

2011 - 12 Investment Project

RB12-00039-2



CARING
FOR
OUR
COUNTRY

This is a record of your completed regional base level funding 2011-12 Caring for our Country project. This record was generated on 16/05/2011.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF PROJECT

Project title

Please provide a title which clearly indicates what your project will achieve

Engaging Indigenous communities in the management of natural resources

Project Summary

Please provide a short description of your project. This summary will be used to communicate about your project e.g. in media announcements and in the Funding Agreement. The information should be consistent with what you give later in the application.

This project will support the engagement of Indigenous people, communities and groups across the range of Caring for our Country projects in the SA Murray-Darling Basin, including those funded through the SA MDB NRM Board's base-level funding and other existing and new open call and Community Action Grant projects from a range of proponents. The project will also continue the SA MDB NRM Board's highly successful 'Aboriginal Learning on Country' (ALoC) program by creating and promoting meaningful training and employment opportunities that deliver high quality, large-scale on-ground works that make significant contributions towards the Caring for our Country targets.

Proposed duration

Proposed start date (mm/yyyy)

07/2011

Proposed completion date (mm/yyyy)

06/2013

State:

South Australia

NRM Region:

South Australian Murray Darling Basin

Regional Body:

South Australian Murray Darling Basin NRM Board

Are you authorised to act on behalf of the selected regional body?

Yes

If dividing your base-level project into separate projects, describe how the projects are linked or integrated.

This project supports the engagement of Indigenous people, communities and groups across the base-level projects in the SA MDB.

Please identify any other projects that are linked to this one, and any projects (for example, new Caring for our Country, existing or new State/Territory projects) that you are aware of that may have synergies with this one.

This project will continue to support a number of existing projects or project elements that will be occurring in 2011-12:
Indigenous engagement in the Pike Floodplain CfoC Project.
Riverland Rangers - Working on Country Regional.
Engagement of Indigenous communities by Local Action Planning Groups (via 2010-11 CfoC Business Plan base-level funding).

This project supports the delivery of a number of existing external projects or project elements that will be occurring

in 2011-12:

Indigenous engagement projects around the Coorong, Lower Lakes and Murray Mouth.
Working on Country projects based at Raukkan and Meningie.

This project has assisted in the development of new project proposals (in prep) and will support their delivery if successful:

Riverland Ramsar CfoC project - Indigenous engagement elements.

SA MDB Pike CfoC project - Indigenous engagement elements.

SA MDB Rangelands CfoC project - Indigenous engagement elements.

CfoC projects being developed by the Ngarrindjeri Regional Authority and the Raukkan Council.

If these are unsuccessful this project will continue to support the proponents to pursue other resourcing opportunities.

Caring for our Country 2011-12 Investment Project

SECTION : APPLICANT DETAILS

The *Applicant Details* are required for the legal entity with whom the Australian Government will form a contract, if this project is successful.

Organisation details

Organisation Name	South Australian Murray-Darling Basin Natural Resources Management Board
Organisation/Company ABN	14305414800
Is your organisation registered for GST?	Yes

Entity type

State Government Other Incorporated Entity

Applicant contact information – primary contact person

The primary contact person should be a person in the lead organisation who is readily contactable in April-July 2011 during the project assessment period and will be involved in the day-to-day management of the project.

	Title	First name	Last name
Name	Ms	Alyson	Dunhill
Position in organisation	Senior Project Officer (NRM Planning)		
Business phone number	0885824477		
After hours phone number			
Fax			
Mobile			
PO Box/Street Address	2 Wade Street		
Town/Suburb	Berri		
State	South Australia	Postcode	5343
Email	alyson.dunhill@samdbnrm.sa.gov.au		

Caring for our Country 2011-12 Investment Project

Authorised person – person who will sign the contract

This is the person with power to bind the organisation in a contract for the value of this project.

