



NSW Rural Fire Service Library

New books, articles and reports in your library this month



The NSW RFS Library provides a dedicated collection of books on **mental health and incident stress**, a collection that has been compiled from suggestions and recommendations by members and subject experts over the past few years. These books are available for loan and posted directly to our member's preferred postal address. (More on borrowing from your library [here](#))

Recent additions to the collection include [The strong man, Ish : the problem with our pursuit for perfection and the life-changing practice of good enough](#), [Mental : everything you never knew you needed to know about mental health](#), [How to be resilient](#), and [Any ordinary day](#).

More books on this topic are found in our library's list [Mental Health and You](#)

New resources this month includes articles from the latest issue of Fire Engineering, new additions to our locally published Rural Fire Brigade Histories, David Epstein's book, Range, on the benefits of diverse experience and interdisciplinary thinking, the beautiful new children's picture book Through The Smoke, an article on the development and evaluation of a spatial fire danger index and the WA Women in Fire Management action plan ...plus so much more.

Contact your librarian Katie to borrow any of the books and DVDs or to request articles at rfs.library@rfs.nsw.gov.au

FIRE INCIDENTS – INTERNATIONAL



[The library book](#) (Book)

Susan Orlean, 2019

Susan Orlean became fascinated by a mysterious local crime that has gone unsolved since it was carried out on the morning of 29 April 1986: who set fire to the Los Angeles

Public Library, ultimately destroying more than 400,000 books, and perhaps even more perplexing, why?

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

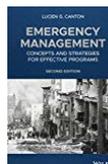
Ancient prescribed-burns could revitalize communities today (*ScienceDaily US news article*)

Stanford University, 27 August 2019

In collaboration with tribes in Northern California, researchers examined traditional fire management practices and found that these approaches, if expanded, could strengthen cultures and reduce the risk of catastrophic wildfires in Northern California.

Use this [ScienceDaily link](#) to read the news article online

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT



[Emergency management : concepts and strategies for effective programs](#) (Book)

Lucien Canton, 2019

This second edition looks at the larger context within which emergency management response occurs, and stresses the development of a program to address a wide range of issue. The book finishes with chapters on coordinating response, leading in crisis, and crisis management.

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

Australian Emergency Management Arrangements Handbook (*AIDR Handbook Collection*)

AIDR, 2019

The third edition of this revised handbook describes the emergency management roles and responsibilities of all levels of government, non-government organisations (NGOs), businesses, communities and individuals.

Arrangements and responsibilities for the comprehensive



The latest issue of **Wildfire** (August 2019) is available online. [Click here](#) to read about Alaska's fire environment, competing and increasing demands on the focus and activities of wildfire professionals and community members and conversations focused on climate strategies.



A Trailblazing Plan to Fight California Wildfires (Magazine article)

The New Yorker, 19 August 2019

The article discusses efforts to prevent megafires in California using prescribed

burn techniques. Topics covered include how megafires have become more prevalent due to increased forest density, how prescribed burns can eliminate leaf litter, pine needles and scrub that accelerate wildfire, and the work of Jeff Brown as a field station manager in the Tahoe National Forest.

Use this [New Yorker link](#) to read the news article online

Scientists' warning on wildfire — a Canadian perspective (Journal article)

Canadian Journal of Forest Research. 219, Vol. 49 Issue 9

The authors' discuss how wildfire is related to several issues of concern raised by the Alliance of World Scientists, including climate change, human population growth, biodiversity and forests, and freshwater availability. Furthermore, we touch on the potential future health impacts and challenges to wildfire suppression and management in Canada.

Please contact the library to request a copy of this article
NSW RFS Staff may use this [EBSCO link](#) to access the article at work

FIREFIGHTING

Severe Fire Danger Index: A Forecastable Metric to Inform Firefighter and Community Wildfire Risk Management (US Journal article)

Fire, Vol 2, no 3, 2019

Despite major advances in numerical weather prediction, few resources exist to forecast US wildland fire danger conditions to support operational fire management decisions and community early-warning systems. The authors present the development and evaluation of a spatial fire danger index that can be used to assess historical events, forecast extreme fire danger, and

approach to emergency management - prevention, preparedness, response and recovery (PPRR) are discussed.

Please use this [AIDR link](#) to read the book online.

AVIATION AND DRONES



Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA)

Recently added, the library has a collection of CASA DVDs available to borrow. These include

[Weather to fly](#), [Oxygen first](#), [Safety on the ground](#) and [Remote aerodromes](#).

Please contact the library to request a loan of a DVD.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Modelling Bushfire Evacuation Behaviours (Academic paper)

Joel Robertson, Cornwell University, submitted Sept 2019.

