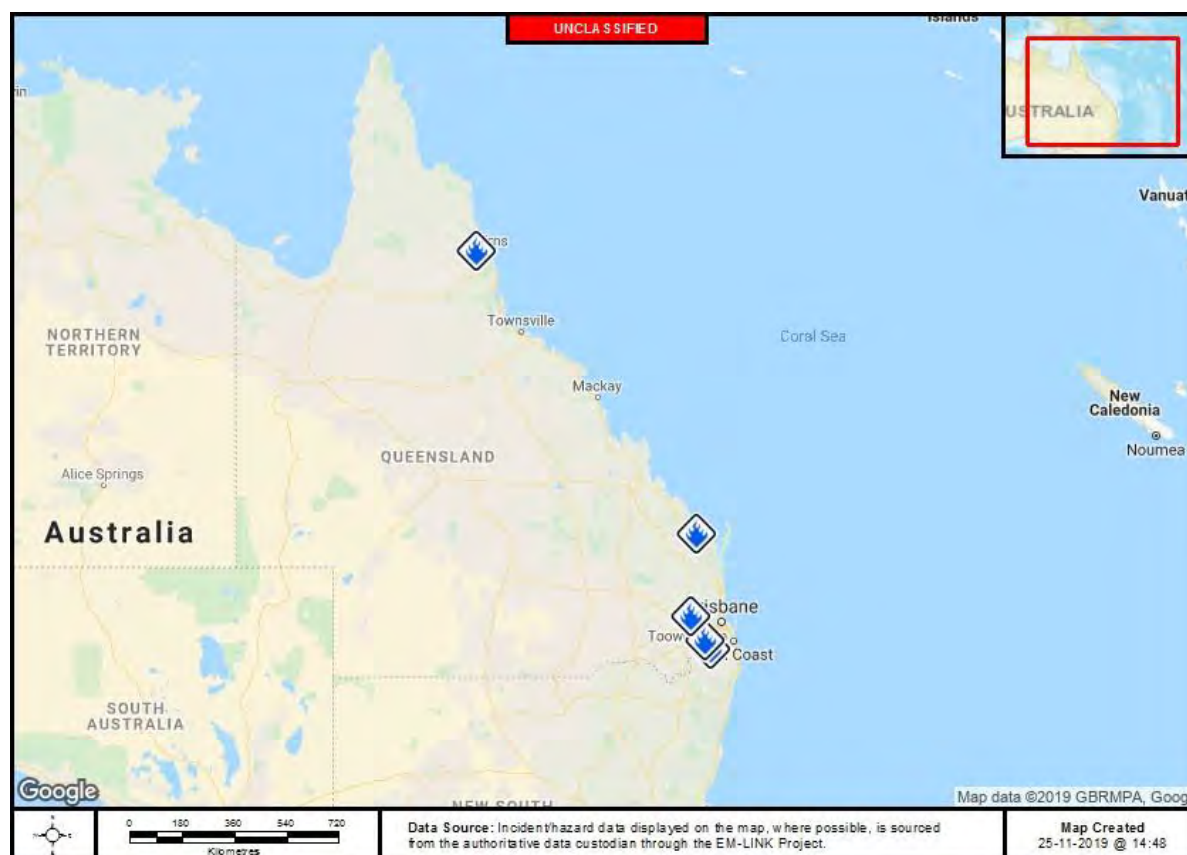
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- *Telstra has advised that all services are restored.*
  - Telstra has issued a disaster relief package to affected customers in both NSW and Qld.
- Approximately **660** power poles have been damaged during these fires, with approximately **450** customers affected by outages.
- **Two** Evacuation Centres remain open at:
  - Kempsey Showground
  - Maclean Showground
- **Seven** public schools remain closed for **25 November 2019** due to bushfire related conditions.
- There are **four** Disaster Welfare Assistance Points operating at the following locations:
  - Glen Innes
  - Taree
  - Kempsey
  - Grafton
- *The Disaster Welfare Assistance Line remains open seven days a week between 0830hrs and 1630hrs daily, and has received approximately 836 calls since the commencement of this event.*

Source: EMA LO sitrep, NSW SEOC Situational Report – Significant Fires – Saturday 25 November 2019, NSW RFS Operations Overview 1400 hrs 25 November, [NSW RFS](#), [NSWPol](#), [NSW Education Department](#)

## Queensland



- *There are currently **60** active fires across the state.*

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- All fires across the state are burning at the ADVICE level or below.
- The total area burnt across Qld for this event since **Monday 9 September** exceeds **183,587** hectares.
- **22** aircraft are currently available to conduct air observations and water bombing.
- More than **152** appliances are on scene at fires across the state.
- More than **3,600** firefighters have been on the frontline since **Friday 8 November**.
- **149 interstate and international firefighters (including assisting personnel)** are currently deployed from NT, Tas., Vic., WA and New Zealand.
  - Liaison officers from the United States and Canada are scoping potential support to RFS.
- **56** firefighters have been injured.
- **20** houses and **44** outbuildings are confirmed destroyed.
- A hoop pine plantation has been significantly impacted by the Pechey bushfire resulting in more than **\$2.8 million** of damage. There has also been significant impacts to pineapple, banana and mango plantations due to the bushfire in Cobraball.
- The economic loss for agriculture and infrastructure as a result of the Cobraball fire is initially estimated at **\$18 million**.
- Brisbane to Sydney XPT train service departing from Brisbane has been cancelled due to NSW bushfires, rail and road closures.
- Bushfire activity has resulted in multiple road closures and changes to speed limits for the following roads:
  - Parts of the Cunningham Highway and Mt Lindesay Highway remain closed to all traffic.
- All Evacuation Centres are now closed.
- Department of Housing and Public Works staff were at Recovery Hubs in Noosaville, Boonah cultural Centre and Yeppoon to assist renters and owners with housing options.
- The Queensland Building and Construction Commission has activated its Bushfire Rebuild Register available for homeowners and insurers to find local licenced tradespeople to repair damage, reconnect power or remove asbestos.
- The State Disaster Coordination Centre is operating at STAND DOWN status.

Source: Qld SDCC State Update – Saturday 23 November, [QFES](#)

### Weather Forecast

No significant widespread rainfall is forecast over northeast NSW or southeast Queensland for the next 7 days. Large scale dangerous fire weather conditions have eased for the short term, however, localised thunderstorm activity will impact ongoing fires through NSW over the next three days.

### Monday 25 November

- For the rest of today, HIGH to VERY HIGH fire danger will continue across northeast NSW and southeast Qld.

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under the Freedom of Information Act 1982

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**Tuesday 26 November**

- Elevated fire dangers are likely over NSW and Qld as a cold front moves across southeast Australia during the day. Hot conditions and northerly winds are expected ahead of the front through NSW and southern Qld.

**Wednesday 27 November**

- VERY HIGH fire danger will continue across northeast NSW and southeast Qld.

