

CURRICULUM VITAE

Curriculum vitae Roger Fenwick

Roger Fenwick Bush Fire Consultant

Work History

- Sole practitioner Consultant (1988- present)
- Chief Fire Control Officer & Secretary, ACT Bush Fire Council (1985-87)
- Senior Research Scientist, CSIRO Bushfire Research Section (1982-84)
- Field Service Representative, Chemonics Industries USA (1979-81)
- Chief Fire Control Officer, ACT Bush Fire Council (1976-78)
- Deputy Chief Fire Control Officer, ACT Bush Fire Council (1972-75)
- Assistant Forester & assistant to the CFCO, ACT Forests (1970-71)

Overview

- Responsible for all aspects of bush fire safety planning, fire management training, and fire control operations in the ACT.
- Attended approximately 2000 wildfires, experimental fires and controlled burns. Attended to an additional approximately 1000 wildfires.
- Personally, prepared approximately 2,800 compliance reports to accompany Development Applications for subdivisions, Special Purpose structures, houses, industrial buildings and Defence complexes throughout Australia.
- Gave evidence in the Land & Environment Court on contested DA matters.
- Prepared assessments for 31 schools in the Nation-Building Program for the Dept of Education, Employment & Workplace Relations.
- Preparation of Vegetation Management Plans for large (primarily Defence) estates throughout Australia.
- Provided studies of bush fire behaviour to assist planning and risk management by plantation insurance companies, Councils and other land management agencies.
- As an Expert Witness, investigated, reported on and gave evidence in 35 matters involving fire causation and fire management activities, mainly in connection with civil litigation.
- Assisted in the experiment design and data analysis, and responsible for all field operations for Project Aquarius, the major study of large aircraft assisted bush fire control by CSIRO. As a field representative for Chemonics Industries in the USA, maintained and oversaw the operation of all of the US Forest Service air tanker bases in Washington & Oregon, and introduced the use of fire retardants by ground application for fire management in the western states.
- Lectured in bush fire behaviour and control principles at the ANU and the Canberra College of Advanced Education (now University of Canberra).
- Wrote the bush fire training module for the ACT Fire Brigade.
- Prepared the first urban-rural interface bush fire protection planning guidelines in the ACT for the National Capital Development Commission.

Qualifications

- Bachelor of Science (Forestry) ANU 1970
- Graduate Certificate of Bush Fire Design UWS 2013

Project experience

Present – 2020

- Gained accreditation as practitioner in Tasmania.
- Completed 180 plus 39 in progress (to end 2024) reports for house and subdivision developments.

2019-2018

Moved to Tasmania, built house, resettled.

2018-2015

- Preparation of fire safety guidelines and fire safety compliance reports to accompany applications for development of proposed subdivisions, single residences and special developments, NSW.
- Provided design advice in connection with the relocation of Dept of Defence facilities to Holsworthy, NSW, and for the establishment of 3 wind farms in Victoria.
- Engaged to provide expert evidence in connection with fire damage by 3 bushfires in ACT and NSW.

2014

- Preparation of fire safety guidelines and fire safety compliance reports to accompany applications for development of proposed subdivisions, single residences and special developments, NSW.
- Prepared reports in connection with escaped fire damage in South Australia, Queensland and Tasmania.
- Engaged to provide expert evidence in connection with escaped fire damage by 2 bushfires in NSW.

2013

- Preparation of fire safety guidelines and fire safety compliance reports to accompany applications for development of proposed subdivisions, single residences and special developments, NSW.
- Engaged to provide expert evidence in connection with escaped fire damage in South Australia and Queensland and prepared reports for litigation on bushfire damage.
- Advised on fire management planning for catchments managed by SE Queensland Water.
- Prepared reports for reconstruction post Blue Mts fires.

2012

- Preparation of fire safety guidelines and fire safety compliance reports to accompany applications for development of proposed subdivisions, single residences and special developments, NSW.
- Completed a Fire Management Plan for a wind farm in Victoria.
- Prepared reports for litigation on bushfire damage.
- Prepared advice on a major rebuilding exercise for Dept of Defence, NSW.
- Advised on fire management planning for catchments managed by SE Queensland Water.
- Engaged to provide expert evidence in connection with escaped fire damage in each of Tasmania, South Australia and Western Australia.

