# Second Generation
# Landcare Grants:

Regional Guidelines
2010 - 11

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### What are the Second Generation Landcare Grants?

The Second Generation Landcare Grants (SGLG) program is funded by the State Government's Victorian Landcare Program (VLP), which is managed by the Landcare and Community Engagement Unit in the Department of Sustainability and Environment (DSE). DSE funds a devolved grants process in each Catchment Management Authority (CMA) region, allocated competitively through the Victorian Investment Framework (VIF) process. At a regional level, the SGLG process is managed by the relevant CMA – in this case, the North Central CMA.

### Objectives of SGLG

To enable community groups and networks, and their volunteers, to undertake effective onground works to increase ecosystem resilience and contribute to sustainable landscapes.

### Statewide SGLG priorities 2010-11

o Enabling Landcare groups to deliver onground projects aligned to regional and state priorities.
o Targeted capacity-building through Landcare groups and networks working to protect flagship and biolink areas (refer to the Victorian Investment Framework (VIF) Priorities 2010-11 map).
o Strengthening the links between community and regional levels of planning and implementation.

### Regional and state priorities

This program aligns with priorities in the following strategies and plans:
o The Victorian Action Plan for Second Generation Landcare (2002)
o North Central Regional Catchment Strategy (2003)
o Victorian River Health Strategy (2002)
o North Central Native Vegetation Plan (2006)
o North Central Regional River Health Strategy (2005)

Project proposals that contribute to regional and state priorities will be considered favourably. Regional priorities include:
o Maintaining the capacity of groups in the region to participate in Natural Resource Management (NRM).
o Extending habitat improved and protected for biodiversity through onground revegetation works.
o Reducing the impacts of invasive plants, particularly regionally prohibited and regionally controlled weeds (a full list of weeds for the North Central CMA region is provided in Appendix A).
o Reducing the impact of pest animals e.g. rabbits and foxes.
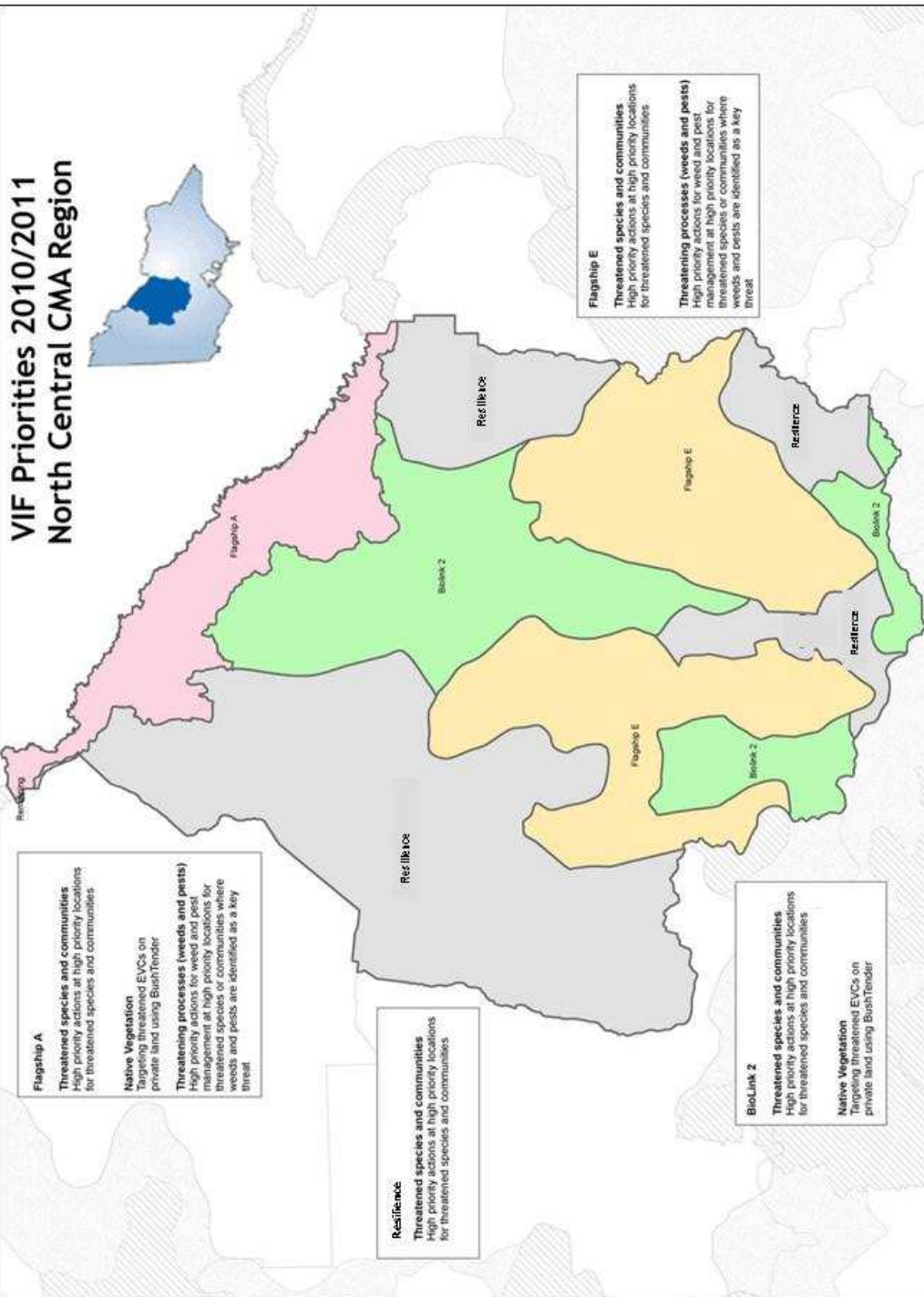o Reducing the risk of salinity on land and water assets.

- Implementing environmentally sustainable farming practices that improve water quality and soil health.

