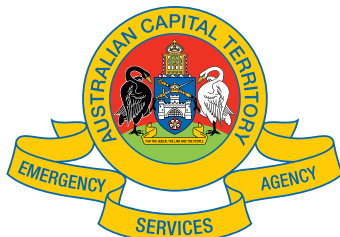


FIRE DANGER RATINGS

An early indicator to you about the potential danger if a bushfire starts.

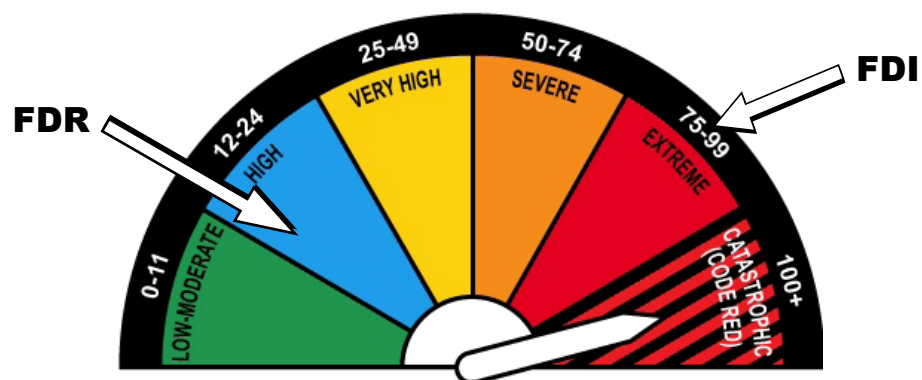


Fire Danger Rating

Fire Services throughout Australia produce a Fire Danger Rating (FDR) for each day during the bushfire season. This rating is based on how fire is expected to behave if one should start on any given day. The FDR is represented by the different words and colours that appear on the Fire Danger metre below.

The FDR is determined by the Fire Danger Index (FDI) and is a combination of air temperature, relative humidity, wind speed and drought conditions. The FDI is represented by the numbers in the black band across the top of the metre.

The relationship between the FDR and FDI are represented in the fire danger metre below.



The higher the FDI, the higher the FDR and the more Prepared and Active we need you to be.

The Fire Danger Rating and the Fire Danger Index are published daily on the ACT Emergency Services Agency website www.esa.act.gov.au

The website also provides further information about interpreting the Fire Danger metre and associated warnings.

The FDR and FDI are also provided to the ACT local media outlets for broadcast and publication each day.

Your survival may depend on it.

Total Fire Ban

The ACT Emergency Services Agency may declare a Total Fire Ban in the ACT for days of increased fire danger. This decision will be informed by the Bureau of Meteorology (BoM) and declared by the ACT Emergency Services Agency.

The surrounding regions of NSW may declare a Total Fire Ban on days that the ACT does not, and visa versa, so remain alert when crossing the borders throughout the bushfire season.

Total Fire Bans are declared on days when conditions are at a level where the community is at significant risk of death and large loss of property in a major bushfire.

For more information on Total Fire Bans go to www.esa.act.gov.au

Rules During Total Fire Bans

No fire may be lit in the open during a Total Fire Ban in the ACT. Anyone convicted of lighting a fire during a Total Fire Ban may face a fine and/or imprisonment.

The ACT Emergency Services Agency may also issue a permit declaring a fire be exempt during a Total Fire Ban in special circumstances.

Gas or electric BBQ's may be used to cook food on or heat liquids during a Total Fire Ban if, while in use:

- the BBQ is under the direct control of a responsible adult;
- an area around the BBQ of at least 3m is cleared of flammable material; and
- a fire-extinguisher, fire blanket or a continuous stream of water is available for use.

Anyone who becomes aware of an outbreak of uncontrolled fire should call 000 to report it's location and if it's within your capabilities then take all reasonable steps to extinguish it.

