

Natural Resources Recovery Program 2022

Application guidelines





Acknowledgement of Country

The Department of Resources acknowledges the Country and people of Queensland's First Nations. We pay our respect to Elders, past, present and emerging.

We acknowledge the continuous living culture of First Nations Queenslanders—their diverse languages, customs and traditions, knowledge and systems. We acknowledge the deep relationship, connection and responsibility to land, sea, sky and Country as an integral element of First Nations identity and culture.

The Country is sacred. Everything on the land has meaning and all people are one with it. We acknowledge First Nations peoples' sacred connection as central to culture and being.

We acknowledge the stories, traditions and living cultures of First Nations peoples and commit to shaping our state's future together. We recognise the contribution of First Nations peoples and communities to the State of Queensland and how this continues to enrich our society more broadly.

This publication has been compiled by Natural Resources Programs, Natural Resource Operations, Department of Resources.

© State of Queensland, 2022

The Queensland Government supports and encourages the dissemination and exchange of its information. The copyright in this publication is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International (CC BY 4.0) licence.



Under this licence you are free, without having to seek our permission, to use this publication in accordance with the licence terms. You must keep intact the copyright notice and attribute the State of Queensland as the source of the publication.

Note: Some content in this publication may have different licence terms as indicated.

For more information on this licence, visit <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/>.

The information contained herein is subject to change without notice. The Queensland Government shall not be liable for technical or other errors or omissions contained herein. The reader/user accepts all risks and responsibility for losses, damages, costs, and other consequences resulting directly or indirectly from using this information.

Interpreter statement:



The Queensland Government is committed to providing accessible services to Queenslanders from all culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds. If you have difficulty in understanding this document, you can contact us within Australia on 13QGOV (13 74 68) and we will arrange an interpreter to effectively communicate the report to you.

Table of contents

1. Introduction	4
2. Important information	4
3. Project delivery areas	4
3.1. Regional Recovery Projects	4
3.2. Regional Coordination and Evaluation Projects.....	4
4. Who can apply?	5
4.1. Joint applications	5
5. How to apply	5
5.1. Preparing an application.....	6
5.2. Project Plan	6
5.3. State-Wide Indicator Framework (SWIF)	7
5.4. Capital expenditure	7
5.5. Reporting Requirements	8
6. Application Assessment	8
6.1. Assessment criteria	8
7. Rights and responsibilities	9
7.1. Applicants	9
7.2. Queensland Government	10
7.2.1. Final decision	10
7.2.2. Liability limitation	10
7.3. Confidential and personal information.....	11
7.4. Successful Applications and Project Agreement.....	12
7.5. Grant conditions	12
7.6. Reporting.....	12
7.7. Communication requirements	13
7.8. Project Agreement - independent advice	13
8. Definitions	13
TABLE 1 – PROGRAM PRIORITIES WITH INDICATIVE OUTCOMES, DELIVERABLES AND EXAMPLE ACTIVITIES	15
APPENDIX A – ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA	19
APPENDIX B – EVALUATION CRITERIA	20

1. Introduction

The Natural Resources Recovery Program (the Program) is designed to support Queensland's economy by investing in our people, science and natural resources to ensure a sustainable future. \$10 million per year for the next four years has been provided by the Queensland Government for the Program. The Department of Resources (the department) recognises that well-functioning landscapes maximise the potential of the land, providing for a diversity of current and future land uses, economic outputs and greater resilience to disasters and climate change.

The Program will provide grant funding to eligible organisations to deliver on projects that support the following priorities:

- Improved landscape resilience and ability to respond to natural disasters and climate change
- Stakeholders supported to adopt sustainable practice management and drive regional economies
- An understanding of the state of natural resources through monitoring and evaluation.

2. Important information

Details on application submission timelines, project funding amounts, and project durations can be found at <https://www.business.qld.gov.au/running-business/environment/natural-resource-funding>.

3. Project delivery areas

The Program has two project delivery areas:

- 1) Regional Recovery Projects
- 2) Regional Coordination and Evaluation

Applications are merit based and must satisfy the Assessment Criteria for this component (refer to Section 5.1).

