



NSW RURAL FIRE SERVICE

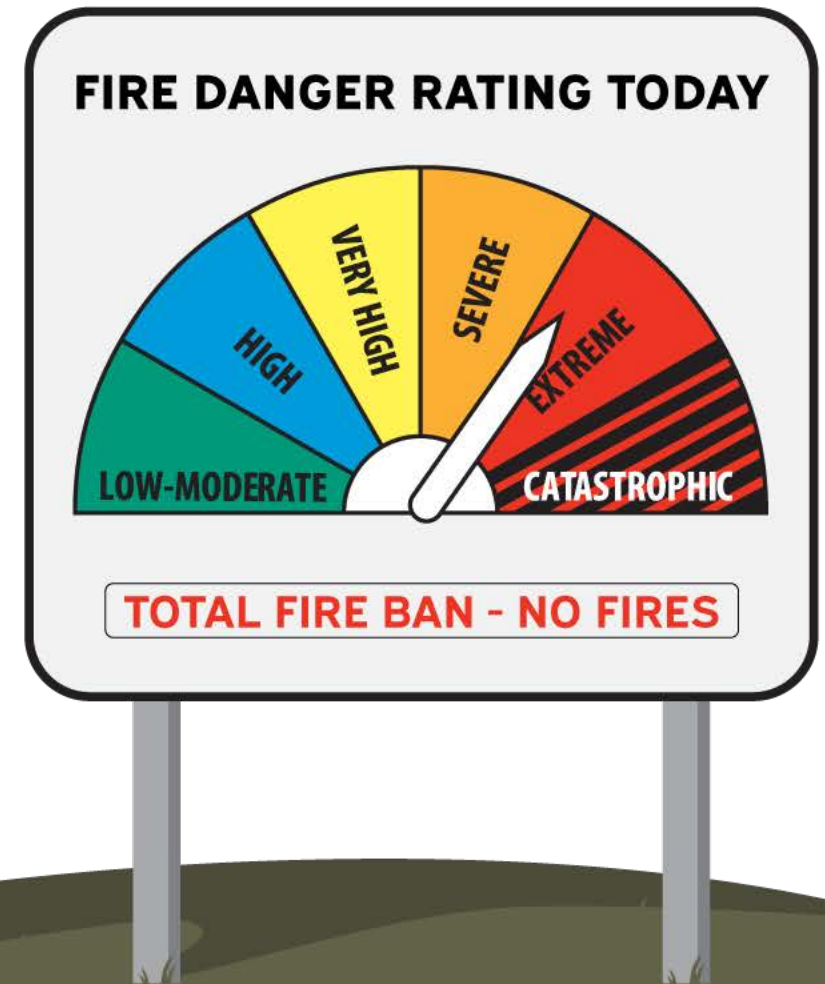
Australian Fire Danger Ratings

New Science, New Signs,
New Messaging

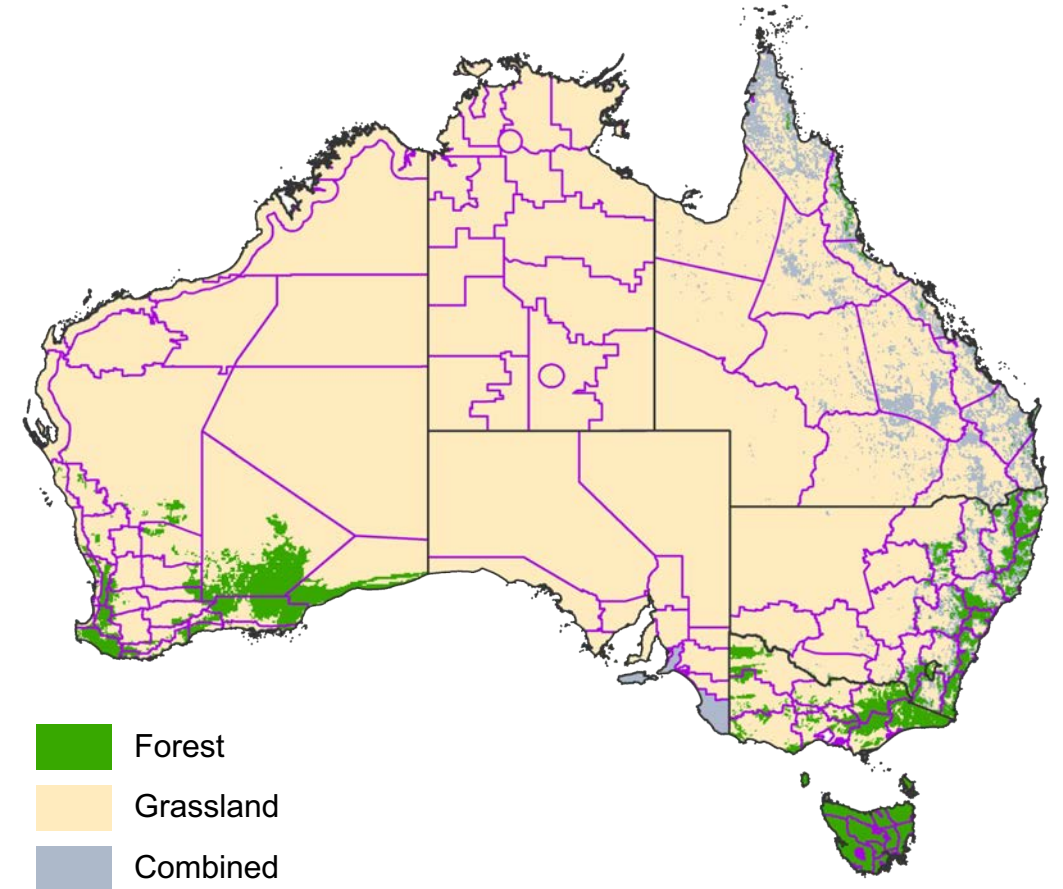
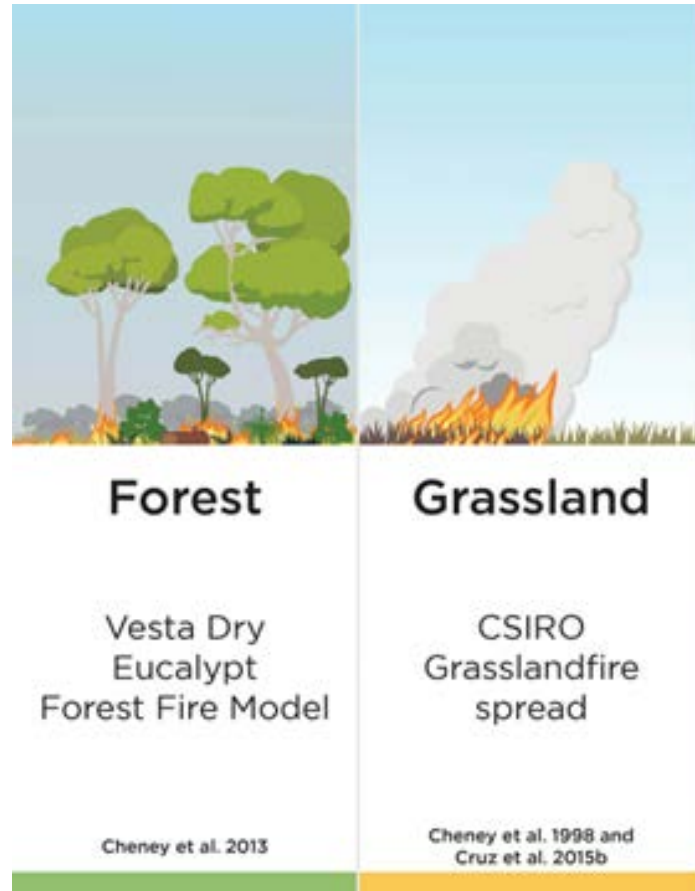


The OLD Fire Danger Ratings









- Had too many rating levels
- Ratings were abstract – it was unclear what action people should take when
- Was inconsistent – Different states had different ratings/signs
- People believed that they didn't need to take action until the rating passed the midpoint.



