



Your details

Mrs

Title

First name

Anna

Last name

Slack-Smith

Submission details

I am making this submission as

A primary producer

Submission type

I am making a personal submission

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

Since moving to our farm in March 2019 the drought had taken a huge impact on our plantation trees and stock, feeding cattle with very limited water supply.

The liberation trail fire had been burning for some time with no efforts to control it, the smoke in the area was horrendous. On the 9th, 10th, 11th of September the fire was raging out of control, no fire fighters, no on farm water supply ample to fight it, we evacuated to Town. Nervously watching Sentinel Hot spots, we could see the path of the fire going through our farm. We own 1400 acres of which 1300 was burn't. The fire was so hot it completely burn't out huge native trees, pastures, fences and plantation timber. The cattle managed to get to the 100 acres that was spared, but with no feed and the cost of purchasing feed we had no choice but to destock our cattle sending half of them to the Grafton sale yards, the prices were shocking due to the amount of people doing the same thing. We lost 40 percent of our plantation trees, and most of our fences, if not burn't

destroyed by fallen burn't trees. We were not aware of any fire fighters as there was not any!
The loss caused by this event has set us back financially for years to come until we can rebuild and restock again. It was the most distressing event I can recall, the smoke was here for months obviously not good for the health of all concerned. We had slashed and cleared but to no avail as the fire storm was so hot and intense there was no stopping it.
I really feel that if this fire had been controlled when it first started, the scenario would have been a totally different story !
The lack of fire services in this area is disgusting considering we all pay the fire levies, and have a dense vegetation in our surrounds. The loss of wildlife is very evident, as well as the native trees that were left as pure ash !

Terms of Reference (optional)

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

Supporting documents or images