Source: BOM Critical Event Brief 2019/30 – Update 18, [Bureau of Meteorology](#)

**Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements****Australian Government Recovery Assistance****NSW bushfires****Jointly funded Commonwealth-State Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DRFA)**

- Disaster recovery assistance is being provided under the DRFA in response to the bushfires that have affected NSW.
- DRFA assistance is available in the thirty two (32) local government areas of: Armidale, Ballina, Bellingen, Blue Mountains, Byron, Cessnock, Clarence Valley, Coffs Harbour, Glen Innes Severn, Gwydir, Hawkesbury, Inverell, Kempsey, Ku-ring-gai, Kyogle, Lake Macquarie, Lismore, Lithgow, Mid-Coast, Nambucca, Narrabri, Oberon, Penrith, Port Macquarie-Hastings, Richmond Valley, Singleton, Sutherland, Tamworth, Tenterfield, Tweed, 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 cover counter disaster operations costs, including firefighting activities
  - 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
  - recovery grants of up to **\$15,000** for primary producers and small businesses
  - freight subsidies for primary producers,
  - grants to eligible non-profit organisations, and
  - a **\$18.25** million Community Recovery Fund.
- 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.

**Australian Government financial assistance**

- 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, 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 fourteen (14) local government areas of: Armidale, Cessnock, Clarence Valley, Coffs Harbour, Glen Innes Severn,

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- Hawkesbury, Kempsey, Lismore, 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 DRA has been activated in the thirty two (32) local government areas of: Armidale, Ballina, Bellingen, Blue Mountains, Byron, Cessnock, Clarence Valley, Coffs Harbour, Glen Innes Severn, Gwydir, Hawkesbury, Kempsey, Inverell, Ku-ring-gai, Kyogle, Lake Macquarie, Lismore, Lithgow, Mid Coast, Nambucca, Narrabri, Oberon, Penrith, Port Macquarie-Hastings, Richmond Valley, Singleton, Sutherland, Tamworth, Tenterfield, Tweed, Uralla and Walcha.
- These Australian Government payments are administered by the Department of Human Services (DHS).
- 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

- Disaster recovery assistance is being provided under the DRFA in response to the bushfires that have affected eastern Queensland.
- DRFA assistance is available in the nine (9) local government areas of Bundaberg, Gold Coast, Livingstone, Lockyer Valley, Noosa, Scenic Rim, Somerset, Southern Down and Toowoomba.
- 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 cover counter disaster operations costs, including firefighting activities,
  - support for affected local councils to help with the costs of cleaning up and restoring damaged essential public assets
  - concessional interest rate loans for primary producers, and
  - freight subsidies for primary producers.
- 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.

### Australian Government financial assistance

- 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, 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 four (4) local government areas of: Livingstone, Noosa, Somerset and Toowoomba.
  - 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 DRA has been activated in the nine (9) local government areas of: Bundaberg, Gold Coast, Livingstone, Lockyer Valley, Noosa, Scenic Rim, Somerset, Southern Downs and Toowoomba.

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- These Australian Government payments are administered by the Department of Human Services (DHS).
- Anyone who has been adversely affected by the bushfires in Queensland should contact DHS on 180 22 66 and test their eligibility for the payment.

Source: Disaster Recovery Branch, Emergency Management Australia

### Australian Government Actions

- Emergency Management Australia is maintaining ongoing engagement with NSW and Qld.
- Australian Government Crisis Committee and National Crisis Committee meetings were held on **11 November 2019**.
- Commissioners and Chief Officers Strategic Committee meetings have been held on **9 November 2019**, **11 November 2019** and **19 November 2019**.

### 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.
- **One** overarching Request for Assistance (RFA) was for the Australian Defence Force to provide air transport for operational firefighters and support staff as a contingency measure. Under this request there have been **13** sub-taskings:
  - Task Request #001A – **8 November 2019**: ADF to provide urgent air movement of interstate Strike Teams from Canberra to Port Macquarie.
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  - Task Request #001D – **11 November 2019**: ADF to provide urgent air movement of interstate Strike Teams from Victoria to Armidale.
  - Task Request #001E – **13 November 2019**: ADF to provide air movement of interstate Strike Teams from Victoria to Sydney.
  - Task Request #001F – **14 November 2019**: ADF to provide air movement of interstate Strike Teams from Sydney to Victoria.
  - Task Request #001G – **16 November 2019**: ADF to provide air movement of interstate Strike Teams from Melbourne to Coffs Harbour.
  - Task Request #001H – **16 November 2019**: ADF to provide air movement of interstate Strike Teams from Coffs Harbour to Melbourne.
  - Task Request #001I – **16 November 2019**: ADF to provide air movement of interstate Strike Teams from RAAF Richmond to Melbourne.
  - Task Request #001J – **17 November 2019**: ADF to provide air movement of interstate Strike Teams from Melbourne to RAAF Richmond.
  - Task Request #001K – **18 November 2019**: ADF to provide air movement of interstate Strike Teams from Melbourne to Coffs Harbour.
  - Task Request #001L – **18 November 2019**: ADF to provide air movement of interstate Strike Teams from Coffs Harbour to Melbourne.
  - Task Request #001M – **19 November 2019**: ADF to provide air movement of interstate Strike Teams from Coffs Harbour to Melbourne.

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- Task Request #002 – **11 November 2019**: Provision of accommodation, food and appliance parking at Singleton Army Base.
- Task Request #003 – **12 November 2019, 13 November 2019**: Provide airframes for night fly and map fire progression and other intelligence tasking for current fires: provide airframes for firefighter movements, search and rescue operations and civilian movements; provide Air Liaison Officer to NSW Rural Fire Services State Operation Centre.
- Task Request #004 – **13 November 2019**: Activation of International Charter for Space and National Disasters in order to provide High Resolution Satellite Imagery to NSW Rural Fire Service.
- Task Request #005 – **13 November 2019**: ADF to provide accommodation, meals, parking and maintenance areas for interstate firefighting personnel at Richmond RAAF Base.
- Task Request #006 – **16 November 2019**: ADF to provide provision of catering support to the Northern Region for 250 firefighters.
- Task Request #007 – **17 November 2019** (extension to Task Request #005): ADF to provide accommodation, meals, parking and maintenance areas for interstate firefighting personnel at Richmond RAAF Base.
- Task Request #008 – **24 November 2019**: ADF to provide crews and vehicles to support logistics and transport arrangements in several locations across NSW.
- An EMA LO has been deployed to the NSW RFS State Operations Centre.
- An EMA Disaster Recovery LO was deployed to the NSW Office of Emergency Management.

**Queensland**

- On **11 November 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 Qld.
- Task Request #001 – **11 November 2019**: ADF to provide 30 personnel with equipment to clear overgrown fire breaks in Beechmont.
- Task Request #002 – **13 November 2019**: ADF to provide airframes to undertake night flights to map fire grounds with geotagged output.
- Task Request #003 – **22 November 2019**: Provision of support to maintain an Incident Command Centre at Borneo Barracks.

