

22 February 2003

Peter Webb
Member for Monaro
PO Box 716
QUEANBEYAN
2620

Re : Collation of anecdotal (audio visual) evidence demonstrating the devastation caused by the recent Alpine bushfires and the management practices which led to this disaster.

Dear Peter,

Please find attached our proposal to produce a video documentary focusing in the main on the experiences of High Country men and women fighting these fires.

We envisage this video to be a valuable tool in bringing the truth of the matter to the general public, in terms of next months state election and afterwards, in the development of public land management policy that will avoid this situation arising to this extent again.

As the local free to air tourist TV station located in Jindabyne we have a track record of stringing news for the national networks over the years and the proven capability to produce documentaries. We were recently contracted by the Premiers Dept to shoot the "Snowy River Journey" (from Charlotte Pass to Orbost in Victoria) when we visited many of the people we propose to interview.

Inquiry into the Alpine Bushfire Disaster

Proposal for Collation of Anecdotal Evidence to Support Inquiry:

Peter Maberly
Snowy Mountains Television
(02)6456 1531 0418 485 351
snowytv@snowy.net.au

Acacia Rose
Acacia Rose Media
0408 298 821

Method –

Conduct approximately 100 x 40 minute interviews (audio visual) and edit each down to approximately 5 minutes duration for compilation to an indexed DVD (total duration of approximately 8.3 hours)

Target Groups –

District Neighbours of the National Parks (*Approx. 26 Interviews*)

Richard Wallace (Monaro Grazier & Mayor Snowy River Shire Council)
Ozzie Wellmore (Retired Paupong Grazier 1939 Fires – Historic interview to hand)
Pendergast Family (Former graziers Jindabyne NSW and VIC)
Tom Barry (Former Ingebyra grazier and local businessman)
Peter Webb (Member for Monaro and local Grazier)
June Weston Alpine Way Grazier
Christine & Rudi Schatzle (Alpine Way “Penderlea”)
Delegate Business and Farming Leaders (TBA)
Julie & Ross Small (Dalgety small business operators)
Bombala Business and Farming Leaders (TBA)
John Eccleston (Numblavale Grazier)
Trevor Davis (Vic Grazier “Tom Groggin”)
Benambra (Vic) Farming and Business Leaders
Tubbutt (Vic) Farming and Business Leaders
Gelantippy (Vic) Farming and Business Leaders
Ron Golby (Ingebyra Graziers)
Prue Parker (Alpine Way “Bimblegumbie”)
Dick Suthern (Dalgety Grazier)
Wollondibby Rd (“Thredbo Valley Lodge”)
Sarah Young (Alpine Way Small Business Operator)
Snowy Plains Graziers (TBA)
David Last Moonbah Grazier “Snowy Ranch”
Carl Drury (Snowy River Campaigner)
Trina & Ray Morris (Avonside Rd Landholders)
Pat & Sue Edmonson (Graziers)
Heinz Gloor (Kalkite Grazier)
Peter Cochrane (Yaouk Grazier and former MP)

Larger Business Community (Approx. 12 Interviews)

Regional Chambers of Commerce (6 Interviews)

Tourism Snowy Mountains

Kosciuszko Thredbo

Perisher Blue

Tumut Visy Industries

Bombala Timber Industries

Bruce Marshall Holdings

Participants in Fire Fighting (Approx. 22 interviews)

RFS - Strategic Planners / Ops Room / Volunteers - (4 interviews)

NSW and Vic NPWS Planners / Fire Fighters (4 interviews including Dave Darlington, Section 44 Appointee)

SES Representative (2 Interviews))

Pilots - Water bombers and reconnaissance (4 interview: Helicopter Aerial Surveyors)

Volunteers / Private People fighting the fires to protect theirs and other people's properties (8 interviews)

Scientists (Up to 14 interviews **with Science Specific Questions**)

Phil Cheney (CSIRO)

