

Landholder Environment Grant Tips

Environment Levy Partnerships and Grants Program

Tips for a successful project

To be successful you will need a well-planned project. When planning your project you should do the following:

- discuss your project with a Conservation Partnerships Officer during the site visit and submit an application that reflects the agreed project scope
- ensure project outcomes are clear and well-defined
- ensure the project can be easily completed within a reasonable timeframe (usually 12 months)
- divide larger projects into smaller easily-achieved and maintainable stages
- if possible discuss your project with other landholders who have undertaken similar projects.

Cost-effectiveness

Cost of materials and hourly rates of contractors may vary significantly. Excessively high costs may affect the success of your application, so take some time to find the most cost effective options.

It is recommended that if you desire high cost materials that you fund these components yourself, as grant funding for these items may not be approved.

Contractors

Council strongly recommends that any contractors you engage for control of environmental weeds, bush regeneration, revegetation and fencing activities are recognised providers, with proven experience in this field. A list of contractors utilised by council can be supplied if required or you may wish to seek quotes from other businesses with similar skills and experience.

It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure that contractors have the necessary licenses and insurances to undertake the work.

If you are planning to engage contractors, please provide details of the contractor/s in the application (company, contact person, phone number).

Fencing to restrict stock access to significant vegetation, wetlands, or riparian areas

Fencing must be for the prevention or restriction of livestock access to revegetation plots, remnant vegetation, wetlands or waterways - creek or river banks.

Please include in your application the type of fencing and an estimate of the length of fencing you wish to install.

The proposed location of the fence line must be clearly shown on your project map. It is preferred that fencing be of a 'wildlife-friendly' design. In most cases this can be achieved simply by using a plain wire for the top and bottom strands. There are also other techniques for minimising the impact of fencing on wildlife, which can be discussed with a conservation partnership officer during the site visit.

Some additional points for fencing with particular regard to fencing along waterways;

- Generally, or where practical, fences should be situated on the high bank to reduce the likelihood of damage by flooding
- Permanent fencing is preferable, however funding for electric fencing (except charging units) will be considered for staged projects, areas that are subjected to repeated flooding, or where it is demonstrated to be appropriate.

Installing off-stream stock watering points and stock crossings

The project design must demonstrate the potential for mitigation or prevention of erosion on a waterway. Access to the waterway by stock must be prevented by an existing fence or fencing as part of this project.

It is important to ensure that relevant permits regarding in-stream works and waterway barrier works have been obtained from the relevant State government department.

<https://www.business.qld.gov.au/industries/mining-energy-water/water/authorisations/riverine-protection>

Revegetation of degraded areas and to establish vegetation corridors and buffer zones

Plants used for revegetation must be locally native, appropriate for the area being revegetated and no larger than tubestock. Tubestock is sometimes called Native Tube or Forestry Tube and is generally 50 mm square and 125 mm deep in size. Exception will be made for certain species that are difficult to obtain in tubestock size.

A Conservation Partnerships Officer can assist you in developing an appropriate species list for your revegetation project after the site visit.

In order to be successful, a revegetation project needs to be well-planned, as each stage often depends on good timing to coincide with favourable weather conditions or other factors. It is essential to consider elements such as frost, flooding, seasonal rainfall, availability of contractors and availability of suitable tubestock for your planting.

If you are seeking high cost revegetation materials in addition to tubestock (eg tree guards or contract labour) the cost effectiveness of your revegetation will be taken into consideration by the assessment panel.

Funding for a contractor to plant trees will only be considered where it can be demonstrated that it is necessary and cost effective.

Reducing sediment loss on farms

Projects to help reduce the loss of soil from farms and thereby mitigate the negative impacts on our waterways often require site specific advice from experts. Please contact a Conservation Partnerships Officer to help you design your project.

Management of environmental weeds and bush regeneration

Control techniques should be appropriate for the area being rehabilitated. A Conservation Partnerships Officer can assist you with determining appropriate strategies and techniques for control of environmental weeds during the site visit.

