



## Our Marine Parks Grants - Round 3 Grant Opportunity Guidelines

<b>Opening date:</b>	25 October 2021
<b>Closing date and time:</b>	9:00 pm AEDT on 16 December 2021
<b>Commonwealth policy entity:</b>	Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment
<b>Administering entity:</b>	Community Grants Hub
<b>Enquiries:</b>	<p>If you have any questions, contact Community Grants Hub Phone: 1800 020 283 (option 1) Email: <a href="mailto:support@communitygrants.gov.au">support@communitygrants.gov.au</a></p> <p>Questions should be sent no later than 5:00 pm AEDT on 9 December 2021</p>
<b>Date guidelines released:</b>	25 October 2021
<b>Type of grant opportunity:</b>	Open competitive

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# 1 Our Marine Parks Round 3 grant opportunity processes

## **The Our Marine Parks Round 3 Grant is designed to achieve Australian Government objectives**

This grant opportunity is part of the Our Marine Parks Grants Program which contributes to Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment's Outcome 1.1 Sustainable Management of Natural Resources and the Environment. The Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment works with stakeholders to plan and design the grant program according to the [Commonwealth Grants Rules and Guidelines 2017 \(CGRGs\)](#).



## **The grant opportunity opens**

We publish the grant guidelines on the [GrantConnect](#) and [Community Grants Hub](#) websites.



## **You complete and submit a grant application**

You complete the application form and address all of the eligibility and assessment criteria to be considered for a grant.



## **We assess all grant applications**

We assess the applications against eligibility criteria and notify you if you are not eligible. If you are eligible, we then assess your eligible application against the assessment criteria including an overall consideration of value for money and compare it to other applications.



## **We make grant recommendations**

We provide advice, through the selection advisory panel, to the Minister for the Environment on the merits of each application.



## **Grant decisions are made**

The Minister for the Environment decides which applications are successful.



## **We notify you of the outcome**

We advise you of the outcome of your application. We may not notify unsuccessful applicants until grant agreements have been executed with successful applicants.



## **We enter into a grant agreement**

If you are successful, we enter into a grant agreement with you. The type of grant agreement is based on the nature, complexity and risks of the grant activity.



## **Delivery of grant**

You undertake the grant activity as set out in your grant agreement. We manage the grant by working with you, monitoring your progress and making payments.



## **Evaluation of the Our Marine Parks Round Three grant opportunity**

We evaluate your specific grant activity and the Our Marine Parks Grant Round 3 as a whole. We base this on information you provide us and that we collect from various sources.

## 1.1 Introduction

These guidelines contain information for the Our Marine Parks Round 3 grants.

You must read these guidelines before filling out an application.

This document sets out:

- the purpose of the grant program/grant opportunity
- the eligibility and assessment criteria
- how grant applications are considered and selected
- how grantees are notified and receive grant payments
- how grantees will be monitored and evaluated
- responsibilities and expectations in relation to the opportunity.

These guidelines:

- only relate to the Our Marine Parks Round 3 grant opportunity.
- only apply to the Australian Marine Parks listed in Appendix A.

These guidelines do not apply to:

- The Great Barrier Reef Marine Park
- The Heard Island and McDonald Islands Marine Reserve
- State and Northern Territory marine parks and reserves
- The proposed new Australian Marine Parks in the Indian Ocean Territories.

This grant opportunity and process will be administered by the Community Grants Hub on behalf of the Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment (the department).

## 2 About the Our Marine Parks Grants program

On 1 July 2018 management arrangements for 44 Australian Marine Parks came into effect — increasing the number of Australian Marine Parks in waters around Australia to 58 (see Appendix A). Australian Marine Parks now cover around a third of Australia's marine territory and protect a diverse range of ocean habitats from the tropical north to the cool waters of the temperate south. Steps are underway to proclaim 2 new marine parks around Christmas Island and Cocos (Keeling) Island in Australia's Indian Ocean Territory. Once established, they could increase the percentage of protected Australian waters from 37 up to 45%.

The Our Marine Parks Grants Program features 2 previous grant opportunities (Rounds One and 2), this grant opportunity (Round 3), and a proposed future grant opportunity (Round 4):

- Round One: Commenced in June 2019 to deliver projects to improve the long-term sustainability of fishing in ways that support the objectives of Australian Marine Parks management plans.
- Round 2: Commenced in December 2020 to support interested and capable organisations and community groups to engage in marine park management.
- Rounds 3 and 4: Will provide \$17.2 million in total (approx. \$8.6 million per round) to create opportunities for marine stakeholders including regional and Indigenous communities, the tourism sector, recreational and commercial fishing, and the seafood industry to build their capacity to take an active role in the management of Australian Marine Parks.

These guidelines only relate to the Our Marine Parks Round 3 grant opportunity which will run over 2 years from June 2022. Our Marine Parks Round 4 is intended to run over 2 years from 2024 and will be outlined in separate guidelines.

## 2.1 About the Our Marine Parks Round 3 grant opportunity

The Our Marine Parks Round 3 grant opportunity was announced as part of the Australian Government's Ocean Leadership Package on 23 April 2021. The Ocean Leadership Package, funded through the department, contributes to the Portfolio Budget Statement:

*Outcome 1: Management of Commonwealth reserves as outstanding natural places that enhance Australia's well-being through the protection and conservation of their natural and cultural values, supporting the aspirations of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in managing their traditional land and sea Country, and offering world class natural and cultural visitor experiences.*

The Our Marine Parks Round 3 grant opportunity will support and empower Australia's ocean communities and industries, building their capacity to take an active role in the management of Australian Marine Parks and protect our unique marine environment, while supporting employment opportunities and economic recovery.

The Our Marine Parks Round 3 grants seek to support achievement of Australian Marine Park objectives:

- a) the protection and conservation of biodiversity and other natural, cultural and heritage values of marine parks in the Australian Marine Park Network
- b) ecologically sustainable use and enjoyment of the natural resources within marine parks in the Australian Marine Park Network, where this is consistent with objective (a),

including through projects which aim to:

1. improve capacity of regional and Indigenous communities to deliver outcomes that support ongoing management and health of Australian Marine Parks.
2. develop tourism operator capability to deliver environmentally and culturally appropriate, high-quality recreation and tourism experiences in or associated with Australian Marine Parks, contributing to Australia's visitor economy.
3. improve ecosystem health and understanding of marine park values and the pressures impacting on them, including, but not limited to, projects with the recreational and commercial fishing sectors and the seafood industry.

This will be achieved by funding projects that best contribute to the desired vision, objectives, and 10-year outcomes of the management programs identified in the Australian Marine Parks management plans (or for the South-east Network, the Management Strategies identified in the management plan) at Appendix B.

The Community Grants Hub administers the program according to [Commonwealth Grants Rules and Guidelines 2017 \(CGRGs\)](#).

## 3 Grant amount and grant period

### 3.1 Grants available

For this grant opportunity, up to \$8.6 million GST exclusive will be paid over 2 years from 2021–22 to 2022–23.

- The minimum grant amount is \$30,000 GST exclusive.

- The maximum grant amount is \$500,000 GST exclusive.

In developing projects, applicants are strongly encouraged to consider financial and in-kind contributions either directly, through consortia, or partners, including state and territory government funding and other schemes. Applicants should also consider if those partnerships would enhance the project outcomes. The amount of in-kind or other co-contributions will be considered as part of the assessment process. Projects with higher levels of co-contribution are likely to be most competitive.