State priorities include:
- Goldfields region: Reduction of localised salinity and soil degradation impacts threatening priority goldfields vegetation.
- Mega Murray region: Reduction of dryland salinity threats from rural land as a major threat to this asset. Reducing impacts of soil degradation where this impacts on high value waterways and wetlands of the greater Murray system.
- Continued delivery of onground works in priority areas.
- Implementation of management actions in identified high priority riparian areas.
- Reduction of the adverse environmental impacts of irrigation; for example, reduce and manage salinity impacts from the northern irrigation regions on the Mega Murray flagship area.
- Improvement in connectivity and management of biodiversity values and asset areas to maintain ecosystem services.

Projects that clearly demonstrate contribution to the objectives of SGLG, the Statewide SGLG priorities 2010-2011 and the regional and state priorities will be considered favourably.

VIF Priorities 2010/2011
North Central CMA Region

**Flagship A**

**Threatened species and communities**
High priority actions at high priority locations for threatened species and communities

**Native Vegetation**
Targeting threatened EVCs on private land using BushTender

**Threatening processes (weeds and pests)**
High priority actions for weed and pest management at high priority locations for threatened species or communities where weeds and pests are identified as a key threat

**Resilience**

**Threatened species and communities**
High priority actions at high priority locations for threatened species and communities

**BioLink 2**

**Threatened species and communities**
High priority actions at high priority locations for threatened species and communities

**Native Vegetation**
Targeting threatened EVCs on private land using BushTender

**Flagship E**

**Threatened species and communities**
High priority actions at high priority locations for threatened species and communities

**Threatening processes (weeds and pests)**
High priority actions for weed and pest management at high priority locations for threatened species or communities where weeds and pests are identified as a key threat

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## Devolved grant types

| Description | Limitations | Example activities | Example projects |
|---|---|---|---|
| **A – Major integrated project grants** | | | |
| o These grants provide funds for Major integrated projects and must include an onground component.<br>o They can be used to pay for materials and contractor fees.<br>o Target recipients are Landcare groups and networks.<br>o Can include capacity building and community engagement activities (specifically linked to NRM actions and/or integrated with onground works).<br>o Project budgets can include project management (up to 10%).<br>o Groups' project proposals will be assessed competitively according to regional NRM, community engagement and capacity priorities. | o $5,000-$40,000 is available per project.<br>o No group can receive more than $40,000 in total from grant types A and B.<br>o Projects must include onground works (at least 50% of budget). | Onground<br>o Revegetation<br>o Riparian and wetland restoration<br>o Remnant protection<br>o Soil erosion control<br>o Salinity plantings<br>o Control of invasive plants and animals<br><br>Capacity, education and engagement linked to NRM<br>o Strategic/action planning<br>o Monitoring and evaluation projects<br>o Workshops and field days<br>o Farm trials for sustainable practices<br>o Training and development in NRM<br>o Promotional materials linked to onground work<br>o Partnership building | o *Protecting the Black Valley River* – fencing to exclude stock, control of weeds and revegetation (includes promotional materials and advertising for community planting day).<br>o *Brown Mountain Biolink* – connecting roadsides, private land and reserves to the Brown Mountain; nesting box project to engage Littletown Primary School in the project and protect endangered marsupials.<br>o *Rabbit-free Roadside* – mechanical warren and harbour destruction followed by revegetation and weed control; plants to be provided by Landcare group following workshop on seed collection, propagation and direct seeding.<br>o *Sustainable soils* – coordination of soil health projects in 10 farms in upper catchment including salinity plantings, erosion control and perennial pasture trials promoted with field days. |

| Description | Limitations | Example activities | Example projects |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **B – Small grants** | | | |
| o These small grants fund onground and/or capacity building and community engagement activities (specifically linked to NRM actions and/or integrated with onground works). <br> o Target recipients are Landcare groups and networks. <br> o These grants can be used to pay for materials and contractor fees. <br> o Project budgets can include project management (up to 10%). <br> o Groups' project proposals will be assessed competitively according to regional NRM and community engagement and capacity priorities. | o Up to $5,000 is available per project. <br> o No group can receive more than $40,000 in total from grant types A and B. | See A grants for example activities | o Up skilling new landholders by funding them to gain their Agricultural Chemical User's Permit (ACUP) which will allow landholders to bait foxes to protect endangered birds. <br> o Strategic planning workshops and facilitation for a new network. <br> o Mapping software, equipment and expert advice to allow a group to monitor the progress of their works. <br> o Workshops for locals on collecting and propagating seeds that will allow them to establish a seed-bank to provide seedlings for group projects. <br> o Weed alert promotional materials or newsletter combined with financial incentives for targeting weeds on a priority waterway. |

| Description | Limitations | Example activities | Example projects |
|---|---|---|---|
| C – Maintenance grants | | | |
| o These grants help Landcare groups meet their basic running costs. | o Up to $500 per group. <br> o Groups that receive an A grant are not eligible to receive a C grant. | o Incorporation fees <br> o Insurance <br> o Administration <br> o Meetings <br> o Newsletters <br> o Other operational costs | N/A |

Notes:
o No group can receive more than $40,000 in total for grant types A and B
o Groups that receive an A grant are not eligible to receive a C grant
o For specific project criteria refer to Appendix B

## General eligibility criteria

o Applicants must be incorporated, insured, not-for-profit Landcare groups (or sub-groups of Landcare networks), community NRM groups or networks. See page 10 for incorporation and insurance information.
o A matching contribution by project proponents must be demonstrated for the project budget as a whole for Grant Types A and B.
($1:$1 cash or in-kind [i.e. labour, materials etc]).
o Groups must submit documentation of compliance with various laws and responsibilities with their project applications (see section below).
o Groups with outstanding reports (pre 2009-10 grants) may apply for, but are not eligible to receive funds, until outstanding reports are received by the North Central CMA.
o For project-specific criteria refer to Appendix B.

