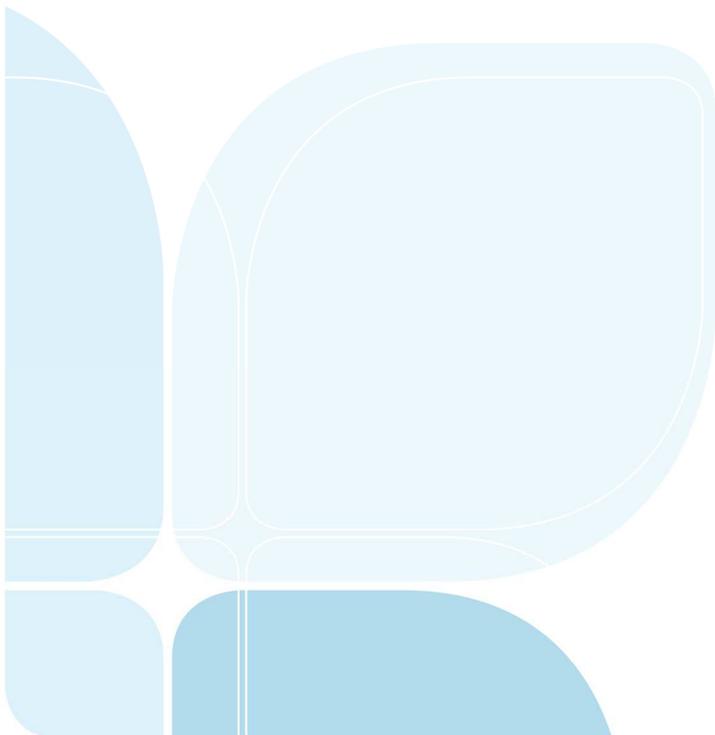




Local Land
Services
Western

2015-16 Pest and Weed Drought Funding Program

Local Land Services Western Region
Supplementary Guidelines



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Guidelines for Fencing Projects

This section relates to projects including but not limited to:

- Total grazing pressure fencing
- Water-point traps
- Multi species fencing (cluster fencing)

Project activities – Total grazing pressure fencing

The 2015-16 Pest and Weed Drought Funding Program provides funding opportunities for TGP Projects that include the following infrastructure:

- A new internal TGP fence on a new alignment including assemblies, as per the minimum standard designs set by Local Land Services Western Region
- An upgrade to an existing fence to meet TGP requirements, excluding assemblies, as per the minimum standard designs set by Local Land Services Western Region
- Up to two trap yards located within the perimeter of the TGP project area. The trap yard designs are outlined in section

Note: Fencing must comply with the minimum standard designs outlined

The project must form an area of enclosure with this standard of fencing, either by joining onto existing TGP fencing or by enclosing the area wholly through proposed works.

New fences will not be funded to replace boundary fences, or existing internal fences, regardless of current condition. Upgrade criteria apply.

Offsetting proposed new fences along existing non-operational fence lines is not permitted.

Fencing to land type and minimising areas of potential erosion should be considered.

Trap yards will only be funded in areas controlled by proposed TGP fencing. All enclosures around a watering point are considered a trap yard, regardless of whether a trap mechanism is included in the design.

Ineligible activities

The 2015-16 Pest and Drought Funding Program will not fund the following works:

- Installation of water infrastructure, including tanks, troughs or ground tanks
- Installation of trap yards where not to be used in conjunction with proposed fencing
- Installation of fencing along laneways or road enclosures (because of the high private benefit and cost)
- Installation of gates, grids or run-throughs

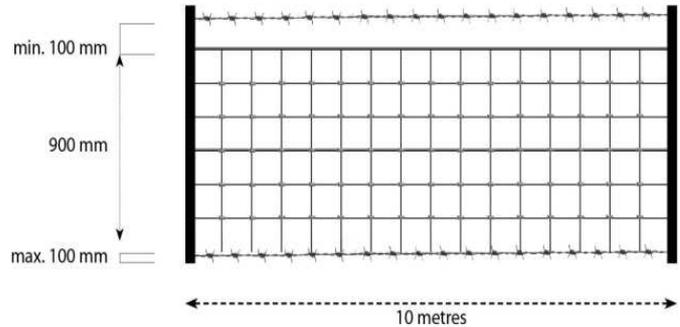
The program will not fund **core functions of government agencies**.

