## **MEDIA RELEASE**

## Eden Marine High School cadet firefighters celebrate graduation

## 29 June 2017

13 students from Eden Marine High School were congratulated today by NSW Rural Fire Service (NSW RFS) Assistant Commissioner Steve Yorke AFSM for their successful completion of the NSW RFS Secondary School Cadet Program.

Assistant Commissioner Yorke said the program is the ideal way to introduce young people to the important role volunteer fire fighters play within communities.

"The cadets have completed a course that ran over 10 weeks that has given them skills which will last a lifetime," Assistant Commissioner Yorke said.

"As well as examining fire behaviour, the students have been taught essential fire safety techniques and gained an appreciation of the work our emergency services do every day in this State.

"The cadet program also offers students the opportunity to experience firsthand the commitment and camaraderie that comes with volunteering."

Assistant Commissioner Yorke said this was the fourth time Eden Marine High School has offered the NSW RFS Secondary School Cadet Program to its students and hoped it would continue as a permanent fixture in the curriculum.

"It's great to see genuine enthusiasm for this important community based program," Assistant Commissioner Yorke said.

"In addition to our NSW RFS members, I would also like to extend a special thanks to the Principal and staff from Eden Marine High School, for helping to make this program such a success."

Assistant Commissioner Yorke also paid tribute to the staff and volunteers from the Bega Valley District that facilitated the course.

"NSW RFS members thoroughly enjoy working closely with schools and communities to ensure that everyone is as well prepared as possible for the very real threat of fire. Firefighters cannot do it alone.

"The Service is proud to pass on the ideals of community service, dedication and teamwork to the next generation."

