

**Submission
No 16**

**INQUIRY INTO PLANNING SYSTEM AND THE IMPACTS
OF CLIMATE CHANGE ON THE ENVIRONMENT AND
COMMUNITIES**

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It is vital that no new developments are allowed on floodplains.

It is also vital that a comprehensive flood study for the Northern Rivers is produced published ASAP that accurately reflects the flooding on the Northern Rivers in February and March 2022. It has been 19 months for heaven's sake!

Decisions have been , and are continuing to be made on out of date flood data.

This includes NRRCs Resilient Homes Program, NSWRA and councils. Byron shire council is putting forward numerous sites for new housing which flooded last year. This is unacceptable and dangerous.

NSWRA (ex-resilience) have filled the flood prone pod site in Mullumbimby up to 1.5 meters. It has been acknowledged that this will exacerbate flooding for surrounding homes. How was this ever allowed!! And Byron Shire Council wants to make it permanent!

There is a development that has been approved for 15 Torakina Rd Brunswick heads. This is some of the most ecologically valuable land in the Byron shire- it is also flood prone. This places habitat for a number of endangered and vulnerable species. How is this allowed.

By continuing to approve development on floodplains, the State Government and local councils are opening themselves to litigation and are betraying residents who will be unable to get insurance and will see their homes flood over and over again.

With climate change, this is only going to get worse. No amount of wishful and magical thinking, will change this.

Many thanks

Louise Gordon