

2021 Aboriginal Community Caring for Country Grants

Guidelines



Warning: Health and safety is paramount

You must put in place relevant Work Health Safety policies and procedures to ensure the safety of those undertaking grant activities.

You must comply with any government measures and requirements in relation to coronavirus (COVID-19). Stay up to date at dhhs.vic.gov.au/coronavirus

Acknowledgements

We acknowledge and respect Victorian Traditional Owners as the original custodians of Victoria's land and waters, their unique ability to Care for Country and deep spiritual connect to it. We honour Elders past and present whose knowledge and wisdom has ensure the continuation of cultur and traditional practices.

We are committed to genuinely partner, and meaningfully engage, with Victoria's Traditional Owners and Aboriginal communities to support the protection of Country, the maintenance of spiritual and cultural practices and their broader aspirations in the 21st century and beyond.

DELWP supports the aim of Pupangarli Marnmarnepu to supports Traditional Owners' rights on Country so that their aspirations for land, water and culture are realised, and build better relationships between the wider community and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples for the benefit of all Australians. It is important that staff and stakeholders understand and respect the significance of recognising the Traditional Owners of the land.

Pupangarli Marnmarnepu means 'owning our future' (Wadi Wadi/Mutti Mutti language) embodies what it means for Traditional Owners to be self-determining. We aim towards a future where the concept of pupangarli marnmarnepu is embedded, so that Victoria's First People are in control of their future.

We acknowledge that Aboriginal Victorians have a right to make choices that best reflect them on their journey to self-determination; that is our responsibility to partner with Traditional Owners and Aboriginal Victorians to advance self-determination.

Photo credit

These photos are from Winda Mara Aboriginal Corporation - Traditional Owner 2018 Traditional Owner & Aboriginal Victorian Group Initiative grant funding.

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Accessibility

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2021 Aboriginal Community Caring for Country Grants

<p>About the program</p>	<p>The 2021 Aboriginal Caring for Country Grants are part of the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning's Biodiversity on-ground action program and aim to support Traditional Owners' rights on Country and drive Aboriginal self-determination by supporting Aboriginal communities to identify, understand and apply Aboriginal values and traditional ecological knowledge in the management of Country to enable healthy Country and healthy people.</p> <p>These grants support the Department's commitment to Aboriginal self-determination. Pupangarli Marnmarnepu 'Owning Our Future' is the Department's roadmap to building a better future with Traditional Owners and Aboriginal Victorians, through systemic and structural change that fully supports Aboriginal decision-making, evaluation and talent building to inform its policy and projects.</p> <p>The Strategy roadmap has five domains, and these grants focus on two domains in particular, where DELWP:</p> <p>People - is culturally capable and safe; recognising, supporting, valuing and embracing Aboriginal decision making</p> <p>Country - supports Traditional Owners' rights on Country so that their aspirations for land, water and culture are realised.</p> <p>Other funding opportunities from the Biodiversity on-ground action program available to Victorian Aboriginal communities in 2021 include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Port Phillip Bay Fund • Community Volunteer Action Grants • Victorian Junior Landcare and Biodiversity Grants • Victorian Landcare Grants <p>You can learn more about these grants at environment.vic.gov.au/grants</p>
<p>Grant Objectives</p>	<p>The 2021 Aboriginal Community Caring for Country Grants aim to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support Traditional Owners' rights on Country and drive Aboriginal self-determination so that aspirations for land, water and culture are realised • Recognise and include Aboriginal values and Traditional Ecological Knowledge in the management of Country • Provide opportunities for Aboriginal communities to access Country and biodiversity for community, cultural and economic development • Build capability and skills to care for Country including understanding how to manage local native plants and animals • Support Aboriginal communities achieve healthy Country and people <p>And through these actions address threats to biodiversity, improve and expand habitat and help native species and ecosystems become more resilient to climate change impacts.</p>
<p>Available funding</p>	<p>Funding of \$350,000 is available for grants in 2021. Grants are available to successful applicants through two separate grant streams with a minimum application of \$4,000 and the upper limit described below.</p> <p>The grants are available for single projects.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stream 1 – Connecting Aboriginal Communities with Knowledge to Care for Country – up to \$25,000 • Stream 2 – Delivering Caring for Country – up to \$50,000

