

State of readiness for operational support on FDI 50 + days

Heavy plant pre incident planning

- Contact will be made with each of the Councils and private heavy plant contractors the day before a FDI 50+ day.
- The availability of plant, where it is located and estimated response times will be recorded on a resources board.
- Any variance to heavy plant contact details will be recorded on the same resources board.

Heavy plant coordination pre incident planning

- The FCC will identify a suitable member to coordinate heavy plant on the fire ground before a FDI 50+day. Preferably this will be a single member for each Council area.
- The identified heavy plant coordinator will be provided with a kit with all the equipment and resources required to undertake the role. If available the heavy plant coordinator will be provide with a suitable RFS vehicle.

Aircraft Support pre incident planning

- Temora and West Wyalong air bases are the primary locations for loading fixed wing bombers for fires in the BTZ
- The Bland Temora aviation support group will be contacted before a predicted FDI 50+day and placed on a quick response standby.
- The SWS Zone Office will also be contacted to determine the availability of Air Base Operators to work out of Temora airport if needed.
- SWS Zone will be contacted to determine the availability of the Cootamundra Airbase if required.

Staging area pre incident planning

- The FCC will identify a suitable member to be a staging area coordinator before a FDI 50+day.
- Appropriate staging areas will be identified by the Incident Management Team in consultation with the field IC or divisional commander as required on the day of an escalating fire.
- The identified staging area coordinator will be provided with a kit with all the equipment and resources required to undertake the role.
 The staging area coordinator will liaise directly with the logistics cell.

State of Readiness for Catering

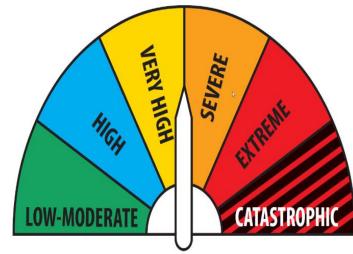
- Crews will work toward being self sufficient for the first 12 hours
- The FCC will make contact with known RFS catering groups/brigades within the BTZ prior to a predicted FDI 50+ day
- The availability of members to provide catering and the extent in which they are prepared to travel to provide catering will be recorded
- The FCC will work with known catering groups/brigades to ensure welfare is provided in a coordinated way across the fire ground(s)
- If needed, the FCC will arrange for a contractor to provide catering

Inter - Zone Readiness

- Contact will be made with each of the four adjoining Teams/Zones prior to FDI 50+ days to increase shared situational awareness for cross boundary incidents.
- These Teams Zones are Mid Lachlan Valley Team, South West Slopes, Mid West Team, Riverina Team,
- Adjoining Teams/Zones will be advised of the Bland Temora Zone preparedness levels including the availability of strike teams.

Comms Group pre incident planning

- The FCC will make contact with Comms Group's Captain within the BTZ prior to a predicated FDI 50+ day
- The availability of members will be forwarded to the FCC from the Comms Group Captain prior to a predicated FDI 50+ day
- The FCC to stand Comms crew up on a FDI 50+ day, crew may roster and attend FCC



FIRE DANGER RATINGS		
Category	Forest FDI	Equivalent Grass FDI
CATASTROPHIC	100 +	150 +
EXTREME	75 - 100	75 - 150
SEVERE	50 - 75	50 - 75
VERY HIGH	25 - 50	25 - 50
HIGH	12 - 25	12 - 25
LOW-MODERATE	0 - 12	0 - 12

Size-up & SITREPs

Fire: What is it doing, what will it do.

Type: bush, grass, structure, other incident
Location: address, grid of heel, heading, flank lengths, head
width, grid centre of head, spotfires.

Future location: what will it impact and when

Threats: What is it threatening, what will it

threaten.

Life: people as individuals or communities

Property: structures, livestock, fences, heritage, cultural, environmental

Future threats: what will be threatened and when

Action: What do we need to do now, what

will we need to do.

Offensive: mount a direct, indirect, parallel attack on which part of the fire

Defensive: protect life and property by conducting line, ember backstop defence at which threatened locations

Future action: where/when will offensive or defensive work

Support: What is needed now, what will

be needed

Reinforcements: how many/what type of units to where immediately

Supplies: support need to keep firefight going

Future support: what will be needed before operation is over

Command/control/comms: Who is in charge now, who will be in charge.

ICS: who should have CONTROL now, who will have it. What SECTORs and DIVISIONs are needed

Communications: what channels will be used for tactical and command networks



BLAND TEMORA ZONE PRE INCIDENT PLAN (DRAFT)

1. State of Readiness

The Bland Temora Zone will, where possible, undertake the actions described in the tables below, in the circumstances identified.

