

RIPARIAN REVEGETATION PROJECT PACK



FUNDING SUPPORT

**THROUGH SUPPORT FROM THE
HEALTHY ESTUARIES PROGRAM,
THE LCDC HAS FUNDING
SUPPORT AVAILABLE TO ELIGIBLE
LANDHOLDERS IN THE LOWER
BLACKWOOD CATCHMENT**



Department of Water and Environmental Regulation
Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development

**Healthy Estuaries WA
is a \$25 million State
Government program,
building on the work of
the Regional Estuaries
Initiative and delivering
actions across 7 South
West Catchments**

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

Launched in June 2020, Healthy Estuaries WA will focus on improving the health of the Peel-Harvey estuary, Leschenault Estuary, Vasse-Geographe waterways, Hardy Inlet, Wilson Inlet, Torbay Inlet and Oyster Harbour. The Lower Blackwood LCDC is delivering components of the project in partnership with DWER, focusing on our estuary, the Hardy Inlet.

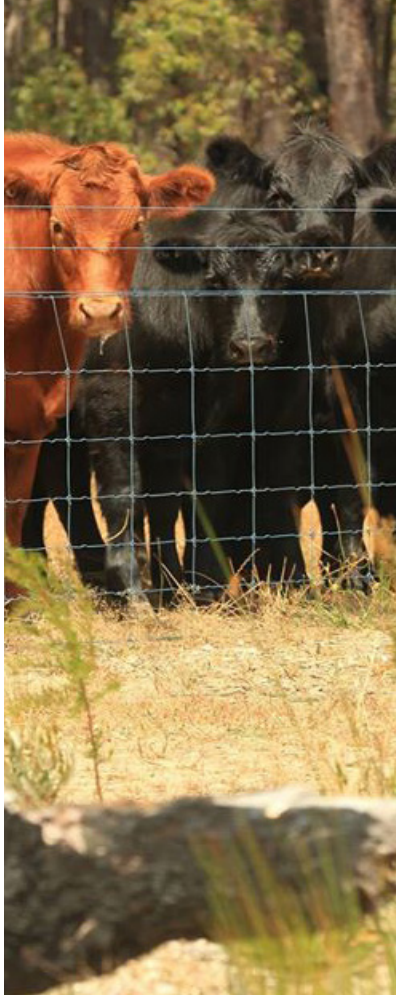
Funding is available through the LCDC's 'Water in the Landscape' program for stock exclusion and riparian restoration.

For eligible sites, landowners are required to contribute at least 50 per cent of the cost of the project through either cash or in-kind contributions for example, installation of fencing or completion of revegetation.

These projects are undertaken in partnership with landowners and in no way alter the tenure or ownership of the land.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

- Project sites are to be situated on waterways or drains that flow into the Hardy Inlet (eg. an example would be a drain that flows into a tributary of the Blackwood which eventually ends up in the Hardy Inlet).
- Landowners must be currently grazing the property or intend to do so in the immediate future.
- Project funding for stock exclusion fencing does not extend to boundary fencing. Exceptions may be considered where the surveyed boundary runs adjacent to a waterway or drain. In such cases, there is no requirement to fence both sides of the waterway/drain.
- A landowner must contribute at least 50 per cent of the total cost of the project through either cash or in-kind contributions (e.g., installation of fencing or completion of revegetation).
- Landowners must be willing to enter into a project funding agreement with the LCDC, outlining the project plan, timing of works and funding responsibilities.
- It is the landowner's responsibility to apply for any permits or approvals that are required to complete their projects (The LCDC will assist in the process if needed).
- The landholder must agree to maintain the fencing in a stock-proof condition for a minimum of 10 years.
- Weed control is a critical part of these projects and must be continued for 5 years after revegetation is completed.



**STABLISE BANKS,
SLOW DOWN
FLOWS AND FILTER
SEDIMENTS, ORGANIC
MATTER AND
NUTRIENTS TO KEEP
THEM ON YOUR FARM**

**INCREASE STOCK
SHELTER FROM
SUN AND WIND AND
REDUCE WATER-
BORNE INFECTIONS
AND IMPROVE STOCK
SAFETY**

**IMPROVE HABITAT
FOR NATIVE FAUNA,
BENEFICIAL INSECTS
AND INCREASE THE
BIODIVERSITY ON
YOUR FARM**

WHY FENCE & REVEG YOUR WATERWAYS?

Key Project Timings

WHEN, WHAT AND HOW?

BELOW IS AN OUTLINE OF TYPICAL KEY TASKS OF A FENCING & REVEG PROJECT. FOR FENCING PROJECTS ONLY (NO REVEG) TIMINGS ARE MORE FLEXIBLE. ALL PROJECTS NEED TO BE COMPLETED BY MAY 2024.

Task	Approx. Timing
Finalise project agreement, planting list and order seedlings (LCDC)	Oct/Nov 2022
Installation of fencing	Nov 2022-May 2023
Spring weed control (eg. slashing, spraying)	Oct-Nov 2022
Site prep (eg. ripping, ploughing, mounding) & pre-planting weed control	May-July 2023
Planting	May-June or Sept-Oct 2023
Post planting weed control 1	Oct-Dec 2023
Post planting weed control 2	March-April 2024
LCDC project officer site visits (minimum)	Spring 2022 End of summer 2023 Post-planting Sep/Oct 2023
Monitoring & Evaluation – photo monitoring points (project officer & reveg contractor)	Planting Sep/Oct 2023 End of summer 2024 Spring 2024
Final site evaluation report	May 2024
Post-planting weed control and fence maintenance (Landholder)	Weed Control - 5 years Fence Maintenance - 10 years



EVERY SITE IS GOING
TO BE DIFFERENT
AND OUR PROJECT
OFFICER WILL WORK
WITH YOU ON THE
SPECIFICS OF YOUR
PROJECT.



