



Waterway Protection Program: Eligibility requirements

FACT SHEET 2: To be eligible for funding through the Waterway Protection Program all projects need to meet the following requirements and criteria.

The Corangamite Catchment Management Authority works on the lands, waters and seas of the Wadawurrung People of the Kulin Nation and the Kirrae Whurrong, Djagurd Woorroong, Gulidjan and Gadubanud People of the Maar Nation and acknowledge them as the Traditional Owners.

Project requirements

All projects funded by the Corangamite CMA are required to exclude livestock access from the project area to protect the bank from erosion and avoid contamination from stock being in or next to the water. There is a minimum buffer requirement, which is an average of 20m and not less than 10m in one spot. As part of an agreement with the dairy industry this buffer can be halved for dairy farms.

Eligible activities:

- fencing, off-stream water infrastructure and stock crossings
- weed and rabbit control (above and beyond legal requirements)
- revegetation with indigenous species
- willow control.

All eligible activities are funded at maximum rates based on the quantity to be completed (e.g. fencing is paid per metre) and need to meet a minimum work standard, refer to Fact Sheet 3 for these standards and the funding rates available.

Ineligible activities:

- Large scale erosion control
- Weeds or rabbits where legal responsibilities are not being met under the Catchment and Land Protection Act.
- Revegetation with non-indigenous species
- Activities that are already funded at the same site and at the same time.

Eligible sites:

To be eligible to receive funding sites must:

- Be located on waterway frontage and begin at the bank of the waterway and continue up to a maximum distance of 50m away from the bank.
- Be willing to meet the minimum buffer requirements:
 - An average of 20m with no less than 10m in any one spot.

- Dairy properties: an average of 10m and no less than 5m in any one spot.
- Be willing to exclude stock from the project site indefinitely (if applicable).
- Meet the land ownership criteria (as outlined below).
- Meet any location criteria that is set for the associated funding round. For example, a specific waterway or section of waterway, or within a particular targeted area. Check the Corangamite CMA website for details.

The CMA will vary the application process based on the scale of funding available. This



Threatened native fish: Drought refuge and habitat pool for the nationally threatened Yarra Pygmy Perch on Thompson Creek (top) and native migratory fish, Australian grayling (bottom).

could be an advertised expression of interest for large funding rounds over large geographic areas or the CMA may approach individual landholders for stewardship improvement works in targeted areas.

Ineligible sites:

- The site cannot be part of an offset for permitted vegetation clearing elsewhere or an offset established under the EPBC Act.
- The proposed works must not be part of a current management agreement and have current funding over the site.
- Sites that are not along water frontage.
- Sites that have been funded before and the land manager has not changed (however these may be eligible for assistance through the CCMA maintenance program).

Land ownership requirements

Land managers wishing to participate in projects must meet at least one of the criteria listed here:

- The land manager has responsibility for the management of public land on behalf of the State or Commonwealth.
- The land manager owns and manages the site(s).
- The land manager owns the site(s) and engages or leases the site to someone else to manage it.
- The land manager leases the site(s) from another landowner. The land manager commits to undertaking the management actions and the owner agrees to co-sign the agreement, agreeing to the actions on their land. The recipient of the annual payments will be responsible for all the actions under the Management Agreement.
- The land manager holds a Crown land licence over the site(s) which covers the period of the agreement.
- The land manager manages a Crown land site(s) that is licensed to another person.

The land manager commits to undertaking the management actions and the actual licence holder agrees to co-sign the contract agreeing to the actions on the land they hold licence over **or**

- A committee or organisation managing on site for a business\owner.

Land managers in the following situations are ineligible under the project:

- Land managers wishing to manage unlicensed Crown land. The site(s) will become eligible only if the person can obtain a Crown land licence.
- Land managers managing a Crown land site(s) that is licensed to another person where the Land manager commits to undertaking the management actions but the licence holder does not agree to co-sign the contract for the land under their licence.
- Land managers leasing the site(s) from a landowner, which the landowner does not agree to co-sign the agreement for actions on their land.
- Non-Government Organisations, committees or trusts that wishes to manage a site on behalf of business or another organisation where the landowner does not agree to co-sign the agreement for management actions on their land.
- Land purchased through a Government grant (e.g. National Reserve System whereby the grant includes an expectation that the organisation receiving the grant has the funds to manage the land per the proposed works).

Previous recipients of CMA funding

Previous recipients of CMA funding are eligible providing they have a new site or are a new land manager of an old site.

For previous recipients that need assistance with an old site, you may be eligible for the CMA's maintenance program, contact the CMA for further information.

Public land

Public land sites are eligible, provided the applicant and the site meets all the other eligibility requirements.

Crown land

Land managers that hold a Crown water frontage licence are eligible under this project.

Where a grazing license exists on an area of Crown frontage, the licensed area for a project will be amended to a riparian management license to reflect the changes to management.

Land managers that have adjacent crown water frontage but do not hold a Licence will need to obtain one to be able to participate.

Corangamite CMA project officers will assist with licence details and facilitate any amendments or new licences with DEECA.

Further information

Please visit the Waterway Protection Program page on the Corangamite CMA website or call **1800 002 262**

<https://ccma.vic.gov.au/waterways/waterway-management/waterway-protection/>

For further information on crown frontage licensing and riparian management licences view these fact sheets:

https://www.forestsandreserves.vic.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0025/540718/DELWP-Crown-Water-Frontage-Licences.pdf

[forestsandreserves.vic.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0016/31426/Riparian-management-licences.pdf](https://www.forestsandreserves.vic.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0016/31426/Riparian-management-licences.pdf)