

# Ian Macdonald

Minister for Primary Industries  
Minister for Mineral Resources  
Minister for State Development



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Monday, 14 September, 2009

## **Government assistance deadline extended for north coast floods**

The time allowed for production of tax invoices or receipts for approved Natural Disaster Relief and Recovery Assistance grants for farmers and small businesses affected by floods has been extended until 30 November, NSW Minister for Primary Industries, Ian Macdonald, announced today.

“This extension is in response to concerns expressed by those affected by the mid north coast storms earlier this year,” Minister Macdonald said.

“Many farmers have been severely impacted by three successive floods over a short time, leaving much of the land sodden and unable to be repaired by the previous deadline.

“In some cases attempting repairs within the previous deadline would have caused further damage, so the NSW Government has extended the deadline.

“Successful applicants now have until 30 November this year to supply the required receipts or tax invoices for the repair of landslips, dams, roads and other necessary restoration works to the NSW Rural Assistance Authority.”

Small business operators and primary producers located in a declared natural disaster area following the March, April and May 2009 flood events may be eligible for grants of up to \$15,000.

Applications for assistance must be lodged with a quote or estimate of the cost of repairs to the NSW Rural Assistance Authority prior to the cut-off date of 30 September 2009.

“The Authority will assess the general eligibility and advise successful applicants of an ‘approval in principle’ in writing,” Mr Macdonald said.

“Payment, however, will only occur on subsequent production of tax invoices or receipts on or before 30 November 2009.

“This constant involvement with people and their communities once again demonstrates this Government's commitment to supporting those in need as a result of these devastating events.”

For further information, or to apply for assistance under the Natural Disaster Relief and Recovery Assistance please call the NSW Rural Assistance Authority on 1800 678 593 or visit the website [www.raa.nsw.gov.au](http://www.raa.nsw.gov.au)

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