

From: [NSW Government](#)
To: [Flood Inquiry](#)
Subject: Floods Inquiry
Date: Wednesday, 4 May 2022 1:48:21 PM

Your details

Title

First name

Last name

Email

Postcode

Submission details

I am making this submission as A resident in a flood-affected area

Submission type I am making a personal submission

Consent to make submission public I would like this submission to remain anonymous

Share your experience or tell your story

Terms of Reference (optional)

The Inquiry welcomes submissions that address the particular matters identified in its [Terms of Reference](#)

1.1 Causes and contributing factors M1 motorway is a dam wall

1.2 Preparation and planning

I went to move a horse from low lying country on the Friday before the floods and an SES member pulled up and said don't worry it's only going to a minor to moderate flood - 3 days later the mare washed away along with my entire herd of 35 cows.

1.3 Response to floods

It was proven that the SES voluntary brigades don't have the capacity or capability to respond to emergency situations of this nature. Rescue was basically left to the heroic civilian army - alarming!!!

1.4 Transition from incident response to recovery

The ADF were the only government responders who knew how to get anything done - thank god for them!!!

1.5 Recovery from floods

Recovery will be ongoing

1.6 Any other matters

Grants appear only to be for the rich. I lost over \$80k dollars in stock and property damage and have been told today I don't qualify for the rural assistance grant - I'm appalled and broke. I have worked hard all my life to get ahead and now I've basically lost my primary production business which as a single mum has allowed me to work on a part time basis!!!! The whole Govt response is appalling!!!! And I work for the Govt - Government systems and processes are completely broken - Northern Rivers is in crisis and this is tragic

Supporting documents or images

Attach files

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[jpeg](#)



Processing out loud!

My opinion is SES requires major reform. It's whole model is an archaic dinosaur that has proven to be completely inadequate. What a total govt cop out to expect poorly resourced, largely volunteer based brigades to have the responsibility for public safety in emergency situations. We need to follow a model like Canada where the emergency services are largely made up of fully paid and trained teams that are fully resourced and can mobilise quickly when required. SES turned down an ADF offer of assistance on the first Friday of the Lismore Floods. SES has the primary decision making role during emergency situations - this requires review if the organisation isn't subject to radical changes - I'm very concerned! Thank god for the life saving civilian army who risked their lives to save lives because they cared and there were no other alternatives - you are all legends 

