

Regional Water Strategies Cultural Options Submission Questionnaire

The Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE) wish to acknowledge and pay their respect to all Traditional Owners and their Nations. The contributions of earlier generations, including the Elders, who have fought for their rights in natural resource management, are also valued and respected.

The NSW Government is taking action to improve the security, reliability, quality and resilience of the state's water resources. The North Coast Regional Water Strategy will deliver healthy and resilient water resources for a liveable and prosperous regional NSW.

Regional water strategies are being developed by the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment and provides an opportunity to re-shape what we are doing in regional water management and chart a path forward.

We have been working with local water utilities, councils, communities, Aboriginal people and other stakeholders to ensure local and traditional knowledge informs draft regional water strategies and that it serves the regional community, including First Nations, the environment and industry.

Your voice is important

We have prepared this draft strategy to continue our discussions with you. We would like to hear your views on:

- the draft strategy overall
- the process we used to develop the strategy
- potential cultural options for the North Coast region
- whether you have any further information that could help us develop cultural options for North Coast communities.

Please provide your feedback in the submission form below and email your completed submission to regionalwater.strategies@dpie.nsw.gov.au or post to Regional Water Strategies, Department of Planning, Industry and Environment, Locked Bag 5022, Parramatta NSW 2124 **by 14 April 2021**.

The questionnaire includes general questions about the regional water strategy including objectives, vision, modelling, and what we have heard so far. It also includes questions regarding the draft cultural options developed for some inland water strategy regions as a starting point for the development of cultural options in the North Coast. The questionnaire also includes personal information questions.

The questionnaire will take approximately 15 minutes to complete and your response can remain anonymous if you wish (see question 1).

Questions marked with an asterisk (*) require an answer.

Submission Form for Aboriginal Communities



Draft Regional Water Strategy – Submission Form

Do you identify as an Aboriginal person?

☒ Yes

☐ No

Which nation(s) do you represent?

Aboriginal people.

Are you making this submission as an individual or as a representative of an organisation?*

☐ Individual

☒ Organisation

3. Organisation or business details

Who do you represent?

Government (please specify)

☐ Commonwealth

☐ New South Wales

☐ State other

☐ Local

☒ Local Aboriginal Land Council

☐ Local Water Utility

Peak representative organisation (please specify)

☐ Environment

☐ Industry

☐ Business group or business chamber

☐ Community organisation

☐ Other (please specify)

4. North Coast Regional Water Strategy workshops

Did you attend a North Coast Regional Water Strategy workshop?*

☒ Yes

☐ No

Which workshop location did you attend?

Nambucca Heads.

Submission Form for Aboriginal Communities



Draft Regional Water Strategy – Submission Form

6. Information and modelling used to develop regional water strategies

The North Coast Regional Water Strategy packages the most up to date information and evidence with all the tools we have – cultural, policy, planning, behavioural, regulatory, technology and infrastructure solutions.

We have used the following information to develop the North Coast Regional Water Strategy:

- New climate data
 - Observed historical climate data – recorded rainfall, temperature and evaporation data
 - Paleoclimate data – scientific reconstructed data using sources such as tree rings
 - Climate drivers – key drivers of wet and dry periods
 - Climate change scenarios
- Review of existing studies – to identify drivers and risks for water resource management
- Community engagement
 - Local councils and joint council organisations
 - Aboriginal peak bodies and Aboriginal community groups
 - Review of previous water management consultations.

A. Do you have any comments about the information used to develop this the North Coast Regional Water Strategy? 

B. Please provide details if there is additional information you think we should also consider.

Submission Form for Aboriginal Communities



Draft Regional Water Strategy – Submission Form

B. Please list any other opportunities you would like to see included in the North Coast Regional Water Strategy.

C. Are there any additional opportunities, risks and challenges that we should consider? What options could address these?

8. Draft cultural options for regional water strategies

Draft cultural options for North Coast communities have not been developed and we are keen to hear your views on potential water management options that you consider important for this region. In consultation with local communities in some inland regions we have developed ten (10) cultural options for inclusion in the inland regional water strategies that went on public exhibition in September 2020. Below is a summary of the inland options that may provide a guide to developing options for the North Coast region.

