

# Cumbria Flood Factsheet

## I. Available support

Information for flood affected farms in Cumbria - Monday 25 January  
Brought to you by all public sector organisations in Cumbria

### Farm Flood Debris Recovery Grant

Funding of up to around £500,000 is available through the Rural Development Programme for England (RDPE) for farms severely affected by the floods. Solway, Border and Eden Local Action Group (LAG) and Fells and Dales Local Action Group (LAG) are responsible for allocating funding from the RDPE to their local communities. The LAGs are managed by the North West Development Agency through Cumbria County Council.

Farmers can apply for Farm Flood Debris Recovery Grants to hire equipment or specialist contractors to move debris from their land such as fridges, vehicles and trees which were washed onto their land during the flood. The grants can also be used to remove gravel to the edges of fields as per the [Post flood clean-up guidance](#). Up to 100% of eligible costs can be paid to a maximum of £6,800.

The final date for applications is 26th February 2010. The application form and guidance are available on the Cumbria County Council website ([cumbria.gov.uk/floods](http://cumbria.gov.uk/floods)) and on the NWDA website ([nwda.co.uk/rdpe](http://nwda.co.uk/rdpe)).

Farmers can contact the Local Action Groups or Cumbria Rural Enterprise Agency (CREA) to discuss how best to apply for the funds.

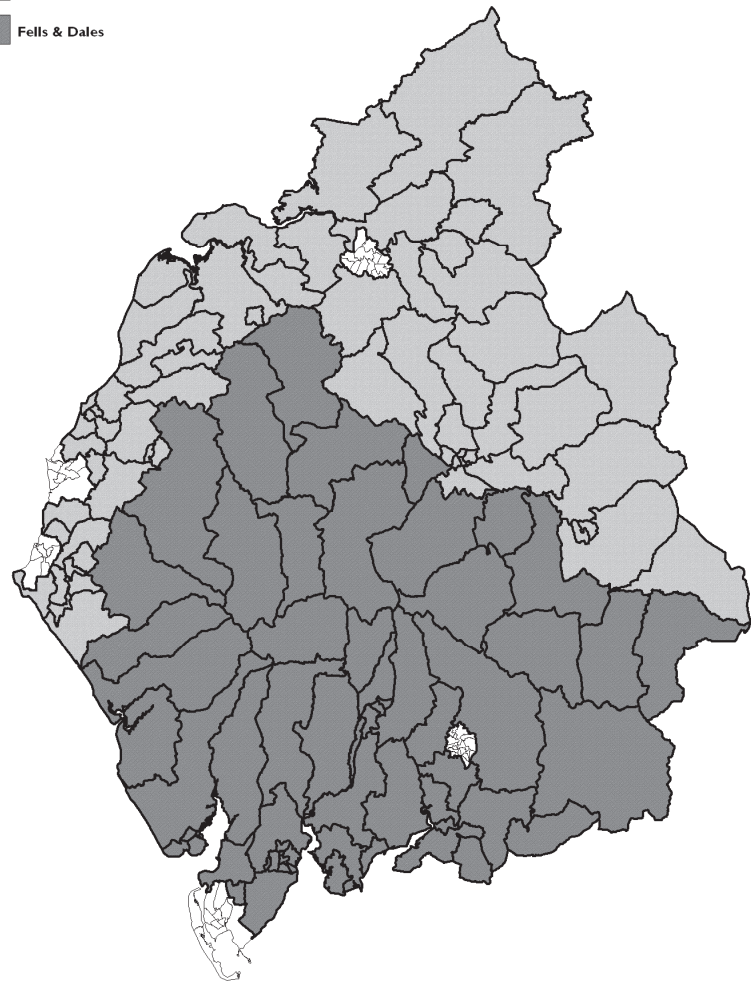
Solway, Border and Eden Local Action Group  
T: 01697 349212 E: [info@sbeleader.org.uk](mailto:info@sbeleader.org.uk)

Fells and Dales Local Action Group  
T: 01768 869533 E: [info@fellsanddales.org.uk](mailto:info@fellsanddales.org.uk)

Cumbria Rural Enterprise Agency (CREA)  
T: 01768 891555 E: [enquiries@crea.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@crea.co.uk)

EU Rural Development Programme  
FINAL OPTION - MARCH 2007

Lighter area  
Solway, Border & Eden  
Darker area  
Fells & Dales



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#### Above

Lighter area shows area covered by Solway, Border and Eden Local Action Group. Darker area shows Fells and Dales Local Action Group.

## What is the Debris Recovery Grant process

The first stage is to complete the application form and return to either the Fells and Dales or Solway Border and Eden RDPE office (see enclosed map as to which area is relevant).

As well as the application form, you will need to provide a map of your holding which identifies the flood affected area and a copy of the quotations for the goods/service you intend to purchase.

The map needs to show the area affected by the flood debris and show the type of debris. Please also mark any boundaries such as walls and fences that have been washed away or damaged.

Following receipt of the application form, you will be allocated an Adviser who will confirm and verify the information and assess whether the project costs are reasonable.

The application is then considered by the appropriate Local Action Group who will process it and send out an offer letter (or otherwise) within 2 weeks. Once the work has been carried out and paid for, you should submit your claim form which will be sent out with your offer letter. This must be accompanied by the original invoice(s) for the cost of the work and bank statement(s) as evidence of payment. All original invoices and bank statements will be returned to you once your claim has been processed. The Local Action Group will aim to pay claims within 30 days of receipt.

## What is not covered by the Debris Recovery Grant?

- Recoverable VAT
- Costs that are covered or reasonably could have been covered by insurance
- Removal of Silt from affected land
- Costs of creating access to affected land
- Reinstatement of fences and boundaries
- Costs associated with the removal of Debris prior to you being issued with your offer letter.
- Costs not associated with the removal of debris from your farm holding
- Charges for your own labour and machinery costs cash payments

## What other support is available?

The Debris Recovery Grant fund is targeted at helping farmers remove flood debris from their land. For problems such as damage to walls and fences, we would recommend you contact Natural England if you are in an Agri-Environment Scheme to discuss how the flood has affected your agreement and whether any additional support might be available. Help may also be available through the ARC Addington Fund and contact details of these and other relevant organisations are given below.

### **Natural England**

01768 860700

### **Environment Agency**

08708 506506

### **The ARC Addington Fund**

02476690587

### **Cumbria Community Foundation**

01900 825760

## Business planning support

The North West Development Agency via Cumbria Chamber of Commerce has made available additional support which will enable eligible businesses to access specialist advice, funding for training, and interest relief. This support is being coordinated by Business Link North West.

Business Link can also support you through your Debris Recovery Grant application.

Business Link can be contacted for business support 8am - 8pm Monday to Friday and 8am - 2pm during weekends by contacting 0845 0066888.

## ARC Addington Trustees Discretionary Fund

This fund can pay a one-off payment of £2,000 for costs over and above normal farming activity costs. An example being where a farmers herd has a positive TB test - the farmer could apply for the payment to help with additional feed costs for store cattle which he can't sell because of movement restrictions.

Flood affected farmers may be eligible - £2,000 could be given to help with debris clearance where the cost of this will be more than the RDPE grant limit. Applicants should send in a copy of their quote with other details requested in the application form.

The application form is available to download at [www.cumbria.gov.uk/floods](http://www.cumbria.gov.uk/floods)