

Media Release



Friday 7 February 2020

Bushfire response progressing from emergency to recovery

The Victorian Farmers Federation (VFF) has been overwhelmed with the generosity of the rural and regional community over the course of the emergency response to the fires in East Gippsland and Upper Murray regions.

“It is during times of hardship that we see the very best in people. The VFF has received over 25,500 bales of donated fodder from Victoria and interstate. We have also received monetary funds to our Disaster Relief Fund,” said David Jochinke.

As farmers transition from emergency relief to recovery, the fodder depots will be wound down. The Bairnsdale depot is now closed, with Corryong operating on intermittent days with a closing date of Saturday 15 February 2020.

“Farmers still requiring emergency fodder are encouraged to ring the VFF on 1300 882 833. There are now a range of grants available through State and Federal Government to assist producers with their recovery including fencing, veterinarians, fodder, transport and infrastructure,” said Mr Jochinke.

Those who have registered with VFF and transported fodder can access the fuel subsidy administered by VFF on behalf of the State Government. The subsidy is in place to assist those that register with the cost of fuel when transporting donated fodder to East Gippsland and North East fire zones.

“The rate offered is up to \$4.00/km for a rigid, up to \$5.00/km for a semi and up to \$6.30/km for a B-double from pick up to delivery. The rate is above industry commercial rates to assist with the cost of an empty return trip from fire affected areas,” said Mr Jochinke.

Registered transporters who have delivered donated fodder to the fire regions must submit their invoices to VFF by close of business Friday March 13 via fodder@vff.org.au or post:

VFF Fodder Coordinator
Level 5, 24 Collins Street
Melbourne VIC 3000

ENDS

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