



Office of
Environment & Heritage
NSW National Parks & Wildlife Service



Our reference: MD13/4919
Contact:

Mr D Miles
Chief Executive Officer
Aquiess International
Level 40, 55 Collins St
MELBOURNE VIC 3000

Dear Mr Miles

I refer to your correspondence to the Minister for the Environment, the Hon Robyn Parker MP, regarding weather intervention services. Your letter was referred to the Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH) and I have been asked to reply.

I have noted the information you provided and your intention to provide further information in the future in relation to the results during the recent period of increased bushfire activity in NSW.

The National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) is one of four designated fire authorities in NSW along with the Rural Fire Service, Fire and Rescue NSW and the Forestry Corporation of NSW. NPWS works in cooperation with these agencies, and fire and land management authorities across Australia, on a coordinated and prioritised national bushfire research agenda through the Commonwealth Cooperative Research Centre program.

The NSW Government is committed to mitigating the risk of bushfire through increasing the overall number and area of hazard reduction treatments across the state. The Government has provided an increase of \$62.5 million in funding over five years and employment of an additional 94 trained fire fighters with the objective of more than doubling hazard reduction on national parks and reserves.

The document *Living with Fire in NSW National Parks – A strategy for managing bushfires in national parks and reserves 2012-2021* provides a state-wide approach to managing bushfires in NSW national parks and reserves over the next decade. The document can be downloaded at <http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/fire/120690livfire.htm>.

Thank you for taking the time to write to the Minister about your interest in fire management on national parks and reserves.

Yours sincerely

28/11/13
ANN KING
Head - National Parks and Wildlife Service