

NSW Rural Fire Service

Nominee's name: Hannah McInerney

Current Role: Captain, Jamberoo



Hannah McInerney is the Captain of the Jamberoo Rural Fire Brigade within the NSW Rural Fire Service and a trailblazer in her field, having become the first female brigade captain in the Illawarra Sutherland Team. With 15 years of service and 8 years as captain, Hannah has led her brigade through one of its most operationally active periods, overseeing more than 245 incidents in the past year alone.

Beyond firefighting, Hannah is also a senior trainer for the Illawarra District and a qualified surf lifesaver, having joined Kiama Surf Life Saving Club at age 13. Her frontline experience spans everything from flood response and hazmat incidents to beach rescues and structural fires.

Hannah is a catalyst for cultural transformation, creating an inclusive and respectful brigade environment and mentoring the next generation of leaders. Under her leadership, the brigade maintains a 100% on-time response rate and has become known for its professionalism and community spirit.

Deeply involved in local initiatives, from preschool fire education to flood clean-ups and annual Santa runs, Hannah ensures the brigade is not just a responder but a vital part of community life. Her unwavering service, leadership, and dedication make Hannah a truly deserving RESCA nominee.