3.1. Regional Recovery Projects

Regional Recovery projects should:

- demonstrate clear alignment with the Program Priorities and Outcomes (listed in Table 1).
- leverage other sources of funding (encouraged, where possible).
- utilise the innovative State-wide Indicator Framework (SWIF) developed under Natural Resources Investment Program (NRIP) to measure the achievements of project Outcomes (where possible).

Multiple applications per organisation for Regional Recovery Projects are allowed, each Application is required to be made on a separate Application Form.

3.2. Regional Coordination and Evaluation Projects

Regional Coordination and Evaluation projects should:

- collaborate with regional stakeholders (Aboriginal peoples and Torres Strait Islanders, industry, Natural Resource Management (NRM) groups) to share knowledge, improve linkages and gain efficiencies in delivery of projects across regions.
- retain and build organisational capacity to establish and maintain monitoring, evaluation, reporting and improvement (MERI) through the SWIF.
- contribute to the State-wide data set to enable new insights and long-term outcome monitoring.

Only one approved project per organisation for Regional Coordination and Evaluation Projects is permitted.

4. Who can apply?

Applications may be made by the following eligible organisations:

- Not-For-Profit, Queensland based natural resource management organisations

Applicants are strongly encouraged to deliver projects through regional partnerships with other stakeholders, (e.g., develop partnership arrangements with NRM groups, Landcare groups, rural industry, Aboriginal peoples and Torres Strait Islanders).

4.1. Joint applications

A joint application for a collaborative project may be submitted which must include the following:

A project leader:

- must be an eligible organisation (cannot be an individual)
- is responsible for a joint application
- must be the lead organisation as set out in the joint application and in the Project Agreement (in the event the application is approved)

Joint application details:

- identify all project partners and include a letter of support from each project partner
- provide an overview of how the project partners will work with the lead organisation and group to successfully complete the project
- outline the roles/responsibilities the project partner will undertake, and the resources it will contribute.

5. How to apply

An Application, including the mandatory and supporting documentation, must be submitted using the department's online application portal.

An Applicant must register a new account using the links provided at:

<https://nrprograms.resources.qld.gov.au/> following which access to the online application form will then be available.

Applications will not be accepted in any other format and late or incomplete applications will not be accepted.

A copy of the Application Form is provided in Attachment A to assist applicants in drafting responses to the application questions prior to entering the information in the online Application form and submitting electronically

Whilst multiple Applications can be submitted:

- each project proposal will require a separate Application Form
- only one RCE project can be approved per organisation.

5.1. Preparing an application

The Application consists of an online Application Form, mandatory documents, and supporting documents. Please ensure attachments are labelled meaningfully so it is clear what the file contains.

- **Mandatory documents include:**
 - A Project Plan (section 5.2).
 - evidence of Not-For-Profit status
 - map(s) showing the project's priority areas (for all Regional Recovery projects) showing location of on-ground activities are to be uploaded with the online application form. Maps are to be provided in pdf format and must include approximate project boundary, legend, scale, north arrow, title, roads, waterways, lot-on-plan, and other relevant information e.g., property boundaries, monitoring points.
 - two referee reports for each application verifying ability to deliver natural resource projects.
 - in the case of joint applications, a letter of support from each of the project partners.
- **Optional supporting documents include:**
 - a letter(s) of consent from landholder/site owner/manager for the project the subject of the application or outline a process to seek consent.
 - photos and reports supporting (or referenced in) the project proposal.

5.2. Project Plan

Applicants must complete a Project Plan for **each project** using the excel format provided in **Attachment 1** and submit the Project Plan with the online Application Form.

The Project Plan forms part of the Application and will form part of the Project Agreement (if the Application is ultimately approved by the department).

The Project Plan includes Outcomes, deliverables, and activities for the project and details of project implementation, reporting and evaluation. It comprises a project logic, work plan and budget.

- Project logic:
 - Applicants are required to show project/s alignment against the Program priorities, Outcomes, and deliverables (Table 1).
 - The project logic should reinforce the design of the project and provide confidence that it will achieve the deliverable/s and contribute towards the Programs outcome/s.
 - Applicants are required to detail monitoring and evaluation tools that will be used to measure project deliverables and Outcomes (e.g. State-wide Indicator Framework).
- Work plan:
 - Applicants are required to complete a work plan detailing six-monthly project milestones and activities to align with the Program Outcomes and deliverables (as described in the project logic).
- Budget:
 - Applicants are required to complete a quarterly budget which will be used to formulate an official financial plan.
 - Budget forecasts are to be as accurate as possible as the department will develop the payment schedule based on the approved budget for successful projects.

