

Victorian Trees on Farms Program

Guidelines for Grant Funding

Round 1 - August 2025

Further information

E: plantationforestry@deeca.vic.gov.au

W: <https://agriculture.vic.gov.au/vtof>

We acknowledge and respect Victorian Traditional Owners as the original custodians of Victoria's land and waters, their unique ability to care for Country and deep spiritual connection to it.

We honour Elders past and present whose knowledge and wisdom has ensured the continuation of culture and traditional practices.

DEECA is committed to genuinely partnering with Victorian Traditional Owners and Victoria's Aboriginal community to progress their aspirations.

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ISBN 978-1-76176-375-5 (pdf)

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Contents

1. What is the Victorian Trees on Farms (VToF) Program?	3
2. Program objectives	3
3. What is a VToF project?	4
4. Who can apply?	4
5. Who cannot apply?	4
6. What can funding be used for?	5
7. What will not be funded?	5
8. How much funding is available per project?	6
9. Project requirements and constraints	8
10. Are you implementation-ready?	9
11. What is the application process?	10
13. What are the conditions of grant agreement?	13
14. Evaluation	15
15. Project exit clause	15
16. Compliance and governance	15
17. Acknowledgement	16
18. Disclaimer	16
19. Privacy	16
Appendix A: Project plan template	18
Victorian Trees on Farms Program Project Plan	18
Implementation-Readiness	19
Property Details	20
Project Details	21
Project Outcomes	25
Supporting Documentation Checklist	26
Appendix B: Project specifications	27



1. What is the Victorian Trees on Farms (VToF) Program?

The Victorian Trees on Farms Program (VToF) is a state government initiative assisting rural landowners to integrate trees into agricultural land. The program sees the consolidation of the former Victorian Carbon Farming Program, and the Gippsland Farm Forestry Program into a single state-wide program.

The Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action (DEECA) seeks to support the establishment of trees on farms due to the multiple benefits they provide when strategically integrated into farming systems.

In line with Victoria's forestry transition out of native forest harvesting, the program has a focus on the potential for trees on farms to support timber production. At the farm scale, trees managed for timber production can be established using a mix of species and planting regimes, such as wide spacing 'silvo-pasture' systems, shelterbelts and woodlots.

The program also recognises that landowners have different motivations that may inform decisions to establish trees on their farms, therefore, the VToF is not prescriptive about the species and spatial arrangement of plantings.

The VToF supports projects seeking to establish trees for shade and shelter, generate a broader suite of natural capital related co-benefits, or purely to offset on-farm emissions.

Successful VToF projects will be able to demonstrate value for money in terms of the timber they produce, carbon they can sequester, or co-benefits they can provide to the surrounding farming system.

The program is also providing funding for landowners to seek professional advice in the design and development of their project application.

These grant guidelines contain the conditions on which applicants may develop and submit a project application for grant funding for a VToF project.

Eligible applicants are invited to apply for grant funding by reviewing these grant guidelines and following the application process.

2. Program objectives

The objectives of the VToF are to:

- incentivise Victorian landowners to integrate high impact tree plantings on their farms to deliver timber, carbon, and co-benefits that support agricultural productivity
- prioritise projects that demonstrate the economic potential of farm forestry and the alignment of timber production with the provision of environmental services
- support landowners to make informed decisions about tree planting options for their land including ways to maximise value through smart design
- provide options for Victorian farmers to 'inset' agricultural emissions (to lower a farming enterprises' net carbon emissions) through tree planting

3. What is a VToF project?

VToF projects must be designed to complement the surrounding agricultural system, support and contribute to the farming enterprise, and meet the project requirements and constraints (Section 9).

While species selection for a project will depend on the project objectives, planting regime, and site factors, VToF projects can be designed to focus on one of the following approaches:

- **Farm forestry plantings** for timber production using species which have known timber qualities,
- **Integrated environmental plantings** that provide co-benefits and environmental services using a mix of native species consistent with the local Ecological Vegetation Class (EVC)..

Projects can incorporate both farm forestry plantings and integrated environmental plantings across different blocks within the one project.

Plantings for VToF projects will generally be established according to the following planting regimes:

- **Shelterbelts/timberbelts** – A strip of trees, at least 10m wide, strategically planted to shelter livestock, crops, and pastures from the elements, as well as producing timber products in future years.
- **Woodlots** – Small scale plantations established for timber production, generally between 3 and 20 hectares and established at a relatively high density.
- **Wide spaced plantings** – Trees planted several metres apart (minimum 400 trees/ha) to enable effective grazing of livestock (once trees are of sufficient size) or growth of crops, whilst producing timber.

- **Integrated environmental plantings**, such as those that buffer riparian corridors, or are established on less productive parts of the land, with the purpose of combatting erosion or salinity, increasing biodiversity, pollination, or other environmental services.

