

Potential Collaboration on Farm Dams

The Extension and Adoption of Drought Resilience Farming Practices
Grants program

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Natural Asset Farming

Creating Productive and Biodiverse Farms

www.sustainablefarms.org.au



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Working with Landcare and NRM partners

- Validating farmer observations with good science
- Developing understanding of ecological principles
- Creating a holistic understanding of management activities



Farm Dams: Win-Win

Biodiversity, productivity & drought resilience



It's all about vegetation!

More marginal
vegetation =

- Biodiversity
- Water quality
- Water persistence
- GHG management.



Future Drought Fund project proposal

Project aim:

To increase the uptake of management practices to enhance farm dams, by building the capacity of regional Landcare and NRM professionals to deliver science-based extension and support for farmers.

Collaborative project with:

- Landcare NSW & Landcare Victoria Inc.
- ANU Sustainable Farms
- Interested Landcare networks

Future Drought Fund project proposal

Key project components:

1. **‘Train-the-trainer’ workshops** – In-depth training workshops for Landcare facilitators, NRM staff and agricultural consultants, on the science of farm dam enhancement (Sustainable Farms)
2. **Technical expertise** – Provision of communication resources and support for extension activities by regional project officers (Sustainable Farms)
3. **Regional project officers** – Landcare-based extension officers to deliver farm dam extension activities and provide one-on-one support for farmers (Landcare networks)

What would success look like?

(I) A multi-faceted knowledge translation strategy

- Training workshops, extension and a community of practice, for Natural Asset Management on Farms (Flagship Asset: Farm Dams) –Capacity NRM
- A network of Demonstration Sites – Enhanced Farm Dams established across NSW and Victoria in key regions.- Increasing the visibility of the practice

What would success look like?

(ii) Change in Knowledge Practice

- Community wide changes in knowledge and understand of farm dam management (+ improved understanding of ecosystem services)
- Widespread improvement in farm dam management
- Enhanced dams delivering multiple benefits to farm productivity and biodiversity in periods of drought



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