- It is the responsibility of the applicant to manage cashflow for successful projects.
- Applicants need to be mindful when preparing budgets to include reporting requirements, collection of data and project monitoring requirements (refer sections 5.3,5.5 and 7.6).
- The budget is not to include fees for project financial auditing.
- Project budgets must be GST exclusive. GST will be added to funding payments as applicable. Generally, Grants are subject to normal taxation treatment and no special arrangements will apply.
- For Application assessment purposes, an applicant may be asked to verify project costs and other items as requested by the department either during the Application process or following the signing of the Project Agreement before commencement of the Project provided in the application. Applicants will need to provide evidence such as quotes for major costs, capital outlays, compliance costs, and contractors' fees for services on request from the department.

5.3. State-Wide Indicator Framework (SWIF)

SWIF represents the minimum standard for monitoring and evaluating deliverables and Outcomes for each project.

SWIF is composed of three major components that all contribute to a consistent, credible, and compelling story about the outcomes of NRM investment. The three components are:

1. Project planning:
 - Program logic – defining what project success looks like
 - Allocating project sites to a primary outcome – what is to be achieved
 - Assigning outcome monitoring method – used to gain a measurement to achieving the outcome
 - Allocating deliverable and deliverable indicator – how an applicant will achieve the outcome
2. Data collection (Smart tools/apps, mapping, Condition Monitoring Plan) – ensuring that data collection is consistent
3. State-wide data analysis – pulling the consistent data together at the state-wide level

Applicants will be required to identify which SWIF tools they will use to monitor the Outcomes in the Project Plan. The data collection and/or analysis methods for each of the Outcomes can be found in **Table 1**.

Applicants need to ensure an adequate budget has been allocated for monitoring and evaluation using SWIF tools.

Further information on the SWIF can be found at <https://www.business.qld.gov.au/running-business/environment/natural-resource-funding>

5.4. Capital expenditure

Capital assets must be identified in the budget, to be submitted with the Project Plan, under capital expenditure and will be reviewed as part of the Application assessment process.

Grant funding can be used to purchase a specific asset if it is essential to project delivery or as approved by the department within the Capital Asset requirements for Project performance as set out in the Project Agreement.

The department considers a Capital Asset for the purposes of project performance under the Program to be:

- any single item of a transferable physical nature (i.e., that can be moved from one place to another), and
- valued at \$5000 (inclusive of GST) or more. Permanent infrastructure, seedlings and fencing are not considered capital assets.

Each capital asset must be listed in the Project Plan budget. If the application is approved, up to three quotes may be required before making the capital asset purchase.

At the end of the project, the capital asset will be dealt with in accordance with the Project Agreement which provides for ownership of the asset to remain with the project proponent / grant recipient that purchased the asset, however, it must continue to be used for the purpose for which it was originally approved.

5.5. Reporting Requirements

Successful Applicants will be required to report in accordance with the Project Agreement requirements which generally provides for biannual performance reporting on:

- progress towards meeting contracted activities, milestones, and Outcomes
- monitoring and evaluation and data
- spatial information on project locations at a lot-on-plan scale
- project expenditure including capital assets and administration costs

The department may request additional information on project progression in accordance with the Project Agreement.

In January of each year successful Applicants will have the opportunity under the Project Agreement to update their work plan and budget forecasts in their Project Plan to account for any change in future work plan activities.

On completion of the project, a Final Report and Audited Financial Statement is also required.

6. Application Assessment

6.1. Assessment criteria

The department will assess each application against the Assessment Criteria, which comprises:

- the Eligibility Criteria (Appendix A)
- the Evaluation Criteria (Appendix B)

Eligibility Criteria Assessment:

Failure to meet all the Eligibility Criteria will result in an Application being non-conforming.

Evaluation Criteria Assessment:

The department will assess each Application against the Evaluation Criteria and may impose conditions on approvals. The department may use technical experts in assessing Applications against the Program Priorities and Outcomes (Table 1).

Further information:

The department may seek further information or clarification from an applicant during the assessment process. The department reserves the right to limit the number of times, additional information or clarification is sought.

