

Natural Disaster Transport Subsidy Donated Fodder

1. Objective

To provide funding assistance to organisations that donate and transport donated fodder to a central location within NSW for the benefit of three or more primary producers with livestock, in the event of a natural disaster. This contributes to an outcome of quicker recovery from *natural disaster*.

2. Assistance available

The scheme will pay for the costs of donating and transporting donated fodder to affected properties or storage facilities in a central location up to a maximum of distance of 1,500 kilometres..


3. Eligibility

- a) The subsidy on transport of donated fodder is available to *organisations** that donate and transport donated fodder for the benefit of three or more primary producers, whose property has been affected by a natural disaster.
- b) Pre-approval for the transport of the donated fodder must be obtained from the NSW Rural Assistance Authority (RAA) by the organisation including agreement on estimates for the amount of fodder to be transported, the number of trips to be completed and the total distance to be travelled.
- c) The donated fodder must be delivered to a central location within the declared natural disaster area.
- d) The central location receiving donated fodder must be in an area of NSW that has been declared a *Natural Disaster*.
- e) Payment of any assistance can only occur upon production of tax invoices for expenses incurred.
- f) Payment of any assistance is contingent on recipients acknowledging this financial support in annual reports, media releases, digital and printed materials, web pages and online documents, advertising, plaques and signs.
- g) Claims must be made within three months of the RAA's approval to the transport of the donated fodder.
- h) As part of the application process, the applicant must agree to relevant details from the proposed application being provided to the regional Rural Financial Counsellor, Rural Resilience Officers or other co-ordinating entity so as to promote coordination of effort.

4. Exclusions

- a) Small volumes of fodder (i.e. under one tonne per load).
- b) Poor quality fodder, including fodder found to include weeds or other invasive species. The RAA must refuse to approve movements from regions with known or suspected biosecurity concerns. Under the *Biosecurity Act 2015*, the RAA cannot approve movements that present a known biosecurity risk. www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/biosecurity.
- c) In circumstances where the RAA receives notification of poor quality fodder, or fodder with weeds or other invasive species, the RAA is required to report this to NSW Biosecurity. Application and claims from organisations involved will be put on hold until a review of the operator's movements can be completed.
- d) Transport of donated fodder from individual donors to individual farmers.
- e) Transport of donated fodder to commercial feedlots and/or feed processors.

5. To apply

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- a) Prior to arranging transport of donated fodder the organisation must obtain approval from the RAA. The Approval Request form can be found at: www.raa.nsw.gov.au/grants/donatedfodder-transport-subsidy.
 - b) Applications where pre-approval was not possible, will be considered on a case by case basis noting that prior approved movements cannot be taken as an indication of approval for future movements, unless specified.
 - c) The organisation is to claim the cost of transporting the fodder directly from the RAA, following completion of the movements. Claim forms can be found at: www.raa.nsw.gov.au/grants/donatedfodder-transport-subsidy and must be submitted to the RAA together with tax invoices and/or receipts for the cartage of the fodder.

6. Fraudulent claims

- a) By signing the claim form, you are declaring that the information provided in the application form and supporting documentation is true and accurate.
- b) Providing inaccurate, untrue or misleading information may be a breach of criminal law for which serious penalties may apply.
- c) If any information provided in an application or supporting documentation is found to be inaccurate, untrue or misleading, legal action may be taken against you, including action to recover the funds.

7. Important information

- a) Guidelines are correct at the time of publishing.
- b) RAA reserves the right to amend, alter or change these guidelines at any time, and it is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure that they check the relevant website prior to application.
- c) The guidelines that apply to your application will be the guidelines that are current at the time your application is received by RAA.

8. Assessment

- a) Applications will be assessed against the eligibility criteria.
- b) RAA reserves the right to request further information from you or from any business or individual you have engaged, to assist in assessing your application and to verify any information provided in your application. Failure to provide such information may result in RAA refusing your application.
- c) RAA reserves the right to refuse an application where eligibility criteria are not met, or where the applicant does not or cannot provide sufficient information for the RAA to determine if eligibility criteria have been met.
- d) Applications submitted may be subject to audit by RAA or its agents in order to determine compliance with scheme guidelines.
- e) Before applying for financial assistance under this program, applicants should seek advice from their legal, business or financial advisers about the tax implications of this financial assistance.
- f) Complete applications will be assessed in order of receipt. Incomplete applications will not enter the assessment queue until all required information is provided.



9. Applications

Applications for assistance under the program must be made on RAA's application form and be accompanied by the documentation stated in the application form.

Applicants should note that past financial assistance under this program or any other program is not a reliable indicator of eligibility for future financial assistance under this program.

Applicants will be expected to provide a range of supporting documentation, as outlined on the application form.

Please apply online at:

<https://www.raa.nsw.gov.au/grants/disaster-recovery-grants>.

If you need assistance with submitting your application, please contact us per below.

Phone: 1800 678 593

Email: rural.assist@raa.nsw.gov.au

If you have difficulty understanding these guidelines or completing the application form you should seek the assistance of your rural/financial counsellor, business advisor, accountant or a trusted family member/friend.

If you need assistance with interpreting or translating, please contact Multicultural NSW on 1300 651 500 or email languageservices@multicultural.nsw.gov.au.

10. Definitions

Natural Disaster - One or a combination of the following rapid onset events: bushfire, earthquake, flood, storm, cyclone, storm surge, landslide, tsunami, meteorite strike, tornado.

***Organisations** - Includes charitable organisations and transport organisations that both donate and transport fodder. Charitable organisations must be ACNC registered and transport organisations will be verified businesses holding an Australian Business Number (ABN).

Note:

The RAA may use definitions that draw from the glossary shown at this location:

<https://www.raa.nsw.gov.au/loans/glossary-of-terms>