From: **E&IG Service Delivery NNSW Base Support RIC**

s22 **RIC Pass Office** To: RIC ABCP; s22

; Richmond Tanker Base s22 Cc: Subject: 190213:1444 - Fire bombing aircraft to RAAF Richmond

Date: Wednesday, 13 February 2019 2:44:00 PM

UNCLASSIFIED

s22

No problems from an Access perspective. Please have RFS members escort the aircrew off and then back on. Aircrew to provide their ASIC card/ID at the front gate.

RIC PASS OFFICE,

The aircrew from the transient aircraft do not require a visitor's pass BUT MUST show their ASIC ID when accompanied by the RFS member, to enter the base.

Regards

s22

s22

Assistant Base Support Manager - RAAF Richmond East West Zone / Service Delivery Division Estate & Infrastructure Group

Department of Defence

RAAF Base Richmond | RAAF Base Glenbrook | Defence Establishment Orchard Hills |

M: s22 E: s22

Group Mailbox: E&IG Service Delivery NNSW Base Support RIC

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From: S22

Sent: Wednesday, 13 February 2019 2:26 PM To: RIC ABCP s22 @defence.gov.au>; s22

s22 @defence.gov.au>; s22

s22 @defence.gov.au>

Cc: E&IG Service Delivery NNSW Base Support RIC \$22 @defence.gov.au>; \$22

Richmond Tanker Base

s22

Subject: Fire bombing aircraft to RAAF Richmond

Good afternoon,

With the current fire emergency occurring in Northern NSW the NSWRFS Commissioner has requested extra firefighting aircraft from Victoria.

B390 (Hercules)

B391 (RJ)

BD 376 (AERO Commander)

Have been requested to depart from Avalon loaded with Retardant to Tingha (near

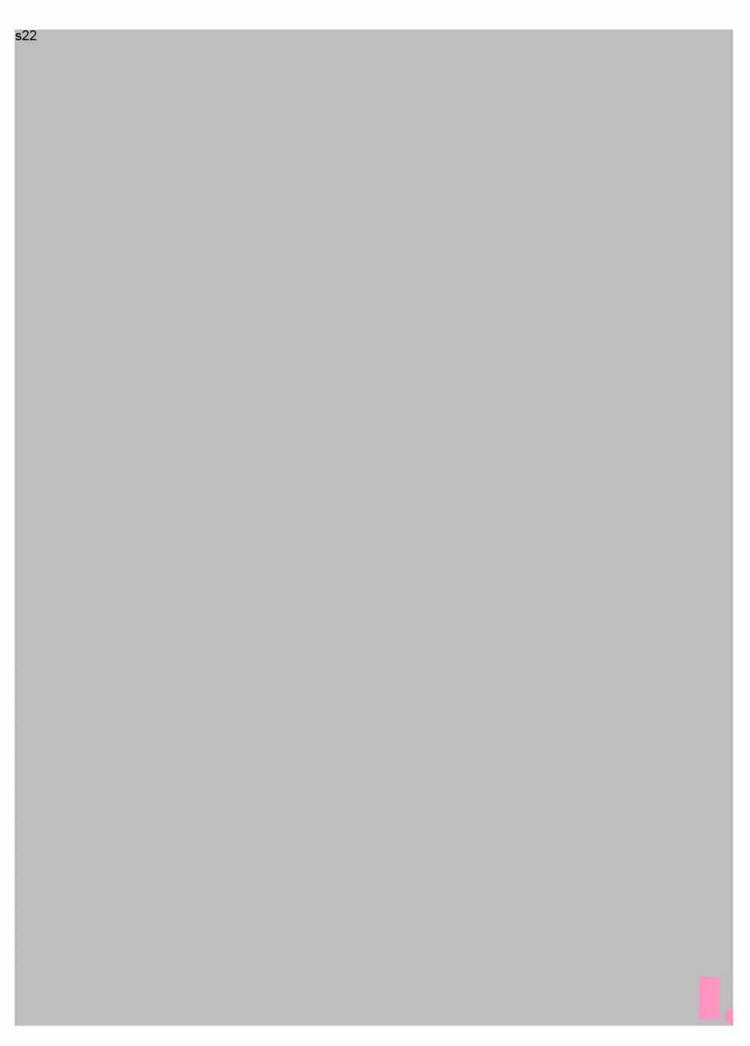
Inverell) then to return and reload out of RAAF Richmond. Approximately ETA 1600. Dubbo is unable to accommodate more than one LAT and Tamworth has a NOTAM with runway closure.

We would envisage with flight fatigue hours that the aircraft would be required to overnight at RAAF Richmond. Landed no later than 1 hour after last light tonight. These aircraft all have been on base before. Most of the pilots but I can't guarantee all. We would escort the others.

I would appreciate your approval for this matter at your earliest convenience .

Regards s22

NSW RURAL FIRE SERVICE
Headquarters 4 Murray Rose Avenue, Sydney Olympic Park NSW 2141 | Locked Bag 17 Granville NSW 2142
P S22
F S22
M S22
E S22
Orfs.nsw.gov.au
State Air Desk 24 Hour Fire Aviation Dispatch Line P 1300 677 723 F 02 8741 5301
www.rfs.nsw.gov.au | www.facebook.com/nswrfs | www.twitter.com/nswrfs
PREPARE. ACT. SURVIVE.





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From: \$22 @rfs.nsw.gov.au>

Sent: Friday, 1 November 2019 5:28 PM

To: s22 @defence.gov.au>; s22

@defence.gov.au>, \$22 @defence.gov.au>

Cc: \$22

Subject: RE: NSW RFS Large Air Tanker operations

Good afternoon,

Just following up on our meeting in May and subsequent discussions regarding the proposed long term requirements (hangar/infrastructure).

It would be appreciated if you are able to provide an update at the earliest opportunity.

Please don't hesitate to contact me should you require further information or wish to discuss.

Thank you for your anticipated assistance.

Regards,

s22

Manager State Operations & Aviation

NSW RURAL FIRE SERVICE

State Headquarters 4 Murray Rose Avenue Sydney Olympic Park NSW 2127 | Locked Bag 17 Granville NSW 2142

P s22 M s22 E s22 @rfs.nsw.gov.au www.fs.nsw.gov.au www.fs.nsw.gov.au www.facebook.com/nswrfs www.twitter.com/nswrfs

PREPARE. ACT. SURVIVE.

From: S22

Sent: Tuesday, 22 October 2019 12:55

To: \$22 @defence.gov.au>; \$22

s22 <u>@defence.gov.au</u>>; s22 <u>@defence.gov.au</u>>

Cc: \$22

Subject: RE: NSW RFS Large Air Tanker operations

Good afternoon,

Just following up on our meeting in May and subsequent discussions regarding the proposed long term requirements (hangar/infrastructure).

It would be appreciated if you are able to provide an update at the earliest opportunity.

Please don't hesitate to contact me should you require further information or wish to discuss.

Thank you for your anticipated assistance.

Regards,

s22

Manager State Operations & Aviation

NSW RURAL FIRE SERVICE

State Headquarters 15 Carter Street Lidcombe NSW 2141 | Locked Bag 17 Granville NSW 2142

Ps22 Ms22 Es22 @rfs.nsw.gov.au

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From: S22

Sent: Thursday, 23 May 2019 14:01

To: \$22 @defence.gov.au>; \$22

s22 <u>@defence.gov.au</u>>;s22 @defence.gov.au's22 <u>@defence.gov.au</u>>

Cc: \$22

Subject: NSW RFS Large Air Tanker operations

Importance: High

Good afternoon,

Please accept my thanks for your time earlier this week to discuss NSW RFS Large Air Tanker operations at RAAF Base Richmond.

As discussed, a revised DACC request has been submitted to JOSS NSW for the 2019/20 season seeking similar support to that provided during past seasons.

Attached is a presentation regarding our Large Air Tanker which also summarises the longer term requirements/support being sought.

