

12 March 2025

Natural Disaster Assistance Reference Guide for Primary Producers

The impact of natural disasters can affect primary producers beyond their own resilience levels, requiring assistance to recover personally and financially.

NSW Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (NSW DPIRD) and Local Land Services (LLS) coordinate and provide assistance, resources and advice to landholders and primary producers including commercial fishers, Aqua culturists, foresters and other industries impacted by a declared natural disaster event.

Visit <https://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/emergencies/floods> or <https://www.lls.nsw.gov.au/help-and-advice/emergency-management> to stay up to date.

Reporting Damage

Reporting damage-Primary industries natural disaster damage assessment (PiNDDA)

NSW Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development gather, analyse and report on damage to primary industries and animals after natural disasters.

The primary industries natural disaster damage assessments (PiNDDA) help a range of government agencies, industry organisations and communities understand the scale and regional distribution of the impact of a disaster on agriculture, plan for recovery activities and target resources and assistance in an area.

To report damage, use this link <http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/damagesurvey> on your phone or computer to submit a survey.

Emergency Assistance

Agency	Assistance	Contact
In an emergency, call Triple Zero (000) immediately or TTY - 106		
NSW SES	For emergency help in floods and storms	Call 132 500 https://www.ses.nsw.gov.au/

Local Land Services (LLS)	Emergency Assistance for Agriculture and Animal Welfare Related Issues (Only active during an emergency response)	1800 814 647 https://www.lls.nsw.gov.au/
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Australian Government Reference Numbers (AGRN)s

Australian Government reference numbers (AGRN)s are used to identify natural disaster declarations, which list the areas affected by a disaster. Visit the full list of disaster declarations and their AGRNs to find out if your area is eligible for recovery support.

<https://www.nsw.gov.au/emergency/recovery/natural-disaster-declarations/fy-2024-25>

Financial Assistance for Primary Producers

Agency	Assistance	Contact
Disaster Assistance Finder	Service NSW - Complete the online questionnaire to receive a personalised list of available programs and services.	https://disasterassistance.service.nsw.gov.au/
Disaster Relief Grants	These grants support those most in need and those least able to return their homes to a safe and habitable condition after a natural	https://www.nsw.gov.au/grants-and-funding/disaster-relief-grants

	disaster such as low-income earners and where the damage is not covered by insurance.	
Natural disaster support	Help for people directly affected by a natural disaster in NSW, such as fires, storms or floods.	https://www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/new-south-wales-natural-disaster-support?context=60042
Farm Relief Tool	The Farm Relief Tool connects farmers with Australian Government financial assistance and community support to help prepare for, and recover from drought, natural disaster or biosecurity events.	https://www.ric.gov.au/farm-relief-tool
Rural Assistance Authority	The NSW Rural Assistance Authority (RAA) provides tailored access to loans, grants, rebates and subsidies for primary producers and small business operators.	1800 678 593 rural.assist@raa.nsw.gov.au www.raa.nsw.gov.au/disaster-assistance

Recovery Support for Primary Producers

Agency	Assistance	Contact
Rural Financial Counselling Services	Rural Financial Counselling Services (RFCS) is a free and impartial financial counselling service to help with financial planning and applying for assistance. ;	RFCS NSW Northern Region The northern region extends from Greater Sydney to the QLD border and west to Moree Plains 1800 344 090 www.rfcsnr.org.au RFCS NSW Southern/Central The southern/central region covers the rest of NSW. 1800 319 458 www.rfcsnsw.com.au
Small Business Support	A list of available support for small businesses as a result of the floods.	www.smallbusiness.nsw.gov.au/get-help/featured/nsw-small-business-storms-and-flood-support
SafeWork small business rebate	If you are a small business owner in NSW, this \$1,000 rebate will help you purchase safety items to improve work health and safety for you and your workers.	Safe Work NSW 13 10 50 www.nsw.gov.au/grants-and-funding/1000-safework-small-business-rebate
Australian Taxation Office	The ATO also offers assistance with meeting tax obligations for	1800 806 218 www.ato.gov.au/General/Dealing-with-disasters/In-detail/Specific-disasters/Floods/

	businesses impacted by floods.	
Recovery Connect and Disaster Assist	National Emergency Management Agency is helping Australia prepare and recover from disasters. The agency provides national leadership and strategic coordination in long-term disaster recovery, resilience, and risk reduction.	National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) https://nema.gov.au/#/map www.disasterassist.gov.au
Disaster Response Legal Service NSW	Free legal assistance for NSW residents affected by a disaster.	1800 801 529 www.disasterhelp.legalaid.nsw.gov.au/
Emergency Accommodation	Service NSW	13 77 88 https://www.nsw.gov.au/emergency/recovery/temporary-housing
Motor vehicle stamp duty relief	Financial assistance for eligible motorists whose cars have been written-off as a result of declared natural disasters.	Office for State Revenue 1300 139 814 www.revenue.nsw.gov.au/taxes-duties-levies-royalties/motor-vehicle-duty/relief

