



NSW RURAL FIRE SERVICE



# MEDIA RELEASE

## Firefighters hone their water craft

**06 March 2014**

The skills of more than 170 firefighters will be tested tomorrow as they compete at the ninth NSW Rural Fire Service (NSW RFS) Combined Districts Fire Boat Exercise at Fishermans Point on the Hawkesbury River.

NSW RFS Commissioner Shane Fitzsimmons said the event will bring together a number of agencies to compete in a range of challenging, real-life scenarios.

“The event will involve representatives from NSW RFS, NSW Water Police, NSW Maritime and Marine Rescue NSW,” Commissioner Fitzsimmons said.

“Teams will compete in a series of simulated emergency situations where their skills and equipment will be put to the test.

“With scenarios ranging from a simulated boat fire in a 150 person passenger ferry to a sinking vessel situation, firefighters will be tested on leadership, teamwork, adaptation and decision making.”

Commissioner Fitzsimmons said 20 marine vessels will be involved, both competing in and supporting the six scenarios across the day.

“This exercise brings together firefighters who share the unique skill of working on the water to enjoy friendly competition, hone their emergency skills and share experiences from their respective areas.

“These teams gain great experience in fire safety, team work and leadership in a safe and controlled environment. It’s a valuable learning and development experience for everyone involved.”

### **Note:**

The exercise will take place from 9am on Saturday 7 March 2015. Access to the event is by boat only and needs to be prearranged.



For more information contact the Hornsby Fire Control Centre on 9883 2000  
For current incidents or major fire updates visit [www.rfs.nsw.gov.au](http://www.rfs.nsw.gov.au)