If information provided is not sufficient to enable the department to assess against the Assessment Criteria in Appendix A and B the application will not be approved.

Application decisions:

Following official announcement, applicants will receive written notification from the department regarding the outcome of their application

Withdrawing an application:

An Application may be withdrawn by notifying the department in writing and submitted to email: NRRP@resources.qld.gov.au.

7. Rights and responsibilities

7.1. Applicants

It is the responsibility of Applicants to:

- obtain their own independent financial and legal advice in making an application and entering into a Project Agreement (following an approved application)
- be fully aware of what is required under the application process including Program and Project requirements
- ensure that their Application is complete and accurate, as the department is not obliged to request additional or missing information. If applicants knowingly provide inadequate, false, or misleading information, the application shall be excluded from the assessment process
- inform the department of any changes to their circumstances which may affect their application or eligibility for funding, or which may affect their ability to deliver the project as contracted.
- Conflict of Interest - declare in writing where any actual, apparent, or potential conflict of interest exists or might arise in relation to their application that may impact on it.
- bring to the attention of the department any material discrepancy, ambiguity, inconsistency, or errors in their application by emailing NRRP@resources.qld.gov.au

If an applicant is successful in obtaining funding, it is the applicant's responsibility under the Project Agreement to ensure that they hold the relevant insurance and have obtained the appropriate permits and rights required at the time of entering into the Project Agreement and prior to any project activities being undertaken. The department may require the applicant to provide documentation in this regard.

Any register of interest does not constitute an application or entitlement thereof to an assessment of an Application.

The applicant's participation in any stage of the application submission and assessment process, or in relation to any matter concerning the process including entry into the Project Agreement, is at the applicant's sole risk, cost, and expense. The department will not be responsible for any costs or expenses incurred by an applicant in preparing or lodging an application, or in taking part in the Application submission and assessment process.

7.2. Queensland Government

The department reserves the right to:

- amend these guidelines in its absolute discretion and will, where possible, provide reasonable notice of these amendments.
- during the assessment process, to adjust project allocations, and to impose conditions on approvals. The Queensland Government also reserves the right to redirect investment at any stage of the assessment process.
- part-fund an application that is partially approved or otherwise to assist distribution of funds: an application that meets some or all priorities does not automatically guarantee funding. In addition, the funding program may be oversubscribed.

The department may request further information from an applicant and allow an applicant to remedy any discrepancy, ambiguity, inconsistency, or errors in an application.

The department reserves the right to accept or disregard clarification information including where clarification information that materially improves or amends an applicant's original application.

Without limitation, the department may:

- amend the Assessment Criteria stipulated in these Guidelines
- exercise its discretion in evaluating any subjective evaluation criteria
- change the terms and conditions applicable to the Project Agreement
- cancel or redirect the funding or the application process

7.2.1. Final decision

The department's decision is final in all matters, including:

- approval of applications for funding
- amount of grant funding awarded
- terms and conditions of funding including as set out in the Project Agreement to be entered into where an application is successful
- the award of contracts.

The Minister will not approve funding if there are insufficient Program funds.

7.2.2. Liability limitation

The State of Queensland, the department, its officers, employees, agents, and representatives:

- are not, and will not be, responsible or liable for the accuracy or completeness of any information in or provided in connection with these Guidelines, Application, or the Register of Interest
- make no express or implied representation or warranty that any statement as to future matters will prove correct
- disclaim all liability arising from any information provided to an applicant, including errors in, or omissions contained in that information
- except in so far as liability under any statute cannot be excluded, accept no responsibility arising in any way from errors or omissions contained in these guidelines
- accept no liability for any loss or damage suffered by any person because of that person, or any other person, placing reliance on the contents of these guidelines or any other information provided by the department

- will not accept responsibility for any misunderstanding arising from the failure by an applicant to comply with these guidelines, or arising from any discrepancies, ambiguities, inconsistencies, or errors in their application.

Release and indemnity: By planning, making enquiries or applying all applicants agree to unconditionally release and indemnify the State of Queensland, the department, its officers, agents and representatives from and against all actions, claims, proceedings or demands and in respect of any loss, death, injury, illness or damage (whether personal or property, and whether special, direct, indirect or consequential, including consequential financial loss) arising from or in connection with these Guidelines and the application process, including (without limitation) any related publication or announcement.

