



New books, articles and reports in your library this month



Summer reading...re-read some of our favourites in the library

Your library has the largest collection of bushfire-related resources in the world, but it also has a wonderful collection of books covering other interests allowing our members to indulge their appetite for reading. To help you pick a book, the library has compiled a number of lists to start you off...

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FIRE INCIDENTS – AUSTRALIAN



Australian Seasonal Bushfire Outlook: December 2020 – February 2021 (Hazard Note) BNHCRC, 26 November 2020

Produced quarterly, this hazard note summarises that Australia's climate is now under the influence of La Niña, and as a result, the landscape and weather conditions continue to be vastly different from the previous two years. Weather conditions for the year to date, and the summer climate signals, mean that large parts of New South Wales west of the Great Dividing Range face above-normal fire conditions, as well as grassland areas of the ACT and into northeastern Victoria.

Use this BNHCRC link to read the hazard note online.

Causes of the Widespread 2019–2020 Australian Bushfire Season (Journal article)

Earth's Future, Vol 8, November 2020

Since the 2019–2020 Australian bushfires were catastrophic, a detailed analysis of the primary causes is crucial. In this paper, several probable causes are tested statistically to establish their relationship with the burnt area. The results indicate that the ongoing drought, surface soil moisture, wind speed, relative humidity, heat waves, dead and live fuel moisture, and land cover with certain vegetation (particularly native eucalyptus and grazing land) are the primary causes of the widespread bushfire.

Use this AGU link to read the article online.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Anniversary of the 2015 Paris attacks

It has been five years since the terrorist attacks on Paris, 13 November 2015. Six multifaceted, co-ordinated attacks were carried out by nine IS suicide terrorists and gunmen, taking the lives of more than 130 people and leaving more than 350 wounded.

In 2016, Brigadier Général Philippe Boutinaud, Commander of the Paris Fire Brigade, travelled to Australia and New Zealand (including the NSW RFS HQ), and delivered an engaging overview of the incident and lessons learned the AFAC event "Lessons learnt from the Paris Terror Attacks".

To read the Key Messages from the 2016 event held at the NSW RFS HQ, use this library link.



A national approach to national disasters (Position paper)

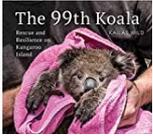
Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (Australia), 13 Nov 2020

The Royal Commission's 80

Recommendations contained within

the final report provide an ambitious, yet pragmatic, blueprint for action to ensure our national natural disaster arrangements are the best they can be. This paper is the Commonwealth Government's response to the Royal Commission into National Natural Disaster Arrangements. Use this PMC link to read the paper online. The Royal Commission Final Report can be found online here

Disaster recovery by design (Journal article)



[The 99th Koala : Rescue and resilience on Kangaroo Island](#) (Book)

Kailas Wild, 2020

In last summer's devastating fires, Kangaroo Island lost half of its koala population, with many more left injured and starving. When Kailas Wild – arborist by trade and conservationist at heart – heard that there were injured koalas on Kangaroo Island who could only be reached by a tree climber, he drove 1500 kms to volunteer. Seven weeks later, he had participated in the rescue of over 100 koalas and had formed a special bond with a baby koala – Joey Kai.

Please contact the library to request a loan of this book

High-severity wildfires in temperate Australian forests have increased in extent and aggregation in recent decades (Journal article)

PLoS One, Vol 15, November 2020

Wildfires have increased in size and frequency in recent decades in many biomes, but have they also become more severe? This question remains under-examined despite fire severity being a critical aspect of fire regimes that indicates fire impacts on ecosystem attributes and associated post-fire recovery. We conducted a retrospective analysis of wildfires larger than 1000 ha in south-eastern Australia to examine the extent and spatial pattern of high-severity burned areas between 1987 and 2017.

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

FIRE INCIDENTS – INTERNATIONAL



NFPA Journal – the November-December 2020 issue is out and available online. Read about the global wildfire crisis as a historically massive and destructive wildfire season comes to a close in the western United States, the

new gas detection standard from NFPA, and the battle to prevent fires in refugee camps.

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

Indonesian wildfires a 'fixable problem' (ScienceDaily news article)

University of Exeter, 23 November 2020

Indonesian wildfires that cause widespread air pollution and vast carbon emissions are a "fixable problem," according to the leader of a project set up to help tackle the issue. In dry years, Indonesia peatland fires burn for months -- and smoke exposure from 2015 alone is expected to lead to up to 100,000 premature deaths. A combination of factors including deforestation and climate change play a role, and Project "KaLi", funded by UK Research and Innovation, will investigate the causes and possible solutions.

