



NSW RURAL FIRE SERVICE

## MEDIA RELEASE

### “Fire Permits return to the NSW Southern Border from 1<sup>st</sup> November”

27<sup>th</sup> October 2021

Fire Permits will be required from the 1<sup>st</sup> November as the NSW Southern Border eases into the Bushfire Danger Period.

Operational Officer Reynir Potter said: “Even though our community has had significant rainfall this Spring, landowners should not be complacent as recent rainfall has increased fuel loads especially in grassland environments. The NSW Rural Fire Service requires landowners to apply for fire permits for the remainder of the bush fire danger period (ending 31 March 2022)”

Permits outline conditions for landowners to safely conduct grass and stubble burning only and ways for landowners to prevent accidental fire escape which impact neighbouring properties. Inspector Sandra Huer, Manager of the RFS Southern Border Team, states that fire permits will only be approved during low risk weather periods. During high fire danger periods, permits are unlikely to be approved.

“To prevent our volunteers from responding to controlled burns, it is also a requirement for permit holders to notify the Rural Fire Service and their neighbours 24 hours prior to lighting their fire. Many landowners find it quick and easy to do this on the RFS website” reiterated Mr Potter.

Senior volunteers are anxious about the risk of escaped fires this season, Tocumwal based Group Officer Mark MacCullagh said: “It’s pretty simple, if you don’t think you can keep the fire controlled and within your property boundaries, don’t light the fire”

**Permit application process:** All permit applications are to be made through:

<https://www.bit.ly/sbtpermits>

**Burn notifications (must be 24 hours in advance)** to be submitted by the permit holder at:

<https://www.rfs.nsw.gov.au/fire-information/BFDP/burn-notifications> (or point your smart phone camera at the following QR Code):



**Fines apply to landowners lighting fires who do not have a permit and/or do not notify the Rural Fire Service 24hrs prior**

In addition landowner’s neighbours also have to be informed 24hrs prior

Landowners please feel free to seek further information regarding permits by calling the RFS Southern Border Team on (02) 6051 1511 during business hours

For more information contact RFS State Media on 02 9898 1855

For current incidents or major fire updates visit [www.rfs.nsw.gov.au](http://www.rfs.nsw.gov.au)