Natural Resources Recovery Program

Application guidelines
Round 3

2023

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, knowledges 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.

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1 Introduction

The Queensland Government's Natural Resources Recovery Program (the program) is investing in people, regions and science to support sustainable outcomes for Queensland's land and vegetation resources.

Up to $10 million per year is available to Queensland natural resource management organisations for projects that improve landscape resilience, sustainable land management, and our understanding of natural resources. Well-functioning landscapes maximise the potential of the land, providing for a diversity of current and future land uses, greater resilience to disasters and climate change and ultimately, support Queensland's economy.

This guideline sets out how to apply for funding under round 3 of the program. Information in this document will help you to:

- determine whether your organisation is eligible for funding
- understand the types of projects eligible for funding
- understand the application process
- understand how applications are assessed
- understand timeframes, monitoring and reporting requirements for funded projects
- know your responsibilities and expectations.

The Department of Resources (the department) administers the program.

2 Eligibility criteria

Eligibility criteria applies to both the applicant and the project. It is important you understand each of the eligibility criteria before applying. Your application will not be considered if it does not meet the eligibility criteria.

2.1 Who can apply?

The applicant must be an eligible organisation. An eligible organisation is:

- a Queensland based natural resource management (NRM) organisation; and
- is not-for-profit.

Applicants are strongly encouraged to deliver projects through regional partnerships with other stakeholders. For example, partnership arrangements can be with NRM groups, Landcare groups, rural industry and/or First Nations people.

An applicant cannot be an individual.

2.2 Joint applications

Joint applications where several organisations will partner to deliver a project are allowed. Requirements for making a joint application are outlined in section 4.2 of this document.

2.3 Eligible projects

A project must meet the following criteria to be considered for funding:

- The project must be located in Queensland.

- The project must support at least one of the three program priorities, listed below, and deliver the associated program outcome. For further detail see Table 2.

    ➢ **Priority 1 - Land**

    Improved landscape resilience and ability to respond to natural disasters and climate change

    Under this priority, the project needs to focus on:

    - o improving soil health and land condition; and/or

    - o improving the condition and extent of native vegetation (woody and non-woody)

    ➢ **Priority 2 – Stakeholders**

    Support for stakeholders to adopt sustainable practice management and drive regional economies

    Under this priority, the project needs to focus on:

    - o improving education, facilitation and collaboration; and/or

    - o creating valued and enduring partnerships built with First Nations people

    ➢ **Priority 3 - Data**

    An understanding of the state of natural resources through monitoring and evaluation.

    Under this priority, the project needs to focus on:

    - o improving NRM decision making through effective interventions and utilisation of data

- The project must be no longer than four (4) years.

- The project must comply with relevant Commonwealth, state, territory, and local authority laws.

2.3.1 Project Delivery Categories

Eligible projects must fall within one of the following two categories:

Delivery area 1: Regional recovery – Applicants can apply for up to $4,000,000 over four years. Projects must be completed by 30 June 2028.

Regional recovery projects should:

- Involve on ground works that will deliver against program outcomes (refer Table 2).

- Collaborate with regional stakeholders (First Nations people, natural resource management groups) to share knowledge, improve links and gain efficiencies in delivering projects across regions.

- Leverage other sources of funding (where possible).

- Utilise the State-wide Indicator Framework (SWIF) to measure the achievements of project outcomes (where possible).

Delivery area 2: Regional coordination and evaluation - Applicants can apply for up to $150,000 per year over four years (applications for more than this amount may be considered on a case-by-case basis). Projects must be completed by 30 June 2028.

Regional coordination and evaluation (RCE) projects, where possible, should:

- Not involve on ground works (with the exception of monitoring).

- Collaborate with regional stakeholders (First Nations people, natural resource management groups) to share knowledge, improve links and gain efficiencies in delivering projects across regions.

- Retain and build capacity within the organisation to establish and maintain monitoring, evaluation, reporting and improvement via SWIF.

- Contribute to the statewide data set to enable new insights and long-term outcome monitoring.

Only 1 RCE project can be approved for each organisation.

2.4 Projects not eligible for funding

Projects will not be funded which:

- provide a sole benefit to an individual or company.

- have already been paid for by someone else or other entity.

- have already started before entering into a project agreement under this program.

- are funded through current or previous government (local, state or federal) funding, or third-party funding for substantially the same project agreement period.

- are required by law as part of an approval under Commonwealth, state, or territory legislation.

- include planting species (including native species) known to be or could become environmental or agricultural weeds in, or near, the project location.

- are for political advocacy.

- do not have public benefit.

- are in breach or likely to cause a breach of Commonwealth, State or Territory legislation.

- are likely to have adverse impact on Indigenous cultural heritage.

