

Environmental Improvement Funding Opportunities Available

If you have thought about improving the natural environment nearby, but just didn't have the money, have you thought about approaching the **Leard Forest Precinct Environmental Trust**?

Who is the Trust? And what do they do?

- Set up approximately seven years ago, "the Trust" was set up as a condition of approval for each of the Tarrawonga, Maules Creek and Boggabri Coal Mines.
- Each mine contributed \$100,000 towards grants for funding of projects that improve the natural environment.
- The Trust is made up of members not only from the mines, but also the local community. The Trust meets May and October each year to evaluate applications.

What kind of projects can receive funding?

While we prefer to fund natural environmental improvement projects, we have funded an array of great projects through time. These include weed control (green cestrum), solar panels and water efficiency projects.

Projects should:

- Provide benefits to the wider community (i.e. not just one landholder)
- Be able to be completed within 12 months (of receiving funding)
- Take place within a 25 km radius of the centre of the Leard Forest itself, and
- Have appropriate insurance

Applicants must also have the rights for the land and/or facility in mind.

What else do I need to know?

- We prefer to fund natural environmental improvement projects. These can include, but are not limited to: weed control; "Tree Troffs" watering stations for native animals; and improving local habitat for animals.
- However, we are also open to funding projects that provide benefits around the efficient use of natural resources – like water tanks, small-scale irrigation, solar panels.
- Applicant groups don't have to live in the area; all are welcome – but the works just have to take place within that 25 km radius.
- Co contributions will be looked upon favourably.

Further information

- Contact the President, David Ross: David.Ross@phoenixstrategic.com.au.