SCC FIRE WEATHER & HEAT INTELLIGENCE BRIEFING

Prepared 5.00pm Friday 19 January 2018



Wind change timing

The map of Victoria above will be annotated with the estimated location of a forecast wind change for the current (or following) day.

Symbol interpretation

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Wind change

Highlights a change in wind direction associated with a trough or cold front on days when the FDI \geq 35.





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).



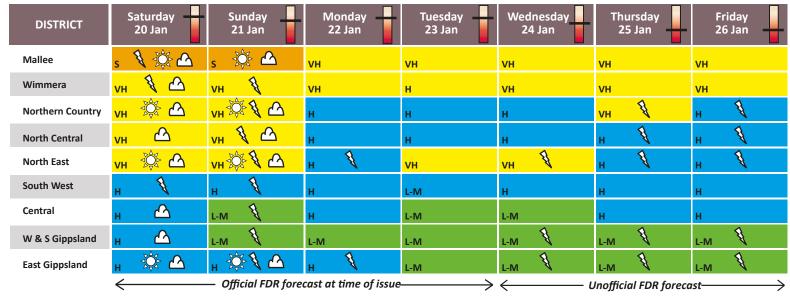
Heat Wave

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).



SATURDAY 20 JANUARY

- The trough contracts to near the Murray as a high moves to the south of the State.
- Very hot/dry in the north with max temps 40°C+, afternoon RH below 10%, elevated cHaines index.
- Light N'ly winds east of the trough; moderate S'ly elsewhere, locally fresh in the north later.
- Isolated showers and possible dry storms across the State, though more likely in the west.
- A warm night to follow in the far north with poor RH recovery. Milder in the south.

SUNDAY 20 JANUARY

- Very hot/dry continues in the north; max temps reach 37-44°C and afternoon RH falls 5-15%. Light winds tending northerly in the north, southerly in the south.
- Trough deepens over central Victoria, with increasing instability with isolated showers and possibility of thunderstorms over the eastern half.
- cHaines index high in the north during the day, easing overnight.
- A warm night to follow in the north with poor RH recovery over the far north and elevated parts.

OUTLOOK

- The trough clears to the east during Monday as the next ridge extends across Bass Strait. Isolated showers in the south contracting eastwards, while storms clear the far east later on Monday. Mild to warm in the south, warmer and drier inland, with moderate SW'ly winds tending S'ly Tuesday.
- The ridge persists to the south on Wednesday before a high builds in the Tasman Sea on Thursday. The trough is expected to re-enter Victoria with showers and storms becoming widespread in the E late in the week, with temperatures increasing to above 40°C+.

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.

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.





