



Title	Mr
First name	Richard
Last name	Fisher
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	The fire didn't come to nearer than about 400 metres from our home. If the change of wind from North Westerly to Southerly had been half an hour later, many hundreds more houses would have been lost.
1.1 Causes and contributing factors	<p>Weather. Lightning strikes are the basic natural cause of bushfires, we're stuck with that.</p> <p>Drought and Climate Change. We came out of a minor ice age 9,000 years ago, and we're told now that people walked to the Australian continent from New Guinea during an ice age that saw greatly increased polar ice caps. It is not extraordinary if the planet is still warming, it would be wise to expect that it will keep warming into the foreseeable future, together with consequential increases in the frequency and intensity of future fires.</p>

Location. As far as South East NSW is concerned, the whole area has been shown to be vulnerable to extreme bush fire activity.

Fuel Loads. Consideration of fuel load reduction has in the past concentrated on fuel load away from urban areas. That is only half of the requirement. The attached file 'Forest Trees Bushfire Hazard' is a submission forwarded to the Member for Bega on 28 January 2020, it discusses this topic of excessive fuel loads in urban areas in some detail.

1.2 Preparation and planning

In Eurobodalla Shire current laws, practices and strategies, enforce over-vegetation of urban areas. Again, The attached file 'Forest Trees Bushfire Hazard' discusses this topic in some detail. The practice of forcing communities to live with forest trees among houses in urban areas is now a proven recipe for disaster.

During the fires, the 'Cashless Society' concept failed. Without electricity or landline communications for over a week, EFTPOS was unavailable. When some retail outlets opened with generator power, there were mothers here who still could not buy food for their families without the goodwill of others. There were visitors who had been told officially to leave, who could not buy petrol. There was one fuel outlet operating on an 'IOU' with licence number basis. The resulting disruption necessitated the presence of police.

People said that the Batemans Bay police could not enter their station early on 31 December 2019 as the electricity had failed and "swipe card" locks would not operate.

1.3 Response to bushfires

Public warnings were insufficient at Mossy Point, presumably due in the most part to the failure of telephone land line and mobile services. On 31 January 2019 we received the following warnings:

- About 0610 Hours. Landline telephone along the lines of "NSWRFS Emergency Bush Fire Warning – Mogo – Leave now to the East towards the beach and shelter in place."
- 0617 Hours. SMS "NSWRFS EMERGENCY BUSH FIRE WARNING – Mogo – Leave now to the East towards the beach and shelter in place."
- 1129 Hours. SMS "NSWRFS EMERGENCY BUSH FIRE WARNING – Areas Nth of Moruya River & Mogendoura – Seek shelter as the fire arrives."
-

We did not receive a warning to act and watch, or to evacuate, until 4 January, when we were advised to enact Bushfire Plans. Ultimately, all that saved Mossy Point from being wiped out was the wind changing from a North Westerly, to a Southerly at around 1120 Hours. If the change had been half an hour later, Broulee, Mossy Point, (old) Tomakin, Gureilla Bay and South Rosedale would have gone the way of Rosedale – that is, almost total destruction. Between them, those villages contain hundreds, if not thousands, of houses.

The response to the NSW 2019/2020 bushfires brought great credit to individual members of some RFS crews. Some that I (Richard) saw on 1 January 2020 were dishevelled and exhausted. However, there is talk that some crews left property owners to their own devices prematurely.

Communications broke down badly. A friend rang and told us of an alert broadcast over ABC radio about 2200 Hours on 30 January 2019, but we could subsequently find no TV warnings for NSW bushfires, only Victorian. Local ABC radio went off when the transmitter was destroyed.

On 1 January 2020 I (Richard) asked at Broulee RFS shed about road closures, wanted to go with friends to their destroyed house

behind Malua Bay, the RFS fires had no idea, couldn't speak to Malua Bay RFS, or other neighbouring RFS groups, only to the centre in Moruya. We went to Burri Road and found it was open to the house.

Radio station 2EC had a link to one of their presenters at Batemans Bay for one day, then that was lost. So we listened to 2EC giving up to date news from around Bega, and out of date news for Eurobodalla. That was our only link with the outside world.

