



**Office of  
Environment & Heritage**  
NSW National Parks & Wildlife Service



Our reference: MD14/5803

Mr Jon Russell  
VFFA Media Officer  
Volunteer Fire Fighters Association  
media@volunteerfirefighters.org.au

Dear Mr Russell

I refer to your email to the Minister for the Environment, Rob Stokes MP, regarding the successful completion of the Tabaraga Ridge hazard reduction near Kurrajong Heights. Your email was referred to the Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH) and I have been asked to reply.

Thank you for your recognition of National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) staff and for passing on the note of thanks from Mr Williams. I understand this hazard reduction involved over 150 firefighters, advance preparation by mitigation teams from both NPWS and Rural Fire Services and a significant effort by Kurrajong Heights' brigade members who worked closely with neighbours to prepare for this burn and led firefighting teams from across the Sydney basin on the day.

Your comments recognise the planning and coordination required to complete a complex burn. We are fortunate to have Bushfire Management Committees and a strong commitment to cooperative firefighting, which support the preparation and safe conduct of these important hazard reductions.

Thank you again for recognising the contribution of our local Hawkesbury Office and NPWS fire fighters. I have forwarded your email to Glenn Meade and his team who I am sure will be delighted with your feedback.

Yours sincerely

**MICHAEL WRIGHT**  
**Acting Deputy Chief Executive - National Parks and Wildlife Service**  
**Office of Environment and Heritage**