

2017/18 WANDRRA ELIGIBLE DISASTER PROCLAMATION NOTIFICATION

AGRN821 FLOODING IN THE GASCOYNE CATCHMENT (JUNE 2018).

The above event has been proclaimed an *eligible disaster* under the Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements Western Australia (WANDRRA) on 7 September 2018, pursuant to the definition as shown in the Natural Disaster Relief and Recovery Arrangements (NDRRA) Determination 2017, issued by the Commonwealth Government Department of Home Affairs. The State Government will provide immediate financial assistance to those people who have been affected through joint State and Commonwealth disaster relief and recovery arrangements.

The Gascoyne catchment experienced heavy rainfall throughout the month of June which resulted in areas of flooding across the catchment. Inundation and flooding of low lying areas continued as river levels fluctuated.

The Gascoyne and Lyons rivers were significantly affected and Bureau of Meteorology records indicate rainfall levels range from 20mm to 107mm throughout the area.

Pursuant to subclause 1.1.1 of the 2017 NDRRA *determination*, 'Flood' is deemed an eligible *natural disaster* event.

For the purposes of the WANDRRA this event will be referred to as '***AGRN821 Flooding in the Gascoyne catchment (June 2018)***'.

WANDRRA is jointly funded by the State and Commonwealth Governments and administered by the Dept. of Fire and Emergency Services, with assistance from other agencies. Through WANDRRA, the Western Australian and Commonwealth Governments provide assistance to communities who have suffered the direct impact of a proclaimed natural disaster event.

The Local Government district currently subject to this proclamation is:

- Shire of Upper Gascoyne

If information becomes available that identifies other local government districts as potentially having been directly impacted by this natural disaster event, subject to further assessment these local government districts may, at a later date, be included in the affected area.

The eligible costs for this event are anticipated to be largely associated with the restoration and replacement of the road network infrastructure.

Assistance may be available for the following measures (*where appropriate*) typically covered by the WANDRRA:

- **For individuals and families** – Personal Hardship and Distress grants which are administered by the Department of Communities (Child Protection and Family Support Section). Potential measures include emergency food, accommodation, clothing, temporary living expenses, replacement of essential household contents and housing repairs to return housing to a habitable, safe and secure condition. **Note – some of these measures are subject to income and/or assets testing.**
- **For small businesses** – interest rate subsidies on 'new' loans approved by Authorised Deposit-taking Institutions.
- **For Primary Producers** – Assistance may be available toward freight costs, materials for boundary fences (***only where it is demonstrated that public safety is at risk***), professional advice grants and interest rate subsidies on 'new' loans approved by Authorised Deposit-taking

Institutions. These *eligible measures* are administered by the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development, Agriculture and Food (Rural Business and Development Unit).

Note – Primary Producer Claims should be lodged before (10 March 2019).

- **For Local Governments & State Government Agencies** – Clean-up costs and the restoration or replacement (to pre-disaster standard) of *essential public assets* including local road damage. State road damage is also included through Main Roads Western Australia. Only costs incurred that are 'additional' costs, and are directly related to the event, will be eligible for reimbursement.

Note - The *allowable time limit* for eligible claims expires on 30 June 2020.

Claims in respect of any other *eligible measures* may also be considered.

It should be noted that assistance under the WANDRRA is not designed to supplant, or operate as a disincentive for self-help by way of commercial insurance.

Primary Contacts

Primary contacts for assistance/advice are:

- Department of Communities, Emergency Services (Child Protection and Family Support) by phone on 1800 032 965, or via website [here](#);
- Local Government – Main Roads Western Australia regional offices for road infrastructure via website [here](#);
- Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (Agriculture and Food) Rural Business Development Unit, by phone on 1800 198 231 or via website [here](#); and
- Other enquiries may be directed to the Dept. of Fire and Emergency Services - contact (WANDRRA Administrators) by phone on 9395 9973 or 9395 9341, or via email WANDRRA@dfes.wa.gov.au

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