If you are applying for funds to purchase herbicide for the control of environmental weeds, please undertake the necessary research to ensure that the herbicide is registered for that use and is the most appropriate.

Applications should list the main types of weeds to be controlled and give an indication of the area of weed control to be undertaken.

Weed management activities need to be directed at protecting remnant vegetation areas or rehabilitating degraded areas with the intent of restoring the area to remnant native vegetation.

Modification of fencing to make it wildlife friendly

The fence must be located in or adjacent to an area of natural vegetation and have a history of, or be considered likely to, kill or injure wildlife. Installation or modification of boundary fencing is not eligible.

Your application must include:

Quotes

Quotes are required for any materials or contractors, where the cost will exceed \$1,000. Quotes are preferred to be attached electronically to the on-line application, but where this is not possible, hard copies may be posted to council. Quotes should be detailed and include hourly rates, number of hours of labour, methodology, equipment hire, materials, herbicides to be used, and any travel costs.

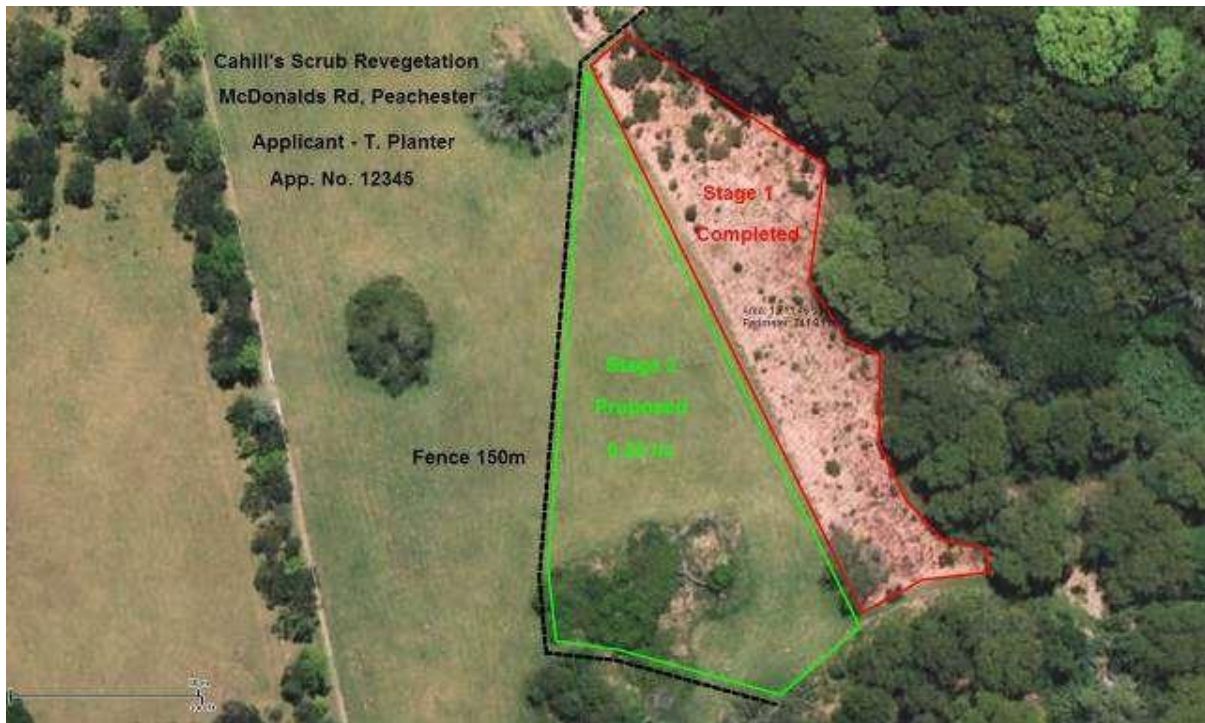
Project maps

A property map with the project clearly defined must be included with your application. Clearly show the location and extent of the project activities on the map. If your grant application is for a stage in a long-term project, please mark all the stages on the map and focus your planning on the current stage.