State of Readiness during the Bushfire Danger Period

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Level	Description	Action to be taken by FCC the afternoon before	Action to be taken by Group Officers the afternoon before	Action to be taken by Captains the afternoon before
Normal	Fire Danger Index 49 or less	Normal agency response procedures in line with Operational Readiness Levels	Nil, unless Group Officers deem it necessary based on FDI in high 40s, or action is prearranged between FCC and Group Officers	Nil unless Captains deem it necessary based on FDI in high 40s
50+	Fire Danger Index 50 or above	Agency response procedures in line with Operational Readiness Levels, including/ plus: - Weather information paged/SMS to Group Captains and Captains - Each Group Captain contacted by FCC and asked to make contact with Captains to determine state of readiness - Plans in place for Fire Control Centre to be open and staffed according to conditions (consider staggered start times) - Team of pre identified Incident management personnel available at a maximum of 2 hours notice. IC Identified - FCC to note availability of brigades based on feedback from Group Officers	- Each Group Officer to make contact with Captains within group and advise of/determine the following: 1. Upcoming bad weather (further to SMS/paged weather). 2. Availability of brigades to respond at short notice. 3. Potential availability of individual tankers to be included in a strike team for deployment within the Zone if the need arises and to adjoining brigades outside the Zone with approval of the FCC. - Report back to FCC/ Duty Officer by 1000 hrs the following day, with brigade availability and preferred members to contact within the Group area. Advice also to be given on appliances potentially available for inclusion in a strike team for deployment within the Zone.	- Make contact with identified brigade members and advise of/determine the following 1. Upcoming bad weather ((further to SMS/paged weather) 2. Availability of members to respond at short notice including which members should be contacted first. 4. Potential availability of a brigade tanker and crew for inclusion in a strike team to be deployed within the Zone (brigades with multiple appliances only). 5. Availability of crew to man a tanker from another Brigade if need be. - Report back to Group Officer as soon as practical but no later than 0900 the next day regarding brigade availability and the preferred first member/s to be contacted by the FCC for a response.
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This Results in:

- The Fire Control Centre, Group Officers and Brigade Captains all understanding the state of readiness prior to bad fire weather days
- A targeted and timely dispatch of resources based on known brigade availability
- Knowledge of resources potentially available to be formed into strike teams to assist in other LGAs within the

2. Incident Control			
Class of Fire	Incident Controller	Incident Controller Communications Process	
Class 1 (Generally a single agency involved eg. RFS)	The Officer in Charge of the first unit on scene until relieved or replaced if/as required. For a Class 1 fire the incident controller should be qualified to at least Crew Leader Grasslands level.	 Officer In Charge (OIC) of the first unit will utilise the call sign of Control which will include the fire name (for example Pinnacle Control) and will maintain contact with Fire Com via PMR radio. Other responding units will utilise PMR until they arrive on scene where they will be advised to report to the Incident Controller on an identified UHF channel. The OIC should utilise the FTASC Situation report format (listed below) to inform Fire Com of the fire situation in at least 30 minute intervals. 	
Class 2 (multiple agencies involved eg.)	Appointed by the Bush Fire Management Committee to take charge of fire fighting operations across all combat agencies	- As above if Officer In Charge is a Rural Fire Service member	
Class 3 (S44 fire)	Appointed by the Commissioner RFS under s44 of the Rural Fires Act 1997	- As per example of large incident organisational chart below.	

This Results in:

- A clear understanding of who the incident controller is
- The freeing up of the PMR network allowing the Incident Controller and the FCC to communicate leaving UHF as the tactical fire ground network
- FTASC giving both the Incident Controller and the FCC a clear format for the flow of information

3.	3. Response Arrangements		
Level	Description	Initial Minimum Response	
Normal	FDI of 49 or less	FCC to dispatch the following minimum response: - Bush/Grass Fire: Small: 2 units – suitably equipped for bush/grass fires. Medium: 2 brigades – suitably equipped for bush/grass fires. Large: 5 units – suitably equipped for bush/grass fires. - In addition to the minimum response arrangements above - on days with FDI 49 or less, which are still conducive to an escalating fire, the brigades that surround the brigade hosting the incident are to be placed on standby. - Structure Fire: 2 units with pumps and equipment suitable for village fire fighting. - Vehicle Accident/Fire: 2 units – suitably equipped for motor vehicle incidents. Note: For structure and/or vehicle accident the minimum two units may include a unit from FRNSW depending on the incident location.	
50+	FDI of 50 or above	- Larger initial response to Bush/Grass Fire will be dispatched based on fire weather and Intel provided by the Incident controller. Respond at least one unit from all brigades that border the incident. Continue to expand as requested by the incident controller.	

4. Coordination of Strike Teams established to assist in neighbouring Council areas within the Zone. Coordination Level Any FDI level or - From process undertaken in section 1 of this plan, Group Officers are to notify the FCC of units available for formation into strike teams for class of fire where use within the Zone (if needed) by 1000 hrs the next day. a Strike Team of up - The FCC will list these resources for possible utilisation in strike teams. - If needed the FCC will notify the available strike team units to proceed at a central meeting location enroute to the fire. This will occur in to 5 tankers is required in another consultation with the strike team leader. - A strike team leader will be appointed and will normally be a Captain or Group Captain Council area within Note: Nothing in this section stops brigades on the Council boundary being responded individually into a neighbouring Council area. the Zone.

This Results in:

A coordinated Strike Team

5. After Action Review.

Level	Coordination
Significant or Multiple significant fires	 - Areas which have a significant fire may have an after action review at the brigade station or a meeting place close by to where the fire had occurred. - If significant multiple fires have occurred, then an after action review will occur at Bland or Temora FCC to cater for all those involved. .