



Future Drought Fund - Farm Dam Enhancement Project

Round 2 (2026-2027) EOI Guidelines



This project received funding from the Australian Government's Future Drought Fund.

Landcare Tasmania has secured \$4 million through the Australian Government's *Future Drought Fund – Resilient Landscapes Program* to deliver a five-year statewide focused Catchment Connect - Enhancing Farm Dams for Climate Resilience Project from 2025-2030.

For more information see: http://www.landcaretas.org.au/featured_projects

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Definitions:

Farming properties: a property used for growing crops, grazing livestock, or other forms of primary production. This includes dairies, orchards, vineyards, mixed cropping operations, and sheep or cattle grazing enterprises.

Riparian zone: the interface between a waterway and the adjacent land.

Unenhanced dam: A dam that is not fenced from stock and/or does not have a buffer of native vegetation around it.

About the Project

Landcare Tasmania is inviting members to apply for funding to help enhance farm dams across the state over the next four years!

Landcare Tasmania has \$2.4 million to spend on fencing and revegetating largely unenhanced farm dams with Landcare Members on **farming properties** across the state resulting in up to 60 enhanced farm dams. These projects will be managed and delivered by Landcare Tasmania, with participation and ongoing maintenance and watering by the applicant.

Eligible works will include **native revegetation around the dam's riparian zone, fencing around the dam and other works tailored to the needs of each site (e.g. gates and watering access points).**

Each applicant can apply for **up to \$30,000 (excluding GST).**

Baseline and end-of-project monitoring and assessments will take place by Landcare Tasmania staff and contractors.

The **funding will be delivered in 4 rounds** with each round focusing on 3 catchment areas:

- Round 1 (FY 2025-2026)- Pitt Water - Coal, Leven, and Meander Catchments
- **Current round - Round 2 (FY 2026-2027)- King Island, Blythe and West Tamar Catchments**
- Round 3 (FY 2027-2028)- TBC announcement of catchments in 2026.
- Round 4 (FY 2028-2029)- TBC announcement of catchments in 2027.

If you fall outside the Round 2 catchments, we still encourage you to submit an Expression of Interest (EOI) to our Project Bank as this will guide where we focus our next rounds.

Invitation to Apply!

Please submit your Expression of Interest's (EOI) on Landcare Tasmania's Project Bank.

Projects submitted will be contacted by Landcare staff via a phone call for further information once EOI assessment is underway.

Landcare Tasmania will be managing and delivering this project with the assistance of contractors.

However:

- Applicants must be available to provide access to their farm for contractors and Landcare staff for the duration of the Program (to 2030).
- Applicants must provide a co-contribution equivalent to 25% of the total project value. This may be provided either as cash or as in-kind labour. For example, a \$20,000 project requires a \$5,000 co-contribution. This equates to approximately 106 hours of in-kind labour calculated at \$47 per hour (or approximately 120 hours depending on activity type and agreed rate). In-kind contributions may include activities such as installation of grant-funded materials, planting, or other eligible works assessed on a case-by-case basis.

An Agreement between Landcare Tasmania and successful recipients will be co-signed and include, but not limited to, the project site map, the project plan, budget and in-kind contributions agreed to by the recipient.

Project Timing and Duration

The on-ground of Round 1 projects **must be completed by 31st of June 2027**, with planting to occur in **the winter of 2027**. Recipients must be available during this time. Funding will only be provided after signing of a funding Agreement with successful projects starting mid-late 2026.

Late applications will not be considered.

Project Timeline (R2):

1st April 2026	Project announcement, invitation to eligible catchments to submit EOI.
8th June 2026	EOI closes
9th June - 31st July 2026	Applications will be assessed and projects contacted via phone call and/or email for further information. Site visits may be required.
August - September 2026	Agreements sent to successful projects and returned signed. Plant orders placed at nurseries.
Oct-Dec 2026	Landcare Tasmania to organise contractors and order materials.
Oct-Dec 2026	Baseline monitoring to be completed
March 2027	Ground prep to be completed
May 2026	Fencing (and off watering points if required) to be completed
July 2026	Planting and watering to be completed
December 2027	Follow up monitoring and end of on-ground component of Round 2 projects
Spring/Summer/Autumn of 2027-2028	Landholder maintenance and watering of plants when required – every 4 weeks if dry conditions
2029	End of Program Monitoring

Eligibility Checklist

You or your Landcare group must meet all of the requirements to proceed with the Project Bank EOI and to be eligible to receive funding.