- involve the purchase of equipment or materials normally part of a landholder's or organisation's responsibility unless a critical link to this program or project outcomes can be demonstrated.

3 Before applying

Before applying for round 3 funding, you should:

- Read and ensure you understand these guidelines and supporting information located on the NRRP website https://www.business.qld.gov.au/running-business/environment/natural-resource-funding/apply

  o You can view a copy of the application form on the NRRP website at https://www.business.qld.gov.au/running-business/environment/natural-resource-funding/apply

  o Read section 4.2 Preparing an application in these guidelines.

- Obtain independent financial and legal advice if the applicant thinks it is necessary.

4   How to apply

4.1   Application process

4.1.1   Timeframes

The dates for applying for round 3 funding under the program are:

Applications open: 4 December 2023

Applications close: 26 February 2024

Late applications will not be accepted.

4.1.2   How to submit an application

Applications must be submitted through the department's online application portal, available at https://nrprograms.resources.qld.gov.au/. Applications will not be accepted in any other format.

You will need to register for an account to use the department's online application portal and to access the online application form. You can register for an account at https://nrprograms.resources.qld.gov.au/

Incomplete applications will not be accepted.

Any documents requested to be uploaded must be labelled so it is clear what the file contains.

Applicants must:

- upload copies of all requested documentation before the closing date.
- upload file in standard electronic file formats (e.g. MS Word, MS Excel, Adobe PDF or compatible) and should not be encrypted.

A copy of the application form is provided on the NRRP website https://www.business.qld.gov.au/running-business/environment/natural-resource-funding/apply to assist applicants in drafting responses to the application questions prior to entering the information into the online application form and submitting electronically .

4.1.3   Multiple applications

More than one application can be submitted from the same eligible organisation for different projects.

Each project proposal will require a separate online application form.

Only one Regional Coordination and Evaluation project can be approved per organisation, although you may submit multiple applications for consideration under the regional coordination and evaluation project delivery category.

4.1.4 Joint applications

A joint application where several organisations will partner to deliver a 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 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 and responsibilities the project partner will undertake, and the resources it will contribute.

4.1.5 Errors and omissions

If you find an error, any material discrepancy, ambiguity or inconsistency in your application after submitting, contact the department immediately by emailing NRRP@resouces.qld.gov.au.

4.1.6 Providing further information

The department may seek further information and/or clarification from an applicant during the assessment process. Applicants must respond promptly in writing to these requests.

The department reserves the right to limit the number of times additional information and/or clarification is sought. If an application does not provide all the information requested or sufficient information to enable the application to be properly assessed within timeframes, the department may deem the application incomplete or may continue to assess the application on the available information and your application may not be approved.

4.1.7 Withdrawing an application

An application may be withdrawn by notifying the department via email sent to NRRP@resouces.qld.gov.au.

4.2 Preparing an application

The application consists of the online application form, mandatory documents and optional supporting documents. All documents and information must be submitted through the department's online application portal.

4.2.1 Mandatory documents

You must supply the following documents with your online application. If you are submitting multiple applications, you will need to submit these documents with each application:

- A project plan using the excel template provided on the website
  https://www.business.qld.gov.au/running-business/environment/natural-resource-funding/apply See below for further information about what needs to be included in the project plan.

- Evidence of your organisation's not-for-profit status.

- Map(s) showing the project area/location.
  For all regional recovery projects maps are to show the location of on ground activities. Maps 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 and monitoring points if known.

- Two referee reports for each application verifying the ability of the applicant to deliver natural resource projects based on specific information about the applicant.

4.2.2 Joint applications

For joint applications, a letter of support from each of the project partners must also be provided.

4.2.3 Project plan

The project plan submitted with your application will form part of the project agreement if your application is approved by the department.

*Note: If approved, projects will be required to regularly report against their project plan milestones and activities.

The project plan includes outcomes, deliverables, and activities for the project and details of the project implementation, reporting and evaluation. The project plan comprises project logic, work plan and budget.

Table 1 - What is included in a project plan

Project plan requirement	Information to be included
Project logic	- Applicants need to outline how the project aligns with the program priorities, outcomes, and deliverables in Table 2.

	• The project logic should reinforce the design of the project and provide confidence that it will achieve the deliverables(s) and contribute towards the programs outcome(s).
	• Applicants need to outline the monitoring and evaluation tools that will be used to measure the project deliverables and outcomes e.g., State-wide Indicator Framework (SWIF).
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 a payment table.
	• 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 costs for reporting requirements, collection of data and project monitoring requirements (refer to Section 6.3).
	• 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 contractor fees for services on request from the department.

4.2.4 State-wide Indicator Framework (SWIF)

SWIF is a system that provides consistent monitoring methodology and tools for collecting and analysing data. The framework includes smart systems for analysing this data and combining it to tell a compelling whole-of-Queensland story.