Once you have considered this presentation, could you please advise when you are next available to meet.

Should you wish to discuss or require further information in the meantime, please don't hesitate to contact me on the details below.

Thank you for your continued support and assistance.

Regards,



s22

From: s22

Sent: Monday, 12 October 2020 4:27 PM

To: \$22 Cc: \$22

Subject: NSW RFS proposal - RAAF Base Richmond **Attachments:** RAAF Base Richmond_May 2019.pdf

Importance: High

 \triangle **EXTERNAL EMAIL:** Do not click any links or open any attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe. \triangle

Good afternoon all,

As discussed today, please find attached the power point/background information discussed at the initial meeting in May 2019.

Hi s22 — please let me know if you need any further information in order to complete the required documentation.

Thanks again for your assistance.

Regards,



s 22

Acting Director, Res pons e& Co-ordination

NSW RURAL FIRE SERVICE

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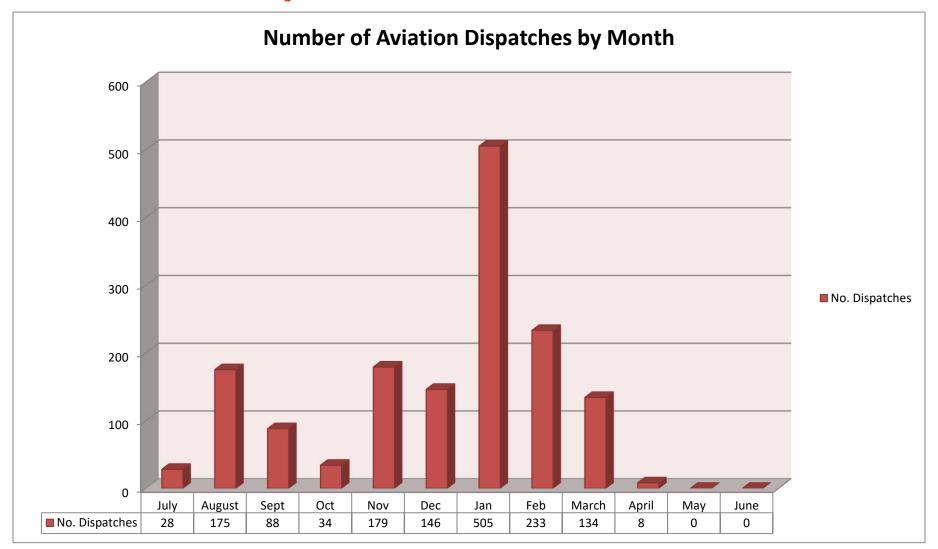
LARGE AIR TANKER OPERATIONS

Deputy Commissioner Rob Rogers AFSM

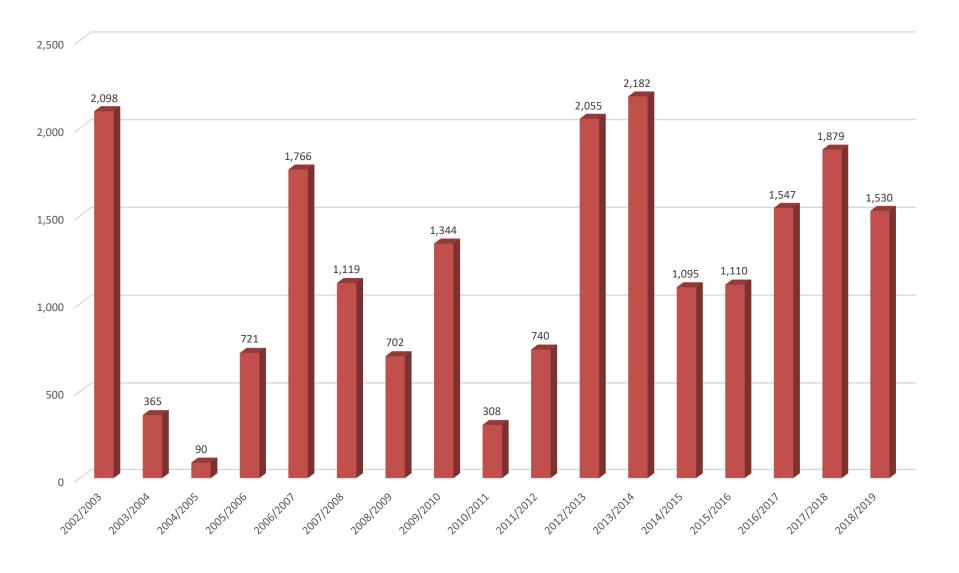
2018/19 Review (as at 31 March 2019)

- 12,205 Bush & Grass Fires burning 281 860 hectares across the State
- 50,581 Fire Fighters deployed across the State
- 21 days of Total Fire Bans & 15 Section 44 Declarations
- 13 Emergency Warnings & 32 Watch & Act fires
- 1 fatality (fire fighting pilot)
- 37 Habitable Structures Destroyed, 27 Habitable Structures Damaged
 & 147 Outbuildings Destroyed
- 1,504 Aircraft taskings & 77 RART deployments

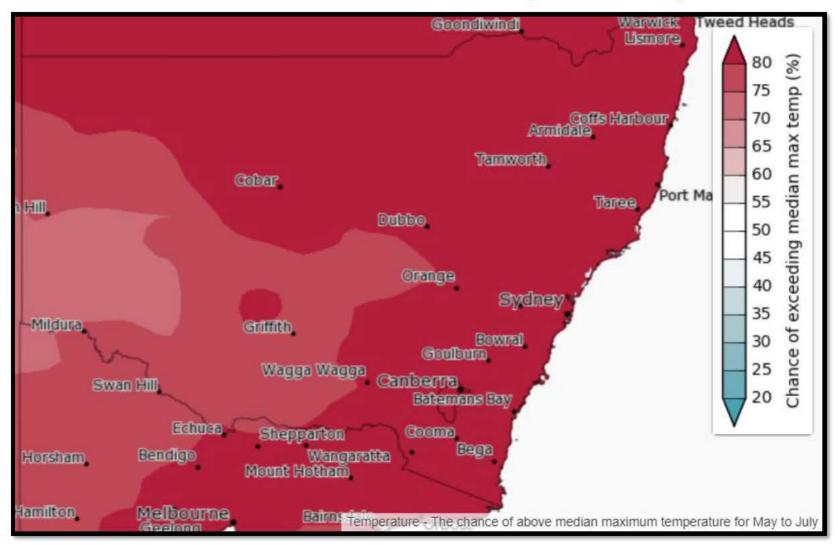
Aviation Dispatches – 2018/19 season



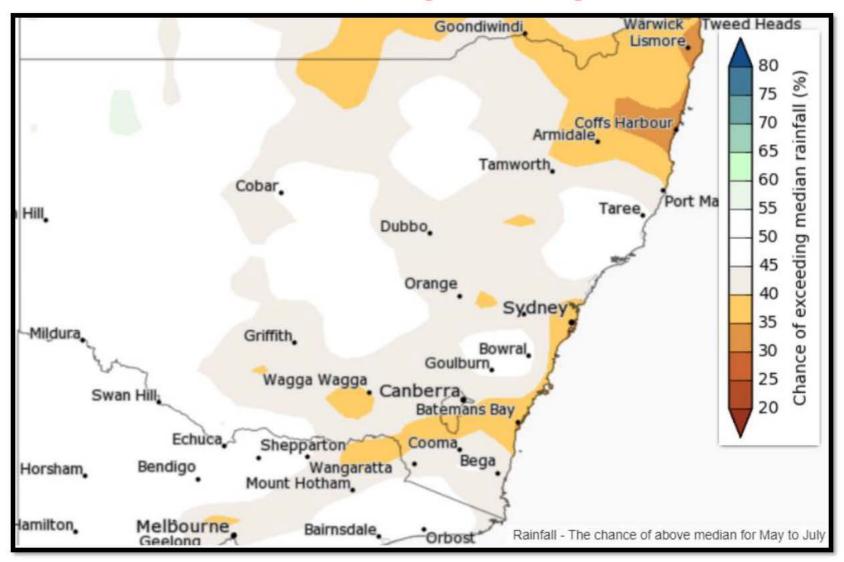
Aviation Dispatches – 2002/03 to 2018/19



Temperature Outlook – May to July 2019



Rainfall Outlook – May to July 2019



Large Air Tanker Program

- The NSW RFS first introduced Large Air Tanker (LAT) operations in 2015 and have operated primarily from RAAF Base Richmond under DACC arrangements.
- These aircraft are seasonally contracted from overseas and have significantly enhanced fire fighting capabilities across the State and beyond.
- The NSW RFS has evaluated a number of different Large and Very Large Air Tankers over recent fire seasons and settled on the '737' as the preferred option, operated by Canadian company Coulson Aviation.
- NSW will have now procured a '737 Fireliner' LAT and will be the only Australian jurisdiction with a permanent aircraft to provide greater coverage all year around.

