

## Disaster Assistance Information as at 10/1/2020

### Recovery assistance organisations.

#### Rural Resilience Program

The [Rural Resilience team](#) work with primary producers across NSW providing support by way of referrals, liaising with other services and delivering initiatives tailored to the particular need of the community. For further details [www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/about-us/rural-support/RRP](http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/about-us/rural-support/RRP)

#### Australian Government

For further details visit [www.humanservices.gov.au/individuals/help-emergency](http://www.humanservices.gov.au/individuals/help-emergency) or Ph 180 22 66.

#### Local Council

Council may assist directly or put you in contact with disaster response groups in your area.

#### Salvation Army

For further details see <https://www.salvationarmy.org.au/need-help/disasters-and-emergencies/> or Ph 13 72 58

#### ST VINCENT'S DE PAUL

For further details see <https://www.vinnies.org.au/findhelp> or Ph (02) 9560 2666

#### ROTARY

For further details see <http://rotaryaustralia.org.au/> or Ph 8894 9800

#### COUNTRY WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION (CWA)

For further details see <https://www.cwaofnsw.org.au/> or Ph 02 8337 0200

#### RED CROSS

For further details see <https://www.redcross.org.au/> or Ph 1800 733 276

#### Rural Women's Network

The Rural Women's Network (RWN) is a state wide government program within the Department of Primary Industries. For further details Ph 02 6391 3620 or see [www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/about-us/rural-support/rural-womens-network](http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/about-us/rural-support/rural-womens-network)

#### Drought Angels

Assist farming families affected by Natural Disasters Australia wide. Assistance in Drought, Flood and Fire. For further details see [www.droughtangels.org.au/](http://www.droughtangels.org.au/) or Ph 07 4662 7371.

### Ongoing assistance organisations

#### BlazeAid

Volunteer-based organisation working with families and individuals in rural Australia after natural disasters (fires and floods). For further details see <https://blazeaid.com.au/> or Ph 0418 530 471

### Grants and loans

#### Rural Assistance Authority

Natural disaster assistance is available to help communities and individuals directly affected by flood, fire, storm damage or any other declared natural disaster. For further details see [www.raa.nsw.gov.au/disaster-assistance/declared-natural-disasters](http://www.raa.nsw.gov.au/disaster-assistance/declared-natural-disasters) or Ph 1800 678 593.

- [Disaster Recovery Grants](#)

Natural disaster recovery grants provide immediate relief to eligible primary producers, small businesses and non-profit organisations.

- [Disaster relief loans - Primary producers](#)

Primary producers directly affected by a declared natural disaster who are in urgent and genuine need of assistance, may be eligible for low interest loans of up to \$130,000.

## Seafood Innovation Fund

The NSW Government through the [Seafood Innovation Fund](#) is offering low interest rate loans to assist aquaculture farmers to identify and address risks to their business, improve permanent assets and infrastructure, ensure long term productivity and sustainable use of environment.

## NSW DPI Fisheries Fee Relief and Debt Waiver

To assist DPI in assessing the level of damage from a natural disaster, such as fires, floods and storms, a simple online survey has been produced by NSW DPI. To report damage see further details <https://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/climate-and-emergencies/emergency/community/primary-industries-natural-disaster-damage-survey>

- Debt Waiver
  - If your location is declared a natural disaster area and you have been impacted you can apply for a NSW DPI Fisheries Debt Waiver (annual fees and charges) for 12 months on the basis of financial hardship.
  - Applications are assessed against a range of criteria, including being a current aquaculture permit holder; having a history of production; deriving the majority of their income from aquaculture farming; and assessment of income and available funds. For application forms contact Aquaculture Administration on 02 4982132.
  - If you qualify for a NSW DPI Fisheries debt waiver you will also receive a waiver of NSW Food Authority State Program fees.
- Payment Schedule
  - For aquaculture farmers not eligible for Debt Waiver, Payment Schedules to pay off debt over time, may be applied for. For application forms contact Aquaculture Administration on 02 4982132.
- You can also apply to Department of Planning, Industry & Environment - Lands for lease and licence fee relief.

## Who else do you need to contact.

### Australian Tax Office

The Australian Tax Office has a range of options for farmers experiencing financial hardship such as deferred payment plans. For further information PH 1800 806 218 or see [www.ato.gov.au/Individuals/Dealing-with-disasters/In-detail/Specific-disasters/Bushfires-2019-20/](http://www.ato.gov.au/Individuals/Dealing-with-disasters/In-detail/Specific-disasters/Bushfires-2019-20/)

### Your Bank

Contact your bank as soon as possible to alert them to your situation as they may also be able to provide a relief payment schedule.

### Compliance

Oyster lease compliance efforts in the event of a natural disaster will focus on lease marking and navigation safety. If you have a work plan and can not meet your deadlines then speak to your local Fisheries Officers.

## Health and Wellbeing

For access to local mental health services, please contact the organisations listed below:

- **The 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. Call 02 6363 8444 or visit the website [www.ramhp.com.au](http://www.ramhp.com.au)
- **Kids Helpline:** 1800 551 800
- **Community Mental Health Line:** 1800 011 511
- **Mensline Australia:** 1300 789
- **Beyondblue:** 1300 224 636
- **Lifeline:** 131114
- **Australian Red Cross:** 1800 660 066
- **Black Dog Institute:** 9382 4530