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 2.

The three components are:

1. Monitoring and evaluation planning:

   a. Program logic – defining what project success looks like.

   b. Allocating project sites to a primary outcome – what is to be achieved.

   c. Assigning outcome monitoring method – used to gain a measurement to achieving the outcome.

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

Successful applicants will require an Environmental Systems Research Institute (ESRI) ArcGIS Online organisational account with ArcGIS Pro software (these services can be obtained via a third party).

Further information on the SWIF can be found at https://www.nrmrq.org.au/about-swif/.

4.2.5 Optional documents

You may like to supply the following documents to support your application:

- Letter(s) of consent from landholder/site owner/manager where the project will occur or outline a process to seek consent.

- Photos and reports supporting (or referenced in) the project proposal.

4.2.6 Capital expenditure

All capital assets must be identified in the budget, which is 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 as set out in the project agreement.

The department considers a capital asset for the purpose of project performance under the program to be:

- Any single items of a transferrable physical nature, (i.e., that can be moved from one place to another). Permanent infrastructure, seedlings and fencing are not considered capital assets. and

- Valued at $5,000 (inclusive of GST) or more.

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. Capital assets are required to be reported on each reporting period from acquisition to the end of the project period.

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

5 Assessing your application

5.1 Assessment criteria

Your application will be assessed on:

- eligibility (section 2 of this document)
- Technical merit: and
- the evaluation criteria.

5.1.1 Evaluation criteria

The evaluation criteria:

- Project proposal clearly aligns with one or more of the program priorities and outcomes.
- 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 collaboration with regional stakeholders (First Nations people, natural resource management groups) to share knowledge, improve linkages, and gain efficiencies in delivery of projects.
- Includes quantitative measures to demonstrate increased volunteer, landholder and industry skills, knowledge and engagement and First Nations employment and/or engagement.
- Outlines sound project risk management assessment and mitigation.

5.2 Who will assess your application?

The department will assess your application based on the assessment criteria.

The department may use technical experts in assessing applications against the program priorities and outcomes (Table 2).

6 Application decisions

Applicants will be advised of the outcome of their application in writing by the department.

Unsuccessful applicants will be offered feedback.

6.1 Successful applicants and project agreement

If successful, applicants will be made an offer to undertake the project and sent a project agreement for signing.

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

Seek 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 taxation implications of receiving funding before entering into a project agreement.

No rights to funding: Funding will not 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 to Section 4.2) as set out in the project agreement.

- Will state the maximum grant amount the department will pay to the applicant as funding for the approved project.

- It is the applicant's responsibility under the project agreement to ensure they hold the relevant insurance, regulatory approvals, permits and intellectual property approvals and compliances 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 evidencing this.

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.

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.

6.2 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 when an application is successful.

- the award of contracts.

The Department will not approve funding if there are insufficient program funds.

6.3 Reporting

A successful applicant, following signing of the project agreement must submit project performance, financial expenditure and acquittal reports in accordance with the project agreement. The project agreement generally requires biannual performance reporting on:

- progress towards meeting contracted activities, milestones, and outcomes; must include satisfactory evidence of project milestone completion.

- monitoring and evaluation data; must include SWIF monitoring and evaluation data.

- spatial information on project locations at a lot on plan scale.

- project expenditure including capital assets and administration costs based on accrual accounting.

Note: The department may request additional information on project progression in accordance with the project agreement.

An audited financial statement will be required annually and on completion of the project, a final report is also required.

Successful applicants may request an amendment to the work plan and budget forecasts in the project plan to account for any change in future work plan activities under the project agreement. Amendments to project plans will be subject to approval by the department.

6.4 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 department's 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 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 the program and project requirements.

- ensure 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 an actual, apparent or potential conflict of interest exists or might arise in relation to their application that may impact it.

The applicant's participation in any stage of the application submission and assessment process, 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 the applicant in preparing or lodging an application or taking part in the application submission and assessment process.

7.2 Department of Resources

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 department also reserves the right to redirect investment at any stage of the assessment process.

- part-funding an application that is partially approved or otherwise to assist the distribution of funds. An application that meets some or all priorities does not automatically guarantee funding. In addition, the funding program may be oversubscribed.

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

- accept or disregard clarification information including where information provided 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 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 or application.

- 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.

Applicant's due diligence: Applicants are responsible for making their 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: 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, 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 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.

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.

- To its advisers, employers or internal management for the 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 the House or 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, and disclosure would not cause detriment to the parties concerned.

- Where the information is authorised 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.

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 and includes the supporting documentation (including the project plan – project logic, work plan and budget on the required template).