Exclusions

Projects above 20 hectares will be considered at the discretion of the department and their eligibility will be determined for other programs on offer (such as Bushbank) which are specifically designed to support larger projects.

Projects that are registered to receive funding from other Victorian state government programs for the purposes of tree planting are excluded from the VToF.

Projects that are registered to receive funding from other non-state government programs, be they local government or other sources, will be assessed in terms of their value for money to the state and will be considered at the Department's absolute discretion.

4. Who can apply?

To be eligible for funding, applicants must:

- be the freehold owner of the land within Victoria, or be a land manager with formal approval from the owner;
- be registered for tax purposes within Australia with a current Australian Business Number (ABN) or an Australian Company Number (ACN), and confirm the landowner also meets this requirement;
- hold currency of public liability insurance not less than \$10 million per occurrence if they are the landowner, or confirm the landowner holds the required insurance.

The landowner must also meet the department's due diligence requirements.

5. Who cannot apply?

Ineligible applicants include:

- Federal, state, territory, or local government bodies (including government business enterprises);
- Peak bodies (bodies that represent their members and have a charter of advancing their members in terms of development, research, process, and advocacy).

6. What can funding be used for?

A VToF project must deliver trees in the ground with funding extending to activities associated with planning, site preparation, planting, maintenance, reporting, and accounting for receipt and expenditure of grant funds.

7. What will not be funded?

The following are NOT eligible for funding:

- Areas of land with existing native vegetation or land where there has been removal of native vegetation to support a VToF project
- Land that has had native vegetation removed in the previous 5 years
- Plantings that have commenced or have been established prior to entering into a VToF grant agreement with the department
- Replanting areas of failed establishment (infill planting)
- Any costs not directly associated with the project, including, but not limited to:
 - purchases or expenses related to the day-to-day operations or expenses of the applicant or their business;
 - the purchase or transport of tools and equipment, machinery, livestock and/or feed;
 - the purchase of crop or pasture seed; and
 - construction of or repairs to non-fencing infrastructure.
- Public liability insurance;
- Such other costs as reasonably determined by the assessment panel; and
- Primary producer's labour costs (however these can be included as In-kind contribution).



8. How much funding is available per project?

The amount of project grant funding is determined by the number of hectares planted and will be paid to the landowners of successful projects who achieve their project milestones, as outlined in Table 1.

Integrated environmental plantings are eligible to receive \$2,000 per hectare (excl. GST) capped at \$40,000 (excl. GST).

Farm forestry plantings may be eligible to receive up to \$4,000 per hectare (excl. GST) capped at \$80,000 (excl. GST).

The higher funding for farm forestry plantings recognises the additional costs associated with pruning and thinning in managing trees to produce timber. Farm forestry grants will be split over 2 payments - \$2,000 per planted hectare (excl. GST) upon completion of milestone 1, and \$2,000 per established hectare (excl. GST) upon completion of milestone 3.

An additional payment is available to applicants who engage a professional service provider (PSP) to assist or inform the applicant's project plan.

The value of the PSP rebate is up to 20% of the maximum grant value based on project size (in hectares) capped at \$5,000 (excl. GST). Landowners participating in the Trees on Farms Incubator Program are ineligible for the PSP rebate.

All grant values exclude GST.

Grant funding payment schedule

The duration of a VToF project is 5 years, and payments are released at fixed rates upon delivery of reporting and verification milestones submitted at set intervals as per Table 1. Worked examples for different project types are provided at Table 2.

Table 1: VToF Project Grant Funding Payment Schedule

Milestone	PSP rebate	1	2	3
	Execution of grant agreement	3 months after planting, and no later than 2 years after execution of grant agreement	18 Months after the establishment report has been submitted	5 Years after the establishment report has been submitted
All projects	Deliverables: - Execution of grant agreement - Invoice evidencing engagement of a PSP. Funding: 20% of the maximum possible grant value based on project size (in hectares), capped at \$5,000	Deliverable: Establishment report which documents successful completion of planting. Grant instalment is calculated based on the area of established planting reported in establishment report	Deliverable: Survival report containing a survival assessment	Deliverable: Completion report, including photos
		Funding: \$2,000 / per planted ha	Funding: Non-financial milestone	Funding: Non-financial milestone
Farm forestry plantings only	As above	As above	As above	Deliverables: - Completion report, including photos - Evidence of management activities (if completed) - Updated project plan detailing future tree management activities Funding: Additional \$2000 / per established ha

Table 2: Examples of project grant funding. Note: all amounts are exclusive of GST