## General restrictions

o Grants are not for projects that include work completed prior to project approval and the signing of an agreement.
o Grants are not for shooting (or ammunition or arms), poisoning, explosive or fumigation methods for pest animal control, nor may these activities be contracted out by groups using SGLG funds. Warren/den ripping is an eligible activity, but groups must demonstrate that they have taken cultural heritage and biodiversity impacts into account.
o Onground works should not be for ongoing maintenance – the responsibilities for ongoing maintenance will be specified in your agreement with the North Central CMA.
o Groups need to be capable of completing their projects by August 31, 2011.
o Grants are not for purchase of capital items exceeding $3000.

## Standards for onground works

Statewide standards:

o Revegetation standards www.dse.vic.gov.au (DSE Home > Conservation and Environment > Native Vegetation Information for Victoria > Revegetation Planting Standards). Please refer to the Ecological Vegetation Class (EVC) Benchmarks available on the Department of Sustainability and Environment website at www.dse.vic.gov.au (DSE Home > Conservation and Environment > Native Vegetation Information for Victoria > Ecological Vegetation Class (EVC) Benchmarks for each Bioregion)

o To find out about indigenous plant species that are suitable for your area go to www.vicveg.net.au. Select the 'Plantscapes' tab (on the horizontal bar) and select 'North Central CMA' in the drop-down list for 'Which CMA?'. Use '?' at end of 'Which Bioregion' and 'Which EVC?' if you need help.

o To find out about Invasive Plants and Animals go to www.dpi.vic.gov.au and search for 'Biosecurity Victoria'.

## Funding rates /costing guidelines

The following indicative costings should be used in your application:

o Volunteer labour - $30 per person per hour
o Fencing materials – up to $4.50 per metre
o Tube stock plus guard - $1.50

Other items not listed here will be considered in terms of cost effectiveness. Cost effectiveness may affect the ranking of an application.

The following is a guide to assist in calculating the in-kind labour hours associated with project activities:

o Tree planting – approximately 80 trees per person per day on flat terrain with mattocks and hand watering (without ripping)
o Fencing – approximately one kilometre of plain or hinge joint wire (not including end assemblies or gates) per team of two or three people per day.

**Note:** these figures are intended as a guide only; labour hours will vary depending on factors such as equipment, skill level, terrain etc.

## Assessment criteria

Project Grant types A and B will be assessed against the following criteria:

1. **Is it eligible, feasible, and appropriately costed?**
   Yes/No (If no, the group will need to resubmit and address feedback or withdraw.)
2. **Public Value**
   Rate the amount of public benefit, integration of multiple NRM outcomes and value for money.

3. **Strategy and planning**
    Rate the extent to which the project addresses the cause of the problem, rather than the symptom and the quality of the planning.
4. **Alignment and priority**
    Rate the priority of this work for the region and its alignment with regional and state directions.
5. **Methodology**
    Rate the appropriateness and effectiveness of the methodology.
6. **Capacity building and community engagement**
    Rate the extent to which the project will engage and build the capacity of the group and/or volunteers and/or land managers and/or the wider public.

## Permits, consultation and legal requirements

### Cultural heritage

The *Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006* has placed greater emphasis on the protection of Indigenous cultural heritage sites. Cultural heritage must be taken into account when planning projects that will disturb the earth (e.g. activities like rabbit ripping, widening paths, streamside works etc) and in areas of cultural sensitivity. It is an offence to do an act that will harm, or is likely to harm Aboriginal heritage, except in accordance with a cultural heritage permit or an approved cultural heritage management plan.

To find out if your planned project site is within an area of cultural significance you can:
o  Check your project site on iMap – see instructions under Maps section.
o  Alternatively, look at the Cultural Resource Management Map on the Aboriginal Affairs Victoria (AAV) website to see if your project site is within an area of cultural heritage sensitivity. To do this, go to www.aboriginalaffairs.vic.gov.au. Click on Aboriginal Cultural Heritage for general information about cultural heritage. Click on Heritage Tools for maps and assessment tools.
o  Contact the Victorian Aboriginal Heritage Registry (VAHR) at AAV directly – call 1800 762 003 or email vahr@dpcd.vic.gov.au or post to PO BOX 2392, Melbourne VIC 3001.
o  If your project is on public land, contact the land manager (e.g. council, Parks Victoria etc). The land manager is responsible for ensuring that the project complies with the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006*.
**Note:** if a member of your group is the land owner or manager, they can access maps with finer detail to indicate specific sites of cultural significance. Visit www.aboriginalaffairs.vic.gov.au and go to **Information for landowners** or contact the VAHR as above.

If your project **is** in an area of cultural sensitivity, you must contact North Central CMA's Indigenous Facilitator Mark Pietzsch on 03 5440 1897 or AAV or to find out what to do. You should include a separate activity/ item in your budget for a consultant to

assess your project area for sites of Indigenous cultural heritage for up to three days (AAV can let you know the current rate).

If you are unsure about this process please contact North Central CMA's Indigenous Facilitator Mark Pietzsch on 03 5440 1897.

### Occupational Health and Safety

You need to make sure you have a safe system of work in place for your project to protect the health and safety of your group, volunteers and anyone else on your project site.

The North Central CMA does not intend to assume control of any works for which grant monies are devolved under the Second Generation Landcare Grants Program. In terms of Occupational Health and Safety (OH&S), the North Central CMA expects that best practice will be applied.

You can find resources on OH&S tailored to community groups on the Victorian Landcare Gateway:  www.landcarevic.net.au/resources/for-groups/ohs

Alternatively you can find resources on the Workcover website: www.workcover.gov.au

### Incorporation and insurance

In order to receive a Second Generation Landcare Grant, your group needs to be incorporated, or to be auspiced by an incorporated organisation. You will need to contact and seek permission from the auspicing organisation before applying as that organisation will be legally responsible. If your application is successful, the auspicing organisation will be required to sign the project agreement and manage the funding. If your group is not incorporated but wishes to be, information is available from the Department of Consumer Affairs (www.consumer.vic.gov.au). You can also become incorporated under the Farm Tree and Landcare Association – go to: www.landcarevic.net.au/vff-ftla/projects/governance/introducing-the-ftla/incorporation.html

Your group needs to have public liability insurance of at least $10M, or to be auspiced by a group or network that carries such insurance. If your group is not insured, go to www.landcarevic.net.au/resources/for-groups/insurance or contact the Farm Tree and Landcare Association:

**Contact:** Susi Johnson
**Phone:** 03 9207 5527
**Fax:** 03 9207 5500
sjohnson@vff.org.au

### Permits

You need to seek and document the permission of the land manager for any onground works (see application form).

