

What DECYP does for Bushfire & Heatwaves

Last updated: 16 March 2023

DID YOU KNOW?

1. Bushfire is rated as [Tasmania's No. 1 natural hazard \(PDF, 1.4MB\)](#), with significant incidents in recent years including 2013, 2016, and 2019.
2. For bushfires and heatwaves, our Department has a lead information sharing role across our sites and teams,, and the Non-Government school sector.

OUR AIM

We work collaboratively with our stakeholders so people at our site can be safe from bushfires or heatwaves.

OUR ACTIONS

Before

- We update our procedures and guides in line with national and State advice
- We engage with regional emergency committees, and

- We make sure we have clear lines of communication with Non-Government schools and the Education & Care Unit for emergencies.

During

- We check weather forecasts, and send internal updates when bushfires start, or heatwaves are forecast
- We share information and make changes for safety in advance if needed (e.g. temporary closure)
- We communicate with managers at affected sites to support decision-making and communications with their various site stakeholders.

After

- We resume our planned activities as soon as it is safe to do so
- We assess our sites for damage, and we arrange alternate sites if needed
- We support our staff and learners if they are emergency-affected.



DECISION THRESHOLDS

We make decisions for safety, when:

- **Bushfire:** [Fire Danger Rating forecasts](#) of 'Extreme'
- **Heatwave:** When forecasts reach 'Severe' in the extreme heat range, and the Department of Health provides us with supporting advice
- **Active Fires:** We actively monitor bushfires and follow advice from the Tasmania Fire Service.

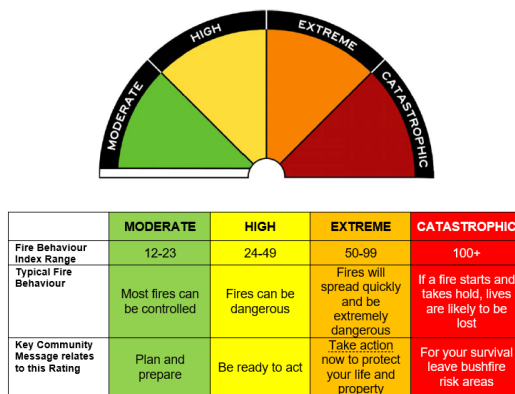


Image:

[Australian Fire Danger Rating System](#)

MORE INFORMATION?

[What Departmental sites are currently closed?](#)

[Current Bushfires](#) (TasALERT)

[List of affected roads](#) (Tasmania Police)

[Current Public Health Alerts](#) (Dept. of Health)

[Fire Danger Rating Forecasts](#) (TFS)

[Bushfire & Heatwave Staff, Parents & Carers Information page](#) (DECYP)

CHANGES - HOW TO KNOW

When planned activities are going to be changed, the manager at the site lets people know through the usual communication channels e.g. emails, Facebook, webpages.

If one of our sites needs to close because of bushfire or heatwave risk, advice is usually provided the day before, and is published on the [Alerts](#) page.

Updates will be provided regularly until the site re-opens.

HOW TO BE READY

- 1 Make an emergency plan with your household so everyone knows what they should do.

Recommended resources are: [TFS 5 Minute Bushfire Plan](#) or [SES Home Emergency Plan](#)

- 2 Check the bushfire plans for the Departmental sites you go to - know their assembly points and how and how they will update you

- 3 Update your phone contacts and web 'Favourites' with emergency details.