Applicant's due diligence: Applicants are responsible for making own investigations and assessments about all matters relevant to this Application process.

No compensation: The department is not liable to pay any compensation to any applicant in relation to their application or this process in any circumstances, for any reason.

Documents: The department is under no obligation to return any application documents at any point in the assessment process. It is recommended applicants keep a copy of their applications and supporting documentation for their own records.

Costs and expenses: Applicants must meet all costs incurred in registering on the Register of Interest preparing and making an application and other supporting information and participating in the Application and Assessment process and obtaining all required associated approvals, consents, and permissions.

Jurisdiction: These Guidelines and the assessment and funding process are governed by the laws and the courts of Queensland.

No fetter: Nothing in these Guidelines will fetter, act as an estoppel or as an agreement about the exercise of discretion or the making of a decision or subordinate legislation under any law by the State of Queensland, the department, its officers, employees, agents, or representatives.

Applicant claims: An applicant will not make any claim against the department or the State of Queensland in connection with a decision by the department to exercise or not to exercise any of its rights in relation to this Application and Assessment process.

7.3. Confidential and personal information

In applying, applicants consent to the department using and or disclosing information contained in its application for the following purposes:

- as part of this Application and Assessment process and its Outcomes for the purposes of the administration of the Program including where the department may make publicly available information about applications received and approved for funding projects
- to its advisers, employees or internal management for purposes related to the application and assessment processes, including to evaluate or otherwise assess applications and manage any resultant Project Agreement
- to the responsible Minister
- in response to a request by a House or a Committee of the Parliament of the State of Queensland
- within the department, or with another agency, where this serves the Queensland Government's legitimate interests in relation to the Program
- where the information is already in the public domain otherwise than due to a breach of any relevant confidentiality obligation notified to the department

- the information to be protected is not identified by the applicant in specific rather than global terms
- the information is by its nature not considered by the department to be confidential, or disclosure would not cause detriment to the parties concerned
- where the information is authorized or required by law to be disclosed, noting that information submitted to the department is subject to the *Right to Information Act 2009* (Qld) and its requirements

7.4. Successful Applications and Project Agreement

Successful applicants: Prior to project and funding commencement successful applicants will be required to sign the department's standard term (non-negotiable) Project Agreement.

No rights to funding will be deemed to have been granted until a Project Agreement has been signed in accordance with these Guidelines.

Accepting a Project Agreement offer: To accept the offer of a Project Agreement the successful applicant must sign and return the Project Agreement on or before the offer expiry date stated in the letter of offer.

The Project Agreement:

- is a performance-based, legally enforceable agreement, setting out the terms and conditions that govern the funding and performance of a project and is subject of a successfully approved Application
- includes these Guidelines, the Application and other supporting documentation (including Project Plan refer section 5.2) as set out in the Project Agreement

Special conditions: The department reserves the right to include special conditions determined by the Application and Assessment process or other considerations made by the department for inclusion in the Project Agreement.

Pre-agreement expenditure: The Project Agreement must be executed before the department can make any payment of funds. The department is not responsible for any project commencement or expenditure an applicant incurs before the Project Agreement is executed.

Cessation of offer: If the Project Agreement is not signed by the specified date, the department may notify in writing that the Project Agreement was not received and that the funding offer the subject of the Project Agreement has been rescinded.

7.5. Grant conditions

The Project Agreement will state the maximum grant amount the department will pay to the applicant as funding for the approved project.

7.6. Reporting

Project Plans (refer to section 5.2) must be included as part of the Application for a project and thereafter in accordance with the Project Agreement.

A successful applicant following signing of the Project Agreement must submit project performance and funding expenditure and acquittal reports in accordance with the Project Agreement.

State-Wide Indicator Framework (SWIF): Successful applicants will need to provide SWIF reporting and data; biannual reporting; spatial information on project locations at a lot-on-plan scale, case studies and project evaluation data to the department in accordance with the Project Agreement.

Successful applicants need to take into consideration the reporting and data generation, access and sharing requirements and when preparing their applications and budget and reports must:

- include satisfactory evidence of project milestone completion, total eligible expenditure incurred for the project
- be submitted by the due date and in the format provided in the Project Agreement.

