



NSW RURAL FIRE SERVICE



MEDIA RELEASE

Cease harvesting to reduce fire risk

20th November 2015

The NSW Rural Fire Service (NSW RFS) is requesting farmers in the **Bland and Temora** Local Government Areas (Bland Temora Zone), cease harvesting activities by 1100am on Friday 20th November 2015 due to the increased risk of fire.

Superintendent Steve Holden said farmers in the Bland and Temora LGAs should not harvest until the fire danger eases.

Superintendent Steve Holden said farmers can play an important role in preventing fires from igniting during the current period of increased fire risk.

“Using harvesting or farm machinery on days of increased risk can be very dangerous as sparks in dry crops can start fires that can spread very quickly,” Superintendent Steve Holden said.

“These fires have the potential to threaten property and also destroy millions of dollars worth of crops.”

“This includes the use of motorised, cutting, grinding and welding equipment in all open areas,” Superintendent Steve Holden said.

“In recent years, a number of substantial fires have been started by farm machinery being used in hot, dry conditions.

“The NSW RFS appreciates the cooperation of farmers on days of heightened fire danger. A few hours of down time lowers the risk of fires breaking out, and can prevent a great deal of damage.”

Current and forecast Fire Danger Ratings are available at www.rfs.nsw.gov.au.

Superintendent Steve Holden - Manager

Bland Temora Zone



For more information contact the Bland Temora Zone office on 6977 4737
For current incidents or major fire updates visit www.rfs.nsw.gov.au