

Agriculture and Animal Services Functional Area (AASFA)

2022 flood event

Stakeholder Communication Toolkit: 8 July 2022

The role of AASFA

NSW Department of Primary Industries and Local Land Services are providing emergency assistance to landholders and communities with animal welfare-related issues resulting from the floods, including:

- Animal assessment and veterinary assistance
- Euthanasia and burial of animals
- Emergency fodder (up to three days supply where there is an immediate animal welfare concern)
- Emergency stock water (where there is an immediate animal welfare concern)
- Care of animals in evacuation centres
- Livestock feeding and management advice

Landholders requiring assistance can register by contacting the Agriculture and Animal Services Hotline on 1800 814 647



Purpose of this toolkit



With extreme weather and floods impacting NSW, this toolkit has been developed to help you communicate important information to your members, networks and communities.

The toolkit contains the latest information, links, tailorable newsletter copy, social tiles, and flyers.

If you require any of this messaging to be tailored for your needs, please call / email:

public.information.officer.scc1e8@emergency.dpi.nsw.gov.au

Primary messaging

Flood affected farmers and landholders in NSW requiring assistance with emergency fodder for livestock, veterinary assessment and advice, euthanasia or burial for animals.

1800 814 647.

Never drive, walk or ride through flood waters, and call Triple Zero (000) in the event of any emergency.

To keep up to date with the latest information, visit www.nsw.gov.au/floods

EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE FOR LANDHOLDERS



Landholders can request:

- Emergency fodder for livestock
- Veterinary assessment and advice
- Euthanasia and burial for animals



**Agriculture and Animal
Services Hotline
1800 814 647**

[Click here to download file](#)

Newsletter/web copy



Emergency assistance

The NSW Department of Primary Industries and Local Land Services work together to manage the effects of emergencies on agriculture, livestock and our community as Agriculture and Animal Services Functional Area – AASFA.

They have a dedicated hotline for producers to call to report damage and stock losses, as well as request emergency assistance. The AASFA Hotline is 1800 814 647 and is operating 9 – 5pm all week.

Available help includes:

- Emergency fodder for livestock
- Veterinary assessment and advice
- Euthanasia and burial for animals

Primary producers who are now starting to gain access to their paddocks are encouraged to report damage, including stock and fodder losses, as well as damage to farms, fencing and other farm infrastructure.

Report damage

The primary industries natural disaster damage survey is an online survey Department of Primary Industries and Local Land Services staff, farmers and agricultural industry representatives can use to record damage to primary production and animals from natural disasters.

The damage survey allows you to record the number of crops, animals, infrastructure and other primary industries damaged in a single event, add photos to the assessment and see the severity of damage in your area. With the current floods, we are encouraging those impacted to submit a survey.

To submit a survey visit www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/damage

Newsletter/web copy



Livestock Welfare

Floodwaters and wet conditions can cause a wide range of livestock health issues, even for some time after the waters have subsided.

Livestock that have been standing in water for some time, or that have been submerged, are most at risk of developing disease issues and should be monitored closely.

Ensuring your livestock have access to adequate food and water is the number one priority. During this time, it is also vital that producers monitor for signs of disease in their livestock.

Information on what to look out for can be found at <https://bit.ly/39dHVc2>

If you notice any signs of disease or illness please contact your local district vet on 1300 795 299 or call the Agriculture and Animal Services Hotline on 1800 678 593.

Caring for horses after floods

Once flood waters recede and the clean-up begins on your property, it is important to monitor your horses for any signs of illness or injury.

If your horse has been directly affected by flooding, submerged or standing in floodwaters for long periods of time it can lead to several health issues. It is important to assess them as soon as possible, make sure they have clean water to drink and access to food and shelter.

For more information on how to care for horses after floods head to <https://bit.ly/3PeHilr>

AASFA Hotline social



Post:

Flood affected landholders should call 1800 814 647 to request emergency fodder for livestock, animal assessment, veterinary advice and if required, euthanasia and burial of animals.

Never drive, walk or ride through flood waters, and call Triple Zero (000) in the event of any emergency.

To keep up to date with the latest information, visit www.nsw.gov.au/floods

A social media graphic for the AASFA Hotline. It has a dark blue background. At the top left, a red banner contains white text: "Flood affected landholders and animal owners, if you require assistance with stock or animal welfare contact us:". To the right of this banner is the NSW Government logo. Below the banner, the text "Agriculture and Animal Services Hotline" is written in white, followed by the large white number "1800 814 647". At the bottom of the graphic is a photograph of a flooded landscape with water covering fields and trees.