TGP fence designs

Option A (Pre-fabricated mesh with barbed wire)

Minimum Standard Description:

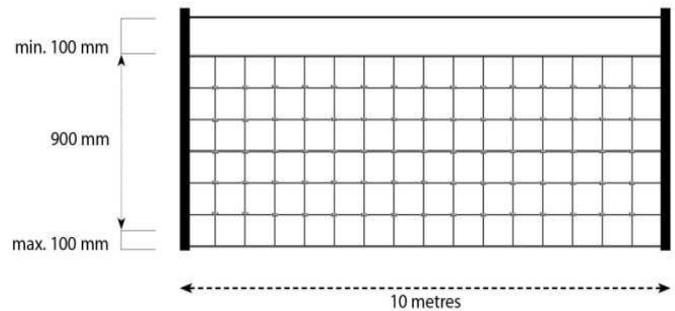
- Pre-fabricated mesh (7/90/30) with 2.5mm top and bottom
- 2.5mm high tensile top and belly plain wire supports
- 1.57mm top and bottom barbed wire
- 165cm star pickets at 10M spacing
- <500m strainer spacing



Option B (Pre-Fabricated mesh with plain wire)

Minimum Standard Description:

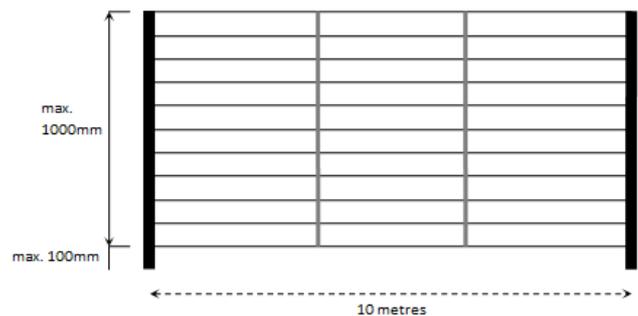
- Pre-fabricated mesh (7/90/30) with 2.5mm top and bottom wire.
- 2.5mm high tensile top and belly plain wire supports
- 165cm star pickets at 10m spacing.
- <500M strainer spacing.



Option C (Multi-line plain wire)

Minimum Standard Description:

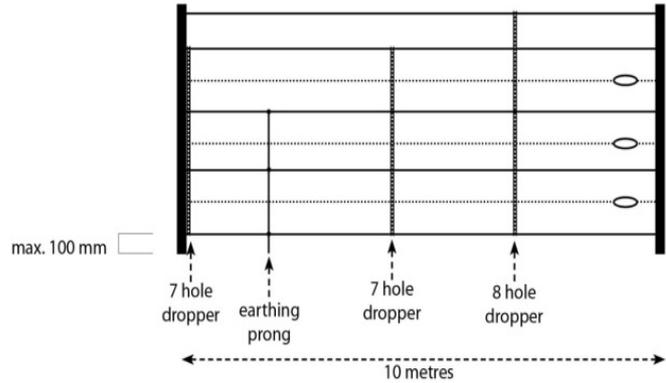
- Eleven line plain wire 2.5mm
- 165cm star pickets at 10m spacing
- 2 droppers per 10m spacing
- <500m strainer spacing



Option D (Electric fence)

Minimum Standard Description:

- 7 wire, 2.8mm high tensile
- 3 live wires (in a 7 wire fence) at 7,500 volts (at 75% capacity)
- 165cm star pickets at 10m spacing
- 2 internal droppers (plus dropper on each post)
- <500M strainer spacing



End assemblies

Note: End assemblies only funded for a new internal fence – not for boundary or existing internal fences. Note that the installation of gates is at the applicant’s expense.