You can apply to more than one Commonwealth, state, territory or local government program to fund your project. However, if more than one application is successful, you cannot receive funding for this grant program for the same activities (duplicate funding). You must disclose in your application if you have been successful or have applied to receive funding from another government program.

Distribution of funding under the grant opportunity will aim to provide a spread of projects across the type of applicants, across the Australian Marine Parks, and under the management programs.

### **3.2 Grant period**

The maximum period for delivery of grant activities is 2 years.

## **4 Eligibility criteria**

The decision maker can choose to waive the eligibility criteria, however they must be made aware of the risks.

### **4.1 Who is eligible to apply for a grant?**

To be eligible you must be one of the following entity types:

- Indigenous Corporation
- Company<sup>1</sup>
- Corporate State or Territory Entity
- Non-corporate State or Territory Statutory Authority
- Local Government<sup>2</sup>
- Cooperative
- Incorporated Association
- Statutory Entity

If you are applying as a Trustee on behalf of a Trust<sup>3</sup>, the Trustee must have an eligible entity type as listed above.

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<sup>1</sup> Company is a company incorporated under the *Corporations Act 2001* (Cth).

<sup>2</sup> Includes New South Wales local governments created as body politics.

<sup>3</sup> Trusts are not legal entities in their own right – to be eligible, only the Trustee for the Trust can apply by providing the signed Trust Deed and any subsequent variations with the application form. Trustees must be an eligible entity type as stated in section 4.1. Both the Trust's and Trustee's details will be collected in the application form.

Applications from universities and research organisations are welcome, provided they meet one of the eligible entity types listed above and the proposed project aligns with the objectives of this grant opportunity (Section 2.1).

Applications from consortia are acceptable, as long as you have a lead applicant who is solely accountable to the Commonwealth for the delivery of grant activities and is an eligible entity as per the list above<sup>4</sup>. Eligible organisations can form a consortia with ineligible organisations.

Applications for projects that involve or provide benefits for Indigenous communities (Section 2.1), should include a letter of support from an entity or entities with responsibility for representing Traditional Owners of your proposed area of activity. The entity could include:

- a Registered Native Title Body Corporate
- a Native Title Representative Body (NTRB) or a Native Title Service Provider (NTSP)<sup>5</sup>
- Aboriginal land councils or corporations established under relevant legislation.

## 4.2 Additional eligibility requirements

To be eligible to apply, you must:

- have an account with an Australian financial institution
- provide a response to each of the assessment criterion listed in section 6 below
- certify that your proposed project does not duplicate other government-funded management actions that are already underway in the location you are proposing to undertake activities
- certify that you do not have any overdue reports, acquittals or debt associated with previous Australian Government funding that would impede your ability to achieve the objectives of this project. You may be asked to supply details of your management of projects as part of the assessment process or at a later date.

## 4.3 Who is not eligible to apply for a grant?

You are not eligible to apply if you are a/an:

- organisation, or your consortia member is an organisation, included on the [National Redress Scheme's website](#) on the list of 'Institutions that have not joined or signified their intent to join the Scheme'
- Commonwealth Company
- Corporate Commonwealth Entity
- International Entity
- Non-Corporate Commonwealth Entity
- Non-Corporate Commonwealth Statutory Authority
- Non-corporate State or Territory Entity
- Partnership
- Person<sup>6</sup>

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<sup>4</sup> The Australian Government recognises that some organisations may seek to form consortia in order to apply for a grant under the program. Consortia are eligible to apply and the relevant conditions applicable to consortia are in section 7.2.

<sup>5</sup> [Native title representative bodies and service providers](#)

<sup>6</sup> A person is a natural person, an individual, a human being.



- Sole Trader
- Unincorporated Association (see 4.3.1)

Organisations that are one of the above ineligible entity types may make an application as part of a consortium. The eligible entity type must be the lead organisation of the consortium.

### 4.3.1 Unincorporated Associations

Non-legal entities such as an Unincorporated Association may be able to receive funding where a legal parent organisation, or a legal entity connected to the Unincorporated Association, can enter into a legally binding agreement on its behalf. Alternatively, an eligible entity representing the Unincorporated Association can enter into the agreement and assume the legal liability.

## 5 What the grant money can be used for

### 5.1 Eligible grant activities

We want to support innovative, inspiring projects that help build park management capabilities and connect Australians to their incredible marine environment.

Eligible grant activities should align to one or more Australian Marine Park management programs (Appendix B). Management programs are how the Director of National Parks approaches the management of Australian Marine Parks and provide the basis for assessing management progress. In designing your application, you should consider how your activities directly contribute to management programs and their outcomes.

To ignite your imagination, we have suggested potential project ideas below. This list is not exhaustive (and is for illustrative purposes only) and should not limit your thinking. There are many possible grant activities that could contribute to the grant objectives (outlined in Section 2.1) and we are keen to see a wide range of innovative projects that contribute to marine park management. The following list provides ideas only:

#### *1) Activities that improve capacity of regional and Indigenous communities to deliver outcomes that support ongoing management and health of Australian Marine Parks*

- Develop sea Country plans that include Australian Marine Parks, and identify values, assess pressures on values, establish management strategies, and detail priority actions and performance indicators.
- Initiatives to enable Indigenous communities to undertake Australian Marine Park management, such as research and monitoring, compliance incident reporting and awareness raising, capacity building (including ranger and training programs), engagement and educational activities, onshore ghost gear and marine debris removal.
- Develop culturally focussed visitor information or guided experiences that raise awareness and appreciation of Australian Marine Park values, or help to identify and manage access to, and use of, culturally important sites in Australian Marine Parks.
- Facilitate cultural stewardship in the tourism or community sector by developing opportunities to recognise, promote or celebrate the cultural heritage of Australian Marine Parks.
- Undertake catchment management to improve water quality directly entering Australian Marine Parks, such as community education and monitoring activities.

#### *2) Activities that develop tourism operator capability to deliver environmentally and culturally appropriate, high-quality recreation and tourism experiences in or associated with Australian Marine Parks, contributing to Australia's visitor economy*

- Infrastructure to protect Australian Marine Park values.
- Citizen science and restoration activities associated with tourism in Australian Marine Parks.
- Engage and support scientific research to better understand and manage pressures at key tourism sites.
- Value-add to existing tourism products or develop new high-quality visitor information products (for example, brochures, video, signage) for on-water experiences to engage tourists in safe visitor experiences in Australian Marine Parks and improve appreciation of park values.
- Snorkel and dive trails or underwater experiences consistent with Australian Marine Park values at visited coral reefs.
- Establish innovative visitor experiences at aquariums and national institutions, which promote sustainable ocean and Australian Marine Park management.
- Design immersive experiences (video presentations, installations or signage) at key locations or attractions (for example, visitor centres, museums, ferry or cruise ship terminals, look-outs, boat ramps and ports, airports or other key coastal points of interest) adjacent to or with a strong connection to Australian Marine Parks.
- Develop a program to train and certify tourism operators in safe practices while operating in Australian Marine Parks to ensure impacts to values are minimised.

*3) Activities that improve ecosystem health and understanding of marine park values and the pressures impacting on them, including, but not limited to, projects with the recreational and commercial fishing sectors and the seafood industry.*

- Partnering with community or Indigenous organisations trialling adaptation activities to protect natural values from climate change.
- Develop fishing industry training or awareness programs, or tools to:
  - minimise the impacts of fishing on non-target species, including protected species identification and handling,
  - improve the ability of fishers to easily and effectively comply with the rules and understand values of Australian Marine Parks.
- Industry participation in citizen science activities and sharing of existing knowledge to increase awareness and understanding of Australian Marine Park values.
- Undertake sustainability certification of Australian fisheries to promote more sustainable practices and increase the value and marketability of their catch.
- Trial and transition fisheries to new fishing gear, technology or fishing patterns to reduce interaction with threatened and protected species, non-target species, or habitats.