Some events are recorded below:

Tuesday 31 Dec 2019:

- 0945. Electricity off, landline phone off. Bushfires in the area.
- 1120. Dunes on Broulee Beach on fire. Wind turned southerly. Helicopter with bucket steadied dunes fire, and was also dropping in Broulee village.
- 1129. SMS "NSWRFS EMERGENCY BUSH FIRE WARNING – Areas Nth of Moruya River (could be us, also could be Wollongong) & Mogendoura – Seek shelter as the fire arrives."
- 1815. Mobile coverage off.

Wednesday 1 January 2020:

- Princes Hwy open Milton to Nowra for northbound traffic only.

Thursday 2 January 2020:

- 2EC has phone link to Batemans Bay and is transmitting information from a presenter on the ground there.
- Generators working in Batemans Bay, 300 metre queue for fuel.
- 0710. Mobile phone on for SMS, have to charge phone from car, no electricity.
- Some looting in Batemans Bay and in rural areas. Signs "Looters will be shot."
- 2EC off the air.

Friday 3 January 2020:

- 0705. Batemans Bay 2EC back on air, but no Eurobodalla news.
- Visitors to leave South Coast.
- Not safe from Narooma south.
- In Mossy Point to "monitor conditions".

Saturday 4 January 2020:

- 0700. Fires now more towards Narooma.
- RFS is no longer working to contain fires, all they can do is to try to protect life and property.
- For south of Batemans Bay east of Princes Hwy to Broulee (includes us). Advice is to leave now if not in centre of main towns (Batemans Bay, Moruya and Narooma) or enact Bushfire Plans.
- Still have SMS only, no landline, no electricity.
- Princes Hwy open Sydney to near Victorian Border.
- 0845. Fire is expected to cross George Bass Drive and North Head Drive.
- 1005. Wind north to north easterly 15 – 20 knots. Later this evening expected to be southerly 40 knots.

Sunday 5 January 2020:

- 0500. Looks like Moruya area burning fiercely.
- Princes Hwy Mogo to Moruya closed.
- Broulee Road closed.
- 2EC still has up to date Bega region news only, keeps telling us to log on to www.FiresNearMe. If only.

Monday 6 January 2020:

- 0700. Four mm of rain in the gauge.
- Princes Hwy open to Sydney.

- 1710. Mains electricity came back on.
- SMS from family in Canberra advised our electricity supply is described as 'limited'.

Tuesday 7 January 2020:

- 1100. All fires around here are now at 'Advice' level even though many still out of control.
- 2EC broadcasting news from our region now.
- Princes Hwy open from near Victorian border to Sydney.
- Kings Hwy still closed, has been now since before 20 December 2019.

Wednesday 8 January 2020:

- 0700. 2EC off the air again.
- TV video recorder and can now pick up Ulladulla(?) broadcasts for some channels.
- 1600. Landline telephone and internet back on.

Thursday 9 January 2020

0950. Three mm of rain last night, still misting.
We think that things are slowly getting back to normal.

A lot of tension among residents here stemmed from lack of information about what was happening here. People living in Sydney had far more information about what was happening here than people actually here did.

1.4 Any other matters

Some ex-RFS crew are bemoaning what they see as an excessive proportion of 'white collar' RFS personnel in comparison now with the 'blue collar' element.
We now know that half of the destroyed properties contained asbestos. From the second week in January 2019 there were elements imploring visitors to bring their dollars to the Eurobodalla to save businesses from going under, and visitors appeared. The smoke, which we expect was contaminated with asbestos, remained until 10mm of rain fell on 7 February 2020. We presume that there was an asbestos danger, affecting all the encouraged families who were outdoors in it. If that is correct, then perhaps in future measures should be taken to prevent a recurrence. At times, particularly in the morning, the smoke was so thick that the house across the street was not visible. Lastly, while petrol was in short supply, electric cars would have been immobilised once they needed charging.