Example	5 hectare integrated environmental planting project	4 hectare farm forestry project which has used a PSP to help design the project	15 hectare integrated environmental planting project which has used a PSP to help design the project	25 hectare farm forestry project which was developed through the Trees on Farms Incubator Program	A project with 3 hectares of farm forestry, and 2 hectares of integrated plantings which has used a PSP to help design the project
Maximum amount of grant available per hectare	\$2,000	\$4,000	\$2,000	\$4,000	\$4,000 for farm forestry plantings \$2,000 for integrated environmental planting
Maximum project grant value based on project size (hectares)	\$10,000	\$16,000	\$30,000	\$80,000	\$16,000
PSP rebate	N/A	Up to \$3,200	Up to \$5,000	N/A	Up to \$3,200
Total grant funding available for the VToF project	\$10,000	Up to \$19,200	Up to \$35,000	Up to \$80,000	Up to \$19,200

Regulatory approvals

Applicants must be aware of and are responsible for obtaining and retaining the relevant approvals, licenses or permits that are required to deliver their proposed VToF project. This includes any relevant planning approvals associated with plantation development, Plantation Development Notice, or bushfire regulations.



9. Project requirements and constraints

Detailed project eligibility requirements and constraints are provided below in Table 3

Table 3: Project eligibility constraints

Constraint	Eligibility Criteria
Project size	- The minimum area for a farm forestry planting is 3 hectares. - The minimum area for an integrated environmental planting is 5 hectares. - There will be consideration for smaller projects which can deliver exceptional carbon or timber yield, or where aggregation with neighbouring properties can be coordinated. - Projects above 20 hectares will be considered at the discretion of the department and their eligibility will be determined for other programs on offer (such as Bushbank) which are specifically designed to support larger projects. - Plantings can be non-contiguous providing a minimum block size of 0.2 hectares and a minimum width of 10 metres is achieved.
Existing vegetation or plantings	- Areas of land with existing native vegetation are excluded and the removal of native vegetation to support a VToF project is not allowed. Land that has had native vegetation removed in the previous 5 years is also excluded. - Plantings that have commenced or have been established prior to entering into a grant agreement with the department are ineligible.
Time commitment	The applicant must commit to maintaining and managing the trees for a minimum of 5 years.
Tree species	- Species selection will depend on the project objectives, planting regime, and site factors, but are considered in two ways: - Farm forestry (timber production) species that have known timber qualities - Integrated environmental planting that demonstrate alignment with the local EVC.
Farm forestry (timber production)	- Must be established on land which receives above 500 mm rainfall annually. - Appropriate justification and evidence must be provided on the suitability of the species to local conditions. - Must consider site accessibility, slope, and other factors with implications for harvesting and management. - Must outline a proposed pathway to market for products.
Integrated environmental planting	- Must be well integrated into the landscape and demonstrate a strategic importance for a farming system, i.e. by way of shade and shelter or the provision of environmental services and / or concentrated on less productive areas of land. - Should be able to achieve carbon sequestration of at least 5 tCO₂e per hectare per year over 25 years. (To estimate carbon sequestration visit https://looc-c.farm/ and view the Annual per ha estimate for your property for the Reforestation by environmental or mallee plantings method) - Broadscale environmental plantings with a key objective of delivering biodiversity outcomes are ineligible and will be referred to the Bushbank program.
Planting density	- Plantings must be able to achieve a level of tree canopy cover that either: - has a stocking density that is appropriate for the silviculture regime, or - is consistent with the local EVC. - Applicants are encouraged to plant more than the minimum number of trees required to allow a buffer for tree mortality or thinning.
Property title	- A property title may host only one VToF project. - One VToF project may span multiple property titles - VToF projects cannot be split on one farm and the department retains the discretion to adjust the grant funding on offer if multiple project applications are submitted for one farm

10. Are you implementation-ready?

A VToF project must be implementation-ready.

Implementation-ready projects must include detailed design and planting preparation, appropriate species selection, as well as sufficient detail on logistical matters such as seedling purchasing and the inclusion of a detailed project timeline and budget. This information is submitted via a project plan (template provided in Appendix A: Project plan template).

Implementation readiness must be demonstrated in one of four ways:

1. engaging a PSP to co-design or assist in developing the Project Plan (noting that funding is available under the VToF program to support the engagement of professional services – see Table 4), or
2. having participated in the Trees on Farms Incubator Program – see Table 4, or
3. providing evidence of relevant experience, training, or having previously completed similarly scaled tree-growing activities, or
4. providing evidence of a previously developed farm master plan, an on-farm emissions reduction action plan, or similar tree establishment plan that provides suitable information and detail to complete a high-quality project plan.

