

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Wednesday, 13 July 2022 11:41 AM

**To:** DPIE W Regional Water Strategies Mailbox <regionalwater.strategies@dpi.e.nsw.gov.au>

**Subject:** Draft NSW Western Water Regional Strategy

I support and endorse the submissions made by the Inland Rivers Network and Environmental Defenders Office. Managing water demand must remain the key objective of the Western Regional Water Strategy (water demands will only increase in years to come). The NSW government needs to be realistic about flows into this system - the wet weather will not last forever. Floodplain harvesting must be limited - the environment and communities down river must be considered first and foremost in decisions, given the Darling/Baaka is an "Endangered Ecological Community" with many fish relying on the flows through this system. I strongly support options that aim to improve outcomes for fish, wetlands, water birds and river health generally. Water consumption by certain industries that are clearly unsustainable MUST be limited. Connectivity to the Lower Darling and Murray is extremely important.

I urge the NSW Government to look at the best options for the river system, rather than the best option for big businesses at the start of the water system.

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