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 1800 hrs **26 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.<br/>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 1800 hrs (AEDT), 26 November 2019

#### New South Wales and Queensland bushfires – Version 33

*New information in Italics*

#### Key Issues

- **New South Wales:**
  - There are currently **122** active fires burning across the state.
  - **Two** EMERGENCY WARNINGS are current for bushfires burning in the vicinity of Myall Creek Road, Bora Ridge, and Ulan Road, Ulan.
  - **Three** WATCH AND ACTs are current for bushfires burning in the vicinity of Currowan, Carrai East, and Arkstone Road, Jeremy.
  - All other fires across the state are burning at the ADVICE level or below.
  - The total area burnt across NSW for this event now exceeds **1,500,915** hectares since **Thursday 7 November**.
  - **Four** fatalities have been confirmed.
  - More than **30** people have been injured, including approximately **20** firefighters.
  - Since **Friday 8 November** a total of **557** houses, **36** facilities and an additional **1097** outbuildings have been confirmed destroyed.
  - During the 2019/2020 bushfire season so far, a total of **666** houses, **58** facilities and additional **1394** outbuildings have been confirmed destroyed.
  - **Two** Evacuation Centres remain activated to support fire affected communities.
  - An EMA LO has been deployed to the NSW RFS State Operations Centre.
- **Queensland:**
  - There are currently **52** active fires across the state.
  - **One** WATCH AND ACT is current for a bushfire burning in the vicinity of Redbank, Brisbane.
  - All other fires across the state are burning at the ADVICE level or below.
  - The total area burnt across Qld for this event since **Monday 9 September** exceeds **190,444** hectares.
  - **58** firefighters have been injured.
  - **20** houses and **44** outbuildings are confirmed destroyed.

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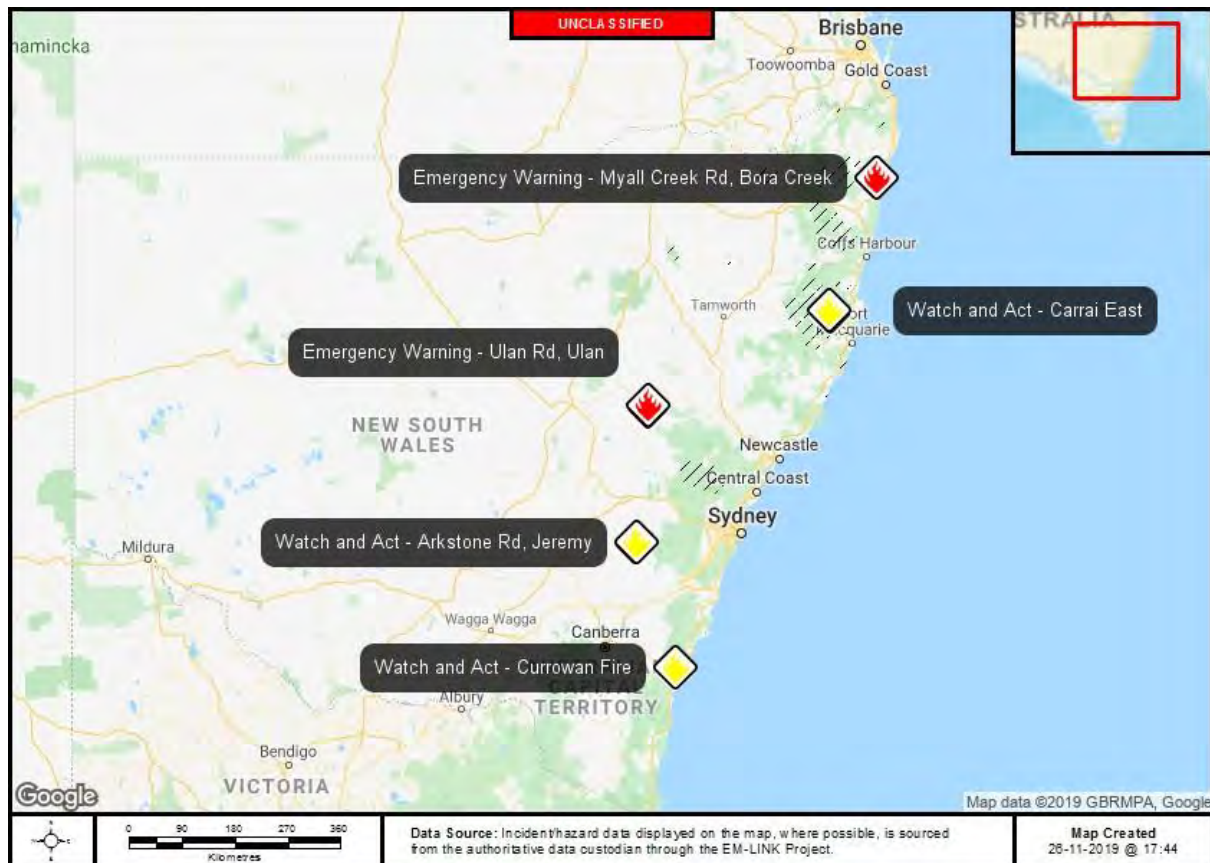
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- All Evacuation Centres are now closed.

## Situation Details

### New South Wales



- There are currently **122** active fires burning across the state.
- **Two** EMERGENCY WARNINGS are current for bushfires burning in the vicinity of Myall Creek Road, and Ulan Road.
- **Three** WATCH AND ACTs are current for bushfires burning in the vicinity of Currowan, Carrai East, and Arkstone Road, Jeremy.
- All other fires across the state are burning at the ADVICE level or below.
- Since **Friday 8 November** a total of **557** houses, **36** facilities and **1097** outbuildings have been confirmed destroyed.
- During the 2019/2020 bushfire season so far, a total of **666** houses, **58** facilities and additional **1394** outbuildings have been confirmed destroyed.
- The total area burnt across NSW for this event now exceeds **1,500,915** hectares since **Thursday 7 November**.
- More than **30** people have been injured, including approximately **20** firefighters.
- **95** aircraft are currently tasked or on standby for tasking.
- **599** vehicles are on scene at fires across the state.

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- **1639** firefighters are currently deployed (excluding interstate assistance).
- **627** interstate and international firefighters (including assisting personnel) are currently deployed from ACT, SA, Tas., Vic., WA, and New Zealand.
- **Four** fatalities have been confirmed.
- The rail line west of Summerland Way at Camira is closed due to the Myall Creek Road fire. The train services have been replaced with buses.
- Telstra has advised that all services are restored.
  - Telstra has issued a disaster relief package to affected customers in both NSW and Qld.
- Approximately **660** power poles have been damaged during these fires, with approximately **450** customers affected by outages.
- **Two** Evacuation Centres remain open at:
  - Kempsey Showground
  - Maclean Showground
- **Seven** public schools remain closed for **26 November 2019** due to bushfire related conditions.
- There are **four** Disaster Welfare Assistance Points operating at the following locations:
  - Glen Innes
  - Taree
  - Kempsey
  - Grafton
- The Disaster Welfare Assistance Line remains open seven days a week between 0830hrs and 1630hrs daily, and has received approximately **836** calls since the commencement of this event.

