



**Location Details**

Address: Mt Woorut; 418 Observatory Road, Coonabarabran NSW 2357

Access: off Timor Road (Opp No. 2285)

Campus Use: ANU Astronomical Observatory

Communications: Office land lines, Mobile Phones.

Personnel: 30 persons (residents / students / staff).

Visitors: Variable, up to 1000 on Open Days

Buildings & Infrastructure: (30 Structures)

7 accommodation cabins, The Lodge accommodation building. 40" Telescope residence. S33 Telescope (the Dome is safe refuge building) Visitors Centre. Workshop.

Fire Services: Fire hydrants around facility, 1 x dedicated fire service tank. Diesel / Electric booster pumps.

Fire Service Response: NSW Rural Fire Brigade/s; Timor Main and Satellite station located on site. Other regions stations.

Water Supply: Reticulated line from Council supply. 3 x 340kltr tanks, one dedicated fire water, below S07 24" telescope. Adjacent tanks not directly interconnected.

Emergency Monitoring: Local Radio: 95 & 107.1 FM Local T V stations: ABC / SKY

Internet Warnings: Web – abc.net.au/Emergency. Telephone – Emergency Allert system Hazards Near Me - NSWRFSS

Fire Danger Rating Information: Web – rfs.nsw.gov.au/fire information. BOM Weather App

Traffic flow: Coonabarabran Police (02) 6842 7299

**Fire Danger Ratings**

**Key to Fire Danger Ratings**

	<b>NO RATING</b>	No rating issued
	<b>MODERATE</b>	Plan and prepare
	<b>HIGH</b>	Be ready to act
	<b>EXTREME</b>	Take action now to protect your life and property
	<b>CATASTROPHIC</b>	For your survival, leave bush fire risk areas

Total Fire Ban – There is total fire ban in place

**Bushfire Preparedness Matrix**

Chief / Deputy Warden to arrange daily check (after 4.00pm) of NSW RFS & BOM web site also Fire Districts 13 &14 for following days predicted Fire Danger Ratings. Take highest FDI. Update staff and students daily. Update campus register daily and note points of contact.

Moderate	Weekly equipment checks in summer time.
High	Check campus firefighting, communications and first-aid equipment. Advise building / group leaders of bushfire risk level. Conduct regular visual checks for bushfires in region. Monitor NSW RFS bushfire advice.
Extreme	As above. No open fires or outdoor works. Monitor site access gates and local public road conditions. Close observatory to contractors & visitors unless critical works. Conduct 2 hourly bushfire checks.
Catastrophic	Close Observatory, advise ANU management & Duty Officer. Monitor situation remotely.

**Bushfire Evacuation Matrix**

Where a bushfire is seen or is within 25km radius & approaching, or upon Emergency Service advice, the Chief / Deputy Warden shall -

Moderate	Confirm preparedness matrix is done for 'High'. Notify '000' of bushfire in area with following details: <b>Colour and direction of smoke plume.</b> Notify all staff, students and Group Leaders to assemble at AAT Telescope for briefing. Instruct all non-essential personnel to leave site. Notify ANU management & Duty Officer.
High	As above, confirm matrix for 'Extreme', Ensure all non-essential personnel & visitors have left site. Ensure area in front of fire station is clear. Monitor situation / liaise with NSWRFSS /Police. Advise ANU management & Duty Officer.
Extreme	As above. Check with NSW Police that local roads remain open, where time permits (min 2.0 hours), direct all students & staff to evacuate. Advise ANU senior management. Advise '000' of evacuation and observatory closure.
Catastrophic	Close Observatory to all personnel. Chief / Deputy Warden to monitor NSW RFS Emergency advice remotely. Close all gates, signpost closure at Timor Road. Advise ANU senior management & Duty Officer.

**Immediate / rapid bushfire impact:**

**Outside buildings:** Where a bushfire impacts the Observatory site, all personnel working outside buildings are to remain calm & immediately relocate to the AAT Dome structure. Where possible cover mouth with cloth and move quickly, do not run. Confirm '000' has been called. Unless the access road is confirmed as clear, do not attempt to drive out to Coonabarabran.

**Buildings: - inside**

Bushfire impact can occur day or night. Should a building you are occupying be subject to smoke and ember attack, close all windows, doors & A/C vents. Ring '000' and advise the Fire Service of your location then advise the Observatory management / Chief / Deputy Warden. Where possible, place a wet towel or cloth at base of external doors to restrict smoke or ember entry. Fill up containers with water and have at the ready to extinguish small fires. Update the Observatory manager / Chief / Deputy Warden of your actions, monitor the situation, regularly inspect building rooms where possible, drink water where possible, await arrival of Warden staff or emergency services.

Heavy smoke will reduce general light levels, remain inside with lights on. Have handheld torches at the ready. Should the building become untenable, advise Observatory management then relocate to the AAT Dome refuge if safe to do so. Follow the instructions of the Observatory management or the Chief / Deputy Warden.

**Recovery:**

On reduction or cessation of smoke / ember impact, carefully venture outside and assess building for any obvious damage. Return inside if safe to do so to remain out of any residual bushfire smoke or embers. Where possible update the Observatory management or the Chief / Deputy Warden and follow their instructions.