Key dates	<p>Applications Close 12pm, Thursday 22 April 2021</p> <p>Successful applicants notified June 2021</p> <p>Agreements signed July 2021</p> <p>Job Safety Plan Submitted September 2021</p> <p>Project completed 30 June 2022</p> <p>Final report due 5 August 2022</p> <p><i>Projects must be delivered within 12 months and project extensions will not be granted.</i></p>
Project location	<p>Public and/or private land in Victoria.</p> <p>Applications must include written consent of the landowner.</p>
Who can apply?	<p>Applicants that can demonstrate their fit one of the following categories are eligible to apply:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any Victorian Traditional Owner or Aboriginal community group with an interest in caring for Country to achieve healthy Country and healthy people. Incorporated Victorian Traditional Owner and Aboriginal Victorian organisations. <p>Applicant groups must either be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a not-for-profit organisation registered with the Australian Charities and Not for Profit Commission at the time of the application, or an incorporated body either registered through Consumer Affairs Victoria or an incorporated association under the Commonwealth Corporations (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander) Act 2006.
What are the eligibility criteria?	<p>To be eligible for funding applicants must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> have public liability (\$10 million minimum) and personal accident insurance cover to safeguard volunteers and participants involved in the funded activities, and possess an Australian Business Number (ABN) or provide a completed Australian Tax form (statement by supplier) so that no withholding tax is required from the grant payment. <p>If you do not meet the eligibility criteria described above, you can partner with a group, organisation or Aboriginal business who meet these requirements.</p>
Ineligible applicants	<p>Recipients of previous grants with outstanding project completion reports are ineligible for further funding until funding reporting requirements have been met.</p> <p>If any of the following categories describes you or your group, you are ineligible to apply for these grants:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Non-Aboriginal group or organisation Private individuals Local government State government departments Commonwealth government departments
Do we need an auspice (sponsor)?	<p>If you do not meet the eligibility criteria described above, you can partner with a group, organisation or Aboriginal business who meet these requirements.</p> <p>The auspicings group, organisation or Aboriginal business will enter into a contract with us and will be legally responsible for the project. They will receive the money from us and be responsible for reporting and acquitting the funds, but they will likely expect you to help or do this, even though the legal requirement is theirs.</p> <p>You will need to include an email or letter from your auspice (sponsor) in your application, showing that they agree to take on this responsibility for you.</p>

<p>Who can act as auspice (sponsor)?</p>	<p>Potential auspicing organisations include: corporations, Aboriginal businesses, catchment management authorities, water authorities, local government, statutory authorities and Parks Victoria.</p> <p>The auspicing group, organisation or Aboriginal business who can sponsor you must have \$10 million public liability insurance, with enough construction allowance to cover the project and be either:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • incorporated through Consumer Affairs Victoria, or • have an ABN with Australian Charities and Not-for-profit Commission registration.
<p>Budget and GST</p>	<p>If you are <u>not</u> registered for GST</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • you should include the <u>total</u> cost of your expenses <u>including GST</u> where applicable. • ensure that the budget in your application covers your total costs (e.g. include the impact of any GST on your purchases) so you are not out of pocket. • for example, if Contractors have quoted \$11,000 including GST, then request the full \$11,000. <p>If you <u>are</u> registered for GST</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • you should <u>not</u> include GST in your budget expenses • if you are registered for GST, where applicable we will pay the grant amount plus GST. The budget provided in your application should be <u>exclusive of GST</u>. • for example, if Contractors have quoted \$11,000 including GST, then you will request only \$10,000. <p>When developing budgets, you should ensure that activity items such as equipment, materials and contractor charges are fully costed. Refer to the Terms and Conditions of the Victorian Common Funding Agreement Victorian Common Funding Agreement forms and templates Victorian Government (www.vic.gov.au) for more information</p> <p>We encourage applicants to provide quotes from contractors to support their application.</p>
<p>Eligible actions</p>	<p>Projects should support Traditional Owners' aspirations for Country and drive Aboriginal self-determination by providing opportunities for Aboriginal communities to access and connect with Country, undertake training to build capability and skills to deliver caring for Country activities and deliver outcomes within the following scope:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Activities that enable learning and sharing of Aboriginal values and Traditional Ecological Knowledge within Aboriginal communities to better understand and care for Country • On-ground activities that aim to care for Country • Cultural activities that support Aboriginal communities to connect with Country • Activities that support Aboriginal training and employment outcomes related to caring for Country

