



---

## Your details

Dr

---

**Title**

**First name**

Amy

**Last name**

Way

---

**Address**

1 William St Sydney NSW 2010 Australia

## Submission details

---

**I am making this submission as**

An academic/researcher

**Submission type**

I am submitting on behalf of my organisation

**Organisation making the submission (if applicable)**

Australian Museum

**Your position in the organisation (if applicable)**

Scientific officer - archaeology

**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**

The Australian Museum is aware that during the recent devastating bush fires across NSW, priority was given to the protection of human life and recently constructed (post-1788) property. Missing in the legislation is the protection of our highly significant Aboriginal cultural assets dating back up to 50,000 years. While recently built infrastructure was protected, irreplaceable rock art sites were left unprotected. We recommend that the NSW Government consider urgently amending the objectives of section 44 of the Rural Fires Act 1997 to also

include the protection of these irreplaceable Aboriginal cultural assets. The Australian Museum Research Institute is working closely with the World Heritage Indigenous Advisory Committee to scope a formal mapping of Blue Mountains cultural heritage sites to inform protection measures into the future. The Australian Museum would welcome formally sharing those insights with the inquiry.

## **Terms of Reference (optional)**

---

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

## **Supporting documents or images**

---