

**From:** [NSW Government](#)  
**To:** [Flood Inquiry](#)  
**Subject:** Floods Inquiry  
**Date:** Monday, 6 June 2022 1:46:30 PM  
**Attachments:** [Riverbank Damage.pdf](#)

---

## Your details

---

<b>Title</b>	Ms
<b>First name</b>	Jennifer
<b>Last name</b>	Joy
<b>Email</b>	<input type="text"/>
<b>Postcode</b>	2480

---

## Submission details

---

<b>I am making this submission as</b>	A business owner
<b>Submission type</b>	I am making a personal submission
<b>Consent to make submission public</b>	I give my consent for this submission to be made public

---

## Share your experience or tell your story

---

<b>Your story</b>	business and home located on the river heavily impacted. mental health problems ongoing. now living in a ghost street. hardest part is knowing that people I love and people I don't even know are all continuing to suffer badly because they do not know what their options are. my heart just aches non stop.
-------------------	--

## 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**

the river desperately needs dredging ... over the past 20 years we have lost over a metre of river bank into the river and since the flood we are watching another 4 metres slowly disappear into the water ... the drain is blocked, no wonder that at the first week in June the water has still not gone down to pre-flood high tide level since 27th Feb. Attached pdf shows damage after 28th Feb waters went down ... it is so much worse now as most of the damaged land shown in those images has now sunk into the river since the second flood

---

### **1.2 Preparation and planning**

People need to be informed prior to a flood that they do not have to throw out everything that went under. Fridges, washing machines, stoves, hand tools, solid timber furniture ... so very much that was just chucked because we are too traumatised to think straight ... encourage people to go around their homes prior to a flood and make a list or mark with a texta or something all the items which may be able to be redeemed

---

### **1.3 Response to floods**

Volunteers need training before they swarm into someone's home and throw out everything ... they should never throw out hand tools such as hammers etc, hoses, electrical items which may be able to be fixed ... even photographs can sometimes be saved ... volunteers must be trained first before being let loose in what appears to be nothing more than a flooded mess and total disaster ... this kneejerk reaction is well intended, but in many cases causes even more trauma than the rising water

---

### **1.4 Transition from incident response to recovery**

Thank goodness for the compassionate people of Lismore and surrounds

---

**1.5 Recovery from floods** What are the options? Walk away? Rip out internal walls and wait for months before materials and a tradie can be sourced? A land swap? Lift the house? Relocate the house? Leave town? nobody knows what they can do or could do or should do ... we need direction here and these things need to be discussed prior to the next flood

---

**1.6 Any other matters** Relocate the local uni and repurpose the Lismore campus to become The Heart of Lismore ... its all there, and under-utilised ... then the existing flood prone city centre could become something more community oriented and less vulnerable to floods, eg an arts/music centre which could be packed up easily when the floods are coming ...

---

### **Supporting documents or images**

---

**Attach files**                      • [Riverbank Damage.pdf](#)

---

Details of damage along riverbank Taylor Street to Ballina Street Bridge resulting in swathes of land collapsing or about to collapse into the Wilsons River



20220417

Image 1: Photo taken 20220417 I understand that the land in front of the Fig Tree is Council land zoned Recreational

Image 2: Photo taken 20220429

Image 3: 20220429 Taylor Street, Subsidence

Image 4: 20220429 Looking up towards Trever Pether Spray Painting Workshop, Taylor Street South Lismore

Image 5-13: 20220429 This area remains under water as at 26<sup>th</sup> May 2022 ...I anticipate there will be more damage and more subsidence from the present flooding of the river revealed with the present weather event abates and the river drops back to normal levels which have not yet happened since the flooding events which have been occurring since January 2022



20220121 Looking across river towards boat ramp

Image 13-16: 20220417 Photo taken from Ballina Street boat ramp on opposite side of the river looking towards collapsing riverbank and collapsed Levee wall at Taylor Street



1



2



















10



11





13



14