Eligible items	<p>The program will support the following categories of expenditure noting that this is not an exhaustive list.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advertising, printing/design, postage • Assessment and monitoring of wildlife and plants, such as citizen science • Capital items & equipment <i>must become a registered asset of the entity and have a lifespan beyond one year. Where possible, hire, borrow or share assets between groups rather than purchased for one-off projects.</i> • Contractors <i>must demonstrate that this is work that your group is unable to carry out due to specialised skills, equipment and safety considerations, be appropriately licenced, insured and trained, follow best practice and any label and legal requirements. Any contractor that is engaged must have a COVID-safe plan in place.</i> • Educational signage • Engagement or training event • Expert advice for the protection of cultural heritage • Fencing • Hire of equipment or vehicles for transport • Materials <i>(e.g. fencing, plants, mulch, weed management chemicals etc)</i> • Native vegetation protection and restoration <i>using Indigenous tube stock or smaller cell plants and seeds are eligible.</i> • Personal protective equipment • Pest animal control • Project management or coordination • Purchase of iPad or laptop for data collection <i>(not for personal use)</i> • Rubbish removal/reduction from habitat • Terrestrial feature <i>Seek expert advice for the species you are targeting. Record locations of features to ensure that they are not taken over by feral bees and non-target species.</i> • Threatened species activities <i>undertaken under expert supervision, and where applicable, must be in line with requirements for the species identified through plans and under permit.</i> • Venue hire and accommodation other event costs <i>associated with project activities</i> • Waterway and wetland restoration. <i>You may require Works on Waterways approval from the Catchment Management Authority and other relevant approvals before undertaking your activities and recognise that this may take time to process.</i> • Weed control <i>work must be carried out by appropriately licenced, insured and trained persons and must follow best practice, label and legal requirements.</i> <p>There are no caps or limits for eligible items. However, value for money will be considered as part of the assessment process.</p>
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<p>Ineligible activities / budget items</p>	<p>Funding will NOT be provided for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Activities (or components) already funded through another organisation, program or fund source. Your project can build on the success of past or existing projects but must be new work. • Any activity or costs associated with native vegetation offset sites to meet a condition of a permit, contract or investment program. • Any activity or costs to manage/control cats or Indian mynahs which are not declared pest species. • Clearing of native vegetation unless it is a declared environmental weed in your area. In this instance, a permit for removal of vegetation may still be required. • Development of recreational facilities, beautification, purely artistic projects or focussed on improving amenity. • Erosion control structures. • Fencing of title boundaries. • High risk activities involving the use of firearms, tranquilisers, traps or explosives (excluding the use of confinement traps allowed under permit and expert supervision for monitoring projects). • Infrastructure or engineering works for example boardwalk, greenhouse. Note: tracks may be considered where they are not for amenity or recreational purposes. • Non-indigenous or advanced plants. • Positions (such as facilitators, staff or project management costs) that are already funded through other investment. • Where a cost share arrangement is inherent in a project, groups cannot apply for activities that should be delivered as the cost share contribution. For example, you cannot request funds for weed control on a planting project where you were required to undertake the weed control as your contribution. • Projects not relating to the understanding or protection of Country. • Purchase of goods or services for competitions, prizes, giveaways, vouchers or alcohol. • Purchase or use of barbed wire fencing.
<p>Co-contribution</p>	<p>Do groups need to contribute to their project's budget?</p> <p>Applicants do not need to contribute direct funding to a project. However, an application that demonstrates in-kind contribution provides greater value for money.</p> <p>Contribution can be in various forms and include time, expertise, equipment, donated materials or funds. Projects should demonstrate how it supports community members to actively participate in caring for Country.</p> <p>How do I calculate the value of our volunteer contribution?</p> <p>Volunteer contributions (time) of activity is costed as \$40 per person per hour of in-kind contribution. It will be calculated in your application. You will need to estimate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of volunteers participating at event/s • Number of event days • Hours volunteered per day.

