

From: [NSW Government](#)
To: [Flood Inquiry](#)
Subject: Floods Inquiry
Date: Sunday, 26 June 2022 12:26:02 PM

Your details

Title Mrs

First name Susan

Last name Carson

Email

Postcode 2446

Submission details

I am making this submission as A member of the general public

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 I am a volunteer for Blaze Aid (an organisation that assists farmers rebuild fences after natural disasters - floods, fires, cyclones etc) and I recently spent 2.5 weeks at Casino in the NSW Northern Rivers assisting farmers after the catastrophic floods earlier this year. Whilst I was at Casino the army arrived to also assist flood victims and BlazeAid. Their help was

much appreciated but the personnel could do nothing for 48 hours until their orders were received from higher ranks. So 48 hours x say 300-400 army personnel means a lot could have been achieved in flood recovery. Many other instances occurred when they agreed to assist Blaze Aid on certain days & then all of a sudden they received newer orders and were not able to assist us.

They arrived with very impressive looking army vehicles but ones that were not designed for use in mud so naturally a few became bogged, one actually causing a busy road to come to a standstill.

Blaze Aid had to supply army personnel with appropriate boots to use in flooded paddocks & also gloves as they arrived in a flood zone with none of these items.

ACTUAL STORIES FROM FLOODED FAMILIES:

1) One lady completely lost her home in the 2020-2021 bushfires & then again in the floods this year. She is also suffering from an aggressive form of cancer which requires her to travel long distances for treatment.

2) Another lady with 5 children has a husband who is an incomplete quadriplegic. They are all living in tents with no toilets or running water. Every second day she takes her family into town for a shower & to use the toilets. The very sad aspect of this story is that she has trained her family to only have a bowel movement every second day which coincides with their trip to town.

3) A gentleman in his 80's has accommodation in a house with no doors or windows since the floods. He was suffering very badly from the cold weather until Blaze Aid made him a 4 poster bed with framework covering it to keep out the cold.

There are many many more stories of flood affected people. If you would like to discuss more please contact the Blaze Aid co-ordinator at Casino Showgrounds camp - Christine Male

on

Terms of Reference (optional)

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

Supporting documents or images
