

Media Release

The Hon **Katrina Hodgkinson** MP

Member for Cootamundra

THE NATIONALS *for Regional NSW*

Media Release – 1 February 2017

DISASTER ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE FOR MILDIL AND BROLGA PARISHES IN BLAND SHIRE

Member for Cootamundra, Katrina Hodgkinson has welcomed support for eligible primary producers in parts of the Bland local government area, who were affected by a grass fire in November 2016.

Katrina said the NSW Government has announced it will provide Agricultural Natural Disaster Relief assistance.

“A number of producers were hit hard by the grassfire last year, which caused more than \$1.1 million worth of damage to agriculture and grazing enterprises in the Bland Shire,” Katrina said.

“The Agricultural Natural Disaster Relief assistance is available for affected producers in the Parishes of Mildil and Brolga within the Bland Shire.

“Eligible primary producers can apply for loans of up to \$130,000, at 1.16 per cent interest per annum, with a two year interest and repayment free period.

“The loans provide for replacement or repairs to property and farm infrastructure which was damaged by the fire.

“I urge any affected farmers to contact the NSW Rural Assistance Authority (RAA) for more information on how they can access this support to get back on their feet.”

For further information and eligibility criteria contact RAA on 1800 678 593 or visit www.raa.nsw.gov.au

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