



## AQUACULTURE INDUSTRY ASSISTANCE

# NSW East Coast Storms and Floods

June 2016

### Declared Natural Disaster areas with loan assistance available

Storms and Flooding on the weekend of the 4th and 5th of June 2016 in the local government areas of Bega, Blacktown, Byron, Camden, Campbelltown, Canterbury-Bankstown, Central Coast, City of Sydney, Coffs Harbour, Eurobodalla, Fairfield, Hornsby, Inner West, Kiama, Ku-ring-gai, Lane Cove, Lismore, Liverpool, Maitland, Northern Beaches, Parramatta, Penrith, Port Macquarie-Hastings, Queanbeyan-Palerang, Randwick, Ryde, Shellharbour, Shoalhaven, Sutherland, The Hills, Tweed, Waverley, Willoughby, Wingecarribee, Wollondilly, Wollongong, Woollahra.

#### *For information on loan assistance see*

<http://www.raa.nsw.gov.au/assistance/natural-disaster-relief/loans>

#### *For general information on NSW DPI flood assistance see*

<http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/agriculture/emergency/flood>

## NSW DPI Fisheries

### Payment schedule

If an aquaculture permit holder or lease holder is experiencing financial hardship and is unable to meet their payment obligations with NSW DPI, please contact an Aquaculture Officer on 02 4982 1232 to discuss the option of a payment schedule, involving regular monthly instalments over a specified period.

### Debt Waiver

Given the severity of the impact to their estuaries, Shoalhaven/Crookhaven and Clyde estuary oyster permit holders and Twofold Bay mussel growers can apply for a NSW DPI Fisheries Debt Waiver (annual fees and charges) on the basis of financial hardship. The applications are assessed against the following criteria:

- Applicants must be a current aquaculture permit holder.
- Prior to the event, applicants must have had a minimum annual (gross) income of \$37,000 which was directly attributed to their aquaculture business. This minimum income is calculated as an average over the last three consecutive years and should be verified by copies of income tax assessments. New entrants must have had a minimum gross income of \$37,000 from at least their first or second year.
- For the financial year prior to the event, at least 50% of the applicant's total gross income (including spouse's income) must have been derived from the aquaculture business.
- An assessment of income and available funds.

*For application forms contact Aquaculture Administration on 02 4982 1232*

## NSW Food Authority

The NSW Food Authority will waive State Program fees for permit holders who qualify for a NSW DPI Fisheries debt waiver.

## Compliance

If you have outstanding compliance notices or a work plan and cannot meet your deadlines then speak to your local Fisheries Officers.

## Farm Household Support payment

The most immediate option of financial support would be the Farm Household Support payment available through Department of Human Services (Centrelink).

Farm Household Support provides help for farmers and their families experiencing financial hardship. There are various eligibility criteria and it is best for people to talk directly with the local Farm Household Support officer, Jon Forrest.

### North Coast

Jon Forrest  
Ph: 02 65924246  
Mobile: 0427 153 674  
Email: [jon.forrest@humanservices.gov.au](mailto:jon.forrest@humanservices.gov.au)

### South Coast

Sue Riley  
Ph: 02 69373367  
Mobile: 0457 501 951  
Email: [susanne.riley@humanservices.gov.au](mailto:susanne.riley@humanservices.gov.au)

## NSW Rural Financial Counselling Service

The NSW Financial Rural Counselling Service is a free and confidential service which provides impartial assistance to primary producers, fishers and small rural businesses who are suffering financial hardship. The service provides information on financial position, budgets and submitting applications for Government support and negotiations with financiers.

### North Coast

Andrew Ellem  
Phone: 6551 5879  
Mobile: 0448 035 143  
Email: [andrew.ellem@rfcsnsw-northernregion.org](mailto:andrew.ellem@rfcsnsw-northernregion.org)

### South Coast

Peter Muirhead  
Phone: 6452 5059  
Mobile: 0447 467 964  
Email: [PMuirhead@rfcsnsw-sr.com.au](mailto:PMuirhead@rfcsnsw-sr.com.au)

## Rural Resilience Program

The Rural Resilience Program can help with many levels of support as outlined on the department's website with the contact person being Liane Corocher, Senior Rural Resilience Officer or Ted O'Kane.

Liane Corocher  
Phone: 4939 8941  
Mobile: 0427 188 643  
Email: [liane.corocher@dpi.nsw.gov.au](mailto:liane.corocher@dpi.nsw.gov.au)

Ted O'Kane  
Phone: 4824 3733  
Mobile: 0427 781 514  
Email: [ted.o'kane@dpi.nsw.gov.au](mailto:ted.o'kane@dpi.nsw.gov.au)

### For information on the rural resilience program

<http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/aboutus/services/assistance/rural-resilience-program>

## Local Land Services Annual Rates

Ratepayers having financial difficulties may apply for a payment plan if annual Local Land Services Rates have not already been paid.

---

© State of New South Wales through the Department of Industry, Skills and Regional Development, 2016. You may copy, distribute and otherwise freely deal with this publication for any purpose, provided that you attribute the NSW Department of Primary Industries as the owner.

Disclaimer: The information contained in this publication is based on knowledge and understanding at the time of writing (June 2016). However, because of advances in knowledge, users are reminded of the need to ensure that information upon which they rely is up to date and to check currency of the information with the appropriate officer of the Department of Primary Industries or the user's independent adviser.

Published by the Department of Primary Industries.

**INT16/66152**