Department of Primary Industries
Office of Water

Media Release

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Aboriginal water management workshops on the north coast

The NSW Office of Water is holding a series of community workshops on the north coast of NSW in August to encourage Aboriginal communities to get involved in water management.

NSW Office of Water Commissioner, David Harriss, said that the Aboriginal Water Initiative (AWI) program is focussed on developing effective regional engagement with Aboriginal communities.

“With the assistance of local Aboriginal communities, we can develop water sharing plans which focus on environmental, social, cultural and economic opportunities and priorities,” Mr Harriss said.

“The AWI program is a part of the NSW Government’s plan that recognises the importance of Aboriginal culture and heritage and the need to identify and protect significant water dependent values.”

“The workshops are an opportunity for Aboriginal communities to be increasingly involved in water management that will contribute to better social and cultural outcomes for regional NSW.”

The next round of workshops being held on the NSW north coast will be:-

- **19th August - Malabugilmah LALC**

Location: Janangalee Community
Venue: Malabugilmah LALC Office.
Time: 9:30am to 3:00pm

- **20th August - Tweed Byron LALC**

Location: Brunswick Heads
Venue: Brunswick Valley Community Centre, South Beach Rd, Brunswick Heads.
Time: 6:00pm to 9:00pm
Dinner will be provided

- **21st August -** Birrigan Gargle LALC .

Location: Yamba
Venue: Birigan Gargle Community Hall.
Time: 9:30am to 3:00pm

- **22nd August - Yaegle LALC**

Location: Maclean
Venue: Yaegle LALC Community Hall, Jubilee St, Hillcrest, Maclean
Time: 9:30am to 3:00pm

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- **23rd August -** Nageri LALC.

Location: Grafton
Venue Grafton District Services Club - Cnr Mary & Fry Street Grafton
Time: 9:30am to 3:00pm

- **24th August -** Baryugil Square LALC

Location: Baryugil
Venue: Baryugil Square LALC Office, Baryugil Via Grafton.
Time: 9:30am to 3:00pm

"Aboriginal community consultation workshops have been held throughout northern and southern coastal NSW, commencing in February this year."

"These workshops follow on from a number of successful information sessions, briefings and field trips that have previously been conducted in different parts of NSW," said Mr Harriss.

For information on the Aboriginal Water Initiative Program and the community workshops visit the NSW Office of Water website http://www.water.nsw.gov.au/Water-management/Water-sharing-plans/Aboriginal-Water-Initiative/Aboriginal-community-consultation-workshops

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