Inland Option Name	Brief Description
1. River Ranger Program	Investigate options to establish an Aboriginal River Ranger Program to assist in maintaining the health and management of rivers and wetlands in the region. This role could be involved in: • pest management (fish and weeds) • remediation and mitigation of impacts on waterways • restocking native fish and vegetation species • protecting and managing riparian zones along waterways.
2. Secure flows for water-dependent cultural sites	This option would consider options for providing regular flows to culturally important sites.
3. Culturally appropriate water knowledge program	Options to develop a culturally appropriate water management program to increase the capacity of Aboriginal people across the region so that they can more effectively participate in negotiations on water management and policy related matters that affect them.

Submission Form for Aboriginal Communities



Draft Regional Water Strategy – Submission Form

B. Are there additional options that we should consider?

9. Option combinations

There may be opportunities to combine options. This is dependent on associated works of options and further assessments and/or legislative, policy and planning changes to ensure they address the risks and challenges identified.

Do you have any thoughts on how any of the ten (10) options could be combined?

10. Other comments

Do you have any other comments about the North Coast Regional Water Strategy?

Submission Form for Aboriginal Communities



Draft Regional Water Strategy – Submission Form

Regional Water Strategies Cultural Options Submission Questionnaire

The Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE) wish to acknowledge and pay their respect to all Traditional Owners and their Nations. The contributions of earlier generations, including the Elders, who have fought for their rights in natural resource management, are also valued and respected.

The NSW Government is taking action to improve the security, reliability, quality and resilience of the state's water resources. The North Coast Regional Water Strategy will deliver healthy and resilient water resources for a liveable and prosperous regional NSW.

Regional water strategies are being developed by the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment and provides an opportunity to re-shape what we are doing in regional water management and chart a path forward.

We have been working with local water utilities, councils, communities, Aboriginal people and other stakeholders to ensure local and traditional knowledge informs draft regional water strategies and that it serves the regional community, including First Nations, the environment and industry.

Your voice is important

We have prepared this draft strategy to continue our discussions with you. We would like to hear your views on:

- the draft strategy overall
- the process we used to develop the strategy
- potential cultural options for the North Coast region
- whether you have any further information that could help us develop cultural options for North Coast communities.

Please provide your feedback in the submission form below and email your completed submission to regionalwater.strategies@dpi.nsw.gov.au or post to Regional Water Strategies, Department of Planning, Industry and Environment, Locked Bag 5022, Parramatta NSW 2124 **by 14 April 2021**.

The questionnaire includes general questions about the regional water strategy including objectives, vision, modelling, and what we have heard so far. It also includes questions regarding the draft cultural options developed for some inland water strategy regions as a starting point for the development of cultural options in the North Coast. The questionnaire also includes personal information questions.

The questionnaire will take approximately 15 minutes to complete and your response can remain anonymous if you wish (see question 1).

Questions marked with an asterisk (*) require an answer.

Submission Form for Aboriginal Communities



Draft Regional Water Strategy – Submission Form

Do you identify as an Aboriginal person?

☒ Yes

☐ No

Which nation(s) do you represent?

Cumbaynggirr

Are you making this submission as an individual or as a representative of an organisation?*

☐ Individual

☒ Organisation

3. Organisation or business details

Who do you represent?

Government (please specify)

☐ Commonwealth

☐ New South Wales

☐ State other

☐ Local

☒ Local Aboriginal Land Council

☐ Local Water Utility

Peak representative organisation (please specify)

☐ Environment

☐ Industry

☐ Business group or business chamber

☐ Community organisation

☐ Other (please specify)

4. North Coast Regional Water Strategy workshops

Did you attend a North Coast Regional Water Strategy workshop?*

☐ Yes

☒ No

Which workshop location did you attend?

Submission Form for Aboriginal Communities



Draft Regional Water Strategy – Submission Form

6. Information and modelling used to develop regional water strategies

The North Coast Regional Water Strategy packages the most up to date information and evidence with all the tools we have – cultural, policy, planning, behavioural, regulatory, technology and infrastructure solutions.

We have used the following information to develop the North Coast Regional Water Strategy:

- New climate data
 - Observed historical climate data – recorded rainfall, temperature and evaporation data
 - Paleoclimate data – scientific reconstructed data using sources such as tree rings
 - Climate drivers – key drivers of wet and dry periods
 - Climate change scenarios
- Review of existing studies – to identify drivers and risks for water resource management
- Community engagement
 - Local councils and joint council organisations
 - Aboriginal peak bodies and Aboriginal community groups
 - Review of previous water management consultations.

