

Fire Season Review

2012/13

Canobolas Brigades

Well prepared and successful



Preparation

- Previous summer growth
- Feb- March rain & flood events
- Record fuel levels in central and western NSW
- Dry Winter - Apr to Dec driest since 2006
- State Ops Exercise August 2012
- All staff completed CCC training
- Region East Group Officers tour the west
- CanobEx – Blayney and Orange
- Significant use of Media to raise awareness

- http://www.canobolas.rfs.nsw.gov.au/dsp_content.cfm?cat_id=4033
- http://www.canobolas.rfs.nsw.gov.au/dsp_content.cfm?cat_id=21201
- http://www.canobolas.rfs.nsw.gov.au/dsp_content.cfm?cat_id=21211



Preparation

- Bush Fire Danger Period
 - Commenced 1 October 2012
 - Concluded 31 March 2013
- Stand By arrangements in place on days of Very High FDI – At Station & Oncall
- Plant Strike Teams stood up on bad days



Support

- Reg'n West MIC very active within State Ops
- State Air Desk supportive
- Weather forecasting & Bush Fire Anaylisis at State Ops
- Media involvement
- Website updates daily



Communications

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ON THE BALL: NSW Rural Fire Service personnel Margaret Livermore, Liz Lewis and Diane Tucker were on duty in the control centre helping to organise crews at the huge Long Point fire yesterday. Photo: JUDE KEOGH



Incidents

- S44 declared for Long Point fire
-Included Shiel, Gumble, Nangar Rd & Baldry Rd Fires
- S44 declared for Goldings fire

Total Incidents for 2012/13

	BFDP Primary	BFDP Total Responses	FYTD Primary	FYTD Total Responses	FYTD Fire Incidents	FYTD Other Incidents
Blayney	44	64	77	113	36	77
Cabonne	64	119	186	280	115	71
Cowra	34	60	90	140	55	35
Orange	26	43	91	134	90	44
Totals	168	286	444	667	296	227



Incidents

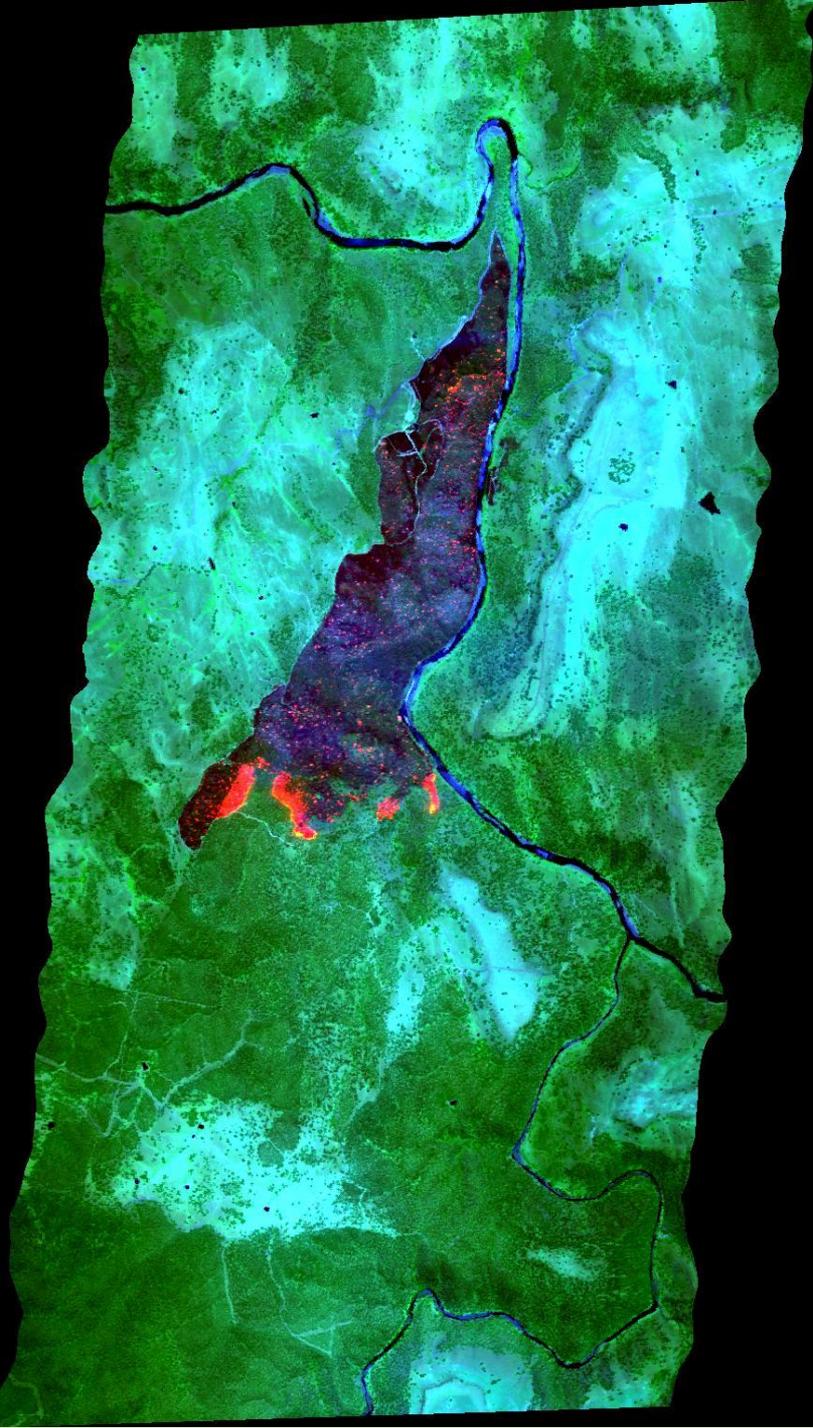
- Positives
 - Volunteer & Brigade availability
 - Fires responded to rapidly
 - Utilised ground crews, aircraft & heavy Plant to most outbreaks on bad days
 - Largest fire contained to 475ha
 - Group Captains utilised extensively
 - No major injuries or loss of life
 - Only 1 house loss
 - Local control in place across all firegrounds







