

July 6, 2020

Dear Community Member,

The University of Wollongong is undertaking research into people's experiences of the 2019-20 bushfires in NSW. This independent research is being undertaken for the Bushfire & Natural Hazards Cooperative Research Centre (www.bnhcrc.com.au) and is being funded by the NSW Rural Fire Service.

You are invited to participate in an interview via telephone or video conferencing (e.g. Zoom, Skype) to discuss your experiences of the recent fires. We are interested in hearing a range of stories and views from people who were directly and indirectly affected by the fires, including residents and tourists.

The results of the study will be used to inform strategies to improve community bushfire safety in NSW. Results will be presented to the NSW RFS, and reports and other publications will be publicly accessible at www.bnhcrc.com.au.

We emphasise that participation is voluntary, and your privacy is assured. The interview can be arranged for a day and time that suits you, including evenings and weekends. We will be conducting interviews throughout July and August.

Enclosed is a copy of the Participant Information Sheet, which provides more information about the project.

If you would like to arrange an interview, or have any questions about the research, please email bushfire-research@uow.edu.au or call Josh Whittaker on 0409 007 842.

Please feel free to pass this information on to others who may be interested in participating.

Yours sincerely,



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