



Moorabool Blackberry Action Group (MooBAG)

POSITION DESCRIPTION CONTRACTED PROJECT OFFICER

Title: Moorabool Blackberry Action Group (MooBAG) Project Officer

Location: Various areas including but not limited to Lal Lal, Millbrook, Dunnstown, Blakeville, Spargo Creek, Springbank, Gordon, Bunding, Greendale, Korobeit, Bullengarook, Blackwood.

Tenure: The term of the contract is 12 months; the work is part time and seasonal
Rate: Contracted rate is \$10,000 fee for service
Reports to: The Moorabool Blackberry Action Group (MooBAG)
Contact Roger MacRaid, Facilitator Moorabool Landcare Network
facilitator@mln.org.au

Role statement for the contract position

MooBAG is leading the community in coordinated action on blackberry management. Previously there had been a desire in the community to act, but a reluctance to invest in individual action, as they were seen to have limited impact on the total problem. MooBAG is a subcommittee of the Moorabool Landcare Network (MLN). The MooBAG Project Officer will perform a key role in the delivery of this community-led extension program for MLN.

The Project Officer will work with our agency partners to expand on works that they are currently investing in, in order to raise awareness, to promote best practice management and to expand the area treated on private land (e.g. shire roads blackberry program can be supported by MooBAG working on adjacent farms).

The successful applicant will form a strong working relationship with MooBAG and various stakeholders including private landowners, Landcare groups, Moorabool Shire, Vic Roads, DELWP, Parks Vic, Agriculture Victoria, Central Highlands Water, Melbourne Water, Vic Track, Vline, PPWCMA and CCMA.

Duties

The successful applicant will be required to conduct the following duties:

1. Develop effective partnerships with key stakeholders including agencies, local government, landcare groups etc., communicating key project messages and effectively work towards a common outcome.
2. Inspect at least 15 new properties with blackberry infestation to develop 3-year blackberry management plans and follow-up with key properties from the last 2 year's projects.
3. Map woody weed infestations in the selected target areas using GIS equipment and mapping software, with the option to use a drone where appropriate.
4. Undertake, both under direction and with limited supervision, required tasks including the organisation and hosting of extension activities such as field days and information sessions.

5. Assist with the engagement and supervision of spray contractors.
6. Deliver final report of project outcomes, including mapping, before and after photo's, number of farmer and stakeholder engagements, entering data into BADIS and other databases.

Pre-requisites

- A current driver's licence and a vehicle, (a four-wheel drive is preferable)
- A mobile phone
- Have an Australian Business Number
- Must show proof of current professional indemnity insurance and public liability insurance cover

Key selection criteria

1. Highly developed interpersonal communication skills, particularly the ability to negotiate outcomes and develop effective partnerships with stakeholders.
2. A demonstrated ability to successfully plan, implement and evaluate projects and an ability to resolve operational service delivery problems.
3. A sound knowledge of woody weeds as invasive plants and how to identify, prevent and control them using best management practices.
4. An ability to use GIS equipment including the use of GIS software to develop maps with infestation points.
5. A demonstrated ability to work alone and be self motivated.

Other relevant information

- Attendance at after hour's meetings may be required.
- Training in the safe use of drones in the sub2kg class will be highly regarded
- Is expected to act in an environmentally responsible manner at all times.
- The successful applicant will be required to report to MooBAG meetings.
- An understanding of the MooBAG and the Victorian Blackberry Taskforce Strategy would be of benefit. Information can be found on www.vicblackberrytaskforce.com.au

Specific health and safety requirements

MLN is committed to protecting the health, safety and wellbeing of its members and contractors. To achieve this, MLN strives to ensure that contractors are not permitted to undertake work for which they are not suitably qualified and to take appropriate measures to allow work to be done in a manner which will not put any person at risk related to their health and safety.

The following information is provided to identify health and safety issues specific to this role.

- Required to work alone;
- Lengthy periods of car travel often alone, at night and/or over rough terrain;
- Frequent dealings with members of the public required.