- You need to remain a current financial **member of Landcare Tasmania** for the duration of the project.
- Eligible projects for Round 2 to be located within or nearby the **Blythe, West Tamar or King Island Catchments**. You can [check your catchment here](#).
- EOIs must be submitted to the Project Bank (**by the 31st of May 2026**).
- The on-ground component of the project will be **completed by 31st June 2027**, with **planting to occur in the winter of 2027**. Recipients must be available during this time.
- Monitoring and maintenance commitments may continue after the 31st December 2027.
- Your dam must be on a **farming property** (see definitions).
- Your dam needs to be **currently largely unenhanced** (see definitions).
- **You must be the owner of the property** or have a **letter of permission** from the owner.
- Applicants must be able to provide in-kind through cash or contribution at a rate of 25% of the projects overall value, i.e. a \$20,000 project requires an in-kind contribution of **120 hours in-kind** or **\$5000 co-contribution** (equal to approximately 106 hours at \$47) or a combination of these. This might include, but not limited to, fenceline preparation, labour for fence installation, contribution of materials, payment of farm staff or contractors, ground preparation for planting, weed control, watering, plant/guard maintenance, installation of gates/watering points. If the landholder has their own registered contracting business, then it may be possible to deliver contracting services for the project, providing the minimum in-kind requirement has been met.
- The maximum amount of funding available per recipient is **\$30k** (excluding GST).
- Proposed works may include but are not limited to fencing, ground preparation, weeding, watering, planting, gates, off-dam watering points and/or access

points.

- A note on fencing:
 - The main purpose of the fencing is to exclude stock but not inhibit the movement of wildlife
 - The application can include fencing (strand or ring lock style), posts, droppers and gates. The applicants will be contacted for further information regarding the fencing requirements/design.
 - Number of gates to be negotiated
- Plantings follow the recommendations as per the Sustainable Farm guides (e.g. no tree planting on dam walls) and they must be locally native species (see Landcare Tas plant list in resource section above).

Ineligible Activities: If your project involves any of the below activities it will be considered ineligible.

- Construction, repairs, or modification (including the use of liners) of dams and infrastructure such as sheds, bridges, culverts, and tracks, but not including fencing and off stream watering points.
- Amenity plantings with limited environmental benefits and outcomes.
- Retrospective coverage of the costs of works (fencing, revegetation, off stream watering points) that have already commenced.
- Purchases or expenses related to day-to-day operations of a business.
- Activities considered to have a purely commercial or private benefit (that is, without co-benefits for ecosystem services).
- The applicant's labour costs other than outlined in the in-kind requirements in eligible activities.
- Boundary fencing.

Project Bank Instructions

Please sign into the **Members Toolbox** to submit a project in the **Project Bank**.

- Please include “Farm Dam Enhancement” in your title.
- Please provide the exact location of the proposed dam site by using the map function provided.
- **File uploads** (follow the instructions on the form on uploading a zip file):
 - a map showing the location of the project and where the activities are to be undertaken
 - a before photo/s to help staff understand the site and the projects activities
 - An Aboriginal Heritage Search (this can be completed here: <https://www.aboriginalheritage.tas.gov.au/propertysearch/>)
 - Consent of the landowner or manager to carry out the work (if not on your land)

Advice on making a map:

1. You can create a ListMap bookmark for your map if you know how to do this.
2. You can take a screen shot of the ListMap showing the location of your projects.
3. You can print a base map from Google Earth and draw your map onto that and then take a photo.
4. You can even submit a hand drawn map so long as both the location and the proposed activities can be easily identified on them.

If your project is successful you must be able to provide the following:

- Insurance that covers you for the work to be undertaken (We will ask you to confirm your insurer, policy number and nature of cover).
- Site safety risk assessment (template available at <https://www.landcaretas.org.au/safety>)

We're here to help. If you have questions, please contact Landcare Tasmania

on

(03) 6234 7117 or by email support@landcaretas.org.au