Upload files

20200128-Forest-Trees-Bushfire-Hazard.pdf - [Download File](#)

THE NEED FOR A WIDER BUSHFIRE HAZARD REDUCTION PLAN

Introduction

It would not be extraordinary for the planet to be warming. We came out of a minor ice age 9,000 years ago, that's only 100 times our Queen's age. Earlier ice ages were far more severe, we're now told that people walked to the Australian continent from New Guinea during an ice age that saw greatly increased polar ice caps.

Climate change may result in bushfires of greater intensity and frequency. It is ironic that those who make the loudest claims about catastrophic global warming refuse to let landowners clear vegetation that provides an incendiary threat to property.

Unless we are convinced that bushfires are going to reduce in frequency and ferocity, recent outcomes dictate the need for a different strategy.

Discussion

In the forward in the NSW Rural Fire Service (RFS) brochure "Preparing For Bushfires 2019" the Minister says "I like many believe in the age-old adage 'If you fail to plan, you plan to fail'". Thus, we need a plan.

There are two parts to any road safety plan:

- Action to prevent accidents; and
- Action to protect occupants of cars in an accident.

Similarly, there should be two parts to a bushfire protection plan:

- Action away from the houses; and
- Action at the houses.

Action Away From The Houses: Fuel Reduction Burns In State Forests And National Parks

Fuel reduction activity in State Forests and National Parks can only occur when the fuel is dry; when the weather is such that it's safe to burn; and when there will not be excessive smoke in populated areas.

It is unrealistic to expect fuel reduction burns in more than a small percentage of forest areas in any financial year, and even then fuel reduction activity has varying effect.

There are records of "wildfire" bushfires in National Parks, which are followed within twelve months by another "wildfire" bushfire in the same place. This is despite "wildfires" burning more fuel than the "slow burn fuel reduction burns" used by various agencies.

Long term firefighters will tell of bare earth burning due to residual root systems producing flammable gas. In the Eyre Peninsula fires of 2005 the fires were uncontrollable even though the fireground was mostly over-grazed sheep country and wheat stubble. The fires resulted in the loss of nine lives, injury to another 115 people, and \$100 million in total property damage including 93 houses destroyed or significantly damaged.

The 2019/20 fires in Eurobodalla did in places create their own gale force winds. A long term farmer and former shire councillor reported: “We had water on trucks and dozers, we were expecting a grass fire. But it ran across bare ground and lit up the ridge in one fell swoop.” Previous fuel reduction burns will have little or no effect on such a fire.

Figures 1 and 2 show the result of fire crossing low grass in the 2019/20 fires in Eurobodalla.



Figure 1. Remains of a house on 1 January 2020.

The occupants of the house shown in Figure 1 were lucky to escape with their lives. It was brick veneer with metal roof, the intensity of the fire caused the brick walls to collapse.



Figure 2. This photo was taken from adjacent to the remains of the house shown in Figure 1.

Fanned by self-generated gale force winds, the fire came horizontally from the treed area and barely scorched the grass.

Questions about the effectiveness of fuel reduction burns in State Forests are not new, and Forestry Corporation of NSW's practice of leaving copious quantities of fuel on the ground after logging, see Figure 3, is evidence that that agency sees little or no value in fuel reduction on the ground.



Figure 3. Fuel remaining after logging by Forests Corporation of NSW in 2019. In the meantime, taxpayers are funding controlled fuel reduction burns. Photo taken 3 January 2020.



Figure 4. Burnt residual fuel from logging conducted some months previously in 2019, within a kilometre of a village. Photo taken 3 January 2020.

This makes it indisputable that Forestry Corporation of NSW, which is supposed to be the expert in forest management, doesn't think that fuel reduction burns have any real value. But even if there is value in fuel reduction burns in forests and national parks, the NSW RFS will never be allocated sufficient funds to reduce fuel in all areas.

In any discussion about fuel reduction burning, there is an elephant in the room. It is the fact that until about 230 years ago, Australian bushfires spread until they were stopped by weather or by meeting a large body of water. There were no white men furiously trying to stop the spread, so "natural" fuel reduction burns were the norm. That most likely explains why hilltop vistas noted by Hume and Hovell in 1824 were blocked by trees in 1990.

