



## New books, articles and reports in your library this month

### “The summer Australia burned, 2019-2020”

The Australian journalism foundation, the Walkley Foundation, is showcasing work produced by Australian photojournalists during the 2019-2020 bushfire season. This beautiful exhibition, curated by industry photo editors to represent a diversity of photographers, documents the scale of the tragedy and its impact on affected communities.

Browse the exhibition online here

<https://www.walkleys.com/bushfire-digital-photo-exhibition/>



Image: “Children play at the showgrounds in the southern New South Wales town of Bega where they are camping after being evacuated from nearby sites affected by bushfires on December 31, 2019.” Photo by Sean Davey, AFP

*Content warning: contains images that may be distressing to some viewers.*

### FIRE INCIDENTS – AUSTRALIAN

#### Australian Seasonal Bushfire Outlook: July 2020 (Hazard Note No. 75)

BNHCRC, July 2020

The Australian Seasonal Bushfire Outlook: July 2020 reflects the main

bushfire management priorities in each state and territory from July to September. It is particularly relevant to parts of northern Australia that have entered (or are soon to enter) their fire season – in Queensland, the Northern Territory and Western Australia.

Use this [BNHCRC link](#) to read the hazard note online.



### EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

#### [Disasters in Australia and New Zealand : historical approaches to understanding catastrophe](#) (Book)

Edited by S McKinnon and M Cook, 2020

This book is a collection of essays on the history of disasters in both countries. Experts provide a timely interrogation of long-held assumptions about the impacts of bushfires, floods, cyclones and earthquakes, exploring the blurred line between nature and culture. How have disasters been remembered or forgotten? And how have societies over generations responded to or understood disaster?



*Please contact the library to request a loan of this book*

#### The Australian Disaster Resilience Index (Website)



Research has developed the first national snapshot of disaster resilience in Australian communities to help governments, local organisations and emergency services improve their communities’ resilience to natural hazards. This interactive website enables organisations to tailor programs and policies that strengthen disaster resilience, from national and state levels, right down to specific communities.

The ADRI website is [here](#).

A video tour of the website is located online [here](#).

#### Anatomy of a mega-blaze (Online Video, 14 mins)

ABC News In-depth, July 2020

An ABC visual investigation reveals

fresh details about Australia's biggest-ever bushfire, which scorched more than 1 million hectares last summer and left a trail of destruction on Sydney's doorstep.

Use this [ABC link](#) to watch the video online.



#### Impact of Australia's catastrophic 2019/20 bushfire season on communities and environment. Retrospective analysis and current trends (Journal article)

Journal of Safety Science and Resilience, July 2020

To understand the impact of these climatic values we conducted a preliminary analysis of the 2019/20 bushfire season and compared it with the fire seasons between

March 2000 and March 2020 in the states of New South Wales (NSW), Victoria, and South Australia (SA). Data showed that they were unprecedented in terms of impact on all areas. A number of mega-fires occurred in NSW resulting in more burned area than in any fire season during the last 20 years.

*Please contact the library to request a copy of this article.*



**From the ashes : a poetry collection in support of the 2019-2020 Australian Bushfire relief effort (Book)**

*Edited by C S Hughes, 2020*

In response to the 2019-2020 Australian bushfire season, the Australian poetry

community has given voice to the anguish, the struggle, and the challenge of this catastrophe. Poets from across the country, and indeed, from around the world, some renowned, some known only in their own backyards, or local libraries, have contributed to this book.

*Please contact the library to request a loan of this book*

## FIRE INCIDENTS – INTERNATIONAL



**[Fire Ghosts](#) (Book)**

*Patricia Galagan and Philip Metcalf, 2019*

In 2011, in the Jemez Mountains of New Mexico, a falling power line sparked a wildfire that burned 158,753 acres of

forest. From their home in Santa Fe, photographers Patricia Galagan and Philip Metcalf watched what came to be known as the Las Conchas fire burn. For more than seven years they were compelled to make photographs of the aftermath of the fire to draw people beyond the news-cycle images of smoke and flames into the reality of a forest after an extreme fire. This book is the collection of these images.

