



Maroochy South Rural Fire Brigades Group



10th March 2011

Queensland Floods Commission of Inquiry
P.O. Box 1738
Brisbane
Queensland 4001

Dear Sirs

Brisbane City Flood Recovery

Volunteers from six Rural Fire Brigades in our Group were deployed to Brisbane from 16th January 2011 to 19th January 2011 to assist in the recovery stage of the floods.

The feeling of the volunteers was that at a personal level the deployment was very satisfying in that they were contributing to the recovery effort. Accommodation and food was excellent under the circumstances. At a professional level they felt that the management of the recovery in a broad sense could have been better managed.

Queensland Fire and Rescue Service use the Australian Inter-service Incident Management System which is a proven management system for any fire event. We have found this system is very effective in that the model can grow with the size of the incident. The principles are the same whether we are managing a single unit deployed to a small bush fire or a major campaign fire as occurred during the 2009 fire season.

We are aware of anecdotal evidence that courses on this management system were offered to Local Disaster Management Groups across the State but only a handful took up the offer.

We feel that it is vital that all agencies that are involved in any form of disaster management use the same management system and that a suitable number of personnel are trained in using that system.

Yours sincerely

Signed

Hamish Murdoch
Group Officer