Source: EMA LO sitrep, NSW SEOC Situational Report – Significant Fires – Tuesday 26 November 2019, [NSW RFS](#), [NSWPol](#), [NSW Education Department](#)

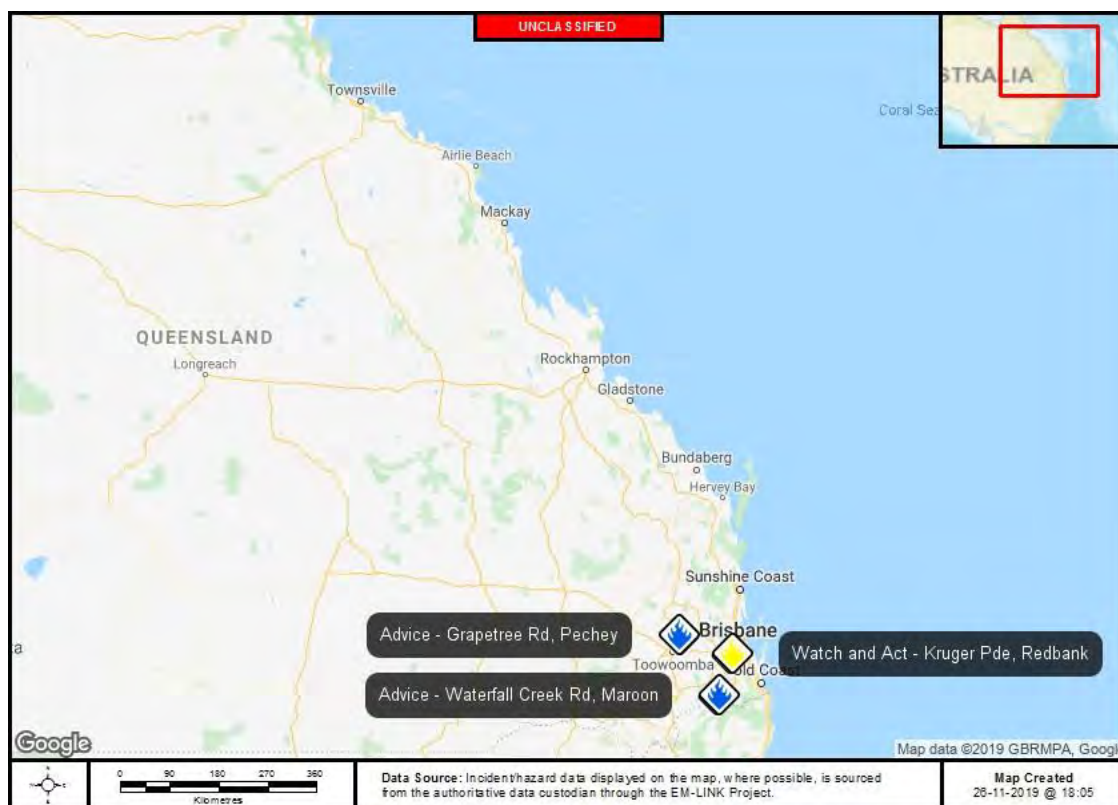
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under the Freedom of Information Act 1982

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**Queensland**

- There are currently **52** active fires across the state.
- **One WATCH AND ACT** is current for a bushfire burning in the vicinity of Redbank, Brisbane.
- All other fires across the state are burning at the **ADVICE** level or below.
- The total area burnt across Qld for this event since **Monday 9 September** exceeds **190,444** hectares.
- **17** aircraft are currently available to conduct air observations and water bombing.
- More than **152** appliances are on scene at fires across the state.
- More than **3,600** firefighters have been on the frontline since **Friday 8 November**.
- **165** interstate and international firefighters (including assisting personnel) are currently deployed from NT, Tas., Vic., WA and New Zealand.
  - Liaison officers from the United States and Canada are scoping potential support to RFS.
- **58** firefighters have been injured.
- **20** houses and **44** outbuildings are confirmed destroyed.
- A hoop pine plantation has been significantly impacted by the Pechey bushfire resulting in more than **\$2.8 million** of damage. There has also been significant impacts to pineapple, banana and mango plantations due to the bushfire in Cobraball.
- The economic loss for agriculture and infrastructure as a result of the Cobraball fire is initially estimated at **\$18 million**.
- Bushfire activity has resulted in multiple road closures and changes to speed limits for the following roads:
  - Parts of the Cunningham Highway and Mt Lindesay Highway remain closed to traffic.

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- All Evacuation Centres are now closed.
- Department of Housing and Public Works staff were at Recovery Hubs in Noosaville, Boonah cultural Centre and Yeppoon to assist renters and owners with housing options.
- The Queensland Building and Construction Commission has activated its Bushfire Rebuild Register available for homeowners and insurers to find local licenced tradespeople to repair damage, reconnect power or remove asbestos.
- The State Disaster Coordination Centre is operating at STAND DOWN status.

Source: Qld SDCC State Update – Thursday 21 November, [QFES](#), [QLD Dept. of Transport and Main Roads](#)

### Weather Forecast

No significant widespread rainfall is forecast over northeast NSW or southeast Queensland for the next 7 days. Large scale dangerous fire weather conditions have eased for the short term, however, localised thunderstorm activity will impact ongoing fires through NSW over the next three days.

### Tuesday 26 November

- For the rest of today, elevated fire dangers are likely over NSW and Qld as a cold front moves across southeast Australia during the day. Hot conditions and northerly winds are expected ahead of the front through NSW and southern Qld.

### Wednesday 27 November

- VERY HIGH fire danger will continue across northeast NSW and southeast Qld.

Source: BOM Critical Event Brief 2019/30 – Update 18, [Bureau of Meteorology](#)

### Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements

#### Australian Government Recovery Assistance

#### **NSW bushfires**

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

- Disaster recovery assistance is being provided under the DRFA in response to the bushfires that have affected NSW.
- DRFA assistance is available in the thirty two (32) local government areas of: Armidale, Ballina, Bellingen, Blue Mountains, Byron, Cessnock, Clarence Valley, Coffs Harbour, Glen Innes Severn, Gwydir, Hawkesbury, Inverell, Kempsey, Ku-ring-gai, Kyogle, Lake Macquarie, Lismore, Lithgow, Mid-Coast, Nambucca, Narrabri, Oberon, Penrith, Port Macquarie-Hastings, Richmond Valley, Singleton, Sutherland, Tamworth, Tenterfield, Tweed, 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 cover counter disaster operations costs, including firefighting activities
  - 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
  - recovery grants of up to **\$15,000** for primary producers and small businesses
  - freight subsidies for primary producers,
  - grants to eligible non-profit organisations, and
  - a **\$18.25** million Community Recovery Fund.
- This assistance is administered by the NSW Government.