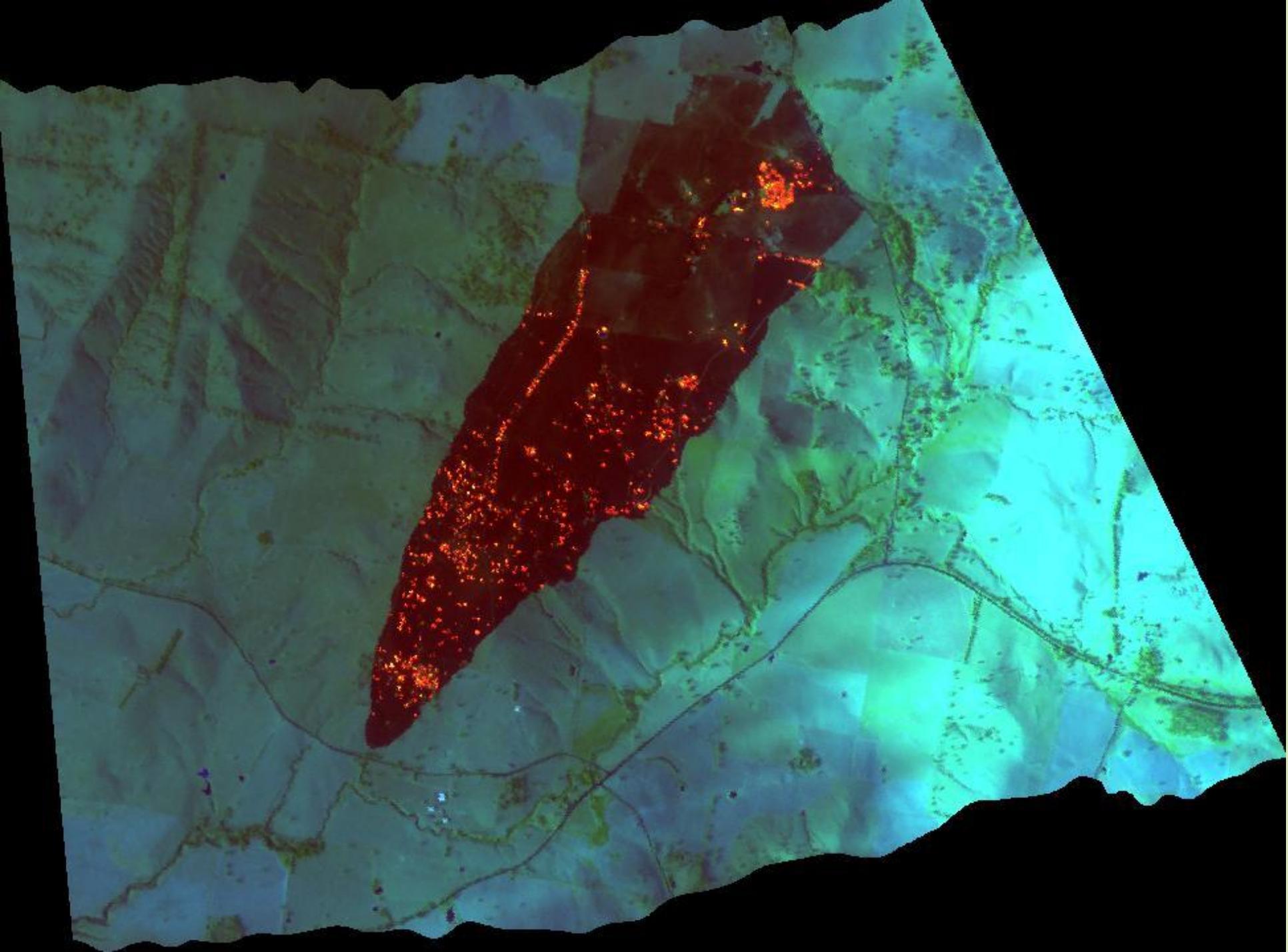






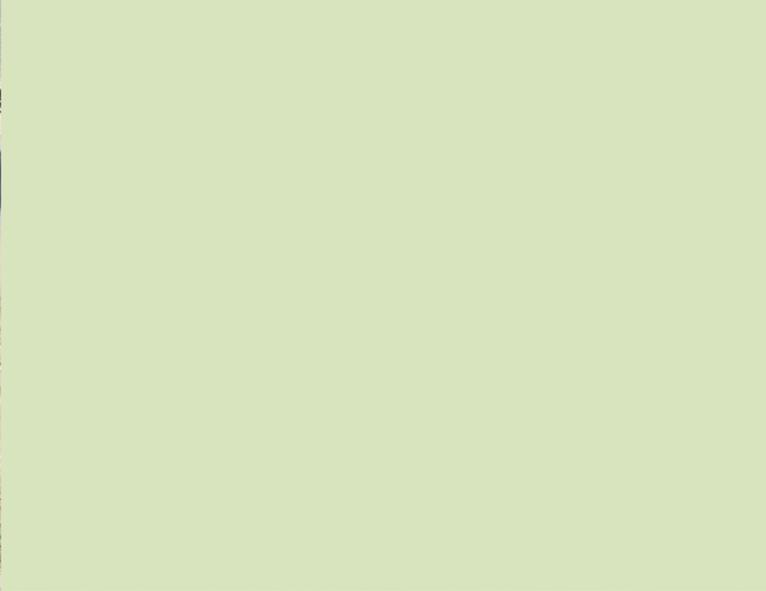
















Aviation Support

- Aircraft were a major support resource for most operations during the BFDP
- Orange & Cowra Airbases were heavily utilised for Canobolas & adjoining areas
- Larras Lee Airstrip used for 1st time
- http://www.canobolas.rfs.nsw.gov.au/file_system/attachments/Canobolas/Attachment_20130107_BB802C24.MOV



Lessons Learned

- Canobolas Local Control Model was a success
- Utilisation of HP Strike Team standby during pre emptive S44's
- Work on ground crew & aircraft relations



Future Planning

- Zone level Pre Incident Plan to establish
 - Stand-By triggers
 - Fire Ground Management needs
 - Maintenance of Local Control a priority
 - Logistics standards set
- Utilisation of “other” media to better manage activation & awareness of our people



Questions