<p>How to apply?</p>	<p>Submit applications online using the DELWP Grants Online portal. Use the links below to start your application and click on the 'Start New Application' button.</p> <p><u>Stream 1 - Connecting Aboriginal Communities with Knowledge to Care for Country</u></p> <p><u>Stream 2 - Delivering Caring for Country</u></p> <p>To return to a saved draft application, click on the 'Access Saved Application' button. You can save your application and work on it until you are ready to submit it. We recommend that you start your application as early as possible.</p> <p>To access existing drafts or submitted applications go to https://delwp1.force.com/</p> <p>You will need to register for an account before commencing your application. When you start your application in the Grants Portal you will receive an application number.</p> <p>Your application can only be accessed by one set of login details. We recommend signing up to the Grants Portal with a generic group/organisation email, if you have one.</p> <p>Remember to save your draft application as you work on it, until you are ready to submit it.</p> <p>Submit your application by 12pm, 22 April 2021. Late and incomplete applications will not be considered.</p> <p>If you require technical assistance submitting your application online contact the Customer Contact Centre on 136 186 during normal business hours or email granstinfo@delwp.vic.gov.au. Please quote your application number and "Aboriginal Community Caring for Country Grants" in your communications with DELWP.</p>
<p>What supporting documents do I need to provide?</p>	<p>Please supply the following documents with your application:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Written support from the relevant Traditional Owner group and land manager to undertake work or activity on their Country. • Budget details using the Budget and Activities templates: <u>Stream 1 Budget and Activities template</u> <u>Stream 2 Budget and Activities template</u> • A PDF map generated using <u>MapShare</u> of proposed work area – location, names and project area (hectares). • Insurances - a copy of your public liability insurance certificate of currency. • A list of indigenous plants (Stream 2 applicants only - if relevant). • Supporting documents must be in an acceptable file type, such as Word, Excel, PDF, or JPEG. The maximum file size for each file is 5MB. <p>Only one file can be uploaded for each upload type in the application form. If you have more than one file to upload (for example, multiple landholder support letters), zip these into a file and then upload the file.</p> <p>If you have documents to submit that cannot be attached to your online application, you can email them to enviro.grants@delwp.vic.gov.au quoting your application number.</p> <p>Attach all documents to one email, zipping the files if required. All supporting material must be received by the application deadline.</p> <p>Make sure your application is submitted by 12pm, Thursday 22 April 2021.</p>
<p>Creating maps</p>	<p>Stream 1 applicants are not required to submit a map.</p> <p>Stream 2 applicants will need to provide a map of their proposed project to complete their application. Refer to <u>How to create a map</u>.</p> <p>You can use <u>MapShare</u> to identify the location of your project and generate an attachment for your application.</p>

Things to check early	<p>Permits and approvals</p> <p>It is wise to check early what permits and approvals you may need, and to factor additional time and costs into your project timeframe and budget.</p> <p>You need to identify the public and private land managers for all project sites and discuss the project with them. Check if they would agree to your project, and if other further approvals or permits are required. Give them adequate time to consider your project.</p> <p>Auspikor (sponsor)</p> <p>If your group or organisation needs an auspicor (sponsor), you will need to provide written confirmation (letter or email) before contracts are issued, that they agree to act as your auspicor.</p>
Things to check when planning	<p>Parks Victoria contractor agreements</p> <p>Work on Parks Victoria land which engages a contractor will require entry into a three-way partnership agreement, known as C-220 Project External Funding Form. Contact Parks Victoria on 131 963 for more information.</p> <p>Research or science permits</p> <p>If activities require scientific or expert involvement, obtain advice before including the activity in your application. This could include seeking advice on genetics, planting for specific species such as Mallee fowl, waterways work, research permits, including fauna surveys such as bat monitoring and citizen science projects.</p> <p>Contact Arthur Rylah Institute on 03 9450 8600 or via email research.ARI@delwp.vic.gov.au</p> <p>Health safety and COVID-19</p> <p>Your projects must be undertaken in accordance with the latest public health measures, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Before undertaking any activity, please contact your program manager or land manager and adhere to any program specific safety requirements • Ensure any contractor your group engages has a COVIDSafe plan in place. Request a copy of the plan and keep it on file. • Collect an attendance record on site with name and phone numbers of all volunteers • Follow the maximum participation numbers <p>Adhere to wearing fitted face masks, physical distancing and good hygiene practices as per DHHS guidelines.</p> <p>Native vegetation and planning</p> <p>Native vegetation are plants that are indigenous to Victoria, including trees, shrubs, herbs and grasses. Native vegetation provides habitat for plants and animals and delivers a range of ecosystem services that make land more productive and contribute to human well-being.</p> <p>In Victoria, a permit is usually required to remove, destroy or lop native vegetation. These regulations are known as the native vegetation removal regulations and are primarily implemented through local council planning schemes.</p> <p>When planning your projects, please consider the following information: environment.vic.gov.au/native-vegetation/native-vegetation</p>
How many applications can we submit?	<p>Groups may submit more than one application but must demonstrate that projects in each application target distinctly separate sites.</p> <p>Projects must be clearly different and project activities must not overlap.</p> <p>Projects must be 'stand-alone' in that they can be delivered separately from other projects or activities that are already funded by other programs.</p>
Assessing applications	<p>Applications will be assessed by a panel of Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) staff and sector representatives based on the criteria outlined below. Applications must meet a passable standard in each criterion to be considered for funding.</p> <p>Non-completion of projects and overdue reports from previous funding rounds will be taken into account as part of the assessment.</p>