7.7. Communication requirements

The Queensland Government and community will be kept informed of project progress and delivery of Outcomes through the online web content, key achievement reports and annual reports.

Successful applicants are required:

- to acknowledge the departments' contribution through the Program in all devolved grants processes, project materials, publications, media, and activities.
- to undertake communication activities including sharing information and raising community awareness of their projects and providing information on the Program funding opportunities to their regional communities.

7.8. Project Agreement - independent advice

It is recommended that applicants seek independent advice on the terms and conditions of the Project Agreement (including any special conditions) and the financial and the taxation implications of receiving funding before entering into the Project Agreement.

8. Definitions

“Application” means the application submitted by the applicant and the process for the department in assessing and deciding an Application.

“Application Form” means the application form for a project in the approved form in Attachment A and included the supporting documentation including the Project Plan (including project logic, work plan and budget on the required template).

“Assessment” means the department will assess each application against the assessment criteria.

“Assessment Criteria” means the eligibility criteria and evaluation criteria.

“Eligible Activities” means the activities set out in an application that meet or address the Program Priorities and Outcomes for the project the subject of the application and as assessed by the department under section 6 of these guidelines as assessed by the department in accordance with the Program do not contain ineligible activities (refer below).

“Eligibility Criteria” means the criteria in Appendix A of these guidelines.

“Evaluation Criteria” means the criteria in Appendix B and includes the Program Principles, Priorities and Outcomes in Table 1.

“Final Report” means the report to be provided after completion of the last milestone.

“Funds” means the total (maximum) amount (GST inclusive) set out in Item 5 of Schedule 1 that are capable of being provided by the department to the successful applicant and more particularly means those amounts for each project as set out in Schedule 2 of the Project Agreement and more particularly determined as part of the approval of the Budget by the department.

“Funding” means the funding for the Program allocated by the state to the department for administration and management of the Program and funding of the projects.

“Ineligible Activities” means those activities set out in Appendix A and includes any activity the subject of application considered by the department to be ineligible as assessed by the department under section 6 of these Guidelines.

“Guidelines” (or Program Guidelines) means these guidelines for the Queensland Government Natural Resources Recovery Program Guidelines 2022 as amended.

Not-for-Profit (NFP) means an organisation that qualifies for NFP status including as established by the Australian Taxation Office where the organisation is not carried on for the purposes of profit or gain to its member (and it does not distribute its profits and/or assets to or among its members both while the organisation is operating and on its dissolution).

“Outcomes” means the outcomes to be delivered by the recipient as set out in Table 1 of these Guidelines.

“Program Priorities and Outcomes” means the department’s priorities and outcomes for the Program set out in Table 1 of these Guidelines.

“Project Agreement” means the department’s standard terms and conditions of the Agreement approved for the Program and includes the Guidelines, the Application, and the Project Plan and any other relevant document and information and expressly incorporated and made part of the project agreement.

“Project Plan” means the work plan, logic and budget provided in support of the application and which forms part of the project agreement if the application is approved and provides detailed information about the project’s Outcomes, deliverables, activities included project locations; data collection generation access sharing and analysis project evaluation; and annual review/assessment of project implementation and delivery.

“State-wide Indicator Framework (SWIF)” means the Program’s monitoring and reporting framework (updated or amended from time to time) for natural resource indicators using the identified assessment tools and methodology as out in Appendix C.

“The Program” means the Natural Resources Recovery Program (NRRP).

“The department” means the Department of Resources.

