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Department of Biodiversity,
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Western Australian
Department of Agriculture



Soil Conservation Advisory Committee
Land Conservation District Committees



Department of Conservation
and Land Management

Applications

Nomination forms can be obtained from any local office of the Department of Agriculture, from Land Conservation District Committees or from Shire Council offices.

Applications must be with the relevant Land Conservation District Committee, or where there is none, the nearest Department of Agriculture District office, by February 2, 1990.

Department of Agriculture District Offices

Town	Telephone No
Albany	(098) 41 2166
Bridgetown	(097) 61 1411
Bunbury	(097) 25 5255
Busselton	(097) 52 1688
Esperance	(090) 71 2088
Geraldton	(099) 21 2500
Harvey	(097) 29 1150
Jerramungup	(098) 35 1177
Katanning	(098) 21 1599
Lake Grace	(098) 21 1599
Manjimup	(097) 71 1299
Merredin	(090) 41 1555
Moora	(095) 41 1302
Narrogin	(098) 81 1011
Northam	(096) 22 2122
Three Springs	(099) 54 1130
Perth	(09) 367 3710
Head Office	(09) 368 3277

REMNANT VEGETATION PROTECTION SCHEME

REMNANT VEGETATION PROTECTION SCHEME

Background

Remnant vegetation on private land is an important natural resource contributing to flora and fauna conservation, soil and water conservation, aesthetics and amenity. Recognising the broad benefits to the community of such remnants, the Government has implemented the Scheme to assist private land holders to voluntarily protect and manage areas of native vegetation on farms.

The Government will contribute half the cost of fencing to protect remnant vegetation of high conservation value. A 50% subsidy for the cost of materials and erection of fencing will be provided based on standard fence designs determined by Land Conservation District Committees.

In 1988/89, 110 farmers accepted a subsidy under the Scheme, and some 8000 ha of remnant vegetation was fenced. The success of the Scheme continues to be dependent on the valuable work of Land Conservation District Committees in assessing nominations.

The long term success of the Scheme relies on the commitment of farmers to maintain remnant vegetation on their land in good condition. Participating land owners are thus required to enter into a Heritage Agreement to preserve the vegetation for 30 years.

Details of the Scheme

● Eligibility

All farmers in Western Australia are entitled to nominate one or more areas of remnant vegetation on their farm.

● Procedure

Farmers in Land Conservation Districts should nominate areas of remnant vegetation to the local Land Conservation District Committee. Farmers not in Land Conservation Districts should nominate areas to a Department of Agriculture office. Farmers may check the boundaries of their Land Conservation District and Department of Agriculture District by contacting a local Department of Agriculture office.

Based on the following criteria, a Land Conservation District Committee, or officers of the local Department of Agriculture District, will rank nominations in order of priority:

- the importance of the vegetation type for nature conservation;
- the size of areas to be protected and the cost effectiveness of the fencing;
- the condition of the area nominated;
- the contribution of the area to land conservation, aesthetics and amenity.

The Land Conservation District Committee or local Department of Agriculture office then refers their priorities to the relevant Conservation and Land Management (CALM) District office. CALM staff conduct a statewide assessment of nominations and forward their information to the State Soil Conservation Advisory Committee. This Committee recommends individual nominations to the Ministers for Agriculture and for Conservation and Land Management for payment of the subsidy.

The maximum subsidy rate is \$800 per kilometre of fence.

Funds are paid through the Department of Agriculture to successful applicants who are required to enter into an agreement to manage the area as native vegetation for 30 years. The area will be protected by a special provision under the Soil and Land Conservation Act and details will be registered as a Heritage Agreement on the land title.

A farmer clearing, destroying or degrading an area of vegetation protected under this Scheme will be liable to action under the Soil and Land Conservation Act.

Please note that previous unsuccessful applicants are encouraged to lodge a new application.

● Conditions

1. Areas of remnant vegetation considered under this Scheme should be in good condition or be able to be regenerated to good condition.
2. Land subject to this Scheme will not be able to be grazed by livestock or managed in any other way that would degrade the conservation values of the vegetation.
3. The land owner will remain responsible for the management of the remnant vegetation areas. Officers of the Department of Agriculture and Conservation and Land Management will be available to provide advice on management where required.