



Gladys Berejiklian

Premier of NSW

Niall Blair

Minister for Primary Industries

MEDIA RELEASE

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NEW STATE DROUGHT COORDINATOR APPOINTED

With more than a third of NSW in drought or approaching drought, the NSW Government has today announced the appointment of former National Rural Woman of the Year and respected agriculture leader, Pip Job, as the State's Drought Coordinator.

Premier Gladys Berejiklian and Minister for Primary Industries Niall Blair were in Dubbo to confirm the appointment of Ms Job, who will help farmers and communities battling worsening conditions across the State.

"We know farmers are struggling with how dry it is and we want to assure farmers we are standing with them side-by-side as they go into winter," Ms Berejiklian said.

"This new role is about making sure that Government, farmers and communities are working together as best as they can while they get through this difficult period.

"Having felt and seen first-hand the impacts of drought as a grazier, Pip is ideally positioned to be the State's Drought Coordinator."

Mr Blair said Ms Job's role will be key in the months ahead as the latest analysis indicates that conditions across much of the State are rapidly deteriorating.

"In this new role, Pip will be our eyes and ears on the ground, making sure we are providing the right support and doing so at the right time.

"She will provide affected communities with critical information, as well as identifying any emerging risks and coordinating the Government's drought response."

Last month, the NSW Government announced the Drought Transport Fund, which will provide farmers low-interest loans up to \$20,000, to transport stock, fodder or water for drought-affected properties.

The NSW Drought Transport Fund complements the existing \$300 million NSW Drought Strategy, which includes transport subsidies, a rural resilience program, rural support workers and financial counselling, and the Farm Innovation Fund for on-farm drought preparedness.

Visit www.droughthub.nsw.gov.au for details.

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