



NSW RURAL FIRE SERVICE



MEDIA RELEASE

Total Fire Ban (TOBAN)

Monday 2nd October, 2023

A Total Fire Ban will be in force across the Lower Central Western Plains fire district **effective from 00:01 to 23:59 on Tuesday 3rd October 2023**, which will include Bland / Temora LGA's due to the increasing fire weather conditions.

Bland Temora District Manager of the NSW Rural Fire Service (NSW RFS), Superintendent Tom McDevitt said, the broader area is expected to experience higher than normal fire danger conditions and will see an increase of both higher temperatures during Tuesday, mixed with higher winds which will be a challenging day, however we will see these conditions ease for the remainder of the week with cooler conditions returning on Wednesday leading into the weekend" Residents need to remain valiant and ensure that if any fires occur, call Triple 000.

These conditions are dangerous, and any fire that starts will be extremely difficult to control.

During a total fire ban, no fires may be lit in the open and all fire permits are suspended. Gas and electric barbeques may be used provided certain conditions are met.

Lighting a fire on a day of Total Fire Ban attracts an on the spot fine of \$2200. If the matter goes to court, you could be subject to a fine of up to \$5500 and/or 12 months gaol.

Penalties for a fire that escapes and damages or destroys life, property or the environment can attract much greater fines and gaol terms with maximums at \$132,000 and/or 14 years gaol.

Civil law suits can also be brought against the person responsible for a fire by those seeking compensation for losses sustained.

You can report people who throw lit cigarettes from a vehicle by going to the RFS website or calling the Bush Fire Information Line on 1800 679 737.

Total Fire Ban rules and a map of current Total Fire Ban areas are at www.rfs.nsw.gov.au.

The NSW RFS appreciates the cooperation of the community on days of heightened fire danger.



**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**