Predictions in Public Research Project

Presented by:

Dr Chloe Begg
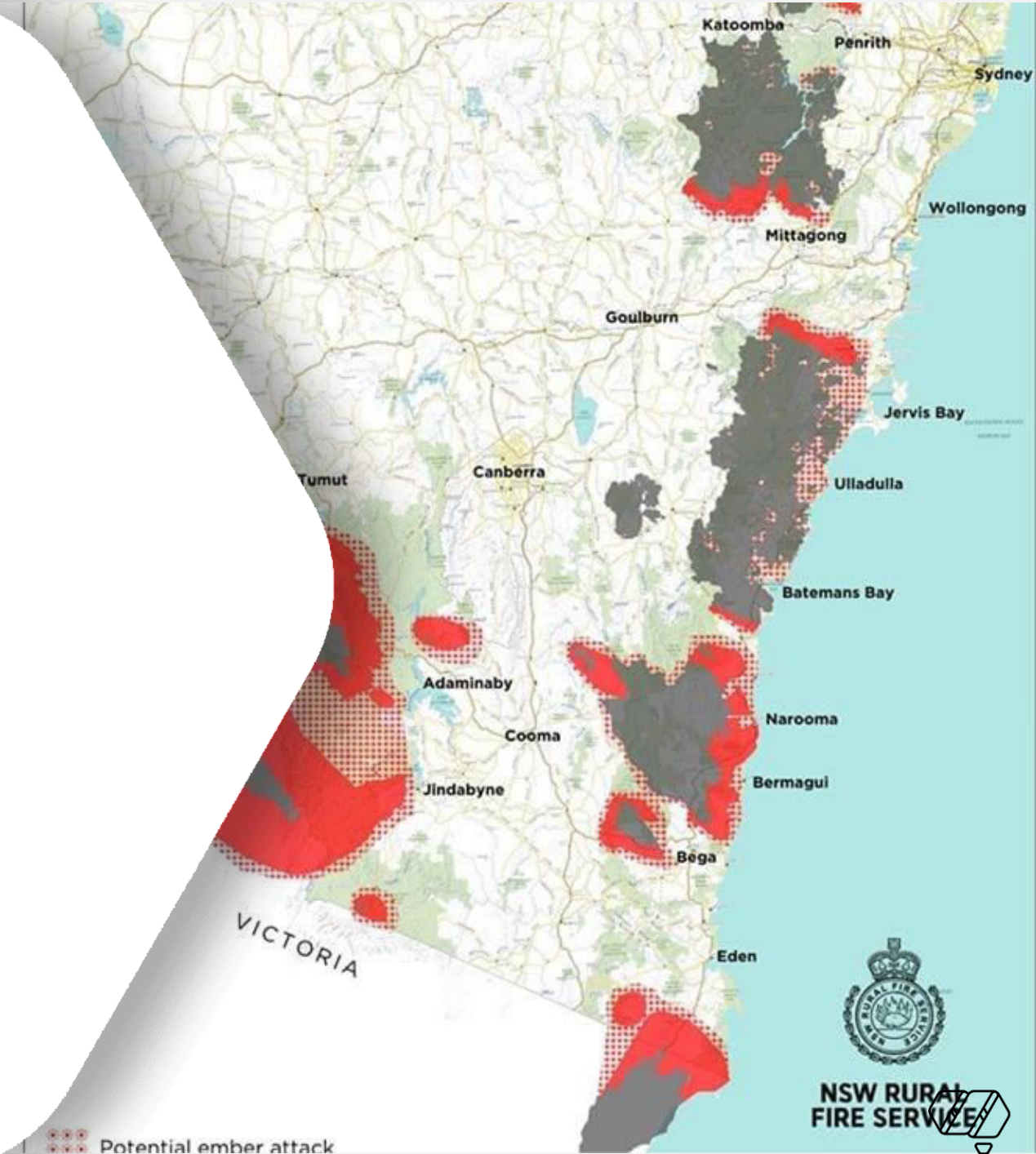Senior Research Scientist
Country Fire Authority, Victoria (CFA)

