



DFES General Circular No: 142/2022 File: D10631

9 August 2022

Online training now available – Australian Fire Danger Rating System

An online introductory course to raise awareness about the Australian Fire Danger Rating System (AFDRS) is now available – DFES1066 Introduction to the AFDRS.

DFES operational and corporate staff, as well as volunteer and career personnel, are encouraged to complete the training before the AFDRS goes live next month to get a robust understanding of the new system.

DFES staff and volunteers can access the training via <u>eAcademy</u>. External stakeholders can access it via the <u>AFAC Learning Management System</u>.

An Intermediate online training course will be released on eAcademy next week. This is for land and fire managers, operational staff, planners and incident controllers. It provides a practical and applied level of training relating to the use of the Fire Behaviour Index and new AFDRS and Bureau of Meteorology (BoM) products. The Introduction to the AFDRS course is a pre-requisite for this training.

The AFDRS will go live across Australia on Thursday 1 September 2022. There are four levels of fire danger in the new system:

- 1. Moderate: Plan and prepare
- 2. **High:** Be ready to act
- 3. **Extreme:** Take action now to protect your life and property
- 4. **Catastrophic:** For your survival, leave bushfire risk areas

Fire Danger Ratings will be issued on days when there is a fire risk. Each rating will have a clear set of messages, including the actions the community can take to reduce their risk.

Improving the science means we can also issue 'no rating' for days where bushfires are unlikely to spread in a dangerous or life-threatening way. You'll be able to check the daily fire danger for your area at <u>Emergency WA</u> or by visiting the <u>BoM website</u>.

For more information about the AFDRS and what is changing in WA, visit the <u>Volunteer Hub</u> and <u>Intranet</u>. For training support, email the project team at <u>AFDRS@dfes.wa.gov.au</u>.

JOHN TILLMAN AFSM CHIEF SUPERINTENDENT BUSHFIRE CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE