

# Local News

2/10/2024

## Story 1

A team of students from Narrabri High School has won the 2024 Ag Tech Innovation Summit at the University of New England (UNE) with an idea for floating solar panels on water storage.

The team of year 11 students beat four other teams from Moree Secondary College, Farrer and NEGS to claim the \$2000 prize by sponsors, the NSW Office of Regional Economic Development.

By building a modular system of floating solar panels on storage dams, the team suggested that farmers could simultaneously address energy costs, storage evaporation and algae blooms.

(information from UNE Media)

## Story 2

The Rural Fire Service (RFS) is encouraging residents to prepare themselves and their homes for the upcoming bushfire season.

Minister for Emergency services Jihad Dib said with a return to hot and dry conditions anticipated this summer, now was the perfect time for residents to prepare for the heightened risk of bush and grass fires.

“After several years of rainfall and flooding the vegetation has grown quickly and that is now drying out with the warmer weather, adding to fire risk. Volunteer fire fighters are always on hand to discuss simple and cost-effective measures to reduce bush fire risk, such as clearing out gutters, trimming overhanging branches and completing a bush fire survival plan” Minister Dib said.

(information from the Guyra Gazette)