Table 4: Funding available to support implementation readiness

PSP rebate	Trees on Farms Incubator Program
Applicants are eligible to claim a PSP rebate as part of their VToF project application to support the development of their project plan. Funding can be claimed to a value of 20% of the project grant value up to a maximum of \$5,000 (excl. GST). The VToF program team can assist in finding a suitable PSP in your area.	The Trees on Farms Incubator Program supports networks and communities to work together to develop projects that can deliver landscape impact – that is: plantings across multiple properties in a similar region. Landcare networks, community groups, peak bodies, or individual businesses can apply to deliver Incubator activities. To find out more about the Incubator Program, visit: https://agriculture.vic.gov.au/incubator-program

11. What is the application process?

Application opening and closing dates

Round 1 opens	31 July 2025
Round 1 closes	1 November 2026
Notification of assessment outcome	Within 12 weeks of application submission

Applications may be submitted at any time between the opening and closing dates of each round. Applications submitted outside of these dates will not be considered.

Round 2 is expected to follow the closure of Round 1.

Application process

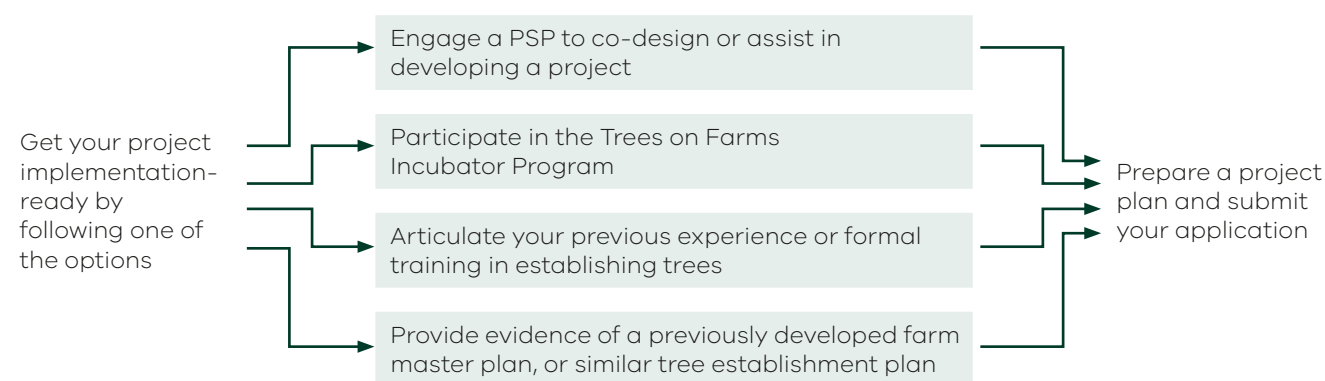


Figure 1: Pathways for achieving implementation readiness



To apply for grant funding for a VToF project, applicants will need to undertake the following:

Step 1: Determine your implementation readiness

Read Section 10 to determine whether you can meet the relevant program constraints and determine your implementation readiness. Consider the support options outlined in Section 10 including the opportunity to claim a PSP rebate as part of your project application submission.

Step 2: Prepare a project plan

The applicant must prepare a project plan using the department-provided template (see Appendix A: Project plan template).

The project plan should demonstrate:

- the alignment of the project with the specific requirements and constraints outlined in these guidelines
- the feasibility of the project, including detailed design and planting preparation, species selection, as well as logistical matters such as seedling orders and purchasing
- value for money, including co-investment by the applicant
- the expertise and experience of the applicant or PSP and their capacity to implement the project plan.

Step 3: Submit a project application

In preparing an application for grant funding, the following attachments are to be included (but are not limited to):

- a completed project plan (using the department-provided template at Appendix A)
- a project budget (using the department-provided template)
- maps and associated spatial data (shapefiles)
- copy of the landowners' public liability insurance

Supporting documents must be in an acceptable file type, such as Word, Excel, PDF, or JPEG. The maximum file size for each file is 10MB.

You will receive an application number when you submit an application online. Please quote this number in all communications with the department relating to your application.

If you have documents to submit that cannot be attached to your online application you can email them to plantationforestry@deeca.vic.gov.au, quoting your application number. Attach all documents to one email, zipping the files if required.

Applications must be submitted at <https://agriculture.vic.gov.au/vtof> by:

Round 1 closing within timeframes set out in this section.

Step 4: Project application assessment process

All eligible and fully completed project applications received by the department will be assessed against the assessment criteria. The assessment panel will make recommendations for offers of grant funding to the Minister for Agriculture for final consideration. The decision to offer grant funding is at the absolute discretion of the authority.

Step 5: Assessment outcome

The department will endeavour to notify applicants of the outcome of their grant application within 12 weeks from the time of submitting a completed project application.

All applicants will receive a letter confirming the outcome of their project application. Feedback by the department may be offered to any unsuccessful applicants.

Further Support

A representative of the department will be available to provide additional support to applicants.

Please contact: plantationforestry@deeca.vic.gov.au

12. What are the assessment criteria?

Project plans received by the department will be assessed against the assessment criteria set out below.

The assessment criteria are intended to assist applicants to design projects that align with VToF objectives, and ultimately, to inform the department's decision as to whether a project may be funded.