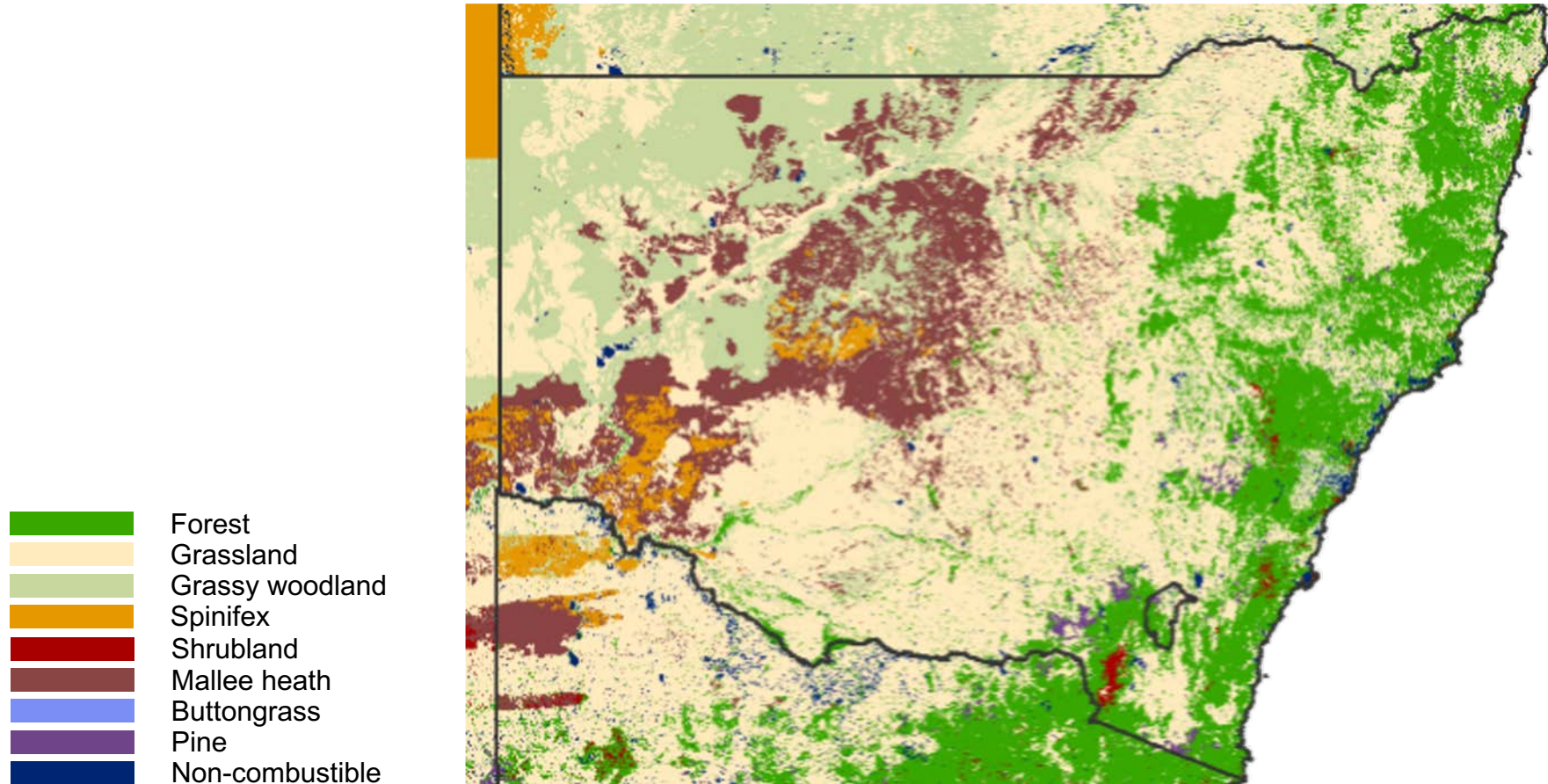
The OLD Fire Behaviour Models



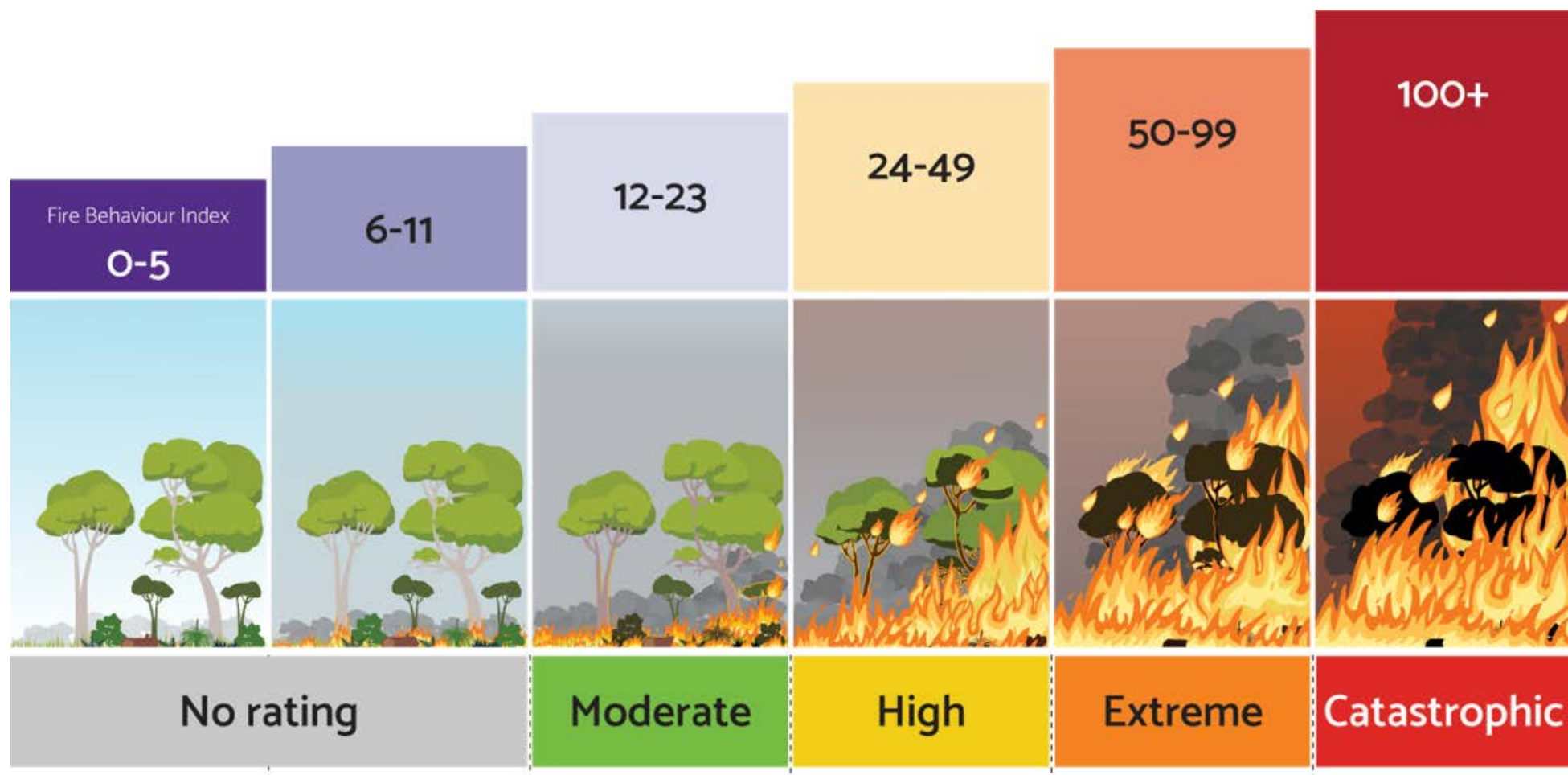
The NEW Fire Behaviour Models

| | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|--|---|---|---|---|
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Forest | Grassland | Grassy woodland | Spinifex | Shrubland | Mallee heath | Buttongrass | Pine |
| Vesta Dry Eucalypt Forest Fire Model | CSIRO Grasslandfire spread | CSIRO Grassland for northern Australia | Desert Spinifex