The designs below are the preferred option for all end assemblies. Alternative designs and materials may be used but must be of solid construction with similar dimensions to the following:

- Posts: 100mm x 4mm RHS, 80mm x 6mm RHS, Railway Line. Timber construction not accepted.
- Stays: 50mm x 4mm, 12mm rod, drill rod. Timber construction not accepted

Option A Strainer assembly	Option B Full box assembly	Option C Double Box assembly
<p>The diagram shows a vertical post on the left and a shorter vertical post on the right. A diagonal stay connects the top of the left post to the top of the right post. A horizontal wire runs across the middle. A horizontal arrow labeled 'LOAD' points to the right. Dimensions: 100 mm vertical post, 50 mm diagonal stay.</p>	<p>The diagram shows a full rectangular box structure with a diagonal stay. A horizontal wire runs across the middle. A horizontal arrow labeled 'LOAD' points to the right. Dimensions: 12mm Rod diagonal stay, Min 100cm vertical post.</p>	<p>The diagram shows two rectangular box structures side-by-side, connected by a horizontal wire. A diagonal stay is shown in the first box. A horizontal arrow labeled 'LOAD' points to the right. Dimension: 12 mm Rod diagonal stay.</p>

Overland Flow Areas

Consideration will need to be given for overland flow-lines and broad floodplains. These areas are not ‘gullies’ as such, but include areas of shallow low-flow in rain events with large volumes of water and debris. Fence designs will need to accommodate the movement of debris and the additional pressure of flow and sediment. This may include a heavy top (hinge) wire with droppers, suspended hinged joint or weld-mesh weighted to depth of flow area.

No additional funding is available for overland flow areas, however, designs for these areas need to be approved in the application.

Designs must include:

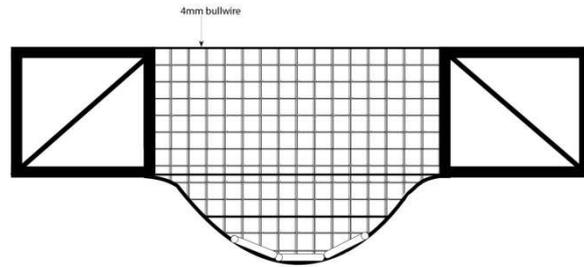
- End assemblies constructed at either side of the water way
- Swinging mesh added to bottom of the fence where distance is greater than 10cm from the ground

Floodway designs

This design is applicable to a defined channel only – that is, a creek, stream or river with a channel greater than five meters wide.

Minimum Standard Description:

- End assemblies either side of waterway
- 4mm bull wire on top
- Sheep yard mesh hinged from top wire
- Weighted centre section (50mm pipe or equivalent).



Project activities - Trap yards

To improve the removal or control of goats within TGP project areas, the 2015-16 Pest and Weed Drought Funding Program **allows up to two trap yards per project** to be installed if necessary.

Upgrades to existing trap yards will not be considered.

Funding will not be provided for traps which already exist. A maximum of two traps per application will be considered and they must be located within the project area.

Minimum trap yard standards must include:

- 165cm steel posts at 5m spacing
- Hinged joint (8/90/30) with 2.5mm top and bottom wire. Note that 8/90/15 or similar-sized mesh is not accepted.
- 2.5mm high tensile top and belly plain wire supports (clipped). The bottom wire should be barbed to avoid animals lifting or going under the fence and should be located as close to the ground as possible.
- Additional weld-mesh in corners and either side of the trap gates
- All corner posts, strainer posts and end assemblies should be anchored underground with concrete to avoid sagging when hit or leant on and located outside the yard so that goats cannot climb the stays or assembly pieces.
- Jump-down traps must have the ability to be blocked off to enable water to be shut off completely if required. It will also ensure cattle or sheep in poor condition and lambs do not sustain injuries resulting from jumping from the ramp into the trap.
- Traps must be of adequate size to ensure animal welfare. Trap designs of less than one hectare (100 x 100m) in area excluding water surface will require justification.

