

Project and funding criteria (STRESS)

Applicants for STRESS funding must hold a TRC farm plan and work must be taking place on land identified as Class 6 or 7 hillcountry. All planholders are eligible, although applicants impacted by the 2015 storm and flood events in Waitotara, Patea and Waitara River catchments may be prioritised. Funding is available as follows:

Forestry – 75% of costs up to \$1,500 per hectare

- Planting exotic forestry, soil conservation trees (poplars or willows), or native species.
- Minimum of 750 stems per hectare (typically 1,000).
- Support available for first 5 ha; additional area at landowner cost; limit of 5 ha per entity.
- Livestock must be excluded during the establishment period.
- Stocking must be maintained at more than 500 sph for 10 years.
- Payment is made upon inspection of trees planted and released during appropriate season.

Forestry fencing – up to \$8 per metre

- Eight-wire post and four battens (or agreed alternative).

Reversion – up to \$300 per hectare

- Area should have a minimum of 10% and maximum of 50% manuka cover.
- Payment is one-off.
- Up to 100 ha allowed per applicant – does not need to be in one year.

Reversion fencing – up to \$8 per metre

- Eight-wire post and four battens (or agreed alternative).
- Stock must be excluded.
- Retirement of erosion-prone pasture takes priority over existing scrub.
- Retired scrub might be manuka or other native, or exotic scrub (gorse, for example) if native is expected to succeed it and there are no biosecurity issues.
- \$6 per metre for eight-wire post and four battens, where QEII National Trust is also contributing funds.

Retirement fencing for existing bush – up to \$6 per metre

- Available if part of a project with substantial forestry or retirement element.
- Also available (funds permitting) if not otherwise used for forestry and reversion fencing.
- Eight-wire post and batten (or agreed alternative).
- \$4 per metre for eight-wire post and four battens where QEII National Trust is also contributing funds.

Poplar and willow poles

- 3-metre poplar/willow poles for \$2.80 (normally \$10.80 each).
- 1-metre shrub willow stakes free (normally \$1.50 each).
 - Landowner to protect by either buying and using sleeves, or planting in fenced, stock-excluded area.
- Must be planted for erosion control purposes on LUC class 6e and 7e land.
- Strictly not for riverside planting, unless landowner enters into prescribed management regime to avoid conflicts with catchment management.
- Landowner will be invoiced for any poles received and planted for other purposes (for example, shade and shelter with no erosion control benefits).

Note: STRESS support is subject to the landowner and the Taranaki Regional Council entering into either a Memorandum of Understanding (works under \$5,000) or a contract agreement (works exceeding \$5,000). Landowners are to maintain pole plantings for a minimum of 10 years. Fences, forestry, reversion and retirement are to be maintained in perpetuity.