



Robyn Parker MP

Minister for the Environment

Minister for Heritage

MEDIA RELEASE

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HAZARD REDUCTION RECORD FOR NSW NATIONAL PARKS

A significant increase in NSW Government funding for fire management has allowed the NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) to achieve its best ever hazard reduction burning result.

Environment Minister Robyn Parker today announced the NPWS has exceeded the previous record for the number of hectares treated across NSW national parks in hazard reduction burning operations.

“Throughout the year (2012/13) the NPWS has managed to treat almost 208,000 hectares in 1,370 separate hazard reduction activities,” Ms Parker said.

“The previous best year for hazard reduction burning was in 2009-2010 when over 90,000 hectares was treated in controlled burning operations.

“The NSW Government committed an additional \$62.5 million over five years under the Enhanced Bushfire Management Program which has provided the much needed financial support to the NPWS enabling it to carry out this work.

“This is on top of the \$38 million that is spent annually on fire management within the NSW national parks network.

“This result is also a reflection of the considerable NSW Government commitment to the protection of life and property against the threat of bushfire.

“Importantly our hazard reduction methods have been carried out strategically where they will provide very real protection to communities – directly protecting more than 19,000 neighbouring homes and properties

“The NPWS has a total of 1,300 trained fire fighters and I would like to personally congratulate them all on a job well done. I would also like to thank fire fighters from all other agencies who helped in this important task.

“It’s a dangerous job and the community will be grateful to all involved for this enormous effort.

“This result was also achieved through the significant contribution of the State’s other fire fighting agencies, the Rural Fire Service (RFS) and NSW Fire and Rescue.”

Broadcast quality news footage - vimeo.com/69525497

Hazard reduction program videos youtube.com/user/NSWNatParks?feature=mhsn

Breakdown by NPWS region of burns:

NPWS Region	Hazard reduction area
Central Coast	
Hunter	17,227
Far South Coast	28,026
Hunter	7,575
North Coast	10,389
Northern Rivers	886
South Coast	9,799
Blue Mountains	53,656
Metro North East	1,405
Metro South west	1,601
Southern Ranges	30,392
Far West	6,569
Northern Plains	15,575
Northern Tablelands	13,959
Western Rivers	10,498