A. Do you have any comments about the information used to develop this the North Coast Regional Water Strategy?

NO

B. Please provide details if there is additional information you think we should also consider.

Involve School students to teach them how to be environmentally friendly with ~~the~~ water strategies

Submission Form for Aboriginal Communities



Draft Regional Water Strategy – Submission Form

B. Please list any other opportunities you would like to see included in the North Coast Regional Water Strategy.

Put signage around in ~~necessary~~ ^{necessary} areas to give people the opportunities to deal with water strategy. To help maintain the land and ~~and~~ wildlife

C. Are there any additional opportunities, risks and challenges that we should consider? What options could address these?

~~With~~ with the signs ensure to put down ~~and~~ the ~~hazards~~ hazards and risk so people don't get hurt

8. Draft cultural options for regional water strategies

Draft cultural options for North Coast communities have not been developed and we are keen to hear your views on potential water management options that you consider important for this region. In consultation with local communities in some inland regions we have developed ten (10) cultural options for inclusion in the inland regional water strategies that went on public exhibition in September 2020. Below is a summary of the inland options that may provide a guide to developing options for the North Coast region.

Inland Option Name	Brief Description
1. River Ranger Program	Investigate options to establish an Aboriginal River Ranger Program to assist in maintaining the health and management of rivers and wetlands in the region. This role could be involved in: • pest management (fish and weeds) • remediation and mitigation of impacts on waterways • restocking native fish and vegetation species • protecting and managing riparian zones along waterways.
2. Secure flows for water-dependent cultural sites	This option would consider options for providing regular flows to culturally important sites.
3. Culturally appropriate water knowledge program	Options to develop a culturally appropriate water management program to increase the capacity of Aboriginal people across the region so that they can more effectively participate in negotiations on water management and policy related matters that affect them.

Submission Form for Aboriginal Communities



Draft Regional Water Strategy – Submission Form

B. Are there additional options that we should consider?

~~There are no additional options that we should consider.~~
no

9. Option combinations

There may be opportunities to combine options. This is dependent on associated works of options and further assessments and/or legislative, policy and planning changes to ensure they address the risks and challenges identified.

Do you have any thoughts on how any of the ten (10) options could be combined?

?

10. Other comments

Do you have any other comments about the North Coast Regional Water Strategy?

no

Regional Water Strategies Cultural Options Submission Questionnaire

The Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE) wish to acknowledge and pay their respect to all Traditional Owners and their Nations. The contributions of earlier generations, including the Elders, who have fought for their rights in natural resource management, are also valued and respected.

The NSW Government is taking action to improve the security, reliability, quality and resilience of the state's water resources. The North Coast Regional Water Strategy will deliver healthy and resilient water resources for a liveable and prosperous regional NSW.

Regional water strategies are being developed by the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment and provides an opportunity to re-shape what we are doing in regional water management and chart a path forward.

We have been working with local water utilities, councils, communities, Aboriginal people and other stakeholders to ensure local and traditional knowledge informs draft regional water strategies and that it serves the regional community, including First Nations, the environment and industry.

Your voice is important

We have prepared this draft strategy to continue our discussions with you. We would like to hear your views on:

- the draft strategy overall
- the process we used to develop the strategy
- potential cultural options for the North Coast region
- whether you have any further information that could help us develop cultural options for North Coast communities.

Please provide your feedback in the submission form below and email your completed submission to regionalwater.strategies@dpi.nsw.gov.au or post to Regional Water Strategies, Department of Planning, Industry and Environment, Locked Bag 5022, Parramatta NSW 2124 **by 14 April 2021**.

The questionnaire includes general questions about the regional water strategy including objectives, vision, modelling, and what we have heard so far. It also includes questions regarding the draft cultural options developed for some inland water strategy regions as a starting point for the development of cultural options in the North Coast. The questionnaire also includes personal information questions.

The questionnaire will take approximately 15 minutes to complete and your response can remain anonymous if you wish (see question 1).

Questions marked with an asterisk (*) require an answer.

Submission Form for Aboriginal Communities



Draft Regional Water Strategy – Submission Form

Do you identify as an Aboriginal person?

☒ Yes

☐ No

Which nation(s) do you represent?

Gumbaynggirr / Ngamba

Are you making this submission as an individual or as a representative of an organisation?*

☐ Individual

☐ Organisation

3. Organisation or business details

Who do you represent?

