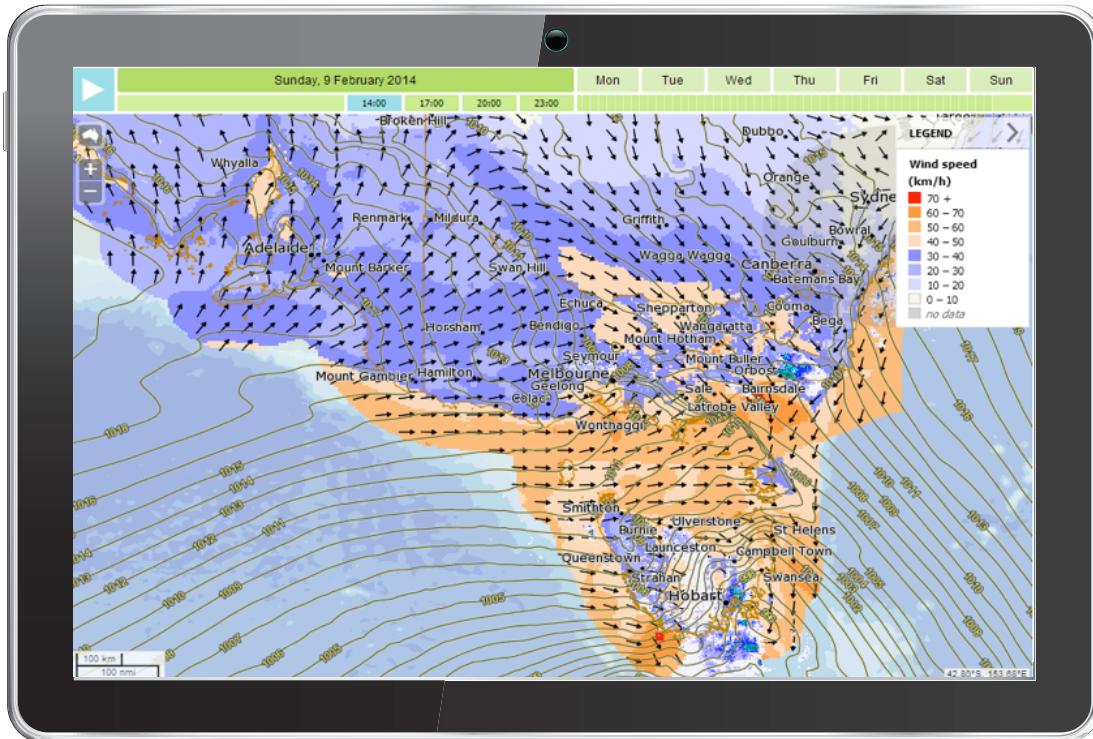


# Forecasting for fire management

Bushfires can pose a major threat to the safety of Australian communities, particularly when conditions change and deteriorate rapidly. Fire services around Australia use the Bureau's comprehensive suite of weather information, alongside expert advice from its fire weather forecasters, to assist with planning, operations and critical decision-making. Using this information, fire service professionals are able to visualise and understand the weather conditions affecting fire danger in their area. This helps them plan activities for high-fire-risk days and pinpoint the location and timing of the most dangerous conditions. The information is vital to predicting fire movement and growth, which informs safety messaging to the community. Outside the fire season this information helps identify windows of opportunity for prescribed burning, supporting year-round risk management.



*This information from the Bureau is powerful. Forecasters and fire fighters can see images of the fire-danger ratings across the State and watch real-time changes in the forecasts. It really is a case of 'a picture is worth a thousand words'.*



**Simon Heemstra**

Community Planning Manager  
NSW Rural Fire Service

The Next Generation Forecast and Warning System, displayed here in MetEye, showing wind speed and direction for South Australia, New South Wales, Victoria and Tasmania.



Australian Government  
Bureau of Meteorology