Crisis Response Journal, December 2020

Idrees Rasouli outlines why he is setting up the Institute for Post Disaster Recovery, a centre of expertise to help cities, organisations and people prepare for and recover from disasters by design

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



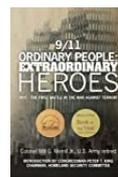
[Hurricane Harvey's aftermath : place, race, and inequality in disaster recovery](#) (Book)

Kevin M. Fitzpatrick, 2020

Hurricane Harvey was one of the worst American natural disasters in recorded history. Kevin Fitzpatrick and Matthew Spialek

offer first-hand accounts from survivors themselves, providing a rare, on-the-ground perspective of natural disaster recovery. Drawing on interviews from more than 350 survivors, the authors trace the experiences of individuals and their communities and how they navigated the long and difficult road to recovery after Hurricane Harvey.

Please contact the library to request a loan of this book



[9/11 ordinary people : NYC - the first battle in the War Against Terror](#) (Book)

Will G. Merrill, 2011

This book relates the stories of many heroic people directly involved in the attack on our country at the World Trade Center on 9/11

feature more than sixty heroic people directly involved with the events of that day, including Mayor Rudy Giuliani, the Fire Commissioner of New York City, two Department Chiefs of the Port Authority Police Department and the Senior Deputy Chief of the New York City Police Department as well as ordinary people affected by the loss of human life.

Please contact the library to request a loan of this book

MAPPING AND REMOTE SENSING

Technology to rebuild communities (Journal article)

Crisis Response Journal, December 2020

Pix4D collaborates explores a use case in California following this year's devastating wildfires

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

The space-time cube as an approach to quantifying future wildfires in California (Journal article)

International Journal of Fire, online 13 Nov 2020

California has been subjected to large catastrophic wildfires and the trend seems to be accelerating in recent years. The authors analysed and mapped the spatial-temporal patterns of predicted wildfire occurrence across California from 2000 until the end of the century. Mapping state-wide projections of wildfire occurrence through

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



Wildfire (US Podcast series)
Hosted by Graham Zimmerman and Jim Aikman, 2019

Guided by the story of the Eagle Creek Fire in September 2017—and the ordeal of the 150 hikers who were unexpectedly trapped behind its towering flames—this series explores how, over the last 100 years in the United States, we have demonized and sought to suppress wildfire in an effort to preserve natural resources, scenic spaces, and, of course, human civilization.

Use this [REI link](#) to listen to the podcasts.

Europe's Fiery Future: Rethinking Wildfire Policy (Journal article)

CSS Policy Perspective, Vol 8 October 2020

Climate change plays a crucial role in increasing the risk and extent of wildfires. While the US and Australia have been particularly affected this year, Europe will increasingly face similar challenges, argues Christine Eriksen in this CSS Policy Perspective.

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

FIRE BEHAVIOUR



Future of the Australian Flammability Monitoring System (Webinar : 53 mins)
AFAC, 26 November 2020

The Australian Flammability Monitoring System (AFMS) is the first continental-scale prototype web service providing spatial information on Live Fuel Moisture Content (LFMC) and landscape flammability conditions derived from satellite observations. Dr Mata Yebra (ANU) presents an overview of the current and near future capabilities of the AFMS.

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

Determining threshold conditions for extreme fire behaviour - annual report 2019-2020 (Report)

BNHCRC, November 2020

Understanding live vegetation fuel properties and how they behave when exposed to radiant heat and flame allows us to better predict fire behaviour in forested areas. This study aims to determine a more effective, replicable and accurate method of testing flammability in live vegetation by comparing the impact different radiant heating regimes have on the ignitibility of live vegetation samples.

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

MITIGATION

space and time, and identifying different types of wildfire hot spots, is essential in identifying locations that will be increasingly threatened in the near and distant future. Please contact the library to request a copy of this article.

A comparison of terrestrial and UAS sensors for measuring fuel hazard in a dry sclerophyll forest (Journal article)

International Journal of Applied Earth Observation and Geoinformation, Vol 95, March 2021

This paper explores the use of image-based and LiDAR 3D representations collected using UAS (Unoccupied Aircraft Systems) platforms, for describing forest structure properties. The results indicate that information describing the below canopy vertical structure is present within the UAS LiDAR point clouds and can be exploited through this novel classification approach for fire hazard assessment. For fire prone countries, this type of information can provide important insight into forest fuels and the potential fire behaviour and impact of fire under different scenarios.

