

**Submission Number: NND.001.00950**

**Submission Of: Catherine Marsham**

### Your Details

Email address:

Phone:

Preferred means of contact: Phone

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? I live in an area devastated by New Year Eve bushfires - was not evacuated - went into my fire bunker with co-owner of property and came out and fought the fire after an hour - saved most of house but lost everything else

Where do you live? Bega Valley (A)

### Your Submission

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

The bush fire relief for food and supplies set up in Cobargo Showground was a godsend

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

There simply weren't enough fireies to cope with the enormity of that fire - no one came to our place or neighbours and no one seemed to know what was going on.

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

Deal with climate change with the ensuing heating up of planet and increasingly severe droughts

Allow slow burns in winter in the aboriginal way to happen although the window gets shorter each year due to the dry

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

I still have my house mainly intact because of my fire bunker and having a good fire fighter pump and hose and if people want to live in the bush I think it should become part of the build and also checking that people take more care of their properties in the fire season like raking away leaves from house and gutters etc. I did all this as did my brother up the road and we both still have our places although now dealing with done level of PTSD. In bushfire season which has now become a reality every year we need more fireies trainer and much more equipment

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