## **5.2 Eligible locations**

Your grant can include activities at different locations, as long as the grant activities relate to one or more proclaimed Australian Marine Parks. Refer to Appendix A for a full list of eligible Australian Marine Parks.

## **5.3 Eligible expenditure**

You can only spend the grant on eligible expenditure you have incurred on eligible grant activities.

Eligible expenditure items are:

- salaries and stipends for staff working on the project, direct salary and on-costs for personnel directly employed for the project activities (on a pro-rata basis relative to their time commitment)
- contractor costs or expert advice
- research costs, including vessel hire and fuel costs and purchase of research equipment
- minor capital works (context dependent, but generally comprising expenditure under \$150,000, where works are intrinsically part of the grant activity, for example, visitor centre or aquarium installations)
- communication and promotional costs
- development of training or other educational materials
- hosting of training activities, including venue hire and catering (excluding alcohol)
- domestic travel
- purchase of assets—consideration will be given to the lease or purchase of vessels/vehicles and other large assets on a project-by-project basis. You will need to demonstrate in your application that failure to fund these items would have a significant and/or detrimental impact on project delivery.
- materials and equipment hire/purchase, including vessel hire and fuel costs.

You must incur the expenditure on your grant activities between the start date and end or completion date for your grant activity for it to be eligible.

Note that this is a competitive grant round—grant selections will consider the relative value for money of the proposed project expenditure items, to ensure costs are reasonable (efficient, economical, ethical) and contribute directly to grant outcomes (effective).

## **5.4 What the grant money cannot be used for**

You cannot use the grant for:

- purchase of land
- wages and salaries that are not directly related to the project
- costs incurred before the grant activity start date
- costs incurred in the preparation of a grant application or related documentation
- proposed granting activities outside of Australia
- subsidy of general ongoing administration of an organisation such as electricity, phone and rent
- major capital expenditure or major construction/capital works
- overseas travel
- activities for which other Commonwealth, state, territory or local government bodies have primary responsibility
- activities that are already funded on an ongoing basis by other Australian, state or territory, or local government programs.

Specific activities funded under other grants are not eligible to be funded under this grant round (see “duplicate funding” in section 3.1 and 4.2 of these Guidelines, and Assessment Criterion 4). However, other grant funding can be used as evidence of co-contribution to achieve a broader outcome.

## 6 The assessment criteria

You must address all of the following assessment criteria in the application.

We will assess your application based on the weighting given to each criterion detailed below.

The application form includes character limits – up to 6000 characters (approximately. 900 words) per criterion. The application form will not accept characters beyond this limit. Please note spaces are included in the character limit.

NOTE: your application may include more than one scenario—for instance high-cost (high ambition) and low-cost options (for example, smaller scope or duration; higher co-contribution; staged approach).

### Criterion 1 (45%)

**Demonstrate how your project meets the following Australian Marine Park objectives:**

- a) the protection and conservation of biodiversity and other natural, cultural and heritage values of marine parks in the Australian Marine Park Network, or
- b) ecologically sustainable use and enjoyment of the natural resources within marine parks in the Australian Marine Park Network, where this is consistent with objective (a),

including through projects which aim to:

1. improve capacity of regional and Indigenous communities to deliver outcomes that support ongoing management and health of Australian Marine Parks.
2. develop tourism operator capability to deliver environmentally and culturally appropriate, high-quality recreation and tourism experiences in or associated with Australian Marine Parks, contributing to Australia's visitor economy.
3. improve ecosystem health and understanding of marine park values and the pressures impacting on them, including, but not limited to, projects with the recreational and commercial fishing sectors and the seafood industry.

When addressing this criterion, stronger applications will:

- clearly articulate the “problem” or “need”
- outline the proposed “solution” (grant activities), and identify their expected impact, value or importance
- identify the clear, specific and achievable project outcomes that contribute to the delivery of Australian Marine Park management program (or management strategies) outcomes at Appendix B
- reference the relevant [Australian Marine Parks management plan or plans](#) and objectives in the Australian Marine Parks Tourism Strategy<sup>7</sup> (if applicable).

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<sup>7</sup> See the Resources section of the Australian Marine Parks website:  
[www.parksaustralia.gov.au/marine/management/resources/](http://www.parksaustralia.gov.au/marine/management/resources/)

## **Criterion 2 (25%)**

### **Demonstrate stakeholder engagement and community benefits:**

When addressing this criterion, stronger applicants will:

- identify and describe the involvement of key stakeholders and industry bodies in the proposed project (including expressions of support or commitment from project partners and contributors where applicable)
- outline any Indigenous and/or regional community engagement achieved through the project objectives, including participation or support and identify economic, environmental, social, and cultural benefits that will be delivered to Traditional Owners of Australian Marine Parks
- explain how your organisation's activity will achieve positive outcomes for the wider community, targeted marine user groups or stakeholders that would not occur without grant funding, including jobs
- identify wider economic and social benefits (including fostering new commercial opportunities in areas of high need; more efficient use of resources).

For projects that involve or provide benefits for Indigenous communities (Section 2.1), strong applications should include a letter of support from an entity or entities with responsibility for representing Traditional Owners of your proposed area of activity. The entity could provide guidance on the most appropriate person/organisation to participate in the project. The entity could include:

- a Registered Native Title Body Corporate
- a Native Title Representative Body (NTRB) or a Native Title Service Provider (NTSP)<sup>8</sup>
- Aboriginal land councils or corporations established under relevant legislation.

## **Criterion 3 (15%)**

### **Demonstrate your capability to deliver the project on time and within budget**

When addressing this criterion, stronger applicants will:

- use examples to demonstrate your organisation's capacity and experience with developing and implementing similar projects
- identify areas of risk or uncertainty relating to delivering their project (including safety, regulation or industry standards), and how those issues might be handled (proportionate risk management)
- explain the relevant skills, experience and qualifications held by key personnel and their role in managing the project
- outline the governance, management, financial and administration systems that your organisation will use to support the implementation and delivery of the activity to achieve positive outcomes for all stakeholders on time and within budget.

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<sup>8</sup> [Native title representative bodies and service providers](#)

## Criterion 4 (15%)

### Demonstrate how your activity will achieve value for money

When addressing this criterion, stronger applicants will:

- outline how all costs associated with the delivery of your organisation's activity are price competitive
- outline how any large expenditure item (items over \$50,000) is justified to achieve the objectives of the project
- demonstrate high levels of co-contributions (financial and in-kind) from your organisation and/or other parties (such as external partners or state or territory funding schemes/ grants)
- identify opportunities for lower cost solutions (that is, partial funding options or cost savings), where appropriate.

Consideration will be given to the lease or purchase of vessels/vehicles and other large assets on a project-by-project basis. You will need to demonstrate in your application that failure to fund these items would have a significant and/or detrimental impact on project delivery.

## 7 How to apply

Before applying, you must read and understand these guidelines, the terms and conditions, sample Commonwealth Standard Grant Agreement, any published Frequently Asked Questions, and any Addenda.

These documents are found on the [GrantConnect](#) and [Community Grants Hub](#) websites. Any changes to grant documentation are published on both sites and addenda<sup>9</sup> will be published on GrantConnect. By registering on this website, you will be automatically notified of any changes. GrantConnect is the authoritative source for grants information.