*Please contact the library to request a loan of this book*

**The many-headed beast of wildfire risks in Aotearoa-New Zealand (Journal article)**

*Australian Journal of Emergency Management, Vol 35, July 2020*

This research paper examines media commentary related to wildfire risk in Aotearoa-New Zealand following two large-scale wildfires that affected urban and rural areas of the country in 2017 and 2019.

*Use this [AJEM link](#) to read the article online.*

*The latest issue of the Australian Journal of Emergency Management, July 2020, can be read online [here](#).*

## FIREFIGHTING



**[The principles of effective warnings : for emergency agencies, health and education authorities, local government, media, business](#) (Book)**

*Ian Mannix, 2020*

This workbook sets out for the first time the role of the emergency broadcast specialist. It Provides theory, deep understanding and provides a pathway for any organisation or individual who needs to be issuing effective warnings to keep their community, staff or industry safe.

*Please contact the library to request a loan of this book*

## LEADERSHIP AND MANAGEMENT

**Does Your Company Have a Long-Term Plan for Remote Work? (Online article)**

*Harvard Business Review, 20 July 2020*

After spending the last two decades building amenity-filled campuses that maximize the "collisionability" of talent and ideas while enticing their workers to stay in the office for as much time as they can, Covid-19 has shown these leading-edge technology companies that their workers can be just as productive — or in some cases, even more so — when they stay at home. It's not just tech.

*Use this [HBR link](#) to read the article online.*

**How to stop workplace bullying (Podcast : 25 mins)**

*The HR Breakfast Club, April 2020*

In this episode, James Judge speaks with Commissioner Peter Hampton from the Fair Work Commission and Rebecca Richardson of BAL Lawyers Employment Law and Investigations Group and looks at understanding and responding to stop bullying applications.

*Use this [HRBreakfast link](#) to listen to the podcast.*



**[The art of war](#) (Book)**

*Sun Tzu*

Written around the 6th century BC, The Art of War is one of the oldest books about war and military strategy. For more than two thousand years it has provided leaders with essential

advice on battlefield tactics, managing troops and terrain, and employing cunning and deception. Above all, it teaches how, when battles commences, to think on your feet and catch your enemy off guard.

*Please contact the library to request a loan of this book*

**Stress and crisis management (Blog)**

*Crisis Response, July 2020*

Evie Whatling of Ricardo looks at how crises that occur nowadays are subject to extensive and immediate media scrutiny and how the so-called crisis management 'golden

[Evaluating the effectiveness of current emergency vehicle ADR compliant sirens with modern vehicles](#) (*Honours thesis*)

Hayden Wood, 2020

For all motorists and pedestrians, early localisation of an emergency siren helps them detect and move out of the way of the emergency vehicle. While the siren technology has not really altered since 2010, today's vehicles have undergone changes. Several experiments were undertaken with various common vehicles to test the effectiveness of the sirens being used by the NSW RFS and the results were that an urgent change in frequencies and audio output, alongside additional technologies such as low frequency devices or additional amplifiers, would have a greater impact on the roadways, ultimately improving safety on the roads.

Please contact the library to request a copy of this thesis.



Latest issue of the **NFPA Journal** (July/August 2020) is now online. Read about the return of crowds in a post-COVID-19 world, the push toward remote video inspections, crowd management research, an interview with a wildfire preparedness coordinator, and the 2019 US

Firefighter Fatalities report

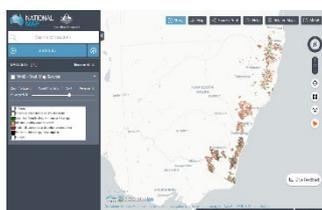
Use this [NFPA link](#) to read the journal online.

## FIRE BEHAVIOUR

Just published, the **Australian Google Earth Engine Burnt Area Map (AUS GEEBAM)** was developed in collaboration with the Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment. It was created to meet the following two needs.

