

<https://www.nytimes.com/2020/01/09/reader-center/australia-wildfire-photo.html>



Introduction

This landscape photograph shows a burning home in Australia on New Year's Eve.

It was taken by Matthew Abott on 31st, December 2019.

This image was published on the 11th, January 2020 and it was extracted from an article from the New York Times.

What is where?

The picture was taken near Lake Conjola in New South Wales, Australia in the middle of the day. It depicts an animal (a kangaroo) passing by the burning house. It is composed of two parts. In the background, we can see the burning structure of the house, almost fully consumed, and in front of the house, on the picture's left, the animal. In the middle of the picture stand a tree and a mailbox, untouched but certainly doomed to be consumed. Finally, in the foreground, we can see nothing but burnt ground and ashes.

Who is doing what?

In this picture, the animal is seemingly running away in panic, because of the fire. The title of the photo and the scene it depicts gives the viewer the impression that all the fires in Australia looked this way, which is actually kind of true, and makes the viewer feel a bit sad. This inspires to think about how they can help with the situation in Australia.

What I think about the picture / intention

I think the artist uses the situation depicted by the picture to encourage the viewer to donate to the Australian authorities to help with the fires and I think that it is a very noble cause. Though I haven't donated I am sure that it helps lots of people to realize how the situation was in Australia in a period of the year where people around the world usually throw parties or spend time with their families.