## *Maps*

You will need to provide a map that indicates the location of proposed works with your application. You will also need to check land tenure and whether your proposed works fall within a culturally sensitive area. To do this you can use iMap.

Instructions for using iMap to create Second Generation Landcare application maps.

1.  Go to iMap -  http://imap.nccma.vic.gov.au:8080/nccma/imf.jsp?site=public

2. Find your location
   o Zoom to area of interest using Zoom Tools 🔍 🔍
   o Draw a square around your area of interest after clicking the 🔍 by clicking and holding the left mouse button.
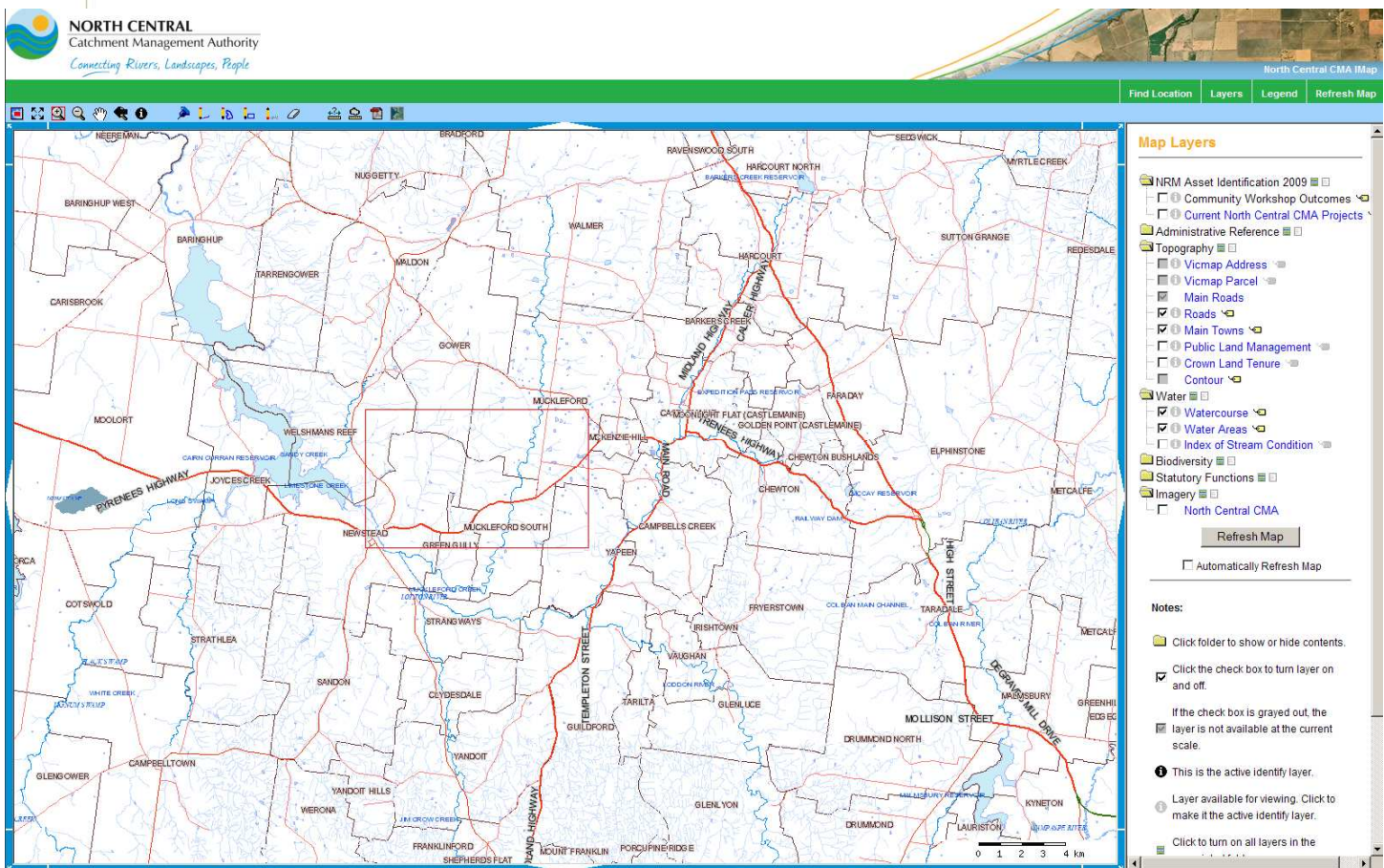


3. Determine land ownership (Tenure)
   o Click on the yellow 'Topography' folder listed on the right hand side of the page under 'Map Layers'.
   o Turn on appropriate layers by clicking boxes to indicate the location of the site (if they are not already displayed). This could include Roads, Waterways, a VicMap Parcel or Crown Land Tenure.
   o Click 'Refresh Map'

4. Check cultural heritage sensitivity
- o Click on the yellow 'Cultural Heritage' folder listed on the right hand side of the page under 'Map Layers'.
- o Click on the 'Cultural Sensitivity' box (if not already ticked).
- o Click 'Refresh Map' (You may need to zoom out)

**Note:** If your project falls within a shaded area please, contact North Central CMA's Indigenous Facilitator Mark Pietzsch on 03 5440 1897 or AAV's manager for the Loddon Mallee Region, Dr Diana Smith on 03 5430 4463.