To put it simply, bushfires can't always be stopped before they burn suburban houses. The following examples make any contrary argument quite futile:

- 2003 Canberra - four people died, over 490 were injured, and 470 homes were destroyed or severely damaged.
- 2009 Victorian Black Saturday bushfires - 170 lives lost, another 414 injured, and 2029 houses destroyed.
- 2013 Blue Mountains - two lives lost and 248 houses and other structures were destroyed.
- 2018 Tathra bushfire - 69 houses destroyed.
- 2019/20 Eurobodalla fires, up to 21 January 2020 - 437 homes, 71 facilities and 686 outbuildings destroyed. There was as well damage to 445 other structures. There have been more losses and another death since.

The undeniable conclusion is that on its own, fuel reduction burns in forests and national parks will not prevent houses in urban areas from being destroyed by bushfires.

Action At The Houses

In the 1950s, urban trees were predominantly apples, peaches, pears and apricots. They grew up to about four metres high. Subsequently, with the aim of "greening the planet" forest trees were introduced among the houses in increasing numbers. Local governments and schools sponsored "Plant a tree" programs.

The introduction in NSW of the Native Vegetation Act led to a bias towards over vegetation. Firebreaks on private land are now minimised to the extent that they are often quite ineffectual. In some bizarre cases, the making of an effective firebreak to protect property has attracted a fine.

A couple of decades ago in Eurobodalla shire, an application to build a dwelling on a rural block would not be approved unless all trees were cleared for 40 metres. Now, an unfortunate side effect of "green" thinking has seen a virtual prohibition of removal of a forest tree from an urban block unless it is within five metres of a dwelling. Media releases about "tree murderers" and a multitude of stories about ratepayers who paid to lodge an application to remove a tree, then were knocked back, has ended up with home owners not bothering to lodge a futile application.

In some cases the "10/50" rule applies, you can remove a tree within 10 metres of a dwelling in an extreme bushfire hazard zone. But that does not apply if the property is within 100 metres of an estuary or the ocean. The village of Mossy Point is categorised as "Extreme Bushfire Danger" due to the potential for a horizontal firestorm to race down Candlagan Creek. But that's an estuary, so properties along the creekbank can only clear trees to five metres away.

Eurobodalla Shire Council web page includes:

“Step 2 - Are you proposing to clear vegetation that is a risk to human life or property?

Special exemptions may apply. If Council is satisfied the vegetation to be cleared is a risk to human life or property, an approval or licence is not required. However, Council must be notified prior to the removal of any tree(s) and a risk assessment must be carried out by a suitably qualified arborist. Please contact Council's Development Help Desk for advice by email or phone 02 4474 1231.”

There is no specific mention of bushfire risk, and arborists are not qualified to assess the fire risk a tree poses other than to determine whether it is of an incendiary nature. But a tree's incendiary nature is then of no consequence, the risk assessment is limited to danger of falling timber due to the tree being diseased, dying or dead. So ratepayers are prohibited from removing trees more than five metres from their home, unless the tree presents a risk other than a bushfire risk.

Thus the Eurobodalla Shire Council puts its head under the blankets and hopes that any bushfire danger from trees will go away.

A ratepayer applied to remove a swamp oak to make room for a driveway, approval was given with the rider “But please replant 2 casurinas (*Casurina* [sic] *glauca* - Swamp Oak) somewhere more suitable” (See Annex A). Thus two 30 metre (ten storey) forest trees for an urban 1000 square metre (quarter acre) block.

On another occasion, over 20 years ago a landowner applied to remove a stand of swamp oaks from a 1000 square metre (quarter acre) block. The trees then were 4 to 5 metres high. The stand of 17 trees is shown in Figure 5, these trees can grow to over 30 metres high (See Annex B) and are in a precinct where building height is limited to 8.5 metres.

Figure 5. The house involved is on the left of the picture. Does anybody really think that she can hose those trees down with a garden hose?



