

**From:**  
**To:** [Flood Inquiry](#)  
**Subject:** Flooding in the Northern Rivers  
**Date:** Saturday, 30 April 2022 12:27:50 PM

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Hi, I live in Ballina.

There are many ideas to prevent this terrible flooding event happening again.

I think that almost all of the water in the Lismore and surrounding area ends up at the mouth of the Richmond River in Ballina. Local history indicates that Dredging of the River used to be a regular activity and the last sighting of the Dredger that operated here was outside the **Ballina Naval and Maritime Museum**. It eventually rusted away and was never replaced and since then there has been a build up of mainly Sugar Cane. Apparently when Dredging occurred there was no build up of the Cane and other materials/sludge as well.

Local commercial fishermen have been complaining for many years that there are times that they cannot cross the Bar at the mouth of the Richmond River to fish in open waters for our famous prawns and othe fish.

I would suggest therefore the following:

- A study of the River mouth and the downstream of the river including tributaries
- Costing on putting in a new dredger and equipment to take away the material
- Discuss with the local Fishermen and historians about this area
- A study into a possible new water culvert that improved even further the water flow from the river into the ocean

I would think that improving the flow of the water in the mouth of the river would help in moving the water in any future flooding event. Its a "no-brainer" that if the water was deeper then more river water would be allowed to flow out to the ocean in a constant way throughout the year and when there will be further flooding events.

In addition to this the storm water drainage in Ballina on the island in particular is in a poor state and could be improved.

Best of luck.