

# Implementation of the Australian Fire Danger Rating System - NSW

## FEDERATION FUNDING AGREEMENT - ENVIRONMENT

<b>Table 1: Formalities and operation of schedule</b>																			
Parties	Commonwealth New South Wales (NSW)																		
Duration	This Schedule is expected to expire on 31 December 2024.																		
Purpose	<p>This Schedule will support the implementation of the Australian Fire Danger Rating System. The new Australian Fire Danger Rating System will improve public safety and reduce the impacts of bushfires by improving decision making enabled by more accurate scientific information. Nationally consistent fire danger rating information will be available to the public, reducing confusion about how to react to a warning.</p> <p>The funding NSW receives through this agreement (on behalf of all states and territories) will assist in addressing recommendation 13.1 of the Royal Commission into National Natural Disaster Arrangements.</p>																		
Estimated financial contributions	<p>The Commonwealth will provide a total financial contribution to NSW of \$2.3m in respect of this Schedule.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="3"><b>Table 1</b></th> </tr> <tr> <th><b>(\$ million)</b></th> <th><b>2022-23</b></th> <th><b>Total</b></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td><b>Total budget</b></td> <td><b>2.3</b></td> <td><b>2.3</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>Less National Partnership Payments</i></td> <td>2.3</td> <td>2.3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>- NSW</td> <td>2.3</td> <td>2.3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Balance of non-Commonwealth contributions</td> <td>0.0</td> <td>0.0</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	<b>Table 1</b>			<b>(\$ million)</b>	<b>2022-23</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Total budget</b>	<b>2.3</b>	<b>2.3</b>	<i>Less National Partnership Payments</i>	2.3	2.3	- NSW	2.3	2.3	Balance of non-Commonwealth contributions	0.0	0.0
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<p>Additional terms</p>	<p>NSW will be responsible for arranging financial and/or in-kind contribution to support the implementation of this Schedule. To assist with ongoing implementation requirements of AFDRS, NSW will be eligible for this payment once the Commonwealth and NSW have signed this schedule.</p> <p>This is a one-off payment toward the Fire Ignition, Suppression and Impact Indices project—an integral part of the AFDRS, and stabilisation of the AFDRS</p> <p>It is a condition of funding that NSW is required to deliver the outputs specified in their reporting table.</p>
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Table 2: New South Wales – Performance requirements and reporting summary		
Output	Reporting requirements	Report due
<p>Address high priority defects within the AFDRS system including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- fire behavior, fuel load and fuel moisture calculations</li> <li>- Rigorous testing and evaluation of model code</li> <li>- Updating training, technical and communications materials; and</li> <li>- Bug and code fixes.</li> </ul>		
<p>Implement a number of suggested improvements for the AFDS Web Portals, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- functionality of the Fire Danger Viewer user interface</li> <li>- workflow experience within the Fuel State Editor; and</li> <li>- linking to an FBI calculator.</li> </ul>		
<p>Development of products and materials towards the FISl program, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Operational Implementation and web development of the FISl Indices at several scales</li> <li>- Research stream to inform elements that were previously not feasible or within scope</li> <li>- Development towards a framework for continuous improvement and advancements</li> <li>- Development towards training and communication material</li> <li>- Inclusion of assets on common operating picture</li> <li>- Development towards design guidelines for products</li> <li>- Development towards an Exposure Index to include social and vulnerability data</li> </ul>	<p>Evidence of development and delivery of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• training and communication material</li> <li>• design guidelines</li> <li>• framework for continuous improvement</li> <li>• identification and justification of relevant research elements</li> <li>• identification of assets on common operating picture</li> <li>• exposure index</li> </ul>	<p>Via updates at AFDRS Board Meetings</p>

The Parties have confirmed their commitment to this schedule as follows:

**Signed** for and on behalf of the Commonwealth  
of Australia by



Senator, the Hon Murray Watt

Minister for Emergency Management

[Day] [Month] [Year] 30/1/24

**Signed** for and on behalf of the  
State of New South Wales by



The Hon Jihad Dib, MP

Minister for Emergency Services

[Day] [Month] [Year] 31/05/24