TABLE 1 – PROGRAM PRIORITIES WITH INDICATIVE OUTCOMES, DELIVERABLES AND EXAMPLE ACTIVITES

NRRP Priorities		Outcomes sought (and SWIF data collection tools) ¹	Deliverable	Indicative example activities which may meet the deliverables and Outcomes ²
<p>LAND</p> <p>Improved landscape resilience and ability to respond to natural disasters and climate change.</p>	<p><u>SOIL & LAND</u></p> <p>Improved soil health and land condition.</p>	<p>SOIL: The health and condition of soil has improved across X hectares.</p> <p><i>(to be measured using the Land Condition Assessment Tool (LCAT))</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improved practices for soil health and condition have been undertaken (hectares). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sediment trapping and slope reprofiling. Land manager practice change that directly improves soil health
	<p>Improved soil health and land condition.</p>	<p>LAND: Land condition has improved across x hectares</p> <p><i>(to be measured using the Land Condition Assessment Tool (LCAT))</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Environmental threats to land condition are managed (hectares). Land management practices to improve land condition (hectares). Gully repair has been undertaken at strategic locations (hectares). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Land manager practice change leading to more productive use which benefits regional economies. Implementing Traditional Owner practices into contemporary land management. Rehabilitating scalds and gullies.
	<p><u>VEGETATION</u></p> <p>Improved condition and extent of native vegetation (woody and non-woody).</p>	<p>VEG CONDITION: The condition of native vegetation has improved across X hectares.</p> <p><i>(to be measured using the Vegetation Condition Assessment Tool (VegCAT))</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Threats to the condition and function of native vegetation have been managed (hectares). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Protection and enhancement of woody and non woody vegetation to increase resilience against natural disasters and climate change. Supporting partnerships with First Nations people to address threats to vegetation health.

¹ Information in the table is indicative and Program Outcomes and the SWIF tools used to measure may be updated to reflect projects awarded.

² Eligible activities must directly relate to the project and contribute to Program’s priorities and will be delivered by the successful Applicant at the regional level

NRRP Priorities		Outcomes sought (and SWIF data collection tools) ¹	Deliverable	Indicative example activities which may meet the deliverables and Outcomes ²
		<p>VEG EXTENT: The extent of native vegetation (in expected condition) has increased by X hectares.</p> <p><i>(to be measured using the Vegetation Condition Assessment Tool (VegCAT))</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Revegetation/assisted regrowth has been successfully undertaken (hectares). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assisting regrowth of regionally significant vegetation complexes and fencing off significant biodiversity areas Supporting partnerships with First Nations people to implement changing fire management practices/regimes to retain species composition.
<p>STAKEHOLDERS: Stakeholders supported to adopt sustainable practice management and drive regional economies.</p>	<p>EDUCATION FACILITATION AND COLLABORATION: Increased capacity (skills and knowledge) to drive ongoing change. Beneficial, efficient, highly valued and enduring Regional NRM Partnerships.</p>	<p>KNOWLEDGE & SKILLS: New NRM skills and knowledge are put into practice and maintained.</p> <p>ATTITUDES & ASPIRATIONS: Program participants are committed to ongoing improvement.</p> <p><i>(to be measured using the standard end-of-project questions /evaluation survey - Participants focus)</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Targeted and purposeful initiatives to build capacity and encourage active engagement are undertaken (number). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide land managers with information on indigenous land management practices. Support landholders in meeting industry environmental accreditation standards and regulatory requirements to drive efficiencies in change of management. Provide land managers with skills to undertake condition assessment and utilise other management tools. Support projects that encourage innovative ideas for new sustainable markets and industries in the region. Stakeholders develop, trial or take-up innovative technologies that support new industries and more effective resource management.
		<p>BENEFICIAL PARTNERSHIPS: Stakeholder partnerships are mutually beneficial and deliver a multiplier effect from the direct NRRP investment.</p> <p><i>(to be measured using the Leverage tracker and/or standard end-of-project questions/evaluation survey – Partner focus)</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Initiatives aimed at building and maintaining beneficial delivery partnerships are undertaken (number). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Successful Applicants track the number of jobs created and/or maintained through NRRP including the number of volunteers participating in NRRP initiatives.



