

Whole Farm Plans in the Shepparton Irrigation Region

Information Update for Irrigation Designers & Landholders (Sept 2018)

On behalf of the Minister for Planning, the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) completed a formal review of the planning and subdivision fees on 13 October 2016. This changed the cost for landholders applying for a planning permit for earthworks associated with a Whole Farm Plan (WFP). There is no longer a set fee, but an estimation of works which determine the scale of fees (Class 10, 11 or 12).

The three Councils in the Shepparton Irrigation Region (Campaspe, Greater Shepparton and Moira) agreed to continue subsidising 50% of the permit fee for each class up front (deducted from the cost the landholder pays upon submitting³ the plan). If a landholder is undertaking a WFP with an Agriculture Victoria extension officer as part of the WFP in the Shepparton Irrigation Region program, they may also be eligible for an incentive for the cost of the remaining amount.

The cost estimation (to determine 'class') includes all 'earthworks' associated with the WFP that is generating the need for the permit. If a centre pivot or other irrigation system associated with the WFP does not require a planning permit, then it is not included in the estimated cost of works.

Class	Estimated cost of works	P&E Act scheduled fee ¹ (as of July 2018)	Council WFP subsidy (50%)	Landholder cost ² at time of permit application
Class 10	To develop land (with some clause exemptions) if the estimated cost of development is <\$100,000	\$1119.90	\$559.95	\$559.95
Class 11	To develop land (with some clause exemptions) if the estimated cost of development is >\$100,000 and not > \$1million	\$1510.00	\$755.00	\$755.00
Class 12	To develop land (with some clause exemptions) if the estimated cost of development is > \$1million to \$5million	\$3330.70	\$1665.35	\$1665.35

¹ Is a set State Government regulation fee that is revised annually and therefore subject to change.

² The landholder (if eligible for WFP incentive) will then submit this receipt to their Agriculture Victoria extension officer to seek their incentive. Please note that there may be additional fees e.g. title search, that are eligible under the WFP incentive, but some that won't be e.g. native vegetation removal permit fee.

³ The payment upon submission of the WFP may be required on the day of submission OR following submission. Please check with each Council prior to submitting the application.