When will I be notified?	<p>All applicants will be notified of the result following the completion of the assessment process. Please be patient as it can take some time to assess and seek approvals before groups can be notified.</p> <p>Successful projects will also be announced and published on the DELWP website. We encourage unsuccessful applicants to seek for feedback on their application.</p>
If our project is successful, when will we be paid?	<p>Successful recipients will need to enter into a contract with DELWP.</p> <p>A single upfront payment will be made when all paperwork has been completed and submitted to DELWP. There are no further payments.</p> <p>If you have an auspisor, then they will receive the contract and payment on your behalf.</p>

Stream 1 – Connecting Aboriginal Communities with Knowledge to Care for Country

Grants are available for up to \$25,000 which seek to connect Aboriginal communities with Country to better understand Aboriginal values and traditional ecological knowledge, and to develop the skills to care for Country to support healthy Country and healthy people.

This grant stream aims to:

- Support Traditional Owners' rights on Country and drive Aboriginal self-determination so that their aspirations for land, water and culture are realised
- Provide opportunities for Aboriginal communities to access Country and biodiversity for community, cultural and economic development
- Support Aboriginal communities to connect with Country to better understand Aboriginal values and traditional ecological knowledge
- Build capability and skills to care for Country including understanding how to manage local native plants and animals to achieve healthy Country and healthy people

Assessment criteria

Stream 1 Assessment Criteria	Value	Description
Aboriginal Self-determination	30%	Extent to which Aboriginal communities are leading the project design and delivery based on aspirations for Country and alignment with Country Plans.
Aboriginal Community Outcomes	30%	Extent to which Victorian Aboriginal communities participate in the project to better understand Aboriginal values and traditional ecological knowledge, and build capability and skills to care for Country.
Caring for Country outcomes	20%	Extent to which project outcomes will contribute to maintaining and improving the overall health of Country, including protecting native plants and animals.
Risk Management	10%	Extent to which application identifies potential risks to the project and adequate actions to remove, manage or reduce the risks.
Budget	10%	Extent to which the project represents good value for money by delivering multiple outcomes, realistic costs and clear, transparent justification of items for activities and in-kind contribution.

Connecting Aboriginal Communities with Knowledge to Care for Country

An Aboriginal community group survey their young members to understand what interests them about culture and Country.

The group coordinate six weekends in the year to camp on Country to protect bird nests and chicks from being trampled on the beach.

The Elders meet on Country to share their knowledge and the group employ an ecologist to work with the members to support cultural and scientific understanding to collect information on the native fauna at the beach, their habitat, threats and breeding cycle.

The members erect fencing around important habitat, plant to increase habitat and survey for the presence of birds and their predators over the weekends.

The results are then presented and discussed with the community at an event at the beach.

Stream 2 – Delivering Caring for Country

Grants are available for up to \$50,000 which seek to support Aboriginal communities to undertake caring for Country projects that apply Aboriginal values and traditional ecological knowledge to support healthy Country and healthy people.

This grant stream aims to:

- Support Traditional Owners' rights on Country and drive Aboriginal self-determination so that their aspirations for land, water and culture are realised
- Provide opportunities for Aboriginal communities to access Country and biodiversity for community, cultural and economic development
- Apply Aboriginal values and traditional ecological knowledge in the management of native plants and animals to achieve healthy Country and healthy people
- Address threats to biodiversity to improve and expand habitat and help native species and ecosystems become more resilient to climate change impacts.