5. Aerial image
   - Click on the yellow 'Imagery' folder listed on the right hand side of the page under 'Map Layers'.
   - Click on the 'North Central CMA' box (if not already ticked).
   - Click 'Refresh Map'

6. Drawing your proposed project site
   - Draw proposed site using the mark up tools 

   Select the polygon mark up tool  and click at each corner of your proposed site (move around the site in clockwise sequence clicking at each corner post).
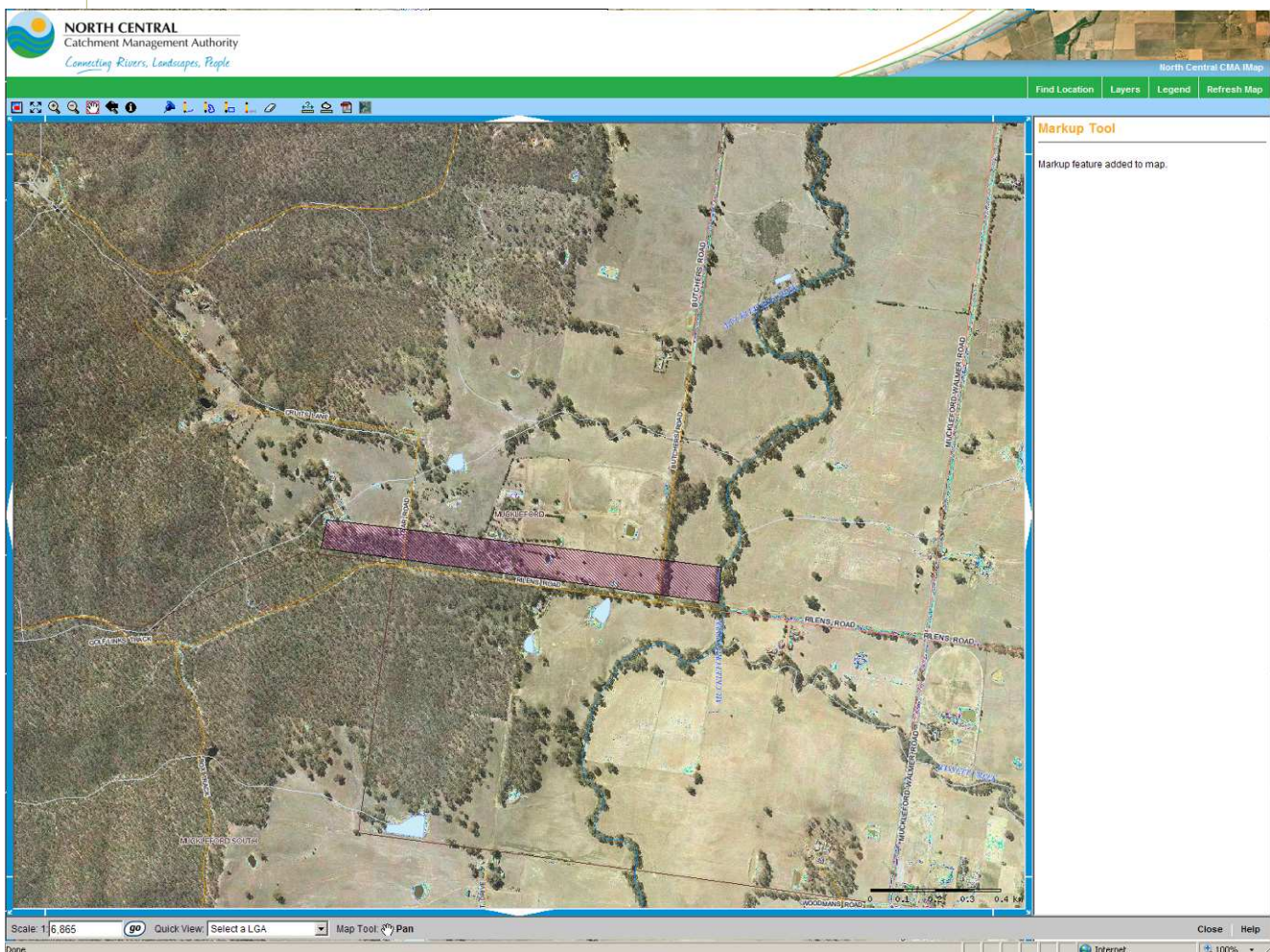
7. Publish a map
   o Click the Print PDF button 📄 and the following dialogue box (picture on the right) will appear
   o Insert map title
   o Click OK
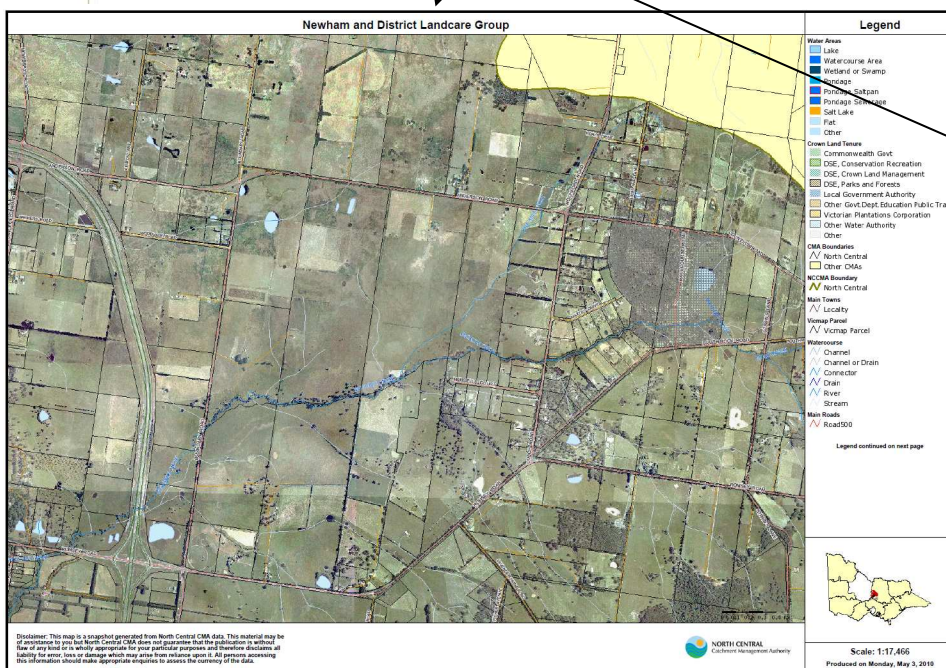


**Create a Scaled Map**

This process creates a map in a PDF document that can be saved or printed. The map will be centered at the same location as the map shown here.