You may submit more than one application—for instance: for separate grant activities, or for a different Australian Marine Park, or for an alternative consortium. As noted in section 6, an applicant can choose to self-identify high-cost and low-cost options within a single application.

If more than one application is submitted for the same grant activity, prior to the closure date, the latest accepted application form (that is the updated application) will progress.

To apply, you must:

- complete the online application form on the [GrantConnect](#) or [Community Grants Hub website](#)
- provide all the information requested
- address all eligibility criteria and assessment criteria
- include all necessary attachments
- submit your application/s to the Community Grants Hub by 9:00 pm AEDT on 16 December 2021.

We will not provide application forms or accept applications for this grant opportunity by fax or mail.

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<sup>9</sup> Addenda can include changes to existing grant opportunity documentation and/or publishing additional documents. Changes include but are not limited to corrections to currently published documents, changes to close times for applications and system outage notices.

The application form includes help information. You are responsible for making sure your application is complete and accurate. Giving false or misleading information is a serious offence under the [Criminal Code Act 1995](#) and we will investigate any false or misleading information and may exclude your application from further consideration.

If you need more help about the application process, submitting an application online, have any technical difficulties or find an error in your application after submission, but before the closing date and time, you should contact the Community Grants Hub immediately on 1800 020 283 (option 1) or email [support@communitygrants.gov.au](mailto:support@communitygrants.gov.au). The Community Grants Hub does not have to accept any additional information, or requests from you to correct your application after the closing time.

You cannot change your application after the closing date and time, unless approved by the department. If we find an error or something missing, or if we deem it is in the interests of achieving value for money or reducing implementation risk, we may ask you for clarification or additional information.

You should keep a copy of your application and any supporting documents.

You will receive an automated notification acknowledging the receipt of your application.

## 7.1 Attachments to the application

All of the following documents must be attached to your application for it to be considered compliant and for it to proceed to assessment. Templates are provided for your use with the grant opportunity documents as specified.

- Project plan – mandatory template provided.
- Budget – mandatory template provided.

If a mandatory template is not used, your application will be considered non-compliant and will not proceed to assessment.

For projects that involve or provide benefits for Indigenous communities (Section 2.1), your application should include a letter of support from an entity or entities with responsibility for representing Traditional Owners of your proposed area of activity. The entity could provide guidance on the most appropriate person/organisation to participate in the project. The entity could include:

- a Registered Native Title Body Corporate
- a Native Title Representative Body (NTRB) or a Native Title Service Provider (NTSP)<sup>10</sup>
- Aboriginal land councils or corporations established under relevant legislation

You must attach supporting documentation according to the instructions provided within the application form. You should only attach requested documents. We will not consider information in attachments we have not asked for, including hyperlinks or QR codes.

**Please note:** There is a 2 MB limit for each attachment.

## 7.2 Joint (Consortia) applications

We recognise (and encourage) that some organisations may want to join together as a group to deliver Our Marine Parks Round 3 grant activities.

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<sup>10</sup> [Native title representative bodies and service providers](#)

In these circumstances, you must appoint a 'lead organisation'. Only the lead organisation can submit the application form and enter into a grant agreement with the Commonwealth. The lead organisation of a consortium must also be an eligible entity type as outlined in section 4.1. The application must identify all other members of the proposed group. All members of the consortium must comply with the National Redress legislation.

You must have a formal arrangement in place with all consortia parties prior to execution of the agreement.

### **7.3 Timing of grant opportunity processes**

You must submit an application between the published opening and closing dates.

#### **Late applications**

We will not accept late applications unless an applicant has experienced exceptional circumstances that prevent the submission of the application. Broadly, exceptional circumstances are events characterised by one or more of the following:

- reasonably unforeseeable
- beyond the applicant's control
- unable to be managed or resolved within the application period.

Exceptional circumstances will be considered on their merits and in accordance with probity principles.

#### **How to lodge a late application**

Applicants seeking to submit a late application will be required to submit a late application request to the Community Grants Hub.

The request should include a detailed explanation of the circumstances that prevented the application being submitted prior to the closing time. Where appropriate, supporting evidence can be provided to verify the claim of exceptional circumstances.

The late application request form and instructions for how to submit it can be found on the [Community Grants Hub website](#).

Written requests to lodge a late application will only be accepted within 3 calendar days after the grant opportunity has closed.

The delegate or their appointed representative<sup>11</sup> will determine whether a late application will be accepted. The decision of the delegate will be final and not be subject to a review or appeals process.

Once the outcome is determined, the Community Grants Hub will advise the applicant if their request is accepted or declined.

#### **Expected timing for this grant opportunity**

If you are successful, you will be expected to start your grant activity around June 2022.

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<sup>11</sup> This may be the Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment delegate or nominated staff member at the EL2 level or above.



Table 1: Expected timing for this grant opportunity

Activity	Timeframe
Assessment of applications	4 weeks
Approval of outcomes of selection process	Up to 6 weeks
Negotiations and award of grant agreements	Up to 6 weeks
Notification to unsuccessful applicants	2 weeks
Earliest start date of grant activity	June 2022
Latest end date of grant activity	June 2024
Final reporting on grant activities	November 2024

## 7.4 Questions during the application process

If you have any questions during the application period, please contact the Community Grants Hub on 1800 020 283 (option 1) or email [support@communitygrants.gov.au](mailto:support@communitygrants.gov.au).

The Community Grants Hub will respond to emailed questions within 5 working days. Answers to questions are posted on the [GrantConnect](#) and [Community Grants Hub](#) websites.

The question period will close at 5:00 pm AEDT on 9 December 2021. Following this time, only questions about using and/or submitting the application form will be answered.

## 8 The grant selection process

### 8.1 Assessment of grant applications

Applications will be assessed on an open competitive basis, having regard to the eligibility and weighted assessment criteria, as set out in these Grant Opportunity Guidelines. A Selection Advisory Panel will advise the decision maker which applications best align with policy objectives and are likely to achieve value with relevant money, and identify suggested conditions (if any).

### 8.2 Financial viability

Applicants may be subject to a financial viability assessment. The financial viability assessment forms part of the department's risk mitigation strategy and can include:

- establishing whether relevant persons have any adverse business history (for example, current or past bankruptcy), and
- assessment of the financial health of an entity.

### 8.3 Who will assess and select applications?

The department will undertake a preliminary assessment against the selection criteria. The preliminary assessment will provide an initial ranking of applications to inform the deliberations of the Selection Advisory Panel.

The Selection Advisory Panel will be established by the department and may include a mix of departmental employees, experts from the sector, and other Commonwealth officers with relevant specialist expertise.

Any expert or advisor who is not a Commonwealth official will be required to perform their duties in accordance with the CGRGs.

The Selection Advisory Panel will assess which applications represent stronger value for money and will make final recommendations to the decision maker by taking into account the following factors:

- the initial preliminary score or alignment against the assessment criteria
- proportionality of costs to expected impact (noting that projects that demonstrate in-kind support, or leverage additional funding through project partners, will be prioritised)
- the extent to which the evidence in the application demonstrates that it will contribute to meeting the outcomes/objectives of the Our Marine Parks Round 3
- wider economic and social impacts
- contribution to Australia's international obligations
- the extent to which the applicant demonstrates a commitment to Our Marine Parks Round 3 objectives and Australian Marine Park Values
- the risks—financial, fraud, delivery and other—that the applicant or project poses for the department or for the Commonwealth
- distribution of grants across type of applicant, Australian Marine Parks and management programs (Appendix B)
- how the grant activities will impact on, leverage or be led by various target groups (indigenous people and regional communities)
- legacy outcomes—where applicants have prior history of undertaking activities within Australian Marine Parks
- innovation
- compliance with legislation, policy and industry standards.

