



## Introduction

Forests For Life is inviting consultants to tender for the Farm Forestry and Landcare Financial Assessment (the Assessment). This document provides background on Forests For Life, the objective of the project, scope of works, the timeframe, budget and contact details.

The Assessment is separated into two stages, detailed below in Scope of Works. We look forward to hearing from consultants who would like to tender for Stage One and / or Stage Two of the Assessment, and welcome any queries. We are open to the Stages being carried out by the same consultant, or by separate consultants. We also welcome collaboration and joint applications.

## Background

Forests For Life is an initiative of the Western Australian Forest Alliance Inc (WAFA).

WAFA is a community based not-for-profit organisation which has been involved in forest conservation matters in the South West of Western Australia since 1990. Our vision is that the south-west forests are conserved and that Western Australia's timber comes from a world-class plantation and farm forestry industry.

Forests For Life was launched in October 2016 and, as a part of its scope, it sets out a plan for expanding the farm forestry sector in the south-west. The South West Agroforestry Network, Warren Catchment Council and Gondwana Link have all provided invaluable support in the development of the Forests For Life Farm Forestry and Landcare Program and will provide environmental, agroforestry and landcare data and information to the successful tenderer. The Koorabup Trust and the State NRM Program have committed the funding to enable Forests For Life to invite tenders for the Assessment.

The goal of the Farm Forestry and Landcare Program is to produce a substantial volume of sustainably grown, high-value timber while delivering maximum ecological benefits at the local and regional scale. The Program will be carried out in two zones, one in the South West centring on Greenbushes and the other in the Great Southern centring on Albany. Its aim is to achieve a total of 40 000 hectares of trees planted for sawn timber production and a minimum of 4000 hectares of landcare work carried out on participating farms.

Some preliminary work on species selection, silvicultural prescription, anticipated yields, carbon sequestration potential, planting locations and environmental benefits has been

carried out and will be provided on request and as a matter of course to the successful tenderer.

Further information on WAFA and FFL is available at <http://www.forestsforlife.org.au>

## **Objective**

The Financial Assessment will provide a thoroughly researched, rigorous report on species and silvicultural selection and financial matters associated with the Program. It will demonstrate a high level of consultation with stakeholders and experts including Noongar custodians, agroforestry industry representatives, timber market players, carbon farming consultants, ecologists, landholders, landcare consultants, environmentalists, economists and others.

The final report will detail the financial considerations of the Program and provide the underpinning of the business case required for Forests For Life to begin seeking investment and partnership with landholders.

## **Scope of Works**

### **Stage One**

Taking into account the goal to produce a substantial volume of high-value sawn timber within a timeframe of 25-35 years, and the intention for the Program to deliver maximum possible ecological benefits compatible with that objective, research and report on the recommended species and silvicultural prescription for the timber production component of the Program.

### **Stage Two**

Deliver a fully referenced report detailing the financial basis for the Forests For Life Farm Forestry and Landcare Program. The report should reference case studies of successful and unsuccessful high value farm forestry on cleared land ventures and include but not necessarily be limited to presentation of more than one workable scenario addressing the following:

- 1) Estimated establishment and maintenance costs of both the timber production and landcare components of the Program.
- 2) Likely financial returns from sawlogs and thinnings.

- 3) Potential markets for sawlogs and thinnings. Include consideration of existing barriers to sale of plantation grown hardwood and recommendations for improving market position.
- 4) Potential investment scenarios and grants. Include potential for carbon markets, impact investments, green bonds and other possible investment streams and structures. Also include consideration of public / private investment scenarios.
- 5) Possible financial arrangements with land holders.
- 6) Barriers to adoption and perceived risks.
- 7) Recommendations on workable scenarios.

## **Timeframe**

Tenders to be entered by 5pm, Monday 26<sup>th</sup> February

Successful tenderer(s) will be notified by Monday 5<sup>th</sup> March

Stage One report to be provided by Friday 6<sup>th</sup> April

Stage Two report to be provided by Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> May

## **Budget**

Total budget for Stage One and Stage Two \$24 000 (including GST)

## **Contact Details**

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