So a large number of home-owners who enjoyed the presence of a small tree found that they weren't allowed to remove it once it became large and a bushfire hazard. Once it was over three metres high it was sacred unless it was within five metres of a house. Now many can't afford to have them removed even if the government permitted it.

This is not just the doing of local government. The NSW State Government has a responsibility to oversee the activities of local governments, which are de-facto branch offices of the State Government. It is one of the worst failures of management when one has to say "We didn't know what was going on".

Many houses within Eurobodalla shire are now largely overshadowed by forest trees, predominantly spotted gums and swamp oaks. The gums mostly grow to around 45 metres, about the height of a 15 storey building. Swamp oaks grow to over 30 metres. Both species are highly flammable, in Portugal eucalypts are known as Fire Trees. The Victorian Country Fire Authority states that these plants should not be planted in a garden or used when landscaping for bushfire. Yet in Eurobodalla shire, a landholder is prohibited from removing one that is six metres from the home they sleep in.

We know that ember attack is the most common cause for bushfire loss of houses. When forest trees are ablaze and gale force winds are generated, the embers are burning bark, leaves and twigs. They readily light eucalypts and swamp oaks in their path. As well as setting fire to flammable parts of the house, an ember attack is likely to ignite dry leaves, needles and twigs in gutters. The RFS Bushfire Survival Plan tells us to "Clean leaves from the roof, gutters and downpipes." Thus pensioners are expected to hire a handyman every month to clean out their gutters, otherwise they are living with a fire hazard.

What used to be the urban/bushland interface is now an overlap. Figure 6 is a relevant aerial view:



Figure 6. Trees Smothering Houses. Note the difference between heights of the trees and the two-storied house arrowed. Trees more than 5 metres from a dwelling may not be cut down.

Figure 7 gives a ground view of some forest trees among the houses:



Figure 7. Spotted gum trees on nature strips and in front yards on 1000 square metre blocks.

It's been proven that we can't rely on stopping a bushfire before it gets amongst the houses. Therefore, logic dictates that we should plan to protect the houses when the bushfire arrives. If a bushfire "crowns" and is in the treetops and generating gale force winds, houses under a canopy of forest trees will burn.

So many of the dangerous trees in NSW urban areas are there because of government policy (“Green the planet, bring the bush into town” and “create more habitat for fauna”). Unfortunately that is asking for both sides of the coin - an urban community and a cottage in the woods. If we are not going to bulldoze the hospital and re-plant the trees that were cleared for its construction, it’s time for common sense to override child like idealism, and to let landholders clear trees.

As well as trees on private land presenting a fire hazard, Council has ruled that many areas of public land adjacent to urban properties are deliberately exempt from clearing so that they can provide fauna habitat. Fines exist for adjacent landholders who interfere with them. Figure 8 is a typical example.



Figure 8. Untended scrubland adjacent to urban blocks.

The 10/50 rule does not apply to these creekbank blocks as they are within 100 metres of an estuary.

We are told to rake up leaf litter and keep grass short near our houses. The RFS Bushfire Survival Plan tells us to “Cut back any overhanging trees or shrubs and dispose of cuttings appropriately.” Given that bushfires generate 100 kph winds to scatter flaming bark, leaves and limbs, how far from a dwelling does a 30 to 45 metre tree have to be before it is no longer “overhanging” in real terms? The Plan also says “Plant trees and shrubs that are less likely to ignite due to their low oil content”. Despite that, Eurobodalla residents are required to live adjacent to “habitat” that is diametrically opposed to the intent of the RFS Plan.



Figure 9 . Bare earth waiting for houses to be built, and new houses with no trees in their yards. Some older houses across the road were destroyed on 31 December 2019. Note the burnt trees behind.

It is somewhat bewildering that new developments in Eurobodalla shire enjoy a “bare earth” beginning, land is cleared of all vegetation. Figures 9 and 10 make this clear. Obviously developers enjoy different rules to long term ratepayers, for reasons unknown.

Many longer term residents are eagerly waiting to hear the Eurobodalla Shire Council staff try to spin a credible reason for the difference.



Figure 10. Bare earth prepared for new houses. Note that the trees around are burnt.

