

# 2011 FIRE WEATHER AND RISK WORKSHOP

## PROGRAM

NOTE: Registrants will have checked out of their Sydney hotel rooms before heading for the BCRC Science Day. A Cloakroom will be provided at the Conference Registration Desk for you to store your luggage. By keeping it together it will speed up loading the buses later. After Mike Fromm's closing talk, we will all need to head for the bus pick-up point fairly promptly. There will be a 48-seat Murray's coach and a 25-seat New South Wales rural fire Service bus (which may leave a half hour after the coach). It is important that we fill up the main bus first.

People who are going to the AFAC/BCRC Conference will be making their own way to Bowral or will meet us at the bus pick-up point. Should anyone miss the buses they will need to let us know, and they may need to make their own way to Bowral (train or hire car).

You must see a Workshop Organiser before boarding either bus, so that we may do headcounts and give you Registration Card for the Craigieburn, to complete *en route*.

When we arrive you should check-in. The Registration Desk is on the left at the top of the entrance stairs. This will require the form and a credit card imprint. If the queues are too long you may choose to have dinner first. Dinner will be in the Montfort's Restaurant, to the right from the top of the entrance stairs.

We hope you find the Workshop enjoyable and productive.

### THURSDAY, 1<sup>st</sup> September 2011

17:00	<b>BCRC Science Day closes, Darling Harbour</b>		
17:30	<b>Boarding of buses for Bowral</b>	Organising Group	Room registration forms will be handed out on the buses
Arrival onwards	<b>Check-in</b>	Craigieburn Reception Desk	
19:30	<b>Dinner</b>		
20:30	<b>Setting the scene, riding instructions</b>	Organising Group	
21:30	<b>Close</b>		

Montfort's Restaurant, the Craigieburn's dining room.	Carrington Room, our meeting room	Alexander Room, the side room to the meeting room.
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**FRIDAY, 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2011**

07:00	<b>Breakfast</b>		
08:45	<b>Housekeeping &amp; Set-up</b>	Organising Group	
09:00	<b>OPENING REMARKS</b>	Chair: Andrew Stark, ACTRFS	
		Sponsor: Andrew Stark, ACTESA	
		Sponsor: Brad Smith, AGD	
		Sponsor: John Schneider, GA	
09:20	<b>GENERAL REVIEW</b>	Chair: Simon Heemstra, NSWRFS	
		Graham Mills	Summary of participant's expectations survey
09:40		Show-and-tell	Various, 5 minutes each
		Tony Bannister, BoM	Lessons from international forecaster exchanges
10:30	<b>Coffee Break, Technology Displays &amp; Posters</b>		
11:15	<b>RESEARCH REVIEW</b>	Chair: John Nairn, BoM	
		Mike Fromm, Naval Research Laboratory, Washington	Off the charts: unifying pyrocumulonimbus and wild fire behaviour to define new extremes
		Tony Bannister, BoM	Black Saturday radar video
		Paul Fox-Hughes, BoM	Two extreme fire danger days in Tasmania
12:30	<b>Lunch</b>		
13:30	<b>RESEARCH REVIEW</b>	Chair: Ralph Smith, FESA, WA	
		Brian Potter, US Forest Service, Seattle	Plume Development & Fire Behaviour: Expanding Understanding Of Fire Risk In The Third Dimension
		Mika Peace, Adelaide University & BoM	The Layman Fire burn-"up"
		Rachel Badlan, Melbourne University	Modelling foehn-induced increases in FDI with WRF
		Jason Sharples, ADFA	Foehn winds and other extreme drying events
		Grant Pearce, SCION, NZ	Validation of satellite assessment methods for grassland curing in NZ
15:30	<b>Coffee Break</b>		
16:30	<b>RESEARCH REVIEW</b>	Chair: Beth Ebert, CAWCR	
		Tom Duff and Derek Chong, Melbourne University	Comparing Phoenix forecasts with area burnt
		Andrew Dowdy, CAWCR	Predicting environments conducive to dry lightning and resulting ignitions
		Discussion	
17:30	<b>Break</b>		
19:00	<b>Dinner</b>		
19:50	<b>BUSHFIRE RISK REVIEW</b>	Chair: John Schneider, GA	
		Brad Smith, AGD	National Disaster Resilience Strategy; NDRS
		Damien Killalea, TFS	AFAC's position on the safety and protection of people and community assets during bushfires
		John McAneney, Risk Frontiers	Bushfire risk assessment
		Trevor Jones, GA	Bushfire Risk Assessment Framework
		Margaret Mackisack, Consulting Statistician	Bushfire Risk and Electricity Supply
21:30		Discussion	
22:00	<b>Close</b>		

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**SATURDAY, 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2011**

07:00	<b>Breakfast</b>		
09:00	<b>FORECAST PRACTICE</b>	Chair: Malcolm Cronstedt, FESA, WA	
	<b>Modelling</b>	Beth Ebert, CAWCR	Modelling developments with ACCESS
	<b>NextGen</b>	John Bally, CAWCR	The NextGen rollout and the future of weather forecasting
		Andrew Treloar, CAWCR	NextGen Fire Weather Module
	Gary Featherstone, Manager RLM, AFAC	Opportunities for a National Set of Fire Weather Products	
10:30	<b>Coffee Break</b>		
11:00	<b>Bureau RFC and Fire Agency perspectives on NextGen</b>	Chair: Jason Sharples, ADFA	
		Claire Yeo, BoM, Vic	
		Paul Brockhoff, DSE, Vic	
		Michael Logan, BoM, NSW	
		Rick McRae, ACTESA	
		Simon Heemstra, NSWRFSS	
11:50		Discussion	
12:30	<b>Lunch</b>		
13:30	<b>National Fire Danger Rating System</b>	Chair: Trevor Jones, GA	
		Darren Bretherton, AGD	
		Jeff Kepert, CAWCR	
		Andrew Stark, ACTRFSS	End-user Expectations
14:00		Discussion	
15:10	<b>NEW RESEARCH DIRECTIONS</b>	Chair: Damien Killalea, TFS	
		Phil Zylstra, DEH, NSW	Development of Rapid Fuel Assessment Techniques for the FFM
		Bob Cechet, GA	FIRE-DST
		Beth Ebert & Jeff Kepert, CAWCR	
		Jason Sharples, ADFA	
		Jason Sharples, ADFA	Review of university research
		Ian French, GA	Vegetation mapping
		David Bruce, BCRC	The Fire Institute
15:40	<b>RESEARCH ADOPTION</b>	Chair: Noreen Krusel, BCRC	
		Noreen Krusel, BCRC	Setting the questions
15:50	<b>Coffee Break</b>		
16:10		Rick McRae, ACTESA	Red Flag Warnings and Watchouts
		Discussion	
17:30	<b>PLENARY</b>	Chair: Graham Mills	Allocation of tasks and structure to Sunday morning
18:30	<b>Pre-Dinner Drinks</b>		
19:00	<b>Workshop Dinner</b>		

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**SUNDAY, 4<sup>th</sup> September 2011**

07:00	<b>Breakfast &amp; Check-out</b>
09:00	<b>DISCUSSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS</b> Chairs of previous sessions
10:30	<b>Coffee Break &amp; Early Bus departs for Sydney Airport</b>
11:00	<b>REPORT DRAFTING</b>
12:00	<b>CLOSING REMARKS</b> Organising Group
12:30	<b>Lunch</b>
13:30	<b>Main bus departs for Sydney Airport</b>

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