Note: It may take up to a minute to create the map document.

Title:
Map created May 4, 2010

Scale:
Current extent

Page Size:
A4

OK

**Note:** Click on 'Layers' or 'Legend' in the tool bar at the top right hand side of the page to return to the map.

If you need assistance with mapping, contact the North Central CMA's Regional Landcare Coordinator Jodie Odgers on 03 5440 1883.

### *Native vegetation*

Native vegetation is defined as plants that are indigenous to Victoria, including trees, shrubs, herbs and grasses. Sometimes Landcare projects include works that may result in the removal, destruction or lopping of native vegetation (such as warren or burrow ripping). If you think your project may impact on native vegetation, you should take the following steps.

1. Consider whether there are other options that would avoid the need to remove, destroy or impact native vegetation (note that pest control methods involving fumigation, explosives and firearms are not eligible for SGLG funding).

2. If impacts on native vegetation can't be avoided, you will need to seek permission from your local council before you can proceed. There are exemptions available for the removal of native vegetation to remove pest animal burrows. However, this exemption only applies to land in the Farming Zone and the Rural Activity Zone (as defined by the planning scheme). Under this exemption the maximum extent of native vegetation which can be removed on the same property in the same ownership in a five year period is:
   o 1 hectare of native vegetation which does not include a tree; and
   o 15 native trees if each tree has a trunk diameter of less than 20 centimetres at a height of 1.3 metres above ground level.

3. If you wish to remove more than this a permit will need to be sought. It is recommended that landholders keep a record of clearing under any exemption in the event that the clearing is contested.

4. To seek a permit you will need to contact your local council. In some cases written agreement from a relevant DSE officer would allow removal of native vegetation beyond these levels, but this would require further investigation of any flora and fauna issues. Your first point of contact should be your local council. *See contact list at the end of these guidelines for council phone numbers.*

5. If you are not sure what zone you are in, contact your local council planning department.

If exemptions apply (i.e. if you don't need a permit), you will need to show that this is the case (by providing a map or a copy of correspondence).

For full details on farming and native vegetation permit requirements, go to www.dse.vic.gov.au. Search for the document 'Farming and native vegetation removal, July 2009'. Select 'Environment, native vegetation, wildlife, flooding – practice notes and advisory notes'. Under the heading 'Native vegetation and wildfire' select the Farming and Native Vegetation removal, revised July 2009 (PDF - 239 KB) document.

## What will be in your agreement should you be successful

- Your application including all attachments (amended based on feedback if necessary)
- Your agreed activities and outputs
- Your reporting requirements (including spatial reporting)
- A clear articulation of the North Central CMA's and your group's responsibilities regarding liability, occupational health and safety, cultural heritage, and future maintenance of works
- Documentation of compliance with relevant legislation
- Media agreement - all materials and publicity associated with your Second Generation Landcare Grants project must make reference to the Victorian Government's Second Generation Landcare Grants.
- The signature of a community member who is an office bearer in your group.

## Reporting requirements

Groups receiving a Second Generation Landcare Grant will be required to lodge a final report as soon as the project has been completed. Groups will need to report on the achievement of agreed activities and outputs, including a map/spatial information/GPS coordinates for any onground works undertaken. See the reporting section of the application form for further detail.

The final report must be lodged with the North Central CMA by 31 September 2011. This allows the CMA to fulfil its obligations to the State Government. Random audits of projects may be conducted to ensure that reporting has been accurate. Groups should return all uncommitted SGLG funds prior to 2009 -10 to the CMA by 31 July 2010. Returned funding will be added to the SGLG budget for groups to use in future years.

Groups that have not submitted final reports from previous years (excluding 2009-10) are eligible to apply for 2010/11 funding, however, they won't receive any further money (if their application is successful) until all outstanding reports are received.

If a group requires an extension for a past project, they will need to submit a written request to the North Central CMA for approval. If approved, some groups may be eligible to receive monies for the new SGLG project whilst finalising the previous projects.

**Timeline**

**2010-2011 Second Generation Landcare Grants timeline**

<u>*Applications open*</u>
Monday 17 May
Design project & budget - Seek technical or other advice if required
[Two months]
⇓

<u>*Applications close*</u>
Friday 16 July
⇓

Regional/Technical Assessment Panel meets to assess, rank and approve applications.
(Late July 2010)
⇓

Applicants advised in writing if the application is successful or unsuccessful.
(August 2010)
⇓

Applicants receive agreements for completion and return prior to distribution of grant monies.
(August 2010)
⇓