Animal welfare and management

Assistance	Details	Contact
Local Land Services	On-going technical support including on-going livestock feeding advice.	1300 795 299 www.lls.nsw.gov.au/
Local Land Services	Planning and preparing for bushfires and managing after a fire. Know your legal responsibilities for minimising risk on your property. Assistance is available to complete a Farm Fire Plan. Resources for looking after stock following a fire.	Phone: 1300 795 299 Website: www.lls.nsw.gov.au/help-and-advice/emergency-management/bushfires www.lls.nsw.gov.au/help-and-advice/emergency-management/bushfires/managing-livestock-after-a-fire
Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development	DPIRD has a range of resources and information on managing primary production after a fire.	Website: www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/emergencies/bushfires
Stock problems after a flood	Key information on looking after stock following a flood.	www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/emergencies/emergency/community/after-an-emergency/stock-problems-after-flood
Integrity Systems	Assistance with emergency NVDs, LPA advice and NLIS transfers.	1800 683 111 support@integritysystems.com.au www.integritysystems.com.au/
Dairy support	Contact Dairy NSW	0407 434 073 info@dairynsw.com.au www.dairyaustralia.com.au/dairynsw
Wildlife	Contact your local rescue group.	www.environment.nsw.gov.au/topics/animals-and-plants/native-animals/helping-wildlife-in-emergencies

Mental Health Support

Assistance	Details	Contact
Emergency mental health support	If you or someone else is in immediate danger, call 000 or go to your nearest hospital emergency department.	000
<p>Need Help Now?</p> <p>Having a tough time and need someone to talk to right now? The following services are there to listen and help you out.</p> <p>They are confidential and available 24/7</p>	Lifeline	13 11 14
	Suicide Call Back Service	1300 659 467
	Beyond Blue	1300 224 636
	Mental health hotline (NSW Health 24/7)	1800 011 511
	13 YARN (indigenous led crisis support)	13 92 76
	Mensline	1300 789 978
	Domestic Violence	1800 737 732
	Kids Helpline (to 24 years old)	1800 551 800

Rural Adversity Mental Health Program (RAMHP)	RAMHP provides a range of information services to individuals, communities and service providers to link rural and remote people to the help they need.	www.ramhp.com.au/find-ramhp-coordinator/
Stay Afloat	A program dedicated to improving the mental health and wellness of the Australian seafood industry.	0408 008 344 www.stayafloat.com.au/
Online resources	Head to Health An Australian Government website that offers multiple ways of searching for digital mental health resources.	www.headtohealth.gov.au/
	BeyondBlue	www.beyondblue.org.au/
	Podcast about disasters, trauma, and mental health.	www.crrmh.com.au/get-help-now/self-help-resources/podcasts/disasters-trauma-mental-health/

Charities and other support

Assistance	Details	Contact
GIVIT is the NSW Government lead charity in co-ordinating donations	If you have been impacted by a disaster and require donated goods or services.	To register for assistance or donate. www.givit.org.au/
Rural Aid	Rural Aid provides critical support including water, fodder (hay), financial and counselling assistance to help farmers	1300 327 624 www.ruralaid.org.au/

Assistance	Details	Contact
	(primary producers) who endure natural disasters.	
Lions Need for Feed	Donated fodder available through Lions. Register through website.	www.needforfeed.org
Blaze Aid	Rebuild fences and other structures that have been damaged or destroyed.	0418 990 267 admin@blazeaid.com.au www.blazeaid.com.au/
The Salvation Army	Generic contact details	13 72 58 www.salvationarmy.org.au/
St Vincent de Paul	Assistance with food & groceries, clothing, blankets & essentials. Bill assistance, interest free loans for household items & referral to other crisis providers.	13 18 12 https://www.vinnies.org.au/now/find-help/disaster-recovery
Red Cross	Practical help and resources to use before, during and after emergencies.	www.redcross.org.au/emergencies/
Aussie Hay Runners	Support with transporting fodder in emergencies	0421 972 332 aussiehayrunners@gmail.com https://www.facebook.com/aussiehayrunners

The information contained in this publication is based on knowledge and understanding at the time of writing March, 2025. However, because of advances in knowledge, users are reminded of the need to ensure that the information upon which they rely is up to date and to check the currency of the information with the provided links for the most current information regarding available support.