model | Shrubland model | Mallee-Heath model | Buttongrass Moorlands model | Adjusted Pine model |
| Cheney et al. 2013 | Cheney et al. 1998 and Cruz et al. 2015b | Cheney et al. 1998 and Cruz et al. 2015b | Burrows et al. 2017 | Anderson et al. 2015 | Cruz et al. 2013 | Marsden-Smedley and Catchpole 1995b | Modification of Cruz et al. (2008) |

The NEW Fire Behaviour Models



The Fire Behaviour Index & Rating



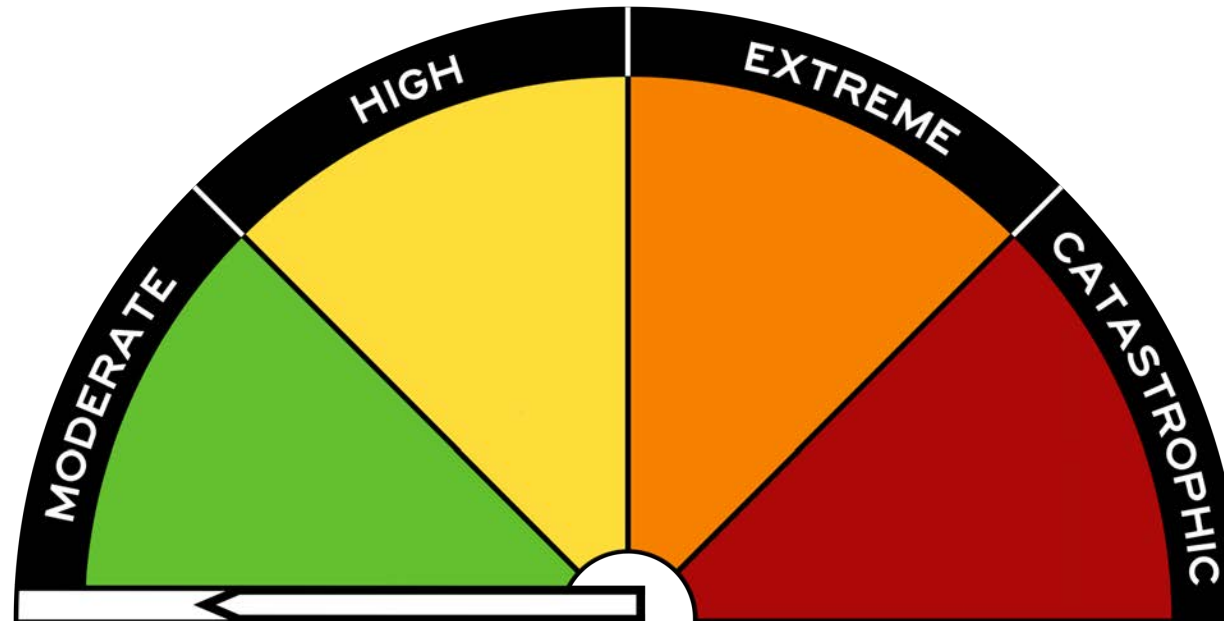
The Fire Behaviour Index

| Index | Rating | Explanation |
|-------|--------------|---|
| 100+ | Catastrophic | Fire likely to become very intense and spread over a large area. |
| 50-99 | Extreme | Fire likely to become intense and cause spot fires over long distances. |
| 24-49 | High | Fire may become large, cause spot fires over medium distances. |
| 12-23 | Moderate | Fire may become sizable. Should be able to attack and control. |
| 0-11 | No Rating | Fire will be low intensity, may self-extinguish or spread slowly. |

