

## Your details

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**Title**

Mr

**First name**

Russell

**Last name**

Allen

## Submission details

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**I am making this submission as**

A resident in a bushfire-affected area

**Submission type**

I am making a personal submission

**Consent to make submission public**

I give my consent for this submission to be made public

## Share your experience or tell your story

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**Your story**

I spent a lot of time as a volunteer and paid fire fighter trying to save life and protect property during the 19/20 protracted fire session. I have been a firefighter since 1982, and was at Gisbourne in Victoria on Ash Wednesday. What have I learnt. Put the bloody fires out. Make it the primary objective and plan to make it happen. Thank you for all the good firefighting gear, but get more. Look after our volunteers. It costs lots to be a volunteer. Don't talk about volunteers if your not one, because you don't have a clue what it's about. Keep planners in Incident Management Teams restricted to locals only. And pay and indemnify volunteers to do the job. Stop backburning unless it is absolutely necessary. Stop making fires bigger, make ever effort to put them out. Inaccessible fires bullshit put them out. Work out how to do it. Save lives and everything else. This event has caused many people to reassess their love of the rural urban interface or rural life. Please look at every aspect of the growth of these fires on the south coast of new south wales and work out if the actions taken to mitigate them was right. My property on Dunks Creek road was burnt through.

## Terms of Reference (optional)

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The Inquiry welcomes submissions that address the particular matters identified in its [Terms of Reference](#).

### **1.1 Causes and contributing factors**

Drip torches, freelancing at the wrong time. Lack of training and common sense.

### **1.2 Preparation and planning**

More training more equipment more firefighters. PLAN TO PUT THE FIRES OUT.

### **1.3 Response to bushfires**

WITH A BAD SESION THROW EVERYTHING AT IT SOONER THAN LATER.

### **1.4 Any other matters**

The health of the community.

The absolute bravery of local communities

## Supporting documents or images

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