

MEDIA RELEASE



NSW RURAL FIRE SERVICE

Rural Fire Service volunteers recognised for service

12 November 2011

Volunteer firefighters from across the Far North Coast have had their long and committed service to the community recognised at a ceremony held in their honour.

NSW Rural Fire Service (NSW RFS) Region North Manager Chief Superintendent Brett Condie presented the 24 members with their National and Long Service Medals, congratulating them on their hard work and dedication.

"The volunteers here today have each served their brigade with distinction, accumulating more than 540 years of service between them which is a huge achievement.

"The National Medal is presented to brigade members in recognition of their years of dedication, and as an acknowledgement for going above and beyond what is expected of them.

"It is a tremendous honour to present eight of these National Medals today and an inspirational demonstration of commitment to the community."

Chief Superintendent Condie also paid tribute to some of the region's longest standing volunteers.

"Four of our members here today are being recognised for 30 years or more service, which is an admirable achievement.

"Bob Wilcox and Robert Graham have been with their brigades for 31 and 34 years respectively, with Keith Moss serving for 45 years. Another outstanding contribution has been made by Robin Dawes who is celebrating 51 years with the Bilambil Rural Fire Brigade.

"Like all of the volunteers being awarded here today, these four gentlemen are shining examples of the selfless and unwavering dedication that our volunteer members display seven days a week, 365 days a year," Chief Superintendent Condie said.

"There are 21 volunteer brigades across the Far North Coast that play an integral role in protecting the community, through fighting bush fires, structure fires, attending road accidents or assisting during storms and floods.

"Their fundraising work and community education efforts must also be recognised as a valuable part of their role as RFS members".

Media Contact: NSW RFS State Duty Media Officer (02) 9898 1855