



2016/17 WANDRRA ELIGIBLE DISASTER PROCLAMATION NOTIFICATION
Flooding in Western Australia (January and February 2017)

The above event has been proclaimed an *eligible disaster* under the Western Australia Natural Disaster Relief and Recovery Arrangements (WANDRRA) in January and February 2017, pursuant to clause 4.2 of the Natural Disaster Relief and Recovery Arrangements (NDRRA) *Determination 2012 Version 2.0* (the *determination*), issued by the Commonwealth Government Attorney-General's Department. The State Government will provide immediate financial assistance to those people who have been affected through joint State and Commonwealth disaster relief and recovery arrangements.

During the past two weeks, parts of the State have been receiving severe rainfall with record levels being recorded in several locations. These rain events from the Kimberley through the Mid-West and Goldfields-Esperance are linked notwithstanding the vast geographical distance between those regions.

The tropical low over the Kimberley was responsible for the rain in that area and then as the low tracked through the Pilbara it was to become the moisture source for the rain band that impacted the South and Southwest of Western Australia. An upper level trough moving out of the Southern Ocean linked with the moisture from the tropical low and hence we saw the widespread heavy rainfall. The resulting floods were undoubtedly enhanced because catchments were saturated due previous rainfall across much of the same areas.

Pursuant to subclause 1.1.1 of the NDRRA *determination*, 'flood' is deemed to be an eligible *natural disaster* event.

For the purposes of WANDRRA this event will be referred to as '***Flooding in Western Australia (January and February 2017)***'.

WANDRRA is jointly funded by the State and Commonwealth Governments and administered by the Office of Emergency Management (OEM), with assistance from other agencies. Through WANDRRA, the Western Australian and Commonwealth Governments provide help to people who have suffered the direct impact of a proclaimed natural disaster event.

The local government authorities subject to this proclamation are as follows:

Mid West Region	
• Carnamah	• Mount Magnet
• Chapman Valley	• Murchison
• Coorow	• Northampton
• Cue	• Perenjori
• Greater Geraldton	• Sandstone
• Irwin	• Three Springs
• Meekatharra	• Wiluna

• Mingenew	• Yalgoo
• Morawa	
Wheatbelt Region	
• Beverley	• Mukinbudin
• Brookton	• Narembeen
• Bruce Rock	• Narrogin (Shire)
• Chittering	• Northam
• Corrigin	• Nungarin
• Cuballing	• Pingelly
• Cunderdin	• Quairading
• Dalwallinu	• Tammin
• Dandaragan	• Toodyay
• Dowerin	• Trayning
• Dumbleyung	• Victoria Plains
• Gingin	• Wagin
• Goomalling	• Wandering
• Kellerberrin	• West Arthur
• Kondinin	• Westonia
• Koorda	• Wickepin
• Kulin	• Williams
• Lake Grace	• Wongan Ballidu
• Merredin	• Wyalkatchem
• Moora	• Yilgarn
• Mt Marshall	• York
Goldfields-Esperance Region	
• Coolgardie	• Leonora
• Dundas	• Menzies
• Esperance	• Ngaanyatjarraku
• Kalgoorlie-Boulder	• Ravensthorpe
• Laverton	
Kimberley Region	
• Broome	• Halls Creek
• Derby-West Kimberley	• Wyndham-East Kimberley
Pilbara Region	
• Ashburton	• Karratha
• East Pilbara	• Port Hedland



Great Southern Region	
• Albany	• Katanning
• Broomehill-Tambellup	• Kent
• Cranbrook	• Kojonup
• Denmark	• Plantagenet
• Gnowangerup	• Woodanilling
• Jerramungup	
City of Swan	

If information becomes available that identifies other local government authorities as potentially having been directly impacted by this natural disaster event, subject to further assessment these local government authorities 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 essential public assets, mainly the local and state road network infrastructure. It is also anticipated that some costs may be incurred for the clean-up of local and state government owned property.

Assistance may be available under the following Category A, B, C and D measures (*where appropriate*) covered by WANDRRA:

- **Category A Measures:** this Category is a form of emergency assistance to individuals and may include emergency food, clothing or temporary accommodation; repair or replacement of essential items of furniture and personal effects; essential repairs to housing necessary to restore housing to a habitable condition; demolition or rebuilding to restore housing to a habitable condition; removal of debris from residential properties to make them safe and habitable; personal and financial counselling. *The Department of Child Protection and Family Support administers various Category A measures*
- **Category B Measures:** this Category includes the restoration or replacement of an essential public asset; interest rate subsidies to small businesses, primary producers or non-profit organisations whose assets have been significantly damaged; freight subsidies to eligible primary producers; grants to needy individuals or non-profit organisations whose assets have been significantly damaged; or counter disaster operations for the protection of the general public. *The Department of Agriculture and Food, Western Australia administers various Category B measures pertaining to primary producers. Main Roads WA, including its regional offices administers various Category B measures pertaining to restoration of eligible roads, where deemed an essential public asset. **Claims should be lodged before 13 August 2017.***
- **Category C Measures:** this Category is a community recovery package designed to support a holistic approach to the recovery of regions, communities or sectors severely affected by a disaster. The package may comprise of community recovery funds or recovery grants for small businesses, primary

producers and non-profit organisations. *Note: these measures only apply when the event has a long-term impact. These measures have only been made available for two prior WANDRRA events in the State's history.*

- **Category D Measure:** this Category is an act of relief or recovery carried out to alleviate distress or damage in circumstances that are, in the opinion of the Commonwealth Minister, exceptional. *Note – both Category C and D assistance must be approved by the Prime Minister in writing and meet any other terms and conditions imposed by the Commonwealth in writing.*

Local Governments – provide, as soon as practicable after the impact of a natural disaster, an assessment of potential costs incurred as a direct result of the event. Throughout the event, WANDRRA works closely with the affected local government(s) in coordinating relief and assistance, until such time as the recovery process is transitioned back to the local government. **Important Note - The allowable time limit for eligible claims expires on 30 June 2019.**

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

It should be noted that assistance under WANDRRA 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:

- ❑ Department for Child Protection and Family Support, by phone on 1800 032 965, or via website [here](#);
- ❑ Local Government – Main Roads Western Australia regional offices for road infrastructure via website [here](#);
- ❑ Department of Agriculture and Food, Rural Business Development, by phone on 1800 198 231 or via website [here](#); and
- ❑ Other enquiries may be directed to the Office of Emergency Management - contact (WANDRRA Administrator) by phone on 6552 5088 or 6552 6250, or by email to – WANDRRA@oem.wa.gov.au END