

Pertinent News Related to Australia Fire Situation

Travel Support Recovery Coverage Highlights: (provided by Tourism Australia)

- [Travel Weekly](#): Australia's peak tourism body has urged the travel industry to continue to promote popular Australian destinations
- [Daily Telegraph](#): Scott Morrison urges Donald Trump to downgrade US travel advice. "...the red flag for American tourists was revised, removing advice to postpone trips..."
- [Herald Sun](#): East Gippsland towns call on tourists to help rebuild communities, "Tourism towns in East Gippsland have declared themselves "open for business"
- [ABC](#): Kings Highway will reopen this afternoon, connecting Braidwood to Batemans Bay once again. The road has been closed for much of the past month.
- [ABC](#): Recovery operations in communities on the New South Wales south coast are getting underway this week as the country continues to count the cost of the bushfire crisis. Favourable conditions have allowed the RFS to give tourists the green light to return to these communities — an important step in rebuilding the seasonal economies. You can [read more here](#).
- [Glam Adelaide](#): Kangaroo Island Businesses Launch \$25 Return Ferries To Boost Tourism
- [Domain](#): Australia bushfires: Victorian towns far from fires struggle to attract tourists, "...the best thing people could do for regional Victoria was to make travel plans."

Industry Communications Highlights:

- [Luxury Lodges of Australia Blog](#): Why you should plan to travel to Australia NOW...
- [Virtuoso Blog](#): An Update on Australia's Wildfires, Plus How to Help
- [TTNQ EDM](#): Industry Response to Bushfires, "Direct concerned travellers to australia.com to see which areas are still affected and where it is safe to travel."
- [ATEC EDM](#): ATEC Bushfire Impact Survey #2 - An Update - International cancellations & forward booking trends. Please note the social media initiative #bushfirebounceback
- [The Zoo and Aquarium Association Australasia Media Release](#): Zoos develop plan to help wildlife recover from Australia's bushfire crisis
- [Craig Wickham from Exceptional Kangaroo Island](#) is getting on the front foot, looking to source information on natural fire response to start a conversation around ecological recovery.
- [Kangaroo Island Connect Statement](#): The best way to help is to come to Kangaroo Island, stay a night or two and spend some money enjoying yourselves while supporting the local towns and businesses at the same time.
- [Fullerton Hotel Statement](#): The Fullerton Hotel Sydney will donate a portion of the sales proceeds from various dining and stay packages to the Salvation Army Disaster Appeal.

RFS & CFS Updates:

- [NSW RFS](#) - Advice for Badja Forest Road, Countegany: "There are many areas that are now safe for people to visit. Visitors are encouraged to contact accommodation providers to confirm they are open for business. Some communities remain inaccessible."
- [NSW RFS](#) - Advice for Werri Berri, Bega Valley: "There are many areas that are now safe for people to visit. Visitors are encouraged to contact accommodation providers to confirm they are open for business."
- [SA CFS](#) - Advice for Kangaroo Island: "KI is open for business"

Debunking Myths Coverage:

- [The New York Times](#): How Many Animals Have Died in Australia's Wildfires? "“We're not saying the number is wrong — it's inestimable,” “The media and the public in general are hungry for numbers...””.
- [7News Sydney](#): Environment Minister Sussan Ley said koala populations had taken an “extraordinary hit” in the fires. “Everything that can be done to rescue and recover koala habitat will be done,” she added. The full extent of the damage from the bushfires won't be known until the fires are over.
- [ABC](#): The truth about Australia's fires — arsonists aren't responsible for many this season.

Good News Coverage:

- A Scottish journalist has fallen for [Australian drop bear prank](#) while covering the Kangaroo Island bushfires. This prank highlights the larrinkin Australian spirit alive and well, and has been reported on by media across the globe.
- [Graffiti artists have paid tribute to the firefighters](#). A firefighting koala with a note of thanks for the country's rural fire services was among the murals painted in Hosier Lane, Melbourne - famous for its street art - on Sunday.
- [The #AuthorsForFireys campaign](#) has raised "hundreds of thousands" of dollars for bushfire relief and delivered "a swell of generosity and kindness" across the arts community.
- Thousands of [Australians tradies](#) have joined a Facebook group offering to help bushfire-affected communities rebuild.
- Experts have predicted that New Zealand's Prime Minister [Jacinda Ardern's south-east Queensland holiday](#) will boost post-bushfire tourism in the region.
- The Tasmanian government says it will recruit [more aboriginal rangers to help manage the risk of fires](#) and incorporate traditional knowledge into plans to reduce bushfire risk.

Australia's wildlife gets a helping hand

- The news of Australia dropping vegetables from helicopters for bushfire-affected wallabies has gone global, and can be seen on sites such as [Lonely Planet](#), [Washington Post](#) and [CNN](#).
- Following yesterday's Federal Government announcement of an initial \$50 million from its bushfire recovery fund going towards helping wildlife and land management, Stuart Blanch WWF Australia has said '[I remain full of hope](#)' for koala rehabilitation.
- 'So simple': [Animal lovers are solving the water crisis](#) for local wildlife using an innovative method that costs less than \$30.
- This videos shows AUS and NZ [soldiers helping to care for injured wildlife](#) on Kangaroo Island, which has been devastated by bushfires.
- Not directly bushfire related, but 144 [green sea turtle eggs](#) have been transported from Manly to hatch near Coffs Harbour, NSW. The unusual operation was launched when the vulnerable species of turtle was spotted on at North Steyne in Manly and shows Australia's ongoing concern and respect for wildlife.