Table 5: Assessment criteria

	Assessment criterion	Weighting
1	Quality of the proposal Assessed on: a. the alignment of the project plan with the project requirement and constraints detailed in the grant guidelines b. the design and the technical viability of the project with respect to species selection, spatial arrangement, and the suitability of the project within a landscape context c. the identification of risks and considerations of management activities that reduce the potential for, and severity of, impact d. Overall level of detail provided in the application	40
2	Project feasibility Assessed on: a. the applicant's demonstration of their implementation readiness b. the financial feasibility of the project as demonstrated in a project budget and/or other supporting information c. explanation of the project's operability in terms of contracting requirements, timeframes, and contingency d. evidence to support the project's implementation approach including the proposed management regime over the life of the project.	40
3	Co-benefits and value for money Assessed on: a. the co-benefits articulated in the project application and the extent to which they can deliver measurable impact b. the extent to which the economic value of a farm forestry planting can be realised through a feasible pathway to market (applicable to farm forestry plantings) c. the estimated carbon sequestration potential of the plantings (i.e. estimate of cost per tonne CO₂e to government) d. the value for money, including the extent to which co-investment of funds and/or in-kind resources are outlined as part of the project budget	20

13. What are the conditions of grant agreement?

Landowners of successful projects must enter into an agreement with the DEECA. The grant agreement will run for approximately 5 years.

The grant agreement commits the applicant to achieving grant milestones and reporting to the department to meet grant payment milestones. It is recommended that applicants review the terms and conditions before applying. A template funding agreement can be provided by contacting plantationforestry@deeca.vic.gov.au.

The department makes no representation that a project application will be accepted, approved or endorsed and reserves the right to make no funds available under the Victorian Trees on Farms Program.

All costs of preparing and lodging a project application are the responsibility of the applicant and will not be recoverable from the department under any circumstances, unless the applicant is successful in their application and then it is as otherwise stated in these grant guidelines.

Offer of grant funding will not be made to applicants who have performed activities related to their project application on their property prior to the execution of a grant agreement. Activities cannot commence before the grant agreement is signed by both parties.

Applicants should seek independent professional advice before submitting a project application or entering into a grant agreement.

The department reserves the right to withdraw any offer of grant funding if the letter of offer has not been signed within 30 days of issue, or if the Grant Agreement has not been signed within 2 months of issue.

Ability to meet these obligations should be strongly considered prior to submitting an application. Failure to meet these could impact future applications to the department's programs.

Reporting Requirements

Grant recipients are required to provide periodic reports to demonstrate the progress and status of their VToF project. The reporting schedule (set out below) coincides with milestones and payments that will be delivered upon receipt of the relevant reports as detailed in Table 1.

The reporting requirements include:

- An **invoice from the PSP** (PSP rebate in Table 1) evidencing engagement of a suitably qualified and experienced PSP in co-designing or assisting in developing the project plan prior to submission of the project application (if applicable)
- An **establishment report** (milestone 1 in Table 1) is to be submitted to the department within 3 months of the completion of planting activities, and no later than 2 years after execution of grant agreement. The establishment report must confirm the total area of established plantings, and must include photos, maps or shapefiles, and other evidence that demonstrate planting establishment success.
- A **survival assessment report** (milestone 2 in Table 1) is to be submitted to the department within 18 months of the date on which the establishment report is accepted by the department. The survival assessment report must include photos and outline any areas of disturbance, damage or tree removal.

- A **completion report** (milestone 3 in Table 1) and a statutory declaration is to be submitted to the department within 5 years of completion of the date on which the establishment report is accepted by the department. The completion report must include photos of project progress.

- Projects with farm forestry plantings must also include the following to satisfy the conditions of release for final payment:

- an updated project plan with details of future management activities (silviculture section), and
- Evidence of management activities undertaken by the grant recipient, such as an invoice and/or photos (if activities have been completed)

The department will provide the grant recipient with further guidance as to the form and substance of these reports before they are due to the department.

The grant recipient may decide to engage a PSP to assist in the drafting and submission of the reports, however, the department will not be liable for any expenses arising from the engagement and it is the responsibility of the grant recipient to submit the reports to the department.

