



## **2013/14 WANDRRA ELIGIBLE DISASTER PROCLAMATION NOTIFICATION**

### ***Surface Trough and Associated Flooding (26 April 2014)***

The above event has been proclaimed an *eligible disaster* under the Western Australia Natural Disaster Relief and Recovery Arrangements (WANDRRA) on 2 May, 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.

On 26 April 2014, a heavy rainfall event was caused by the passage of a surface trough over the west of the State. According to the Bureau of Meteorology, this particular trough drew in a vast amount of tropical moisture that was concentrated over the Northwest Cape Region. The heavier rain commenced in the early hours of the 26<sup>th</sup> and persisted for much of this day.

As a result, the areas most affected by the event were the Northwest Cape Region in the western Pilbara District, and parts of the Gascoyne district. Preliminary data suggests the highest 24-hour rainfall was observed at the AIMS observation site at Ningaloo Reef where 237.7mm fell in the 24-hour period to 9am on 27 April, although anecdotal evidence suggests that as much as 400mm may have fallen in the Cape Range area to the West of Exmouth. Exmouth recorded 206mm in the 24-hour period to 9am on 27 April.

Pursuant to Section 2.1.1 of the NDRRA Determination 2012 Version 1, 'flood' 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 '***Surface Trough and Associated Flooding (26 April 2014)***'.

WANDRRA is jointly funded by the State and Commonwealth Governments and administered by the Department of the Premier and Cabinet (DPC), 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:

- Shire of Ashburton
- Shire of Murchison
- Shire of Exmouth
- Shire of Yalgoo
- City of Greater-Geraldton

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 essential public assets, mainly the local and state road network infrastructure. It is expected that considerable costs may also be incurred for counter disaster operations type activities including clean-up of local and state government owned property.

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** - Claims should be lodged before 2 November 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 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



Government of **Western Australia**  
Department of the **Premier and Cabinet**



Australian Government

Attorney-General's Department

- Other enquiries may be directed to the Department of the Premier and Cabinet - contact (WANDRRA Administrator) by phone on 6552 5088 or 6552 6250, or by email to – [WANDRRA@dpc.wa.gov.au](mailto:WANDRRA@dpc.wa.gov.au) END