

## Media release

## \$2.5 million boost for Orana District

## **3 August 2024**

Community safety in the Orana District has received a boost today with the official opening of a new fire station for Bodangora Brigade, and the delivery of five new fire fighting vehicles.

NSW Rural Fire Service (RFS) People and Business Manager, David McNeill will be joined by special guests for the station opening and handover of tankers for the Benalong, Eurimbla, Walmer, Elong Elong and Mt Arthur Brigades.

"The recently completed \$1 million station is a welcome addition for the brigade who have been storing trucks in an open shed kindly supplied by a local farmer," Mr McNeill said.

"The site of the new facility at the Wellington Aerodrome was selected for its central location and features two truck bays, a multipurpose area for hosting training sessions and meetings, plus a small kitchenette and restroom facilities.

"This significant addition for the Orana District supports our volunteers in continuing the protection of the local community and it is also available to be utilised by aviation staff for when an airbase is set up and running."

Mr McNeill said a further \$1.5 million commitment will also be celebrated with the handover of five new fit-for-purpose firefighting trucks.

"I am confident these state-of-the-art vehicles will prove to be an invaluable asset to the Orana local communities" he said.

"The combination of dual cab and single cab tankers being handed over today will support the firefighting capability of brigades.

"The RFS is committed to ensuring its members have access to modern firefighting technology when preparing for and responding to fires and other incidents."

Mr McNeill also thanked the local volunteer members for their dedicated service.

"The efforts of RFS volunteers do not go unnoticed and today's event provides a great opportunity to publicly acknowledge the outstanding work of our volunteer bush firefighters," Mr McNeill said.

"These men and women remain on-hand 24 hours a day, seven days a week, and we are extremely proud and grateful for their contribution to our local community.

"We also thank the family, friends, employers and colleagues of all RFS volunteers. We know it takes their ongoing support and patience to assist and enable our volunteers to do what they do to save lives and protecting property."

For more information contact the State Duty Media Officer on 9898 1855 For current incidents or major fire updates visit **www.rfs.nsw.gov.au** 