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

Active fire detection using the Himawari-8 satellite - annual report 2019-2020 (Report)

BNHCRC, November 2020

The government run Sentinel Hotspots application is used by all levels of government, private sector, researchers and the public. This project will assist the Australian government to develop and validate Himawari-8 as a data source for the Sentinel Hotspots application. Our vision is to create a world leading approach to monitor fire activity. To achieve this, we propose the use of remote sensing technologies for active fire detection and monitoring.

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

NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

Changes in fire activity are threatening more than 4,400 species globally (ScienceDaily news article)

University of Melbourne, 23 November 2020

Changes in fire activity are putting at risk more than 4,400 species across the globe, says a new paper led by the University of Melbourne, involving 27 international researchers. The paper, *Fire and biodiversity in the Anthropocene* found that the species categorised as threatened by an increase in fire frequency or intensity, include the orangutan in Indonesia and mallee emu-wren in Australia.

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

Please contact the library if you would like a copy of the research paper, *Fire and biodiversity in the Anthropocene*, published in *Science*

Operationalising homeowner wildfire risk mitigation in fire-prone areas *(Journal article)*

International Journal of Wildland Fire, online 12 Nov 2020

A significant amount of research has examined what motivates people living in fire-prone areas to mitigate their wildfire risk. Although recommendations exist for measuring risk-mitigation activities, no research to date has based these recommendations on an examination of how different operationalisations influence subsequent interpretations of homeowner preparedness. We addressed this gap by examining how the effects of demographics and contextual factors on preparedness differ across different ways of counting the amount of vegetation management completed.

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

AVIATION AND DRONES

Should firefighters think differently when it comes to drone use? *(Magazine article)*

International Fire Fighter, December 2020

High profile incidents such as the Notre Dame cathedral blaze, in which drones were used during the fire to direct efforts, show what's possible if the technology is embraced. In the UK however, when it comes to the use of drones, there's a risk that fire services could fall behind. Use this [IFF link](#) to read the article online.

COMMUNITY RESILIENCE

When insurance and goodwill are not enough: Bushfire Attack Level (BAL) ratings, risk calculations and disaster resilience in Australia *(Journal article)*

Australian Geographer, Vol 51, November 2019

Published last year, but in case you missed it as the article just won the Dorothy R Taylor Award for the best paper published in 2020 in the journal Australian Geographer.

Many households are underinsured and while causes for underinsurance have been widely researched, changes to Australian building regulations in the last decade has established a new source of insurance miscalculations. After the October 2013 bushfires in New South Wales, the Blue Mountains Local Recovery Steering Group found that 'information on the BAL process, the guidelines, the expected costs, the consulting experts and a property's bushfire-prone status is literally all over the place'. This paper aims to provide clarity on the subject, tracing the precise socio-technical means through which disaster risk is perceived and assessed.

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

LEADERSHIP AND MANAGEMENT

The danger of too many fresh eyes *(Journal article)*

Crisis Response Journal, December 2020

There is no harm in having a fresh pair of eyes look over a project proposal or identify gaps in a response strategy, but crisis leadership demands full acknowledgement of knowledge limitations and humility in taking advice from those paid to know the subject

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

Terra Incognita: Vision and action *(Journal article)*

Crisis Response Journal, December 2020

It is a sad but inescapable fact that today's global situation demands that we lay to rest our pre-established crisis visions and move towards creative and flexible leadership, say Emily Hough, Patrick Lagadec and Matthieu Langlois

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

Leadership powers *(Journal article)*

Crisis Response Journal, December 2020

According to social psychologists, the bases of power as they relate to leadership include legitimate, reward, expert, referent and coercive. Randall Collins explores how this applies to emergency managers, both on a daily basis and in times of crisis

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

HEALTH AND SAFETY



Australian bushfires 2019–20: exploring the short-term health impacts *(Report)*

Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, 25 Nov 2020

This report examines short-term health impacts of the 2019–20 bushfires—those that became apparent in the immediate days and weeks thereafter—with a focus on providing insights from health data. Results show clear associations between increased bushfire activity, including poor air quality, and people seeking assistance for their health.

