

Media Release



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Immediate Release

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ESA announces end to bushfire season

ACT Emergency Services Agency Commissioner Mark Crossweller today announced that the official 2010/2011 bushfire season for the ACT will conclude tonight.

“As of 11.59pm, the ACT will see the close of the official end of the bushfire period which will be the normal end to the season,” Commissioner Crossweller said.

“The ESA responded to a total of 72 grass fires and bushfires since the start of the season on 1 October, 2010,” he said.

“These were quickly brought under control and were extinguished.

The ESA Commissioner also made mention of the unseasonal conditions that were experienced in the ACT over the summer period.

“The ACT experienced a wet bushfire season with only the one total fire ban day declared on 1 February, 2011,” Commissioner Crossweller said.

“The level of rainfall the ACT has received over recent months has produced tremendous growth in grass and bush land around the region,” he said.

“Fortunately, no significant hot and windy conditions were experienced over the season which would have lead to a far greater risk to the community.

“The cold and frosty conditions to be expected over the winter months will dry the landscape across the ACT and the community will need to ensure that grass levels do not become unsafe around their home and property.

“Volunteers from the ACT Rural Fire Service and Parks and Conservation Service firefighters will continue to undertake a range of hazard reduction over winter and into spring as weather conditions allow.

“I would like to thank the ACT community for their co-operation during the bushfire season and also acknowledge the work done by our firefighters who were kept busy over summer assisting other emergency services during wet weather events.”