

Title	mr
First name	Donald
Last name	Nott
I am making this submission as	Emergency services
Submission type	Personal
Organisation making the submission (if applicable)	
Your position in the organisation (if applicable)	
Consent to make submission public	Public
Your story	I am 77 yrs I have held every Volunteer rank In the RFS.I was a Member of the Blue Mts Bushfire Management Committee for 13 yrs I have been the sole Rep for the Volunteers on a Commissioners Committee for Mitigation I have been oic of more HRs & bushfires than i can remember .I hold the National Medal & 3 Clasps & a Commissions Commendation
1.1 Causes and contributing factors	Excessive Fuel Loads Together with drought effected soil & fuel dryness
1.2 Preparation and planning	A lack of mitigation by the RFS caused by incorrect precriptions for mitigation ,a culture of central control that is is risk averse,a loss of mitigation skills,a approval process that frustrates Brigades In general limited mitigation state & agency wide caused by a lack of appropriate land management and sufficient funding

1.3 Response to bushfires

Given the size of the fires & the weather.extreme fuel loads,dryness & a possible loss of skill caused by the reduction in hands on training in HR the response was good .A more aggressive approach at ignition may have been advantageous that is dependant on individual incidents

1.4 Any other matters

The Bush Fire Council did not emphasise the obvious danger facing the state or cause sufficient HR to be carried out for many years prior to these fires It should be subject to a inquiry into its lack of prior action.
There should be a independent chair of the Council
There should be a audit of the actual HR carried out using a say 10% target of the land at risk. especially the residential interface
Broadly ,there needs to be a intensely managed buffer of about 1KL behind residential .areas

Upload files
