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## Your details

Mr

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**Title**

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**First name**

Phil

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**Last name**

Mayberry

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## Submission details

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**I am making this submission as**

A business owner

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**Submission type**

I am making a personal submission

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**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 witnessed the 1994 bushfires that came from Runnyford and reached the northern end of Mogo Village and then, due to a wind change, burnt out the State forest and Eurobodalla Botanic Gardens and onwards towards the coast.

As our local climate has noticeably warmed we watched and heard the forest get drier, watched the 100 year old trees on the ridges dying, heard about the early fires in Northern NSW .

The writing was on the wall.

When the Currowan fire jumped the Kings Hwy in December 2019, we knew, the fires knew, that Mogo Village would be impacted. No body estimated the speed and devastation of that fire as it hit Mogo and indeed the whole South Coast.

When it hit Mogo Village, with at least 6 days notice from the jump over the Kings Hwy, we initially had two ,brave and committed, firetrucks to save our town. That is all! No aerial support whatsoever!

Given that resources ,both human and machine, were stretched

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beyond capacity at this time it must show that under extreme National Disaster scenarios the current status quo is inadequate. I submit the following suggestions/observations:

\_ We must be able to respond, as a nation far quicker and effectively, to these more frequent internal National Disasters. We need a specialized Mobile Armed Forces Unit ( air and ground) trained and ready to offensively attack these fires when similar conditions prevail. An educational module within all branches of the armed forces, focused on fire fighting, would provide invaluable resources to the community and the armed forces.

\_ Mogo Village is surrounded by State Forests. The majority of adjacent State Forest compartments have been logged heavily within the last 8 years and huge amounts of semi- windrowed dry tops and discarded logs had been left in situ. I would like to suggest that an infra red study be conducted that plots the speed and intensity of the fire through recently logged and longer term logged compartments . This will help in forest management and better fire preventiveness.

Yours faithfully,  
Phil Mayberry  
Mogo

## **Terms of Reference (optional)**

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

## **Supporting documents or images**

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