



**NATIONAL
BUSHFIRE
CONFERENCE**

CONFERENCE PROGRAM

5-7 November 2025 | Novotel, Geelong, Victoria

Wednesday 5 November

1:00pm - 4:30pm BPAD Forum

4:30pm - 8:00pm Tradeshow

6:00pm - 7:30pm Conference Opening Drinks – Novotel Geelong

Day 1 – Thursday 6 November

8:00am - 6:00pm Tradeshow

8:30am Registrations and arrival catering

9:00am Conference Opening and Welcome to Country

9:15am Opening Address

9:25am **Fuelling resilience: How science, communities, and partnerships reduce wildfire risk**
James Gillespie and Raymi Wun – *Newport Beach Fire Department (USA)*

10:05am **Keynote Presentation – Grampians fire overview and lessons learned**
Glen Rudolph – *Forest Fire Management Victoria*

10:50am Morning Tea

11:30am **National Hazards Research Australia update** – Andrew Gissing – *CEO, NHRA*

11:50am **Gold Sponsor Presentation** – FireFly

12:00pm **Discussion + Q&A – NCC2022 and Specification 43** – Stephen Kip and Justin Leonard

1:00pm Lunch

CONCURRENT SESSIONS

1:45pm	An overview of recent CFA research into bushfire response operations Nick McCarthy – <i>CFA</i>	Understanding ember behaviour through testing using an ember generator and high-speed camera Rod O'Loan – <i>Stainless Steel Wire and Mesh</i>
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2:15pm	Session to be advised	Balancing the intersection between condensation management and bushfire resilience Gavin Williams – <i>FireFly</i>
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2:45pm	Water-based bushfire protection – an update Mark Whybro – <i>Home Fire Sprinkler Coalition Australia</i>	NBIC – National Bushfire Intelligence Capability update Justin Leonard – <i>CSIRO</i>
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3:15pm Afternoon Tea

3:45pm **SA State-wide Bushfire Hazards Overlay Code Amendment update** – Leah Bertolini – *SACFS*

4:15pm Panel Discussion

5:30pm End of day 1

5:30pm - 7:00pm **Networking Drinks** – Waterfront Carousel Pavilion – *1 Eastern Beach Road*

Schedule, presentations and presenters may be subject to change without notice.

Day 2 – Friday 7 November

8:00am - 3:00pm	Tradeshow	
8:00am	Arrival tea & coffee	
8:30am	Welcome back and FPA Australia update Dr Maria Kornakova – <i>FPA Australia</i>	
8:45am	Addressing risk assessment methodologies and strategic mitigation planning Dr David Bowman – <i>UTAS</i>	
9:15am	AFDRS (Australian Fire Danger Rating System) Sarah Harris – <i>CFA</i>	
9:45am	Managing bushfire risk: The curious case of private bushfire shelters Stephen Kip – <i>SKIP Consulting</i>	
10:15am	Morning Tea	
10:45am	CONCURRENT SESSIONS	
	A brave new world: calculation of radiant heat flux and bushfire attack levels with Vesta Mk 2 forest model Anthony Power – <i>Covey Associates & Cedaryn</i>	Performance-based strategy for underground bushfire shelter Camilo Montoya – <i>Stantec</i>
	A comprehensive approach to bushfire safety for vulnerable occupancies Alexander Glennon – <i>SKIP Consulting</i>	Building the next generation of post-disaster survey tools Elana Berton – <i>CSIRO, National Bushfire Intelligence Capability</i>
	House loss and bushfire evacuation policy	Novel approaches for spatial bushfire risk modelling James Hilton – <i>Covey/Cedaryn</i>
12:15pm	Lunch	
1:00pm	International Speaker: Directional analysis of community wildfire evacuation capabilities Dr. Jen Beverly – <i>Associate Professor, Department of Renewable Resources, University of Alberta, CA</i>	
1:30pm	Fire-resilient construction, materials, compliance with AS 3959, BAL-rated design approaches, and the application of bushfire protection standards Raphaelle Blanchi – <i>CSIRO</i>	
2:00pm	Exploring FZ design and construction, with Q&A Nat Andrews and David Boverman	
2:30pm	Panel discussion – Barriers to developing gold standard bushfire resilient designs	
3:30pm	Conference close	

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