

# Media Release

**The Hon Lily D'Ambrosio MP**

Minister for Energy, the Environment and Climate Change  
Minister for Solar Homes



Friday, 31 July 2020

## RECRUITING FOREST FIREFIGHTERS FOR NEXT BUSHFIRE SEASON

The Victorian Government is recruiting forest firefighters who are ready to step up and help protect their communities and the environment this bushfire season.

Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change Lily D'Ambrosio today announced applications have now opened for Victorians of all backgrounds to join Forest Fire Management Victoria as seasonal project firefighters.

The recruitment drive offers employment, training and pathway opportunities for suitable applicants in regional communities. Successful applicants will join a highly skilled team of more than 1,000 frontline forest firefighters ready to keep Victorians safe.

As well as their crucial frontline duties, forest firefighters play an important role in bushfire prevention and preparedness – conducting planned burns, undertaking roadside vegetation and fire trail maintenance and other fuel management activities. They also support other emergency work.

The new positions are for a range of seasonal roles including general firefighters, fire support officers and rappel crew. There are also a number of roles to be filled by Australian Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander people to create a more diverse workforce that reflects the wider community.

These FFMVic crews based in the Department of Environment Land Water and Planning, will work alongside crews from Parks Victoria, Melbourne Water and VicForests, the CFA and Fire Rescue Victoria.

Applications for Project Firefighters are open from Friday 31 July and close on Sunday 23 August. For further information and to apply visit [ffm.vic.gov.au](http://ffm.vic.gov.au) or call 136 186.

### **Quotes attributable to Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change Lily D'Ambrosio**

*"Our forest fire fighters played an incredibly important role protecting Victorians from bushfire last summer."*

*"This is a great employment opportunity for regional communities. I'd encourage Victorians from all walks of life and backgrounds to consider becoming a seasonal project firefighter."*

### **Quote attributable to Acting Chief Fire Officer, Forest Fire Management Victoria Andrew Morrow**

*"Successful recruits receive comprehensive training and get the opportunity to work with experienced personnel from a range of fire management agencies, including with those on the frontline last bushfire season."*