



MEDIA RELEASE

Hazard reduction season set to commence

5 April 2018

The NSW Rural Fire Service (NSW RFS) has scheduled a hazard reduction burn to take place in the Liverpool Military Area commencing on Saturday 14 April 2018.

Nearly 300 firefighters and firefighting helicopters will take part in the 800-hectare hazard reduction operation which will be carried out over a number of days.

NSW RFS Inspector Scott Deller said the hazard reduction operation is due to start just after 9.00am on the Saturday. The operation will have resources working around the clock for at least the first 36 to 48 hours.

Due to the proximity of the operation to Heathcote Road, the speed limit will be reduced to 60km/h between Lucas Heights and Holsworthy. There may be intermittent closures should the road be impacted by smoke.

The Traffic Management Centre advises motorists to avoid the area if possible.

“Hazard reduction plays a vital role in helping to reduce the intensity of bush fires,” Inspector Deller said.

“This controlled burn is extremely important as it will reduce the intensity of a fire burning from the military area into the vulnerable residential areas nearby”

“This particular activity once completed will provide firefighters an advantage in preventing a wild fire crossing Heathcote Road towards adjoining areas such as Sandy Point, Alford's Point and Menai”

“This operation is an important part of our Bushfire Risk Management Plan and there will be further smaller controlled burns in Engadine, Loftus and Bangor in the near future.”

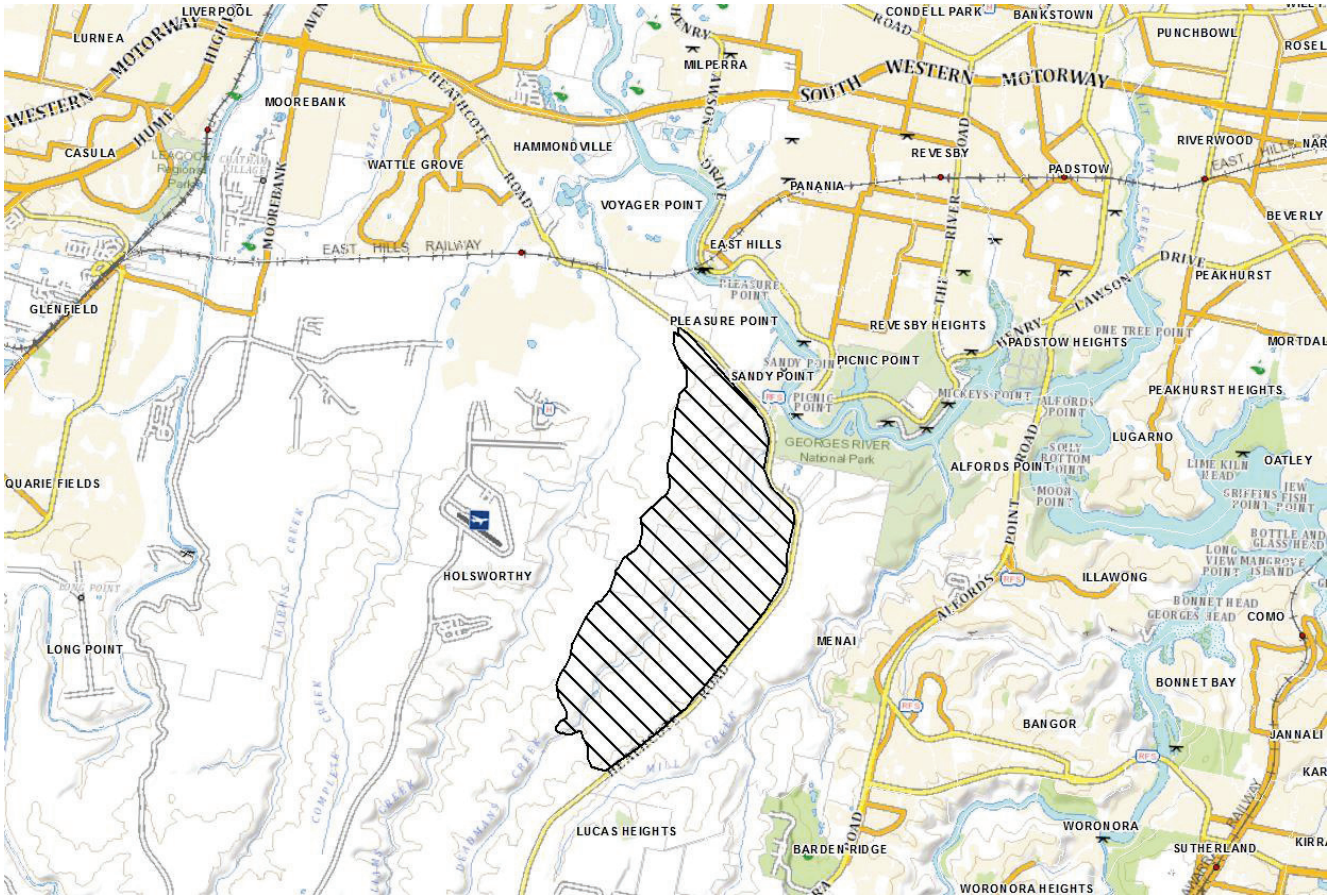
Inspector Deller said it is important to take advantage of suitable weather conditions to conduct hazard reduction burning as soon as they occur.

“For a hazard reduction burn to be successful, we require the right wind and temperature conditions as well as ground fuels to be sufficiently dry.

“We advise residents in all adjoining areas to take appropriate precautions, such as keeping doors and windows closed, removing washing from clothes lines and making sure pets are in a protected area.

“Motorists in the area should also slow down and take care if driving through smoke, keep the windows up, switch the car air-conditioner to recirculated air mode and turn headlights on.”





For more information contact the State Duty Media Officer on 9898 1855
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