

Drought Resilience Funding - \$15m pa

Programs for Western Australia

3: \$1m pa Farm Service Business Drought Planning

- Expand the remit of the Rural Financial Counsellors WA to engage with farm service businesses to develop and present drought management business plans and training, and early intervention for sub 50% equity growers.

4: \$500,000pa Drought Planning WA Inc

- Establish an industry advisory board and organisation to oversee state drought preparedness (should be one in each state).
- Develop a response case study and planning pack, similar to the Farm Safe packages that are available and how SafeFarms WA Works.

1: \$250,000 pa Annual drought preparedness, response and recovery planning forums.

- Target the 4000 farmers and 50 grower groups with annual dry season planning forums
- Develop new planning and engagement seminars each year to maintain attendance levels

5: \$500,000 Drought Stories WA Social Media Campaign

Develop an online video series of real life drought management stories and best practise management with the aim that they are rolled out on social media

2: \$1m pa Long Term Climate Change Modelling targeting the Wheatbelt

- Next generation mapping and modelling to enhance and link existing climate change models to local rainfall mapping, soils and water run off to develop better predictive modelling with a focus on soil moisture storage and dam capture runoff.

6: \$1m pa Feral Animal Control

Feral Animal Control package to enhance the management of large herbivores moving into the pastoral region and the wheatbelt in areas of drought. There is always an area in drought.

7: \$2m pa Vegetation Mapping

- Undertake year round high resolution using large commercial drones to map rangeland and wheatbelt areas in drought to build comprehensive weekly vegetative impact mapping data to ensure more responsive destocking to protect soils and native vegetation.
- Post the images weekly on a web site to grow community awareness.

8: \$2m pa Ground Water Mapping

- Map water resources across the wheatbelt identifying low quality ground water resources across grain growing regions for possible use as stock and spraying water resources utilising RO systems.
- Focus on the Great Southern and develop models around granite outcrop water sources.

8: \$250,000 Economic and Financial Modelling of FMDs

Model farm business decision changes to different FMD funding, taxation and withdrawal models, including lifting FMDs to \$1.6m, opening up to Pty Ltds, flat rate withdrawals at 25% during drought.

9: \$250,000 Agricultural Financial Funders Forum

- Bring together financiers and ag consultants on the range of funding options available from traditional and non traditional lending sources to grow awareness of lending options
- Review take up of WA concessional loans since 2013 including business outcomes.

10: \$250,000 Farm Consultants Drought Strategy Mapping

- Survey the strategies and approaches taken by farm consultants and the methods they use to engage farms in drought preparedness and planning.

11: \$500,000 Online Fodder Trading Portal

Develop an online trading portal for the trading of fodder and the linking of buyers and sellers to enhance market outcomes.

Example <https://cleargrain.com.au/help/contact>

12: \$2m pa Annual and Perennial Pasture Plants Global Search

- Identifying the next generation of annual and perennial pasture plants that are drought tolerant.
- Trial and develop new management strategies around alternative pasture varieties

14: \$1m pa Old Man Salt Bush

- Furthering the CSIRO breeding program of salt tolerant species to be palatable for livestock as an alternative drought feed.

15: \$2m pa Dryland Soils Research

- Develop next generation of moisture management techniques to respond to ultra- dry soils
- Build on the work of the Merredin research station
- Extension around best practise of existing techniques