NRRP Priorities		Outcomes sought (and SWIF data collection tools) ¹	Deliverable	Indicative example activities which may meet the deliverables and Outcomes ²
	<p><u>FIRST NATIONS PEOPLE</u></p> <p>Valued and enduring partnerships built with Traditional Owners.</p>	<p>Traditional Owners receive demonstrable economic, cultural and empowerment benefits from the program.</p> <p><i>(to be measured using the standard end-of-project questions/evaluation survey - Partner focus)</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Traditional Owner groups meaningfully involved in decision making processes at all levels from design to delivery (number of groups). • Traditional Owners receive training and support needed to effectively monitor NRM projects (number of TOs). • Traditional Owner organisations are engaged to deliver project activities (number of TO organisations). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First Nations people are involved in project design and implementation. • Increased employment opportunities of First Nations people. • Facilitate discussions between First Nations and land managers around land management and cultural heritage practices. • Project proposals are developed in consultation with a range of stakeholders, community groups and researchers. • Embedding First Nations knowledge into land management practices.
<p><u>DATA DRIVEN KNOWLEDGE</u></p> <p>An understanding of the state of natural resources.</p>	<p><u>INFORMED DECISION MAKING</u></p> <p>Effective interventions and utilisation of data to drive decision making and innovation.</p>	<p>NEW KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING: New knowledge and understanding of the state of natural resource assets.</p> <p><i>(to be measured using standard end-of-project questions/evaluation survey - currently under development)</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The State-Wide Indicator Framework (SWIF) is embedded in all projects and consistently and effectively applied/implemented 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capturing and utilising monitoring and evaluation data to gain a comprehensive understanding of the state's natural resources and how it has changed over time. • Understanding land resource assets and their threats to better understand emerging issues and enable targeted future investment. • Support legacy monitoring of project sites previously funded by NRIP to supply to the State-wide Indicator Framework. Tracking Outcomes long term and using this information to improve program and project delivery.
		<p>INNOVATION: New insights gained into effective land management practices</p> <p><i>(to be measured using standard end-of-project</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New knowledge products/processes/systems produced and promoted (number of initiatives) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Utilising data and expertise to identify suitable areas for different market activities e.g., dry land cropping, energy production, carbon capture, eco and cultural heritage tourism.

NRRP Priorities		Outcomes sought (and SWIF data collection tools) ¹	Deliverable	Indicative example activities which may meet the deliverables and Outcomes ²
		<i>questions/evaluation survey - currently under development)</i>		

APPENDIX A – ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

Applications must:

- Be from an eligible organisation –
 - Not-for-Profit
 - Queensland based natural resource management organisations; and
 - Provide two referee reports verifying the organisation's ability to deliver Natural Resource projects (mandatory for each project).
- Be submitted online using the Program's online application form – <https://nrprograms.resources.qld.gov.au/>
- Be a separate application for each proposed project
- Have completed all mandatory fields in the application form (refer to sections 5.1 & 5.2)
- Contain additional information as required/requested
- Be lodged by the due date
- Be for a project that has a duration not exceeding the period stated by the department
- Be for projects that:
 - address at least one of the Program Priorities and associated Outcomes (refer Table 1)
 - contain activities that meet deliverables that supports the Program Outcomes and Priorities. These form the subject of the application and as assessed by the department

Ineligible Activities that will not be funded:

- those that do not address at least one of the Program Priorities, including an Outcomes associated with that Priority
- provide a sole benefit to an individual or company
- have already been paid for by a someone else or other entity
- have already started before entering into a Project Agreement with the Queensland Government
- are being funded through current or previous receipt of government (local, State or Federal) or third-party funding for substantially the same project
- are required by law or as part of an approval under Commonwealth, State or Territory legislation.
- are in breach or likely to cause a breach of Commonwealth, State or Territory legislation
- are likely to have significant adverse impact on Indigenous cultural heritage
- do not comply with or have the necessary or requisite approvals under relevant Commonwealth, State or Territory legislative requirements
- include planting species (including native species) that are known to be, or could become, environmental or agricultural weeds in or near the project location
- are for political advocacy
- do not have a public benefit
- involve the purchase of equipment or materials that are normally part of a landholder's or organisation's responsibility unless a critical link to program or project Outcomes can be demonstrated.

APPENDIX B – EVALUATION CRITERIA

'Regional Recovery' and 'Regional Coordination and Evaluation' components - general assessment criteria

The Application:

- shows how activities meet one or more Program Priorities and Outcomes
- is technically feasible
- demonstrates best practice and continuous improvement
- outlines clear accountability and project management requirements
- includes specific, measurable, achievable, relevant, and time-bound (smart) activities, milestones and deliverables
- demonstrates value for money
- demonstrates contributions, financial or in-kind, toward the project
- demonstrates benefits to more than one organisation
- demonstrates benefits to a region
- includes quantitative measures to demonstrate increased volunteer, landholder and industry skills, knowledge and engagement and Indigenous employment/engagement
- outlines sound project risk management assessment and mitigation

All projects must comply with relevant Commonwealth, State, Territory, and local authority laws.