Is the authorised person the same as the proponent organisation contact person (details in above

	Title	First name	Last name
Name	<input type="text" value="Ms"/>	<input type="text" value="Denise"/>	<input type="text" value="Fowles"/>
Position in organisation	<input type="text" value="Interim Deputy Regional Manager"/>		
Business phone number	<input type="text" value="0885321432"/>		
After hours phone number	<input type="text"/>		
Fax	<input type="text"/>		
Mobile	<input type="text"/>		
PO Box/Street Address	<input type="text" value="Mannum Road"/>		
Town/Suburb	<input type="text" value="Murray Bridge"/>		
State	<input type="text" value="South Australia"/>	Postcode	<input type="text" value="5253"/>
Email	<input type="text" value="denise.fowles@samdbnrm.sa.gov.au"/>		

Applicant contact information – secondary contact person

The secondary contact person should be a person who is readily contactable in April-July 2011 and will only be contacted where the primary contact person is unavailable.

	Title	First name	Last name
Name	<input type="text" value="Ms"/>	<input type="text" value="Amy"/>	<input type="text" value="Goodman"/>
Position in organisation	<input type="text" value="Regional Planning Manager"/>		
Business phone number	<input type="text" value="0885824477"/>		
After hours phone number	<input type="text"/>		
Fax	<input type="text"/>		
Mobile	<input type="text"/>		
Email	<input type="text" value="amy.goodman@samdbnrm.sa.gov.au"/>		

Caring for our Country 2011-12 Investment Project

SECTION : TARGETS

Which Caring for our Country target(s) does your project address?

(Your project will be assessed against how well your project addresses these target/s .)

Community Skills, Knowledge and Engagement

- Indigenous participation

Biodiversity and Natural Icons

- Increasing native habitat
- Reducing the impact of vertebrate pest animals

What part of the selected target/s will your project meet?

Indigenous participation

- Describe how you will be working with or engaging Indigenous Australians to deliver your project. **The focus of this project is increasing Indigenous engagement in NRM and the delivery of CfoC targets.**

The project will employ an Indigenous NRM Officer to engage a wide range of Indigenous people, communities and groups. A range of non-Indigenous organizations will also be supported to better engage with Indigenous communities across the region.

The project will also directly engage members of the Indigenous community in the delivery of on-ground activities that contribute to CfoC targets. This will be done by developing 12 month training and employment programs for Indigenous community members (Aboriginal Learning on Country program) and providing technical support to Indigenous land managers.

Organisations you will be working with and the contact details

Organisation	Contact person	Contact phone
Riverland Aboriginal NRM Group	Mr George Lovegrove	0885808500
Mannum Aboriginal Community Association Inc	Ms Isobel Campbell	0885701196
Ngarrindjeri Regional Authority	Mr John Cameron	0885313868
Aboriginal Lands Trust	Mr Roger Rigney	0881691500
Gerard Community Council	Mr Barney Lindsay	0885837304

- Are you receiving funding through Working on Country? **No**

Increasing native habitat

- Describe briefly how your project will reduce critical threats to biodiversity? **The project will reduce critical threats to biodiversity by engaging the Indigenous community in a range of on-ground works in training, employment and volunteer capacities. These activities will include pest plant and animal control to reduce the pressure of these threats on priority habitat and revegetation to buffer existing habitat and provide connectivity across the landscape. Project activities will also include surveys, monitoring and mapping for all works. All projects will be undertaken in consultation with biodiversity management and restoration experts and will be overseen by qualified and experienced personnel.**
- Area of native habitat and vegetation that will be managed to reduce critical threats to biodiversity **1500** hectares
- Does this area contain suitable habitat for any nationally threatened (EPBC listed) species? **Yes**

Caring for our Country 2011-12 Investment Project

Please specify **Orange-bellied parrot (Neophema chrysogaster) - Critically Endangered Regent Parrot (Polytelis anthopeplus monarchoides) - Vulnerable Mallee Fowl (Leipoa ocellata) - Vulnerable Southern Bell Frog (Litoria raniformis) - Vulnerable Sandhill Greenhood Orchid**

- Does this area managed contain any nationally endangered ecological communities? **No**
- South Australia **Yes**
- Will your project address change at a landscape scale and enhance the condition or connectivity of habitats and landscapes? **Yes**
- Describe how your project will improve the condition of habitat on the property(s) and its connection to habitat (e.g. remnant vegetation patches, reserves, etc) in the nearby landscape. **The project will undertake large-scale on-ground activities and will coordinate with other projects and programs to maximize the scale and impact of all works. Through improvements in habitat condition and revegetation the project will increase both condition and connectivity of habitat for Nationally threatened species across the landscape.**
- Number of neighbouring properties to be connected through the activities of this project **4**
- Number of actual hectares being worked on **15**

