

# EcoTender Demonstration 2007/08

## Assessment of bids

Information Sheet No. 6

Following your site assessment, you will receive by registered mail your Corangamite Catchment Management Authority (CMA) approved draft management plan. This plan will be based on your discussions with the EcoTender Field Officer.

Within 14 days of receiving the plan you will need to determine the amount of money you wish to receive to undertake the proposed management commitments and return your sealed bid in the supplied postage-paid envelope.

Once the tender period has closed, each bid will be compared with all others in a consistent manner according to a numerical index of environmental benefit. This comparison will include consideration of the terrestrial biodiversity, river health and estuarine health outcomes resulting from the proposed landholder management commitments, and the cost.

For more information on these factors, please refer to EcoTender Demonstration project Information Sheet No. 3 - *The site visit*.

### Maximising the chance of the bid being successful

Landholders can influence the success of a bid in a number of ways:

1. By agreeing to the broadest range of appropriate management commitments that are acceptable to the landholder will maximise the resulting Environmental Benefits scores.

Note: all actions must be completed in the timeframe proposed to be eligible for payments.

2. By increasing the size of the area under agreement.
3. By adding a permanent protection commitment option.
4. The Environmental Benefits Score depends on the significance of your site in the broader landscape. This cannot generally be increased although your property may offer other better options for consideration. The EcoTender Field Officer can advise you on this.

5. You may also have additional information on the presence of significant plants or animals that you can bring to the attention of the EcoTender Field Officer to improve the significance of your site.
6. If you are proposing commitments which are likely to combine a wide variation of environmental benefit (for example: an endangered vegetation type next to a more common type; or maintaining the quality of an existing high quality patch and revegetating a cleared area) you can discuss with the field officer how best to package these components in your bid - options are available to package two or more sites together into the one bid, or enter them as separate bids.
7. You can consider how your own view of an acceptable level of payment places you with respect to other bidders.

To assist with bid preparation, landholders will be provided with the environmental benefit scores resulting from the proposed landholder commitments. Landholders will need to consider how their own view of an acceptable level of payment places them with respect to other bidders.

The tender period will close once all participating landholders have had the opportunity to submit a bid. EcoTender Demonstration project will compare each bid against all other bids received in a fair and consistent manner. Bids are ranked based on the numerical index of Environmental Benefits Index calculated for each bid.

### Determining Successful Bids

The relative environmental benefit being offered by each landholder and the cost of each bid will be combined into an **Environmental Benefits Index** using the following calculation:

$$\frac{\text{Terrestrial biodiversity score} + \text{River health score} + \text{Estuarine health score}}{\text{Cost required by landholder}}$$

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Using this Index, your bid will be placed in merit order with all other bids. The available funds will then be allocated in order to those representing the best “value for money”.

## Further information

For further information on the EcoTender Demonstration project please contact the DSE Customer Service Centre on **136 186** or visit the DSE website [www.dse.vic.gov.au](http://www.dse.vic.gov.au) or visit the Corangamite CMA website [www.ccma.vic.gov.au](http://www.ccma.vic.gov.au) and search under “EcoTender”.



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