



## Weekly update on Cyclone Gabrielle recovery activity

### Extreme Weather Recovery Directorate

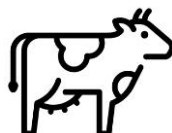
- MPI has established an Extreme Weather Recovery Directorate to ensure appropriate engagement and support for national and regional recovery work. The directorate aims to enable faster and effective delivery of recovery initiatives, support collaboration across MPI branches, and provide visible support networks for the regions. Recruitment for the Directorate is underway.

### Operations Reach and Muster

- Operation Reach is due to complete another helicopter drop of fuel in Tairāwhiti next week.
- Operation Muster has moved 45,000 head of stock off-farm from the beginning of March to the end of April 2023.
- In Tairāwhiti the MPI-funded stockyards will be moved to Tiniroto Road for a week before being decommissioned.
- Free feed is available from Glenroy Station for farms that need it, and from Taupō through Federated Farmers. Farmers [can register here](#).

### Farmer trends around the country

- Tararua District Council will complete an impact assessment process in the coming weeks to understand the full impacts to farmers and growers in the region.



### 45,000 animals moved off-farm

To the end of April 2023, over 45,000 stock have been moved off-farm in cyclone-affected areas through Operation Muster.



### \$54 million grant applications paid

As at 28 April, 4,800 grant applications for the Farmers and Growers Fund have been approved and paid, totalling \$54 million in value.



### 25 wellbeing events scheduled in May

From 2-31 May, 25 rural/primary sector wellbeing events are planned across the country.



### \$172 million for silt and debris removal from Government

On 3 May the [Government announced significant financial support](#) to assist with removal of cyclone-related sediment and debris in Hawke's Bay and Tairāwhiti.



A bulldozer and trailer being used to get wool across a river.



The image shows a trawler in Hawke's Bay with its catch from around 60 metres deep. Lots of woody debris in the catch cause damage to fish and lower catch volumes.

### Key Updates

- Cyclone community recovery events in Tararua were held in Herbertville on 1 May and Pongaroa on 4 May, and further events are planned for communities in Te Uri and Akitio. Community feedback from the Herbertville event was focused on the increasing flood risk due to the volume of woody debris mobilised in heavy rain events, which blocks the bridge and floods surrounding properties.
- Many farmers are facing extra challenges managing livestock feed. Farmers can access more information in the [support with livestock fact sheet \(mpi.govt.nz\)](#)
- In Northland, kūmara farmers held a governance meeting on 3 May to decide on funding allocations from the kūmara seed contingency fund. Further information will be provided as it becomes available. The Kaipara Kūmara workforce retention and wellness plan is currently undergoing consultation with industry.
- Hawke's Bay Regional Council has commissioned a rural impact survey across 500 properties to gain insights into current challenges faced by rural properties. Results from this survey will be available in coming weeks.
- A report commissioned by Hawke's Bay Forestry Group on the composition of woody debris in Hawke's Bay following Cyclone Gabrielle was released on 27 April 2023. The report was commissioned to independently quantify large woody debris (LWD) content along the coastal, inland, and catchment areas. Findings indicate that the proportion of LWD leftover from harvesting is 4%. The total pine proportion is 48% of the LWD across Hawke's Bay, and 38% was willow or poplar. The likely origin of that material is flood-protection willow and poplar plantings. At least 86% of the LWD volume measured originated from unstable areas that vegetation was planted to protect. You can find further information on the Hawke's Bay Forestry Group website: [Post Event Woody Debris Assessment - Hawkes Bay](#).