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Fired up about climate change

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WA's bushfire season now lasts for seven months as the State's climate becomes increasingly dry, WA's fire and emergency services commissioner has said.

Darren Klemm told an inquiry into climate health yesterday that WA's bushfire season used to run from December to February, but now stretched from November to May.

He said WA bushfires were also becoming more intense and lasting longer since the Esperance blaze in November 2015, which killed four people, and the Yarloop fire in

January 2016, which killed two. "Things are drying out earlier and they are staying drier for longer," he said.

"Climate changes will mean that fires that used to go for three days now go for two weeks."

Mr Klemm said people needed to take more responsibility for the increased risk of bushfires.

"You go back 20 years ago, we're paying the price now for a mantra of saying, just ring triple zero and someone will come and save you," he said. "We're trying to unwind that now."