- quantifying the potential impacts of the 2019/20 bushfires on wildlife, plants and ecological communities, and
- identifying appropriate response and recovery actions.

More information and the download link for the map is available [here](#).



The NSW state-wide **Fire Extent and Severity Mapping (FESM)** is based on sentinel 2 satellite imagery and has standardised classes to

allow comparison of different fires across the landscape.

hour' is now more like a 'golden ten minutes', if that. When all is at stake, stress becomes a critical factor. Use this [Crisis Response link](#) to read the blog online.

## Why Sexual Harassment Programs Backfire

 (*Magazine article*)

*Harvard Business Review, May-June 2020*

In 1977 Catharine MacKinnon argued that workplace harassment constitutes sex discrimination. In 1991 Anita Hill's testimony before congress rocketed the issue into public awareness. But the problem is still with us, as the #metoo movement has made clear. Here are some ways to combat it.

Use this [HBR link](#) to read the article online.

## Fire Studies: The Four C's of Incident Mitigation/Management

 (*Online article*)

*Firehouse, August 2020*

James P. Smith explains the benefits that derive from building on the quartet of emergency-incident management cornerstones.

Use this [Firehouse link](#) to read the article online.

## METEOROLOGY AND CLIMATE CHANGE

### Extreme heat and fire weather in December 2019 and January 2020

 (*Special Climate Statement, 73*)

*Bureau of Meteorology, March 2020*

The Bureau's Special Climate Statements provide a detailed summary of significant weather and climate events. They are produced on an occasional basis for weather/climate events which are unusual. 2019 was the warmest and driest year on record for Australia as a whole, and spring was also the driest on record nationally. A major feature of the heatwave was the extent of the extreme heat.

Use this [BOM link](#) to read the statement online.



### Australian bushfire and climate plan : Final report of the National Bushfire and Climate Summit 2020

 (*Report*)

*Emergency Leaders for Climate Action, Climate Council of Australia, July 2020*

Emergency Leaders for Climate Action (ELCA), a group of 33 former Australian fire and emergency service leaders, from every state and territory, warned of the unfolding conditions back in April 2019. The report provides a broad plan and practical ideas for governments, fire and land management agencies and communities to help us mitigate and adapt to worsening fire conditions and includes 165 recommendations.

Use this [Climate Council link](#) to read the report online.

It is available on the Australian Government Data website [here](#).

**Radiant heat flux modelling for wildfires** (*Journal article*)  
*Mathematics and Computers in Simulation*  
Vol 175, September 2020

Accurate predictions for radiant heat flux are necessary for determining exposure levels to personnel and infrastructure in the event of wildfires. However, detailed physics-based calculations of radiant heat flux are complex. We detail current practice for the calculation of radiant heat flux from wildfires and investigate modelling improvements that could benefit practical usage.

*Please contact the library to request a copy of this article.*

**Comparing the performance of daily forest fire danger summary metrics for estimating fire activity in southern Australian forests** (*Journal article*)

*International Journal of Wildland Fire*, online 22 July 2020

Fire danger indices integrate weather and fuel variables to indicate the potential for wildland fires to ignite, spread, resist suppression and cause damage. McArthur's Forest Fire Danger Index (FFDI) is applied across much of Australia, and the results suggest that the current use of the forecast hourly maximum FFDI is appropriate and that using alternative methods to determine Drought Factor offers little benefit.

*Please contact the library to request a copy of this article.*

**Evolution of a pyrocumulonimbus event associated with an extreme wildfire in Tasmania, Australia** (*Journal article*)

*Natural Hazards & Earth System Sciences*, Vol 5, 2020

Extreme fires have substantial adverse effects on society and natural ecosystems. Such events can be associated with the intense coupling of fire behaviour with the atmosphere, resulting in extreme fire characteristics such as pyrocumulonimbus cloud development. Using 6 min scans from a nearby weather radar, we describe the development of a pyroCb during the afternoon of 4 January 2013 above the Forcett–Dunalley fire in south-eastern Tasmania.

