

UPGRADES AND NEW SIGNS FOR FIRE TRAILS

If you've been down a fire trail in NSW recently, you might have noticed a brand new trail sign showing you the way. The new signs are part of the **Strategic Fire Trails Program**, implemented in 2013 but recently boosted by additional funding following the NSW Bushfire Inquiry.

The Program aims to establish a strategic network of fire trails across NSW and upgrade these trails to ensure they meet our operational needs. Trails will be appropriately signposted and configured to suit the NSW RFS firefighting fleet.

This will allow for greater confidence in our drivers and crew leaders, instead of 'nosing down' a fire trail or sending a walking crew ahead to ascertain trail condition and suitability. By upgrading trails in accordance with the NSW RFS Standards, and placing appropriate signage, driver expectations can be managed, leading to greater crew safety and better firefighting operations.

The NSW RFS is currently working with all key land management agencies, as well as private landholders, to implement the upgrade of the 30,000km of fire trails identified as of strategic importance.



A red circle on a trail sign indicates the fire trail has been upgraded to meet the NSW RFS Fire Trail Standards. The red circle will highlight the vehicle classification the trail has been built to, in this case a Category 1 tanker.

As well as the name of the fire trail, the new signs also include latitudinal and longitudinal coordinates of the trail, exact to where the sign stands.

Tactical and strategic trails that have not yet been upgraded may have slightly different signage. The signage for these trails may include a black indicator for vehicle capacity of the trail.

FIRE TRAIL SIGNS EXPLAINED

FIRE TRAILS CATEGORIES

The program has classified fire trails across NSW into three key categories:

- > Strategic trails
- > Tactical trails
- > Track/other trails

> STRATEGIC FIRE TRAILS

A trail that provides some form of strategic advantage in fire prevention or suppression, and should meet the standards outlined in the NSW RFS Fire Trail Standards.

> TACTICAL FIRE TRAILS

A trail that provides an advantage and the Service wants it to remain open, but not necessarily to meet the NSW RFS Fire Trail Standards.

> TRACK/OTHER TRAILS

A trail or track the Service wants to know the location of, but remaining open is optional and it can be opened if needed.

AFAC BUSH FIRE SYMBOLOGY

AFAC bush fire symbology will be mounted to fire trail signs where relevant. No through roads will also be clearly marked.

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|--|-------------|--|------------------------|
| | HELIPAD | | STAGING AREA |
| | REFUGE | | WATER POINT HELICOPTER |
| | WATER POINT | | ESCAPE ROUTE |

HOW BIG IS THE FIRE TRAIL NETWORK ACROSS NSW?



- > Strategic fire trails: 30,108km
- > Tactical fire trails: 24,430km
- > Track/other Trails: approx. 15,000km

For comparison, in NSW, Transport for NSW manages 21,006km of national highways, state, regional and local roads.