**The Selection Advisory Panel may seek additional information from the applicant to assist in making its final recommendations.**

## **8.4 Who will approve grants?**

The Minister for the Environment will be the decision maker for this round<sup>12</sup>. The decision maker decides which grants to approve, having regard to the recommendations and/or commentary of the Selection Advisory Panel, taking into consideration any further information that may become known, including the availability of grant funds for the purposes of the grant program.

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

- the approval of the grant
- the grant funding amount to be awarded
- the terms and conditions of the grant.

There is no appeal mechanism for decisions to approve or not approve a grant.

A reserve list of applications may be established, to be drawn on should additional funding become available.

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<sup>12</sup> Section 71 of the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013* applies when a Minister is a grant decision-maker.

## 9 Notification of application outcomes

We will write to you about the outcome of your application. If you are successful, you will be advised of any specific conditions attached to the grant.

If you are unsuccessful, you can submit a new application in any future grant opportunities for which you are eligible. You should include new or more information to address any weaknesses that may have prevented your previous application from being successful.

### 9.1 Feedback on your application

A feedback summary will be published on the Community Grants Hub website to provide all organisations with easy access to information about the grant selection process and the main strengths and areas for improving applications.

Individual feedback will not be provided for this grant opportunity.

### 9.2 Further grant opportunities

If there are not enough suitable applications to meet the program's objectives, the department will fund those projects that are considered value for money and defer any residual funds to the Our Marine Parks Round 4 grant opportunity.

## 10 Successful grant applications

### 10.1 The grant agreement

You must enter into a legally binding grant agreement with the Commonwealth. We will offer successful applicants a Commonwealth Standard Grant Agreement for this grant opportunity.

Each agreement has general/standard grant conditions that cannot be changed. Sample grant agreements are available on the GrantConnect and Community Grants Hub websites as part of the grant documentation. We will use a schedule to outline the specific grant requirements.

We must execute a grant agreement with you before we can make any payments. We are not responsible for any of your expenditure until a grant agreement is executed. You must not start any Our Marine Parks Round 3 activities until a grant agreement is executed.

Your grant agreement may have specific conditions determined by the assessment process or other considerations made by the decision maker. These are identified in the agreement.

We may manage the grant agreement through our Grant Recipient Portal. Accepting the agreement through the Grant Recipient Portal is the equivalent of signing a grant agreement. After you have accepted it, we will execute the agreement. Execute means both you and the Commonwealth have entered into the grant agreement. We will notify you when this happens and a copy of the executed agreement will be available through the portal. The agreement will not become binding until it is executed.

The Commonwealth may recover grant funds if there is a breach of the grant agreement.

#### **Commonwealth Standard Grant Agreement**

We will use a Commonwealth Standard Grant Agreement.

You will have 20 business days from the date of a written offer to sign and return this grant agreement. The grant agreement is not considered to be executed until both you and the Commonwealth have signed the agreement. During this time, we will work with you to finalise details.

The offer may lapse if both parties do not sign the grant agreement within this time. Under certain circumstances, we may extend this period. We base the approval of your grant on the information you provide in your application.

You may request changes to the grant agreement. However, we will review any changes to make sure they do not affect the grant as approved by the decision maker.

## **10.2 Commonwealth Child Safe Framework**

The Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse highlighted the need for organisations to adopt child safe practices including appropriate screening of staff, mandatory reporting and adoption of the National Principles for Child Safe Organisations. The Australian Government committed to a new Commonwealth-wide framework to protect children and young people it is responsible for – the Commonwealth Child Safe Framework (CCSF).

The Australian Government is considering appropriate ways to apply the requirements of the CCSF to grant recipients. A child safety clause is likely to be included in a grant agreement where the Commonwealth considers the grant is for:

- services directly to children
- activities that involve contact with children that is a usual part of, and more than incidental to, the grant activity.

A child safety clause may also be included in the grant agreement if the Commonwealth considers the grant activity involves children more broadly.

The successful applicant will be required to comply with all child safety obligations included in the grant agreement published with this grant opportunity or notified to the successful applicant prior to execution of the grant agreement. Irrespective of the child safety obligations in the grant agreement, you must always comply with your state and territory legislative requirements for working with children and mandatory reporting.

## **10.3 Specific legislation, policies and industry standards**

Activities in Australian Marine Parks may require regulatory approval under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*, the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Regulations 2000* and other Commonwealth legislation. Provision of grant funding does not constitute regulatory approval for funded activities. Successful grant applicants must obtain all necessary regulatory approvals before carrying out the funded activities, and must comply with the conditions of those approvals at all times. For project proposals relating to contact with children, you will be requested to demonstrate compliance with the following legislation/policies/industry standards:

- Working with Vulnerable People
- Working with Children

Provision of grant funding does not fetter the right of the decision maker to issue or refuse approvals under applicable legislation.

## **10.4 How we pay the grant**

The grant agreement will state the:

- maximum grant amount to be paid
- proportion of eligible expenditure covered by the grant (grant percentage)
- any financial contributions you must make

- any in-kind contributions you will make
- any financial contribution provided by a third party.

We will not exceed the maximum grant amount under any circumstances. If you incur extra costs, you must meet them yourself.

We will make an initial payment on the commencement of the activity. We will make subsequent payments according to an agreed schedule set out in the grant agreement. Payments are subject to satisfactory progress on the grant activity.

## 10.5 Grant payments and GST

'Payments will be GST inclusive'. If you are registered for the [Goods and Services Tax \(GST\)](#), where applicable, we will add GST to your grant payment and issue you with a [Recipient Created Tax Invoice](#).

Grants are assessable income for taxation purposes, unless exempted by a taxation law. We recommend you seek independent professional advice on your taxation obligations or seek assistance from the [Australian Taxation Office](#). We do not provide advice on your particular taxation circumstances.

## 11 Announcement of grants

If successful, your grant will be listed on the GrantConnect website no later than 21 calendar days after the date of effect as required by section 5.3 of the [CGRGs](#).

## 12 How we monitor your grant activity

### 12.1 Keeping us informed

You should let us know if anything is likely to affect your grant activities or organisation.

We need to know of any changes to your organisation or its business activities, particularly if they affect your ability to complete your grant, carry on business and pay debts due because of these changes.

You must also inform us of any changes to your:

- name
- addresses
- nominated contact details
- bank account details.

If you become aware of a breach of the terms and conditions under the grant agreement, you must contact us immediately.

You must notify us of events relating to your grant and provide an opportunity for the Minister or their representative to attend.

### 12.2 Reporting

Our Marine Parks grant recipients must have systems in place to meet their data collection and reporting obligations outlined in their grant agreement.

You must submit reports in line with the grant agreement. We will remind you of your reporting obligations and provide sample templates before a report is due. We will expect you to report on:

- progress against agreed grant activity milestones and outcomes
- contributions of participants directly related to the grant activity
- expenditure of the grant

The amount of detail you provide in your reports should be relative to the size and complexity of the grant and the grant amount.

We will monitor progress by assessing reports you submit and may conduct site visits or request records to confirm details of your reports if necessary. Occasionally we may need to re-examine claims, ask for more information or request an independent audit of claims and payments.

