



Environment and Planning Committee
Legislative Council

Inquiry: Inquiry into Ecosystem Decline in Victoria

Hearing Date: December 2020

Questions taken on notice

Directed to: **Mr Webb, Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning**

1. Ms Bath

Question asked.

Could anyone outline to me what the legislative barriers are to allowing traditional owners to manage their own projects on public land?

Can the department provide fuel load maps for parks and DELWP-managed forests?

Response:

Forest Fire Management Victoria (FFMVic) does not develop, nor produce fuel load maps. FFMVic draws on a broad range of information to inform Victoria's risk-based approach to bushfire management.

Bushfire risk combines the likelihood of a fire starting and spreading, with the potential consequence of a fire impacting on values, such as communities, infrastructure, industry and the environment.

Fuel loads provide only part of the picture of overall bushfire risk, other fuel factors affecting bushfire risk include the type and condition of fuel (e.g. bark, wet) as well as the likelihood of the fuel burning.

FFMVic provides bushfire risk information through Bushfire Management Strategies, which combine the latest science and modelling with local community expertise and knowledge. These strategies communicate the local and regional level bushfire risk information as well as the management actions planned to manage this risk.

These Bushfire Management Strategies are reviewed periodically to ensure they remain up to date and are providing contemporary information to communities.

The recent Inspector General of Emergency Management and Victorian Auditor General Office reviews supported FFMVic's approach to communicating bushfire risk information and provided recommendations supporting the expansion of this approach.