Figure 11 is an aerial view of the land shown in Figures 9 and 10, photo taken before the latest lot of tree clearing.

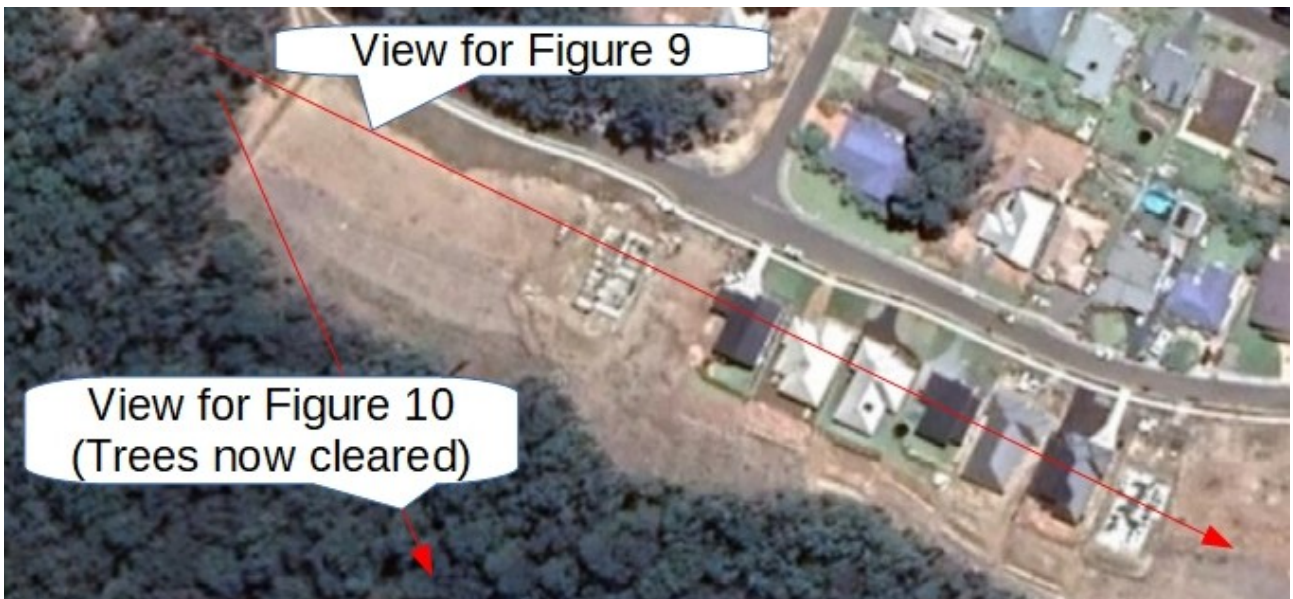


Figure 11. Aerial view of the land shown in Figures 9 and 10.

For comparison, Figure 12 shows Mossy Point, and old development where removal of a tree more than five metres from a dwelling is prohibited, unless it presents risk other than bushfire risk.



Figure 12. Mossy Point.

While any moves to remove existing vegetation from adjacent to houses is sure to attract mutterings about “existing habitat” from impractical idealists, safety of lives and property must be given a higher priority. Extraordinarily, the 2019/20 Eurobodalla fires claimed only a handful of lives. Stories of people driving through flames when fleeing their properties are evidence that it was only luck that stopped the number being much higher. The 2009 Victorian fires claimed 170 lives.

A further consideration is that in a bushfire it is not at all rare for trees to fall on fire trucks, and to fall across roads and prevent escape from the flames.

Humans have a right to clear the bush and form a safe community, human safety must override benefits sought for animals. A forest tree of more than 4 metres height should be removed from an urban block, or lopped to that height. Limits should be placed on the number of other trees on any block. As well, scrubland adjacent to urban blocks should be cleared for safety. For older urban blocks, all landholders should enjoy the clearing permission given to developers of new blocks - that is, no trees at all if that’s what they want.

The undeniable conclusion is that substantial hazard reduction in urban areas should be undertaken to prevent property from being destroyed by bushfires and lives threatened or lost.

