MEDIA RELEASE

Long serving Cumberland Zone volunteers honoured

18 May 2014

Volunteer firefighters from the Cumberland Zone had their long and dedicated service recognised during an official ceremony today.

NSW Rural Fire Service (NSW RFS) Director of Membership and Strategic Services Ms Bronwyn Jones presented Long Service Medals and one National Medal to a group of 16 volunteers who have amassed an impressive 256 years of service between them.

"This significant commitment demonstrates that the tradition of volunteering is thriving in this region," Ms Jones said.

"Each of these men and women provide a vital service to their community, whether they're fighting bush fires, attending road accidents or assisting during storms or floods.

"It is an honour to present these awards and reflect upon the outstanding achievements of these members."

Ms Jones said everyone living in the region is aware of the hard work, and commitment that comes with being a NSW RFS volunteer.

"Whether it's responding to bush fire emergencies, like those we've seen in recent times, or motor vehicle accidents and other emergencies, our volunteers are on hand 24 hours a day, seven days a week," Ms Jones said.

"While these volunteers certainly don't expect awards or accolades, all of them are most worthy of our sincere gratitude and thanks.

"I would like to take this time to praise all our volunteers for their ongoing efforts each and every day, particularly when dealing with emergencies here in the Cumberland Zone," said Ms Jones.