Large Air Tanker Program

- The new LAT will protect communities and fire fighters as part of a \$26.3 million investment in community safety and emergency services.
- The aircraft can deliver 15,000 litres of fire suppressants, transport about 70 firefighters and operate from several regional airports.
- Coulson Aviation is likely to expand the NSW base and will be looking to hire Australian pilots and ground crew over coming months.
- The new aircraft is expected to arrive in Australia in mid July 2019 in addition to two Lead Planes (which are expected to arrive in August/September 2019).





version 008 🖨 www.refcarg.au O NAPC 2058

2019/20 Season Requirements

- In accordance with the existing DACC agreement, the NSW RFS is again seeking assistance from RAAF Base Richmond:
 - Hangar and parking space for LAT and supporting aircraft
 - Hangar 609 and grassed area to the east & west
 - Use of aircraft wash down facilities
 - Access to fuel and refuelling services
 - Access to base for RFS external fuel supplier
 - Storage space for fire retardant and associated mixing equipment
 - Access to water supply
 - LAT crew and ground/support staff facilities
 - Aircrew office and briefing space
 - MEMOS building
 - Accommodation and meals as required (up to 20 pax)







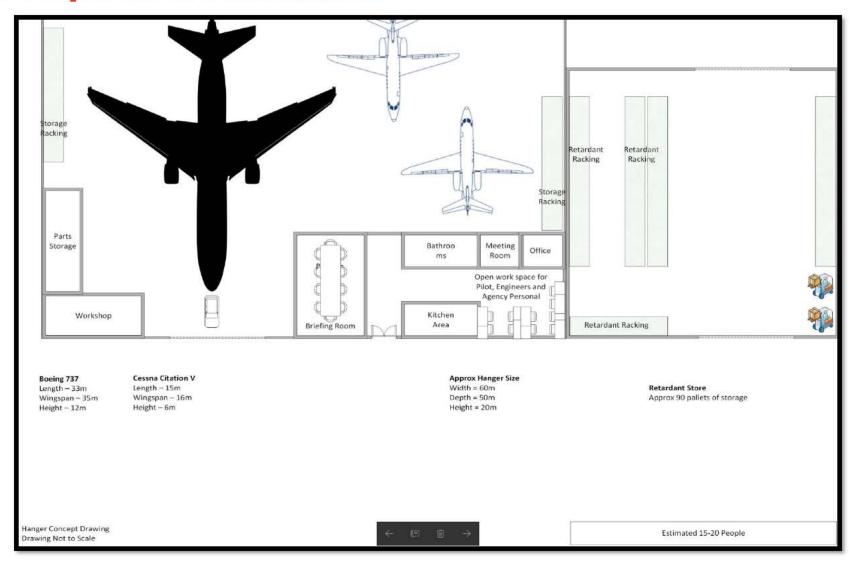


Longer Term Requirements

- In addition to the existing support, the NSW RFS is seeking the cooperation of RAAF Base Richmond to establish permanent facilities consisting of:
 - Pilot, crew, agency personal workspace
 - Briefing room, kitchen and bathrooms
 - Hangar and maintenance area
 - Secure storage area
 - Car parking area
 - Apron and reloading facility
- The preference would be the area near the existing base Fire Station



Proposed Facilities



Funding & Assistance sought

- The NSW RFS has funding available for this project subject to approval.
- Assistance is sought from RAAF Base Richmond for the following aspects of this project:
 - Site assessment and selection
 - Engagement of a building/hangar design & architect
 - Engagement of contractors to build the facility and hangar

Proposed timeline

Date	Action				
June 2019	Site Assessment & Selection				
September 2019	Formal agreements and funding arrangements executed				
October 2019	Design and engagement of contractors				
January 2020	Construction commence				
July 2020	Construction complete				

From: \$22

To: E&IG Service Delivery NNSW Base Support RIC

Subject: RE: Contact details for Permanent RFS and Coulson Aviation members [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Date: Friday, 17 December 2021 4:30:34 PM

Attachments: image001.png

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Do not click any links or open any attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Hi **s22**

There are no permanent RFS staff located at Richmond.

The 2 primary staff that are there the most are myself and \$22

s22

In regards to Coulson Aviation

I have included the email address and phone numbers for the primary staff.

The engineers and pilots all rotate their shifts.

The best contact is \$22 and \$22 . \$22 is on base every day at Richmond and

s22 rotates between Richmond and Bankstow.

The permanent staff are:



The following names are all contract overseas employees.

They usually do 4, 6 or 8 week rotations throughout the season.

N40CU (CH47)

Currently here:

s22

s22						
At Quest quar s22 Arriving 19 De s22						
<u>Transient B21</u> s22	LO/Citation c	rew (North A	merica based	1		
C130 – N561C s22	<u>:G</u>					
Vind Pagards						
Kind Regards						
	s22 NSW RURAL FI	RE SERVICE	(Aviation) Oper			
	Headquarters 4 Ps22	Murray Rose A Fs22	venue, Sydney Oly Ms22	mpic Park N E s22	SW 2141 @rfs.nsv	v.gov.au
	=	-	acebook.com/nsv			
	PREPARE. ACT	SURVIVE.				
From: E&IG Se	ervice Deliver	y NNSW Bas	e Support RIC	s22		@defence.gov.au>
Sent: Thursda	ıy, 16 Deceml					
To: \$22		@rfs.nsv	v.gov.au>			
Cc: \$22						

OFFICIAL

Subject: Contact details for Permanent RFS and Coulson Aviation members [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Good afternoon \$22

Re: Contact Details for Permanent RFS and Coulson Aviation Members

Only need contact details for the permanent RFS & Coulson Aviation staff. Please also provide duty phone numbers and email addresses. Thank you.

R	e	g	а	r	d	5
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s22

Base Operations Officer
East West Zone / Service Delivery Division
Security and Estate Group (SEG)

Department of Defence

Ground Floor | Building 14 | RAAF Base Richmond NSW 2753

T: (\$22 M: \$22 E: \$22 @defence.gov.au

Group Mailbox: <u>E&IG Service Delivery NNSW Base Support RIC</u>

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From: \$22 @rfs.nsw.gov.au>

Sent: Thursday, 16 December 2021 10:22 AM

To: E&IG Service Delivery NNSW Base Support RIC < s22 @defence.gov.au >

Subject: RE: Contact List for RS & Coulson Aviation (Australia) Pty Ltd members [SEC=OFFICIAL]

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Do not click any links or open any attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe. •

Hi **S22**

No problems

In regards to the list, are you after the names of those on base at the moment or the regular staff on a day to day basis?

Do you require the contracted pilots and engineers as they do rotate in and out on a 4 week or 8 week rotation?

In regards to the RFS staff, the regular members that attend?

