

**Submission
No 111**

**INQUIRY INTO PLANNING SYSTEM AND THE IMPACTS
OF CLIMATE CHANGE ON THE ENVIRONMENT AND
COMMUNITIES**

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Submission to the Enquiry into the Planning System and the Impacts of Climate Change on the Environment and Communities

We support the submission of The Sandy Beach Action Group Inc (SANDBAG) in this Enquiry and wish to make the following further points: -

- (i) E2 zoning is designed to protect land that has an important environmental value. E2 protection can be severely compromised by the overriding "Prior Use / Existing use" claim that allows environmentally destructive activities such as cattle grazing, to continue on land subsequently rezoned E2. When Land is zoned E2 there must be a limited time given for Prior use rights to be extinguished.

- (ii) An annual programs of cultural burning on all Crown land/ reserves and financial support for cultural burning on private lands across the State by all land managers could significantly reduce bushfire fuel loads and support a more fire resilient landscape.

Hazard reduction burning in many parts of the State are on 7 or 10 yearly intervals. Recommendations proposed in the October 2020 Royal Commission report following the 2019-2020 Black Summer bushfires, called on governments at all levels to "*explore further opportunities to leverage Indigenous land and fire management insights*".

Training and re-skilling mainstream fire agencies (RFS) and national parks staff (NPWS) about burning after wet weather and in the *practices of Indigenous cultural and mosaic burning*; and Incorporating Indigenous land management systems into hazard reduction burning and land management practices of these organisations could be invaluable.

Slower and cooler burning practices aim to rejuvenate local flora and enhance the health of land.

Delay in getting multiple approvals for cultural burns can compromise the success of a burn or result in no burn occurring at all.

Elizabeth Dray & Ian Foskett