



Media Release

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Call for a national approach to bushfire management

Australia's peak forest industry body has cautiously welcomed the recommendations of the Victorian Bushfire Royal Commission and called on the Federal Government to convene a national summit on bushfire management.

Chief Executive of the National Association of Forest Industries (NAFI), Allan Hansard, said the Victorian Royal Commission provided a useful and comprehensive evaluation of the devastating impacts and ongoing risks of bushfires in southeastern Australia.

He said there was an imperative to build on these state level findings at a national level and for key recommendations to be implemented as soon as possible and not let lapse.

“NAFI is calling for a national summit on bushfire risk management as a way of ensuring a national approach is delivered. The forest industry is looking for the necessary leadership to promote a comprehensive approach to bushfire risk management and act on its implementation.

“The management of fuel loads is an essential tool in reducing bushfire risks.

“Bushfires do not discriminate between land tenures or state borders. As such, government needs to coordinate the various land management agencies and jurisdictions to ensure fuel reduction practices are undertaken across the landscape to reduce the risk of large-scale catastrophic fires,” he said.

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Contact: Greg Haraldson, NAFI Communications Manager

Ph: (02) 6285 3833 Mob: 0419 428 646 Email: greg.haraldson@nafi.com.au