



As at 23 January 2020

Assistance from the Australian Defence Force

ADF personnel have been working with state and territory authorities since September 2019 in response to Australia's bushfire crisis and this support will continue for as long as needed.

The bushfire crisis remains the ADF's primary focus. Around 6500 ADF personnel are supporting Operation Bushfire Assist. This includes around 3000 reservists.

ADF support to the bushfire crisis will continue for as long as needed.

International assistance

ADF efforts are also being supported by more than 350 international military representatives.

- ▶ The Government of Japan has provided two C-130 Hercules aircraft and associated personnel. The Japan Self-Defense Force aircraft are based at RAAF Base Richmond. The JSDF flew its first C-130 mission supporting operations on Kangaroo Island on January 19. The team delivered cargo and personnel in fire-affected areas such as Kingscote. The C-130 will move equipment between Kingscote and RAAF Edinburgh on January 21.
- ▶ The Republic of Fiji¹ has provided a platoon of around 50 engineers, who will work alongside ADF personnel operating out of East Gippsland.
- ▶ The New Zealand Defence Force and the Singapore Armed Forces are providing support through military assets and personnel.
- ▶ The Papua New Guinea Defence Force has provided 100 light engineers who are working with JTF 646.

For information go to www.news.defence.gov.au/national/operation-bushfire-assist-2019-2020.

Key facts

- ▶ **Around 6500 Defence boots on the ground**
- ▶ **350 international military representatives**
- ▶ **Ongoing work in Victoria, NSW, SA & TAS performing immediate tasks**

Reserve call out arrangements

A call out of reserves for the bushfire crisis was authorised by the Governor-General on January 4.

ADF support includes full-time and reserve members from the following: 1st, 3rd, 6th, 7th and 17th Sustainment Brigades, and the 2nd Division, specifically the 4th, 5th and 9th Brigades.



The call out, which will involve up to 3000 reservists, began progressively from January 5.

For more information about the call out, visit www.defencereservessupport.gov.au/.

Coordination

Three Joint Task Forces are coordinating the ADF's effort:

- ▶ **JTF 646 Victoria:** Based on Army's 4th Brigade, with support elements from across the ADF. RAAF Base East Sale is the central hub for the Defence response in southern areas.
- ▶ **JTF 1110 New South Wales and the Australian Capital Territory:** Based on Army's 5th Brigade, with support elements from across the ADF. Holsworthy Barracks is the central hub for the Defence response across NSW and the ACT.
- ▶ **JTF 1111 South Australia and Tasmania:** Based on Army's 9th Brigade, with support elements from across the ADF. Keswick Barracks is the central hub for the Defence response across South Australia and Tasmania.

A Two-Star Emergency ADF National Support Coordinator Major General Justin 'Jake' Ellwood, DSC has been appointed to work with state and territory authorities to manage the response.