

HELP FOR FLOOD AFFECTED COMMUNITIES

APRIL 2012

www.dpi.nsw.gov.au

DISCLAIMER

The information contained in this publication is based on knowledge and understanding at the time of writing (April 2012). However, because of advances in knowledge, users are reminded of the need to ensure that information on which they rely is up to date and to check the currency of the information with the appropriate officer of the Department of Primary Industries or the user's independent advisor.

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NSW DPI FACTSHEET

Heavy rain and flooding impacted vast areas of NSW throughout 2012, including major river systems in the north west, far west, central west, south east and south west.

WHAT IS NSW DEPARTMENT OF PRIMARY INDUSTRIES DOING?

NSW Department of Primary Industries (NSW DPI) works closely with State Emergency Services and Livestock Health and Pest Authorities (LHPA) to coordinate response measures and assist affected farmers.

NSW DPI is responsible for coordinating animal welfare relief services for livestock, wildlife and companion animals. Staff with emergency management expertise oversee planning and lead relief programs at both the district and local levels.

WHAT HELP IS ON OFFER?

Farmers in need of immediate assistance should call the **SES hotline on 132 500**.

As a result of the severe flooding and heavy rain, a number of local government areas have been declared natural disaster zones. A range of assistance measures, including low interest loans and transport subsidies, are available for affected communities. A full list of declared areas and further information on assistance measures is available at: www.emergency.nsw.gov.au

WHERE DO I GO FOR ASSISTANCE AND FOR FURTHER INFORMATION?

In life-threatening emergencies call 000.

For **emergency help** in floods call the **SES on 132 500**.

Visit www.bom.gov.au for the latest flood warnings and river levels.

The NSW and Federal Governments have triggered the **Natural Disaster Relief and Recovery Arrangements (NDRRA)**, making available clean-up and recovery grants of up to \$15,000 for eligible primary producers and small businesses in a number of areas. Farmers and small businesses should contact the **Rural Assistance Authority on 1800 678 593** for further information.

Contact the **NSW Rural Assistance Authority** for information on financial disaster relief and assistance measures – www.raa.nsw.gov.au or **1800 678 593**.

For further information on what to do in a flood and how to prepare, access **FloodSafe information and resources** at: www.ses.nsw.gov.au

Visit NSW DPI's **flood website** (www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/agriculture/emergency/flood) for information on: readying farm operations; helping your animals and livestock during a flood; and animal health and weed issues following a flood.

WHERE CAN I REPORT FLOOD DAMAGE?

To assist authorities determine damage and assess potential support measures, farmers are encouraged to **report damage to NSW DPI on 1800 814 647 or damage.report@dpi.nsw.gov.au**. Flood damage can include stock and fodder losses, and damage to crops, pastures, fencing and other farm infrastructure.



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