Kind Regards



S22 | Coordinator (Aviation) | Operational Field Support NSW RURAL FIRE SERVICE

Headquarters 4 Murray Rose Avenue, Sydney Olympic Park NSW 2141

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From: E&IG Service Delivery NNSW Base Support RIC s22 @defence.gov.au>

Sent: Wednesday, 15 December 2021 12:43 PM **To:** \$22

@rfs.nsw.gov.au>

Cc: \$22

Subject: Contact List for RFS & Coulson Aviation (Australia) Pty Ltd members [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

Good afternoon s22

Re: Contact List for RFS & Coulson Aviation (Australia) Pty Ltd members

Please provide an updated list of the RFS & Coulson Aviation members. Thank you.

Regards

s22

Base Operations Officer
East West Zone / Service Delivery Division
Security and Estate Group (SEG)

Department of Defence

Ground Floor | Building 14 | RAAF Base Richmond NSW 2753

T: \$22 M: \$22 E: \$22 <u>@defence.gov.au</u>

Group Mailbox:s22

From: s22

To: RIC ABCP; E&IG Service Delivery NNSW Base Support RIC

Subject: RE: Hanger 522 Request [SEC=OFFICIAL]
Date: Tuesday, 18 January 2022 2:37:03 PM

Attachments: <u>image001.png</u>

image003.png image004.jpg

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Do not click any links or open any attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Good Afternoon All,

The arrival of the C17 and Helicopter has been delayed and is now expected on Tuesday 25 JAN.

Therefore our request for Hanger 522 will now be from 25 Jan to 28 Jan.

Thanks

s22

\$22

OFFICIAL

Good afternoon \$22 Ladies and Gents,

Due to maintenance issues, MSN 22013602 has been delayed by 24 hrs out of RAAF Amberley. As a result the entire MSN is sliding right by 24 hrs.

Details of the new times are as follows:

20 Jan 22 - ETA Travis AFB 2030 hrs

22 Jan 22 - ETD Travis AFB 1320 hrs

24 Jan 22 - ETA RAAF Base AMB 1440 hrs

25 Jan 22 - ETD RAAF Base AMB 1000 hrs

25 Jan 22 – ETA RAAF Base RIC 1150 hrs

Regards,

s22

s22

Warrant Officer Class One

Operations Warrant Officer

Headquarters 1st Joint Movement Unit

S22 PO Box 7928, Canberra BC ACT 2610
Tel: <22 , A/H Mob: S22

Duty Officer: SZZ

Email: s22 @defence.gov.au

Group Email: \$22 @defence.gov.au

From: s22 @defence.gov.au> On Behalf Of RIC ABCP

Sent: Tuesday, 18 January 2022 12:11 PM

To: E&IG Service Delivery NNSW Base Support RIC **s22** @defence.gov.au>

Cc: \$22

Subject: FW: Hanger 522 Request [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

Good afternoon E&IG,

Please see below request I have liaised with occupants of Hanger 522 and they are fine with this work to go ahead.

P.O.C for hanger 522 **\$22**

Air Base Command Post RAAF Base Richmond

s22

s22 @defence.gov.au>

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From: \$22 @rfs.nsw.gov.au>

Sent: Tuesday, 18 January 2022 10:18 AM
To: \$22

@defence.gov.au>

Cc: \$22

Subject: Hanger 522 Request

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Do not click any links or open any attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe. .

Good Morning,

A RAAF C17 is assisting the NSW RFS with delivering a Bell 412 from the USA to Australia. The C17 is currently expected to arrive on Sunday 23rd.

Could we please request the use of Hanger 522 from Sunday 23rd to Wednesday 26th to reassemble the helicopter? Once reassembled and signed off, the aircraft will depart for Bankstown airport, which will be refitted.

Thanks for your assistance

s22



PREPARE. ACT. SURVIVE.

From: s22

To: RIC ABCP; 453SQN RIC FLT ATC; RIC.VISITS; Richmond AirMensMess; RIC 22SQN AMS OPS [Load Control

Group Inbox]; \$22 SEG Service Delivery EWZ Base

Mat RIC

Cc: s22

 Subject:
 220620:1140 - RFS Aviation Training

 Date:
 Monday, 20 June 2022 11:40:53 AM

Attachments: image001.png

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Do not click any links or open any attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Good Morning Sirs/Mams

On behalf of the NSW Rural Fire Service, I would like to extend our sincere appreciation of all the support that your departments provided to our organisation over the weekend to ensure our training of our volunteers operated smoothly and efficiently. The coordination provided by each department from air craft parking, utilisation of the theatre, visits procedures, Aero Club communication, \$22 at Flight Catering, the detailed conversations and help I received from \$22 in the command post and on the days leading up and the excellent service provided by ATC was outstanding. The amount of positive comments I received from everybody in relation to ATC communications was fantastic. I know it was a busy weekend for those on shift in the tower and we appreciated the patience shown during our training. I managed to catch up with one of the crew from the tower on his break however I can't remember his name and I thank him for the positive comments he provided out on Rickabys and the feedback he provided. All I can remember is he drives \$22 . If you can identify him, please offer our thanks to him. It was great to chat to him and get some feedback from a tower perspective.

If everybody can pass on our thank you and appreciation to all those that were involved in the preparation and organisation of this training event please.

This will be the last operational activity out of our tanker base now until it is moved up under the tower ready for the upcoming infrastructure project.

A bit of feedback from our side.

The lunch packs provided were excellent and there was ample food to feed everybody.

The theatre and equipment in the theatre were perfect for our theory component.

The access to the theatre was easy and never a problem with the team at E&IG.

The process and meetings via Richmond Visits including the contract pilots coming on base was easy to arrange and very easy to deal with. Thanks \$22

No water was dropped onto the aero clubs landing strips.

The late notice I gave to 22 Sqn in relation to the parking of our two helicopters was accommodated for quickly and easily. Caveat – I now know for next time so I won't leave it as late.

Thank you all again.

Kind Regards



NSW RURAL FIRE SERVICE

Headquarters 4 Murray Rose Avenue, Sydney Olympic Park NSW 2141

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s22	

s22	



From: \$22 @rfs.nsw.gov.au>

Sent: Thursday, 17 November 2022 1:08 PM

To: Media < media@defence.gov.au >

Cc: \$22

Subject: RE NSW RFS LAT Return to RAAF Richmond

<u>★</u> **EXTERNAL EMAIL:** Do not click any links or open any attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe. <u>★</u>

Afternoon team,

I have been advised that the NSW RFS Large Air Tanker has left this morning from the US to return home. This is ahead of its initial proposed return date of 10 December.

We would like the opportunity to film the aircraft landing at Richmond and then its taxi to the hanger. This will be filmed by a NSW RFS officer. I'm advised that this could be possibly on Saturday or Sunday. This is yet to be confirmed.

Please let me know of anything further you require from us.

Regards



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From: s22

Sent: Tuesday, 18 July 2023 8:07 AM

To: \$22 Cc: \$22

Subject: \$22 Email 230718 Request to meet and discuss RFS Blackhawk base Attachments: 2021-07-13 Signed Defence - NSW RFS Access and Support Agreement (003).pdf

Importance: High

Follow Up Flag: Follow up Completed

 \triangle **EXTERNAL EMAIL:** Do not click any links or open any attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe. \triangle

Good morning \$22,

Thanks so much for your email. My office has sent through a meeting invite for next week and I look forward to catching up with you and your team.

In addition to contracted aircraft, NSW RFS owns and operates 11 aircraft including a 737 Large Air Tanker, a CH-47 (due to arrive later this month) as well as several other fixed wing and rotary platforms. NSW RFS operates from Bankstown as well as RAAF Base Richmond with formal arrangements in place since 2015 which has been invaluable.

This was originally facilitated through Defence Assistance to the Civil Community (DACC) arrangements which was later replaced by a Memorandum of Understanding between NSW RFS and the Department of Defence. A copy is attached for your information.