The New Sign



No Rating – No Action Required



Moderate – Plan & Prepare



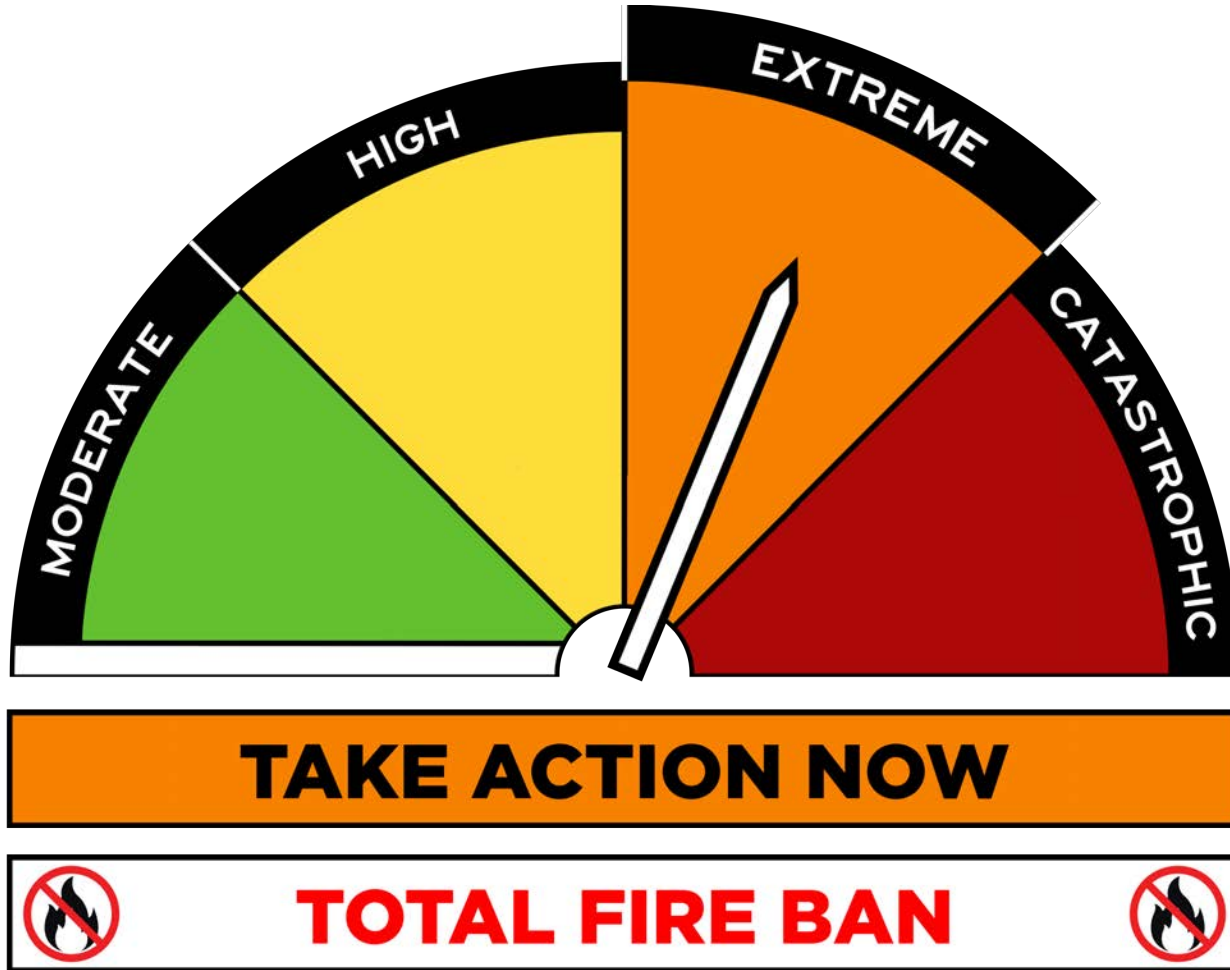
- Review your Bushfire Survival Plan
- Check your Equipment

