## **MEDIA RELEASE**

## Mid Lachlan Valley Team volunteers' commitment praised

## 9 October 2014

Longstanding volunteers from the Mid Lachlan Valley Team were today honoured by the NSW Rural Fire Service (NSW RFS) for their ongoing commitment to the local community.

NSW RFS Assistant Commissioner Bruce McDonald presented seven volunteers with Long Service Medals and one member with a National Medal at a local ceremony.

"In total, these eight medal recipients have accumulated 295 years of service between them," Assistant Commissioner McDonald said.

"Each and every one of these volunteers is worthy of our most sincere thanks and I would like to personally commend them, not only for their commitment to the Service, but also to their community.

"It is an absolute honour to present these awards and to take a moment in which we can reflect upon the outstanding achievements of these members."

Assistant Commissioner McDonald said five of the medal recipients had individually given more than 40 years of dedicated service to their Brigades and local community.

"They have demonstrated an outstanding commitment to their community over many years and these medals are a fitting token of our appreciation," Assistant Commissioner McDonald said.

"These volunteers have been part of the Service during an incredible period of growth and transformation and the vast experience and knowledge within their ranks has been an integral component of this development.

"Their hard work and professionalism doesn't go unnoticed and this is also a great opportunity for the community to express their gratitude and say thank you."

Assistant Commissioner McDonald said the 99 Brigades in the Mid Lachlan Valley Team respond to a range of bush, grass and house fires, as well as motor vehicle accidents and other emergencies.

"The NSW RFS is at the cutting edge of firefighting due to significant improvements in technology, training, equipment and communications, however the real strength of the Service resides in the quality, capability and tenacity of its people," Assistant Commissioner McDonald said.