

**From:** [NSW Government](#)  
**To:** [Flood Inquiry](#)  
**Subject:** Floods Inquiry  
**Date:** Thursday, 7 April 2022 9:46:36 AM

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## Your details

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**Title** Mr

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**First name** Jack

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**Last name** Binder

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**Email**

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## Submission details

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

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**Submission type** I am making a personal submission

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**Organisation making the submission (if applicable)** Tujays

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**Your position in the organisation (if applicable)** Partner

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**Consent to make submission public** I give my consent for this submission to be made public

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## Share your experience or tell your story

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**Your story** My partner and I are master mariners working

vessels around the world since 1974. When not afloat, we live alongside the Richmond River these last thirty years. After hundreds of thousands of sea miles and countless river entries, we are experts on oceans and waterways. With thirty years living on the banks of the Richmond, as well as considerable time on the river, has made us alarmed at the clogged condition of the river and massively silted Richmond River mouth, not dredged for thirty years.

Knowing that rain and storm waters in the catchment must exit out the Richmond River mouth, if water can't get out through the river mouth, it will flood surrounding land. Early in 2021, we wrote to both the Ballina Shire Council, and the member for Ballina, Ms Smith, outlining our concerns, requesting immediate action be taken to avert a disaster.

Our report brought a slow response from the council, who denied responsibility for maintaining the river bar. The member for Ballina, Ms Smith, issued a reply containing-thank you, we'll pass this on and get back to you. None was forthcoming, even though we wrote to Ms Smith each month requesting an update and action. We are still waiting to hear from her office.

Ballina history shows little problem of flooding because the river is wide and normally fast flowing. If the river mouth had been maintained, less damage would have occurred. Ballina town and the peninsula, which has no history of flooding, may have escaped.

Ballina, as the outlet for the runoff collected in the massive basin that includes Lismore, Kyogle, Woodburn, and Coraki, have a responsibility to keep the ocean exit clear and free flowing so the communities upstream are not more greatly impacted by flood waters being held up downstream.

## Terms of Reference (optional)

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

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### **1.1 Causes and contributing factors**

silted Richmond River mouth and river impacted by enlarged sandbanks.

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## Supporting documents or images

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### **Attach files**

- [richmond river bar1.jpg](#)
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# ***RICHMOND RIVER BAR***

***ALL SHALLOW***



***+100 m TO SEAWARD***