



## 2013/14 WANDRRA ELIGIBLE DISASTER PROCLAMATION NOTIFICATION

### *Storm Southwest Land Division (22 – 24 September 2013)*

The above event has been proclaimed an *eligible disaster* under the Western Australia Natural Disaster Relief and Recovery Arrangements (WANDRRA), and pursuant to Section 4.2 of the Natural Disaster Relief and Recovery Arrangements Determination 2012 Version 1, issued by the Commonwealth Government Attorney-General. 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.

A series of strong cold fronts, associated with a deep, complex low pressure system, affected the Southwest Land Division from early Sunday September 22 until Tuesday September 24. Severe weather was initially experienced in the early hours of the 24th with a peak wind gust of 79 knots (146km/h) at Cape Leeuwin as the initial cold front moved over the southwest of the state.

The second, and strongest, cold front moved over the southwest region in the early hours of Monday the 23rd. This front was associated with a low that was analysed as low as 959hPa. Widespread damaging winds were experienced over the SWLD with severe gusts recorded at many locations.

Severe gusts continued to be recorded the following day as the strong pressure gradient over the southwest was maintained.

Pursuant to Section 2.1.1 of the NDRRA Determination 2012 Version 1, 'storm' is deemed to be eligible *natural disaster* event. For the purposes of the Western Australia Natural Disaster Relief and Recovery Arrangements (WANDRRA) this event will be referred to as '*Storm Southwest Land Division (22 – 24 September 2013)*'.

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

The Local Government districts subject to this proclamation are as follows:

- City of Busselton
- Shire of Nannup
- Shire of Augusta-Margaret River
- Shire of Harvey
- Shire of Capel
- Shire of Manjimup
- Shire of Donnybrook - Balingup
- Shire of Murray
- City of Melville
- City of Belmont
- Shire of Boyup Brook
- Shire of Bridgetown - Greenbushes
- Shire of Collie

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

Assistance under this proclamation is available in respect of the cost of the restoration and/or replacement (to pre-disaster standard) of certain essential public assets which would include the local and state road network infrastructure in the Local Government districts listed above.

Consideration may be given to proposals involving the *betterment* of roads to a more disaster-resilient standard than its pre-disaster standard.

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 for Child Protection and Family Support (CPFS). 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 Agriculture and Food. **Important Note** - The *allowable time limit* for eligible claims expires on 02 April 2014.
- **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 (MRWA). Only costs incurred that are ‘additional’ costs, and are directly related to the event, will be eligible for reimbursement. **Important Note** - The *allowable time limit* for eligible claims expires on 30 June 2016.

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 for Child Protection and Family Support, by phone on 6552 5058 or 1800 032 965, or via website [here](#);
- Local Government – Main Roads Western Australia regional offices for road infrastructure via website [here](#);
- Department of Agriculture and Food, Rural Business Development, by phone on 1800 198 231 or via website [here](#); and



Australian Government

Attorney-General's Department

- Other enquiries may be directed to the Department of Fire and Emergency Services - contact (WANDRRA Administrator) by phone on 9395 9404, or by email to - [wandrra@dfes.wa.gov.au](mailto:wandrra@dfes.wa.gov.au)

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