

Application form

Natural Heritage Fund



Funding to assist private landowners to protect or enhance indigenous biodiversity on their land.

1. Criteria for Funding (please ensure you read these before completing your application)

Applications - Ngā tono

Applications for funding need to be on the application form with relevant material attached. It is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure applications are complete.

Applicants are strongly advised to contact the Land and Soil Resources team at Gisborne District Council to discuss their project before submitting an application.

Who should apply? - Ngā mea e taea te tono?

Any private landowner in the Gisborne district who is taking actions towards protecting or enhancing indigenous biodiversity on their land.

Criteria – Ngā Paearu

To be considered for funding all projects must comply with the following:

- Be on privately owned land within the Gisborne district.
- No overdue rates or other outstanding charges owed to Council.
- At least 50% of the total cost of the project is to come from an alternative source.
- Project is unlikely to be successful in securing funding through central government (ie QEII).
- Application is not for activities required by resource consent or rules under Gisborne statutory plans.
- The work / project has not yet started - Funding will not be retrospective.

Additionally projects must:

- Have clear objectives that are consistent with Council's statutory functions, Regional Policy Statement and overall environmental objectives.
- Be of long-term benefit to the local environment and show evidence of good resource management.
- Show long-term landowner commitment to enhancing biodiversity and maintaining the natural area (i.e. stock exclusion, weed and animal pest control).
- Be designed to become self-supporting without ongoing financial contributions from the Council.
- Demonstrate the necessary skills and experience is available to undertake the project.

What do we fund? - Ngā mea ka utua

Eligible activities include:

- Permanent stock exclusion fencing (excluding maintenance of existing fences) for the purpose of allowing natural regeneration and protection of significant terrestrial, riparian and coastal sites.
- Purchase of locally sourced native plants and trees.
- Site preparation and planting.
- Weed and animal pest control.

How your application will be assessed – Te ahua aromatawai o to tono

- Applications will receive an initial eligibility assessment using application detail and after a site inspection has been completed.
- Applicants may be contacted for further information.
- All applications will then be ranked against the biodiversity merit and regional priority status of their project.
- A report will be prepared by a Council Officer recommending funding allocations based on eligibility, the extent of available of funds and biodiversity merit.
- The report and allocations will then be considered by the Environmental Planning and Regulations Committee.
- The Committee will decide on the final allocation of funds at a scheduled Committee meeting.
- All applicants are provided with a decision within a week of that meeting.

Accountability – Noho haepapa

- All successful applications will be required to sign a funding agreement prior to the final allocation of funds.
- Successful applicants must adhere to the monitoring requirements as prescribed by Council to monitor success of the project.
- Applicants will not be refunded for any costs until the stipulated work has been completed and inspected by a Council staff member.

Further Information - wētahi atu whakamārama

Please contact the Land and Soil Resources team (see details below) if you would like to discuss you application further.

2. Contact Details

Name of applicant:

Phone (day):

Email:

Postal address for correspondence:

Physical location of the project (if different):

Legal description of project property:

Is your group GST registered?

Yes

No

If yes, record your GST number here:

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-

Record your bank account number here:

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Name of Land and Soil Resources staff member who was involved with initial discussion and / or site visit:

3. Project Aims & Objectives

Complete relevant details on this form and attach additional information, where required (eg quotes, photos to show past achievements and project site)

Project objective(s) – what are you trying to achieve:

Actions and resources required to meet objectives:

Methodology: Please specify alternatives considered and state why what you are proposing is the best option to achieve objective(s)

Project details (be specific – detail area protected, length of fence, number of plants etc):

Size of area protected in hectares

ha

Length of fence in metres:

m

Type of fence

Total number of trees or plants:

Length of riparian area planted:

m

Previous work undertaken that would contribute to the success of the project:

What are the natural heritage (biodiversity) values of the area or habitat – measured by factors including representativeness, distinctiveness and rarity at national, regional or local levels?

What will be the environmental benefit of the project (eg protection of rare or significant ecosystem, water quality, habitat for birds and animals)?

What is the urgency of threats to the area that the project would alleviate?

4. Project Management

Who will be responsible for the ongoing management of the project?

