

Resilience in Action: Lessons from Victoria's recent bushfire response

Victoria's recent bushfires placed extraordinary pressure on communities, critical infrastructure and the essential services that underpin them. For the water sector, the events were a real-world test of preparedness, coordination and the ability to adapt rapidly in highly dynamic conditions.

This panel brings together leaders from three water corporations affected by the fires and will reflect on three key elements of the response: emergency management, infrastructure and communications.

The discussion will highlight the power of collaboration across agencies and organisations, the role of innovation in strengthening response capability, and the practical lessons shaping future preparedness. Attendees will gain valuable insights into how the sector is translating experience into action — building stronger systems, smarter partnerships and greater resilience for the challenges ahead.

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Plenary Speakers



Jo Murdoch
North East Water



Damian Wells
Coliban Water



Lauren McLean
Coliban Water



Daniel Flanagan
Goulburn Valley Water