### **Activity Work Plan**

You must submit a completed Activity Work Plan on the template provided with your grant agreement. An Activity Work Plan will be used to outline the specific grant requirements. The Activity Work Plan documents planned deliverables, milestones and outputs for the funded project. The Activity Work Plan also documents risk management and community engagement relevant to the funded project.

Successful applicants' progress and outcomes against the Activity Work Plan will be monitored throughout the grant through regular reports.

### **Communication Plan**

Where required, you must submit a completed Communication Plan on the template provided with your grant agreement. A Communication Plan documents planned communication outputs and potential opportunities for the funded project.

### **Progress reports**

Progress reports must:

- include evidence of your progress toward completion of agreed activities and outcomes
- show the total eligible expenditure incurred to date
- include evidence of expenditure
- be submitted by the report due date (you can submit reports ahead of time if you have completed relevant activities).

We will only make grant payments when we receive satisfactory progress reports.

You must tell us of any reporting delays as soon as you become aware of them.

### **Ad-hoc reports**

We may ask you for ad-hoc reports on your grant. This may be to provide an update on progress, or any significant delays or difficulties in completing the grant activity.

### **Final report**

When you complete the grant activity, you must submit a final report.

Final reports must:

- identify if and how outcomes have been achieved
- include the agreed evidence as specified in the activity work plan
- identify the total eligible expenditure incurred
- be submitted by the due date and in the format provided in the grant agreement.

## 12.3 Financial acquittal reports

### Financial declaration

We will ask you to provide a financial declaration that the grant money was spent in accordance with the grant agreement and to report on any underspends of the grant money in each financial year of the grant activity, apart from the final financial year of the activity where an audited financial acquittal report will be required.

### Audited financial acquittal report

We will ask you to provide an independently audited financial acquittal report after the activity completion date. A financial acquittal report will verify that you spent the grant in accordance with the grant agreement and declare unspent funds.

## 12.4 Grant agreement variations

We recognise that unexpected events may affect your progress. In these circumstances, you can request a variation to your grant agreement. You can request a variation by contacting your Funding Arrangement Manager, Community Grants Hub.

You should not assume that a variation request will be successful. We will consider your request based on provisions in the grant agreement and the likely impact on achieving outcomes.

## 12.5 Compliance visits

We may visit you during or at the completion of your grant activity to review your compliance with the grant agreement. We will provide you with reasonable notice of any compliance visit.

## 12.6 Record keeping

We may also inspect the records you are required to keep under the grant agreement.

## 12.7 Evaluation

We will evaluate the grant opportunity to see how well the outcomes and objectives have been achieved. We may use information from your application and reports for this purpose. We may also ask you for more information to help us understand how the grant impacted you and to evaluate how effective the program was in achieving its outcomes.

We may contact you up to one year after you finish your grant for more information to assist with this evaluation.

## 12.8 Acknowledgement

If you make a public statement about a grant activity funded under the program, we require you to acknowledge the grant by using the following text:

*'This Our Marine Parks Grant project received grant funding from the Australian Government.'*

Please note that you must consult with the Director of National Parks via [email](#) prior to issuing any comment to the media regarding a project under these guidelines.

# 13 Probity

The Australian Government will make sure that the grant opportunity process is fair, according to the published guidelines; incorporates appropriate safeguards against fraud, unlawful activities and other inappropriate conduct; and is consistent with the CGRGs.



These guidelines may be changed by the department. When this happens, the revised guidelines are published on the [GrantConnect](#) and the [Community Grants Hub](#) websites.

## 13.1 Enquiries and feedback

### Complaints about this grant opportunity

The department's [Service Charter](#) applies to complaints about this grant opportunity. All complaints about this grant opportunity, including grant decisions, must be made in writing.

Any questions you have about grant decisions for this grant opportunity should be sent to the following email, [AMPGrants@environment.gov.au](mailto:AMPGrants@environment.gov.au).

### Complaints about the selection process

Applicants can contact the complaints service with complaints about the Community Grants Hub's service/s or the selection process.

Details of what makes an eligible complaint can be provided by asking the Community Grants Hub. Applicants can use the [online complaints form](#) on the [Department of Social Services](#) website, or contact the Department of Social Services Complaints line.

Phone: 1800 634 035

Email: [complaints@dss.gov.au](mailto:complaints@dss.gov.au)

Mail: Complaints  
GPO Box 9820  
Canberra ACT 2601

### Complaints to the Ombudsman

If you do not agree with the way the Community Grants Hub or the department has handled your complaint, you may complain to the [Commonwealth Ombudsman](#). The Ombudsman will not usually look into a complaint unless the matter has first been raised directly with the Community Grants Hub or the Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment.

The Commonwealth Ombudsman can be contacted on:

Phone (Toll free): 1300 362 072

Email: [ombudsman@ombudsman.gov.au](mailto:ombudsman@ombudsman.gov.au)

Website: [www.ombudsman.gov.au](http://www.ombudsman.gov.au)

## 13.2 Conflicts of interest

Any conflicts of interest could affect the performance of the grant opportunity or program. There may be a conflict of interest, or perceived conflict of interest, if the department and the Community Grants Hub staff, any member of a committee or advisor and/or you or any of your personnel has a:

- professional, commercial or personal relationship with a party who is able to influence the application selection process, such as an Australian Government officer
- relationship with or interest in, an organisation, which is likely to interfere with or restrict the applicants from carrying out the proposed activities fairly and independently
- relationship with, or interest in, an organisation from which they will receive personal gain because the organisation receives a grant under the grant program/grant opportunity.

You will be asked to declare, as part of your application, any perceived or existing conflicts of interest or that, to the best of your knowledge, there is no conflict of interest.



If you later think there is an actual, apparent, or perceived conflict of interest, you must inform the department and the Community Grants Hub in writing immediately.

Conflicts of interest for Australian Government staff will be handled as set out in the Australian [Public Service Code of Conduct \(section 13\(7\)\)](#) of the [Public Service Act 1999](#). Committee members and other officials including the decision maker must also declare any conflicts of interest.

We publish our conflict of interest policy on the [Community Grants Hub website](#).

### **13.3 Privacy**

We treat your personal information according to the [Privacy Act 1988](#) and the [Australian Privacy Principles](#). This includes letting you know:

- what personal information we collect
- why we collect your personal information
- who we give your personal information to.

Your personal information can only be disclosed to someone else for the primary purpose for which it was collected, unless an exemption applies.

The Australian Government may also use and give out information about grant applicants and grant recipients under this grant opportunity in any other Australian Government business or function. This includes disclosing grant information on GrantConnect as required for reporting purposes and giving information to the Australian Taxation Office for compliance purposes.

We may share the information you give us with other Commonwealth entities for purposes including government administration, research or service delivery, according to Australian laws.

As part of your application, you declare your ability to comply with the Privacy Act and the Australian Privacy Principles and impose the same privacy obligations on officers, employees, agents and subcontractors that you engage to assist with the activity, in respect of personal information you collect, use, store, or disclose in connection with the activity. Accordingly, you must not do anything, which if done by the department would breach an Australian Privacy Principle as defined in the Privacy Act.

### **13.4 Confidential information**

Other than information available in the public domain, you agree not to give out to any person, other than us, any confidential information relating to the grant application and/or agreement, without our prior written approval. The obligation will not be breached where you are required by law, Parliament or a stock exchange to disclose the relevant information or where the relevant information is publicly available (other than through breach of a confidentiality or non-disclosure obligation).

We may at any time, require you to arrange for you; or your employees, agents or subcontractors to give a written undertaking relating to nondisclosure of our confidential information in a form we consider acceptable.