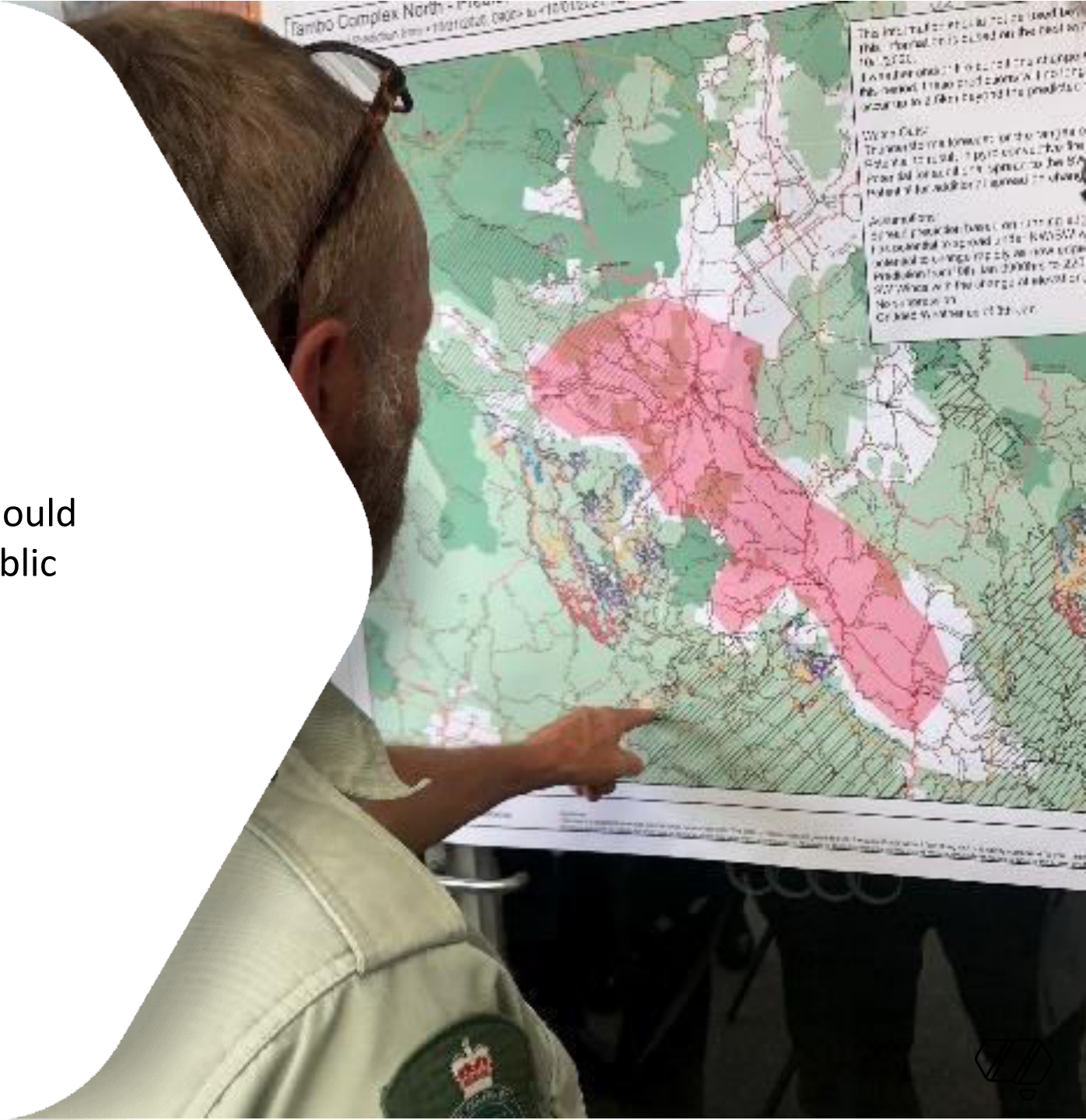on behalf of the Predictions in Public team

Background

Why focus on the role of predictions in public?

- Fire agency support for research
- Technological advancements
- Expectations from the public
- Recommendations from reviews, inquiries, and royal commissions
- Political pressure
- Previous research in Victoria has shown that while operational staff agree that providing the public with quality real time information is important, concerns remain regarding how to effectively embed predictions into existing warning products and when and how to release them to the public (Begg et al. 2021).

Potential ember attack

Project Aims

To define how future predictive products should be crafted to promote safe and effective public response during a bushfire emergency.

Project Stakeholders

Project team

Coordinators:
- Chloe Begg (CFA)
- Angela Gardner (EMV)

Research Leads:
- Paula Dootson & Deanna Grant-Smith (QUT)
- Amy Griffin & Erica Kuligowski (RMIT)
- Timothy Neale (Deakin University)
- Graham Dwyer (Swinburne)

Project Stakeholders

Project Steering Committee:

- Current core representatives from **AFAC PSG** and **AFAC WG** from each Australian jurisdiction.
    - **TAS** - Chris Collins (PSG) and Peter Middleton (WG)
    - **WA** - Jackson Parker (PSG) and Deana Pullella (WG)
    - **QLD** - Jack Emueleus (PSG) Anna Grohn (WG)
    - **NSW** - Laurence McCoy (PSG) and Anthony Clark (WG)
    - **VIC** - Phillip Brien (PSG) and Reegan Key (WG)
    - **ACT**- Ailish Milner (PSG) and Leighton Bush (WG)
    - **SA** - Simeon Telfer (PSG) and Monique De Silva (WG)
    - **NT** - Don MacCorquodale and Angus Farlam
    - **BOM** - Fiona Dunstan

Project Design

Phase 1:

    Understanding current agency practice and community comprehension and use of existing public-facing map-based products (i.e., incident warning maps and predictive fire spread maps).

Phase 2:

    Developing and testing national public-facing predictive map concepts.

Phase 3:

    Developing practical outputs for agency use.

Tomorrow's Workshop

Stream 1: Risk mitigation – bushfire and prediction

9:40am

- **Focus:**
  - **Research findings** and **practical outcomes** of Phase 1.
  - Reflections on the **project's co-design approach.**