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

#### Australian Government financial assistance

- 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, 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 fourteen (14) local government areas of: Armidale, Cessnock, Clarence Valley, Coffs Harbour, Glen Innes Severn, Hawkesbury, Kempsey, Lismore, 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 DRA has been activated in the thirty two (32) local government areas of: Armidale, Ballina, Bellingen, Blue Mountains, Byron, Cessnock, Clarence Valley, Coffs Harbour, Glen Innes Severn, Gwydir, Hawkesbury, Kempsey, Inverell, Ku-ring-gai, Kyogle, Lake Macquarie, Lismore, Lithgow, Mid Coast, Nambucca, Narrabri, Oberon, Penrith, Port Macquarie-Hastings, Richmond Valley, Singleton, Sutherland, Tamworth, Tenterfield, Tweed, Uralla and Walcha.
- These Australian Government payments are administered by the Department of Human Services (DHS).
- 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**

- Disaster recovery assistance is being provided under the DRFA in response to the bushfires that have affected eastern Queensland.
- DRFA assistance is available in the nine (9) local government areas of Bundaberg, Gold Coast, Livingstone, Lockyer Valley, Noosa, Scenic Rim, Somerset, Southern Down and Toowoomba.
- 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 cover counter disaster operations costs, including firefighting activities,
  - support for affected local councils to help with the costs of cleaning up and restoring damaged essential public assets
  - concessional interest rate loans for primary producers, and
  - freight subsidies for primary producers.
- 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.

#### Australian Government financial assistance

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

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- 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, 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 four (4) local government areas of: Livingstone, Noosa, Somerset and Toowoomba.
- 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 DRA has been activated in the nine (9) local government areas of: Bundaberg, Gold Coast, Livingstone, Lockyer Valley, Noosa, Scenic Rim, Somerset, Southern Downs and Toowoomba.
- These Australian Government payments are administered by the Department of Human Services (DHS).
- Anyone who has been adversely affected by the bushfires in Queensland should contact DHS on 180 22 66 and test their eligibility for the payment.

Source: Disaster Recovery Branch, Emergency Management Australia

### Australian Government Actions

- Emergency Management Australia is maintaining ongoing engagement with NSW and Qld.
- Australian Government Crisis Committee and National Crisis Committee meetings were held on **11 November 2019**.
- Commissioners and Chief Officers Strategic Committee meetings have been held on **9 November 2019**, **11 November 2019** and **19 November 2019**.

### 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.
- **One** overarching Request for Assistance (RFA) was for the Australian Defence Force to provide air transport for operational firefighters and support staff as a contingency measure. Under this request there have been **13** sub-taskings:
  - Task Request #001A – **8 November 2019**: ADF to provide urgent air movement of interstate Strike Teams from Canberra to Port Macquarie.
  - Task Request #001B – **8 November 2019**: ADF to provide urgent air movement of interstate Strike Teams from South Australia to Port Macquarie.
  - Task Request #001C – **9 November 2019**: ADF to provide urgent air movement of interstate Strike Teams from Tasmania to Port Macquarie.
  - Task Request #001D – **11 November 2019**: ADF to provide urgent air movement of interstate Strike Teams from Victoria to Armidale.
  - Task Request #001E – **13 November 2019**: ADF to provide air movement of interstate Strike Teams from Victoria to Sydney.
  - Task Request #001F – **14 November 2019**: ADF to provide air movement of interstate Strike Teams from Sydney to Victoria.
  - Task Request #001G – **16 November 2019**: ADF to provide air movement of interstate Strike Teams from Melbourne to Coffs Harbour.

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- Task Request #001H – **16 November 2019**: ADF to provide air movement of interstate Strike Teams from Coffs Harbour to Melbourne.
- Task Request #001I – **16 November 2019**: ADF to provide air movement of interstate Strike Teams from RAAF Richmond to Melbourne.
- Task Request #001J – **17 November 2019**: ADF to provide air movement of interstate Strike Teams from Melbourne to RAAF Richmond.
- Task Request #001K – **18 November 2019**: ADF to provide air movement of interstate Strike Teams from Melbourne to Coffs Harbour.
- Task Request #001L – **18 November 2019**: ADF to provide air movement of interstate Strike Teams from Coffs Harbour to Melbourne.
- Task Request #001M – **19 November 2019**: ADF to provide air movement of interstate Strike Teams from Coffs Harbour to Melbourne.
- Task Request #002 – **11 November 2019**: Provision of accommodation, food and appliance parking at Singleton Army Base.
- Task Request #003 – **12 November 2019, 13 November 2019**: Provide airframes for night fly and map fire progression and other intelligence tasking for current fires: provide airframes for firefighter movements, search and rescue operations and civilian movements; provide Air Liaison Officer to NSW Rural Fire Services State Operation Centre.
- Task Request #004 – **13 November 2019**: Activation of International Charter for Space and National Disasters in order to provide High Resolution Satellite Imagery to NSW Rural Fire Service.
- Task Request #005 – **13 November 2019**: ADF to provide accommodation, meals, parking and maintenance areas for interstate firefighting personnel at Richmond RAAF Base.
- Task Request #006 – **16 November 2019**: ADF to provide provision of catering support to the Northern Region for **250** firefighters.
- Task Request #007 – **17 November 2019** (extension to Task Request #005): ADF to provide accommodation, meals, parking and maintenance areas for interstate firefighting personnel at Richmond RAAF Base.
- Task Request #008 – **24 November 2019**: ADF to provide crews and vehicles to support logistics and transport arrangements in several locations across NSW.
- An EMA LO has been deployed to the NSW RFS State Operations Centre.
- An EMA Disaster Recovery LO was deployed to the NSW Office of Emergency Management.

**Queensland**

- On **11 November 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 Qld.
- Task Request #001 – **11 November 2019**: ADF to provide **30** personnel with equipment to clear overgrown fire breaks in Beechmont.
- Task Request #002 – **13 November 2019**: ADF to provide airframes to undertake night flights to map fire grounds with geotagged output.
- Task Request #003 – **22 November 2019**: Provision of support to maintain an Incident Command Centre at Borneo Barracks.

