



## Weekly update on North Island weather event recovery activity

### Trends in recovery planning

- Recent rainfall has caused further slips and roading faults across the regions impacted by North Island weather events. Recovery work has been delayed, with some recently repaired fences destroyed by further land movement.
- Waka Kotahi allocated a further \$10 million of funding to Tararua Alliance Roding last week (in addition to the previous \$36 million provided for emergency works).

### Key Updates

- Horticulture New Zealand held a growers' meeting in Hawke's Bay to provide an opportunity for local horticultural businesses to hear more on the [support package announced by the government](#).
- [Government announced on 29 June a new package](#) of financial support for growers, farmers, and businesses affected by the North Island weather events. There is a loan guarantee scheme, concessionary loans, and equity finance options available, and the schemes are expected to open around the end of July 2023.
- The cyclone-damaged Hikuwaino 1 bridge on State Highway 35 north of Gisborne will be completely dismantled and transported away this month. This will remove the risk of the bailey bridge being damaged in future weather events. At the same time, surfacing works will be completed on the approaches at either end of the bailey bridge.
- A recovery and comedy night event on 8 July in Weber has sold out and a Ladies' Lunch is being organised in Dannevirke for the end of July. Tickets are being targeted to rural women in the most impacted areas before being advertised to the public. The Rural Support Trust (RST) is organising these events, utilising some MPI funding.
- Support for the recovery programme has received a boost in Tararua with commencement of the Enhanced Taskforce Green programme. The programme has been gaining positive feedback so far.
- In the Manawatū, there was a National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA)-led a briefing with Horizons Regional Council and the Minister to discuss Cyclone Gabrielle damage in the district.
- Nine local roads in Tararua remain closed, and 19 are open with restrictions but no residents are fully cut off.



Silt through a woolshed at Waimata.  
Source: NZ Landcare Trust Ngā Matapopore Whenua



### Farmer and Grower Grants

\$64.25 million paid in grant applications

As at 7 July, 5,630 applications for farmer and grower recovery grants have been approved and paid, totalling \$64.25 million in value.



Hawke's Bay bottom trawlers are continuing to have challenges with their fishing operations. This image shows a large log entangled in the net.

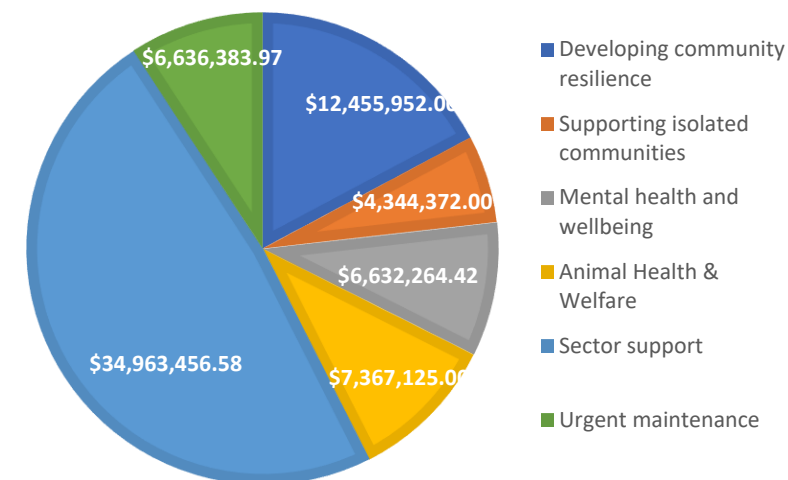
### North Island Weather Event (NIWE) Fund

MPI is still receiving Expressions of Interest (EoIs) to the NIWE Time-critical and NIWE Isolated Rural Communities funds.

The EoIs are varied but are grouped in the following themes:

- Developing community resilience – initiatives that develop community/sector support networks, events, and workshops.
- Supporting isolated communities – resourcing marae and facilities as community hubs, events, communications.
- Mental health and wellbeing – delivery of events and specialised support.
- Animal health and welfare advice and support.
- Sector support – expert advice (including research to inform operational decision-making), training, and health and safety.
- Urgent maintenance to reduce risks to the health and safety of stock and staff.

### SUM OF REQUESTED \$



The following initiatives have already received NIWE funding:

- Rural Support Trusts - \$1.90 million to co-ordinate local recovery services, clean-up efforts, wellbeing events, extension workshops, and provide other specialised support.
- Post Your Support* - \$500,000 to support farmers and growers who have had fencing and or growing structures damaged or destroyed by Cyclone Gabrielle.