

# Public Notice

Department of Planning, Industry and Environment  
NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service



2 January 2019 10:00am

## Kosciuszko National Park Evacuation Notice

### Current situation

- There are large fires to the west and south of Kosciuszko National Park (KNP) that will move in an easterly direction in coming days
- There are multiple other fires within KNP which could expand in coming days. NPWS is continuing to gather intelligence about the location, size and predicted progress of these fires
- Lightning and ember attacks may result in additional fires
- It is unlikely that these fires will be contained in the coming days or weeks
- The current weather forecast indicates that Saturday January 4 will be a bad fire weather day. Fires are likely to spread quickly prior to and during this Saturday
- This is not a fire season that NSW has seen before. It is hotter and drier than we have previously experienced

### Evacuations

- An **evacuation order** is applied to all of Kosciuszko National Park and resorts and all other places located within Kosciuszko National Park. All people located in Kosciuszko National Park must exit Kosciuszko National Park boundaries before the deadline of **10:00am eastern daylight savings time Friday January 3, 2020**. This is an essential measure to protect life
- People outside of Kosciuszko National Park need to monitor advice from the NSW RFS and other fire and emergency service agencies to remain informed as to whether other areas outside of Kosciuszko National Park need to evacuate
- Kosciuszko National Park **is closed for entry**. Permanent residents and essential staff may enter but must have evacuated by the deadline of **10:00am Friday January 3, 2020**

### Advice

- All property owners, visitors and residents in and outside of Kosciuszko National Park need to act now to protect their assets and ensure their safety in the coming days
- Monitor conditions
- Know what you will do if the fire threatens
- High levels of resources were available around the Snowy Mountains during the large 2003 fires. High levels of resources are not available for these current fires due to demands in other areas around NSW and Australia
- Know where your Neighbourhood Safer Place is and **plan to leave early**

### If you are threatened by fire

- Do not be in the path of the fire
- Protect yourself from the heat of the fire. Wear protective clothing and footwear. Cover all exposed skin
- If the fire impacts, seek shelter in a solid structure to protect yourself from the heat of the fire.
- If your life is at risk, call Triple Zero (000)
- If you are in an area that has already been affected by fire, there may be small areas of active fire burning for some time. Be aware of the dangers of trees and branches falling

### Other Information

- Stay up to date on bush fires in your area by checking the **NSW RFS website <https://www.rfs.nsw.gov.au/>** listening to your local radio station, or by calling the NSW RFS Bush Fire Information Line on 1800 679 737 some updates may also be provided at <https://www.nationalparks.nsw.gov.au/alerts/alerts-list>
- Monitor the relevant RFS social media sites
- Know the frequencies of your local radio channels and do not rely on electricity
- People with respiratory conditions who are affected by bush fire smoke should activate their health management plan and seek medical advice if necessary. Take precautions, such as staying indoors and closing windows.
- For information on road closures, check **Live Traffic NSW** at [www.livetraffic.com/](http://www.livetraffic.com/)
- Roads may be closed without warning.
- Monitor weather conditions and weather warnings at **Bureau of Meteorology**. <http://www.bom.gov.au>
- Evacuation Centre locations:
  - Tumut – Club Tumut Bowling Club
  - Cooma – the showground, Multi-Function Centre

**ENDS**