

## CLIMATE CHANGE ADJUSTMENT PROGRAM (CCAP)

The CCAP is a component of the “Australia’s Farming Future” (AFF) initiative, providing \$130 million over four years to help primary producers adapt and respond to climate change

CCAP will assist primary producers in financial difficulty, who are, or are likely to be adversely impacted by climate change, including those experiencing hardship caused by drought, to obtain professional advice, training, re-establishment grants.

The CCAP will assist farm families to adjust their businesses to manage the impacts of climate change and to set goals and take action to improve their long term financial circumstance either within or outside of agriculture.

The other two components of AFF initiatives are:

- Climate Change Adaptation Partnerships Program—to increase primary producers’ understanding of climate change impacts and improve on-farm preparedness
- Climate Change and Productivity Research Program—to undertake research on managing emissions and adaptation

For more information visit  
[www.daff.gov.au/farmingfuture](http://www.daff.gov.au/farmingfuture)  
 or call 1800 638 746



## Rural Financial Counselling Service NSW - Central West

Independent Financial Counselling for Farmers and Small Business

### A Rural Financial Counsellor can:

- Help clients identify financial and business options
- Help clients negotiate with their lenders
- Give clients information about government and other assistance schemes
- Refer clients to accountants, agricultural advisers and educational services
- Refer clients to Centrelink and to professionals for succession planning, family mediation and personal counselling, and emotional and social counselling.

The service is free and independent of financial institutions, welfare agencies or government.

Information given to the Rural Financial Counsellor is treated in the strictest confidence.

[www.rfcs-cw.com.au](http://www.rfcs-cw.com.au)

Location	Counsellor	Phone
Regional	CEO - Jeff Caldbeck	02 6884 2275
Coonamble	Jen Hoath	02 6822 3220
Buronga	Brian Dodson	03 5021 1558
Dubbo	John Jones	02 6884 2275
Dubbo	Terry Skinner	02 6884 2275
Forbes	Robert Muffet	02 6852 3837
Gilgandra	Cath Mabbott	02 6847 1084
Mudgee	Liz Brown	02 6372 6660
Nyngan	Victoria Boag	02 6832 2169
Orange	Andrew Foy-Brown	02 6361 1117
Tottenham	Fran Rowe	02 6893 3843
Walgett	Catherine Bott	02 6828 2049
Relief	David Waters	04 3777 6733



## Rural Financial Counselling Service NSW - Central West

Independent Financial Counselling for Farmers and Small Business

Supported by the Australian Government and the New South Wales Government

The Rural Financial Counselling Service provides free, impartial and confidential financial counselling to help farmers, fishers and agriculture-dependent small businesses in their decision making.

While not specifically targeting direct drought assistance, the RFCS program aims to provide information and support to people in rural Australia by improving access to services.

The following information is general in nature and although provides some figures,

**DON'T SELF ASSESS!**

please take the time to speak with the agency concerned:

Centrelink—Rural Support Officer  
 PDI—Drought Support Worker

or a

Rural Financial Counsellor

## Drought Assistance WHAT'S AVAILABLE?

IF YOU DO NOT BELIEVE YOU FIT ANY OF THESE DROUGHT ASSISTANCE MEASURES AND YOU ARE EXPERIENCING DIFFICULTIES, PLEASE CONTACT ONE OF THE RURAL FINANCIAL COUNSELLORS LISTED ON THE BACK OF THIS BROCHURE, AS THEY MAY STILL BE ABLE TO ASSIST YOU.



## DROUGHT SUPPORT WORKERS

Drought Support Workers provide immediate personal support, basic information and referral to other appropriate support services.

Dubbo Pip Brown 0429 396 697

Parkes Jan Bruce 0427 257 191

For more information visit  
[www.dpi.nsw.gov.au](http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au)



### Drought Assistance

Exceptional Circumstances Relief Payment (ECRP) provides assistance to farmers living in areas affected by Exceptional Circumstances who are having difficulty meeting family and personal living expenses. Income support payments may also apply to small businesses severely affected by the drought, in certain circumstances.

