

**From:** [Natalie Lee](#)  
**To:** [Natalie Lee](#)  
**Subject:** Drought Hub Memo Update – August  
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**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)

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Dear Partners and Stakeholders,

The Grower Group Alliance (GGA) has announced the appointment of Tom Davidson to the role of Director of the South-West WA Drought Resilience Adoption and Innovation Hub (SW WA Hub).

Mr Davidson brings to the position significant expertise in strategy, innovation and commercial management and will lead experienced team members who have also been appointed. They include Knowledge Broker Tanya Kilminster, who is based at Merredin, Business Development Manager Annabelle Bushell, Project Manager Kellie-Jane Pritchard and Stakeholder & Communications Manager Natalie Lee.

For more information, see the [GGA media release](#) announcing the appointments or scroll down the [GGA Management](#) page to read team member biographies.

The appointments come after the GGA signed the Hub grant agreement with the Federal Government in June, marking an exciting new chapter aimed at improving the drought resilience and preparedness of farmers and regional communities.

The SW WA Hub team has embarked on initial planning, and will be in touch with Partners in coming weeks for further discussions.

Tom and the team look forward to working collaboratively with Partners and stakeholders to make the SW WA Hub initiative a success.

Please see below other news from the Future Drought Fund.

### **Apply now for a Future Drought Fund innovation grant**

Got an idea that will help build drought resilience and manage future drought? Through the Future Drought Fund's (FDF) Research and Adoption program, more than \$34 million is available to fund ideas and projects that help farmers and their communities adopt innovative approaches to improve drought resilience. [EOIs close on September 8](#). For further information, visit the [Community Grant Hub website](#)

### **Future Drought Fund (FDF) Drought Resilience Leaders Program**

Those committed to strengthening the future of their region are invited to participate in the FDF Drought Resilience Leaders Program. There are three elements to the program including the Drought Resilience Leaders Mentoring Program, Drought Resilience Leaders Development Program and Community Extension Grants. [Applications for the mentoring program close on August 31](#). If you know someone who would be a good candidate for the mentoring program you can 'shoulder tap' them. More information is available on the [Australian Rural Leadership Foundation](#) website.

### **Drought resilience tool – your chance to provide input**

Cropping farms in Western Australia are predicted to be more heavily impacted by a changing

climate than other regions, and adaptation is vital. To help farmers assess their risks and make plans, the Drought Resilience Self-Assessment Tool (DR SAT) is being developed. A prototype is now available, and producer feedback will be used to fine tune the tool ahead of a pilot later this year. Find the DR SAT prototype on the [Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment \(DAWE\) website](#).

### Science to Practice Forum recordings

The first annual nationwide flagship event for the Drought Adoption and Innovation Hubs, 'Science to Practice Forum – Building the Foundations of Drought Resilience', ran over three days in the last week of June. The GGA hosted a SWWA Hub component from the DPIRD Merredin Dryland Research Institute. Recordings from the event are now available on the [Science to Practice forum page of the DAWE website](#). The next event is in March 2022.

To receive regular email updates directly from the Australian Government's Future Drought Fund, subscribe via the ['Have your say' webpage](#).

*If you no longer wish to receive emails from GGA relating to the SW WA Hub, please reply with 'unsubscribe' or 'STOP'.*

Regards,

Natalie

**NATALIE LEE** | DROUGHT HUB STAKEHOLDER & COMMUNICATIONS MANAGER



**GROWER  
GROUP  
ALLIANCE**  
Together we grow

Shaping the future with  
a producer-led system of  
innovation, adoption and  
collaboration.

Natalie Lee

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