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**To:** DPIE W Regional Water Strategies Mailbox  
**Cc:** office@pavey.minister.nsw.gov.au  
**Subject:** SUBMISSION - FNC Water Strategy

To whom it may concern,

I am a Mullumbimby resident and have lived in the Byron Shire on and off since 1988. I am concerned about the proposed Dunoon Dam.

The dam is highly controversial, and there is a lot of local resistance. There is widespread concern about the destructiveness of Dunoon Dam and also the failure of RCC to plan for water resilience using modern technologies. I do not understand why every house in the Northern Rivers Region does not have it's own water tank and water supply.

I am concerned about the destruction of Big Scrub Rainforest and its threatened species when there are other options of water saving and recycling.

There are 62 ha of Lowland Rainforest Endangered Ecological Community (EEC) on the site. Only 1% of the Big Scrub Rainforest remains. This rainforest is of global significance. The Channon Gorge contains warm-temperate rainforest on sandstone, a rare occurrence. The dam wall construction would destroy 92% of it. Nine threatened flora species would be severely impacted by Dunoon Dam. (2013 Terrestrial Ecology Impact Assessment Report). The destruction of these plants and an increase in the threats against them is a very serious matter with international scientific consequences. 17 fauna species have been identified that are listed as threatened under the TSC Act NSW (the koala, one fruit bat, six microbats and eight birds and one frog).

Koalas were under extinction pressure even before 70% of koalas in North Coast firegrounds were killed in the 2019 summer fires.

<https://www.wwf.org.au/news/news/2020/new-wwf-report-koalas-suffer-decline-across-fire-grounds>. The 2011 Terrestrial Ecology Impact Assessment (TEIA), identified 72 ha of Tallowwood and Flooded Gum koala habitat. [https://waternorthernrivers.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/Dunoon\\_Dam\\_Terrestrial\\_Ecology\\_Impact\\_Assessment.pdf](https://waternorthernrivers.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/Dunoon_Dam_Terrestrial_Ecology_Impact_Assessment.pdf)

Yours sincerely,

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