Following a previous commitment by the Federal Government, NSW RFS will take receipt of 2 x Blackhawks from the Department of Defence over coming weeks. This is earlier than what was expected (originally scheduled for later in the year) however we are very excited by this development.

s33(a)(i)

During this time, there is a need to

maintain and hangar the aircraft. Additionally, we are also expecting to take receipt of an additional CH-47.

In summary, we are initially seeking hangar space for 3 aircraft (2 x Blackhawks, 1 x CH47) for up to 12 months as administrative and maintenance work is progressed. Unfortunately we are unable to accommodate these aircraft at RAAF Base Richmond due to limitations.

Additionally, I would also like to discuss longer term options with you and your team regarding the placement of NSW RFS aircraft at HMAS Albatross - either seasonally or all year round.

Please let me know if you require any further information in the meantime.

I thank you for your assistance and look forward to discussing further with you next week.

Regards,



s22

Director, State Operations NSW RURAL FIRE SERVICE

State Headquarters 4 Murray Rose Avenue Sydney Olympic Park NSW 2127 | Locked Bag 17 Granville NSW 214

Ms22

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PREPARE. ACT. SURVIVE.

From: \$22

Sent: Monday, 17 July 2023 17:00

To: S22 Cc: \$22

Subject: RE: Request to meet and discuss RFS Blackhawk base [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

G'day s22

Congratulations on the expansion of your fleet. The Blackhawk is an amazing airframe, and with the loss of Navy's large cabin helicopters, I think that their addition to your capability is an important one for the South Coast.

If 1230 on 28 July works for yourself and AC Millington, let's meet then. Let me know if you want to meet here at Albatross or at your facility on Albatross Road. I intend to bring along the Base Manager, \$22 and s22 , the Airfield Manager.

will reach out to you before that meeting to gather some more information about the request. Specifically, I would like to know:

- 1. whether you are looking to permanently base the aircraft here or whether they would just be here seasonally?
- 2. if you want to be able to hangar the aircraft?
- 3. what kind of maintenance you would be performing on the aircraft while they are here at Albatross?

He may have some other questions that he would like to ask in order for our discussions on 28 July to be productive.

Cheers

s22

s22

Commanding Officer Senior ADF Officer **HMAS** Albatross The Naval Air Station

T: s22 | Group Correspondence E: **\$22**

M: s22 | E: S22 IMPORTANT: This email remains the property of the Department of Defence. Unauthorised communication and dealing with the information in the email may be a serious criminal offence. If you have received this email in error, you are requested to contact the sender and delete the email immediately.

From: s22	>
Sent: Monday, 17 July 2023 1:26 PM	
To: \$22	
_	
Cc: \$22 >	
Subject: Request to meet and discuss RES Blackhawk hase	۵

▲ EXTERNAL EMAIL: Do not click any links or open any attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe. ▲.

Dear Sir's,

The support provided by HMAS Albatross to the RFS in our work to protect the Community during times of disaster has been outstanding.

More broadly, defence bases throughout NSW have supported us as our aerial fleet grows.

In October the RFS anticipates taking receipt of two Blackhawk helicopters as a further enhancement to our firefighting capability. Our Director of State Operations, Assistance Commissioner \$22 has asked that I liaise with you and seek your willingness to meet and discuss the prospect of basing the two machines at HMAS Albatross so we can continue the strategic placement of resources throughout NSW.

If you are willing and available to meet and discuss the proposal and relevant detail, AC s22 is available on the afternoon of Friday July 28.

If you would like to discuss this or seek further information prior, please feel free to contact me directly on \$22.

Many thanks and kind regards,



S22 | District Manager | Shoalhaven District
NSW RURAL FIRE SERVICE Shoalhaven Fire Control Centre 92 Albatross Road Nowra
NSW 2541 |

PO Box 372 Nowra NSW 2541 | P s22 M s22 E s22

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s22 From: s22 s22 s22 To: 522 s22 s22 s22 Cc: 231107 1356 - s22]-[s22 Subject: 1 RES Operations at RAAF Richmond - SYNC meeting. Tuesday, 7 November 2023 1:57:45 PM Date: Attachments: image004.png image006.png image008.png image010.png image012.png RAAF Base Richmond Briefing October 2023.pptx FINAL.pdf Importance: High

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Do not click any links or open any attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Good afternoon \$22 and all,

Thanks again for the opportunity to meet and discuss RFS operations at RAAF Base Richmond which assists greatly with fire-fighting efforts across the State.

I apologise for the delayed reply however we have recently experienced significant bush fire activity impacting various communities in northern NSW.

RFS is extremely grateful for the support provided by RAAF Base Richmond since 2015 which has contributed to the success of the Large Air Tanker program.

Please find attached a copy of the presentation as discussed during the meeting/telephone call.

To enhance timely & appropriate communication between RFS and RAAF Base Richmond, I have implemented the following effective immediately:

- \$22 will be the RFS point of contact for the remainder of this season and will work from RAAF Base Richmond at least 3 days per week.
- s22 will meet with appropriate RAAF Base Richmond personnel on a weekly basis to brief regarding bush fire activity, upcoming events etc.
- identified RAAF Base Richmond have been added to our email distribution groups to receive advice regarding major fire activity and Total Fire Ban declarations
- scoping of a bi-monthly meeting between RFS and RAAF Base Richmond senior officers.

To assist, I would ask that all day to day communications be directed to six instance (including those that involve Coulson).

I understand discussions regarding the construction of dedicated RFS hangar at RAAF Base Richmond remain ongoing at an Executive level.

Should you require anything further in the meantime, please don't hesitate to contact me on the details below.

Once again, thank you for your ongoing assistance and ability to operate from Richmond.

Regards,

S22 Director, State Operations	
	P s22 M s22 E s22 <u>wrfs.nsw.gov.au</u> Headquarters 4 Murray Rose Avenue, Sydney Olympic Park NSW 2127 Locked Bag 17 Granville NSW 2142 www.rfs.nsw.gov.au

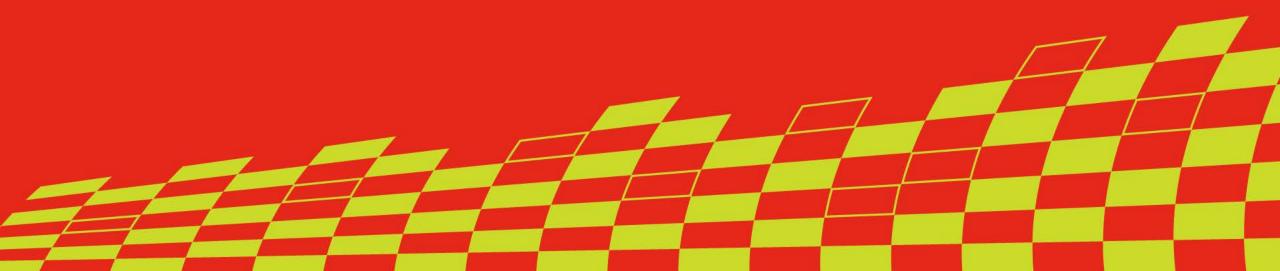
I respect and acknowledge the traditional custodians of this land, and pay my respects to Elders past, present and emerging.