*Please contact the library to request a copy of this article.*

## FIRE INVESTIGATION



**Fire & Arson Investigator Journal** is the journal of the International Association of Arson Investigators (IAAI), an educational and advisory aid to members working to suppress the crime of arson and related offenses; and to assist in raising the level of expertise in fire investigation. Published quarterly, your library now subscribes to this online US journal.

## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

**How engaging are disaster management related social media channels? The case of Australian state emergency organisations** (*Journal article*)

*International Journal of Disaster Risk Reduction*, Vol 48, September 2020

This paper addresses the question of how engaging disaster management related social media channels are. The study adopted five indices—e.g., popularity—in order to evaluate the levels of community engagement by various social media channels. As the case study, official Facebook and Twitter pages maintained by the state emergency organisations of three Australian states were scrutinised.

*Please contact the library to request a copy of this article.*

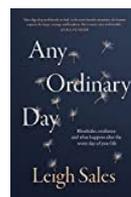
**An archetypal perspective on householders who 'wait and see' during a bushfire** (*Journal article*)

*Progress in Disaster Science*, Vol 7, October 2020

This paper proposes an alternative way of interpreting householders' delay in taking protective action based on analysis of data from 457 householders who had recently experienced a bushfire and that the delay does not reflect a failure to come to a decision but is part of a purposive process to determine the most appropriate response to the bushfire event.

*Please contact the library to request a copy of this article.*

## COMMUNITY RESILIENCE



**Leigh Sales and the days after the worst possible day** (*Podcast*)

*ABC Conversations*, originally broadcast 2018.

Leigh had been a reporter for over two decades when a string of bad news stories coincided with a terrifying brush with her own mortality. She began searching for answers about how people cope when indiscriminate tragedy strikes their lives. Leigh spoke to people who have faced the unimaginable: from terrorism, to natural disaster, to the unexpected loss of a loved one.

*Listen to the podcast using this [ABC link](#).*

*Contact the library to request a loan of Leigh Sales' book [Any Ordinary Day](#).*

**The development and validation of the bushfire psychological preparedness scale** (*Journal article*)

*International Journal of Disaster Risk Reduction*, Vol 47, August 2020

In Australia and many other bushfire-prone countries, at-risk residents are encouraged to share the responsibility of bushfire management by preparing themselves

If you would like to receive an email alert when the latest issue has been published please [contact the library](#).



### [Scientific protocols for fire investigation](#) (Book)

John J. Lentini, 2018

This Third Edition focuses on the practical application of fundamental scientific principles to determine the causes of fires. The book is intended for those individuals who have recently entered the field of fire investigation, and those who are studying fire investigation with a plan to become certified professionals.

Please contact the library to request a loan of this book

## FIRE MANAGEMENT

### **Readiness for the next major bushfire emergency** (Journal article)

*Australian Journal of Emergency Management, Vol 35, July 2020*

Current management of bushfire risk is largely reliant on long-standing approaches that are resource intensive and that struggle to control fires when conditions are catastrophic. This issue is compounded under a warming climate with fire seasons becoming longer and days of significant fire danger more frequent. Discovering the next generation of firefighting capability should be a priority.

Use this [AJEM link](#) to read the article online.

The latest issue of the *Australian Journal of Emergency Management, July 2020*, can be read online [here](#).

## PRESCRIBED BURNING AND HAZARD REDUCTION

### **Bushfire lessons from cultural burns** (Journal article)

*Australian Journal of Emergency Management, Vol 35, July 2020*

Whether cultural burns are the answer or not, depends on the question. During the Australian summer of 2019–20, Aboriginal peoples' landscape fires—often called cultural, traditional or Aboriginal burns—were central in discussions about bushfire responses. But what question is really being asked about cultural burning?

Use this [AJEM link](#) to read the article online.

The latest issue of the *Australian Journal of Emergency Management, July 2020*, can be read online [here](#).

