



**WATER**  
**Northern**  
**Rivers**  
ALLIANCE

WATER SECURITY = DIVERSE SOURCES

# Protect The Channon Gorge!

By Supporting Revised Rous Water Plan

Hurry, Submission Deadline May 28th

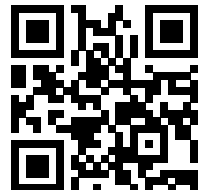
SUBMIT YOUR FEEDBACK  
INSTANTLY TODAY

Let's

**STOP**

**THE DUNOON DAM**

for good this time!



Find out more at: [waternorthernrivers.org](http://waternorthernrivers.org)

# The Northern Rivers Needs a Sustainable and Diverse Water System

*ROUS County Council has recently released its Revised Future Water Project 2060. It proposes a diverse mix of water options & strategies to ensure long-term water security for the region.*

You have until **May 28th** to have your say. Say **YES to Rous Water's strategy** to invest in 21st century water security with a diversity of water sources. **Say NO to the destructive Dunoon Dam!**

During 2018-2020 the Far North Coast experienced its longest dry period on record Rocky Creek Dam was 60.7% full. Our region is the least likely in the state to need another dam. The predicted cost of the Dunoon dam is more than \$245 million. This is an underestimate. NSW infrastructure costs are notorious for blowing out (WestConnex, City Light Rail)

## Rous Revised Future Water 2060 Project Includes:

- ✓ Increased System Efficiency/water loss mgt
- ✓ increased use of recycled water
- ✓ A pilot scheme implementing purified recycled water (PRW) for drinking
- ✓ Enhanced Demand Management
- ✓ Improved long term drought mgt planning
- ✓ Sustainable Groundwater harvesting
- ✓ Investigation into Desalination

## THESE STRATEGIES WILL:



### Increase drought resilience

with contingency plans in a rapidly changing climate, where relying on rainfall-dependent options becomes high risk.



### Stop destruction of rare rainforest,

including 6.7% of the remaining 1% of the Big Scrub. Save koala and platypus habitat, crucial to preventing their extinction.



### Protect important cultural heritage

The burial sites that would be drowned have been verified by Rous engaged archaeologists as ancient and are of the utmost sacred and cultural importance to the Widjabul Wia-bal people. The Elders and Widjabul Wia-bal Traditional Owners have repeatedly said NO to Dunoon Dam proposal. Listen, respect and support!

## Diverse Water Sources is the way to go

By focusing on system efficiency & fixing infrastructure leaks, Sydney added nearly 1 million people to its water supply without increasing water usage.

Only 2% of the Rous supply for domestic use is used for drinking, the rest is down the toilet, showering, washing, gardens, cars etc.

17% of Rocky Creek dam water allocated by Rous to councils is unaccounted for. Why?

A new dam would predominantly supply projected coastal development - at what cost & who pays?

Diverse water sources bring a wide range of ongoing jobs and innovative technologies to the area. Lets see this region leading the way with progressive water solutions, becoming a hub for innovative technologies.

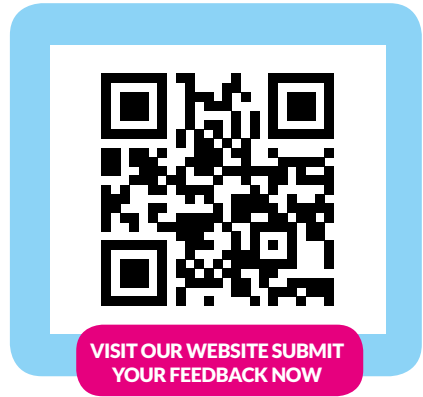
## Water recycling / reuse is already being implemented in our region... it can be expanded.

For example the Ballina - Lennox Head Recycled Water Master Plan aims to re-use 80% recycled water by 2050 for irrigation of sports fields, parks & open spaces, toilets, washing machines & gardens, thereby preserving our supply of drinking water during drought. Their purple pipe system delivers high quality recycled water to new residential blocks & aims to limit release of waste water into waterways & oceans.

See [www.ballinawater.com.au](http://www.ballinawater.com.au) for detailed information about water recycling, how it is treated and used, and safety & regulation.

## What you can do?

**Give feedback in support of Rous's Revised Future Water plan 2060 before 28th may 2021:**



**Or send your email/submission to:**  
[council@rous.nsw.gov.au](mailto:council@rous.nsw.gov.au)

**Write to: General Manager, Rous County**  
Council PO Box 230, Lismore 2480)  
Include Subject:  
Revised Future Water Project 2060

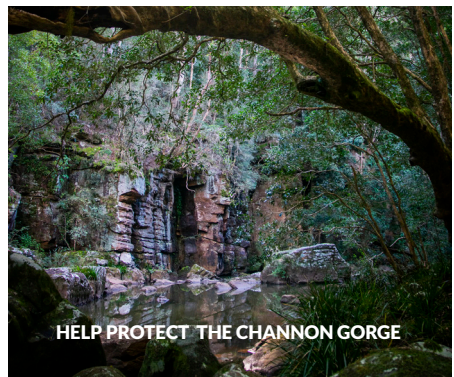
### **Suggested comment :**

I support diversifying water sources & stopping the proposed Dunoon Dam as per the Revised Future Water Project 2060.

**MAKE SURE YOU** Include your name & address

For example submission & guide go to:

[www.waternorthernrivers.org](http://www.waternorthernrivers.org)







## No need for a new dam we already have Rocky Creek Dam

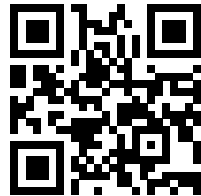
It would be sufficient with the addition of the proposed diverse sources and strategies to provide all our water needs. If Dunoon Dam were to be returned to the mix it is unlikely there would be either the will or funds to develop other strategies, and this would risk our future water resilience.

**ALL OUR EGGS WOULD BE IN ONE DAM BASKET!**



**Stop the Dunoon Dam and help protect our iconic Australian wildlife!**

Cover Photo: The Channon Gorge from above - Balloon Aloft, Byron Bay  
Photo: Widjabul Wia-bal - T. Nicholson  
Photo: The Channon Gorge - D.Lowe  
Photo: Platypus - Parer & Parer-Cook. Koala - H. Nicholson



Find out more at: [waternorthernrivers.org](http://waternorthernrivers.org)