2011

- Preparation of fire safety guidelines and fire safety compliance reports to accompany applications for development of proposed subdivisions, single residences and special developments, NSW.
- Engaged to provide expert evidence in connection with escaped fire damage in each of Victoria, Tasmania, Western Australia and the ACT.

2010

- Preparation of fire safety guidelines and fire safety compliance reports to accompany applications for development of proposed subdivisions, single residences and special developments, NSW.
- Investigated and reported on fire safety and fire fighting aspects related to a proposed wind farm in Victoria, and gave expert evidence to a Panel of Enquiry.
- Gave expert evidence in connection with litigation over the ACT 2003 bushfires.
- Engaged to prepare a fire management plan for the (approved) wind farm.

2009

- Preparation of fire safety guidelines and fire safety compliance reports to accompany applications for development of proposed subdivisions and single residences, NSW.
- Reported on School and Affordable Housing projects for the Nation-Building program.

2007-8

- Preparation of fire safety guidelines and fire safety compliance reports to accompany applications for development of proposed subdivisions and single residences, NSW.

2006

- Preparation of fire safety guidelines and fire safety compliance reports to accompany applications for development of proposed subdivisions and single residences, NSW & SA.

2005

- Preparation of fire safety guidelines and fire safety compliance reports to accompany applications for development of proposed subdivisions and single residences, NSW and SA.
- Assist with preparation of a Development Control Plan and Structured Growth Management Plan for Nambucca Shire Council, and a DCP for Penrith Council.

2004

- Preparation of fire safety guidelines and fire safety compliance reports to accompany applications for development of proposed subdivisions and single residences, NSW.
- Investigate and report on fire causation in connection with civil litigation in Tasmania

2003

- Provide advice to ACT Government on protection measures appropriate to Black Mountain Reserve.
- Provide advice to Monash City Council in Victoria on preparation of fire management plans for various Reserves, Victoria.
- Assist with a study of fire station design for the CFA in Victoria.
- Preparation of Maximum Probable Loss estimates for plantations in SA and WA for insurance purposes, and evaluate small-holding plantation insurance proposals.
- Preparation of fire safety guidelines and fire safety compliance reports to accompany applications for development of proposed subdivisions and single residences, NSW.
- Preparation of Fire Management Plans for the Department of Defence at 2 sites in NSW, and update fire season preparation recommendations for 5 sites in Victoria.
- Engaged to investigate and report on fire causation and fire management practice in connection with civil litigation in both NSW and the ACT.

2002

- Preparation of fire safety guidelines and fire safety compliance reports to accompany applications for development of proposed subdivisions and single residences, NSW.
- Preparation of Fire Management Plans for the Department of Defence at 6 sites, Vic.

2001

- Preparation of fire safety guidelines and fire safety compliance reports to accompany applications for development of proposed subdivisions and single residences, NSW.

2000

- Preparation of Fire Management Plans for 2 military establishments, NSW.
- Investigate and provide expert evidence in connection with litigation arising from injuries to a crew of fire-fighters, NSW.
- Preparation of fire safety guidelines and fire safety compliance reports to accompany applications for development of proposed subdivisions and single residences, NSW.

1999

- Preparation of fire safety guidelines and fire safety compliance reports to accompany applications for development of proposed subdivisions in NSW.
- Engaged to investigate and report on fire causation and fire management practice in connection with civil litigation in NSW.

1998

- Preparation of fire safety guidelines and fire safety compliance reports to accompany applications for development of proposed subdivisions, NSW.
- Engaged to investigate and comment upon the practices relevant to the cause of a fire on agricultural land in NSW in connection with civil litigation.

1997

- Preparation of fire safety guidelines and fire safety compliance reports to accompany applications for development of proposed subdivisions in NSW.
- Appearances in the Land and Environment Court of NSW.
- Fire Management Consultant in FORTECH team preparing a report on plantation risk evaluation for a firm of agricultural insurance brokers.

1996

- Investigate the cause and origin of an escaped fire resulting in loss of life, property and stock on a NSW estate.
- Fire Management Consultant in FORTECH team developing a draft Fire Management Plan for the Murrumbidgee National Park, for NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service.
- Preparation of fire safety guidelines and a fire safety compliance report to accompany an application for development of a proposed sub-division, NSW.