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 1800 hrs **27 November 2019**.

|  |                 |
|--|-----------------|
| 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.<br>For enquiries please contact the CCC on s. 22(1)(a)(ii) <a href="mailto:s.22(1)(a)(ii)@homeaffairs.gov.au">@homeaffairs.gov.au</a> |                 |

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## Australian Government

### Crisis Coordination Centre

#### Incident Brief

As of 1800 hrs (AEDT), 27 November 2019

#### New South Wales and Queensland bushfires – Version 34

*New information in Italics*

#### Key Issues

- **New South Wales:**
  - There are currently **151** active fires burning across the state.
  - ***One WATCH AND ACT** is current for a bushfire burning in the vicinity of Myall Creek Road, Bora Ridge.*
  - All other fires across the state are burning at the **ADVICE** level or below.
  - The total area burnt across NSW for this event now exceeds **1,500,000** hectares since **Thursday 7 November**.
  - **Four** fatalities have been confirmed.
  - More than **30** people have been injured, including approximately **20** firefighters.
  - *Since **Friday 8 November** a total of **559** houses, **36** facilities and an additional **1100** outbuildings have been confirmed destroyed.*
  - *During the 2019/2020 bushfire season so far, a total of **668** houses, **58** facilities and additional **1397** outbuildings have been confirmed destroyed.*
  - **Two** Evacuation Centres remain activated to support fire affected communities.
- **Queensland:**
  - There are currently **48** active fires across the state.
  - *All fires across the state are burning at the **ADVICE** level or below.*
  - The total area burnt across Qld for this event since **Monday 9 September** exceeds **190,000** hectares.
  - **60** firefighters have been injured.
  - **20** houses and **44** outbuildings are confirmed destroyed.
  - All Evacuation Centres are now closed.

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

- There are currently **151** active fires burning across the state.
- **One WATCH AND ACT** is current for a bushfire burning in the vicinity of Myall Creek Road, Bora Ridge.
- All other fires across the state are burning at the **ADVICE** level or below.
- Since **Friday 8 November** a total of **559** houses, **36** facilities and an additional **1100** outbuildings have been confirmed destroyed.
- During the 2019/2020 bushfire season so far, a total of **668** houses, **58** facilities and additional **1397** outbuildings have been confirmed destroyed.
- The total area burnt across NSW for this event now exceeds **1,500,000** hectares since **Thursday 7 November**.
- More than **30** people have been injured, including approximately **20** firefighters.
- **93** aircraft are currently tasked or on standby for tasking.
- **602** vehicles are on scene at fires across the state.
- **1548** firefighters are currently deployed (excluding interstate assistance).
- **537** interstate and international firefighters (including assisting personnel) are currently deployed from ACT, SA, Tas., Vic., WA, and New Zealand.

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- Four fatalities have been confirmed.
- The rail line west of Summerland Way at Camira is closed due to the Myall Creek Road fire. The train services have been replaced with buses.
- Telstra has advised that all services are restored.
  - Telstra has issued a disaster relief package to affected customers in both NSW and Qld.
- Approximately 660 power poles have been damaged during these fires, with approximately 450 customers affected by outages.
- Two Evacuation Centres remain open at:
  - Kempsey Showground
  - Maclean Showground
- *Nine public schools remain closed for 27 November 2019 due to bushfire related conditions.*
- *There are **six** Disaster Welfare Assistance Points operating at the following locations:*
  - Glen Innes
  - Taree
  - Kempsey
  - Grafton
  - *Willawarrin*
  - *Macksville*
- The Disaster Welfare Assistance Line remains open seven days a week between 0830hrs and 1630hrs daily, and has received approximately 836 calls since the commencement of this event.

Source: EMA LO sitrep, NSW SEOC Situational Report – Significant Fires – Wednesday 27 November 2019, [NSW RFS](#), [NSW Pol](#), [NSW Education Department](#)

## Queensland

- There are currently **48** active fires across the state.
- *All fires across the state are burning at the **ADVICE** level or below.*
- The total area burnt across Qld for this event since **Monday 9 September** exceeds **190,000** hectares.
- **18** aircraft are currently available to conduct air observations and water bombing.
- More than **152** appliances are on scene at fires across the state.
- More than **3,600** firefighters have been on the frontline since **Friday 8 November**.
- **143** interstate and international firefighters (including assisting personnel) are currently deployed from NT, Tas., Vic., WA and New Zealand.
- **60** firefighters have been injured.
- **20** houses and **44** outbuildings are confirmed destroyed.
- A hoop pine plantation has been significantly impacted by the Pechey bushfire resulting in more than **\$2.8 million** of damage. There has also been significant impacts to pineapple, banana and mango plantations due to the bushfire in Cobraball.
- The economic loss for agriculture and infrastructure as a result of the Cobraball fire is initially estimated at **\$18 million**.

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- Bushfire activity has resulted in multiple road closures and changes to speed limits for the following roads:
  - Parts of the Mt Lindesay Highway remain closed to traffic.
  - *The Cunningham Highway has reopened with reduced speed limits*
- All Evacuation Centres are now closed.
- Department of Housing and Public Works staff were at Recovery Hubs in Noosaville, Boonah cultural Centre and Yeppoon to assist renters and owners with housing options.
- The Queensland Building and Construction Commission has activated its Bushfire Rebuild Register available for homeowners and insurers to find local licenced tradespeople to repair damage, reconnect power or remove asbestos.
- The State Disaster Coordination Centre is operating at STAND DOWN status.

Source: Qld SDCC State Update – Thursday 21 November, [QFES](#), [QLD Dept. of Transport and Main Roads](#)

### Weather Forecast

No significant widespread rainfall is forecast over northeast NSW or southeast Queensland for the next 7 days. Large scale dangerous fire weather conditions have eased for the short term, however, localised thunderstorm activity will impact ongoing fires through NSW over the next three days.

### Wednesday 27 November

- VERY HIGH fire danger will continue across northeast NSW and southeast Qld.

### Thursday 28 November

- *VERY HIGH fire danger will continue across eastern NSW and southeast Qld.*

Source: BOM Critical Event Brief 2019/30 – Update 18, [Bureau of Meteorology](#)

### Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements

#### Australian Government Recovery Assistance

#### NSW bushfires

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

- Disaster recovery assistance is being provided under the DRFA in response to the bushfires that have affected NSW.
- DRFA assistance is available in the thirty two (32) local government areas of: Armidale, Ballina, Bellingen, Blue Mountains, Byron, Cessnock, Clarence Valley, Coffs Harbour, Glen Innes Severn, Gwydir, Hawkesbury, Inverell, Kempsey, Ku-ring-gai, Kyogle, Lake Macquarie, Lismore, Lithgow, Mid-Coast, Nambucca, Narrabri, Oberon, Penrith, Port Macquarie-Hastings, Richmond Valley, Singleton, Sutherland, Tamworth, Tenterfield, Tweed, 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 cover counter disaster operations costs, including firefighting activities
  - 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
  - recovery grants of up to **\$15,000** for primary producers and small businesses
  - freight subsidies for primary producers;

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- grants to eligible non-profit organisations, and
- a **\$18.25** million Community Recovery Fund.
- 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.