[Click here to download file](#)

Damage survey

[Click here to download file](#)

**PRIMARY INDUSTRIES
NATURAL DISASTER
DAMAGE SURVEY:**

**Submit a survey at:
dpi.nsw.gov.au/damage**

The NSW Government logo, consisting of a red stylized flower above the text "NSW" in blue.

An aerial photograph showing a rural landscape with significant flooding. A river or stream has overflowed its banks, inundating surrounding fields and some residential areas. The water is a muddy brown color, and the surrounding greenery is partially submerged.

Post:

The primary industries natural disaster damage survey is an online survey Department of Primary Industries and Local Land Services staff, farmers and agricultural industry representatives can use to record damage to primary production and animals from natural disasters.

The damage survey allows you to record the number of crops, animals, infrastructure and other primary industries damaged in a single event, add photos to the assessment and see the severity of damage in your area. With the current floods, we are encouraging those impacted to submit a survey.

To submit a survey visit www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/damage

Bees and floods

[Click here to download file](#)



Post

Attention Beekeepers on Flood Watch If you find a beehive in floodwaters, please report the location to the Varroa Mite online form at <https://fal.cn/3pZQP> or call the Exotic Plant Pest Hotline, 1800 084 881 (9am to 5pm, 7 days a week). Check the latest flood warnings at <https://fal.cn/3pZQQ> There is no concern about Varroa mite spreading through flood waters. For more information <https://fal.cn/3pZQO>

[Click here to download file](#)



Long post

Attention Beekeepers on Flood Watch Beekeepers in emergency zones are permitted to move hives due to current flood watch permits, as per a group permit released by DPI. Bees can be moved to a higher location on the same premises but only if that premises is in a flood watch area - if honeybees and hives cannot be relocated to a safe location because the entire premises is at risk of flooding, beekeepers who are in affected areas may move their hives to a higher location ONLY WITHIN the emergency zone they are currently in - after the hives have been moved under this permit, they cannot be moved back - if you move the location of your hive, report it's new location to www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/varroa or call the Exotic Plant Pest Hotline 1800 084 881 Adverse weather will impact our ability to access some locations where hives are if they are in flood affected areas. Our field crews will continue surveillance work in safer locations until the threat passes. If you are not in a flood watch affected area you must not move honeybees or hives; significant penalties may apply under the Biosecurity Act 2015. Check the latest flood warnings at www.bom.gov.au Keep up to date on www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/varroa

Recovery resources

[Click here to download file](#)



Post:

Although the flood water may have gone, the aftermath poses its own challenges and issues.

Ensuring your livestock have access to adequate food and water is the number one priority.

During this time, it is also vital that producers monitor for signs of disease in their livestock.

Information on what to look out for can be found at <https://bit.ly/39dHVc2>

[Click here to download file](#)



Post:

Once flood waters recede and the clean-up begins on your property, it is important to monitor your horses for any signs of illness or injury.

If your horse has been directly affected by flooding, submerged or standing in floodwaters for long periods of time it can lead to several health issues.

For more information on how to care for horses after floods head to <https://bit.ly/3PeHilr>

[Click here to download file](#)



Post:

Extra care is required when transporting cattle, sheep and goats that have been through flood waters and restricted food intake to prevent stock going down in trucks due to low energy and mineral levels.

For more information on how to safely transport stock in this instance, visit <https://bit.ly/3ij8TU6>

Recovery resources

[Click here to download file](#)



Post:

Damage to pastures can range from minor sediment deposition, through to deep sedimentation of silt, sand or gravel deposits on pastures, erosion of topsoil, scalding and total loss of existing pasture.

Local Land Services has developed a helpful fact sheet to guide your recovery. Download a copy here - <https://bit.ly/3OPeUXf>

[Click here to download file](#)



Post:

There are a range of measures land managers can undertake to repair erosion damage after floods.

Local Land Services has developed a helpful fact sheet to guide your recovery. Download a copy here - <https://bit.ly/3lk4JFS>

Latest flood information



The latest floods information can be found at nsw.gov.au

Other important information:

- [Local Land Services Flood Recovery](#)
- [NSW Department of Primary Industries](#)
- [Emergency Financial Support](#)
- [Service NSW storm and flood customer care service](#)
- [Service NSW business information hub](#)
- [Service NSW Disaster Assistance Finder](#)
- [Replacing lost identification, licences and personal documents](#)
- [NSW Health Mental Health Line](#) for information and details of other mental health services