### **Tools for optimising prescribed burn programs** (Webinar, 56 mins)

Centre of Excellence for Prescribed Burning, July 2020

physically and psychologically for bushfires. To fill this gap, and to extend the research on psychological preparedness for natural hazards, the authors have developed the Bushfire Psychological Preparedness Scale (BPPS).

Please contact the library to request a copy of this article.

## HEALTH AND SAFETY

### **Potential COVID-19 Outbreak in Fire Camp: Modeling Scenarios and Interventions** (Journal article)

*Fire 2020, Vol 3 no 3*

The global COVID-19 pandemic will pose unique challenges to the management of wildland fire in 2020. Fire camps may provide an ideal setting for the transmission of SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19. However, intervention strategies can help minimize disease spread and reduce the risk to the firefighting community. The authors developed a COVID-19 epidemic model to highlight the risks posed by the disease during US wildland fire incidents.

Use this [MDPI link](#) to read the article online.

### **Using Digital Technology to Protect Health in Prolonged Poor Air Quality Episodes: A Case Study of the AirRater App during the Australian 2019–20 Fires** (Journal article)

*Fire 2020, Vol 3 no 3*

Smoke from fires affected 80% of the population, with large and prolonged exceedances of the Australian National Air Quality Standard for fine particulate matter (PM<sub>2.5</sub>) recorded in all major population centres. We examined if AirRater, a free smartphone app that reports air quality and tracks user symptoms in near real-time, assisted those populations to reduce their smoke exposure and protect their health.

Use this [MDPI link](#) to read the article online.

## MENTAL HEALTH & INCIDENT STRESS

### **Psychological Dimensions of Returning Employees to Work After a Crisis** (Podcast : 35 mins)

*The HR Breakfast Club, July 2020*

Traditionally, the ability to work from home has been viewed as something of a luxury, but during the COVID-19 pandemic, reports are emerging of high levels of psychological distress among employees working from home.

Dr Melanie Irons, Senior Consultant at Steople (explains some of the psychological dimensions at play, bringing her knowledge of crisis communication to the situation in which we now - as a global community - find ourselves.

Use this [HRBreakfast link](#) to listen to the podcast.

Agencies are facing increasing pressure to allocate their time and resources effectively to achieve their prescribed burn programs. Even for fine-tuned programs, deciding where, when and how to burn requires juggling things in our control (resources) with things outside of our control (weather). This webinar unpacks innovative tools developed by agencies to assist with delivery of their burn programs.

Use this [YouTube link](#) to watch the webinar online.

## AVIATION



The latest issue of **Air Attack** is now available to read online. Issue 10 has articles on super Scooper Training, Covid 19 Preparedness, the Personal Profile - Patrick Gregg and Viking Air's New CL515.

Read the latest issue online using this [HeliposMag link](#).

## VOLUNTEER MANAGEMENT

### **Autonomy, belongingness and competence: the ABCs of emergency volunteer retention** (*Hazard Note No. 76*)

*BNHCRC, July 2020*

Across Australia, emergency service organisations are seeking ways to improve volunteer satisfaction and wellbeing, in an effort to improve retention rates.

Previous research has investigated various predictors of turnover, but has not considered the individual psychological needs of volunteers.

Hazard Note 76 presents data and insights into volunteer retention for State Emergency Services.

Use this [BNHCRC link](#) to read the hazard note online.

### **Frametown: Addressing Declining Volunteerism through Empowering Female Engagement** (*Journal article*)

*Fire 2020, Vol 3 no 3*

The goal of this research is to identify the drivers that have resulted in an exceptionally high level of female engagement in the Frametown Volunteer Fire Department (FVFD) in the rural community of Frametown, West Virginia. Females comprise only 11% of the volunteer fire service in the US, however, they comprise approximately 60% of the Frametown Volunteer Fire Department, including the Chief, President, and Secretary.

Use this [MDPI link](#) to read the article online.

