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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	
1.1 Causes and contributing factors	<p>I think logging native forests is a big problem. It reduces the canopy, drying out the undergrowth. This allows weedy growth which adds to the fuel load. The forests were already stressed because of the drought over winter, dropping many leaves. This all leads to hotter fires.</p> <p>Logging should be immediately stopped until we get a thorough study done to assess how much logging native forests has added to the intensity of the 19 20 fires.</p> <p>80% of our area, Eurobodalla Shire has been burnt. This is another reason to stop logging immediately. We need to save what's left. Failing to do this will add to the massive extinction that's already taken place during 19 20 fires.</p>

We need to review the whole logging industry in NSW to see if it's really sustainable. Even selective logging will cause the fires to be more intense, and as the climate is warming we can expect more fires, not less in the future.

A sustainable alternative is industrial hemp. It grows in arid conditions when farmers can't plant normal crops. It doesn't deplete the soil nutrients. It can be used in many applications from bricks to house beams etc. It's even been used to manufacture car panels.

With industrial hemp NSW could lead the way in a brand new sustainable industry that could be located in remote and rural areas providing employment.

I'd also like to bring the enquiries attention to our addiction to coal. Burning fossil fuel is adding to our problems - the science is in. We have enough evidence to know that burning coal and being dependant on revenue from the coal industry is not a smart long term plan - environmentally or financially.

Although I understand this is probably a Federal issue I think the matter of a sustainable population for Australia also needs to be considered. We're one of the driest countries on the planet. Our current economic growth (pre Covid 19) was purely based on consumption. This is a dangerous unsustainable position.

As people spread out from crowded cities they often are living closer to national parks and forests. In a fire season like last summer, they then want the parks to be burnt off. This is often an impossible task - physically and financially. It's also in conflict with the notion of having protected natural areas. We need to cherish our National Parks (and our oceans.)

We need to do as much as possible as quickly as possible otherwise terrible fire seasons will become the norm and I think it will happen a lot quicker than people realise.

To help climate change we should immediately stop clearing the bush and start mass plantings to help draw down carbon. This would also provide employment opportunities in rural areas.

1.2 Preparation and planning

I feel the governments overall planning both federal and state was poor. They didn't listen to the scientists back in June July 19 telling that there would be unprecedented conditions in the 19 20 fire season. Governments failed to act on scientific advice.

1.3 Response to bushfires

Communications
The ABC was our lifeline for 3 days. There was no one else keeping us up to date with what was going on in our local area. Having good communication is so important in these situations. It keeps people from panicking and lets them know the appropriate actions to take.

1.4 Any other matters

I trust this enquiry and the contributions that the people of NSW are making to it will actually come to something and that is not just another review that's shelved.
Avoiding taking action on these important and urgent issues will be terrible for our future.

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