

Your details

Submission details

I am making this submission as

A resident in a bushfire-affected area

Submission type

I am making a personal submission

Consent to make submission public

I would like this submission to remain anonymous

Share your experience or tell your story

Your story

i live in culburra beach nsw and in most parts of the shoalhaven we were in some form of lockdown with many periods of time with road closures and threat of ember attacks and a lot of burned leaves, smoke and ash for weeks on end. we were lucky in our part of this LGA but Im furious that the nsw state govt cut back the rangers from the dept of environment who previously were responsible for monitoring areas across NSW. I hold this govt responsible for the catastrophic loss of not only massive amounts of native bushland and the horrific loss of wildlife that rescue groups and sanctuaries who survive on fundraising and passion for the most part were hit and devastated with the heartbreak of so many killed and still having long term effects of lack of food and habitat which is being stretched by environment dept in favor of mines roads and developments. the word "unprecedented" is almost meaningless these days but that is one word to use for the fires and the wipe out of entire regions towns and human death toll

too. Despite calls for govts to pay heed to changes in climate and the need for mitigation of coastal areas where many towns are on the nsw coastline

To be clear, fires are one of the big killers of koalas for example. Having a fire plan, having firefighters and having a sustainable strategy, is vital in terms of not just koalas but all our native flora and fauna. The continued land clearing in NSW and even more logging in old growth forests is criminal and now the horrific toxin 1080 is being dropped in areas where wildlife is desperate for food ! what is this govt thinking and why do they want to kill the precious fauna of this country who can barely cope with the fire collateral?

there have been multiple upper house enquiries and budget estimates for energy and environment where all this has been discussed fully so why do we need more submissions ? its all there in hansard which follow the terms of reference given here 100% on everything for reasons we have had much worse fire seasons to appropriate actions for the future like using indigenous methods of cool burns to prevent much greater burns like Firesticks Alliance who have a lot of focus on cultural burning or Indigenous burning practices. They hold workshops in spring and autumn being

on the shoulder of the fire season to give a sense of how fire would behave on certain parts of bushland. getting in touch with the organisations for more detail would be essential.

Also there MUST be more rangers to keep an eye on things along with use of drones to cover the massive land tracts that are so hard if not impossible to read and STOP land clearing now.

my story is predominantly about wildlife and ecosystem losses but there were so many deaths of people and nobody will ever forget that trauma. Losing ones home or towns have wiped out entire communities which are still trying to find a life they once had and now we are all in ISO with covid19. We do need more work done on priority planning for how many live in fire prone areas but its up to govt to stop making things more difficult by reducing resources. there is such a level of interest in the community about wildlife, flora and fauna, and how "hotspot burning" into the future can be done in the best way.

Terms of Reference (optional)

The Inquiry welcomes submissions that address the particular matters identified in its [Terms of Reference](#).

1.1 Causes and contributing factors

as per above i dont think i could elaborate much more after the tragedy of earlier this year of possible causes but the nsw govt is implicated by cutting back rangers to keep an eye on the land - why cant more drones be used ? also there are major problems with water and river systems which is also involving nswpol selling water licences to farms instead of the environment taking precedence

1.2 Preparation and planning

using indigenous methods for prep and future planning is not only advised its essential - check the firesticks alliance for full details

1.3 Response to bushfires

during the fires the RFS messaging was great but when i did manage to call to get clarification on road closures they often weren't familiar with the area ? not sure how that can be fixed as i always thought RFS was based in wollongong - the alerts were good re areas for ember attacks and we have nothing but praise for those who water bombed fires , its on record that scott morrison created a disaster by not having more planes available and the rest as they say is history.

1.4 Any other matters

i have attached some photos of what happened close to the coast and image of burned leaves and a message from

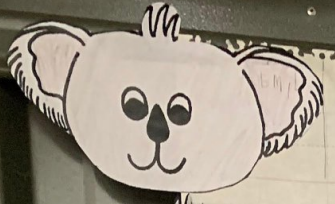
an american elementary school - there can be no account of how many animals both wildlife and farm stock died horrifically across NSW. It is a matter of fact of donations that flooded into the country with so many overseas wanting to help more than govt which is tragic, shoalhaven council for instance started having to weigh wheely bins full of flying fox bodies to estimate how many died in kangaroo valley areas with the massive currowan fire fronts

Supporting documents or images

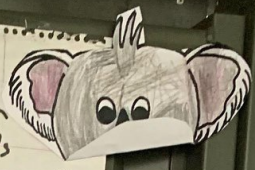
Attach files

- IMG_4270.JPG
- IMG_4296.JPG
- IMG_0032.JPG

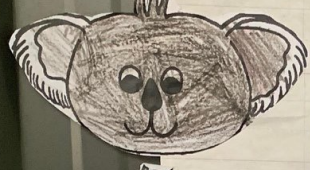




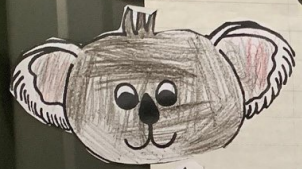
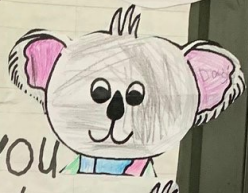
Dear Hurt Koalas,



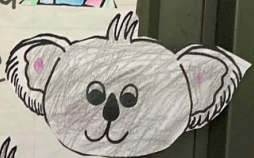
We hope you
feel better



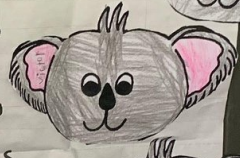
soon. We are
sorry that you



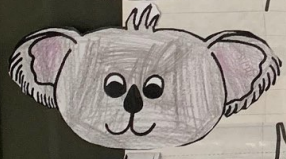
got hurt. We
love you!



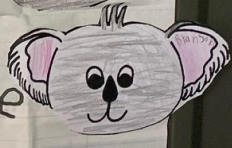
Love,



Mrs. Bell's



First Grade



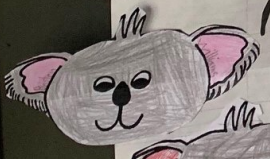
McKinley Element-



tary School



Marion, Ohio



U.S.A.

