



Weekly update on North Island weather event (incl Cyclone Gabrielle) recovery activity

North Island Weather Event (NIWE) Fund

MPI is still receiving Expressions of Interest from the primary industries and rural communities to the NIWE Time-critical (TCN) and NIWE Isolated Rural Communities (IRC) funds.

Sediment and debris management fund for whenua Māori

Government has announced \$30 million funding to support the management of sediment and debris for whenua Māori in Tairāwhiti and Hawke's Bay. Funding will help whenua Māori owners with the clean-up of sediment and debris.

- The funding is part of the Government's ongoing commitment towards helping communities, including owners of whenua Māori, farmers, growers, and communities to recover from the cyclone.
- The funding is intended to support owners of whenua Māori make decisions about the clean-up of their land.

\$2 million of the \$10.15 million Woody Debris Fund (announced as part of Budget 23) has been set aside for whenua Māori and will also be made available through Te Puni Kōkiri.

Further information can be found here:

<https://www.tpk.govt.nz/en/nga-putea-me-nga-ratonga/whenua-maori/whenua-maori-sediment-and-debris-management-packag>

A new package of financial support for businesses, orchards, and farms affected by the North Island weather events in early 2023 has also been announced.

North Island Weather Events Loan Guarantee Scheme will provide relief to highly affected businesses seeking commercial loans. This scheme will leverage the Crown's financial strength to enable lenders to reduce interest rates and provide more flexible terms. Terms and conditions of the guarantee scheme will be finalised with lenders over the next few weeks.

Further information is available here:

<https://www.treasury.govt.nz/information-and-services/other-services/north-island-weather-events-loan-guarantee-scheme>

The **Primary Producer Finance Scheme** is designed for land based, primary sector businesses that have a reasonable chance of returning to viability with additional support. It will be administered by Kānoa, Regional Economic Development & Investment Unit.

Further information is available here:

<https://www.growregions.govt.nz/new-funding/niwe-primary-producer-finance-scheme/>

Farmer & Grower Grant



\$64.1 million paid in grant applications

As at 22 June 5,616 applications for farmer and grower recovery grants have been approved and paid, totalling \$63.9 million in value.



RSE workers picking kiwifruit on Kaitere Farm, Tansley Road, Te Ara river catchment. Photo supplied by Fraser Briant



Wooden debris and sediment impacting the Te Hoe mātaihai reserve (traditional customary fishing area), Mahia. Credit: Ngaromoana.

Key Updates

- Hawke's Bay Regional Council has extended the deadline for the Sediment and Debris Recovery Fund for Commercial Entities to 31 July. [Hawke's Bay Sediment and Debris Recovery Fund - Commercial Entities - Hastings District Council \(smartygrants.com.au\)](#) MPI has been supporting the team at HBRC at its drop-in community events about this funding.
- Gisborne District Council has had two planning sessions to date with PwC on the silt and sediment fund. The \$7.4m fund is likely to be opened over a 3-month period with the first tranche available in July followed by a 2nd tranche in August.
- [Ministry for Social Development has activated Civil Defence payments](#) for certain communities within Wairoa, Gisborne, and the East Coast north of Gisborne
- MPI has been meeting with kiwifruit growers and Rural Support Trust about the increasing pressures on growers through numerous extreme weather events, to ensure that there is a proactive mental wellbeing approach and good connections to local mental health services.