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<b>Title</b>	MR
<b>First name</b>	Brian
<b>Last name</b>	Coxon

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<b>I am making this submission as</b>	Primary producer
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<b>Submission type</b>	Personal
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<b>Organisation making the submission (if applicable)</b>	BJ & HD Coxon
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<b>Your position in the organisation (if applicable)</b>	Partner
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<b>Consent to make submission public</b>	Public
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<b>Your story</b>	Our business suffered substantial loss of income over the fire period, because firstly highway closures which stopped our oysters from getting to market, then there was the evacuation of Narooma over the holiday period which meant we had no sales locally over that period, & from early January we had harvest closures brought on by high E.coli readings because of the ash, & again since because of the rain washing the ash & silt into Wagonga Inlet.
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<b>1.1 Causes and contributing factors</b>	
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<b>1.2 Preparation and planning</b>	
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<b>1.3 Response to bushfires</b>	
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#### 1.4 Any other matters

My main concern was that i felt as though the only time Narooma was under real threat was on Christmas eve, however after that period when i think what was left of any fires could have been quite easily controlled especially after 20mls of rain fell on the upper end of the inlet on Saturday 18/1/20 & a further 12mls over the next couple of days, however from what i can gather Forestry got stuck into the Wagonga Catchment with bulldozers & other heavy equipment, then proceeded to light it up only days before the hot weather that was forecast for the Friday & Saturday, this ended up scorching the upper catchment to the waters edge in large areas, there was property lost & some close calls as quite a few of these alleged controlled burns got out of control, to the point at one stage of having to call in water bombers to save property, i would just like to know who authorized these burns, why was it done & what were the qualifications of the person or persons in charge of trashing the upper catchment & foreshore, why was there no attempt made to stop the fires which were all man made from reaching the inlet, and the subsequent loss of water quality that has transpired since the fires & the rain. Why is there no remediation work done when they rip the place with dozers etc, making these so called fire breaks, with all that exposed silt just waiting to move into the inlet when we get the next rainfall, if a landholder was to do that sort of damage to the environment he would go to jail. I saw what happened after the fires on Dromedary in 2009\*the oyster industry was closed after the rain event in Feb 2010 for 6 months because of toxic algae caused by the silt ash & fire retardant washed into the inlet, we are once again facing the same problem, & i believe it was totally unnecessary.

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