



PRIME MINISTER

New South Wales - Bushfires

The Prime Minister today expressed his concern at the extent to which bushfires had broken out in New South Wales this summer.

In conveying his sympathy to bereaved families and to those injured and suffering property loss, Mr Fraser said that it was a tribute to the efforts of the many volunteers, fire fighters and service personnel who had been involved in the fire fighting operations that more damage to property and injury to life had not occurred.

The Prime Minister went on to say that he had contacted the Premier of New South Wales and advised him that as well as the physical support already provided by the Defence force the Commonwealth stood ready to provide financial assistance to the Government of New South Wales under the terms and conditions of the Natural Disaster Assistance Arrangements should that prove necessary.

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