1995

- Carried out inspections and provided technical reports for presentation to the Land and Environment Court on fire safety compliance in contested development applications in southern coastal NSW.
- Fire Consultant carrying out an assessment of the probable maximum loss for a major pine plantation estate in the Green Triangle of South Australia.
- Inspections, technical advice and report preparation on fire safety guideline compliance for various development applications within NSW.

1994

- Preparation of fire safety guidelines and a fire safety compliance report to accompany an application for development of proposed sub-divisions, NSW.
- Expert witness in the matter of an escaped bushfire in the Bungendore area, NSW.

1993

- Preparation of a detailed bush fire control training manual for the Department of Defence, specific to the needs of Puckapunyal Training Area, Victoria. This assignment follows on from earlier work in which a fire management plan was prepared.
- Expert witness in the matter of two escaped bushfires in the Mudgee and south coast areas of NSW. The investigations required determination of the cause and origin of the fires.
- Preparation of fire safety guidelines and a fire safety compliance report to accompany an application for development of proposed sub-divisions, NSW.

1992

- Consultant to Shoalhaven City Council in southern NSW responsible for the interpretation and mapping of the "subdivision strategy for high bushfire risk areas" which was developed in a related project in 1991.
- Fire Management Specialist on Puckapunyal Bushfire Management Plan study for Department of Defence. This major study involved 9 specialist consultants and produced an operational plan for fire management including hazard reduction and control strategies, training and equipment needs, emergency fire procedures and the role of bushfire decision support systems in augmenting current expert land management systems.
- Expert witness responsible for provision of technical advice and investigation of the conduct of a roadside hazard reduction burn in NSW.
- Preparation of fire safety guidelines and a fire safety compliance report to accompany an application for development of proposed sub-divisions, NSW.
- Expert witness investigating origin and cause of grassfire in the Hunter Valley, NSW.

1991

- Preparation of fire safety guidelines and a fire safety compliance report to accompany applications for development of proposed sub-divisions and single dwellings, NSW.
- Consultant to the Shoalhaven City Council in Southern NSW responsible for the preparation of a "subdivision strategy for high bush fire risk areas" within the city of 4600 square kilometres. The task involved identifying a set of objective criteria by which subdivision applications could be assessed in respect of bush fire danger. The consultant worked with a committee involving Council and State Government Land and Fire Management Agency representatives.

1990

- Preparation of fire safety guidelines and a fire safety compliance report to accompany applications for development of proposed sub-divisions and single dwellings, NSW.
- Team Member in a study for the NSW Government Insurance Office to assist in the defence of a Supreme Court writ against a NSW Government land manager.

1989

- Preparation of fire safety guidelines and a fire safety compliance report to accompany applications for development of proposed sub-divisions and single dwellings, NSW.

1985-87

Chief Fire Control Officer for ACT Bush Fire Council responsible for fire management planning and co-ordination of fire suppression activities in forest and grass fires in and around the ACT. In this and previous roles with Bush Fire Council plus CSIRO attended or attended to (from Control Room) approximately 3000 fires in grass, heath, eucalypt forest and pine plantations. Responsible for training and co-ordination of volunteer fire fighters.

1984

- Expert witness in court case arising from 1980 Ash Wednesday fires in South Australia. Provided expert opinions as to probable course of events in respect of these fires.
- Expert witness for Tasmanian Crown Law Department investigating the probable cause and origin of a fire in the Deloraine area.

1982-84

- As experimental officer with CSIRO Project Aquarius was team member in several major fire investigations to determine fire behaviour including fire spread rates, intensity and origin. Investigated the major Mt Hickey fire in Victoria which was one of the first using new aerial suppression techniques.

1981

USA For the East Bay Regional Parks District prepared a hazard reduction and fire management plan for the Lake Chabot Eucalyptus plantation near Berkeley, California.

1979-81

USA As field service representative for Chemonics Industries, USA advised on use of chemical fire retardants in a variety of fuel and fire types in west coast USA. Team member in US Forest Service Investigations involving fire forensic work to determine cause and origin of wild fires in various locations.

1972-78

As Deputy then Chief Fire Control Officer of ACT Bush Fire Council, responsible for fire management planning and co-ordination of fire suppression activities in and around the ACT. Lectured in fire behaviour, fire management and fire planning at graduate level at Australian National University and Canberra College of Advanced Education.

1970-71

In varying capacities assisted the Chief Fire Control Officer of the ACT.