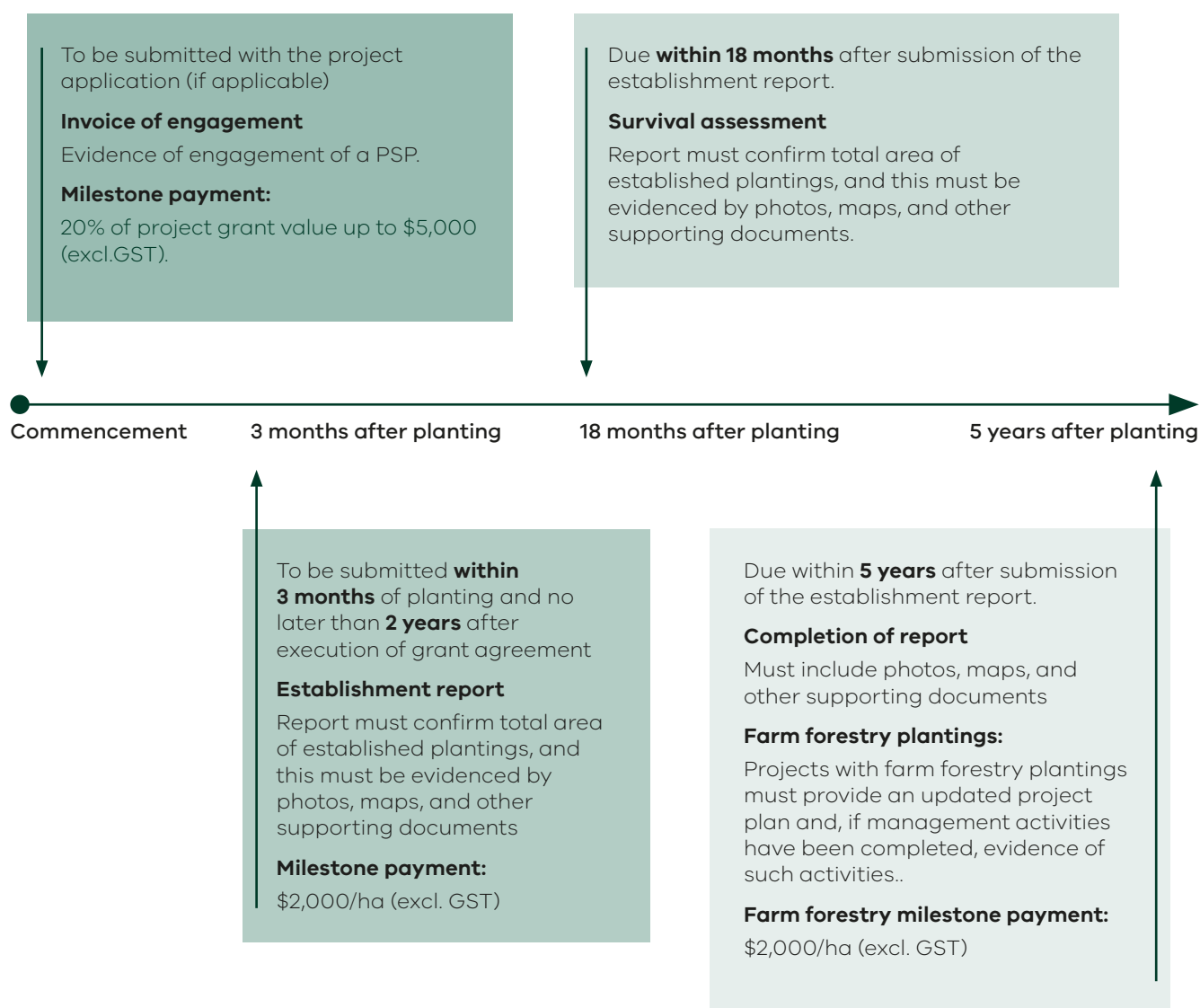


Figure 2: Schematic overview of VToF reporting requirements

Other agreements or contracts

A landowner may enter into a contract or agreement with a PSP to design and implement a project plan or to undertake management activities during the course of the project. The department will not be a party to or be privy to this contract or agreement and is not liable for any expenses arising from such a contract or agreement

14. Evaluation

Grant recipients may be required to participate in department-led performance and monitoring activities for the VToF by responding to evaluation surveys from the department during the course of the project.

15. Project exit clause

If land is sold during the lifetime of the grant agreement, the grant recipient must secure agreement of the new owner to take a novation of the grant agreement. If it does not do so, the department will have the right to terminate the grant agreement.

16. Compliance and governance

Grant guidelines

The department reserves the right to make changes to these grant guidelines as required. Any changes to these grant guidelines will not affect the eligibility of the applicants and project applications made prior to the date of publication of any update.

Information only

The content of and any discussions applicants may have with a representative of the department are for information only and do not constitute advice.

Tax implications

Applicants should note that all project costs included in the project application must be exclusive of GST. In order to claim GST with grant payments, Applicants must be registered for GST collection purposes.

Applicants should consult the Australian Taxation Office or seek professional advice on any taxation implications that may arise from this grant funding.

Successful applicants without an ABN will need to provide a completed Australian Taxation Office form 'Statement by a Supplier' so that no withholding tax is required from the grant payment.



17. Acknowledgement

Successful applicants are expected to acknowledge the Victorian Government's support and promotional guidelines (<https://www2.delwp.vic.gov.au/grants>) will form part of the funding agreement. Successful applicants must liaise with the departmental program area to coordinate any public events or announcements related to the project.

