

Your details

Title

Mr

First name

Allan

Last name

Patrick

Submission details

I am making this submission as

A primary producer

Submission type

I am submitting on behalf of my organisation

Your position in the organisation (if applicable)

4th Generation owner in this valley

Consent to make submission public

I give my consent for this submission to be made public

Share your experience or tell your story

Your story

Happy to share my story 1 mil\$ that is 7 sheds all contents no ins many km's fencing along with probably 2mil\$ of the future harvesting cycles from our forests managed since not long after botany bay and cook' two stock yards a 20 m span bridge only 18 months old pasture gone in some areas now only weeds. 4 generations and now this. In august and september 2019 i sought a fire permit to burn around my home as usual.

Despite the fire rating remaining low for august and most of september two of my neighbours being permit officers refused to issue a permit. six times i met this man at his front step over the two months four times the front step of the other and phone calls to the third permit officer,I also contacted fire control who after obtaining my name and property location assured I could most definitely have a permit.

My Grandfather, My Father and Myself have never lost a fire that is RFS never have attended my land or my

ancestors .

The result is when the fire storm of nov 8 2019 struck with all the courage and pluck I could muster I worked all night to barely save our home and was unable to attend sheds and other assets. In early august I had been given a permit for another property several km's away where i conducted burning without incident.

NB: The first RFS unit to come near our house was almost two days later.

There is much more but moving on>>>>>>>>

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

-Bob Carr's govt-legislated that all fire = 's clearing

-Red Tape, threats of legal action for burning from neighbours & govt institutiions, progressively has wound back hazard reduction to almost zero.

-Increased fuel loads, and almost two generations, naive to the reality's of managing 60% of NSW which is privately owned and blindly denying fire it's rightful place in the other 40% of NSW ie; the public estate has now witnessed fire marching across our beautiful landscape partly or mostly removing whole towns.

-I recall the fire of the Coonabarrabran space facility a few years ago !! surrounds had not been burnt for 40 years!!

-I recall the Canberra fire consuming some 500 homes and uterly destroying millions of hectares of the snowy mountains perhaps in 3 juristictions and then the EXPERTS saying a fire like that is normal about every 300 years.

-Seems nothing was taken away from those journeys.

-Were the cattle men still in the mountains, this would not have happened!!

-I reflect back to fires like ash wednesday and was it black saturday others a 100 years ago and the speed and distance travelled in less than a day.

-King lake and the owner fined \$120 000? by local council for cleaning around his home!!

CAUSES stupidity 55%

drought 25%

wind 20%

climate change, have the courage yes 0%

1.2 Preparation and planning

-Flooding rain last seen in March 2018

- As we passed through May June & July of 2019 blind Freddy could see the fire problem looming!!
- No promotion to burn now be safe later!!
- Instead Fire control brought forward two months to 1-8-19 and few if any permits written.
- Apparently; RFS have got this, fire is to be put out, hoses, red trucks, flying machines, personnel in orange.
- And when 3000 army personnel were given to the cause instead of "Great lets get them to work", there was winging, bitching and turf wars, mate thats UNAUSTRALIAN!!

1.3 Response to bushfires

- While I have only praise for the average RFS person in orange, turning up doing their bit often in dangerous conditions. Stop a moment and lives lost. I too served many years.
- More recently driving bulldozers, containment lines, putting a black edge on fire ground, steep, sheet rock, inhospitable, wind, smoke, visibility zero, helicopter bucket 10 m above me.
- But RFS won't light the containment line, not in the evening, not twilight in the morning, or midnight, instead monitor the fire!
- Result on the radio day after day between 1:30 & 4:30 pm "OH WE LOST IT HAS CROSSED".
- And do it all again.

Every house and shed or asset lost locally, nobody was present, all told to evacuate.

1.4 Any other matters

Clean around homes and assets

Homes can and should be a safe zone

- In the late 1980's CSIRO Govt RFS other Dignatories measured fire intensity in Kilowatts per m²
- Fitted water tanks to c130 aircraft and water bombed
- Finding that this was only successful on fire burning up to 3 to 4 kw's per m²
- local fires burn up to 30 or 40 kw's m²
- South and into Vic Fires burn up to 70 plus kw's m²
- More small fires = less or no wild fires
- The Govt must empower / require landowners to burn off at least some of their land regularly and if it gets away too bad This is worse.
- We must embrace fire as our friend
- A healthy forest is one that sees fire regularly, no crowns burnt, seed bank intact, wet sclerophyll forest protecting rain forest.
- 24% of Australia's agricultural products come from NSW
- Tumbarumba and others indefenceable? really? saved by locals !!!!
- A third generation local farmer put in 3 fire breaks and sought to light in the night because massive fire storm arriving tomorrow?
- Reply from the swivel chair "if you light that boy you will have a hefty fine coming your way" result millions \$ gone KM's fencing livestock more wildlife etc
- Some more stripes on the shoulder of a white shirt!
- A town half burnt lives lost, a farmer turns up with his water cart pump etc: RFS on the radio "got a farmer with a pretty good set up wants to help? send him home! We are losing this we've no chance here. send him home! hang on take his water and then send him home!! yeeeeeear good luck doing that, over and out"
- The concentration of power, has seen important decision making, removed, from on the ground, instead, sometimes no perception of reality, just shiny red trucks, fire every where and very important people administering unlimited taxpayers funds often to their mates in flying machines from \$5000 per hour or more.
- This is B S broken science at its best

NB: 3 liberal & 3 national ministers signed off on a new koala sepp44 turning almost all bush into a defacto national park!!!!!!! This crap will result in more wild fire. Green leaning got us into these fires and green leaning will not be the path forward.

-Ckeck out the 12000 koalas physically captured and surgically sterilised with your tax \$ recently.

-As seen currently outside of a pandemic wild fire is the single biggest threat to wildlife and the environment. Spare a moment,these fires have inflickted the most destructive hit in white mans history. Not land clearing not farming not logging no green leaning stupidity!!

We can choose how long fuel can accumulate for and where and we can reduce it.

Despite I guess a lot of good done by the RFS and others, step back take a big picture look and the fires burned largely where they wanted and what they found the thousands of homes sheds and other assets villages and towns and millions of hectares previously unseen destruction bare a resemblance of abject failure!

If we had been able to double the aircraft the trucks the personel and the volume of water used the carnage may have been reduced by some six percent most definitely not halved.

KEY - WATER IS NOT THE ANSWER cheers

Supporting documents or images