Bushfires pose a significant threat to Australia's regional areas. To minimise risk and increase resilience, communities need robust evacuation strategies that account for people's likely behaviour both before and during a bushfire. Agent-based modelling (ABM) offers a practical way to simulate a range of bushfire evacuation scenarios. However, the ABM should reflect the diversity of possible human responses in a given community. The Belief-Desire-Intention (BDI) cognitive model captures behaviour in a compact representation that is understandable by domain experts. Within a BDI-ABM simulation, individual BDI agents can be assigned profiles that determine their likely behaviour.

Use this [Cornwell University link](#) to read the paper online

COMMUNITY RESILIENCE

Factors Associated with Structure Loss in the 2013–2018 California Wildfires (US Journal article)

Fire, Vol 2, no 3, 2019

Tens of thousands of structures and hundreds of human lives have been lost in recent fire events throughout California. The need to understand why and how structures are being destroyed has taken on a new level of urgency. We compiled and analysed an extensive dataset of building inspectors' reports documenting homeowner mitigation practices for more than 40,000

communicate those conditions to both firefighters and the public. It uses two United States National Fire Danger Rating System indices that are related to fire intensity and spread potential.

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

Chain Saws and Wildland Operations : A Primer (US Magazine article)

Fire Engineering. Aug 2019, Vol. 172 Issue 8

Depending on policy or habits, saws may have to be started daily or weekly. Having a systematic approach to inspection and taking the time to do it properly will reveal most problems early on and may prevent damage.

Please contact the library to request a copy of this article
NSW RFS Staff may use this [EBSCO link](#) to access the article at work



[One small fire brigade : a brief history of the Hoskingtown-Rossi Bush Fire Brigade \(Book\)](#)

This book was written especially for the 70th anniversary (2016) of the formation of Hoskingtown-Rossi Rural Fire Brigade by Richard Begbie, a local farmer, historian, published author and brigade member. The book portrays the early days of firefighting in the region.
Please contact the library to request a loan of this book.



[History of Coal and Candle Rural Fire Brigade : 1958 - 2018 \(Book\)](#)

Compiled by local historian Ian Jacobs to celebrate the 60th anniversary of the Terrey Hills located Coal and Candle brigade, this book traces the Brigade's establishment and its development in the Northern Beaches over the past sixty years.
Please contact the library to request a loan of this book.

The library has a collection of bush fire brigade histories they have been generously donated over the years, these books are listed [here](#)

Quantifying wildfire suppression (Online article)

CSIRO Pyropage Issue 24, August 2019

This issue reports on the findings from a recently published review of wildfire suppression effectiveness research conducted around the world, specifically the need to quantify the effect of wildfire suppression actions to fill gaps in our knowledge in suppression resource suitability and effectiveness.

Use this [CSIRO link](#) to read the issue online

FIRE BEHAVIOUR

wildfire-exposed structures from 2013–2018. Comparing homes that survived fires to homes that were destroyed, we investigated the role of defensible space distance, defensive actions, and building structural characteristics.

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

Best practices for wildfire adaptation and resilience (ScienceDaily US news article)

Montana State University, 20 August 2019

Wildfires in West USA are becoming inevitable, and communities that rethink what it means to live with them will likely fare better than those that simply rebuild after they burn. The paper argues that communities should consider how to adapt and, in some cases, transform themselves to be more resilient to the inevitability of wildfires in the future and provides examples of communities that have successfully done so in recent years.

Use this [ScienceDaily link](#) to read the news article online

LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT



[How we learn : the surprising truth about when, where, and why it happens \(Book\)](#)

Benedict Carey, 2015

A practical and fascinating guide to what we really know about learning and memory today—and how we can apply it to our own lives. Award -winning science reporter Benedict Carey sifts through decades' research to uncover the truth about how our brains absorb and retain information. What he discovers is that in our zeal to systematise the process we have ignored valuable, naturally enjoyable learning tools like forgetting, sleeping, and daydreaming.

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

LEADERSHIP AND MANAGEMENT



[Range : how generalists triumph in a specialized world \(Book\)](#)

David Epstein, 2019

What if everything you have been taught about how to succeed in life was wrong? Studying the world's most successful athletes, artists, musicians, inventors, and scientists Epstein discovered that in most fields generalists, not specialists, are primed to excel. They are also more creative, more agile, and able to make connections their more specialized peers

Determining threshold conditions for extreme bushfire behaviour annual report 2018-2019 (Report)

Bushfire and Natural Hazards CRC, 2019

Crown fires in forest ecosystems can pose a major threat to life and property due to their high intensities and rapid rates of spread. However, research into the prediction of crown fire dynamics in the Eucalyptus forests of Australia is limited. This study uses data from fifteen large wildfires that occurred between 2009 and 2015 in SE Australian eucalypt forests to develop an empirical model to predict the likelihood of crown fire events using environmental predictors at an hourly scale.