High – Be Ready To Act



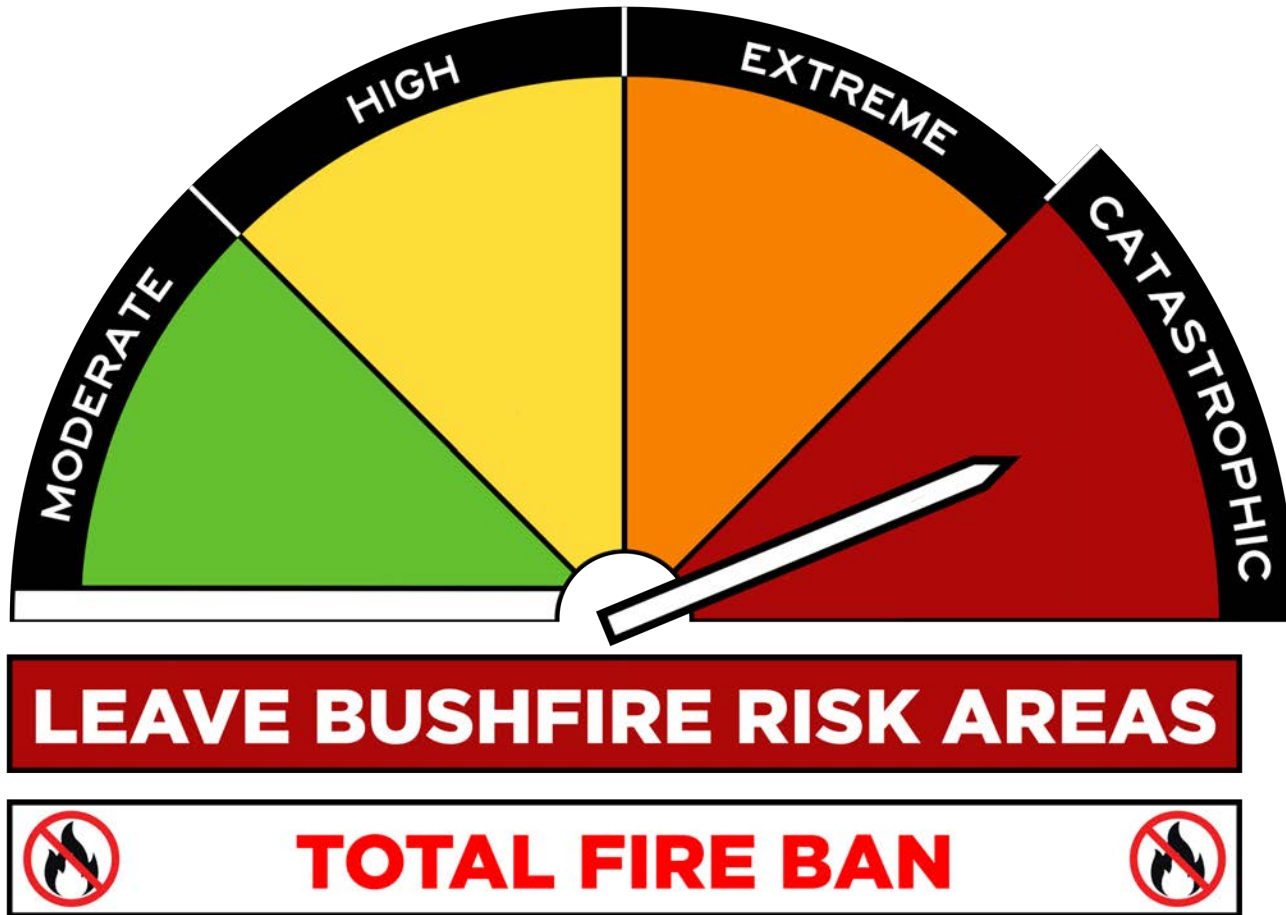
- Decide what you will do if a fire starts
- Determine triggers points and share with family
- It is safest to avoid bushfire prone areas