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



Heat stress and work in the era of climate change: what we know, and what we need to learn *(Report)*

Centre for Future Work, 23 Nov 2020

This report, by a team of authors based at the Climate Justice Research Centre at UTS, interviewed workers and trade union officials in several industries, and confirmed that working in excess heat is becoming a more common occupational health and safety risk. It explains

Untangling insurance, rebuilding, and wellbeing in bushfire recovery (*Journal article*)

Geographical Research, online 30 November 2020

Following the Blue Mountains bushfires of 2013, financial indemnity in the form of home and contents insurance was an essential tool in rebuilding and recovery, allowing households to access rental accommodation, material necessities, and finances. Despite underinsurance adding stress to many households' recovery processes, most participants in this research perceived their insurance coverage to be "adequate". The length and depth of recovery were more closely determined by the impacts of personal and situational circumstances than by insurance. Use this [Wiley link](#) to read the article online.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Shared responsibility and community engagement: Community narratives of bushfire risk information in Victoria, Australia (*Journal article*)

Journal of Rural Studies, Vol 80, Dec 2020

Effective messaging about planning and preparing for bushfires is essential, as is the provision of accurate and timely information to residents when they come under bushfire threat. The authors argue that an understanding of the ways in which collective narratives about disaster events are developed at a locality level is required, and that these narratives are influenced by features of locality, community and rural life which act as filters that enable residents to shape their perceptions of bushfire risk and views on what constitutes "good information. The outcome is a preference for local sources of information and a level of mistrust of information provided by centrally orchestrated bushfire information sources. Please contact the library to request a copy of this article.

Preparing communities for evacuation – Saving time and exposure to risks (*Magazine article*)

International Fire Fighter, December 2020

Government organisations in Australia, spend large amounts of funds, resources and time on Community Engagement, with the goal of improving knowledge and resultant likely actions, during emergencies. However, there's currently no consistency between state and territories of Emergency Kit Inclusion advice in Australia, with each state having developed their own, growing and changing organically over the years. Use this [IFF link](#) to read the article online.

LAND USE AND MANAGEMENT

the general impacts of heat stress; it discusses recent research on its physical and mental effects; and it makes suggestions for future areas of inquiry and action. Use this [APO link](#) to read the report online.

The effects of the Australian bushfires on physical activity in children (*Journal article*)

Environment International, Vol 146, January 2021

This research studied students from 22 primary schools to determine the impact of bushfires on children's physical activity. It compared device-measured physical activity and air quality index data for schools exposed and not exposed to the 2019 Australian bushfires. Please contact the library to request a copy of this article.

Directives for firefighter wellness: Making the best job a healthier one (*Magazine article*)

International Fire Fighter, December 2020

The hefty goal of this article is to eliminate chronic disease from the fire service – disease caused by unhealthy lifestyle behaviours. The UFF Directives for Firefighter Wellness spare you the details without sparing you the depth. Use this [IFF link](#) to read the article online.

MENTAL HEALTH & INCIDENT STRESS

Nine Insights from Living with PTSD: From Darkness to the Light, a Wildland Firefighter Perspective (*US Webinar*)

International Association of Wildland Fire, Nov 2020

PTSD is quietly impacting wildland firefighters with its often devastating personal and professional repercussions. This webinar will provide a unique view of the insidious nature of trauma, its effects on the human being with an eye towards recovery and nine key insights derived from the experiences of a wildland firefighter afflicted by this nervous system injury. Use this [IAWF link](#) to watch the webinar online.

Bushfires, drought, COVID: why rural Australians' mental health is taking a battering (*News article*)

The Conversation, 6 Nov 2020

Among the Bushfire Royal Commission's 80 recommendations was a call to prioritise mental health support during and after natural disasters. ABS figures released last month showed rural suicide rates are much higher than those in the big cities. The causes of psychological stress for rural people are many and varied, depending on who you are and where you live. Use [The Conversation link](#) to read the article online.

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



Urban planning and natural hazard risk reduction: critical frameworks for best practice (Report)

BNHCRC, November 2020

This document sets out a critical framework to guide improved integration of land use planning and wider natural hazard risk reduction actions. It is intended to support emergency managers and urban and regional planning practitioners in the complex task of integrating land use planning and disaster risk reduction in different Australian jurisdictions.

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

Water quality responses and mitigation options for post 2019-20 bushfires floods in south eastern Australia – a catchment scale analysis (Report)

CSIRO, August 2020

Extensive bushfires in the Upper Murray catchment resulted in extensive loss of vegetation and increased erosion, with increased sediment loads flowing into the river after heavy rain. This runoff was loaded with sediments and pollutants, threatening aquatic environments and water quality of the upper Murray river and Lake Hume. CSIRO undertook a pilot study at the time of active fire season to assess the impact bushfires on aquatic ecosystems and to explore potential solutions for both short- and long-term deterioration of water quality. Please contact the library to request a copy of this report.