Reducing the impact of vertebrate pest animals

- Which pest species is your project targeting? **The project will primarily target rabbits and foxes where they are impacting on Nationally threatened species.**
- How many land owners/managers will increase their uptake of pest control options under your project? **8**

Will your project reduce the impact of pests on:

- Critically endangered and endangered species and communities **Yes**

Area over which pest control will take place **600** hectares

- What evidence exists to show that your activities will reduce the impact? **The Nationally threatened species associated with this project (Sandhill greenhood orchid, Malleefowl and Orange-bellied parrot) are well understood to be impacted by rabbits (as is noted in the Threat Abatement Plan for competition and land degradation by Rabbits, 2008). Local research and monitoring programs have confirmed the impact of rabbits on habitat quality and species such as the Sandhill greenhood orchid and have clearly demonstrated the benefits of reducing rabbit populations. The methods used to control rabbits are well understood and have been proven to be effective in the region.**

Malleefowl and Orange-bellied parrots are also impacted by foxes and it is likely that because frogs of the genus Litoria are known to be predated (as is noted in the Threat Abatement Plan for predation by the European red fox, 2008), the Southern bell frog is also impacted by this species. Other large-scale coordinated fox control projects in the region have proven to be extremely effective in recovering Mallee fowl populations and the activities of this project are expected to contribute to similar outcomes. The methods used to control foxes are well understood and have been proven to be effective in the region.

SAMDBNRMB Authorised Officers and Biosecurity SA have been consulted. Both organizations have committed to assisting in the planning and delivery of this project.

- Do you have a draft plan to maintain the site as an on-going best practice management site? **Yes**
- Have you discussed your project with the Australian Pest Animal Strategy coordinator? **No**

Caring for our Country 2011-12 Investment Project

SECTION : PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Activities proposed

Please, clearly identify what activities this project will carry out.

Include the proportion of the budget for each of the following activities (if applicable).

This project will support the engagement of Indigenous people, communities and groups across the range of Caring for our Country projects in the SA Murray-Darling Basin, including those funded through the SA MDB NRM Board's base-level funding and other existing and new open call and Community Action Grant projects from a range of proponents.

A range of Indigenous landholders, community groups and organizations will be directly supported to engage in the management of the region's natural resources at all levels. These activities will include raising the Indigenous community's awareness of NRM, assisting Indigenous groups and landholders to access technical and financial support, providing training and employment opportunities, mentoring Indigenous participants in NRM programs and encouraging and supporting Indigenous participation in a range of NRM projects and on a range of NRM groups and committees. The project will also support non-Indigenous NRM organizations and staff to more effectively engage with Indigenous people, communities and groups through cultural awareness activities and support in the development of relationships and partnerships at the local and regional levels.

The project will also directly engage members of the Indigenous community to undertake high quality on-ground works targeting the protection of Nationally threatened species. These activities will primarily be undertaken using the SA MDB NRM Board's highly successful 'Aboriginal Learning on Country' (ALoC) program which provides meaningful training and employment opportunities around the delivery of Caring for our Country targets. This program will provide 12-mth traineeships in Conservation and Land Management (Certificate 2) for members of the Indigenous community across the region. These projects will be run both in the northern and southern sections of the SA MDB to support the region's two largest Indigenous communities. In addition to providing meaningful Indigenous engagement, the ALoC program also leverages significant amounts of external funding which is directed at delivering CfoC targets, making it an extremely cost-effective method of delivering high quality on-ground works.

Explain why you have selected these activities and how they will lead to improvements in terms of each selected target.

Please address each target and support claims that the activities and the practices are relevant, the best available or technically feasible in your area.

Community Skills, Knowledge and Engagement - Indigenous participation

This project continues the previously CfoC funded work of the SA MDB NRM Board's Aboriginal Partnerships Project. The project has closely engaged the Aboriginal community in its design, implementation and ongoing MERI and is leading the State in developing programs for Indigenous engagement in NRM. The project employs an Indigenous coordinator with a good understanding of the region's Indigenous community and their aspirations and needs.

