

## Your details

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**Title**

Mrs

**First name**

jenny

**Last name**

moffat

## Submission details

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**I am making this submission as**

A business owner

**Submission type**

I am making a personal submission

**Organisation making the submission (if applicable)**

The Leaning Oak Holiday Lifestyles

**Your position in the organisation (if applicable)**

Owner

**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**

We own nearly 40 acres on Lake Conjola Entrance Road, LAKE CONJOLA. We are building a holiday tourist park. We were present on site as we were opening our doors to our first bookings on New Years Day! Sadly this wasn't to happen!

We stayed and fought the fires. We had a plan and we followed it until we couldn't anymore.

Unfortunately we didn't have in our plan going to check on our 84yr old neighbor at Killarney nor the tourists that weren't taking the day seriously out on the water.

But we would not have changed things - she needed our help.

We were indeed grateful that we had followed our bush fire hazard reduction plan for our development. We had removed our load on the ground under our front trees only weeks before and our canopy's were thinned as allowed. We were not able to touch the habitat trees and these were to be a huge problem for the coming weeks. I truly believe us doing this saved residents of the township of Conjola. The intensity of the fire was slowed down and diverted over to the tip and around to Pattimores lagoon.

We did have mulch stockpiled as we were working on our landscaping continuously. Our freshly laid gardens with mulch were to be our undoing as our roundabout caught fire and jumped from bed to bed and getting under our house and office - which was totally unstoppable and sadly destroyed. The heat of the fire also damaged much of our plumbing and underground services to our cabins underconstruction.

## 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

I believe the fuel load around us was too large! Regular hazard reduction needs to happen.

Unlike many towns we are surrounded by National Parks-hectares of trees and debris. Assets need to be allowed to be protected and maintained regularly

We believe fuel load along with the recent drought and weather conditions during the days contributed to the devastation.

### 1.2 Preparation and planning

A NEW town evacuation plan needs to be prepared with worst case scenarios ( TOWN AT FULL CAPACITY WITH HOLIDAY MAKERS)

Our local Bowling club needs to prepare for this. We need to clear areas around the establishment to enable residents and visitors to FEEL safe especially after this experience.

### 1.3 Response to bushfires

IN NO WAY do we blame the RFS they did an amazing job, so did the helicopters with their water drops.

We need to learn from this and OWN OUR MISTAKES AND MISMANAGEMENT and move forward.

### 1.4 Any other matters

LANYARDS I would suggest the issuing of a tag or lanyard to homes/families to allow to leave and return to homes if anything happened like this again. It is stressful enough without being asked to prove where you live

The registration process also needs to be streamlined. Retelling the same traumatic experience over and over and over again is NOT good for ones mental health.

I have photos that i would be happy to share to prove canopy reduction helps

## Supporting documents or images

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