Additional points of consideration:

- In order to prevent access to an alternate source of water at the site, the entire water point and any associated overflow, seepage or back waters should be fenced entirely within the trap yard.

- Star pickets should be located on the outside of the fence. This will prevent the fence being damaged by pushing the fence into the picket rather than away from the picket when hit. It also has the advantage of avoiding animals hitting them and injuring themselves.
- Placement of gates should be considered carefully. Ideally, gates should be placed so they are encountered on the usual path to water making it more likely the target species will quickly accept the use of the gates. Anything that may baulk an animal as it is entering the gates should be considered, such as shadows from windmills etc. It is recommended that entry and exit points are located on different sides of the trap yard.
- When constructing the trap yard, sharp corners should be avoided as they are where kangaroos tend to get caught up and smaller, weaker animals may be trampled. If they are unavoidable in the design they should be reinforced. Rounded yard designs have a particular advantage for these reasons.
- Severe overcrowding, extended periods of confinement without food and being confined with kangaroos or emus are major causes of stress to trapped goats. Stresses lead to animal welfare issues and also cause goats to investigate potential escape points.
- Animals seem more comfortable and less stressed when there is tree and shrub cover within the enclosure.
- Trapped native non-target animals should be drafted from the trapped goats on a daily basis.
- Building a holding paddock onto the trap yard can eliminate the need to remove goats from the trap yard daily and make it easier to operate.
- Trapping should be avoided during lambing/calving as ewes and cows can become separated from their young when they enter the trap for watering
- NSW DPI Standard Operating Procedure (NSW GOA004) “Trapping of feral goats” provides useful information on the humane and effective use of trap facilities.

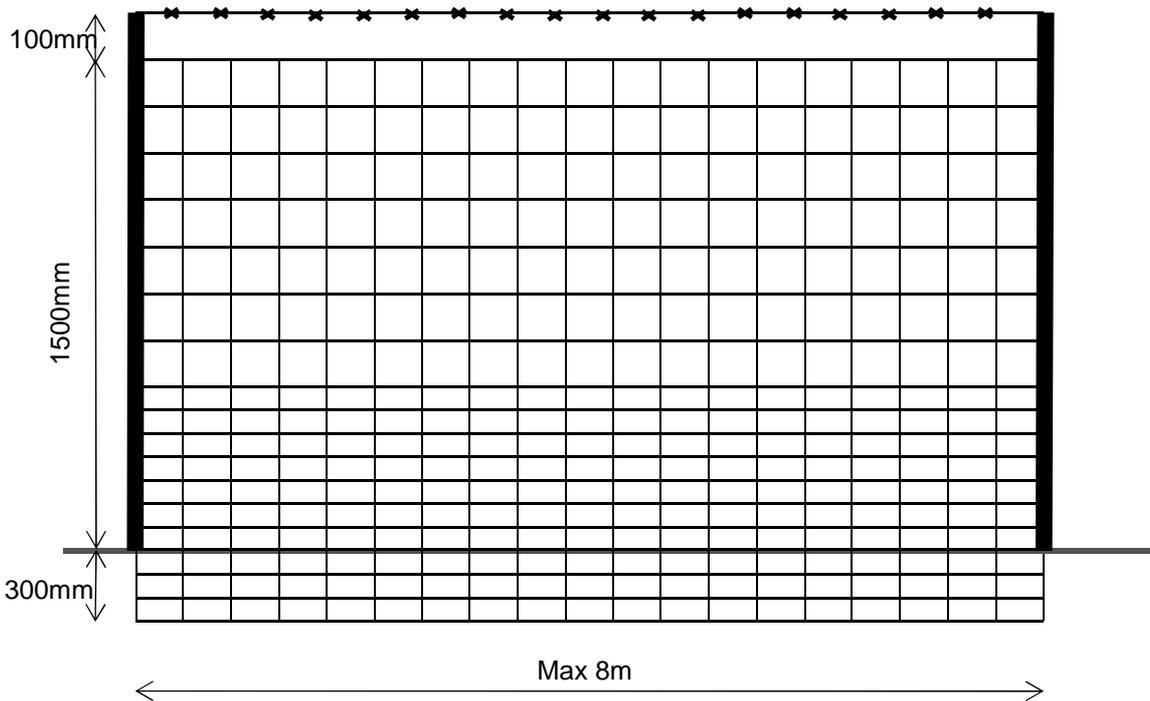
Project activities – Multi species fencing (cluster fencing)