18. Disclaimer

Although all care has been taken by DEECA in the preparation of this document, DEECA does not warrant, either expressly or impliedly, the accuracy or completeness of the information it contains. DEECA does not accept any liability or responsibility for any loss or damage incurred by an applicant as a result of this document and or the Program. Any person relying on this document and the information it contains does so at their own risk absolutely and should consider obtaining independent legal advice and/or professional advice.

19. Privacy

Any personal information about you or a third party in your application will be collected by the department for the purposes of administering your grant application and informing Members of Parliament of successful applications. The department also reports on grants and programs it administers. The reporting includes the identity of successful applicants and projects and, where applicable, deviations from or exceptions to the assessment and approvals processes set out in these guidelines. Personal information may also be disclosed to external experts, such as members of assessment panels, or other departments for assessment, reporting, advice, comment or for discussions regarding alternative or collaborative grant funding opportunities. If you intend to include personal information about third parties in your application, please ensure that they are aware of the contents of this privacy statement..

Any personal information about you or a third party in your correspondence will be collected, held, managed, used, disclosed or transferred in accordance with the provisions of the *Privacy and Data Protection Act 2014* and other applicable laws.

DEECA is committed to protecting the privacy of personal information. You can find the DEECA Privacy Policy online at www.deeca.vic.gov.au/privacy.

Requests for access to information about you held by DEECA should be sent to the Manager Privacy, **P.O. Box 500 East Melbourne 8002** or contact by emailing Foi.unit@delwp.vic.gov.au.



Appendix A: Project plan template

Victorian Trees on Farms Program Project Plan

All fields are required unless otherwise stated.

Applicant Details

Name
Email address
Phone number
Address
ABN (if relevant)

Landowner Details (if different from Applicant above)

Name
Email address
Phone number
Address
ABN (if relevant)

Implementation-Readiness

My project is implementation-ready because (please tick at least one of the following):

- | | | | |
|----|--------------------------|--|--|
| A. | ☐ | I have engaged a professional service provider to co-design or assist the development of the Project Plan | <i>(Professional service provider to provide details below. Please attach the invoice to your application)</i> |
| B. | ☐ | I have participated in the Trees on Farms Incubator Program | <i>(Please provide details below)</i> |
| C. | ☐ | I have relevant experience, training, or have previously completed tree-growing activities | <i>(Please provide details below and attach any supporting documents, i.e. plans or photos)</i> |
| D. | ☐ | I have a previously developed farm master plan, an on-farm emissions reduction action plan, or similar tree-establishment plan | <i>(Please provide details below and attach any supporting documents, i.e. plans or photos)</i> |

If you answered A, the professional service provider is to provide the following details:

Organisation / Business

Contact name

Email address

Phone number

Area of expertise

Experience of professional service provider

If you answered B, please provide details of the Incubator facilitator:

Organisation

Contact name

Email address

Phone number

Details of your participation in Trees on Farms Incubator Program activities

If you answered C or D, please provide details of your relevant experience or you farm master plan, on-farm emissions reduction action plan, or similar tree-establishment plan.

Property Details

Site Address	
Local government area	
Latitude (deg S) of project area	
Longitude (deg E) of project area	
Average rainfall (mm)	
Soil type & depth (If known / more info)	
Elevation (m)	
Slope class (deg)	0-15, 15-30, 30-50
Current land cover / use	
Known weeds and pests	
Known utilities on or adjacent to project planting area	E.g. Powerlines, underground cables or pipes
Protected areas & existing restrictions on project planting area	E.g. Stream, native veg., Aboriginal heritage, caveats, easements etc.

Project Details

Does this project include areas managed for timber production?

☐

Yes, all

☐

Yes, partially

☐

No

Project objectives

Detail the objectives of your Project and the proposed outcomes

Total project plantable area (ha)

Hectares to be managed for farm forestry (% / ha)

Planting type/Configuration

E.g. Woodlot, shelterbelt, wide-spacing etc.

No. of non-contiguous blocks across the Project

Minimum block size (ha)

Maximum block size (ha)

Minimum belt width (m)

Species names (% of each), and suitability to locality and project
(Can also be provided as an attachment)

Detail site accessibility

Project Preparation

Nursery for seedling purchases	Location	Species	Order date	Delivery timing

Site Preparation

Timing of site preparation

Contractor
(If applicable)

Estimated cost

Activity	Description
Cultivation & timing	<i>Discing, ripping, ripping & mounding, nil, etc</i>

Pre-planting weed control	<i>Weed type, chemical to be used, timing, rate</i>
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Fencing	<i>Extent of new fencing</i>
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Other site preparation
considerations

Planting & Establishment

Proposed planting completion date

Contractor
(If applicable)