Government (please specify)

Commonwealth

New South Wales

State other

Local

Local Aboriginal Land Council

Local Water Utility

Peak representative organisation (please specify)

Environment

Industry

Business group or business chamber

Community organisation

Other (please specify)

4. North Coast Regional Water Strategy workshops

Did you attend a North Coast Regional Water Strategy workshop?*

☒ Yes

☐ No

Which workshop location did you attend?

NBHD5

Submission Form for Aboriginal Communities



Draft Regional Water Strategy – Submission Form

6. Information and modelling used to develop regional water strategies

The North Coast Regional Water Strategy packages the most up to date information and evidence with all the tools we have – cultural, policy, planning, behavioural, regulatory, technology and infrastructure solutions.

We have used the following information to develop the North Coast Regional Water Strategy:

- New climate data
 - Observed historical climate data – recorded rainfall, temperature and evaporation data
 - Paleoclimate data – scientific reconstructed data using sources such as tree rings
 - Climate drivers – key drivers of wet and dry periods
 - Climate change scenarios
- Review of existing studies – to identify drivers and risks for water resource management
- Community engagement
 - Local councils and joint council organisations
 - Aboriginal peak bodies and Aboriginal community groups
 - Review of previous water management consultations.

A. Do you have any comments about the information used to develop this the North Coast Regional Water Strategy?

No

B. Please provide details if there is additional information you think we should also consider.

- Cultural River Ranges as employment.
 - Diving cleaning, Removing Rubbish from estuaries
 - Bush, Riverbank regeneration
 - Threatened species regeneration
 - Mangrove restoration.
- Youth River program
- Cultural tours of Nambucca River

Submission Form for Aboriginal Communities



Draft Regional Water Strategy – Submission Form

B. Please list any other opportunities you would like to see included in the North Coast Regional Water Strategy.

C. Are there any additional opportunities, risks and challenges that we should consider? What options could address these?

8. Draft cultural options for regional water strategies

Draft cultural options for North Coast communities have not been developed and we are keen to hear your views on potential water management options that you consider important for this region. In consultation with local communities in some inland regions we have developed ten (10) cultural options for inclusion in the inland regional water strategies that went on public exhibition in September 2020. Below is a summary of the inland options that may provide a guide to developing options for the North Coast region.

Inland Option Name	Brief Description
1. River Ranger Program	Investigate options to establish an Aboriginal River Ranger Program to assist in maintaining the health and management of rivers and wetlands in the region. This role could be involved in: • pest management (fish and weeds) • remediation and mitigation of impacts on waterways • restocking native fish and vegetation species • protecting and managing riparian zones along waterways.
2. Secure flows for water-dependent cultural sites	This option would consider options for providing regular flows to culturally important sites.
3. Culturally appropriate water knowledge program	Options to develop a culturally appropriate water management program to increase the capacity of Aboriginal people across the region so that they can more effectively participate in negotiations on water management and policy related matters that affect them.

Submission Form for Aboriginal Communities



Draft Regional Water Strategy – Submission Form

B. Are there additional options that we should consider?

9. Option combinations

There may be opportunities to combine options. This is dependent on associated works of options and further assessments and/or legislative, policy and planning changes to ensure they address the risks and challenges identified.

Do you have any thoughts on how any of the ten (10) options could be combined?

10. Other comments

Do you have any other comments about the North Coast Regional Water Strategy?

Submission Form for Aboriginal Communities



Draft Regional Water Strategy – Submission Form

Regional Water Strategies Cultural Options Submission Questionnaire

The Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE) wish to acknowledge and pay their respect to all Traditional Owners and their Nations. The contributions of earlier generations, including the Elders, who have fought for their rights in natural resource management, are also valued and respected.

The NSW Government is taking action to improve the security, reliability, quality and resilience of the state's water resources. The North Coast Regional Water Strategy will deliver healthy and resilient water resources for a liveable and prosperous regional NSW.

Regional water strategies are being developed by the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment and provides an opportunity to re-shape what we are doing in regional water management and chart a path forward.

We have been working with local water utilities, councils, communities, Aboriginal people and other stakeholders to ensure local and traditional knowledge informs draft regional water strategies and that it serves the regional community, including First Nations, the environment and industry.

Your voice is important

We have prepared this draft strategy to continue our discussions with you. We would like to hear your views on:

- the draft strategy overall
- the process we used to develop the strategy
- potential cultural options for the North Coast region
- whether you have any further information that could help us develop cultural options for North Coast communities.