Funding for remedial action

One of the fundamental principles of our society can be stated as: “Every member of society is bound by social contract to protect their fellows through prudent conduct.” Of course, it is also the duty of government to act prudently to protect its citizens.

The unsafe overabundance of large forest trees among the houses in Eurobodalla shire did not result from government inaction, but rather it is due to deliberate action, it is due to enforced government policy.

As the problem is of the government’s making, the government should be responsible to pay for the remedy. If the wall of a dam was found to be cracked and a town faced catastrophic inundation, the government would without question see to it that the threat was removed at government expense. The townsfolk would not be asked to fund the remedy. Why should the threat of a town or village being razed by a bushfire be any different?

Further issues

The infatuation with trees doesn't stop with settled areas. The Pacific Highway by Wakefield Road between Sydney and Newcastle is dual carriageway, with a strip as wide as three vehicle lanes separating the carriageways. But rather than using the potential for one wide firebreak, between the carriageways is a thick forest of eucalypts, swamp oaks and kunzea shrubs, all of which flare like incendiary bombs when lit. Figure 13 shows a stretch where Wakefield road runs parallel, but with thick vegetation between it and the motorway. Removal of the intermediate vegetation would provide a far more effective firebreak.



Figure 13. A Lost Opportunity To Keep A Permanent Firebreak

A second further issue is the ridiculous situation whereby Eurobodalla Shire Council will not approve a development application for a detached house unless the plan includes solar hot water, but solar panels on houses are now very often in the shade of forest trees.

Summary

Funds are not limitless and their allocation for bushfire preparation needs review. There is a need for a plan which recognises the two elements of bush fire safety, that is firstly fuel reduction away from the houses and secondly, and just as importantly, hazard reduction at the houses. We need to conduct the right hazard reduction efforts in the right place and in the right time. Would the safety of the houses be enhanced more:

- by greater “conventional” fuel reduction burns in state forests and national parks, at a place where a bushfire might come from; or
- by removal of large forest trees from within 40 metres of houses, and the removal of adjacent untended scrub?

It is time for common sense to overrule impractical idealistic over-government. It is quite improper to value the safety of trees more highly than the safety of citizens and their property. Far too many houses in Eurobodalla Shire are now under extreme bushfire threat due to the proximity of grossly excessive vegetation.

Conclusion

The determination of Eurobodalla Shire Council to keep parts of the shire extremely over-vegetated is absurd, dangerous and culpable.

Failure to act with prudence is negligence. Government action is responsible for the danger, and the trees and the scrub should be removed at government expense. Funding for hazard reduction around the houses may require reduced funding for fuel reduction burns in state forests and national parks. If that's the case, so be it.

Doubtless, before long any suggestion to remove hazardous trees from among the houses will be met in some quarters with a demand to "Wait until the Royal Commission has done its work." Seriously? It might suit that small group to see no action taken while the rage (yes, rage) of the large group remains, but the majority is not so immature that it can't identify obvious bushfire hazards and remove them now, before the next bushfire.

Failure to act now would be an act of reckless indifference. We need to conduct the right hazard reduction efforts in the right place and in the right time. The "right place" is both in the forests, and around the houses. The "right time" is now.

As an interim step the state government, or failing that the federal government, should immediately issue a blanket approval for owners of urban land to clear all forest trees. Funding arrangements should follow without delay. As well, for public land all forest trees within 40 metres of a dwelling should be cleared as soon as is practicable.

The author's family have been Mossy Point ratepayers since 1948.

Richard Fisher
January 2020

ANNEXES. A. Application To Remove Or Lop Trees
 B. Wikipedia: Casuarina Glauca
 C. Wikipedia: Spotted Gum

ANNEX A

EUROBODALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

APPLICATION TO REMOVE OR LOP TREES

(Private Land)

File Number
Fee
Assessment Number
Fee Receipt Number
Date

31/7/03

- Please read the Tree Preservation Guidelines before completing this form. PIN-
- We will determine the application within fourteen (14) days of the receipt and provide you with a copy of this form showing the decision.
- Personal information supplied by you on this application may be included in a data base held by council and may be made available for public inspection.

