

From: [NSW Government](#)
To: [Flood Inquiry](#)
Subject: Floods Inquiry
Date: Friday, 20 May 2022 1:00:00 PM

Your details

Title	Mr
First name	Luke
Last name	Haber
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Postcode	2480

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 give my consent for this submission to be made public

Share your experience or tell your story

Your story	<p>I was involved in marine rescues in the first flood and noted the following points from my cut off location in Caniaba.</p> <p>Caniaba residents took in flood displaced people from caravan affected areas and housed them in their Sports club. The sports club had no beds, blankets or first aid.</p>
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Recommendation 1: local halls and sports clubs in flood affected areas be funded by all levels of govt as community evacuation points and adequately resourced. Including a defibrillator device, first aid, some beds and blankets. Can be used for Fire/Flood/Storm events.

Locals used their own boats and rescued residents. Some boat owners needed rescue and some boats didn't have safety equipment. Many people didn't have water rescue training. UHF Radios were not fully utilized by volunteers.

Recommendation 2: that Lismore form a Volunteer Marine Rescue Unit and seek government funding to train people in marine rescue and safety to assist the community during flood. To provide trained boat operators for SES in time of need and complement other rescue groups. To establish a Lismore VMR tower for radio communications and operations that is accessible during floods. To provide a general marine rescue function capability during non flood events. To educate boats users on marine radio use.

Based on the first flood events and river heights, flood evacuation points need to be built and communicated to community to provide safe pickup and drop of points for boats during flood. Many people cut off were trapped and had to get into and onto roofs. Known evacuation points that safe to access during time of crisis would be good planning.

Recommendation 3 : build Raised steel evacuation platforms with shelter in flood affected areas. These evac points also need basic first aid kits. They will need to be covered and in areas where there is no high ground to get to. Must include all river towns. Must have lighting and emergency beacon, like epirob.

SES, Police , ambos and Fire didn't have enough boats.

Recommendation 4: Provide more marine craft for emergency services including jet skis for rapid response. Also get some inflatable rafts that can be dropped and inflated from air. Work with local VMR to provide more boats and trained boat operators.

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

Nil

1.2 Preparation and planning

I was involved in marine rescues in the first flood and noted the following points from my cut off location in Caniaba.

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Recommendation 5: Lismore CC has a permanent flood response and mitigation team of trained and qualified staff to inform and communicate flood information, evac plans and maintains/monitors the flood mitigation controls and warning systems.

1.3 Response to floods	See above
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1.4 Transition from incident response to recovery	See above
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1.5 Recovery from floods	See above
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Supporting documents or images