#### Australian Government financial assistance

- 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, 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 fourteen (14) local government areas of: Armidale, Cessnock, Clarence Valley, Coffs Harbour, Glen Innes Severn, Hawkesbury, Kempsey, Lismore, 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 DRA has been activated in the thirty two (32) local government areas of: Armidale, Ballina, Bellingen, Blue Mountains, Byron, Cessnock, Clarence Valley, Coffs Harbour, Glen Innes Severn, Gwydir, Hawkesbury, Kempsey, Inverell, Ku-ring-gai, Kyogle, Lake Macquarie, Lismore, Lithgow, Mid Coast, Nambucca, Narrabri, Oberon, Penrith, Port Macquarie-Hastings, Richmond Valley, Singleton, Sutherland, Tamworth, Tenterfield, Tweed, Uralla and Walcha.
- These Australian Government payments are administered by the Department of Human Services (DHS).
- 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**

- Disaster recovery assistance is being provided under the DRFA in response to the bushfires that have affected eastern Queensland.
- DRFA assistance is available in the nine (9) local government areas of Bundaberg, Gold Coast, Livingstone, Lockyer Valley, Noosa, Scenic Rim, Somerset, Southern Down and Toowoomba.
- 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 cover counter disaster operations costs, including firefighting activities,
  - support for affected local councils to help with the costs of cleaning up and restoring damaged essential public assets
  - concessional interest rate loans for primary producers, and
  - freight subsidies for primary producers.
- 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.

#### Australian Government financial assistance

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- 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, 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 four (4) local government areas of: Livingstone, Noosa, Somerset and Toowoomba.
  - 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 DRA has been activated in the nine (9) local government areas of: Bundaberg, Gold Coast, Livingstone, Lockyer Valley, Noosa, Scenic Rim, Somerset, Southern Downs and Toowoomba.
- These Australian Government payments are administered by the Department of Human Services (DHS).
- Anyone who has been adversely affected by the bushfires in Queensland should contact DHS on 180 22 66 and test their eligibility for the payment.

Source: Disaster Recovery Branch, Emergency Management Australia

### Australian Government Actions

- Emergency Management Australia is maintaining ongoing engagement with NSW and Qld.
- Australian Government Crisis Committee and National Crisis Committee meetings were held on **11 November 2019**.
- Commissioners and Chief Officers Strategic Committee meetings have been held on **9 November 2019**, **11 November 2019** and **19 November 2019**.

### 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.
- **One** overarching Request for Assistance (RFA) was for the Australian Defence Force to provide air transport for operational firefighters and support staff as a contingency measure. Under this request there have been **13** sub-taskings:
  - Task Request #001A – **8 November 2019**: ADF to provide urgent air movement of interstate Strike Teams from Canberra to Port Macquarie.
  - Task Request #001B – **8 November 2019**: ADF to provide urgent air movement of interstate Strike Teams from South Australia to Port Macquarie.
  - Task Request #001C – **9 November 2019**: ADF to provide urgent air movement of interstate Strike Teams from Tasmania to Port Macquarie.
  - Task Request #001D – **11 November 2019**: ADF to provide urgent air movement of interstate Strike Teams from Victoria to Armidale.
  - Task Request #001E – **13 November 2019**: ADF to provide air movement of interstate Strike Teams from Victoria to Sydney.
  - Task Request #001F – **14 November 2019**: ADF to provide air movement of interstate Strike Teams from Sydney to Victoria.
  - Task Request #001G – **16 November 2019**: ADF to provide air movement of interstate Strike Teams from Melbourne to Coffs Harbour.

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- Task Request #001H – **16 November 2019**: ADF to provide air movement of interstate Strike Teams from Coffs Harbour to Melbourne.
- Task Request #001I – **16 November 2019**: ADF to provide air movement of interstate Strike Teams from RAAF Richmond to Melbourne.
- Task Request #001J – **17 November 2019**: ADF to provide air movement of interstate Strike Teams from Melbourne to RAAF Richmond.
- Task Request #001K – **18 November 2019**: ADF to provide air movement of interstate Strike Teams from Melbourne to Coffs Harbour.
- Task Request #001L – **18 November 2019**: ADF to provide air movement of interstate Strike Teams from Coffs Harbour to Melbourne.
- Task Request #001M – **19 November 2019**: ADF to provide air movement of interstate Strike Teams from Coffs Harbour to Melbourne.
- Task Request #002 – **11 November 2019**: Provision of accommodation, food and appliance parking at Singleton Army Base.
- Task Request #003 – **12 November 2019, 13 November 2019**: Provide airframes for night fly and map fire progression and other intelligence tasking for current fires: provide airframes for firefighter movements, search and rescue operations and civilian movements; provide Air Liaison Officer to NSW Rural Fire Services State Operation Centre.
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- Task Request #008 – **24 November 2019**: ADF to provide crews and vehicles to support logistics and transport arrangements in several locations across NSW.
- An EMA LO was deployed to the NSW RFS State Operations Centre.
- An EMA Disaster Recovery LO was deployed to the NSW Office of Emergency Management.

#### Queensland

- On **11 November 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 Qld.
- Task Request #001 – **11 November 2019**: ADF to provide **30** personnel with equipment to clear overgrown fire breaks in Beechmont.
- Task Request #002 – **13 November 2019**: ADF to provide airframes to undertake night flights to map fire grounds with geotagged output.
- Task Request #003 – **22 November 2019**: Provision of support to maintain an Incident Command Centre at Borneo Barracks.

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 1800 hrs 28 November 2019.*

**Prepared by:**

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

**Approved by:**

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

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

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## Australian Government

### Crisis Coordination Centre

#### Incident Brief

As of 1700 hrs (AEDT), 28 November 2019

#### New South Wales and Queensland bushfires – Version 35

*New information in Italics*

#### Key Issues

- **Australia:**
  - *The total area burnt across NSW, Qld., Vic., WA, SA and Tas. is approximately **2,119,362** hectares since **Monday 9 September**.*
- **New South Wales:**
  - *There are currently **156** active fires burning across the state.*
  - ***One** WATCH AND ACT is current for a bushfire burning in the vicinity of North Black Range, Palerang.*
  - All other fires across the state are burning at the ADVICE level or below.
  - *The total area burnt across NSW for this event is approximately **1,540,693** hectares since **Thursday 7 November**.*
  - **Four** fatalities have been confirmed.
  - More than **30** people have been injured, including approximately **20** firefighters.
  - *Since **Friday 8 November** a total of **564** houses, **36** facilities and an additional **1112** outbuildings have been confirmed destroyed.*
  - *During the 2019/2020 bushfire season so far, a total of **673** houses, **58** facilities and additional **1409** outbuildings have been confirmed destroyed.*
  - **Two** Evacuation Centres remain activated to support fire affected communities.
- **Queensland:**
  - *There are currently **45** active fires across the state.*
  - All fires across the state are burning at the ADVICE level or below.
  - *The total area burnt across Qld. for this event is approximately **197,471** hectares since **Monday 9 September**.*
  - **60** firefighters have been injured.
  - **20** houses and **44** outbuildings are confirmed destroyed.
  - All Evacuation Centres are now closed.