RAAF Base Richmond

October 2023



2023/24 Season Outlook

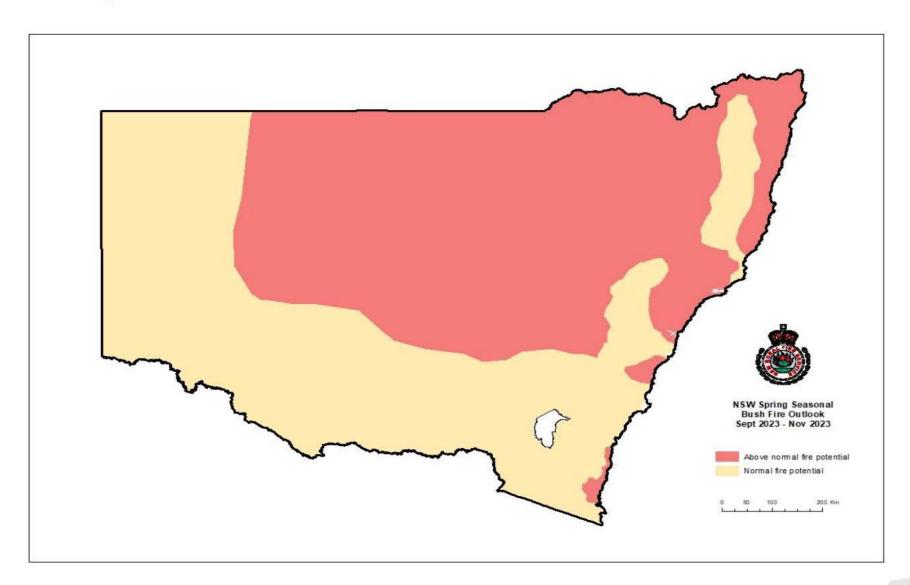


- NSW has experienced three years of above average rainfall, resulting in record grass fuel loads.
- The Bureau of Meteorology has declared an El Nino event meaning drier and warmer conditions until the end of summer.
- These conditions have already contributed to significant fires activity across the State.
- NSW Department of Primary Industry has confirmed 3.1% of the State is now in Drought with 29.1% listed as Drought Affected.



September to November Outlook





Current Activity



- On 01 August 2023, 6 Local Government Areas commenced their BFDP having permanently or temporarily altered the period due to local climatic conditions with a further 32 commencing on 01 September 2023.
- All remaining Local Government Areas commenced on the 01 October 2023.
- There have been 5,982 bush & grass fires across the State since 01 July 2023 of which 3 reached Emergency Warning and 24 Watch & Act levels.
- 11 days of Total Fire Ban have been recorded so far this season with 16 Section 44 declarations (bush fire emergencies) affecting various Local Government Areas.
- Several homes and outbuildings have been destroyed and/or damaged.
- A large number of fires have been caused by escaped (private) burns with legal processes initiated by RFS, including penalty notices.

Current Activity



- RFS has co-ordinated NSW support since May 2023 as part of the Canadian fire fighting deployment working with NPWS, FRNSW, FCNSW and NSW SES.
- 228 personnel from NSW have deployed to Canada which is about 1/3 of the total Australian contingent.
- The RFS Large Air Tanker 'Marie Bashir' returned last month following a deployment to California.
- Over 24 RFS personnel have returned from Alice Springs having deployed to assist Bushfires NT along with the RFS Citation aircraft during September.
- RFS base camp infrastructure has also returned from the Northern Territory which provided temporary emergency accommodation over 3 months for displaced communities.

Agency Fire Fighting Capabilities





- 71,017 members
- 700 Remote Area Fire Fighters and 40 Aviation Rescue Crew
- 3,883 appliances (bush fire tankers and pumpers) and 350 approved heavy plant contractors, with more than 2,700 registered plant
- 11 NSW RFS aircraft (1 Large Air Tanker, 3 fixed wing, 6 rotary) and more than 200 contracted aircraft available (including 2 Large Air Tankers)



- 1,267 fire fighters (including over 700 remote area fire fighters)
- 377 appliances and 189 heavy plant
- 3 owned aircraft (rotary) and 3 leased aircraft (2 rotary and 1 fixed wing)
- 1 additional contracted rotary aircraft to support NPWS rapid aerial response teams (RART) during the bush fire season



- 6,776 Fire Fighters (3,564 permanent and 3,212 retained)
- 574 bush fire tankers/pumpers and 53 bush fire appliances
- 97 Remote Aerial Piloted Systems (RPAS)
- 512 Community Fire Units with 4,657 members



- 556 Fire Fighters
- · 453 appliances and 35 heavy plant
- · 4 contracted aircraft
- 110 Remote Aerial Piloted Systems (RPAS)

Aviation



- RFS owns 11 aircraft including the recently purchased CH-47 Chinook helicopter which has already been deployed operationally to northern NSW.
- Procurement of RFS aircraft is designed to minimise requirement to seek Defence aviation assistance.
- NSW has engaged 23 exclusive contract aircraft and will have access to 226 Call When Needed aircraft throughout the 2023/24 season.
- Issues continue to be experienced with contract aircraft availability due to fire activity (North America, Europe and Asia), fuel costs and transport logistics.
- The State Air Desk supports various Government agencies including Corrective Services, Department of Primary Industries, NSW Telco Authority and Surf Lifesaving NSW.
- RFS has implemented various aviation safety initiatives following the Large Air Tanker crash during the 2019/20 season.

RFS Owned Aircraft











Aviation Capabilities



Night Time Operations

- Aerial Fire Fighting trial will continue following successful live mission at Narrabri last season where a contracted Chinook completed 9 drops and 75,000 litres at night.
- A successful night time search & rescue trial was completed in December 2022 involving winching operations. This capability can be used during bush fire and flood operations.

Pre-Determined Dispatch

- The State Bush Fire Inquiry recommended the RFS trial initial aerial dispatch in areas of high bush fire risk. In effect, aircraft are dispatched at the same time of a fire appliance.
- This has been trialled each season since 2019/20 with positive results.
- There will be 15 locations this season from which PDD aircraft will operate.

RAAF Base Richmond



- RFS has operated from RAAF Base Richmond since 2015 and is very appreciative of support & co-operation provided to date.
- Last agreement was signed in 2021 (5 year duration) between RFS & Defence allowing for:
 - allocated secured aircraft parking bays for RFS aircraft
 - allocated undercover and secured equipment storage space for items such as retardant & aircraft spare parts
 - equipment usage (including forklifts, tugs with drivers, aircraft battery packs, power units, air stairs)
 - aircraft wash down facilities
 - hangar space for minor or short term maintenance
 - allocated air crew office space (excluding computer equipment & telephones)
 - static water supply points
 - allocated space for Portable Air Base Unit or vehicle
 - mess facilities or any other area used for the provision of meals

Aircraft - RAAF Richmond



Aircraft	Status	Commence	Finish
RFS LAT 737 (B210)	Permanent	N/A	N/A
RFS CH-47 (HT211)	Permanent	N/A	N/A
RFS C560 (FS200)	Permanent	N/A	N/A
RFS C560 (FS201)	Permanent	N/A	N/A
RFS King Air (FS203)	Permanent	Early December 2023	N/A
LAT C130 (B132)	Temporary	08/10/23	04/02/23*
LAT 737 (B137)	Temporary	December 2023*	March 2023*
CJ1 (TBA)	Temporary	December 2023*	March 2023*

^{*} May be extended based on operational activity

RAAF Base Richmond



- As a result of planned works, RFS vacated Hangar 602 and were advised use of the facility would be available within two years.
- Following discussions, RFS was temporarily provided use of Hangar 4.

- Demountable Building

RFS has placed temporary demountable buildings to accommodate additional air crew.

 Proposal to locate 2 demountable buildings land side near gate (previous location).

Container

 Proposal to temporarily locate 1 x 40 foot container near the tarred pad near the loading area. s33(a)(i)

General



Media

- reported issues regarding CH-47 media access and coverage.

QLD Large Air Tanker

 reported issued regarding the QLD Large Air Tanker assisting with urgent property protection and lack of advice to Command Post.

- Additional CH-47

 RFS has procured an additional CH47 which will be stored in Hanger 54 once released from quarantine.

Black Hawks

 Defence has now provided RFS with 2 x Black Hawks which are currently being stored at HMAS Albatross (Nowra) temporarily.

Future Actions



RFS Point of Contact

 RFS will nominate and likely locate an officer at RAAF Base Richmond as the primary point of contact for consistency and ensure timely flow of information (including aircraft movements).

