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**NSW ignores responsibilities for wetlands, native fish and western communities**

Inland Rivers Network has major concerns that the NSW Government is turning its back on native fish, waterbirds, wetlands and downstream communities by proposing new large dams with no impact assessment.

“We urge NSW to recognise its commitment to national and international agreements that support fair water sharing and protection for key wetland areas in the state”, president Bev Smiles said.

“The proposal to fast track three new large dam proposals will increase the environmental damage to rivers, wetlands, native fish, waterbirds and communities in far western NSW”.

“The Dungowan and Mole River dam proposals are on rivers that feed downstream into the Barwon-Darling River. This river system is already suffering an ecological and social crisis.”

“The raising of Wyangala Dam, on the Lachlan River, will further threaten the ecologically significant Booligal Wetlands and Great Cumbung Swamp. These wetland areas provide important breeding sites for waterbirds protected under international treaties.”

“Raising Wyangala Dam will also threaten downstream communities like Lake Cagelligo and farming communities at the end of the Lachlan system.

“Dams just reallocate water sharing away from downstream environments and communities and remove their water security.”

“It is irresponsible of the NSW Government to leave far western communities and environments stranded by walking away from due planning process and adequate impact assessment.”

**Contact Bev Smiles 0428 817 282**