<u>*Project completed*</u>
**(31 August 2011)**
⇓

<u>*Final reports submitted*</u>
<u>**(30 September 2011)**</u>

## Contacts and resources

| Contact | Role | Organisation | Location | Phone |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Jodie Odgers | Regional Landcare Coordinator | North Central CMA | Huntly | 5440 1883 |
| Mark Pietzsch | Indigenous Facilitator | North Central CMA | Huntly | 5440 1897 |
| Ian Ball | Pest Management Officer | Department of Primary Industries (DPI) | St Arnaud | 5495 1700 |
| Tom Lonsdale | Pest Management Officer | DPI | Swan Hill | 5036 4857 |
| Martin Deering | Pest Management Officer | DPI | Maryborough | 5461 0817 |
| Ivan Carter | Pest Management Officer | DPI | Kyneton | 5421 1701 |
| Julie Graham | Pest Management Officer | DPI | Kyneton | 5421 1722 |
| Carolyn Selway | Pest Management Officer | DPI | Bendigo | 5430 4405 |
| Jane Paulet | Pest Management Officer | DPI | Kerang | 5450 9568 |
| David McIlroy | Team Leader-Biodiversity Services | Department of Sustainability and Environment (DSE) | Swan Hill | 5036 4803 |
| Alison Oppermann | Team Leader Biodiversity Services | DSE | Bendigo | 5430 4369 |
| David Major | Ranger in Charge | Parks Victoria | Bendigo | 5430 4659 |
| Kane Weeks | Ranger in Charge | Parks Victoria | Echuca | 5481 2501 |
| Jade Logie | Ranger in Charge | Parks Victoria | Inglewood | 5431 7201 |
| | Victorian Aboriginal Heritage Registry | Aboriginal Affairs Victoria | Melbourne | 1800 762 003 |
| Susi Johnson | Executive Officer | Farm Tree and Landcare Association | Melbourne | 9207 5527 |
| Sue Mahon | Swan Hill Rural City Council | | Swan Hill | 5036 2333 |
| Anna Arkoudis | Buloke Shire Council | | Wycheproof | 1300 520 520 |
| Adam Cooper | Gannawarra Shire Council | | Kerang | 5450 9333 |
| Jane Prochilo | Gannawarra Shire Council | | Kerang | 5450 9333 |

| Contact | Organisation | Location | Phone |
|---|---|---|---|
| Rhonda Day | Shire of Campaspe | Echuca | 1300 666 535 |
| Bill Denton | Shire of Campaspe | Echuca | 1300 666 535 |
| Allan Stobaus | Loddon Shire Council | Wedderburn | 5494 1200 |
| Michelle Wood | Northern Grampians Shire | Stawell | 5358 8700 |
| Anthony Sheehan | City of Greater Bendigo | Bendigo | 5434 6000 |
| Andy Steed | Central Goldfields Shire Council | Maryborough | 5461 0610 |
| John Pollock | Mount Alexander Shire Council | Castlemaine | 5471 1700 |
| Andrew Leach | Pyrenees Shire Council | Beaufort | 5349 1100 |
| Thea Laidlaw | Hepburn Shire Council | Daylesford | 5348 2306 |
| Lachlan Milne | Macedon Ranges Shire Council | Kyneton | 5422 0333 |

## Useful websites

North Central Catchment Management Authority
www.nccma.vic.gov.au

Department of Sustainability and Environment
www.dse.vic.gov.au

Department of Primary Industries
www.dpi.vic.gov.au

Aboriginal Affairs Victoria
www.aboriginalaffairs.vic.gov.au

Victorian Resources Online
www.new.dpi.vic.gov.au/vro

Victorian Government Acts
www.austlii.edu.au/au/legis/vic/consol_act/

Victorian Landcare Gateway
www.landcarevic.net.au

iMap
http://imap.nccma.vic.gov.au:8080/nccma/imf.jsp?site=public

Insurance
www.landcarevic.net.au/resources/for-groups/insurance

## Appendix A

### Declared noxious weed list for the North Central CMA region

| State Prohibited | |
|---|---|
| **Scientific Name** | **Common Name** |
| Giraffe Thorn | *Acacia erioloba* |
| Karoo Thorn | *Acacia karroo* |
| Camel Thorn | *Alhagi maurorum* |
| Alligator Weed | *Alternanthera philoxeroides* |
| Perennial Ragweed | *Ambrosia psilostachya* |
| Marijuana | *Cannabis sativa* |
| Nodding Thistle | *Carduus nutans* |
| Black Knapweed | *Centaurea nigra* |
| Water Hyacinth | *Eichhornia crassipes* |
| Japanese Knotweed | *Fallopia japonica* |
| Giant Knotweed | *Fallopia sachalinensis* |
| Japanese Knotweed hybrid | *Fallopia x bohemica* |
| Bear-skin Fescue | *Festuca gautieri* |
| Hawkweed | *Hieracium spp.* |
| Tangled Hypericum | *Hypericum triquetrifolium* |
| Poverty Weed | *Iva axillaris* |
| Ivy-leafed Sida | *Malvella leprosa* |
| Lobed Needle Grass | *Nassella charruana* |
| Mexican Feather Grass | *Nassella tenuissima* |
| Branched Broomrape | *Orobanche ramosa* |
| Parthenium Weed | *Parthenium hysterophorus* |
| Mesquite | *Prosopis* spp. |
| Salvinia | *Salvinia molesta* |

| Regionally Prohibited | |
|---|---|
| **Scientific Name** | **Common Name** |
| Boneseed/Bitou Bush | *Chrysanthemoides monilifera* |
| Californian/Perennial Thistle | *Cirsium arvense* |
| Serrated Tussock * | *Nasella trichotoma***\*** |
| African Feather-grass | *Pennisetum macrourum* |
| Soldier Thistle | *Picnomon acarna* (gazetted as *Cirsium arcana*) |
| African Daisy | *Senecio pterophorus* |

| Regionally Controlled | |
|---|---|
| **Scientific Name** | **Common Name** |
| Hardheads/Russian Knapweed | *Acroptilon repens* |
| Wild Garlic | *Allium vineale* |
| Khaki Weed | *Alternanthera pungens* |
| Amsinckia | *Amsinckia spp.* |
| Spiny Burr Grass/Gentle Annie | *Cenchrus longispinus* |
| Artichoke Thistle | *Cynara cardunculus* |
| Thorn Apple (Long-spine) | *Datura ferox* |
| Thorn Apple (Recurved) | *Datura inoxia* |
| Thorn Apple (Common) | *Datura stramonium* |
| Paterson's Curse | *Echium plantagineum* |
| African Love-grass | *Eragrostis curvula* |
| St John's Wort | *Hypericum perforatum* |
| Spiny Rush | *Juncus acutus* |
| African Boxthorn | *Lycium ferocissimum* |
| Horehound | *Marrubium vulgare* |
| Cape Tulip (One-Leaf) | *Moraea flaccida* (gazetted as *Homeria flaccida*) |
| Cape Tulip (Two-Leaf) | *Moraea miniata* (gasetted as *Homeria miniata*) |
| Illyrian Thistle | *Onopordum illyricum* |
| Prickly Pear (drooping) | *Opuntia monacantha* |
| Wheel Cactus | *Opuntia robusta* |
| Prickly Pear (erect) | *Opuntia stricta* |
| Prairie Ground Cherry | *Physalis viscosa* |
| Sweet Briar | *Rosa rubiginosa* |
| Blackberry * | *Rubus fruticosus* agg.* |
| Golden Thistle | *Scolymus hispanicus* |
| Silverleaf Nightshade | *Solanum elaeagnifolium* |
| Caltrop | *Tribulus terrestris* |
| Gorse/Furze * | *Ulex europaeus* * |
| Bathurst Burr | *Xanthium spinosum* |
| Noogoora Burr/Californian Burr | *Xanthium strumarium* (incl. *X. occidentale* & *X. orientale*) |

