

Environment Levy Landholder Environment Grants

June 2025

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, you fund these components yourself as grant funding for these items may not be approved.

Contractors

It is recommended that any contractors you engage for management and control of invasive plants, bush regeneration, revegetation and fencing activities are recognised providers have proven experience in this field. A list of contractors utilised by Sunshine Coast Council can be supplied if required or you may wish to seek quotes from other businesses with similar skills and experience.

It is your responsibility (as the applicant) 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).

ENVIRONMENT LEVY FUNDED

What you can seek funding for

Fencing

You may seek funding for the installation of fencing as part of your project. You may seek funding for

- The installation of new fencing to prevent or restrict livestock access to revegetation plots, remnant vegetation, wetlands or waterways (creeks or riverbanks). Fencing along waterways should:
 - be situated on the high bank to reduce the likelihood of damage by flooding (where practical)
 - be permanent – 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.
 - It is preferred that fencing be a 'wildlife-friendly design'.
- The installation/modification of wildlife-friendly fencing in a location adjacent to an area of natural vegetation (excluding boundary fencing) where wildlife has a history of/is likely to be injured or killed. In most cases 'wildlife friendly' design is achieved simply by using a plain wire for the top and bottom strands.

The proposed location of the fence line must be clearly shown on your project map. A Conservation Partnership Officer can provide advise on fencing including designs and techniques for minimising the impact of fencing on wildlife

Off-stream stock watering points and stock crossings

If proposing to install off-stream stock watering points and stock crossings your 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 your 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. For further information please refer to the [Riverine protection permits | Business Queensland](#) page.

Revegetation and bush regeneration

Your project may include the revegetation of degraded areas to establish vegetation corridors and buffer zones or regeneration after the removal of invasive plants (see section following).

Plants used for revegetation/regeneration 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 any revegetation and regenerations aspects of your project once they have undertaken a site visit with you.

A successful revegetation project will 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 (e.g. 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.

Management of invasive plants

If proposing to remove invasive plants (weeds) specific control techniques (appropriate for the species and the area to be rehabilitated) should be used. A Conservation Partnerships Officer can assist with determining appropriate strategies and techniques for control of invasive plants during the site visit.

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

You should include detail on the main types of invasive plants to be controlled and give an indication of the area of weed control to be undertaken.

Invasive plant management activities need to be intended to support the protection of remnant vegetation areas or rehabilitating degraded areas and restore remnant native vegetation.

Reducing sediment

Your projects may seek to reduce the loss of soil from farms to mitigate the negative impacts on our waterways. This often requires site specific advice from experts. Please contact a Conservation Partnerships Officer to help you design your project.

Landholder Contribution requirements

To be eligible for assistance you will need to contribute to the project. Priority is given to applicants with at least a matching contribution. This 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 calculating your contributions please consider the following:

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

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- 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 Landholder Environment Grant. Example of various landholder contribution amounts:

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

What to include in your application

Quotes

Quotes are required for any materials or contractors, where the cost is equal to or over \$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 to Council or created online using applications such as Google Earth or Council's [My Maps](#) mapping tool and attached to your online 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.

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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. For example:

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

Example project budget:

David Clearwater is requesting \$2,925 of Council grant funding towards his bushland restoration project. He has a cash contribution of \$200 and is undertaking \$3,464 worth of in-kind labour. His total contribution to the project is \$3,664. The total project cost is \$6,589.

Weed Management Budget (ONLY fill in this budget if relevant)

ITEM/SERVICE to be purchased/undertaken - DO NOT EDIT THIS COLUMN	ITEM DETAILS (e.g. description/quantity/hours/price per unit)	CASH from Landholder	IN-KIND from Landholder	OTHER CASH/ IN-KIND from third party	COUNCIL's Contribution (CASH)
Herbicide	10L Glyphosate	\$ 200	\$	\$	\$
Contractor	45h @ \$65ph	\$	\$	\$	\$ 2925
Other costs		\$	\$	\$	\$
L'holder In-kind labour \$43.30/hr	8hours/mth for 10m = 80h maintenance	\$	\$ 3464	\$	\$