Please provide your feedback in the submission form below and email your completed submission to regionalwater.strategies@dpi.nsw.gov.au or post to Regional Water Strategies, Department of Planning, Industry and Environment, Locked Bag 5022, Parramatta NSW 2124 **by 14 April 2021**.

The questionnaire includes general questions about the regional water strategy including objectives, vision, modelling, and what we have heard so far. It also includes questions regarding the draft cultural options developed for some inland water strategy regions as a starting point for the development of cultural options in the North Coast. The questionnaire also includes personal information questions.

The questionnaire will take approximately 15 minutes to complete and your response can remain anonymous if you wish (see question 1).

Questions marked with an asterisk (*) require an answer.

Submission Form for Aboriginal Communities



Draft Regional Water Strategy – Submission Form

Do you identify as an Aboriginal person?

☒ Yes

☐ No

Which nation(s) do you represent?

Gumbaynggirr

Are you making this submission as an individual or as a representative of an organisation?*

☒ Individual

☐ Organisation

3. Organisation or business details

Who do you represent?

Government (please specify)

☐ Commonwealth

☐ New South Wales

☐ State other

☐ Local

☒ Local Aboriginal Land Council

☐ Local Water Utility

Peak representative organisation (please specify)

☐ Environment

☐ Industry

☐ Business group or business chamber

☐ Community organisation

☐ Other (please specify)

4. North Coast Regional Water Strategy workshops

Did you attend a North Coast Regional Water Strategy workshop?*

☒ Yes

☐ No

Which workshop location did you attend?

Submission Form for Aboriginal Communities



Draft Regional Water Strategy – Submission Form

6. Information and modelling used to develop regional water strategies

The North Coast Regional Water Strategy packages the most up to date information and evidence with all the tools we have – cultural, policy, planning, behavioural, regulatory, technology and infrastructure solutions.

We have used the following information to develop the North Coast Regional Water Strategy:

- New climate data
 - Observed historical climate data – recorded rainfall, temperature and evaporation data
 - Paleoclimate data – scientific reconstructed data using sources such as tree rings
 - Climate drivers – key drivers of wet and dry periods
 - Climate change scenarios
- Review of existing studies – to identify drivers and risks for water resource management
- Community engagement
 - Local councils and joint council organisations
 - Aboriginal peak bodies and Aboriginal community groups
 - Review of previous water management consultations.

A. Do you have any comments about the information used to develop this the North Coast Regional Water Strategy?

B. Please provide details if there is additional information you think we should also consider.

Submission Form for Aboriginal Communities



Draft Regional Water Strategy – Submission Form

B. Please list any other opportunities you would like to see included in the North Coast Regional Water Strategy.

C. Are there any additional opportunities, risks and challenges that we should consider? What options could address these?

8. Draft cultural options for regional water strategies

Draft cultural options for North Coast communities have not been developed and we are keen to hear your views on potential water management options that you consider important for this region. In consultation with local communities in some inland regions we have developed ten (10) cultural options for inclusion in the inland regional water strategies that went on public exhibition in September 2020. Below is a summary of the inland options that may provide a guide to developing options for the North Coast region.

Inland Option Name	Brief Description
1. River Ranger Program	Investigate options to establish an Aboriginal River Ranger Program to assist in maintaining the health and management of rivers and wetlands in the region. This role could be involved in: • pest management (fish and weeds) • remediation and mitigation of impacts on waterways • restocking native fish and vegetation species • protecting and managing riparian zones along waterways.
2. Secure flows for water-dependent cultural sites	This option would consider options for providing regular flows to culturally important sites.
3. Culturally appropriate water knowledge program	Options to develop a culturally appropriate water management program to increase the capacity of Aboriginal people across the region so that they can more effectively participate in negotiations on water management and policy related matters that affect them.

Submission Form for Aboriginal Communities



Draft Regional Water Strategy – Submission Form

B. Are there additional options that we should consider?

9. Option combinations

There may be opportunities to combine options. This is dependent on associated works of options and further assessments and/or legislative, policy and planning changes to ensure they address the risks and challenges identified.

Do you have any thoughts on how any of the ten (10) options could be combined?

10. Other comments

Do you have any other comments about the North Coast Regional Water Strategy?

Need better ways of monitoring how much water someone can take out of the river. Permanent fixtures ~~down~~ at the pipe and down river which show the limits in terms of depth of the river.