

## 2018/19 DRFAWA ELIGIBLE DISASTER PROCLAMATION NOTIFICATION

### ***AGRN863 THUNDERSTORMS AND ASSOCIATED FLOODING IN THE MIDWEST AND GASCOYNE REGIONS (11 TO 14 APRIL 2019).***

The above event has been proclaimed an *eligible disaster* under the Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements, Western Australia (DRFAWA) on 10 May 2019, pursuant to clause 5.1 of the Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DRFA) (the *Arrangements 2018*), issued by the Commonwealth Government Department of Home Affairs. The State Government will provide financial assistance to those people who have been affected through joint State and Commonwealth disaster relief and recovery arrangements.

A slow moving northwest-to-southeast oriented cloud band, combined with moist air over northern and central parts of Western Australia produced widespread heavy rainfall and embedded thunderstorms across the four day period 11 to 14 April 2019. A tropical low also moved across the North West of Western Australia during this period and contributed some additional rainfall to the regions.

The highest rainfall recorded was 105mm in a 24 hour period, with eight locations exceeding 50mm across four local government areas of Exmouth, Murchison, Upper Gascoyne and Yalgoo causing flooding to a number of roads in the regions.

Pursuant to subclause 1.1.1 of the *Arrangements 2018*, 'Storm' and 'Flooding' are deemed to be eligible *natural disaster* events.

For the purposes of the DRFAWA this event will be referred to as '***Thunderstorms and Associated Flooding in the Midwest and Gascoyne Regions (11 to 14 April 2019)***'.

DRFAWA is jointly funded by the State and Commonwealth Governments and administered by the Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES), with assistance from other agencies. Through DRFAWA, the Western Australian and Commonwealth Governments provide assistance to people who have suffered the direct impact of a proclaimed disaster event.

The Local Government districts currently subject to this proclamation are as follows:

- Shire of Murchison
- Shire of Upper Gascoyne
- Shire of Cue (included 17/6/2019)

If information becomes available that identifies other local government districts as potentially having been directly impacted by this disaster event, subject to further assessment these local government districts may, at a later date, be included in the affected area.

The eligible costs for this event are anticipated to be largely associated with the restoration and replacement of the State and local road network infrastructure.

Assistance may be available for the following measures (*where appropriate*) typically covered by the DRFAWA:

- **For Local Governments & State Government Agencies** – Clean-up costs and the restoration or replacement (to pre-disaster function) of *essential public assets* including local road damage. State road restoration is through Main Roads Western Australia. Only costs incurred that are 'additional'

costs, and are directly related to the event, will be eligible for reimbursement. Note: The allowable time limit for eligible claims expires on 30 June 2021.

Claims in respect of any other *eligible measures* may also be considered.

***It should be noted that assistance under the DRFAWA is not designed to supplant, or operate as a disincentive for self-help by way of commercial insurance.***

### **Primary Contacts**

Primary contacts for assistance/advice are:

- Shire of Murchison for local government road network infrastructure, by phone on 9963 7999
- Shire of Upper Gascoyne for local government road network infrastructure, by phone on 9943 0988
- Main Roads Western Australia regional offices for State road infrastructure via website [here](#).
- Other enquiries may be directed to the Department of Fire and Emergency Services. Contact DRFAWA Administrators by phone on 9395 9973 or 9395 9341, or by email to [drfawa@dfes.wa.gov.au](mailto:drfawa@dfes.wa.gov.au).

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