

Subject: Report of internal DEECA review of Phoenix RapidFire

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Date: 24/07/2023, 1:58 pm

To: firestrategy@delwp.vic.gov.au

CC: RFPG admin <admin@rubiconforest.org>

Good afternoon again Fire Strategy people

VAGO's 2020 audit report states that '*DELWP's fuel type maps and fuel accumulation curves have not undergone any broadscale verification. As a result, their accuracy and precision are not known. This means that DELWP may be overestimating or underestimating risk levels when using Phoenix RapidFire to simulate bushfires.*'

The audit report also states that '*DELWP reconstructed the eight most significant Black Saturday bushfires as part of its Black Saturday Fire Reconstruction Project to understand how accurately Phoenix RapidFire predicts real bushfires. The draft report is currently undergoing scientific review and editing and is yet to be finalised.*'

Given it is now 3 years since the draft report into the accuracy of Phoenix RapidFire was undergoing scientific review and editing, we assume it has since been finalised. Given the significance of this work to the current Bushfire Management Strategy consultation, the Rubicon Forest Protection Group requests access to this assessment of Phoenix RapidFire and urges DEECA to post it on its website.

Again, thanks in anticipation.

Nick Legge

Rubicon Forest Protection Group

