



**ATTORNEY-GENERAL
THE HON ROBERT McCLELLAND MP
MEMBER FOR BRADDON
SID SIDEBOTTOM MP**

JOINT MEDIA RELEASE

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**SID WELCOMES RUDD GOVERNMENT \$143,385 FUNDING FOR BUSHFIRE
PREPAREDNESS ON NW COAST**

The Member for Braddon Sid Sidebottom has welcomed the announcement of \$143,385 Federal Government funding for the construction, maintenance and signage of local bushfire trail networks on the North-West Coast.

“We have seen over recent years that bushfire is a real threat to our region, particularly given the very warm, windy weather we have experienced this summer,” Mr Sidebottom said.

“That’s why the maintenance of bushfire trail networks is so important.”

The Rudd Government’s Bushfire Mitigation Program brings together state suppression and land management agencies with local governments to combine resources to address the most critical fire trail works.

Attorney-General Robert McClelland said bushfire mitigation work is a national concern that can only be achieved through collaborative commitment by all levels of government and interaction with a wide range of land management agencies.

“Bushfires in Australia pose a major threat to life and property. The community rightly expects that governments will do all they can to prevent these risks,” said Mr McClelland.

The Program addresses vital issues that have been identified by a number of bushfire inquiries including the House of Representatives Select Committee Report, titled “*A Nation Charred: Inquiry into the Recent Australian Bushfires*,” and the Council of Australian Government’s ‘*National inquiry on Bushfire Mitigation and Management*’.

Further information on the Bushfire Mitigation Program can be found at: <http://www.ema.gov.au> or by contacting The Tasmania Fire Service on: (03) 6230 8403.

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