### Professional Advice and Planning Grant

Professional Advice and Planning Grants of up to \$5,500 (GST inc) are available to eligible farm business located in all Exceptional Circumstances declared areas, irrespective of the length of the declaration. The scope of the grant includes:

- development of all risk management and business plans for the farm
- a farm-business viability assessment
- if appropriate, additional advice and planning to recover from drought

This grant is in addition to the ECRP although you do not need to be receiving income support to qualify.

### Exceptional Circumstances Exit Package

The Exceptional Circumstances (EC) Exit Package is available to farmers who are in severe financial difficulty and who have decided to leave the land. The EC Exit Package comprises:

- EC Exit Grant of up to \$150,000
- EC Advice and Re-training Grant of up to \$10,000
- EC Relocation Grant of up to \$10,000 to pursue continued employment.

The EC Exit Grant is a one-off, taxable payment for those farmers within an EC declared area (including prima facie and interim declared areas) who sell their farm enterprise.

#### Contact:

Dubbo	Shane Skinner	02 6883 6104
Dubbo	John Edwards	02 6883 6050
Mudgee	Peter Spinner	02 6378 2260.

[www.centrelink.gov.au](http://www.centrelink.gov.au)



### MDB IRRIGATION MANAGEMENT GRANT

Enables eligible farm enterprises in the Murray-Darling Basin (MDB) or those who draw water solely from the MDB, to access funds to implement water management strategies. These strategies will contribute to the farm plan for managing short-term reduced water allocations. The grant of up to \$20,000 forms part of the income for the irrigation enterprise. Customers should retain a copy of the grant advice for taxation purposes. Consult your taxation advisor if necessary.

Contact: Murray Darling Advice Line  
on 1800 050 015



### EXCEPTIONAL CIRCUMSTANCES

- **INTEREST RATE SUBSIDIES** of up to \$100,000 per year are available at a rate of 50% of the interest payable on new and existing loans for the first year of an EC-declaration, and up to 80% in the second and subsequent years.
- Applicants are subject to an off-farm asset tests that has been increased to \$750,000.
- Total subsidy payments capped at \$100,000 pa or \$500,000 over 5 years.
- **SMALL RURAL BUSINESS OPERATORS** who have a significant reliance on farmers for income, are located in towns of up to 10,000 people and who have suffered a downturn due to drought, within Exceptional Circumstance declared areas, may also be eligible for income support and interest rate subsidies.

Contact: NSW Rural Assistance Authority  
on 1800 678 593  
visit [www.raa.nsw.gov.au](http://www.raa.nsw.gov.au)



### SPECIAL CONSERVATION LOAN SCHEME

An incentive-based initiative aimed at promoting improved land management practices within NSW. **Funding is available for the following:-**

- Soil Conservation, including control of woody weeds
- Stock and domestic water supply
- Cap and piping of Artesian bores
- Up-grading of existing irrigation systems
- Exclusion netting to prevent flying fox damage to existing orchards with a demonstrated flying fox problem
- Livestock effluent control
- Tile drainage
- Serrated tussock control
- Refurbishment and de-silting of ground tanks
- Planting of perennial species such as Lucerne and Oldman Saltbush
- Hay, grain and silage storage facilities

Contact: NSW Rural Assistance Authority  
1800 678 593

### TRANSPORT SUBSIDIES

#### Rural Lands Protection Board

To help reduce costs to primary producers during the drought, New South Wales Department of Primary Industries will rebate 50% of the transport costs for movements of:

- water for domestic use
- water and fodder for stock
- stock to and from agistment
- stock to sale/slaughter.

These rebates apply to primary producers in drought-affected areas of NSW, subject to eligibility criteria. Applications must be submitted within 3 months of transport.

Contact: RLPB Office or NSW DPI 1800 814 647  
[www.dpi.nsw.gov.au](http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au)