



# Blue Mountains Conservation Society Inc

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**Nature Conservation Saves for Tomorrow**

3 July 2026

Ms Trish Doyle MP  
Suite 6, 5 Raymond Rd  
SPRINGWOOD NSW 2777

Email: [bluemountains@parliament.nsw.gov.au](mailto:bluemountains@parliament.nsw.gov.au)

## **Support for the Water NSW Amendment (Warragamba Dam) Bill 2026**

Dear Trish,

The Blue Mountains Conservation Society (the Society) is a community volunteer organisation which has been in existence for over 60 years and has over 900 members. The Society's aim is to help conserve the natural environment of the Blue Mountains and to increase awareness of the natural environment in general.

The Blue Mountains Conservation Society is writing to you as our local representative and as the Parliamentary Secretary for Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Heritage. We urge your support for the *Water NSW Amendment (Warragamba Dam) Bill 2026*, which was introduced by Dr Judy Hannan MP on 19 March 2026.

As you are aware, the Society has long opposed the proposal to raise the Warragamba Dam wall. Our opposition is based on the irreversible damage that temporary inundation would cause to the Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Area and the Blue Mountains National Park. Such an action would destroy critical habitat for threatened species, drown culturally significant First Nations cultural heritage sites and jeopardise the international standing of our World Heritage Area.

This Bill provides a legislative solution that balances downstream safety with environmental preservation. The Society seeks your assistance in ensuring this Bill is passed within the current year.

We support the following objectives of the Bill:

1. **Restoring protection of the National Park:** The Bill repeals the 2018 amendments to the *Water NSW Act 2014* that currently allow for the flooding of National Park and World Heritage land. Removing these provisions is essential to ensure these areas are managed for conservation, as intended under the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974*.
2. **Flood mitigation:** The Bill authorises Water NSW to use the existing dam for flood mitigation by creating airspace to capture floodwaters. The Bill ensures that flood mitigation operations can occur despite any conflicting water licence requirements or obligations to maintain a full supply level. This removes any administrative barrier that prevents the dam from being used to protect residents living in the Hawkesbury–Nepean valley in its current configuration.

We believe that by supporting this Bill, the Government can provide immediate flood relief to downstream communities without the environmental destruction associated with raising the dam wall.

I include a copy of the letter we wrote to incoming Water Minister, Rose Jackson in May 2023 outlining a number of measures we asked her to implement in relation to the raising of Warragamba Dam. This Bill delivers two of those measures.

As an advocate for the World Heritage area, your leadership on this issue is critical. We ask that you work with Dr Judy Hannan, MP, to champion this Bill within the Government to ensure it is passed during the term of this parliamentary.

Yours sincerely



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