Use this [BNHCRC link](#) to read the report online

Coupled fire atmosphere modelling annual report 2018-2019 (Report)

Bushfire and Natural Hazards CRC, 2019

This project, beginning in March 2016, aims to improve understanding of fire and atmosphere interactions and feedback processes through running a coupled fire-atmosphere simulation model.

Use this [BNHCRC link](#) to read the report online

FIRE MANAGEMENT



Women in fire management: action plan 2019-22 (Online report)

Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (WA), Aug 2019

In March 2018, a survey was distributed to WA staff who are involved in fire management roles in a fulltime capacity, on occasion or not at all. The survey was undertaken to better understand why the number of women in fire was underrepresented and what issues, perceptions, biases, and barriers were contributing to this imbalance. Following the survey, two workshops were held in May for staff. Both the survey and the workshops provided forums to share experiences and workable solutions to facilitate change.

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

Planned and unplanned fire regimes on public land in south-east Queensland (Journal article)

International Journal of Wildland Fire, Online Aug 2019

Land management agencies in Queensland conduct planned burning for a variety of reasons, principally for management of fuels for human asset protection and biodiversity management. Using Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service's archived manually derived fire reports,

can't see. Range explains how to maintain the benefits of breadth, diverse experience and interdisciplinary thinking
Please contact the library to request a loan of this book.

Risky business: Why diversity and inclusion matter (Report)

Bushfire and Natural Hazards CRC, 2019

Australian communities and the risks they face are changing. For the Emergency Management Sector (EMS), this emphasises the importance of building resilience and developing community partnerships. EMOs need to see themselves represented within the community and communities need to see themselves represented within EMOs. A key barrier to achieving effective D&I is a limited understanding of how EMOs will achieve this outcome practically.

Use this [BNHCRC link](#) to read the report online

Building a Better Leader: Empathy Improves Engagement (US Magazine article)

Fire Engineering. Aug 2019, Vol. 172 Issue 8

Unfortunately, despite great strides in leadership training and development, the fire service as a whole still struggles with preparing its leaders for effective employee engagement. Developing empathetic leaders who can deliver quality feedback is the key to more effectively connecting with and motivating today's fire service.

Please contact the library to request a copy of this article
NSW RFS Staff may use this [EBSCO link](#) to access the article at work

RISK MANAGEMENT

Fireground Safety: Risk, Danger, and Situational Awareness (US Magazine article)

Fire Engineering. Aug 2019, Vol. 172 Issue 8

The greatest risk we face in the fire service is avoiding conversations about risk. When was the last time you asked your company or your company officers to define risk? Are their definitions of risk different from yours? Or, if you have had this discussion, did you talk about value—not just monetary but the value of the things that are at risk? You will be surprised by the answers you get.

Please contact the library to request a copy of this article
NSW RFS Staff may use this [EBSCO link](#) to access the article at work

this study considered the individual components of the fire regime (extent, frequency and season) to determine variation between planned and unplanned fire regimes in south-east Queensland.

Please contact the library to request a copy of this article

VOLUNTEER MANAGEMENT

Military Lessons for Volunteer Fire Departments (US Magazine article)

Fire Engineering. Aug 2019, Vol. 172 Issue 8

This article's author shares some military concepts that, with some modification, we can transfer to the fire service and from which we can benefit organisationally and personally.

Please contact the library to request a copy of this article
NSW RFS Staff may use this [EBSCO link](#) to access the article at work

Emergency volunteering 2030: Views from the community sector (Report)

Bushfire and Natural Hazards CRC, 2019

This report presents findings from an on-line, qualitative survey of 48 community sector representatives Australian-wide. The purpose of the survey was to find out more about the community sector in relation to emergency volunteering and to elicit the views of key community sector representatives about changes in the volunteering landscape.

Use this [BNHCRC link](#) to read the report online

Borrowing books

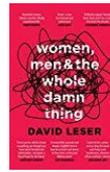
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[Contact NSW RFS Library](#) for further assistance.

WOMEN AND SUCCESS



[Women, men & the whole damn thing \(Book\)](#) *David Leser, 2019*

In February 2018, the Good Weekend cover story by David Leser, 'Women, men and the whole damn thing', had an extraordinary response. David received hundreds of personal messages from readers around the world - both women and men - urging him to expand his story. Here is that book: his unflinching account of the firestorm of #MeToo.

Please contact the library to request a loan of the book.

Books on this topic are found in our library's [Women and Success online bibliography](#).

CHILDREN'S BUSH FIRE COLLECTION



[Through the smoke \(Book\)](#) *Phil Cummings, 2019*

A beautiful picture book about imagination by Phil Cummings and Andrew McLean for 2 – 6 years olds. It tells the story of three kids, their imagination and a frightening fire in the Australian bush.

Please contact the library to request a loan of the book.

Improve your search!

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