We will keep any information in connection with the grant agreement confidential to the extent that it meets all of the 3 conditions below:

1. You clearly identify the information as confidential and explain why we should treat it as confidential.
2. The information is commercially sensitive.
3. Revealing the information would cause unreasonable harm to you or someone else.

We will not be in breach of any confidentiality agreement if the information is disclosed to:

- Commonwealth employees and contractors to help us manage the program effectively
- employees and contractors of our department so we can research, assess, monitor and analyse our programs and activities
- employees and contractors of other Commonwealth agencies for any purposes, including government administration, research or service delivery
- other Commonwealth, state, territory or local government agencies in program reports and consultations
- the Auditor-General, Ombudsman or Privacy Commissioner
- the responsible Minister or Parliamentary Secretary
- a House or a Committee of the Australian Parliament.

The grant agreement may also include any specific requirements about special categories of information collected, created or held under the grant agreement.

### **13.5 Freedom of information**

All documents that the Australian Government has, including those about this grant opportunity, are subject to the [Freedom of Information Act 1982](#) (FOI Act).

The purpose of the FOI Act gives people the ability to get information held by the Australian Government and its organisations. Under the FOI Act, people can ask for documents the Australian Government has. People may not be able to get these documents if these documents need to protect essential public interests and private and business affairs of persons who the information relates to.

All Freedom of Information requests must be referred to the Freedom of Information Coordinator in writing.

By mail:           Freedom of Information Team  
                      Government and Executive Services Branch  
                      Department of Social Services  
                      GPO Box 9820  
                      Canberra ACT 2601

By email:         [foi@dss.gov.au](mailto:foi@dss.gov.au)

## **14 Consultation**

This grant round was informed by extensive consultation and insights into industry and stakeholder needs conducted through the Australian Marine Park planning and management processes.

## 15 Glossary

Term	Definition
accountable authority	see subsection 12(2) of the <a href="#">Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013 (PGPA Act)</a> .
administering entity	when an entity that is not responsible for the policy, is responsible for the administration of part or all of the grant administration processes.
assessment criteria	are the specified principles or standards, against which applications will be judged. These criteria are also used to assess the merits of proposals and, in the case of a competitive grant opportunity, to determine application rankings.
Australian Marine Park	Australian Marine Parks are Commonwealth reserves in Commonwealth marine areas declared under section 344 of the <i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i> .
commencement date	the expected start date for the grant activity.
Commonwealth entity	a department of state, or a parliamentary department, or a listed entity or a body corporate established by a law of the Commonwealth. See subsections 10(1) and (2) of the PGPA Act.
<a href="#">Commonwealth Grants Rules and Guidelines (CGRGs)</a>	establish the overarching Commonwealth grants policy framework and articulate the expectations for all non-corporate Commonwealth entities in relation to grants administration. Under this overarching framework, non-corporate Commonwealth entities undertake grants administration based on the mandatory requirements and key principles of grants administration.
completion date	the expected date that the grant activity must be completed and the grant spent by.
co-sponsoring entity	when 2 or more entities are responsible for the policy and the appropriation for outcomes associated with it.
date of effect	can be the date on which a grant agreement is signed or a specified starting date. Where there is no grant agreement, entities must publish information on individual grants as soon as practicable.
decision maker	the person who makes a decision to award a grant.

Term	Definition
The Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment	<p>The Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment designs and implements Australian Government policy and programs to protect Australia's natural resources and help develop strong agricultural industries.</p> <p>The Department partners and regulates to ensure Australia's agriculture, unique environment and heritage, and water resources are well-managed, protected and productive.</p>
The Director of National Parks	<p>The Director of National Parks is a corporation established under the <i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i>, the principal Commonwealth legislation for establishing and managing protected areas. The corporation is constituted by the person appointed to the office named the Director of National Parks.</p>
eligibility criteria	<p>refer to the mandatory criteria which must be met to qualify for a grant. Assessment criteria may apply in addition to eligibility criteria.</p>
Funding Arrangement Manager	<p>is the officer responsible for the ongoing management of the grantee and their compliance with the grant agreement.</p>
grant	<p>for the purposes of the CGRGs, a 'grant' is an arrangement for the provision of financial assistance by the Commonwealth or on behalf of the Commonwealth:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. under which relevant money<sup>13</sup> or other <a href="#">Consolidated Revenue Fund</a> (CRF) money<sup>14</sup> is to be paid to a grantee other than the Commonwealth</li> <li>b. which is intended to help address one or more of the Australian Government's policy outcomes while assisting the grantee achieve its objectives.</li> </ol>
grant activity/activities	<p>refers to the project/tasks/services that the grantee is required to undertake.</p>
grant agreement	<p>sets out the relationship between the parties to the agreement, and specifies the details of the grant.</p>
grant opportunity	<p>refers to the specific grant round or process where a Commonwealth grant is made available to potential grantees. Grant opportunities may be open or targeted, and will reflect the relevant grant selection process.</p>

<sup>13</sup> Relevant money is defined in the PGPA Act. See section 8, Dictionary.

<sup>14</sup> Other CRF money is defined in the PGPA Act. See section 105, Rules in relation to other CRF money.

Term	Definition
grant program	a 'program' carries its natural meaning and is intended to cover a potentially wide range of related activities aimed at achieving government policy outcomes. A grant program is a group of one or more grant opportunities under a single [entity] Portfolio Budget Statement program.
<a href="#">GrantConnect</a>	is the Australian government's whole-of-government grants information system, which centralises the publication and reporting of Commonwealth grants in accordance with the CGRGs
grantee	the individual/organisation which has been selected to receive a grant.
management plan	a plan of management required under the <i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i> .
management program	one of the Director of National Park's approach to managing Australian Marine Parks.
marine park values	<p>Broadly defined as:</p> <p><i>Natural values</i> – habitats, species and ecological communities within marine parks, and the processes that support their connectivity, productivity and function.</p> <p><i>Cultural values</i> – living and cultural heritage recognising Indigenous beliefs, practices and obligations for Country, places of cultural significance and cultural heritage sites.</p> <p><i>Heritage values</i> – non-Indigenous heritage that has aesthetic, historic, scientific or social significance.</p> <p><i>Socio-economic values</i> – the benefit of marine parks for people, businesses and the economy.</p>
National Redress legislation	means the <a href="#">National Redress Scheme for Institutional Child Sexual Abuse Act 2018</a> .
Package	the Ocean Leadership Package.
Parks Australia	Parks Australia supports the Director of National Parks, the federal park agency, in managing 6 Commonwealth national parks, the Australian National Botanic Gardens, and Australian Marine Parks.
Portfolio Budget Statement (PBS) program	described within the entity's <a href="#">Portfolio Budget Statement</a> , PBS programs each link to a single outcome and provide transparency for funding decisions. These high-level PBS programs often comprise a number of lower level, more publicly recognised programs, some of which will be grant programs. A PBS program may have more than one grant program associated with it, and each of these may have one or more grant opportunities.