Monthly Meeting

 Proposed a monthly meeting be held between RFS and RAAF Base Richmond to discuss any issues, provide updates on current activity etc.

Permanent Facility

 RFS continue to liaise with Estate Infrastructure Group regarding the building of a permanent facility as part of the base redevelopment.



s22	

s22		

From: s22 @rfs.nsw.gov.au>

Sent: Thursday, 4 July 2024 11:35 AM

To: RIC.VISITS s22 @defence.gov.au>
Subject: NSW RFS Media Event: VIPs

⚠ **EXTERNAL EMAIL:** Do not click any links or open any attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe. ⚠

Good morning team,

Following on from my chat with \$22 earlier, please find the current list of VIPs attending our media event on Friday, 12 July.

- Minister for Emergency Services Jihad Dib
- Commissioner of the RFS Rob Rogers
- RFS Deputy Commissioner Peter McKechnie
- RFS Assistant Commissioner Viki Campbell
- Coulson Group CEO Wayne Coulson and Coulson Aviation Australia CEO Britt Coulson

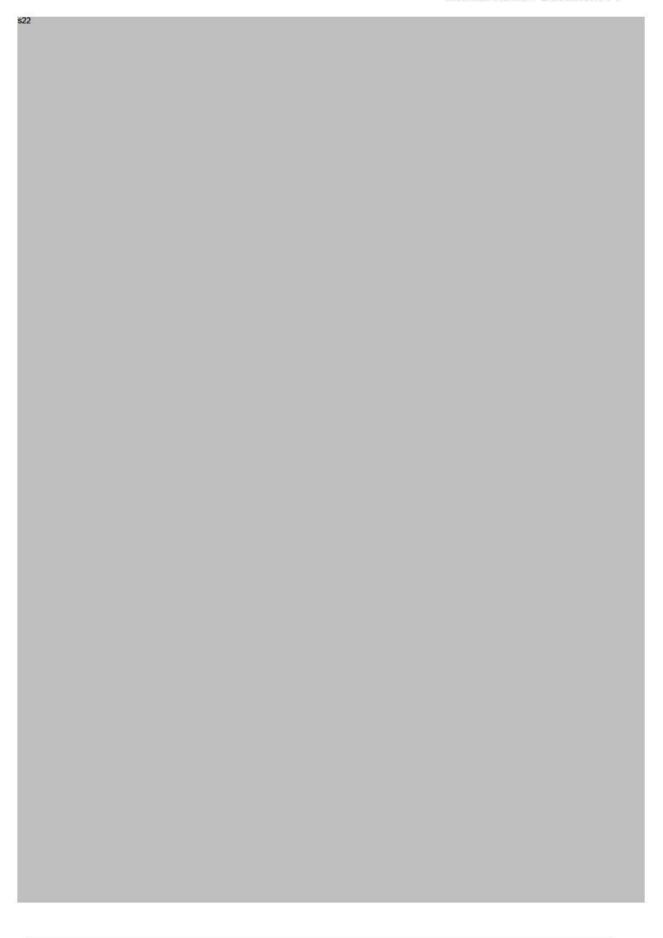
I have also attached the current run sheet with updated details. I'll have the final list of attending media on Wednesday afternoon for you.

\$22 please don't hesitate to reach out to me with any other questions.

Kind regards and thanks again for all the help,

s22				
s22				
Senior Media and	d Communicatio	ns Officer		
	P s22	M s22	Es22	@rfs.nsw.gov.au
	Headquarters	4 Murray Rose	Avenue, Sydney	Olympic Park NSW 2127
	Locked Bag 1	7 Granville NSV	V 2142	
	www.rfs.nsw	.gov.au		

The RFS acknowledges the Traditional Owners of Country throughout Australia. We pay our respects to Elders past and present.



From: \$22 @rfs.nsw.gov.au>

Sent: Wednesday, 10 July 2024 3:47 PM

To: \$22 @defence.gov.au>; \$22 @defence.gov.au>; \$22

s22	@defence.gov.au>
Cc: \$22	
s22 Subject: RE: NSW RFS Media Ever	nt: July 12 [SEC=OFFICIAL]
	Do not click any links or open any attachments er and know the content is safe. <u>A</u>
Good afternoon everyone,	
Please see below the list of attend Richmond.	ling media for this Friday's RFS event at RAAF Base
• s22 • •	
RFS members \$22 be at the pass office early to colle	will also attend to manage our shuttle bus. I'll ct my DCAC before entering on the media bus.
For your reference, I have also at	tached the event run sheet.
If you have any questions, please	don't hesitate to reach out.
Kind regards and thank you for you	our help,
s22	
s22 Senior Media and Communications O	fficer
He Lo	eadquarters 4 Murray Rose Avenue, Sydney Olympic Park NSW 2127 ocked Bag 17 Granville NSW 2142
The PES acknowledges the Tradition	al Owners of Country throughout Australia. We pay our respects to
Elders past and present.	ar Owners or Country triroughout Australia. We pay our respects to
From: Media < media@defence.g	ov.au>
Sent: Wednesday, July 3, 2024 4:	
To: \$22 \$22 @defence.gov.au>; \$22	@rfs.nsw.gov.au>; s22 @defence.gov.au>
Cc: \$22	<u>le de le lice, gov. au</u>
s22	

Subject: RE: NSW RFS Media Event: July 12 [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

Hi **s22**

Thank you for this. I have looped in a couple relevant stakeholders on this for their awareness, I imagine you are already liaising with the relevant base team etc.

\$22 is our public affairs manager in the region, so is a great POC for any questions you may have.

Once the last pieces are confirmed, could you please let me know so I can update internally for our tracking?

Thanks again,

\$22 | Media Advisor

Media and Information Disclosure Branch | Department of Defence

Russell Offices | Canberra ACT 2600 E: \$22 @defence.gov.au

Alt E: media@defence.gov.au

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From: \$22 @rfs.nsw.gov.au>

Sent: Wednesday, 3 July 2024 3:39 PM

To: Media < media@defence.gov.au >; RIC.VISITS \$22 @defence.gov.au >

Cc: \$22

Subject: RE: NSW RFS Media Event: July 12 [SEC=OFFICIAL]

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Do not click any links or open any attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Good afternoon,

We have confirmed Friday, 12 July as the date for this event. Please see below the run sheet as it stands.

1100: Media arrive, undergo registration checks at Percival St. car park.

1130: Media bus departs car park for hangar

1130: VIPs to arrive

1200: Media conference

1230: Inspection of aircraft and individual media interviews

1300: Transport media back to Percival St. car park.

Event concludes

confirming VIPs and will send through the visit request form as soon as possible.

Please let me know if there are any issues or questions.

Kind regards,

s22

s22

Senior Media and Communications Officer

P s22 M s22 E s22 @rfs.nsw.gov.au
Headquarters 4 Murray Rose Avenue, Sydney Olympic Park NSW 2127
Locked Bag 17 Granville NSW 2142
www.rfs.nsw.gov.au

The RFS acknowledges the Traditional Owners of Country throughout Australia. We pay our respects to Elders past and present.

From: Media < media@defence.gov.au >

Sent: Monday, July 1, 2024 4:47 PM

To: \$22 @rfs.nsw.gov.au>; RIC.VISITS \$22 @defence.gov.au>

Cc: \$22

Subject: RE: NSW RFS Media Event: July 9 [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

His22

Thank you for your email.

Definitely keen to be kept across media attendance and a date/time/any other information, once you get these locked in.

Regards,

s22 | Media Advisor

Media and Information Disclosure Branch | Department of Defence

Russell Offices | Canberra ACT 2600

E: **\$22** i@defence.qov.au
Alt E: media@defence.qov.au

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email immediately.

From: \$22 @rfs.nsw.gov.au>

Sent: Monday, 1 July 2024 2:55 PM

To: RIC.VISITS \$22 @defence.gov.au>; Media < media@defence.gov.au>

Cc: \$22

Subject: NSW RFS Media Event: July 9

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Do not click any links or open any attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Good afternoon team.

