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I am making this submission as	General public
Submission type	Personal
Organisation making the submission (if applicable)	
Your position in the organisation (if applicable)	
Consent to make submission public	Public
Your story	
1.1 Causes and contributing factors	
1.2 Preparation and planning	
1.3 Response to bushfires	
1.4 Any other matters	10. Safety of first responders. There have been a number of incidents involving damage to fire units, tragically seeing the deaths of three firefighters this season. NSW RFS fire units are built off commercial cab/chassis trucks and necessary requirements to fit primary safety equipment to protect firefighters sees these vehicles limited (weight/carrying capacity). Further, as

commercial vehicles, they have a large amount of plastic included in the build. It is past time for the move to purpose built vehicles, removing unnecessary levels of plastic and introducing sufficient safety equipment in the baseline (chassis) design. At this time ROPS and HALO are post fitted to the commercial vehicle (forestry units from interstate also see added cabin protection - weight penalty). Purpose built vehicles would offer a quantum improvement for firefighters and lead to the development of a "local" industry supplying what is really needed (not continuing an ad hoc solution).

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