

From:
To: [Flood Inquiry](#)
Subject: submission flood inquiry
Date: Sunday, 8 May 2022 9:30:54 AM

To whom it may concern,

My Home address is Skinners Shoot Road, Skinners Shoot NSW 2481. We are located from Byron Bay town centre, a rural village.

During the first flood on February 28th, our community of Skinners Shoot was affected in the following ways:

Access in and out by 4wd only, the water level at the swamp area reached around 0.4m. Further up the road, alot of gravel and debris had washed onto the road, causing potholes and making the road one way access only in parts. This was caused by a lack of maintenance on councils' part to maintain roadside verges and culverts to keep them clear of debris build up.

During the second flood on March 28th, our community got cut off for 1.5 days, due to flooding on the road in the swamp area. It was around 0.7-0.9m in height. Other parts of the road were damaged due to debris from trees and gravel from roadside washed onto road. While the flooding of the lower parts of Skinners Shoot rd could not have been prevented, the damage on other parts of the road could have been prevented. Specifically, if council had maintained the roadside verges to keep them clear of a buildup of debris and gravel, as well as any pipes/culverts cleaned, water and debris would not have washed onto the road. This has caused some parts of the road to become one lane access.

Skinners Shoot Road is the main access for the substation at Yagers lane, which requires good, safe all weather access. It is a no through road.

The 3A Major Project approval for the substation states: Project Approval 2.27 -pg 9 -
"The proponent shall undertake upgrade works along Skinners Shoot Road and Yagers Lane are to the standard necessary to provide all-weather access, including a trafficable surface suitable to accommodate heavy vehicles movements associated with the construction and operation of the project (2009)"

The last point above regarding the substation, we think, is an important reminder that the road needs constant attention in maintenance to minimise any impacts on wet weather events in the future. A simple twice yearly scrape of the roadside with a bobcat to remove overgrown debris and sediment build up and keep the camber of the roadside at correct angle. As well to keep any culverts /pipes cleaned.

Byron CBD and Urban areas

There are two problems that caused the Byron CBD to flood:

1. Outdated stormwater drainage. Council has been trying to obtain grants from the Federal and State Govts for years to upgrade the outdated stormwater system in the CBD. Lets hope that this event, that State and Federal Govts assist in rectifying this long overdue upgrade of the network.
2. Lack of maintenance/ cleaning of gutters and drains in urban areas, plus the open natural drains which flow into Belongil Ck from the CBD. Some areas you see debris build up and grass growing in the drains and gutters. these have not been cleaned for years. Certainly,

the open canals that connect the CBD drain to the Belongil have not been cleared for at least 20+ years. This needs to change, and council must have a regular maintenance schedule in place for these works.

Thank you for your time

Ph:
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