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I am making this submission as	Resident
Submission type	Personal
Organisation making the submission (if applicable)	
Your position in the organisation (if applicable)	
Consent to make submission public	Public
Your story	<p>We live on property in the Yattah Rainforest and we had 4 adults that fought the fire that came right through us and burnt out our 2 neighbours before crossing the highway and burning the nursery and onto Conjola Park.</p> <p>We saved our home and sheds by being well prepared with independent curtain spray systems, 4 fire fighting pumps and big fire hoses and generators and using our tank water and the water from our pool.</p> <p>We fought continuously for about 4 hours as the fire raged from different directions. We continued to fight ongoing spot fires for weeks as some trees and tree roots were still burning.</p> <p>The fire came to us across open paddocks before reaching the nature reserve and our rainforest and most of the rainforest which burnt have not recovered including the big figs and red cedar trees.</p>

1.1 Causes and contributing factors

Strong hot winds, already dry stressed rainforest trees from the drought and dry dead grass in paddocks.
Not enough water available to thoroughly water down all the gardens and buildings beforehand as we thought we would run out during the fire.

1.2 Preparation and planning

We bought in 3 truck loads of water which is all we could get which wasn't enough as we had to fill our empty tanks with the salt water from the pool to keep the curtain spray systems going around the house and sheds and to use in the fire hoses. We bought an extra new fire pump to add to our other 3 and a spare generator and extra fuel as we knew the power would go off. We made up separate fire systems so if one failed others would take over. We cleared and prepared as much as possible and used blowers to clear gutters and roofs. We dressed in overalls with goggles masks and gloves. Had woolen blankets if we had to cover and run across grass to jump in the pool as last resort. We had extra food torches and battery radio and watched the abc news reports when we ran the generator every 2 hours to keep the fridge going. Our power was out for 8 days.

1.3 Response to bushfires

We expected that we had to defend ourselves. We had no other help. But were amazed that no one in authority came to check whether we were dead or alive for 8 days. There was only 3 properties on [REDACTED] Rd. and 2 burnt down you can't see our house from the gate which is only 50mtrs west from the Princes hwy, lake Conjola turnoff. You would think that over that time someone would have checked.

1.4 Any other matters**Upload files**