Ecological Grazing Program

Update | October 2026



Managing nationally significant native grasslands

Parks Victoria is seeking applications from farmers interested in partnering with us to manage native grasslands across the Patho Plains and Lower Avoca Plains in northern Victoria.

Strategic grazing by sheep or cattle is a key land management tool used to maintain healthy native grasslands and support important conservation outcomes.

Carefully managed grazing helps reduce grass biomass and create habitat conditions that benefit threatened plants and animals, including the endangered Plains-wanderer.

Grazing agreements will be available across approximately 6,000 hectares of native grasslands for a three-year contract period

Application process

Parks Victoria will host an information session for farmers interested in participating in the Ecological Grazing Program over the next three to six years.

The session provides an opportunity to:

- learn about the conservation outcomes Parks Victoria is seeking to achieve
- understand how strategic grazing contributes to native grassland management
- discuss agreement requirements and grazing expectations
- be provided sufficient information to determine whether the grazing requirements align with your farming system.

Farmers with stock available to graze during peak grass growth periods may find this opportunity particularly suitable.

Information session

The information session will outline the application process, including an opportunity to ask questions.

Thursday 29 October 2026 10am-11.30am

Mitiamo Recreation Centre, 50 Glossop Street, Mitiamo

To register https://www.trybooking.com/DQJUP or scan the QR code below:

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Attendance at the information session is strongly encouraged but not mandatory.

Farmers who are unable to attend are encouraged to contact Parks Victoria to discuss the program and agreement requirements before applying.



Grazing helps protect species like the Plains-wanderer

Applying

The application form and information about each grazing area is available on the website: 2027 Ecological Grazing Program

Applications can be lodged via:

Email
grazing@parks.vic.gov.au

Post
Biomass Reduction Application, Parks Victoria
PO Box 138, Echuca VIC 3564

Closing date

All applications must be received by **12.00 pm AEDST, Wednesday 18 November 2026**.

Confirmation that your application has been received will be provided

Assessment and interviews

Applications will be assessed against the capacity to meet Parks Victoria's grazing objectives using the information provided in your written application.

Participation in the information session, experience grazing native pastures and the ability to work with Parks Victoria to achieve conservation outcomes are all attributes that will be considered favourably during the assessment process.

Shortlisted applicants will be invited to attend an interview between Thursday 3 and Tuesday 8 December. This may be face-to-face or via telephone or internet call.

All applicants will be notified of the outcome of their application.

Grazing agreements

Applicants must review the Biomass Reduction Agreement before applying. Applicants should seek their own independent legal advice on the Biomass Reduction Agreement prior to signing.

Successful applicants will be offered an agreement commencing in early 2027.

A copy of the agreement is available with the application documents.

More information

For more information about the Conservation Grazing Program, contact: grazing@parks.vic.gov.au

To book a site inspection, contact Ben Hodgens on 03 8427 2469.

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