What challenges do you anticipate in completing your project?

Will the project be monitored and maintained overtime? Yes No
If yes, how?

Any external expertise required to complete the project (eg fencing or pest control contractor)?

Linkages – are there wider benefits by linking to other areas or projects nearby?

Will any stage of your project require consents under the Resource Management Act? Yes No
If yes, please describe (types of activities include earthworks, work in riparian, protection management and coastal areas, water takes):

Have you consulted with the community about the project? Yes No
If yes, is there demonstrated community support for the project?

Have you consulted with iwi or hapu groups where appropriate? Yes No

5. Site Details

Where is your project located?

Please provide a physical address and a map (if possible, please provide a photocopy of a topographical map or road map with the project area highlighted). Photos of the site to be included as a benchmark for the proposed project changes.

Owner of the property:

Has the owner agreed to the proposed project being undertaken on their land? Yes No

Land status (e.g lease, freehold, Maori land):

6. Total Project Costs

The Natural Heritage Fund may contribute up to 50% of the cost of your project. You must be able to provide the remaining portion with your time, equipment, cash costs, other funding, or in-kind contributions such as voluntary labour and donated materials.

Notes on quotes:

- You are required to have 3 quotes. However, less may be acceptable if there are no suitable suppliers or contractors in your area. If you are unsure, please contact one of the Land and Soil Resources team at the Gisborne District Council.
- Only use your preferred quote in your calculations.
- You do not need a quote for your own contribution (ie labour)
- When reviewing your three quotes, take into account; cost, quality, reliability and availability.

Please provide us with an estimated breakdown of the total cost of the proposed project in the following table:

Total project costs (exclude GST if you are registered):	Number	Cost/unit	Total
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Materials (preferred quote) (not for the purchase of tools or equipment):			
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Subtotal

Materials – own supply (where appropriate):

Subtotal

Labour – contract (preferred quote):

Subtotal

Labour – own (value your own labour at \$25/hr)

Subtotal

Equipment - Hired

Subtotal

Equipment – own used e.g. tractor, bulldozer (specify hourly rate)

Subtotal

Total of applicant contribution (grey boxes)

Total of all other costs (white boxes)

Total cost for the year:

Any funding from other sources:

Request from the Natural Heritage Fund (excluding GST is registered):

Notes

- The Natural Heritage Fund is limited to an annual funding pool of \$30,000 per annum.
- The Natural Heritage Fund will only pay up to a MAXIMUM of 50% of approved costs in any given year.
- There is no guarantee of funding for future years of multi year projects, separate applications are required.
- Please provide details on funding from other organisations in the area provided below.

7. Total Funding Request

Request from the Natural Heritage Fund (excluding GST if you are registered): \$

The Natural Heritage Fund is not intended to be an ongoing source of funding. If you are not successful in obtaining the full amount requested from the fund or there are ongoing costs, how do you plan to fund this project and/or become self sufficient over the long term?

Have you or your organisation applied to this fund before? Yes No
If yes, when, for what project and what was the outcome?

8. Other Financial Support

Have you applied to any other organisation(s) for financial support for this project? Yes No
If yes, detail the name of the organisation, amount applied for and when you expect to hear back about your application.

If you receive funding after you have submitted this application, you must contact someone from the Land and Soil Resources team of the Gisborne District Council and provide detail.

9. Extra Information

Is there any more information you would like to add to help in making a decision about this application?

10. Checklist

All sections of this form have been completed.

I have attached:

- A bank generated deposit slip verifying your bank account details (Section 2)
- A location map and photos of the site
- Any project plans
- Any signed letters of support (Section 4)
- Quotes for expenses of your project (Section 6)
- Any legal documents (deed, resource consent)
- A certificate of title
- Any additional information

11. Declaration and Signature

I the undersigned do solemnly and sincerely declare and acknowledge that:

- The details given in all sections of this application are true and correct to the best of my knowledge.
- I have the authority to commit to and undertake the project on the land specified.
- All information contained in this application is subject to the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987, and therefore this information may be released upon request.

The council may collect from third parties any information it deems necessary about the applicant or application.

Name:

Signature:

Date:

Extra writing space (if required)