

# Community engagement for vegetation management



Natural  
Hazards  
Research  
Australia

## RESEARCH TEAM

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Project duration: 21 months

## SUPPORTING ORGANISATIONS

Country Fire Authority  
  
Department of Energy, Environment and Climate  
Action

## Background

Vegetation management is a shared responsibility whose importance is increasing in Victoria due to the impacts of climate change and changes in land use. As bushfires become more frequent, intense, and impactful, there is a greater need to move away from previous models of vegetation management that centred on agency activity, and towards models that centre on collaboration between the range of public and private stakeholders who are impacted by bushfires and are responsible for managing bushfire risks. To make this transition, we must first establish a strong understanding of how agencies already approach engaging communities regarding vegetation management and a strong understanding of communities' needs and preferences for engagement.

## Project description

This research aims to assist Safer Together's continued efforts to improve community safety by identifying, developing, and assessing the effectiveness of the community engagement activities Safer Together undertakes in relation to vegetation management. This project responds to this context by investigating how community engagement for vegetation management is practiced by multiple agencies involved in implementing Safer Together, and how key community stakeholders would like to be engaged regarding Victoria's vegetation management program in the future.

**Phase 1** will scope current community engagement practices for vegetation management by Safer Together agencies. **Phase 2** will identify the community stakeholders' engagement needs and preferences about vegetation management.



## Intended outcomes

To create better understanding of current Safer Together agency contexts and practices related to the delivery of community engagement for vegetation management.

To create better understanding of the current preferences and expectations of community stakeholders related to how they would like to engage with Safer Together agencies in relation to vegetation management in the future.



## Translation and implementation potential

This project has potential to inform and improve land and emergency management agencies' community engagement approaches, including both those relating to vegetation management and also other key matters.

## Further information

For full project details head to: <https://www.naturalhazards.com.au/research/research-projects/community-engagement-vegetation-management>

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