Assessment criteria

Assessment Criteria	Value	Description
Aboriginal Self-determination	30%	Extent to which Aboriginal communities are leading the project design and delivery based on aspirations for Country and alignment with Country Plans.
Aboriginal Community Outcomes	20%	Extent to which Aboriginal communities participate in project to better understand Aboriginal values and traditional ecological knowledge and build capability and skills to care for Country.
Caring for Country outcomes	30%	Extent to which project outcomes will contribute to maintaining and improving the overall health of Country, including protecting native plants, animals.
Risk Management	10%	Extent to which application identifies potential risks to the project and adequate actions to remove, manage or reduce the risks.
Budget	10%	Extent to which the project represents good value for money by delivering multiple outcomes, realistic costs and clear, transparent justification of items for activities and in-kind contribution.

Delivering Caring for Country

A group would like to undertake pest plant and animal control on an area of bush that is important to them. However, they need to build their skills and qualifications before they can fully participate in control measures.

Several group members complete chemical user training for the safe handling of chemicals.

On completion, a couple of the members also apply for an Agriculture Chemical User Permit to enable the use of restricted chemicals so that they can bait for foxes.

The group then schedule a few days each season to complete pest plant and animal control to improve the bush site.

Terms and Conditions

Conditions of funding

- Successful applicants and auspicious (if an auspicious is used) are required to:
- have appropriate land manager / landowner approvals and relevant permits;
- enter into a funding agreement with DELWP. Information about the Victorian Common Funding Agreement can be found at: vic.gov.au/victorian-common-funding-agreement
- be responsible for meeting contractual obligations to deliver the project and report on its success by the due date;
- adhere to all relevant legislation including Occupational Health and Safety requirements, and child safe standards;
- acknowledge the Victorian Government funding in publications and promotions; and
- work with DELWP to identify and promote major project milestones and completion.

Legislative and regulatory requirements

In delivering the activity grant recipients are required to comply with all relevant Commonwealth and state/territory legislations and regulations, including but not limited to:

- *The Privacy Act 1988 (Commonwealth)*
- *The Freedom of Information Act 1982 (Vic)*
- *Occupational Health and Safety Act 2004*

Tax implications

Applicants should consult the Australian Taxation Office or seek professional advice on any taxation implications that may arise from this grant funding.

Successful applicants without an ABN will need to provide a completed Australian Taxation Office form 'Statement by a Supplier' so that no withholding tax is required from the grant payment.

Monitoring and Reporting

Grant recipients are required to comply with monitoring and reporting requirements as outlined in the funding agreement. This may include progress reports, photos, videos, case study, site inspection, completion reports and acquittal documentation.

On completion of a project the group will need to submit a final report to acquit the funds and demonstrate the outcomes of the project. Recipients will have four weeks from their project end delivery date to submit their final report.

Photos of Projects

DELWP may use the photos and materials you provide as part of your reporting, to publicise funded projects, and may retain the photos for future possible use in other communications materials. Please refer to the standard terms and conditions of the [Participant Photography Consent Form](#).

Videos of Projects

DELWP may use the videos you provide as part of your reporting, to publicise funded projects, and may retain the videos for future possible use in other communications materials. Please refer to the standard terms and conditions of the [Participant Video Consent Form](#).

Acknowledging the Victorian Government for their support

Successful applicants are expected to acknowledge the Victorian Government's support and promotional guidelines will form part of the funding agreement. Please read the [Acknowledgment and Publicity Guidelines for Victorian Government Funding Support](#).

Successful applicants must liaise with the departmental program area to coordinate any public events or announcements related to the project.

Privacy Collection Statement

The Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) is committed to protecting personal information provided by you in accordance with the principles of the Victorian privacy laws.

The information you provide will be used to:

- assess your application for grant funding 2021/22 including to check for previous funding compliance issues;
- announce successful applicants in media releases by describing the work you will undertake as part of your grant from the department;
- publish a list of successful applicants including local government area and amount funded on the DELWP website and/or social media pages; and
- contact you regarding program updates and to notify you of future funding.