I am writing regarding a potential media event to be held in the RFS hangar at RAAF Base Richmond on Tuesday, July 9. The NSW Premier has a significant announcement to make regarding the RFS aviation fleet.

As for previous events, we will seek attendee names from media outlets and try to provide this list 24-48 hours prior to arrival. We will also arrange a bus to transport media from the car park to the base.

I apologise for the notice less than two weeks in advance and will begin completing the necessary documentation, including the Visit Request Form and Photography Request Form, today.

As our Large Air Tanker is currently on international deployment, it's most likely the media conference will be filmed **inside** our hangar and not facing the tarmac.

We are awaiting final confirmation from the Premier and Minister's offices regarding the date, however wanted to give immediate notification of the event's planning.

Kind regards,

The RFS acknowledges the Traditional Owners of Country throughout Australia. We pay our respects to Elders past and present.



Event Brief

RFS Aviation Contract Announcement

12 July 2024

Date: Friday, 12 July 2024

Time: 11:30am

Location: RAAF Base Richmond

Dight St, Richmond NSW

Hangar 54

VIPs: Minister for Emergency Services Jihad Dib MP

Commissioner of the RFS Rob Rogers Deputy Commissioner Peter McKechnie Deputy Commissioner Kyle Stewart Coulson Group CEO Wayne Coulson

Coulson Aviation Australia CEO Britt Coulson

Key Government Announcement

To announce which company has successfully won the tender for overseeing maintenance and operation of the RFS aviation fleet.

Brief Description of Media Opportunity

Media conference to announce Coulson Aviation has won the 10-year contract which includes provisions to ensure the transition to an all-Australian team and an expanded apprenticeship program. An opportunity to also highlight the RFS aviation fleet and crew and the work that has and will continue to be done to protect communities during fires and other emergencies.

One-on-one interviews will be available with VIP representatives and RFS aviation crew. Filming opportunities include the available RFS aviation resources.

Running Order

11:00am: Media arrive, undergo registration checks at Percival Street car park

11:30am: Media bus departs car park for hangar

11:30am: VIPs to arrive 12:00pm: Media conference

Minister for Emergency Services Jihad Dib Commissioner of the RFS Rob Rogers Coulson Group CEO Wayne Coulson

12:30pm: Inspection of aircraft and individual media interviews

(Pilot and Engineer will be made available for interview if required)

1:00pm: Event concludes

Dress Code

Standard uniform or business.

Event Logistics

- Media and other RFS personnel to park in the Percival Street car park and be transported onto the base by RFS shuttle bus.
- RAAF Base Richmond requires media to register prior to event and all attending must carry matching photo ID on the day.
- VIPs can enter the base directly, by calling s22 s22) on approach and park in the Middleton Ave car park behind the RFS hangar on base.

Wet Weather Arrangements

• Media event to be held under cover within RFS hangar.

Location Map

• (On next page).



From: s22

To: RIC ABOC; 453SQN RIC H.T ATC; \$22

Cc: RIC.VISITS

Subject: Fwd: Approved - Civilian Aircraft Movement Request for Defence Aerodromes [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Date: Thursday, 11 July 2024 7:31:16 PM

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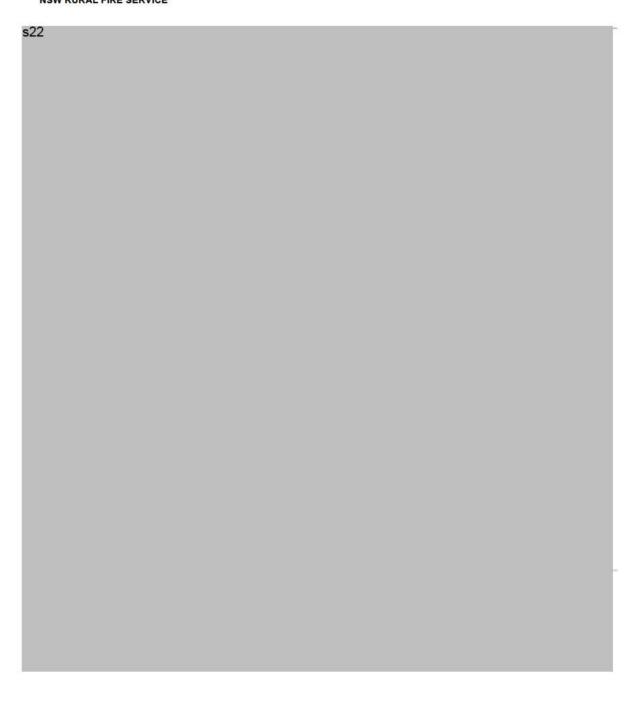
Good evening Sir et all

Please see the details of the rescheduled arrival of the visiting aircraft, N604CG.

Eta Richmond will be tomorrow Friday the 12th July at 1400. The aircraft will still park in the allocated parking spot 30.

Thank you for your understanding and assistance.

\$22 Coordinator (Aviation) | Operational Field Support NSW RURAL FIRE SERVICE



s22	
-00	

@defence.gov.au> From: S22

Date: 11 July 2024 at 4:18:32 PM AEST

Cc: RIC 22SQN AMS OPS \$22 @defence.gov.au>, 453SQN RIC FLT ATC

s22 @defence.gov.au>

Subject: FW: Approved - Civilian Aircraft Movement Request for Defence Aerodromes

[SEC=OFFICIAL]

You don't often get email from \$22 @defence.gov.au. Learn why this is important

OFFICIAL

Good afternoon \$22

Please find attached Approved - Civilian Aircraft Movement Request for Defence Aerodromes for your record.

Regards

s22

s22

NCO Personnel Capability
22 SQN | RAAF Base Richmond | RICHMOND NSW 2753 | TS22

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From: To: Cc: -Is22 NSW RFS facilities at RAAF Richmond airbase Subject: 240913:1710 - s22 Date: Friday, 13 September 2024 5:10:50 PM image002.png image004.png Attachments: image006.png image008.png image010.png **EXTERNAL EMAIL:** Do not click any links or open any attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe. Thankyou, look forward to it. Get Outlook for iOS From: \$22 @defence.gov.au> Sent: Friday, September 13, 2024 5:07:08 PM To: \$22 @rfs.nsw.gov.au> Cc: \$22 @defence.gov.au> Subject: RE: NSW RFS facilities at RAAF Richmond airbase [SEC=OFFICIAL] **OFFICIAL** His22 Thanks for your email. I have actually moved roles, but have cc'ed my replacement as Assistant Secretary Estate Planning, \$22 , who I'm sure will be happy to meet with you to discuss RFS NSW at Richmond. Cheers s22 s22 Assistant Secretary Estate Strategy and Engagement

Estate Transformation Division Security and Estate Group

Ph: \$22

Mobile: \$22

Executive Assistant: \$22

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From: \$22 @rfs.nsw.gov.au>

To: \$22	Synusius sumaninensis Sie Mendigene - Makareta	@defence.gov.au>	
Subject: NSW RFS facilities	at RAAF Richmond airbase	!	
EXTERNAL EMA unless you trust the s22 s22 some time ago.	sender and know the	y links or open any attachments e content is safe. tails to me as a result of a meeting	
	AAF Richmond as well the	aircraft contract arrangements the NAFC contract arrangements for it Richmond.	
We have been discussin would like to arrange a n		raft at Richmond for some time and I discuss the future.	
		llingness and availability to meet loring options for the future.	
regards s22			
s22 Director, Operations Sup	pport		
	Park NSW 2127	E s22 <u>@rfs.nsw.gov.au</u> Murray Rose Avenue, Sydney Olympic Granville NSW 2142 ov.au	;

Sent: Thursday, 12 September 2024 12:45 PM

I respect and acknowledge the traditional custodians of this land, and pay my respects to Elders past, present and emerging.