

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

## Bush Fire Danger Period Begins 1st September 2019

8th August 2019

The Bush Fire Danger Period will begin on Sunday 1st September 2019 for the Liverpool Range District. The Liverpool Range District incorporates the Local Government Areas of Gunnedah Shire Council, Liverpool Plains Shire Council and the Upper Hunter Shire Council.

The NSW Rural Fire Service is urging residents to prepare now for what is likely to be a long and protracted fire season.

From Sunday 1st of September, anyone wishing to light a fire in the open air for the purpose of pile burning or hazard reduction during the Bush Fire Danger Period must obtain a permit from his or her local Permit Issuing Officer.

Liverpool Range District Manager Myles O'Reilly said, "All indications are that after the prolonged period of minimal rainfall over the past 16 months, the months leading up until summer will continue to be warmer with little expected rainfall".

"As we move into the Bush Fire Danger Period, conditions are such that should a fire escape, it will spread quickly and be difficult to control," District Manager O'Reilly said.

"There are a number of activities that residents can take to minimise the risk of fire this season. Firstly, fires must never be left unattended. Residents can also prepare their property to reduce the risk of fire by removing flammable materials from their yards, clearing leaves from gutters; checking hoses can reach all around the house and developing a Bushfire Survival Plan"

"A Bush Fire Survival Plan ensures that all members of the household know what to do on days of increased fire danger and what to do if their home is threatened by fire," District Manager O'Reilly said.

"We urge residents to use caution undertaking their activities throughout the bushfire season. Make yourself aware of your environment and of your bushfire risk. Plan to live".

On days of Total Fire Ban, all fire permits are automatically revoked. To check the Fire Danger Ratings for your area visit www.rfs.nsw.gov.au or contact your local Fire Control Centre.

Myles O'Reilly

District Manager (A)

Liverpool Range District

