

From: [NSW Government](#)
To: [Flood Inquiry](#)
Subject: Floods Inquiry
Date: Thursday, 19 May 2022 3:47:06 PM

Your details

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Submission details

I am making this submission as	A primary producer
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 live at haughwood rd Bora ridge</p> <p>I have a family of 7 initially I was prepared for the 1st flood, I.e moved cattle and bought extra food and fuel as we are prone to flooding in this area.</p> <p>I must say what started out fairly routine quickly became a nightmare.</p> <p>I felt incredibly helpless listening to residents cry</p>
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for help throughout the region but in particular the bungawalbin creek.

I was monitoring river levels and too lost the most important reading when the indicator stopped registering bungawalbin south meter, which is still off line.

I felt that emergency services were massively undermanned and under resourced
I could not believe there wasn't a single organisation taking control of the emergency, social media seemed to be the only source of up to date information and with the loss of cell towers etc this became worse. As did everyone we lost power very early and were trapped for around 3 weeks.

We rationed fuel and only ran the generator to keep the freezer going I had rang the ses and been told that I could only get help for personal emergencies. It wasn't until after 2 weeks of no power that my nephew boated me in some fuel and in the following days we volunteer boat drop fuel and hay and then a further drop of food from a helicopter unfortunately the food was pre cooked and without refrigeration could not keep. I registered for a hay drop however this was difficult as the cattle were in flood reserve and could not be located at the time.

I went and picked up hay after the three weeks in several loads.

Earlier saying I was familiar with floods I have always be able to get out much earlier however the road through the national park was impassable prior to the flood and therefore leaving us trapped.

The second flood we again were trapped for three weeks as the road still impassable
We did get a food order online delivered by police helicopter.

My son cut his finger and had to be evacuated by boat to have surgery in Lismore, this time a feed drop was achieved for cattle.

We whole roads, driveways fences and dams to repair, ground we can't put Cattle on an debris to

pick up. So far we have lost 6 head I fear this will increase.

We have had the property for seven years in that time we have put everything into the farm whilst working to bring the property up to a viable business. Many floods and fires have hindered this and of incomes while trying to build the farm and look after the land means no grants.

The emergency fodder was a one off 3 day allocation what happens to the cattle you have saved after three days when your trapped for six weeks and then after that you still can't put them back on flooded ground

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

Poor maintenance of haughwood rd through the national park (yaringully) nature reserve meant we were trapped for an additional two weeks in both floods also once maintained fire trails the reserve meant we could not escape that way also.

1.2 Preparation and planning

It's hard look past preparing for more then three weeks as there is only so much you can store

1.3 Response to floods

Initially poor better in the second flood I would have thought the council in there respective areas would have contacted their rate payers and checked in to find out who they could contact and what was needed and who they couldn't contact passing this info onto one central organisation to manage

1.4 Transition from incident response to recovery

The recovery is non existent no one knows what help you are entitled to
And some people don't feel comfortable asking charities

1.5 Recovery from floods

To date all most all areas that require repair remains to wet and flood affected
We will likely have to sell our herd in order to

keep them alive and start from scratch or sell the property

1.6 Any other matters

Well maintained access roads and fire trails
Would have saved my family a lot of trauma,
long lasting support for flood affected animals
mor the a thee day entitlement
And more support for farmers like myself who
have put all my savings into starting a farm
business and have to continually start over

Supporting documents or images