Fire Danger Rating		Fire Danger Index	Fire Behaviour	Impact Potential	What Should I Do?
CATASTROPHIC		100	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If a fire starts, some fires will be uncontrollable, unpredictable and very fast moving with highly aggressive flames extending high above tree tops and buildings. A thick river of embers will attack homes violently causing other fires to start rapidly and spread quickly up to 20 km ahead of the main fire. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fire will threaten suddenly, without warning and be incredibly hot and windy making it difficult to see, hear or breathe. Lives will be lost, people injured and homes and business destroyed or damaged. Even well prepared and constructed homes will not be safe. Expect power, water and phone networks to fail as severe winds bring down trees, power lines and blow roofs off buildings well ahead of the fire. <p>DO NOT EXPECT A FIRE TRUCK</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure that your survival is the primary consideration in any decision. The safest option is for you and your family to leave early, hours or days before a fire occurs. Under no circumstances will it be safe to Stay and Defend. Ensure you stay well informed of current fire activity by monitoring local media and regularly checking for updates on the ESA website www.esa.act.gov.au or by calling Canberra Connect on 13 22 81.
		99	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If a fire starts, fires will be uncontrollable, unpredictable and fast moving with flames in the tree tops, and higher than roof tops. Thousands of embers will be blown into and around homes causing other fires to start and spread quickly up to 6 km ahead of the main fire. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fire will threaten suddenly, without warning and be very hot and windy making it difficult to see, hear and breathe. Lives may be lost and people injured and expect homes and business to be destroyed or damaged. Only very well prepared, constructed and actively defended homes are likely to offer any degree of safety. Power, water and phone networks are likely to fail because severe winds will bring down trees, power lines and blow roofs off buildings well ahead of the fire. <p>DO NOT EXPECT A FIRE TRUCK</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure that your survival is the primary consideration in any decision. Leaving early (hours before) will always be the safest option for you and your family Implement your Bush Fire Survival Plan. If your Bush Fire Survival Plan includes the decision to Stay and Defend, only do so if your home is well prepared, constructed and you are currently capable of actively defending it. Stay well informed of current fire activity by monitoring local media and regularly checking for updates on the ESA website www.esa.act.gov.au or by calling Canberra Connect on 13 22 81.
		74	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fires will be difficult to control, unpredictable and fast moving with flames that may reach the tops of the trees and be higher than roof tops. Expect embers to be blown into and around homes causing other fires to start and spread up to 4 km ahead of the main fire. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fire can threaten suddenly, without warning and be hot and windy which at times will make it difficult to see, hear and breathe. There is a chance lives may be lost and people injured and expect that some homes and business will be destroyed or damaged. Well prepared, constructed and actively defended homes are likely to offer safety during a fire. Power, water and phone networks may fail as winds may bring down trees, power lines and blow roofs off buildings ahead of the fire. <p>DO NOT EXPECT A FIRE TRUCK</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure that your survival is the primary consideration in any decision. Leaving early (hours before) is the safest option for you and your family. Follow your Bush Fire Survival Plan. Staying and defending is an option if your home is well prepared, constructed and you can actively defend it. Stay informed of current fire activity by monitoring local media and regularly checking for updates on the ESA website www.esa.act.gov.au or by calling Canberra Connect on 13 22 81.
		49	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fires can be difficult to control quickly and may be fast moving. Embers may be blown into and around homes causing other fires to occur up to 2 km ahead of the main fire. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fire can threaten suddenly, without warning and it may be hot and windy and at times difficult to see, hear and breathe. Loss of life and homes is unlikely. Well prepared and constructed homes that are actively defended can offer safety during a fire. Power, water and phone networks may fail. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure that your survival is the primary consideration in any decision. Leaving early (hours before) is the safest option for you and your family. Activate your Bush Fire Survival Plan. Stay informed of current fire activity by monitoring local media and regularly checking for updates on the ESA website www.esa.act.gov.au or by calling Canberra Connect on 13 22 81.
		24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fires can be controlled but can still present a threat. Embers may be blown ahead of the fire and into and around homes causing other fires to occur close to the main fire. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A fire may threaten suddenly and without warning. Loss of life and homes is highly unlikely and well prepared homes that are actively defended can offer safety during a fire. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure your family and home is well prepared for the risk of bush fire. Review and practice your Bush Fire Survival Plan. Monitor local media for fire activity and regularly check the ESA website www.esa.act.gov.au or by calling Canberra Connect on 13 22 81.
		11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fires can be easily controlled and are slow moving with low flame heights. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Little or no risk to life or homes. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure you have a current Bush Fire Survival Plan. Ensure your family, home and property is well prepared for the risk of bush fire. Refer to the ESA website, www.esa.act.gov.au or call Canberra Connect on 13 22 81 for changes in fire activity.
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**For more information
on bushfires go to
www.esa.act.gov.au
or call
**Canberra Connect
13 22 81****



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