

**Submission Number: NND.001.00889**

**Submission Of: Kathleen McCann**

### Your Details

Email address:

Phone:

Preferred means of contact: Email

What is your submission based on? I am making this submission based on my personal situation

What was your personal situation in relation to the 2019-20 Bushfires?

Where do you live? Bega Valley (A)

### Your Submission

In your experience, what areas of the bushfire emergency response worked well?

Communications

Evacuation procedures

Inter-agency response

Local council updates

Community resilience

Incredible calm response from the head of RFS Shane Fitzsimmons at all times.

In your experience, what areas of the bushfire emergency response didn't work well?

Keeping our local brigade fed and watered...our community stepped up and provided it all until World Kitchen Charity stepped in.

Over zealous response from security during the PM's visit was ridiculous.

The useless response from the Federal Government right from the start.

In your experience, what needs to change to improve arrangements for preparation, mitigation, response and recovery coordination for national natural disaster arrangements in Australia?

There needs to be better training and response to any disaster scenarios from all military agencies who should be called into action immediately. They also need to train and learn how to work with all civilian and volunteer agencies who are always the first responders, especially for long campaigns, where people lost work or jobs because it was such a long fight this past fire season.

All fire related agencies and land services MUST LEARN local aboriginal techniques for cool burns all year round. The evidence that it works is clear (for eg; Tathra fires, March 2018, Stratford Crescent saved by a cool burn that was held 6 months earlier).

Climate Change scenarios predict stronger winds, disrupted season's, longer warmer temperatures, etc, so actually doing something about that seems like a good idea. Regenerative Agriculture, better water catchment, reclaiming wetlands and keeping water in our rivers and dams should be a given.

Is there anything else you would like to tell the Royal Commission?

Do you agree to your submission being published? Yes I agree to my submission being published in my name