Target planting density
(stems per hectare)

Distance between rows	<i>Farm Forestry only</i>
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Distance between plants	<i>Farm Forestry only</i>
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Fertilisation details	<i>Fertiliser type, rate, application method</i>
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Browsing control	<i>Tree guards, shooting etc</i>
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Post-Planting Management and Tending

Timing of management and tending

Contractor
(If applicable)

Estimated cost

Activity	Description
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Infill planting

Post-plant weed control

Fire protection maintenance works

Disease and nutrient monitoring

Vermin and noxious weed control

Pruning

Inventory program
(If applicable)

Silviculture (Farm forestry only)

Contractor

(If applicable)

Estimated cost

Intended length

☐ Short rotation

☐ Long rotation

Intended products

E.g. Firewood, pulp, sawlog etc

Activity	Description	Percent material removed	Merchantable volume by product (Optional)
Form pruning			
Clearwood pruning			
First thinning			
Second thinning			
(Optional)			
Third thinning			
(Optional)			
Clearfell or proposed harvest schedule			
(Optional)			

Additional Contractors or Service Providers (If applicable)

Contractor/service provider	Purpose	When will they be required?	Estimated cost

Project Outcomes

Intended co-benefits of project

Pathway to Market (Farm forestry only)

Details of proposed pathway to market for products

List potential buyers/mill/markets that have been engaged and extend of those conversations

Carbon Sequestration

Visit looc-c.farm and view the estimates on your property:

- **Integrated environmental plantings** use the *Reforestation by environmental or mallee plantings* method
- **Farm Forestry plantings** use the *Establishing a new plantation forest* method

Estimated carbon sequestration
over 25 years (tCO₂-e)

Estimate of annual per ha
carbon sequestration
(tCO₂-e/ha/y)

Does the project intend to
generate carbon/biodiversity
or other environmental credits
(i.e. AC-CUs)?

If yes, please provide detail

Does the project intend to
account for carbon against other
on-farm emissions (insetting)?

If yes, please provide detail

Supporting Documentation Checklist

Required supporting documents:

☐	Project map and associated spatial data	<i>(.kml or .kmz shapefiles preferred of proposed Project land)</i>
☐	Detailed project budget	<i>(using provided-template and including details of co- investment and in-kind resources)</i>

Appendix B: Project specifications

The following table outlines at a high-level the specifications that a project must meet. Further terms and conditions related to grant funding are provided in the grant agreement.

Appendix 2: Project specifications

Establishment success	The VToF program defines successful establishment of a planting when site preparation, weed control, planting, and adequate protection of seedlings have occurred. To provide evidence of successful establishment of VToF project plantings, the grant recipient must submit an establishment report (milestone 2) within 3 months of the indicative planting completion date, and no later than 2 years after execution of grant agreement. The establishment report must contain: • Updated project plan • Photographs which evidence establishment results • Detail of the extent of any establishment failure across the project • Maps or shapefiles of established plantings • Any relevant supporting documentation
Survival success	The VToF program defines successful survival of a planting to have occurred when: • 70% of the intended target stocking rate have survived at least 12 months after establishment; and • No area of establishment failure is greater than 0.2ha. To provide evidence of successful establishment of VToF project plantings, the grant recipient must submit a survival assessment (milestone 3) within 18 months of the date that the establishment report is accepted by the department. The survival assessment report must contain: • Updated project plan • Photographs which evidence establishment results • Detail of the extent of any establishment failure across the Project • Maps or shapefiles of established plantings • Any relevant supporting documentation. If there has been any establishment failure, the grant recipient will be given 12 months to complete infill planting at the grant recipient's cost to remedy it and be eligible for future milestone payments. If a grant recipient decides to remedy establishment failure, they are eligible to request a 6-month extension to the due date for the survival assessment. If areas of the planting have been unsuccessful based on the above definition, the grant recipient must provide an updated project plan to the department including: • updated map/s of the project area (i.e. showing any excising of unsuccessful establishment area from the project area), and • detail of any changes to the management regime resulting from unsuccessful establishment
Disturbance event	The VToF program defines a disturbance event as an event (including fire, pest, disease, browsing, flood, or storm event), whether natural or caused by humans, that damages trees.
Early removal of trees	The landowner must not wilfully remove or destroy VToF project trees or neglect VToF project obligations under contract Catastrophic damage to project trees in the absence of natural disturbance that are caused by the landowner (or by way of landowner negligence) may trigger a make-good clause in the grant agreement requiring landowner grant funding be repaid to the department.
Audit	The department will carry out periodic audits of VToF projects. The landowner must agree to the audit terms which define provisions for audit teams to access VToF project sites, review records, information or other materials relating to the VToF project, and answering of enquiries related to the VToF project. Audits are facilitated and funded by the department.

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