Term	Definition
Sea Country	Sea Country refers to the areas of the sea that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander groups are particularly affiliated with through their traditional lore and customs.
Selection Advisory Panel	provides strategic oversight, advice and recommendations to the decision maker on assessed applications from the program specific, service provider composition and service location perspectives.
selection criteria	comprise eligibility criteria and assessment criteria.
selection process	the method used to select potential grantees. This process may involve comparative assessment of applications or the assessment of applications against the eligibility criteria and/or the assessment criteria.
Traditional Owners	A local descent group of Indigenous people who have common spiritual affiliations to an area of sea Country and are entitled by Indigenous traditions to fish and hunt in an area of sea Country.
value for money	<p>refers to ‘value with relevant money’ which is a judgement based on the grant proposal representing an efficient, effective, economical and ethical use of public resources and determined from a variety of considerations.</p> <p>When administering a grant opportunity, an official should consider the relevant financial and non-financial costs and benefits of each proposal including, but not limited to the:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ quality of the project proposal and activities</li> <li>▪ fit for purpose of the proposal in contributing to government objectives</li> <li>▪ absence of a grant is likely to prevent the grantee and government’s outcomes being achieved</li> </ul> <p>potential grantee’s relevant experience and performance history.</p>

## Appendix A. List of Australian Marine Parks

### **South-west Marine Parks Network**

1. Southern Kangaroo Island Marine Park
2. Western Kangaroo Island Marine Park
3. Western Eyre Marine Park
4. Murat Marine Park
5. Great Australian Bight Marine Park
6. Twilight Marine Park
7. Eastern Recherche Marine Park
8. South-west Corner Marine Park
9. Bremer Marine Park
10. Geographe Marine Park
11. Perth Canyon Marine Park
12. Two Rocks Marine Park
13. Jurien Marine Park
14. Abrolhos Marine Park

### **North-west Marine Parks Network**

15. Shark Bay Marine Park
16. Carnarvon Canyon Marine Park
17. Ningaloo Marine Park
18. Gascoyne Marine Park
19. Montebello Marine Park
20. Dampier Marine Park
21. Eighty Mile Beach Marine Park
22. Roebuck Marine Park
23. Mermaid Reef Marine Park
24. Argo-Rowley Terrace Marine Park
25. Kimberley Marine Park
26. Ashmore Reef Marine Park
27. Cartier Island Marine Park

### **North Marine Parks Network**

28. Joseph Bonaparte Gulf Marine Park
29. Oceanic Shoals Marine Park
30. Arafura Marine Park
31. Arnhem Marine Park
32. Wessel Marine Park
33. Limmen Marine Park
34. Gulf of Carpentaria Marine Park
35. West Cape York Marine Park

### **Coral Sea Marine Park**

36. Coral Sea Marine Park

### **Temperate East Marine Parks Network**

37. Gifford Marine Park
38. Norfolk Marine Park
39. Lord Howe Marine Park

40. Central Eastern Marine Park
41. Solitary Islands Marine Park
42. Cod Grounds Marine Park
43. Hunter Marine Park
44. Jervis Marine Park

**South-east Marine Parks Network**

45. Apollo Marine Park
46. Beagle Marine Park
47. Boags Marine Park
48. East Gippsland Marine Park
49. Flinders Marine Park
50. Franklin Marine Park
51. Freycinet Marine Park
52. Huon Marine Park
53. Macquarie Island Marine Park
54. Murray Marine Park
55. Nelson Marine Park
56. South Tasman Rise Marine Park
57. Tasman Fracture Marine Park
58. Zeehan Marine Park



# Appendix B. Australian Marine Park vision, objectives, and management program outcomes, and management strategies

## Australian Marine Park Management Program Outcomes

*Note: The following are extracts of the Australian Marine Park vision, objectives, and management program outcomes from the management plans for the North, North-west, South-west and Temperate East Marine Parks Networks and the Coral Sea Marine Park. Grant applicants should refer to the management plans – which are available on the [Australian Marine Parks website](#).*

Table 1 – Australian Marine Park Vision, Objectives and 10-Year Management Programs Outcomes (Note: only items relevant to Our Marine Parks Round 3 are included)

<p><b>Vision:</b> Marine parks are healthy, resilient and well-managed to enhance Australia’s wellbeing. This means ensuring that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ their natural, cultural, socio-economic and heritage values are understood, appreciated and conserved;</li> <li>▪ marine parks support jobs and businesses, providing multiple benefits to regional communities and the economy;</li> <li>▪ people have opportunities to enjoy marine parks;</li> <li>▪ visitors and tourists can enjoy world-class nature-based experiences in marine parks;</li> <li>▪ Indigenous people and marine park users are partners in managing marine parks.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Objectives:</b></p> <p>(a) the protection and conservation of biodiversity and other natural, cultural and heritage values of marine parks in the Australian Marine Park Network;</p> <p>(b) ecologically sustainable use and enjoyment of the natural resources within marine parks in the Australian Marine Park Network, where this is consistent with objective (a).</p>	
Australian Marine Park Management Program*	10-year Outcomes
Indigenous engagement program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Social, cultural and economic benefits for traditional owners</li> <li>▪ Partnerships with Traditional Owners and Indigenous groups to manage sea Country in marine parks</li> </ul>
Tourism and visitor experience program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ High-quality visitor experiences that are appealing, engaging and raise awareness of the natural and cultural values of marine parks.</li> <li>▪ Social and economic benefits from the contribution of marine parks to Australia’s visitor economy</li> </ul>
Park protection and management program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Impact of pressures on marine park values are minimised as far as reasonably practicable</li> </ul>
Communication, education and awareness program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Increased awareness, understanding and support for marine parks</li> </ul>

<p><b>Vision:</b> Marine parks are healthy, resilient and well-managed to enhance Australia’s wellbeing. This means ensuring that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ their natural, cultural, socio-economic and heritage values are understood, appreciated and conserved;</li> <li>▪ marine parks support jobs and businesses, providing multiple benefits to regional communities and the economy;</li> <li>▪ people have opportunities to enjoy marine parks;</li> <li>▪ visitors and tourists can enjoy world-class nature-based experiences in marine parks;</li> <li>▪ Indigenous people and marine park users are partners in managing marine parks.</li> </ul>	
Marine science program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Increase understanding of marine park values, pressures and adequacy of responses</li> <li>▪ Improve understanding of the effectiveness of marine park management in protecting park values</li> <li>▪ Informed decision-making and improved evidence-based decisions</li> </ul>
Compliance program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Increased levels of voluntary compliance and self-regulation by marine park users</li> <li>▪ High overall levels of compliance with the rules by marine park users</li> </ul>
Assessments and authorisations program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Assessments and authorisations ensure ongoing protection of marine park values through the management of activities in marine parks</li> </ul>

\*The management programs relate to activities in the North, North-west, South-west and Temperate East Marine Park Networks, and the Coral Sea Marine Park. If considering activities related to the management of the South-east Marine Park Network, applicants should consider how the outcomes of their project relate to the Management Strategies for that network.

## Management Strategies for the South-east Marine Parks Network

Only refer to these management strategies if your application relates ONLY to the South-east Marine Parks Network.

*Note: The following is an extract of the Management Strategies from the South-east Commonwealth Marine Reserves Network Management Plan 2013-2023. Grant applicants should refer to the management plan – which is available on the [Australian Marine Parks website](#).*

Strategy 1— Improve knowledge and understanding of the conservation values of the Marine Reserves Network and of the pressures on those values.

Strategy 2— Minimise impacts of activities through effective assessment of proposals, decision-making and management of reserve-specific issues.

Strategy 3— Protect the conservation values of the Marine Reserves Network through management of environmental incidents.

Strategy 4— Facilitate compliance with this Management Plan through education and enforcement.

Strategy 5— Promote community understanding of, and stakeholder participation in, the management of the Marine Reserves Network.

Strategy 6— Support involvement of Indigenous people in management of Commonwealth Marine Reserves.

Strategy 7— Evaluate and report on the effectiveness of this Management Plan through monitoring and review.