The 2015-2016 Pest and Weed Drought Program provides funding for multi species fence infrastructure to address extreme pressure from pests and unmanaged grazing animals. Criteria for these projects is structured around the following:

- Fencing must be of high-integrity design for the exclusion of a variety of species, including pests and unmanaged grazing animals (see example fence design)
- Applicants must demonstrate a technical expertise to ensure the on going management and reduction in pests and impact of unmanaged grazing animals
- Applicants must demonstrate the long-term environmental benefits of the project such as drought resilience and protection of threatened species or ecological communities
- Applicants must demonstrate that the scale of proposed works is achievable in the given timeframe
- If collaborating with a neighbouring property, an application is required from each individual land owner who is involved in the collaboration. Please indicate in your proposal any linkage to another application.
- Upgrades to existing TGP fences that form part of an existing contract with Local Land Services will be scrutinised

Minimum Standard Description:

- Total fence height to be equal to or greater than 1.6 metres
- 300 millimetre spring or strained apron
- Hinge-joint or equivalent prefabricated fence wire
- Steel posts to be separated by a maximum of 8 metres



Standard conditions relating to fencing projects

Projects involving boundary fences

It is anticipated that a proportion of eligible projects will include upgrades to boundary fencing. However landholders/lessees are required by the *Western Lands Act 1901* to have a stock-proof boundary fence suitable to their enterprise (e.g. dorpers, cattle etc.). Upgrades will be funded where the required standard of fencing does not meet total grazing pressure needs (ie goat proof).

Both sides of the boundary fence are required to be cleared to ensure long-term fence maintenance.

It is necessary to clearly state the level of involvement from each neighbour. For approved projects involving a section of boundary there will be an agreement to sign between all parties involved in the project which clearly defines the roles and responsibilities of each party as well as logistics of project implementation. This declaration must state that neighbours are aware of the project and that they are either involved financially, in-kind or not at all. **Contracts will not be issued without a completed fencing agreement if a section of boundary is involved.**

Projects linking across more than one property

Projects may entail two (or more) properties fencing their perimeter to secure a 'landscape-scale' outcome. This type of project will require neighbours working together and to each have a management plan that compliments one another. Contracts will be with individual legal entities. Note that the area of enclosure must be demonstrated and that all land managers who make up the total area must apply individually. Where two applicants have applied for fencing along a joint property boundary, only one applicant will be contracted to complete these works. Contracted works will be assigned to the higher ranked applicant. Local Land Services Western Region encourages applicants to work with their neighbor to coordinate applications that may link across properties.

Project inspections

Local Land Services Western Region staff will conduct a progress inspection as required, by the contract milestones. **Note that all projects must be completed by the 30th June 2017.**

All 2015-16 Pest and Weed Drought projects are required to undergo a final inspection to complete the project and initiate final payment. Final inspections are carried out by Local Land Services Western Region staff members who will:

- negotiate a suitable timeframe with you to conduct the inspection.
- check all infrastructure against the contract. The contract will usually comprise of the information provided in the application form and any negotiated results. This will include the quality of material, the location of infrastructure, the amount of materials used etc.
- map via GPS the locations of key points and infrastructure in order to accurately record the project for future monitoring.
- discuss with you your ongoing monitoring and reporting requirements.

Note: Any changes to contracted outcomes that do not have a written variation approval on file could constitute grounds for cancellation of the contract, thus forfeiting the final payment.

More information

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