

Shire of Lake Grace

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MEDIA RELEASE

2 June 2017

JOINT MEDIA STATEMENT – RECOVERY GRANTS FOR PRIMARY PRODUCERS IN WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Minister for Justice Michael Keenan and Western Australian Minister for Emergency Services Fran Logan today announced that recovery grants are now available to help primary producers in Lake Grace, Ravensthorpe and Swan who were severely affected by flooding in January and February 2017.

The assistance is being provided through the jointly-funded Commonwealth-State Natural Disaster Relief and Recovery Arrangements (NDRRA).

Minister Keenan said today's announcement recognises that the Australian and Western Australian governments are committed to supporting affected primary producers that need additional help to get back on their feet as quickly as possible.

"Importantly, the recovery grants announced today are on top of the low interest rate loans and freight subsidies that have already been made available to farmers affected by the floods," Mr Keenan said.

Mr Logan said farmers in these areas had lost more than \$80 million in production due to the long-term damage caused by the flooding.

"The grants being announced today will help farmers with their recovery by funding clean-up and reinstatement activities, including salvaging crops, replacing pasture, purchasing fodder and repairing damaged equipment and machinery," Mr Logan said.

The Australian and Western Australian governments will continue to work together to ensure that communities have access to the assistance they need.

Information on disaster assistance available for this natural disaster can be found on the Australian Government's Disaster Assist website at www.disasterassist.gov.au and the Western Australian Office of Emergency Management website at www.oem.wa.gov.au

Primary producers should contact the Department of Agriculture and Food at www.agric.wa.gov.au/emergency-response/wa-natural-disaster-relief-and-recovery-arrangements

Emergency Services Minister's office - 6552 6300
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