

From: [NSW Government](#)
To: [Flood Inquiry](#)
Subject: Floods Inquiry
Date: Tuesday, 5 April 2022 3:06:42 PM

Your details

Title Mr

First name Ray

Last name Hunt

Email

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 Local resident for 40 years ,oyster farmer for the past 20 years

Terms of Reference (optional)

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

1.1 Causes and contributing As an oyster farmer at ballina I have seen many changes in the richmond river that affect flood

factors

levels and runoff in the catchment. A lack of not doing the obvious and procrastination has led to silting and choke points in the upper catchment that won't cause flooding on their own but adds to the severity and duration of the event. Lower areas of the river are shoaling and causing shallowing from sand ingress from the northward drift of ocean sand.

1.2 Preparation and planning

The river from Lismore and downstream to my knowledge has never been dredged or had remediation work to any extent that would help with runoff and drainage. If the river system was dredged for its entire length, choke points removed and the spoil in Geotech used to rebuild vulnerable areas, the volume of water that would escape early in a flood event would be three or four times what it is now. Example would be if river level to river bed was once ten metres and is now two, five times more volume can flow in the same time period. Dredging the river bed does not lower the surface height, it only increases volume of water. A costly exercise but what cost so far with all the losses in local area. What drains quicker? a bathtub of water down the plug hole or a bathtub of water through a drinking straw?

Supporting documents or images
