



TOTAL FIRE BAN DECLARED

A Total Fire Ban has been declared for the Southern and Northern Riverina in NSW for Monday 7 January 2013 due to forecast hot, dry and windy conditions.

The Total Fire Ban will commence at midnight tonight and remain in place until midnight Monday 7 January 2013.

The Total Fire Ban covers the following Councils:

- **Southern Riverina** –Berrigan, Conargo, Corowa, Deniliquin, Jerilderie, Murray, Urana, Wakool.
- **Northern Riverina** –Carrathool, Griffith, Hay, Leeton, Murrumbidgee, Narrandera.

The Bureau of Meteorology has advised that Southern Riverina will have a **'Very High' Fire Danger Rating.**

If you are in an area of 'Very High' fire danger the NSW Rural Fire Service advises that:

- Under these conditions fires can be difficult to control and present a threat to properties.
- Embers may be blown around homes causing other fires to occur up to 2km ahead of the main fire.
- Well prepared homes that are actively defended can offer safety during a fire.

People should report any unattended fires to Triple Zero.

On a day of Total Fire Ban, there is a ban on any fires out in the open.

A gas or electric barbeque is allowed, but only if:

- It is on a residential property within 20 metres of the house or dwelling
- It is in a picnic area and approved by Council, National Parks or State Forest
- It is under the direct control of a responsible adult
- The ground around the barbecue is cleared for 2 metres of all material that can burn
- You have an immediate and continuous supply of water available.

For full details on Total Fire Ban rules & map of current Total Fire Bans: www.rfs.nsw.gov.au.

Media Contact: NSW RFS State Duty Media Officer (02) 9898 1855