Extreme – Take Action Now to Protect Your Life



- Check your Bushfire Survival Plan
- Prepare your property
- Consider evacuating if you not prepared, have medical conditions, have limited escape options

Catastrophic – Leave Bushfire Risk Areas



- Your life depends on the decisions you make, even before a fire
- Homes cannot withstand fires in these conditions
- You may not be able to leave, and help may not come

What Will You Do?



Prepare/Review your Bushfire Survival Plan

GETTING READY FOR BUSH FIRE IS EASIER THAN YOU THINK

THE 4 SIMPLE STEPS ARE:



1. DISCUSS



2. PREPARE



3. KNOW



4. KEEP

GET THE GUIDE AT

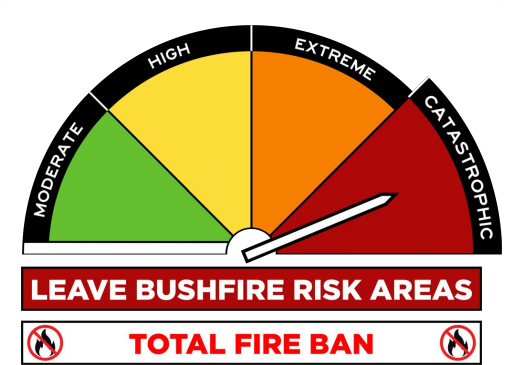
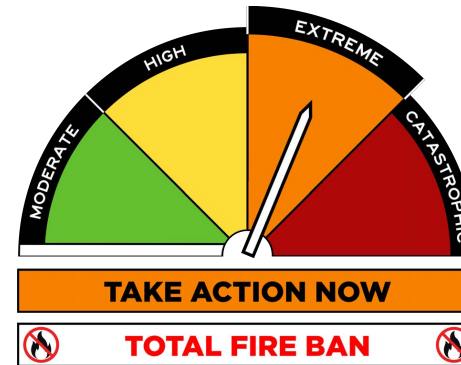
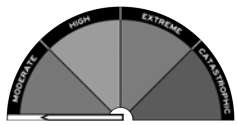
www.MyFirePlan.com.au

Maintain Awareness of Fires In Your Area



Visit **firesnear.me** to download the App

Decide When To Evacuate



Things to consider:

- Pearl Beach is nestled in bushland which has not burnt for a significant period of time
- Pearl Beach has one road in and out, which runs through the bushland
- Pearl Beach has two pedestrian routes in and out, one which goes deep into bushland on a slope, the other is narrow, rocky and empties onto a roadway
- The electricity supply to Pearl Beach runs through the bushland, and home phones need power to run
- The mobile phone coverage in Pearl Beach is limited
- **By the time a fire occurs, it may be too late to evacuate**
- **Help might not be available**

A background image of a forest fire with smoke and flames. A dashed white line runs horizontally across the bottom of the image, indicating an evacuation route.

**It is
NEVER TOO EARLY
to
EVACUATE**

Questions?

Have a question?

- Attend the Pearl Beach Station
39 Emerald Avenue for the
Get Ready Weekend, Sun 18 Sept
- Contact Pearl Beach Brigade
pearlbeach@ccrfs.org.au
- Visit the Pearl Beach Station
39 Emerald Avenue, Pearl Beach
(Tuesdays, 7-9PM)