Maps may be hand-drawn and posted in to council or created online using applications such as Google Earth or council's [My Maps](#) mapping tool, and attached to your on-line application form.

If required, a Conservation Partnership Officer can assist you with a property map. Projects that are not adequately defined or have poor or unclear mapping may be declined.

Example Project Map:



Budget

Budgets must be detailed and realistic and include a breakdown of all the items in your application. A detailed, well-researched budget demonstrates that you have planned your project and are committed to achieving the desired outcomes. Include details of materials and services and price per unit, e.g.:

- 250 tubestock @ \$... each
- 1 x 10L Glyphosate
- 20 hours contractor @ \$ /hr. (See Example Budget)

Landholder contribution requirements

To be eligible for assistance, a landholder will need to contribute to the project. Priority is given to applicants with at least a matching contribution. The landholder contribution can be cash, in-kind or a combination of both.

An in-kind contribution is where the landholder contributes their own physical labour, the use of their own machinery, or project materials (e.g. fence posts, herbicide, mulch). This is calculated over the life span of the project up to acquittal (usually 12 months from receipt of grant funds) and within the project area;

- in-kind contributions are valued at \$43.30/hour for the landholder's labour
- when calculating in-kind contributions for use of your own materials, equipment and/or running costs, you should use reasonable market prices for materials and reasonable market hire rates for machinery
- cash contributions are where the landholder pays for materials and/or labour with their own money

The following table shows the minimum contribution you are required to make for any project for which you are seeking a council landholder environment grant. Example of various landholder contribution amounts:

\$ Amount Requested from Council	Landholder Contribution
Up to \$5,000	Priority will be given to projects with at least a matching landholder contribution. Matching contribution may be any combination of in-kind or cash.
\$5,001 - \$10,000	Landholder must at least match funding amount being requested from council <u>and</u> at least 25% of that matching amount must be in the form of cash.
\$10,001 - \$15,000	Landholder must at least match funding amount being requested from council <u>and</u> at least 50% of that matching amount must be in the form of cash.

Jeff Weedsgone would like \$3,000 council funds for his project. He has a co-contribution of \$120 cash and \$3,200 in-kind for a total contribution of \$3,320.

Jenny Treegrower would like \$6,500 council funds. She has a co-contribution of \$1,800 cash (more than the 25% minimum) and \$5,000 in-kind for a total contribution of \$6800.

David Clearwater would like \$13,000 council funds. He has a co-contribution of \$6,500 cash (the 50% minimum) and \$8,000 in-kind for a total contribution of \$14,500.

See next page for example project budget.

Example Project Budget

Cost item (Note you cannot claim for your <u>own labour</u> , it must be included as in-kind contribution)	Details (e.g. description, quantity, hours, price per unit)	Your contribution (cash only)	Your contribution (in-kind)	Other contribution (cash or in-kind from other sources)	Funds sought from council
Fencing - Line clearing					
Fencing - Materials					
Fencing - Contractor	Ace Fencing - see attached quote for 100 metres	\$1,000			\$1,000
Fencing - Labour (self)					
Fencing - Other costs					
Weed Management - Herbicide	5L glyphosate				\$100
Weed Management - Contractor					
Weed Management - Labour (self)	1 person x 4 hours x 10 months x \$43.30ph		\$1,732		
Weed Management - Other costs					
Revegetation - Plants	400 tube stock @ \$2.50				\$1,000
Revegetation - Materials	100 bales mulch @ \$5ea and 400 bamboo stakes				\$600
Revegetation - Contractor					
Revegetation - Labour (self)	30hrs x \$43.30		\$1,299		
Revegetation - Other costs					
Other - Machinery Hire	Hire of post hole digger x 1 day				\$120
Other - Materials					
Other – Labour Self	Dig holes = 8hrs x \$43.30		\$346		
Misc					
Columns will add up automatically		\$1,000	\$3,377	\$0	\$2,820

Budget Summary	
What is the total amount you are seeking from council?	\$2,820
What is your estimated contribution to the project? (Cash plus in-kind)	\$4,377
What is the total cost of your project?	\$7,197