

## Revegetation project information and guidelines—Connected Corridors

Connected Corridors project is supported by Local Land Services through funding from the Australian and NSW Government. The project intent is to improve riparian native vegetation connectivity by providing revegetation and infrastructure services and support to landholders to actively manage and establish native vegetation on their properties.

### What is eligible?

- Sites in the eastern Murray that protect remnant native vegetation and revegetation sites associated with riparian areas—creeks and waterways. This can include sites that link other sites to waterways that are at least 30m wide.
- Funding may include infrastructure such as fencing and off stream water if necessary
- Fencing should be at least 20m on average from the top of the bank and outside of flood zones

### What is not eligible.?

- Projects that do not meet the intent of the program (eg. aesthetic driveway plantings)
- Boundary fencing can not be funded, but may be a part of the project
- Planting farm forestry or other plantings for harvest and non-indigenous (exotic) plantings
- Offstream watering NOT associated with a fencing projects
- Projects still under management agreements with HLN or other parties

### Incentive rates

- **Up to 100% rebate on the cost of the fencing materials**
- **Up to 100% rebate on plants**
- **Up to 100% rebate on planting (if over 2000 plants)**
- **50% Cost share up to \$3000 for offstream watering points**

### Projects with the following will be prioritised for funding:

- Sites 5ha or larger
- Sites within 100m of existing remnant vegetation or a previously revegetated site
- Sites where the fencing is consistently 20m from the top of bank

## Minimum Fencing Standards

We recognise that fencing style and effectiveness varies widely on different farms with different livestock, livestock management and stocking rates, but minimum fencing standards are required in order to have some certainty for public funding of infrastructure. The standards for this project are:

- 7 wires minimum, maximum 5m between steel posts
- Fence must meet wildlife-friendly standards with no top barbed wire. You may be asked to exclude barbed wire completely if the site is a high risk area for glider snags
- Gates must be installed to maintain access to any Crown land that may be enclosed by the project ,
- Electric fencing is recommended but fence still must meet the above standard so it is reasonably stockproof when the power is off

## Basic conditions of management are:

Landholder must be prepared to enter a management agreement with Holbrook Landcare for a 10 year period. For projects with revegetation, no grazing for the first 5 years to establish the plants and allow any regeneration. After the first 5 years, grazing can occur between February and October for a maximum of four two week periods a year until the end of the agreement. Groundcover must not be less than 70% at any time during the entire agreement term. For projects with no planting the no grazing period is usually the first 12 months.

Weed and pest control and maintenance of the fencing remain your responsibility.

Variations to the standard management agreement may be negotiated depending on site characteristics, and also in response to adverse seasonal conditions.

## Plantations Code

If your revegetation is 30ha or over, you may have responsibilities under the *Plantations and Reafforestation Act 1999* to register your planting. We can help you with information about this if it applies.

## Carbon Credits

Ownership of any potential carbon credits remains with the landowner. We can assist you with information about participating in the Emissions Reduction Fund. You MUST register your project BEFORE its starts to be eligible.

## Biodiversity Conservation Trust Act and LLS Act

Any publicly funded works are not eligible to be used as set asides or offsets under the Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016 and Local Land Services Amendment Act 2016 for the period of the management agreement. Funded works will be identified on the Native Vegetation Regulatory (NVR) Map as Category 2 land, which means that they are not able to be cleared under the self assessment codes. If you need further advice, please contact the Murray Local Land Services Office on 02 6051 2200.

**Applications for 17/18 projects to be in by 31 August 2017.**

**If successful, infrastructure MUST be completed by May 2018, and revegetation by 30 September 2018**

**CONTACT : Kylie or Claire at Holbrook Landcare Network on 02 6036 3181 or 0418198522 or email on [kyliedurant@holbrooklandcare.org.au](mailto:kyliedurant@holbrooklandcare.org.au)**