



RFS

RPAS CAPABILITY OFFICER

ROLE DESCRIPTION

Cluster	Stronger Communities
Directorate Business Unit	Field Operations Operational Field Support
Role Number	52020181
Grade	RFS Level 6/7
ANZSCO Code PCAT Code	599999 1119192
Date of Approval	31 July 2024
Role Description Reference No.	RD668
Website	www.rfs.nsw.gov.au

About Us

The Rural Fire Service (RFS) protects the community and our environment by minimising the impact of fire and other emergencies. Our shared vision is to provide a world standard of excellence in the provision of a volunteer-based community fire and emergency service.

The RFS is established under the Rural Fires Act 1997 and is responsible for preventing and suppressing fires in rural fire districts, as well as being the lead agency for bush fire-fighting across the State. The agency also operates under the *State Emergency and Rescue Management Act 1989*. For over 100 years the RFS has been a significant part of the history and landscape of NSW and is widely acknowledged as the largest volunteer fire service in the world.

Fighting fires and protecting the community from emergencies is the most visible aspect of the RFS. The Service also has many responsibilities as the lead agency for bush fire management and mitigation in NSW. Working closely with other agencies, the RFS responds to a range of emergencies including structure fires, motor vehicle accidents and storms that occur within rural fire districts.

Role Purpose

The role involves undertaking and supporting functions related to the RFS remotely piloted aircraft systems and other support operations. This includes implementing programs, advancing capability development, conducting operations, and ensuring the currency of operational members and the serviceability of specialist equipment.

In a team environment, the role implements strategies to enhance community protection from bushfires and other emergencies

Key Accountabilities

1. Serve as a Remote Pilot in Command of multi-rotor and powered lift drones up to 25kg under Visual Line of Sight (VLOS) flight rules.
2. Perform roles associated with flight assessment and approval for RFS drone operators.
3. Oversee maintenance requirements for drones.
4. Liaise with internal and external stakeholders regarding all aspects of drone operations.
5. Support and advise Incident Management Teams on RPAS strategies and techniques.
6. Assist in the implementation of RPAS safety and capability projects.
7. Contribute to the development and implementation of procedures and guidelines to ensure a high standard of service and the safe and efficient execution of RFS operational activities.
8. Provide timely advice and solutions involving complex or specialised interventions, maintaining high levels of reliability essential for emergency services.

Essential Requirements

- A Certificate IV in a relevant discipline (e.g. Aviation, Training & Assessment, Firefighting Supervision, Emergency Management), or equivalent expertise.
- Remote Pilot Licence (RePL) Sub 25kg, or willingness to obtain and maintain currency.
- Aeronautical Radio Operators Certificate (AROC), or willingness to obtain and maintain currency.
- A current Driver Licence and the ability and willingness to travel.
- May be required to participate on an after-hours and/or on call roster.
- Willingness to travel and work away from home base and at short notice.
- The incumbent may be required at any time to undertake support duties across the State commensurate with their skills and background.

Key Knowledge and Experience

- Genuine appreciation and understanding of a volunteer-based community service.

Role Dimensions

Decision Making

- The incumbent is expected to comply with the Work Health and Safety Act and associated legislation in the performance of all duties.
- The role routinely makes most of their own decisions concerning assigned work and related matters, operating within standards, policies, procedures and relevant legislation.
- It is expected that the incumbent will research, identify, implement and validate appropriate responses to routine matters within their area of responsibility.
- The role seeks advice about matters that may be outside the scope of their normal activities or that might attract significant criticism or concern.

Reporting Line

The role reports to the Supervisor Operational Field Support.

Direct Reports

Nil.

Budget/Expenditure

Nil.

Key Relationships – Internal





Who	Why
Manager/Supervisor	<ul style="list-style-type: none">– Provide support regarding matters related to operational activities and keep informed of the status of assigned work and activities.
Work Team	<ul style="list-style-type: none">– Support the team and work collaboratively to contribute to achieving business outcomes.
Members (staff and volunteers)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">– Communicates with RFS members at all levels providing advice with respect to a range of matters associated with the job functions.

Key Relationships – External

Who	Why
Other Government Departments and Emergency Services Agencies	<ul style="list-style-type: none">– Communicates with other government agencies and kindred organisations about routine matters relating to the work of the unit.– Work collaboratively regarding implementation of innovation and best practice.
Community	<ul style="list-style-type: none">– Provide service to the community to prepare for and be resilient to fires and incidents.

Capabilities for the Role

The [NSW Public Sector Capability Framework](#) describes the capabilities (knowledge, skills and abilities) needed to perform a role. **Focus capabilities** are considered the most important for effective performance of the role.

Capability Group	Capability Name	Level
 Personal Attributes	Display Resilience and Courage	Foundational
	Act with Integrity	Foundational
	Manage Self	Intermediate
	Value Diversity and Inclusion	Foundational
 Relationships	Communicate Effectively	Intermediate
	Commit to Customer Service	Foundational
	Work Collaboratively	Intermediate
	Influence and Negotiate	Foundational
 Results	Deliver Results	Foundational
	Plan and Prioritise	Intermediate
	Think and Solve Problems	Intermediate
	Demonstrate Accountability	Foundational
 Business Enablers	Finance	Foundational
	Technology	Intermediate
	Procurement and Contract Management	Foundational
	Project Management	Foundational

For further information regarding this role description, please contact the Recruitment Team or email Recruitment@rfs.nsw.gov.au.