WHAT SHOULD WE PLANT?

WITH SO MANY SPECIES TO CHOOSE FROM, WHERE DO WE START?

Improving the health of your waterways could be as simple as fencing off an area of existing bush along a creek or wetland area, to allow natural regeneration of the ecosystem, with some help via weed control and infill planting.

On fully cleared waterways, revegetation projects are likely to require more site preparation prior to planting native species, watering of native seedlings in the first summer to help them survive, and follow-up weed control for a minimum of 5 years to allow the native plants to out-compete and shade out the weeds.

The mix of species chosen for revegetation projects is important to help establish a good vegetation structure with canopy, midstorey and understorey plants. It is also important to protect slower growing species with some fast pioneering plants such

as *Acacia saligna* (Golden Wreath Wattle), *Agonis flexuosa* (Peppermint), *Viminaria juncea* (Swish Bush) and *Callistachys lanceolata* (Wonnich).

Long-term health of native trees is reliant on a healthy undergrowth with grasses, herbs, small shrubs and a good cover of leaf litter and woody material to encourage healthy microbes to flourish in the topsoil.

It's important to consider the specifics of the project - goal, site, sub-catchment, existing vegetation - when selecting species. Our LCDC project officer will work with you to put together a plant list and compile plant orders from our nursery suppliers.

The goal of the project and the characteristics of the site will help assist in the selection of your plant species



ACACIA SALIGNA

NOTE: IMAGES SOURCED
FROM GEOGRAPHE
COMMUNITY NURSERY
GCLN.ORG.AU



BAUMEA RUBIGINOSA



VIMINARIA JUNCEA



ISTACHYS LANCEOLATA



AGONIS FLEXUOSA

Project Responsibilities

WHO WILL DO WHAT?



Every project site is going to be different and our Project Officer will work through the details of your project with you to ensure the best outcome. The project agreement will outline details of responsibilities and contributions (both cash and in-kind). When working through the project agreement with our Project Officer, typical project elements that will be allocated either to the landowner, the LCDC or a reveg/fencing contractor would be:

- Plant selection
- Order and purchase of seedlings
- Site preparation
- Site weed control (pre-planting)
- Purchase of fencing materials
- Installation of fencing
- Revegetation planting
- Site weed control (post-planting)
- Monitoring and evaluation

Bear in mind projects require a 50% contribution either in-kind or cash from landholders.

Other landholder obligations that it is important to be aware of include:

- Agree to a site visit by our LCDC Project Officer to assess the suitability of the site
- Be willing to enter into a project agreement with the LCDC
- Demonstrate that their property is currently utilised for grazing purposes, or the intention exists to do so in the immediate future
- Apply for any permits or approvals (eg. Bed and Banks permits for constructing a stock crossing) that are required to complete the project (Note: The LCDC Project Officer can assist in this process)
- Agree to maintain the fencing in stock-proof condition for a minimum of 10 years
- Agree to take steps to manage weeds and feral animals for a minimum of 5 years to allow for successful establishment of reveg areas
- Agree to allow photo monitoring points to be installed for site evaluation purposes

A REVEG PROJECT IS A WONDERFUL ASSET TO HAVE ON YOUR FARM, BUT IT IS ALSO A LONG TERM UNDERTAKING! IMPORTANT WORK LIKE RESTORING WATERWAYS WITH NATIVE VEGETATION CAN TAKE 10-20 YEARS TO ACHIEVE A HEALTHY AND ESTABLISHED ECOSYSTEM.



Good weed control before and after planting can mean the difference between a failed or successful reveg project.



WILL I NEED ANY PERMITS?

As part of the project planning process, landholders will need to consider that there may be some circumstances where to undertake riparian revegetation works you may need certain permits. The two main permits to usually consider are:

- A permit to Interfere with Bed and Banks which is issued through the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER). This will allow you to alter, obstruct or interfere with the bed or banks of a watercourse as specified in the permit under 'authorised activities', subject to any terms, conditions and restrictions.
- A permit to undertake certain activities within a Protected Area or Aboriginal site under the Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972 (Note: Transition is now underway to the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2021).

Although it is the landowners responsibility to apply for and obtain any permits needed prior to commencing project work, our Project Officer will be able to assist you through the process.

For more information on the permit to Interfere with Bed and Banks visit: www.water.wa.gov.au/licensing/water-licensing/do-i-need-a-licence-or-permit

For more information on permits required for works within a Protected Area or Aboriginal site visit: www.wa.gov.au/service/aboriginal-affairs/aboriginal-heritage-conservation/land-use-under-the-aboriginal-heritage-act-1972



NEXT STEPS

If you are interested in undertaking a fencing or revegetation project then the next steps are to get in touch with our Project Officer to have an initial discussion about your project and to determine your eligibility for funding support.

If you are eligible to receive funding support for your project, then our Project Officer will arrange a site visit with you to come out and have a look at the site, discuss your plans and start the ball rolling!

Our current funding program requires that all projects be completed by May 2024. For revegetation projects this means planting would commence in the 2023 planting season. For fencing

projects, the timing is a bit more flexible as long as the project meets that May 2024 completion date.

To find out more and start the process please contact:

Andrew Hemsley
Lower Blackwood LCDC Revegetation
Officer

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**Healthy
waterways
support a
healthy and
productive
farming
environment.**

GET IN TOUCH

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Lower Blackwood Catchment
Land Conservation District Committee



Department of **Water and Environmental Regulation**

Department of **Primary Industries and Regional Development**