The engagement of the Indigenous community in the delivery of activities addressing the CfoC targets below will be primarily delivered through the Aboriginal Learning on Country (ALoC) program with the support of accredited training in pest control, seed collection, propagation etc. This program has been successfully run across the region on a range of properties over the last 2 ½ years.

Biodiversity and Natural Icons - Increasing native habitat

The activities associated with this target include large-scale threat abatement to protect Nationally threatened species and their habitats and targeted revegetation to buffer priority areas and provide connectivity across the landscape. All projects will be undertaken in consultation with biodiversity management and restoration experts and will be overseen by qualified and experienced personnel.

Activities will include pest plant and animal control, revegetation site preparation, seed collection, propagation, seeding, planting and revegetation site maintenance.

Biodiversity and Natural Icons - Reducing the impact of vertebrate pest animals

The Nationally threatened species associated with this project (Malleefowl, Orange-bellied parrot and

Caring for our Country 2011-12 Investment Project

Sandhill greenhood orchid) are well understood to be impacted by rabbits (as is noted in the Threat Abatement Plan for competition and land degradation by Rabbits, 2008). The project has been developed in consultation with SA MDB NRM Board Authorised officers and Biosecurity SA officers and methods will follow best practice procedures in line with the Invasive Animals CRC. All works will be overseen by qualified and experienced personnel.

Malleefowl and Orange-bellied parrots are also impacted by foxes and it is likely that because frogs of the genus Litoria are known to be predated (as is noted in the Threat Abatement Plan for predation by the European red fox, 2008), the Southern bell frog is also impacted by this species. The project has been developed in consultation with SA MDB NRM Board officers and Biosecurity SA officers and methods will follow best practice procedures in line with the Invasive Animals CRC. All works will be overseen by qualified and experienced personnel.

Devolved grants

If you are seeking funding for a devolved grants component please outline

- the type of devolved grants, market based instrument or economic incentive that will be used to deliver the Caring for our Country target/s
- the target audience and likely degree of adoption
- the size of the grants/incentives for groups
- the expected administration costs for your organisation to run these grants
- how much funding will be delivered to on-ground activities

Project manager or facilitator services

If your project involves the use of a project manager(s) or facilitator(s) please outline:

- What activities they will undertake
- What amount of funding will be required to cover their costs

An indigenous project manager will be employed to oversee and coordinate the project. This position will be supported by a part-time officer (0.4 FTE).

The activities of the project staff will include undertaking awareness raising activities, designing and delivering cultural awareness raising programs, supporting the establishment of partnerships between the Indigenous community and non-Indigenous organizations and staff, coordinating the development and implementation of ALoC projects, mentoring Indigenous and non-Indigenous participants in the project, MERI activities and general project management.

The position will be a full FTE and will require \$140,000 per annum. The part-time support position will require \$44,000.

How many project managers or facilitators will be directly employed in a full time equivalent (FTE) position under your project?

1.4000

Indigenous Engagement and Participation

How will Indigenous Australians be involved in your project? How did you explore opportunities to engage Indigenous Australians?

The project focuses on the engagement of Indigenous Australians as described in the project description and methodology.

How many Indigenous Australians will be directly employed in a full time equivalent (FTE) position under your project?

1.0000

Caring for our Country 2011-12 Investment Project

How will you engage other community members in your project?

Please outline

- the engagement activities planned
- the scale of this involvement
- the potential to raise community awareness and enhance skills

The project will engage the broader community via awareness raising activities (eg newsletters, media, field days) and through the development and fostering of partnerships between community NRM groups and the Indigenous community.

Although the project targets the engagement of the Indigenous community, there will be considerable engagement of the wider non-Indigenous community .

As has been proven by the Aboriginal Partnerships Project between 2009 and 2011, the project has raised community awareness of both NRM and the role Indigenous communities play in NRM. Indigenous landholders will be provided with technical support raising their knowledge and skills and through the ALoC program Indigenous community members will receive accredited training and qualifications in Conservation and Land Management.

How many community groups will you engage in you project?

