

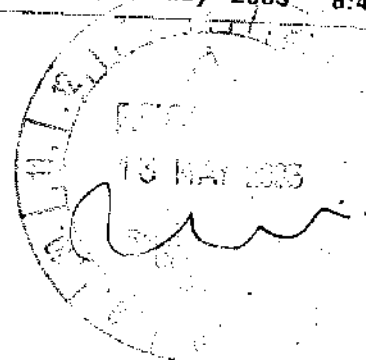
Fri, 9 May 2003 8:49 AM

**Subject: Bushfire inquiry.**

**Date: Friday, 9 May 2003 8:48 AM**

**From: Cathy Round <round@ccw.vic.edu.au>**

**To: <Sophie.Panopoulos.MP@aph.gov.au>**



From  
Lorraine North

\* Hazard reduction needs to be top priority. Mosaic burning should be carried out on a regular basis to ensure that there is never again the amount of build up prior to the 2003 fires. This will not only lessen the chance and intensity of fires but it will allow natural springs to flow instead of being choked.

\* Due to the amount of undergrowth the fires were so severe in places that the trees are not regenerating and there was an horrific loss of native species.

\* Governments should be legally bound to maintain roadsides and parks free of exotic plants and weeds as are the farmers.

\* parks that adjoin private property should have a 20m clearing to provide a buffer zone. The government should be liable for their share of the fencing.

\* during the fires, the most competent and knowledgeable person of the area needs to be the coordinator. This person does not necessarily need to be in a paid position by Parks or DSE. Fires need to be coordinated within the area that they are burning and experience and local knowledge is far more important than theory.

Yours faithfully

Submission No.283

Lorraine M. North.

A signed copy will follow in the mail.