## GENERAL

### **Prevalence and predictors of suicidal thoughts and behaviours among Australian police and emergency services employees** (*Journal article*)

*Australian & New Zealand Journal of Psychiatry, July 2020*

This study presents rates of suicide thoughts and behaviours of police and emergency services personnel around Australia. In addition, it examines personal (i.e. mental health, substance use) and working environment risk and protective factors.

Please contact the library to request a copy of this article.

### **On gaining from loss** (*Magazine article*)

*Fire Engineering, July 2020*

The article informs that people who entered the helping professions to make things better, the encounters with death can sometimes be unnerving even for the most well-balanced and seasoned veterans. Topics including create a work environment that makes space to talk about different ways of viewing death and dying without judgment; and plan ways to build your resilience for handling losses, using healthy and helpful habits that will sustain you over time.

Please contact the library to request a copy of this article.

Books on this topic are found in our library's [Mental Health and You collection](#)

## LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT

### **Professional Development for the Volunteer Fire Service** (*Magazine article*)

*Fire Engineering, July 2020*

In this article the author talks about professional development for the volunteer fire service and attributes that define and showcase professionalism.

Please contact the library to request a copy of this article.

### **What Kind of Leader Do You Want, and What Kind Do You Wish to Be?** (*Magazine article*)

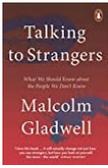
*Fire Engineering, July 2020*

The article informs that leadership has been a topic featured frequently on numerous Web sites and in books and articles and from many perspectives, including toxic leadership; servant leadership; leadership failure; and general industry.

Please contact the library to request a copy of this article.

## CHILDREN'S BUSH FIRE COLLECTION

[Tippy and Jellybean : the true story of a brave koala who saved her baby from a bushfire](#) (*Book*)



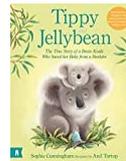
[Talking to strangers : what we should know about the people we don't know \(Book\)](#)

Malcolm Gladwell, 2020

Why do we so often get other people wrong? Why is it so hard to detect a lie, read a face or

judge a stranger's motives? Using stories of deceit and fatal errors to cast doubt on our strategies for dealing with the unknown, Malcolm Gladwell takes us on an intellectual adventure into the darker side of human nature.

*Please contact the library to request a loan of this book*  
*The library also holds Gladwell's other books available for loan – [Blink](#), [The Tipping Point](#), and [Outliers](#)*



Sophie Cunningham, 2020

This is the uplifting story of a mother koala who saved her baby from a bushfire, and the dedicated vets who look after them until they are healed and ready to go home.

*Please contact the library to request a loan of this book*



[My dad, the secret superhero \(Book\)](#)

Carly and Seb Moone, 2020

This story follows the adventures of a volunteer firefighter, highlighting the heroic acts performed by our firefighters

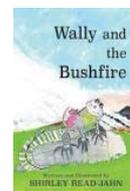
during bushfire season. My Dad, the Secret Superhero aims to help children understand the sacrifice and effort many families are faced with during the difficult times associated with a harsh Australian summer.

*Please contact the library to request a loan of this book*



**National Geographic** – the August 2020 issue is out and in our online magazine collection. Read about New York in lockdown, new discoveries about the dodo, lessons from pandemics, India and its water crisis, Uganda's chimps and so much more.

*Contact the library for the password embedded link to access our eMagazines.*



[Wally and the bushfire \(Book\)](#)

Shirley Read-Jahn, 2020

Ideal for children transitioning from picture-books-only to text-only books. Wally, a young Australian water dragon, and his beloved friend, the little mouse called Pinky, are caught in an emergency. A terrible bushfire is raging and threatening to kill all in its path.

*Please contact the library to request a loan of this book*

More books in our children's bush fire collection can be found listed [here](#)

**Borrowing books**

Your NSW RFS Library catalogue is [online](#). It is easy to search. The collection holds books, DVDs and training publications. The library also has an eBook collection for all NSW RFS Members. [Contact NSW RFS Library](#) for further assistance.

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