Hello

I would like to make a submission regarding the 2022 flooding on the Richmond River at Ballina

I feel that the flood situation in Ballina was exacerbated by the high levels of siltation in both the Richmond River and also within North Creek. The heavy siltation spreads flood waters to adjacent properties when it would otherwise be confined to the waterways.

Proposals have been underway for at least five years to dredge North Creek in particular however no firm commitment has been made to commence works. I understand that regular dredging used to be carried out in the 1900s to ensure the proper flow of flood waters.

I would like to see regular dredging operations recommence as I am sure this would help prevent future flood events in Ballina. This should be set up as a regular ongoing program of maintenance of both the Richmond River and North Creek waterways and not one off projects requiring environmental assessment and funding on each occasion

The loss of community dwellings and tragic fish kill will have major implications for the people who live in the Richmond area and those who wish to visit our beautiful towns.

Please we cannot allow this tragedy to repeat itself

Kind regards

Ballina. NSW. 2478