Your Name

RICHARD A. FISHER

Your Postal Address

Phone No

Address where vegetation
is to be removed

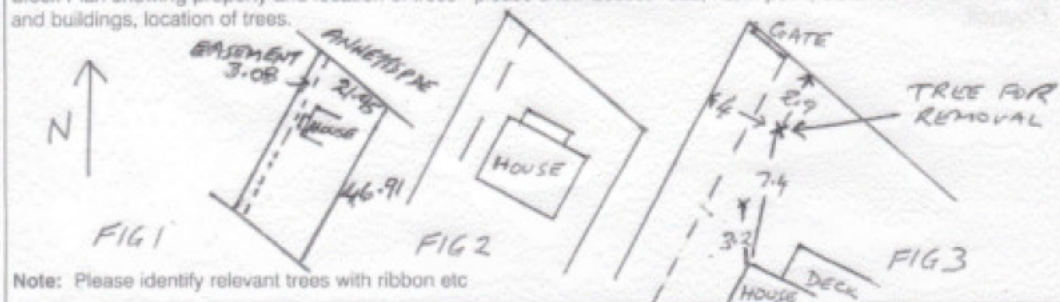
2537

Landowners name

Signature of owner

POA ACT RN 71783 OF 23/6/92

Block Plan showing property and location of trees - please show access road, north point, distance from boundaries and buildings, location of trees.



Note: Please identify relevant trees with ribbon etc

Please describe the work and the reason for what you propose.

(EG. "Complete removal of gum tree that is decayed and dangerous and leans over the house")

COMPLETE REMOVAL OF CASUARINA TREE TO PERMIT VEHICLE
TURN-AROUND AND ENABLE FORWARDS EGRESS FROM BLOCK,
AS REVERSING THROUGH EXCITED CHILDREN IS TOO DANGEROUS
(CHILDREN GOING TO AND FROM ACCESS TO BEACH)

ASSESSMENT OF APPLICATION (OFFICE USE ONLY)

Standard Conditions are listed over the page

Consent is granted



Refused



Other Conditions of Approval or Refusal:

But please replant 2 casuarinas (Casuarina glauca - Swamp
Oak) somewhere more suitable.

Tree Assessor's Signature

Date

9/8/03

Applicant's copy - white • File copy - green • Assessor's copy - yellow • Invoice copy - pink

ANNEX B.

Casuarina glauca

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

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[Jump to search](#)

Casuarina glauca

Starr 040120-0213 Casuarina glauca.jpg

[Scientific classification edit](#)

Kingdom: Plantae

Clade: Tracheophytes

Clade: Angiosperms

Clade: Eudicots

Clade: Rosids

Order: Fagales

Family: Casuarinaceae

Genus: Casuarina

Species: C. glauca

Binomial name

Casuarina glauca

Sieber

Casuarina glauca, commonly known as the swamp she-oak, swamp oak, grey oak, or river oak,[1] is a species of Casuarina native to the east coast of Australia. It is found from central Queensland south to southern New South Wales. It has become naturalised in the Everglades in Florida where it is considered a weed.[2]

The swamp oak grows as medium sized tree, 8–20 m high tree, or rarely over 30 m tall.[10][9]

ANNEX C.

Corymbia maculata

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Spotted gum

Corymbia maculata.jpg

Scientific classification edit

Kingdom: Plantae

Clade: Tracheophytes

Clade: Angiosperms

Clade: Eudicots

Clade: Rosids

Order: Myrtales

Family: Myrtaceae

Genus: Corymbia

Species: C. maculata

Binomial name

Corymbia maculata

(Hook.) K.D. Hill & L.A.S.Johnson[1]

Corymbia maculata (syn. Eucalyptus maculata), commonly known as spotted gum, is an endemic Australian tree.

Description

Spotted gum is a tall tree with a straight trunk, growing around 35-45 meters in height, with exceptionally big trees reaching 70 meters. However, there is an old reference to a 91 metre tall tree.[2]