

## Notes for Applicants

### Introduction

1. MainPower New Zealand Ltd provides this fund; Waimakariri Biodiversity Trust provides advice and support. The fund is contestable; \$10,000.00 is awarded annually.
2. The purpose of the fund is to encourage and assist with voluntary work that benefits indigenous biodiversity in Waimakariri District.
3. The focus is on work that protects, restores, or reinstates indigenous biodiversity in Waimakariri District.
4. The fund is open only to residents and ratepayers of Waimakariri District – individuals or groups – for work within Waimakariri District relating to either private or public land.
5. The fund is not available:
  - a. For work that there is a legal obligation to do.
  - b. To compensate for work already done. It is intended to assist with the cost of future work.
  - c. For the entire cost of a project. It will complement the applicant's contributions.
  - d. For beautification projects, or to support those driven primarily for financial gain; or
  - e. To past recipients of the fund for previous or existing projects. New projects by past recipients are eligible.
6. Applicants should attach supporting documents such as plans, diagrams, maps, and photos, but please limit this to no more than about 15 pages. Applications without any supporting documents are unlikely to be considered.
7. The judges assessing the applications may request to see the proposed site(s). Prior approval of the landowner will be sought.
8. Any information provided in this application will only be used for the purpose of administering this fund.
9. By lodging the application, the applicant agrees that:
  - a. The amount received and the applicant's name and photo may be publicised and used for publicity purposes.
  - b. They will submit a report briefly describing the outcome, or progress update (if the project is not finished) within 12 months of receiving funding from this application.
  - c. They may be asked to grant access to a representative of MainPower New Zealand Ltd to photograph the site(s) for the purposes of publicity. Prior approval of the landowner will be sought.
10. Applications will be assessed during May, and it is intended to distribute the funds at a function, date, and location to be confirmed.
11. The money granted is to be spent by the successful applicant within two years of receiving the grant.

### Assessment Criteria

To help us assess your work, please make sure the description of your proposal or project covers:

1. The long term ecological and community benefits of the work overall.
2. Specifically, how the work will:
  - Protect, benefit, enhance, restore, or reinstate native biodiversity. Priority will be given to protecting existing areas of high biodiversity and connectivity between existing areas.
  - Protect, benefit, enhance, restore, or reinstate important indigenous natural values of the area to which the work relates. The natural values include representativeness, rarity/distinctiveness, diversity and pattern and ecological context.
  - Address the scale and types of current risk to the biodiversity and natural values of the area.
3. Work towards feasible outcomes. This should include describing your ability and commitment to undertake the proposal in practical, administrative, and culturally appropriate ways.
4. The ongoing maintenance, monitoring and protection proposed for the work funded, including protection from stock damage, and weed and pest invasion; monitoring the success of the project; and long-term legal protection.