



Robyn Preston MP

Member for Hawkesbury

MEDIA RELEASE

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FUNDING TO HELP BUSHFIRE-HIT FARMERS REBUILD BOUNDARY FENCING BORDERING PUBLIC LANDS

The NSW Government has committed \$209 million to support landholders to rebuild essential boundary fences destroyed by recent bushfires in the region.

Robyn Preston MP, Member for Hawkesbury, said the new 'Supporting Our Neighbours Project' will help cover the cost of rebuilding boundary fences shared by private and public land managers, while supporting local farmers and businesses to recover.

"The recent bushfires in our region have caused extensive damage to private properties including boundary fences which are essential for securing livestock, managing biosecurity risks, minimising environmental damage and protecting against pests," Ms. Preston said.

"The NSW Government will provide \$5,000 per kilometre to help pay for the materials needed to rebuild existing boundary fences bordering public lands damaged in the devastating bushfires over summer."

Despite the fact public landholders are not required to restore or replace damaged boundary fences, the NSW Government moved swiftly to support those who had been impacted by bushfires in the Hawkesbury by helping them rebuild lost boundary fences.

"I encourage all eligible landholders to use local businesses and suppliers with this funding and support local jobs at this uncertain time," Ms. Preston said.

"This is also an opportunity to upgrade your fencing and use fire resilient materials such as concrete fence posts wherever possible.

"The NSW Government will be supporting landholders, connecting them with dedicated fence coordinators to ensure funds and fences are delivered as soon as possible.

"Anyone who has already replaced damaged boundary fencing bordering public lands in the recent fires can still receive a backdated payment."

Bushfire affected farmers can apply for the program from via 1300 778 080 or online via www.lis.nsw.gov.au.

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