25

Does your project include activities that are likely to have a significant adverse impact on any matters of national environmental significance?

No

Risk Management

Please define the major risks associated with this project and what management actions you will put in place to minimise or avoid these risks

What are the risks?	Impact of the risk	Likelihood of it occurring	Overall risk	Mitigation strategy
Lack of interest by the Indigenous community	Major	Very unlikely	Low	Continue awareness raising and continue to engage the Aboriginal community in all stages of the project.
Poor seasonal conditions	Moderate	Possible	Medium	Ensure best practice methodology particularly focusing on correct preparation, timing and maintenance. Ensure the project continues to engage with relevant technical experts throughout implementation.

Caring for our Country 2011-12 Investment Project

SECTION : BUDGET

Budget for project

Caring for our Country target	Financial year	Funding sought (GST exclusive)
Increasing native habitat	2011-12	\$ 224,191.42
	2012-13	\$ 224,191.42
	Subtotal:	\$ 448,382.84
Reducing the impact of vertebrate pest animals	2011-12	\$ 155,191.42
	2012-13	\$ 155,191.42
	Subtotal:	\$ 310,382.84
Total:		\$ 758,765.68
Of this what funding is allocated to MERI planning and implementation		\$ 8,765.68

Non-target Funding

Please add non-target funding sought for each financial year.

Please add how much funding you are seeking to spend on governance activities.

Funding type	Financial year	Funding sought(GST
Core Funding	2012-13	\$ 4,382.84
	2011-12	\$ 4,382.84
Total		\$ 8,765.68

Other source/s of cash funding

Please indicate other cash funding which is necessary for the completion of your project.

Organisation	Contct person	Phone	Security of funds	Amount (GST
SA Works in the Regions	Ms Alyssa Ratzmer	0885357170	Application submitted	\$ 50,000.00
Job Services Australia	Ms Sue Bryant	0885822188	Allocated	\$ 102,400.00
DEEWR	Mr Steve Fuller	0883068666	Other - In principal agreement to fund	\$ 96,000.00
Total				\$ 248,400.00

Total project budget

Caring for our Country funding (GST excl)	Other funding (GST excl)	Total Amount (GST excl)
\$ 767,531.36	\$ 248,400.00	\$ 1,015,931.36

Caring for our Country 2011-12 Investment Project

Overview information for project

Project ID	Project Title	Budget
RB12-00039-2	Engaging Indigenous communities in the management of natural resources	\$ 767,531.36
Total		\$ 767,531.36

SECTION : DECLARATIONS

Proponents should note that, by completing and submitting this project, they agree to the following statements.

I certify that:

- to the best of my knowledge, the information provided in this project is complete and correct and no information is false or misleading. I understand that it is an offence under the *Criminal Code Act 1995* to provide false or misleading information
- I understand that the Australian Government is under no obligation to provide funding for this project
- I understand that the Australian Government assumes no responsibility for any investment in activities relating to this project that are made before the formation of a contract with the
- I/the organisation I represent supports this project and, if successful, agrees to enter into a contract with the Australian Government to deliver the project and administer the project's
- I have the agreement of all partners to the contents of this project
- I will spend the funding and implement the project in the ways described in the project, unless otherwise agreed by all parties
- the project has not already received funding in part or in full from any other funding source, except as identified in this project
- I/the organisation I represent understand that any payments made by the Australian Government in relation to this project are subject to the *A New Tax System (Goods and Services) Act 1999*
- I consent, on behalf of all parties, to this project being referred to third parties for assessment purposes
- I understand that the Australian Government may undertake external assessments or feasibility studies in relation to this project
- I understand that the Australian Government may undertake to negotiate components of this project to ensure that the most appropriate package for investment and delivery of Caring for our Country targets is in place
- I consent to publication of the above information by the Australian Government if I am awarded funding under this grants program
- I agree that I accept full responsibility to ensure that all of the necessary planning, regulatory and other approvals, permits and permissions are obtained before commencing this project
- to the best of my knowledge, there are no real or likely to be perceived conflicts of interest contained in or associated with this project

The Australian Government thanks you for your interest in Caring for our Country and for the time and effort you have made in preparing this project.