



Bellarine Landcare Group National Landcare Program Australian Government Smart Farms Small Grants – Expression of Interest Form

Project Outline

Bellarine Landcare Group has \$50,000 through the Australian Government's Smart Farm Grants to support local landholders' knowledge acquisition of regenerative agriculture and native grasslands. The Project will investigate, apply and extend regenerative farming principles. It aims to build the capacity of BLG land manager members - improving knowledge, skills and practices - to implement best practice, sustainable agriculture.

The total funding is \$22,000 to contribute to landholders' on-ground projects.

Landholders can apply for a maximum \$6000 to support projects which restore native grasslands or protect remnant grasslands.

Your project can be aimed at any of the following:

- restoring native grasslands,
- protecting & extending remnant grasslands,
- trialling techniques which will assist in building understanding of restoration, ie applications of burning, slashing, scalping, herbicide, hand weeding, soil amelioration
- improving the soil health, which may include trialling multispecies pastures in areas where native grassland reestablishment is challenging.

Some funds are available for contracting feedback and a review of the proposed projects from knowledge holders.

Your Contribution

Grant recipients make financial and in-kind contributions:

- cash contribution of one third of the total cost of the project
- a portion of in-kind contribution of time, equipment, etc. (applications with a higher in-kind contribution will be ranked higher.)

Other requirements:

- Base line soil testing.
- Seasonal photo point monitoring & reporting to Bellarine Landcare Group via reporting template
- Sharing what you've learnt with the Grassland Interest Group at meetings or property visits
- Pest animal (rabbit) control, depending on the site, is vital, but will be considered as an in-kind contribution.

Landholders can apply for funds to contribute to the cost of -

- Soil testing
- Direct seeding native grassland plants. Purchase of seed, hire of direct seeder or sowing contractor
- Planting native grassland tubestock. Purchase of tubestock, stakes and guards.
- Weed control to prepare areas for planting or direct seeding. Employing a weed control contractor or purchase of approved herbicide (ACUP licence required by applicant), purchase of equipment such as gas burners, fire control backpacks, hand weeding tools.
- Weed control in areas of remnant native grasslands - Employing a weed control contractor or purchase of approved herbicide (ACUP licence required by applicant), purchase of equipment such as gas burners, fire control backpacks, hand weeding tools.
- Weed control to maintain indigenous grassland plants - Employing a weed control contractor or purchase of approved herbicide (ACUP licence required by applicant), purchase of equipment such as gas burners, fire control backpacks, hand weeding tools.

- Direct seeding of multispecies pasture mixes (purchase of seed, hire of sowing contractor)
- Applying different treatments to test sites ie: sugar, fire, slashing, scalping, herbicide, hand weeding
- Fencing off native grassland areas or trial sites from stock and rabbits.

Items which won't be funded

- Funding of herbicide without an Australian chemical users' licence (ACUP)
- Rabbit control – but will be considered as an in-kind contribution.
- Landholders will pay the upfront cost of the project and provide a receipt to Bellarine Landcare Group for reimbursement of the Agreed costs.

The applications which are most in alignment with the project aims will be given a higher priority for funding.

Project Expression of Interest

NAME: _____

POSTAL ADDRESS: _____

PROPERTY ADDRESS: _____

Mobile : _____

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

1. Please tick the box or boxes which best describes what you'd like to do as part of this project (Multiple boxes can be ticked.)

	Direct seeding native grassland plants
	Planting native grassland tube stock
	Weed control to prepare areas for planting or direct seeding and to maintain them
	Weed control in areas of remnant native grasslands
	Weed control to maintain indigenous grassland plants
	Direct seeding of multispecies mixes
	Applying different treatments to test sites ie: sugar, fire, slashing, scalping, herbicide, hand weeding
	Fencing off native grassland areas
	Other:

2. Describe your project and time frame:

3. Describe the purpose for your project:

4. Has your project previously received, or is it currently receiving funding from other sources (ie: Landcare, Catchment Management Authority, State or Federal Government, etc) ?

5. If yes, what funding have you received?

6. Can you send a sketch of project plan on the following page?

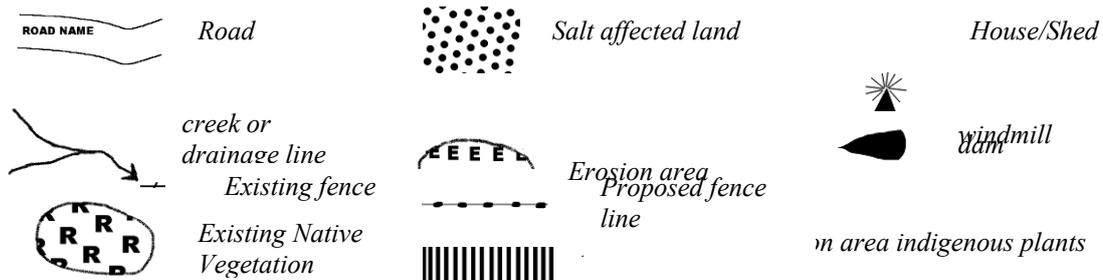
Any further comments about your project can be made here:

Thanks for your EOI. If your EOI is accepted, we'll ask you to submit a budget for your project detailing the works and grant amount you are requesting, along with your cash contribution and in-kind contribution. We will also meet you on your site to discuss the logistics of the project.

Please send your Application form to Sophie Small, Bellarine Landcare Group Facilitator by 14 October.

Mob: 0457 333 727 Email: facilitator@bellarinelandcare.org.au PO Box 431 Drysdale 3222

Please provide a sketch or preferably a map of your project site



Please include an arrow showing north, the approximate distances and directions to your property or the property's main gate.

A large, empty rectangular box intended for the user to draw a sketch or map of their project site, incorporating the symbols defined in the legend above.