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## Situation Details

### New South Wales



- There are currently **156** active fires burning across the state.
- **One WATCH AND ACT** is current for a bushfire burning in the vicinity of North Black Range, Palerang.
- All other fires across the state are burning at the **ADVICE** level or below.
- Since **Friday 8 November** a total of **564** houses, **36** facilities and an additional **1112** outbuildings have been confirmed destroyed.
- During the 2019/2020 bushfire season so far, a total of **673** houses, **58** facilities and additional **1409** outbuildings have been confirmed destroyed.
- The total area burnt across NSW for this event is approximately **1,540,693** hectares since **Thursday 7 November**.
- More than **30** people have been injured, including approximately **20** firefighters.
- **97** aircraft are currently tasked or on standby for tasking.
- **461** vehicles are on scene at fires across the state.
- **1291** firefighters are currently deployed (excluding interstate assistance).
- **533** interstate and international firefighters (including assisting personnel) are currently deployed from SA, Tas., Vic., WA, and New Zealand.
- **Four** fatalities have been confirmed.
- Approximately **660** power poles have been damaged during these fires, with approximately **450** customers affected by outages.

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- **Two** Evacuation Centres remain open at:
  - Kempsey Showground
  - Maclean Showground
- **Nine** public schools and **one** *Catholic school* remain closed for **28 November 2019** due to bushfire related conditions.
- *There are **four** Disaster Welfare Assistance Points operating at the following locations:*
  - Glen Innes
  - Taree
  - Kempsey
  - Grafton
- The Disaster Welfare Assistance Line remains open **seven** days a week between 0830hrs and 1630hrs daily, and has received approximately **836** calls since the commencement of this event.

Source: EMA LO sitrep, NSW SEOC Situational Report – Significant Fires – Wednesday 27 November 2019, [NSW RFS](#), [NSWPol](#), [NSW Education Department](#).

## Queensland

- *There are currently **45** active fires across the state.*
- All fires across the state are burning at the ADVICE level or below.
- *The total area burnt across Qld. for this event is approximately **197,471** hectares since **Monday 9 September**.*
- **16** aircraft are currently available to conduct air observations and water bombing.
- *More than **58** appliances are on scene at fires across the state.*
- More than **3600** firefighters have been on the frontline since **Friday 8 November**.
- **120** interstate and international firefighters (including assisting personnel) are currently deployed from NT, Tas., Vic., WA and New Zealand.
- **60** firefighters have been injured.
- **20** houses and **44** outbuildings are confirmed destroyed.
- A hoop pine plantation has been significantly impacted by the Pechey bushfire resulting in more than **\$2.8 million** of damage. There has also been significant impacts to pineapple, banana and mango plantations due to the bushfire in Cobraball.
- The economic loss for agriculture and infrastructure as a result of the Cobraball fire is initially estimated at **\$18 million**.
- Bushfire activity has resulted in multiple road closures and changes to speed limits for the following roads:
  - Parts of the Mt Lindesay Highway remain closed to traffic due to bushfire activity
  - The Cunningham Highway has reopened with reduced speed limits
- All Evacuation Centres are now closed.
- Department of Housing and Public Works staff were at Recovery Hubs in Noosaville, Boonah cultural Centre and Yeppoon to assist renters and owners with housing options.
- The Queensland Building and Construction Commission has activated its Bushfire Rebuild Register available for homeowners and insurers to find local licenced tradespeople to repair damage, reconnect power or remove asbestos.

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- The State Disaster Coordination Centre is operating at STAND DOWN status.

Source: Qld SDCC – verbal, Qld SDCC State Update – Thursday 21 November, [QFES, QLD Dept. of Transport and Main Roads](#)

## Weather Forecast

*Rainfall from shower and storm activity is forecast over northeast NSW and southeast Qld from **Friday 29 November**, becoming more widespread on **Saturday 30 November**. Large scale dangerous fire weather conditions have eased for the short term, however, *localised thunderstorm activity has the potential to impact ongoing fires*. Widespread cooler conditions are forecast from **Monday 30 November**.*

### Thursday 28 November

- VERY HIGH fire danger will continue across eastern NSW and southeast Qld.

### Friday 29 November

- VERY HIGH fire danger will continue across northeast NSW and southeast Qld.

Source: BOM - verbal, [Bureau of Meteorology](#)

## Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements

### Australian Government Recovery Assistance

#### NSW bushfires

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

- Disaster recovery assistance is being provided under the DRFA in response to the bushfires that have affected NSW.
- DRFA assistance is available in the thirty two (32) local government areas of: Armidale, Ballina, Bellingen, Blue Mountains, Byron, Cessnock, Clarence Valley, Coffs Harbour, Glen Innes Severn, Gwydir, Hawkesbury, Inverell, Kempsey, Ku-ring-gai, Kyogle, Lake Macquarie, Lismore, Lithgow, Mid-Coast, Nambucca, Narrabri, Oberon, Penrith, Port Macquarie-Hastings, Richmond Valley, Singleton, Sutherland, Tamworth, Tenterfield, Tweed, 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 cover counter disaster operations costs, including firefighting activities
  - 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
  - recovery grants of up to **\$15,000** for primary producers and small businesses
  - freight subsidies for primary producers,
  - grants to eligible non-profit organisations, and
  - a **\$18.25** million Community Recovery Fund.
- 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.

#### Australian Government financial assistance

- The Australian Government is also providing additional financial assistance through the activation of:
  - The Australian Government Disaster Recovery Payment (AGDRP)

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- 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, 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 fourteen (14) local government areas of: Armidale, Cessnock, Clarence Valley, Coffs Harbour, Glen Innes Severn, Hawkesbury, Kempsey, Lismore, 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 DRA has been activated in the thirty two (32) local government areas of: Armidale, Ballina, Bellingen, Blue Mountains, Byron, Cessnock, Clarence Valley, Coffs Harbour, Glen Innes Severn, Gwydir, Hawkesbury, Kempsey, Inverell, Ku-ring-gai, Kyogle, Lake Macquarie, Lismore, Lithgow, Mid Coast, Nambucca, Narrabri, Oberon, Penrith, Port Macquarie-Hastings, Richmond Valley, Singleton, Sutherland, Tamworth, Tenterfield, Tweed, Uralla and Walcha.
- These Australian Government payments are administered by the Department of Human Services (DHS).
- 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.

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- Disaster recovery assistance is being provided under the DRFA in response to the bushfires that have affected eastern Queensland.
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Source: CCC Operations and CCC Planning, Emergency Management Australia

#### Further Information

- The CCC has contacted relevant agencies and continues to monitor the situation closely.
- *This is the final CCC Incident Brief. The CCC will issue further briefs if conditions deteriorate.*

Prepared by:

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

Approved by:

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

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

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