

**IMPACTS OF THE WATER AMENDMENT (RESTORING OUR RIVERS) ACT
2023 ON NSW REGIONAL COMMUNITIES**

Organisation: Mid-Western Regional Council

Date Received: 14 April 2025



MID-WESTERN REGIONAL COUNCIL

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MR | A0110038

14 April 2025

Legislative Assembly Committee on Investment, Industry and Regional Development
Parliament of New South Wales
Parliament House, Macquarie Street
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Dear Mr. Roy Butler MP,

**SUBJECT: MID-WESTERN REGIONAL COUNCIL'S ENVIRONMENT SUBMISSION TO
THE IMPACTS OF THE WATER AMENDMENT (RESTORING OUR RIVERS) ACT 2023
ON NSW REGIONAL COMMUNITIES**

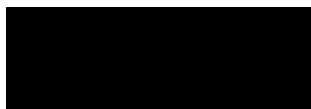
Thank you for the opportunity to provide a submission to your inquiry.

Being at the headwaters of the catchment, MWRC appreciates consideration into how the environmental releases will impact our ecology. We've received reports that the 2024 release resulted in loss of water bird nests. I understand water needs time to flow throughout the basin, but please consider the timing and amount of water for properties at the headwaters. The benefits of flood waters are well researched in Macquarie Marshes so would appreciate research opportunities extending to the top of the watershed ensuring indirect impacts are not detrimental to our riparian ecosystems.

In addition, scientists believe Windamere Dam is supercharging the Cudgegong River with phytoplankton so will be interesting to see the association between microinvertebrates, environmental water release and overall effects on the food web.

Finally, First Nations participation and impacts of climate change must be incorporated into the Basin Plan as both are instrumental in strategic waterway management.

Kind regards,



MCKENZIE REDFERN
ENVIRONMENT COORDINATOR