The information you provide will be made available to the Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change delegates including ministerial office staff and DELWP employees in the assessment and compliance stages as well as internal communications staff for publishing on the DELWP website and social media pages.

If you need to request confidentiality, please contact enviro.grants@delwp.vic.gov.au quoting your application number and reason for requesting confidentiality.

More information about the [DELWP Privacy Policy](#).

Pupangarli Marnmarnepu – Aboriginal Self-Determination Reform Strategy 2020-2025

Pupangarli Marnmarnepu – Aboriginal Self-Determination Reform Strategy 2020-2025 is the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning's (DELWP) commitment to partner with Victoria's First People's to advance self-determination. The Biodiversity on-ground action program works towards this vision by supporting Traditional Owners' rights on Country so that their aspirations for land, water and culture are realised.

Victorian Aboriginal Affairs Framework 2018-2023 (VAAF)

The VAAF is the Victorian Government's overarching framework for working with Aboriginal Victorians, organisations and the wider community to drive action and improve outcomes.

The VAAF sets a clear direction for how government will 'Plan', 'Act', 'Measure' and 'Evaluate' to progress change across government, address inequity and deliver stronger outcomes for and with Aboriginal Victorians.

Victorian Government Self-Determination Reform Framework (SDRF)

The SDRF guides government action to enable self-determination in line with the VAAF. It also provides an architecture for government departments like DELWP to report annually on this action, outlining an outcomes-based approach to transform government systems and structures to enable self-determination.

Traditional Owner Country Plans

Traditional Owner Country Plans express the vision, aspirations, strategies and actions of Traditional Owners for their Country. Traditional Owner Country Plans support Traditional Owners in communicating their rights, cultural authority or interest in Country.

If you have a Country Plan, we encourage you to use this to develop your project.

If you don't have a Country Plan, you could develop a project that seeks to begin to develop one.

Protecting Victoria's Environment - Biodiversity 2037

Protecting Victoria's Environment – Biodiversity 2037 is the Victorian State Government's policy response to addressing the decline in biodiversity. The Biodiversity Plan presents a long-term vision for Victoria's biodiversity supported by two goals:

1. Victorians Value Nature, and
2. Victoria's natural environment is healthy.

Specific targets have been developed to deliver on these goals, and 20 priorities have been identified to guide actions. Conservation actions delivered through the plan will be more strategic, deliver better value for money and will be underpinned by the best available science to ensure efforts deliver the most benefit for the most species. A collaborative *Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting Framework* has been developed to track the progress of achieving the Plan's goals and targets.

Useful Resources

Incorporation through Consumer Affairs Victoria

To find your group's incorporation number, and for information about incorporating, please visit the Consumer Affairs Victoria website: consumer.vic.gov.au/clubs-and-not-for-profits/incorporated-associations

Child Safe Standards

For information about Child Safe Standards, please visit the Department of Health and Human Services website: providers.dhhs.vic.gov.au/resources-child-safe-standards

Land manager consent to undertake works

Applicants may need to demonstrate that the site land managers, both public and private, support the project being carried out on the land they manage. A short letter or email from your land manager will need to be attached to your application. Formal approval is not required at the application stage.

Example land manager statement of support

I, <name> of <organisation> support <insert activities as per this project> occurring on <site address>. My contact details are <insert contact phone number/email>.

Occupational Health and Safety

For information about Occupational Health and Safety, please visit the Landcare Gateway website: landcarevic.org.au/resources/health-and-safety

Citizen science project planning

swift.net.au/cb_pages/citizen_science.php

More information

For more information about these grants, contact Jackson Chatfield on 0419 504 451 or email enviro.grants@delwp.vic.gov.au.

For technical support with Grants Online, email grantsinfo@delwp.vic.gov.au or contact the DELWP Customer Service Centre on 136 186 and quote your application number.

For further advice and information about land use consent (where required), go to:

- **Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP)** biodiversity officer advice on BRP focus landscapes or for works on crown land, call 136 186 or contact your local DELWP office.
- **Parks Victoria** for parks and reserves, call 131 963 or your local Park Contact. Refer above for further information about approvals.
- **Catchment Management Authorities** for regional priorities and works on designated waterways.
- **Local Council** planning staff for council owned land. Local government planning staff for -council owned land
knowyourcouncil.vic.gov.au
- **Water Authorities** for water supply catchment areas.