'Assessment' means the department will assess each application against the assessment 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 Section 5.1.1 and includes the program principles, priorities, and outcomes in Table 2.

'**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 the project agreement (schedules) 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 the application considered by the department to be ineligible as assessed by the department under Section 5 of these guidelines.

'**Guidelines**' means these guidelines for the Queensland Government Natural Resources Recovery Program guidelines 2023 as amended.

'**Not-for-profit (NFP)**' means an organisation that qualifies for NFP status including as establishing by the Australian Taxation Office where the organisation is not carried on for the purposes of profit or gain to its members (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 2 of these guidelines.

'**Program priorities and outcomes**' means the department's priorities and outcomes for the program set out in Table 2 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 outcomes, deliverables, activities (including 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.

'**The program**' means the Natural Resource Recovery Program (NRRP).

'**The department**' means the Department of Resources.

Table 2 – Program priorities with outcomes, deliverables, and indicative example activities

NRRP Priorities		Outcomes sought (and SWIF data collection tools)[1]	Deliverable	Indicative example activities which may meet the deliverables and outcomes[2]
LAND Improved landscape resilience and ability to respond to natural disasters and climate change.	**SOIL & LAND** Improved soil health and land condition.	SOIL: The health and condition of soil has improved across X hectares. *(To be measured using the Land Condition Assessment Tool (LCAT))*	• Improved practices for soil health and condition have been undertaken (hectares).	• Sediment trapping and slope reprofiling. • Land manager practice change that directly improves soil health
		LAND: Land condition has improved across x hectares *(To be measured using the Land Condition Assessment Tool (LCAT))*	• 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).	• 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.
	VEGETATION Improved condition and extent of native vegetation (woody and non-woody).	VEG CONDITION: The condition of native vegetation has improved across X hectares. *(To be measured using the Vegetation Condition Assessment Tool (VegCAT))*	• Threats to the condition and function of native vegetation have been managed (hectares).	• 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.
		VEG EXTENT: The extent of native vegetation (in expected condition) has increased by X hectares. *(To be measured using the Vegetation Condition Assessment Tool (VegCAT))*	• Revegetation/assisted regrowth has been successfully undertaken (hectares).	• 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.
STAKEHOLDERS: Stakeholders supported to adopt sustainable practice management and drive regional economies.	**EDUCATION FACILITATION AND COLLABORATION:** Increased capacity (skills and knowledge) to drive ongoing change. Beneficial, efficient, highly valued and enduring Regional NRM Partnerships.	KNOWLEDGE & SKILLS: New NRM skills and knowledge are put into practice and maintained. ATTITUDES & ASPIRATIONS: Program participants are committed to ongoing improvement. *(To be measured using the standard end-of-project questions /evaluation survey - Participants focus)*	• Targeted and purposeful initiatives to build capacity and encourage active engagement are undertaken (number).	• 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.
		BENIFICIAL PARTNERSHIPS: Stakeholder partnerships are mutually beneficial and deliver a multiplier effect from the direct NRRP investment. *(To be measured using the Leverage tracker and/or standard end-of-project questions/evaluation survey – Partner focus)*	• Initiatives aimed at building and maintaining beneficial delivery partnerships are undertaken (number).	• Successful applicants track the number of jobs created and/or maintained through NRRP including the number of volunteers participating in NRRP initiatives.
	FIRST NATIONS PEOPLE Valued and enduring partnerships built with Traditional Owners.	Traditional Owners receive demonstrable economic, cultural and empowerment benefits from the program. *(To be measured using the standard end-of-project questions/evaluation survey - Partner focus)*	• 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).	• 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.
DATA DRIVEN KNOWLEDGE An understanding of the state of natural resources.	**INFORMED DECISION MAKING** Effective interventions and utilisation of data to drive decision making and innovation.	NEW KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING: New knowledge and understanding of the state of natural resource assets. *(To be measured using standard end-of-project questions/evaluation survey - currently under development)*	• The State-Wide Indicator Framework (SWIF) is embedded in al projects and consistently and effectively applied/implemented	• 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.
		INNOVATION: New insights gained into effective land management practices	• New knowledge products/processes/systems produced and promoted (number of initiatives)	• 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.

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[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]
		(To be measured using standard end-of-project questions/evaluation survey - currently under development)		

APPENDIX A – ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

Applications must:

- be from an eligible organisation:
    - o Not-for-profit; and
    - o 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 and submitted the application form and all mandatory documentation, including the project plan.
- contain additional information as required and/or 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 project that is:

- o located in Queensland
- o addresses at least one of the program priorities and associated outcomes (refer to Table 2)
- o contains activities that meet deliverables to support the program outcomes and priorities (these form the subject of the application and are assessed by the department).

Projects 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.