
Victorian Serrated Tussock Working Party

Applied Science Research Grants 2018

Funding Guidelines



The Victoria Serrated Tussock Working Party (VSTWP) is providing applied science researchers with the opportunity to apply for grants to undertake research which aims to improve management practices for serrated tussock.

This grant provides an opportunity for researchers to receive a grant of up to \$60,000 (GST excluded) to deliver a research project/s which meet the priorities and criteria outlined in these guidelines.

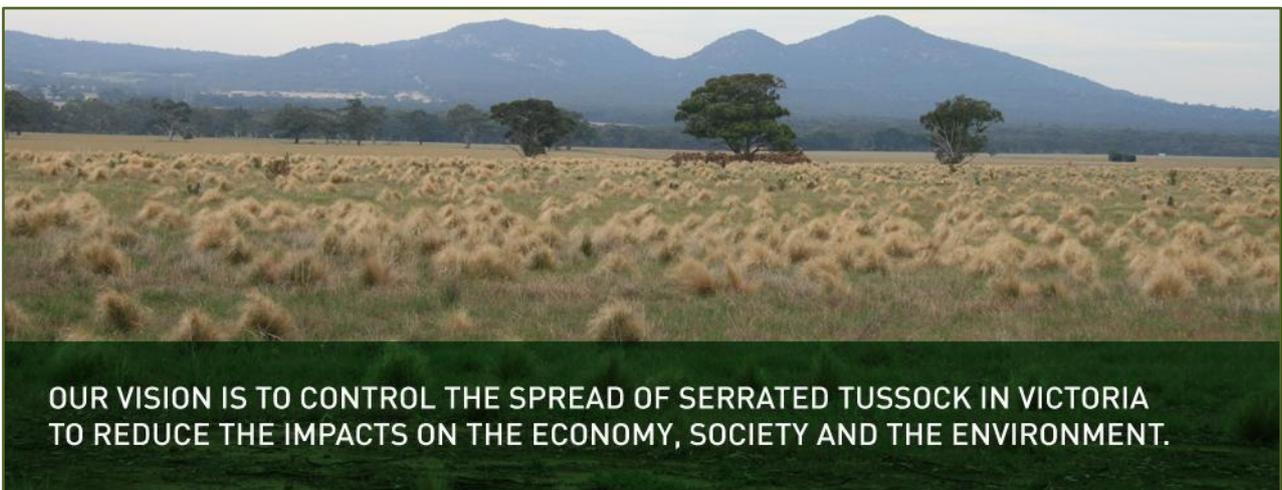
The VSTWP Applied Science Research Grants have been made possible through the Federal Government Agricultural Competitiveness White Paper. The VSTWP was successfully granted an initial \$60,000 to manage serrated tussock through applied science research.

Grant Process

\$60,000 is available to successful applicants and may be split between a few smaller research projects or \$60,000 may be granted to one larger project.

Applicants will submit an expression of interest (EOI) which addresses the eligibility and selection criteria. EOIs will be assessed by the VSTWP Applied Science Research Sub-committee. Shortlisted applicants will be requested to develop and submit a full research proposal for final consideration by the sub-committee.

Note: Applications may be resubmitted for consideration in future rounds of funding.



Eligibility Criteria

To apply, the researcher must meet the following conditions:

- Where applicable have product and public liability insurance of at least \$20 million, and at least \$10 million professional indemnity insurance.
- Covered by workers compensation
- No more than two applications will be considered per research organisation.

Relevant Areas of Research

Research may address but is not restricted to the following areas:

- Evaluate effectiveness and suitability of management practices or treatment options for serrated tussock, such as;
 - Registered herbicides rates in relation to biology, growth stage.
 - Control methods in threatened or endangered ecological communities.
 - Herbicide resistance
 - Unregistered herbicides for specific situations.
 - Options for reducing seed set, seedbank viability, or seed removal.
 - Competitive pasture.
 - Grazing frequency and intensity.
 - Methods to alter soil nutrient profile or nutrient availability.
 - Other management practices or treatment options.
- In addition to the above, projects may identify previous research findings which are not adequately applied or communicated.

Assessment Criteria

Applied science proposals will be evaluated against the following criteria;

- Demonstrated experience in conducting similar research.
- The proposed research is of a high quality.
- Aims to address gaps in knowledge or practices
- Strong rationale for practical application to improve serrated tussock management practices.
- Innovative approaches to managing serrated tussock.
- Collaboration and partnerships which add value to the research
- Additional in-kind or cash contribution. May be achieved through grants or industry contribution.
- Value for money.

Application Process

Researchers are required to submit an expression of interest (EOI) through an online form. EOI will be shortlisted and successful researchers will be asked to provide a full application. Applicants will then be notified of their success.

Please find the online EOI form at: <https://goo.gl/forms/XluJD0R4O17ITKcm2>

Only fully completed expressions of interest (EOI) will be considered for assessment.

Key Dates

- EOI open: 9th February 2018
- EOI close: 25th February 2018
- EOI shortlisted / Accepting applications: 16th March 2018
- Applications close: 1st April 2018
- Notification of success: 20th April 2018
- Final report submitted by: 31st May 2019

Applicants Obligations

The successful applicant must agree to the following conditions;

- Successful applicants will be required to sign a letter of agreement.
- The project must be completed by 31 May 2019.
- The VSTWP must be notified of any changes to the nominated key contact.
- The applicant must acknowledge the Victorian Serrated Tussock Working Party.
- The applicant must agree to the payment and reporting schedule.
- All activities associated with the research must adhere to Occupational Health and Safety requirements.
- A full research report is required to be submitted to the VSTWP on completion of the project.
- The timeframes and methodology of the project must be clearly stated.
- Reporting requirements: A mid-project progress report, and a final report delivered to the VSTWP Executive Officer upon completion of the project.
- Assist in the production of a summary research video for the VSTWP website and Facebook page.



Payment Schedule

80% of the grant will be paid to the researcher upon approval of the project and the research representative signing the letter of agreement. The balance will be paid on lodgement of the final report.

The VSTWP will make payment to the researcher by direct deposit.

Further information

For information or assistance please contact:

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