Dr John Banks (ANU Forestry)

Tony Fleming (Fire - NSW NPWS)

Graeme Enders (DLWC)

Ken Green (NPWS - Field and Plant Ecologist)

Alec Costin (Advisory Committee KNP - Agricultural Science)

Dane Wimbush (Advisory Committee KNP - Vegetation Transects)

Rod Lavers (Fire)

Selection of Scientists on Independent Scientific Committee Advising NSW NPWS (up to 5 interviews)

Service & Provider Groups (Government & Non-Government) (Approx 17)

Centrelink - Regional Deployment to Jindabyne Community Hall / Cooma / Bombala districts also affected

Dept. of Community Services (Provision of emergency relief) Wagga Region

Snowy River Shire Council

Cooma Monaro Shire Council

Tumut Shire Council

Orbost Shire Council

MPs G. Nairn, P. Webb, R. Wallace. (4 Interviews)

Banking Sector - impact on small business and private individuals

LAOKO (Emergency wildlife carers)

Medical providers - major areas of trauma for planning purposes

Media & Communications - efficacy of timeliness of reporting: Stuart Cohen, NSW

NPWS Public Information Unit, Snow FM, ABC Regional Radio Bega,

Suggested Interview Questions

Can you identify yourself / organisation and your relationship with the region.
When did you first become aware of the presence of the fires?
How did you hear about the fires?
Was the information accurate and timely to your knowledge?
At the time of hearing about the fires, at what distance / how many hours or days were the fires from your location?
Can you describe your response to hearing about the fires?
What preparations had you already made?
What preparations did you then make to respond to the emergency?
Did you have sufficient personal resources to manage the situation?
Did you or your family evacuate?
Did you make an effort to contact local emergency service personnel?
Were there additional resources to hand? Can you describe the nature and value of those resources?
Can you briefly describe your experience encountering the fire?
Can you briefly describe your experience of relationship with emergency services personnel, volunteers, friends or neighbours?
Are you a part of the local emergency services in any capacity? Please describe.
Do you have specialist skills or training to handle emergencies in any capacity?
Do you have special equipment, resources including communications equipment that will be
Did the fire directly affect your person, family property or business?
Did the fire indirectly affect your person, family, property or business?
Can you identify the nature of the impact and *quantify* any losses to your person, family, property or business.
Did you feel adequately supported before, during and after the emergency?
Do you think that the loans / grants / support are appropriate for the emergency.
Is there anything you can suggest in addition to the proposed recovery plans?
Is there anything you can see that needs improving in any aspect of the response to the emergency?
Do you have anything further to add or comments that you feel are important to make about the onset, nature of management of the fires?
Were there any positive outcomes from the experience for you or your family?

Projected Estimated Time Frame & Cost

Project duration (including post-production)	21 days
Estimated Number of Interviews	100
Duration of individually edited interview	5 min
Duration total of all interviews	8.3 hrs

Note final media format – DVD to facilitate random access

Shooting time per interview	40 min x 100	70 hrs
Editing per interview including overlay	45 min x 100	75 hrs
Interview frequency		6 – 8 daily
Producer / Camera Operator	\$660 / day x 20 days	\$13,200
Co-Producer / Interviewer	@ \$400 / day x 20 days	\$8,000
Co Producer / Researcher		\$8,000
Editing	@ \$100 / hr x 75 hrs	\$7,500
Helicopter Hire (Aerial shots)	@ \$1,000 / hr x 8 hrs	\$8,000
Food & Accommodation	\$150 pp p/day x 5 days	\$1,500
Vehicle expenses	@ 49.3 cents / km x 2000 km	\$1,000
Communications & stationery		\$2,000

Consumables

Camera tape (DVCam)	@ \$15 x 20	\$300
VHS	x 20 x \$5	\$100
DVD	x 50	\$1,000

Total estimate incl. GST **\$50,600.00**

Sincerely,

Peter Maberly