Firebreak: wildfire resilience strategies for real estate (US report)

Urban Land Institute, US, October 2020

This US report details the implications of wildfires for the real estate industry and explores best practices in building design and land use policy that can reduce the damage caused by wildfires and help set communities up to thrive in the long run. The report shows real estate developers, urban planners, and public leaders increasingly are aware of the land-use drivers of wildfires, their concern about the consequences of wildfires, and how they are implementing asset and community-scale resilience efforts.

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

BUILDING

Beating bushfire: Retrofitting for safer homes in fire-prone areas (Magazine article)

Sanctuary: Modern Green Homes, Summer 2020 - 2021
Australia's bushfire building regulations specify planning and construction materials for new builds in fire-prone

HISTORY

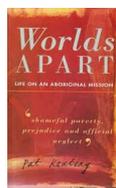


[Truganini : journey through the apocalypse \(Book\)](#)

Cassandra Pybus, 2020

The author's ancestors told a story of an old Aboriginal woman who would wander across their farm on Bruny Island, in south-east Tasmania, in the 1850s and 1860s. Hardly more than a child, Truganini managed to survive the devastation of the 1820s, when the clans of south-eastern Tasmania were all but extinguished. Cassandra has examined the original eyewitness accounts to write Truganini's extraordinary story in full, aiming to overturn the myths created around Truganini.

Please contact the library to request a loan of this book



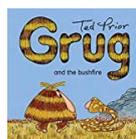
[Worlds apart : life on an Aboriginal mission \(Book\)](#)

Pat Keating, 1994

This is an autobiographical account of the author's life as the wife of a teacher on a government Aboriginal mission near Yarrowina in western NSW in the 1960s. It describes the racist attitudes of the white community, and the official neglect and extreme poverty she encountered during her two years at the Reserve.

Please contact the library to request a loan of this book

CHILDREN'S BUSH FIRE COLLECTION

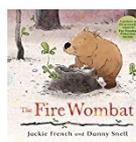


[Grug and the bushfire \(Book\)](#)

Ted Prior, 2020

One very, very hot day Grug noticed a cloud of smoke in the distance. It seemed to be getting closer and closer to his home. Then Cara hurriedly slithered up and said "It's a bushfire!" Grug is back from the bush to remind us of the importance of looking after each other, renewing the Australian wilderness and the caution we all need to take during the bushfire season.

Please contact the library to request a loan of this book



[The Fire Wombat \(Book\)](#)

Jackie French, 2020

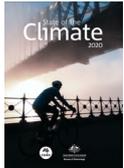
Based on events witnessed by Jackie French during the 2020 fires, and co-created with award-winning illustrator Danny Snell, this is a story of how as the flames of a bushfire approach, one small wombat shelters with other animals in her burrow.

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](#)

areas, yet provide little guidance for the estimated one million existing homes in high or extreme bushfire hazard areas across the country. Architect and bushfire design expert Nigel Bell outlines what owners of such houses can do to improve their homes' chances of surviving a fire. *Please contact the library to request a copy of this article.*

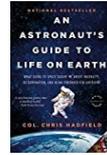
METEOROLOGY AND CLIMATE CHANGE



State of the climate 2020 (Report)
Bureau of Meteorology & CSIRO, 13 Nov 2020

This report draws on the latest climate research, encompassing observations, analyses and projections to describe year-to-year variability and longer-term changes in Australia's climate. Australia's climate has warmed since national records began in 1910, there has been a decline of around 16 per cent in April to October rainfall in SW Australia and there has been an increase in extreme fire weather, and in the length of the fire season. Australia needs to plan for and adapt to the changing nature of climate risk now and in the decades ahead. *Use this [BOM link](#) to read the report online.*

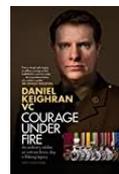
GENERAL



[An astronaut's guide to life on earth \(Book\)](#)
Chris Hadfield, 2020

Chris Hadfield has spent decades training as an astronaut and has logged nearly 4000 hours in space. In his bestselling "An Astronaut's Guide to Life on Earth," Hadfield takes readers deep into his years of training and space exploration to show how to make the impossible possible. His vivid and refreshing insights will teach you will change, completely, the way you view life on Earth-especially your own.

Please contact the library to request a loan of this book



[Courage under fire \(Book\)](#)
Daniel Keighran VC, with Tony Park, 2020

On 24 August 2010, in battle in Afghanistan, Corporal Daniel Keighran risked his life in a hail of gunfire to save his fellow soldiers. His actions saw him awarded the Victoria Cross for Australia, making him the 99th Australian to receive our country's highest award for bravery. *Courage Under Fire* is an outstanding military memoir, it is a testament to the idea that anything is possible if you know what you stand for. *Please contact the library to request a loan of this book*

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