**\*** Victorian Community Weeds

**Note:** this list is current as of May 2010.

## Appendix B

## Project-Specific Criteria

These project-specific criteria are correct as of 17 May 2010. Each application will be assessed on an individual basis.

### Project Management and Training

The following must be considered:
o    The projects may have 10% of the total project budget allocated to project management duties related to the project.

### Fencing

The following must be considered:
o    Fencing costs can be included where the works ensure the protection and enhancement of remnant vegetation and waterways.
o    Boundary fencing will not be funded. The cost of fence erection and maintenance must be met by the landowner or group; this will be part of the in-kind contribution and should equal or exceed the cost of plain or hinge-joint fencing materials.
o    Fencing materials will be funded up to $4.50/metre. As a general guide to calculating in-kind labour hours, a two to three person team could complete approximately one kilometre of fencing per day, on flat terrain and not including end assemblies – this figure will vary according to equipment, skill level, terrain etc.
o    Payments to fence waterways will only be considered if the setback (that is, the distance from the top of stream bank to the fence) is a minimum of 10 metres (on average).
o    Fencing costs for biodiversity corridors will only be considered if the corridor is a minimum of 30 metres wide.
o    Projects can occur across one or more properties and need to demonstrate public benefit for each activity.

### Vegetation Enhancement or Establishment

The following must be considered:
o    Vegetation enhancement or establishment must be in accordance with the Vic Veg Best Practice Management for Native Vegetation website www.vicveg.net.au
o    The cost of planting is the responsibility of the landowner/group; this can be the in-kind contribution and should equal or exceed the cost of the plants/seed etc. A species list must be attached to the application, including the proposed number of seedlings/ kilos of seed of each species to be used. Please refer to VicVeg OnLine (www.vicveg.net.au) for a guide to appropriate indigenous flora species of your area.

o Projects can occur across one or more properties and need to demonstrate public benefit for each activity.
o Ensure other vegetation communities are not adversely impacted upon.
o Projects must use indigenous (naturally occurring in the area) species – both plants & seed – except in situations where changed conditions (e.g. salinity) necessitate the use of non-indigenous species.
o Whilst the establishment of native vegetation through tubestock or direct seeding may be appropriate in some situations, e.g. 'greenfield paddock', in other situations such as next to or within native vegetation (including underneath canopy cover), consideration should be given to natural regeneration processes. For example in low soil fertility sites where more adaptable colonising native species persist, such as wallaby grasses or some wattles or juvenile eucalypts, simply fencing areas may prove less energy intensive and costly and lead to a better outcome in the long-term. Likewise in riparian zones with higher soil fertility, controlling woody and annual weeds with specific techniques and/or herbicides along with strategic and appropriately placed and protected (not 1 litre milk cartons) tubestock applies greater emphasis on the principle of 'restoration' and could lead to a better outcome in the long term. However, as with any restoration approach, continual monitoring and adaptive management procedures will be required to ensure an increase in condition is achieved.
o Projects that involve wildlife corridors must have a minimum width of 30 metres
o As a general rule, amenity plantings will not be funded.
o Ongoing monitoring and management of projects is essential. Where possible, a vegetation and faunal assessment of the site should be undertaken at the beginning and completion of the project.
o To be successful, applications must demonstrate that pest plant and pest animal issues have been considered.

**Note:** If existing native vegetation species might be affected by your proposal, check with your local council first to see whether you need a permit or if there are other restrictions/requirements (for more details refer to page 17 of these guidelines).

### Weed Control

The following must be considered:
o Groups can only apply for funding to control weeds listed in the declared noxious weed list for the North Central CMA region in Appendix A. However, discretion can be applied if seen as necessary/desirable by the North Central CMA and the DPI Pest Management Officer, where there is a clear public benefit.
o The weed's contribution to habitat needs to be considered in order to determine appropriate treatment. For example, Boxthorn, Gorse and Blackberry are often used as nesting sites or protective cover for native birds. In these cases, staged removal and/or stem injection (and left in place) is preferred, and could be planned over a number of consecutive projects. At the very least, in most cases involving woody weed removal, applicants are advised that applications should

include an allowance for the cost of revegetation, and specify the revegetation proposed.  The DPI Pest Management Officer can use discretion in this requirement where removal of a small number of woody weeds amongst dense shrubby native cover will not adversely impact on the habitat of the site.

o   Where groups propose to do their own weed control using chemicals requiring an ACUP, participants must hold a current ACUP license.

o   Funding for weed control on roadsides will only be considered where adjoining landholders are actively controlling these weeds on their private property (in the group control area), and where the local council has been consulted.

## Rabbit Control

The following must be considered:

o   Please contact the relevant DPI Pest Management Officer for your area if you are considering rabbit control activities for you project. A list of DPI Pest Management Officers appears on page 20 of these guidelines.

o   Projects can occur across one or more properties and need to demonstrate public benefit for each activity.

**Note:** If control projects are within Carpet Python areas, advice should be sought from DSE Epsom, telephone 03 5430 4444. Carpet Pythons are known to use rabbit warrens for shelter.