

Media release

Large multi-agency response boosts local firefighting efforts

5 November 2023

Several fires ignited following a significant lighting storm on 26 October continue to burn after threatening a number of communities in and around Tenterfield and to date have burned more than 67,000 hectares.

Northern Tablelands District Manager, Inspector Scott Mack said the prolonged nature and extent of firefighting operations has not only seen local crews respond, but a significant response from out of area RFS crews and partner agencies from across the state and country.

"I want to thank our local volunteers for their continual efforts on the fireground, supported by Incident Management Teams," Inspector Mack said.

"Out of area RFS Strike Teams travelling as far as the states south coast have been deployed to assist our local members, and the interstate response from Western Australia and South Australian fire agencies has been terrific.

"The boost from these crews has given our local volunteers some much needed rest."

Inspector Mack also acknowledged the states multi-agency response, including Fire and Rescue NSW, National Parks and Wildlife Service, Forestry Corporation NSW, NSW State Emergency Service, NSW Police and NSW Ambulance.

"These agencies will continue to work together over coming weeks to ensure that the fires burning are contained and are no longer a threat to the community," he said.

"I would also like to thank local landholder Farm Fire Units supporting firefighting operations.

"While we are currently experiencing milder conditions, the forecast sees a return of warmer weather over coming days, which may see an increase in fire activity.

"I urge everyone to stay vigilant, monitor conditions and know what you and your family will do if fire threatens."

Please report all unattended fire to Triple Zero (000).

Stay up to date on bush fires in your area by checking the Hazards Near Me app, the RFS website <u>www.rfs.nsw.gov.au/fnm</u>, or by calling the RFS Bush Fire Information Line on 1800 679 737.

