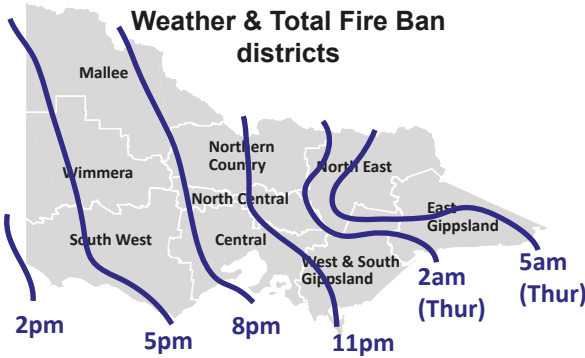


SCC FIRE WEATHER & HEAT INTELLIGENCE BRIEFING

IDV22300

Prepared 5.00pm Tuesday 21 February



DISTRICT	Wednesday 22 Feb	Thursday 23 Feb	Friday 24 Feb	Saturday 25 Feb	Sunday 26 Feb	Monday 27 Feb	Tuesday 28 Feb
Mallee	S	H	H	H	L-M	H	H
Wimmera	E	L-M	H	H	L-M	L-M	H
Northern Country	S	H	H	H	L-M	L-M	L-M
North Central	S	H	H	H	H	H	VH
North East	S	VH	VH	H	H	H	H
South West	S	L-M	H	H	H	H	VH
Central	S	H	H	H	L-M	H	VH
W & S Gippsland	VH	H	L-M	L-M	L-M	H	H
East Gippsland	VH	H	L-M	L-M	L-M	H	H

← Official FDR forecast at time of issue → ← Unofficial FDR forecast →

Summary of global weather model guidance

A high pressure system over Victoria will move east to reach the Tasman Sea tonight. A weakening cold front to the west will reach western Victoria Wednesday afternoon, central districts during the evening, then clear the far east of the State Thursday morning. The next high will be centred south of Bight waters on Thursday and extend a ridge across southern Victoria from Thursday to Sunday although the tail end of a cold front will clip Bass Strait and East Gippsland late Friday. The high should then move to the east of Victoria next Sunday or Monday ahead of the next change day early to mid next week.

Weather drivers of fire danger

Severe FDR Wednesday over much of the State due to warm to hot and dry conditions with afternoon RH 10-15% and elevated cHaines; **fresh to strong N'ly winds** over most areas, building from early morning in the west and elevated areas. Winds **shifting fresh and squally W/SW'ly** from the west with the front as noted in the timing above. Wind eases rapidly in the early hours of Thursday inland away from the change. Milder on Thursday with light to moderate S/SW'ly airflow, freshening in the south in the afternoon. Remaining hot and dry over the northeast with light W'ly winds. Mild S/SW'ly airflow on Friday and Saturday, freshening each afternoon; warmer and dry conditions inland. Warming from Sunday and hot inland Mon/Tue as winds tend E/NE'ly although generally remain light, then moderate to fresh N/NE'ly on Tue.

Precipitation and lightning

Frontal passage on Wednesday likely to remain dry although light showers are possible Wednesday night along the southwest coast. Patchy morning drizzle in the south on Thursday and Friday then isolated showers in the southeast over the weekend as the cold front passes to the south. Dry conditions throughout Monday and Tuesday.

Fire Danger Rating

- CODE RED (CR)
- EXTREME (E)
- SEVERE (S)
- VERY HIGH (VH)
- HIGH (H)
- LOW-MODERATE (L-M)

The forecast Fire Danger Rating (FDR) for each weather district is presented in the table above for the next seven days. Note that the official FDR is only calculated out to four days, while the FDRs for days five to seven are based on the latest available guidance from global weather models.

Symbol interpretation

- Wind change**
Highlights a change in wind direction associated with a trough or cold front on days when the FDI ≥ 35.
- Continuous Haines**
Indicates when convection may play an important role in fire behaviour; aligned with cHaines ≥ 11.
- Lightning**
Highlights occasions when thunderstorms are possible.
- Precipitation**
District wide forecast rainfall totals of 5mm or more (affecting KBDI).
- Heat Wave**
Severe (white) or extreme (black) heatwave intensity as defined by BoM.
- Forecast confidence**
Subjective measure of weather and fire danger forecast confidence. The higher the horizontal bar the greater the confidence (based on variation in weather model guidance for Victoria).

This weather briefing package is prepared by the meteorologist at the Victorian State Control Centre to assist fire and emergency agencies with preparedness and is not to be distributed without permission. This product is typically updated at 1000 and 1700 hours each day between November and April.

