

# Media Release

ACT State Emergency Service



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## ACTSES navigate in the bush

ACT State Emergency Service (ACTSES) volunteers will tomorrow use their navigational knowledge to compete in an annual exercise in the Tidbinbilla Nature Reserve.

“The Navigation Canberra, (NAVCAN) exercise is a wonderful opportunity for all participants to utilise their skills in the field of navigation and search,” ACTSES Chief Officer Tony Graham said.

“The ACTSES are called upon to assist ACT Policing during various search and rescue operations, and tomorrows activity will provide another opportunity for volunteers to fine tune their skills,” he said.

“80 competitors from 14 teams will be provided with a map and a list of checkpoints to mark across a pre-set course. Teams consist of three to five members who will navigate for a period of up to seven hours.

“Participants from other emergency services will also join the exercise including staff from the Emergency Services Agency, the ACT Rural Fire Service and Parks, Conservation and Lands.”

Mr Graham also stressed the importance for all competitors to have a level of fitness.

“It will not be uncommon for some of the groups to cover an area of around 20 kilometres during the exercise. Members have trained on a regular basis to ensure that they can go the distance,” he said.

“All participants will be briefed on potential hazards, weather conditions, time constraints as well as terrain and environmental information before beginning.”

The exercise will commence from 10am to 5pm tomorrow.

