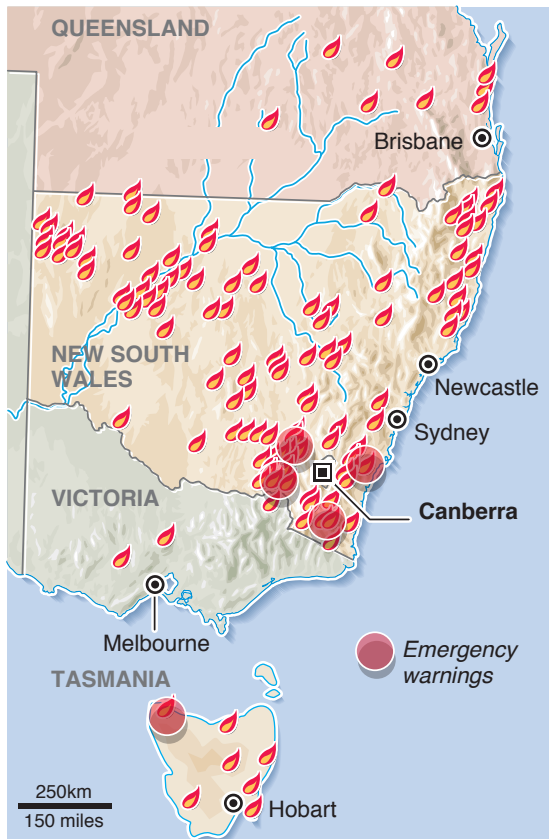# "Catastrophic" Australian bush fires

With over 100 bush fires raging in southeast Australia and temperatures soaring over 40˚C, four regions in New South Wales have been given a "catastrophic" danger rating. Remarkably, there have been no fatalities

QUEENSLAND

Brisbane

NEW SOUTH WALES

Newcastle

Sydney

VICTORIA

Canberra

Melbourne

Emergency warnings

TASMANIA

250km
150 miles

Hobart

FIRE DANGER RATINGS

New "catastrophic" rating introduced to include uncontrollable fires where evacuation is only option

Catastrophic
Uncontrollable. Leave immediately, do not attempt to protect property

Extreme
Only try to defend homes assessed by firefighters as defendable

Severe
Only assessed homes should be defended

Very high
Difficult to control

High
Controllable fires

Low
Easily controlled

Sources: NSW Rural Fire Service, Tasmania Fire Service, Victoria DSE

© GRAPHIC NEWS