

Caring for our Country Element	Purpose	Eligible Organisations	Funding and Timeline	Approved Projects	Timetable for Funding Applications
Regional Natural Resource Management Organisations Guaranteed Base Level Funding	The guaranteed funding will provide regions with certainty and the ability to move forward.	Regional natural resource management organisations.	\$636 million over the five years.	Regional natural resource management organisations were informed of their base level funding under Caring for our Country for 2009-10 to 2012-13 on 12 February 2009. Proposals to be assessed annually under the Caring for our Country business plan.	Applications for 2009-10 funding are due 3 April 2009 as requested in the 2009-10 Business Plan.
Landcare Sustainable Practices Grants	Landcare Sustainable Practices aims to encourage community and primary production groups to undertake on-ground activities that can significantly increase the uptake of sustainable production practices, and improve the integration of NRM into business plans at the enterprise level.	Grants are open to community and primary production groups.	\$27.902 million over three years.	140 projects approved (\$17.2m in 2008-09; \$7.7m in 2009-10; and \$3m in 2010-11).	Applications for 2009-10 funding are due 3 April 2009 as requested in the 2009-10 Business Plan.
Community Coastcare	Community Coastcare Grants will help local communities better protect our precious coastal environment.	Grants are open to coastal communities including coastal and Landcare groups, surf clubs, Indigenous groups, individuals, schools, local governments and natural resource management authorities.	\$100 million over five years.	443 projects approved (\$21.4m in 2008-09; \$2.6m in 2009-10).	Applications for 2009-10 funding are due 3 April 2009 as requested in the 2009-10 Business Plan.
Open Grants	Funding was available for high quality projects in the six Caring for our Country national priority areas, particularly those that would protect, enhance or restore Australia's biodiversity and natural icons, improve the water quality of our critical aquatic habitats or achieve greater take-up of sustainable farm practices.	Anyone could apply as long as they were a legal entity. For example regional/catchment natural resource management bodies, non-government organisations, incorporated community, industry and Indigenous groups, businesses, research organisations, Commonwealth, State, Territory and Local Governments and individuals.	\$25.8 million in 2008-09 and \$3.2 million in 2009-10.	138 projects approved (\$25.8 million in 2008-09 and \$3.2 million in 2009-10).	Applications for 2009-10 funding are due 3 April 2009 as requested in the 2009-10 Business Plan.

Working on Country	The delivery of environmental services for the Australian Government by Indigenous people.	Indigenous groups or organisations wanting to undertake natural resource management activities, that are defined by a community agreed management plan. On-ground works must be performed by Indigenous People. A legally incorporated, non-for-profit organisation may manage the project on behalf of an applicant organisation. Non-Indigenous groups or organisations must demonstrate support from the relevant Indigenous community group and Traditional Owners to jointly undertake a project. Australian, state or territory government department or agency not eligible to apply for, or manage a project.	\$90 million over five years.	17 projects approved (\$44.6m over 5 years).	Applications for 2009-10 funding are due 3 April 2009 as requested in the 2009-10 Business Plan.
National Reserve System	The National Reserve System will help to conserve Australia's distinctive landscapes, plants and animals through a comprehensive, adequate and representative system of reserves across Australia	Government, non-government and community organisations	\$180 million over five years	33 projects approved (\$25.7m).	Applications for 2009-10 funding are due 3 April 2009 as requested in the 2009-10 Business Plan.
Reef Rescue	Reef Rescue's objective is to improve the water quality of the Great Barrier Reef lagoon by increasing the adoption of land management practices that reduce the run-off of nutrients, pesticides and sediments from agricultural land.	Proponents must be registered as a potential Reef Rescue delivery agent through the Caring for our Country business plan, and a legal entity (e.g. body corporate, incorporated association, trustee etc, except an individual). Non-incorporated parties may partner with a legal entity that is prepared to accept and administer funds if the proposal is successful. Investment proposals will be accepted from partnerships of proponents that can demonstrate their capacity to deliver natural resource management programs to agricultural land managers.	Reef Rescue is made up of five integrated components that will work together to achieve the above objective:  Water Quality Grants (\$146 million over five years) Reef Partnerships (\$12 million over five years) Land and Sea Country Indigenous Partnerships (\$10 million over five years) Reef Water Quality Research and Development (\$10 million over five years) Water Quality Monitoring and Reporting, including the publication of an annual Great Barrier Reef Water Quality Report Card (\$22 million over five years)	\$30 million approved under the various components of Reef Rescue.	Applications for 2009-10 funding are due 3 April 2009 as requested in the 2009-10 Business Plan.

Environmental Stewardship	Environmental Stewardship provides market-based incentives for private land managers for the long term protection and rehabilitation of targeted matters of National Environmental Significance (as listed under the Environmental and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999) occurring on their land.	You are eligible for participation in Environmental Stewardship projects if you own or manage freehold, leasehold or native title land which has priority environmental assets that have been identified under a specific call for expressions of interest. Each project implemented by Environmental Stewardship will specify additional criteria such as the type, location, condition and size of the environmental asset in a call for expressions particular to that project. Success in obtaining a contract will be determined through a tender process and/or other market-based	\$42.5 million over four years	97 projects approved on 11 February 2009.	Applications for 2009-10 funding are due 3 April 2009 as requested in the 2009-10 Business Plan.
Addressing the cane toad menace	To address the cane toad menace by supporting activities that are consistent with a national cane toad plan.	Community and research organisations were able to seek funding through the Caring for our Country Open Grants.	\$2 million over two years.	Six funding proposals have been selected for funding in 2008/2009.	Applications under Open Grants closed on 1 August 2008.
Improving the health of the Tuggerah Lakes Estuary system	Implementation of elements of the Tuggerah Lakes Estuary Management Plan to improve the management of water quality in the Lakes.	Wyong Shire Council	\$20 million over five years.	First payment of \$1.83 million was made in January 2009.	N/A
Improving water quality in the Gippsland Lakes	To improve water quality in the Gippsland Lakes.	The Australian Government is working with the East Gippsland Shire Council and the Gippsland Lakes Taskforce through the West Gippsland Catchment Management Authority.	\$5.25 million over three years.	Under negotiation.	N/A
Saving the Tasmanian Devil	To extend and expand work underway as part of the <i>Save the Tasmanian Devil</i> program.	The Australian Government is working with the Tasmanian Government.	\$10 million over five years.	The 2008-09 contract between the Australian and Tasmanian Governments was signed in early February 2009.	N/A