

Revitalising Private Conservation in South Australia

Small Grant Applicant Guidelines

Up to \$10k

Open 28 June to 23 August 2021

Heritage Agreement owners, Colin Wilson, Bev Maxwell, Alison and Andrew Jessop, Kangaroo Island, SA



REVITALISING PRIVATE CONSERVATION
IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA





1. Introduction

The Native Vegetation Council (NVC) Heritage Agreement Scheme is a program that encourages landowners to conserve and maintain the biodiversity of native vegetation on their properties.

NVC Heritage Agreements are a contract between the landholder and the Minister for Environment and Water.

The Heritage Agreement Scheme

The NVC Heritage Agreement Scheme is an innovative and effective program that holds many benefits for landowners. These include:

- Rates waiver – the land rates for the Heritage Agreement area are reduced (not applicable to exclusion areas or house sites).
- Bushland management advice.
- Clearance offset – establishing a Heritage Agreement area can act as a significant environmental benefit offset to authorised native vegetation clearance.
- Heritage Agreements are a way for landowners to contribute to the conservation of native vegetation.

2. Revitalising Private Conservation in South Australia Program

The Revitalising Private Conservation in South Australia Program is an exciting collaboration between the government and the conservation and primary industries sectors to improve management and protection of the unique native vegetation on properties throughout South Australia. The Program works with farmers, primary producers, rural residents, Aboriginal landowners and existing and new native vegetation Heritage Agreement owners, to expand the number, extent and quality of protected vegetation management areas.

Landholders will be eligible for Small Grants up to \$10,000 to improve and protect their existing or proposed Heritage Agreement area.

Aspiring Heritage Agreement landholders are also encouraged to apply – as part of the application process they will be assessed for Heritage Agreement suitability.

3. Eligibility

To be considered for funding, you must:


- Own or manage a Heritage Agreement site under the *Native Vegetation Act 1991* or its preceding Act or be an aspiring Heritage Agreement landholder.
- Have obtained all necessary planning, regulatory or other approvals.

Funding is not available for:

- Activities that have potential to have negative impacts on natural resources.
- Purchase of assets and equipment unless appropriate justification can be provided. This includes the purchase of trail cameras.
- Boundary fencing, unless appropriate justification can be provided (for example, to prohibit damaging vehicle or public access).
- Maintenance of areas outside the Heritage Agreement area.

Eligible activities include:

- Landholders who have been successful in previous rounds can apply, however the application and works need to be different to those already funded.
- Landholders who have applied previously, and have been unsuccessful in previous rounds, are encouraged to apply.
- Management and/or action planning implementation.
- Effective control of weeds, feral animals or over abundant native species.
- Management of grazing impacts.
- Repairing damaged areas i.e. sites previously used for dumping, sites being trespassed.
- Internal property fencing to exclude stock from or reduce grazing pressure on proposed or current Heritage Agreement area.
- Mapping of native plants or native vegetation communities.
- Native animal survey (permits needed).
- Habitat creation, including for threatened or declining species.
- Improving water quality and quantity including decommissioning water points.
- Revegetation with provenance seed.
- Improving fire management for conservation purposes.
- Trials of innovative conservation management techniques
- Ecologically outcome-based burning



Closing date for the
small grants:

Up to \$10,000
23rd August 2021

4. The following will be strongly regarded

- Proposals that demonstrate a clear conservation merit or impact.
- Strong project management approach (such as key actions, scheduling, budgets, responsibilities and risk management).
- Demonstrate value for money.
- Projects that will inspire, communicate and share results.
- Proposals that align with local, state and national nature conservation priorities, including Landscape Board plans.
- Quotes for all proposed works.
- Projects that focus on climate resilience, adaptation and mitigation.
- Projects that achieve high impact conservation benefits.
- Demonstrate long term benefit.

5. Need help?

Applications can be lodged during the application period and submitted online using the application form available at www.revitalisingconservationsa.org.au,

If you are unable to submit your application online, please post your application to:

Grants Officer
111 Franklin St
Adelaide
Karna Country
SA 5000

We are here to assist you with any question you may have, please do not hesitate to contact us on:

E: rca@naturefoundation.org.au **T:** 0436 431 660

www.revitalisingconservationsa.org.au

6. Assessment process

Applications will be assessed by an independent panel. Panel members will represent – agriculture, biodiversity conservation and land management.

The Panel will determine the successful applicants.

7. Conditions of funding

There are a number of conditions associated with receiving grant funding.

Please read carefully before submitting your application.

Where an offer to provide a Small Grant is made, the Nature Foundation requires the project to be completed by October 30 2022.

Extensions to projects may be granted where a request has been made in writing and the circumstances justify an extension. Projects not completed within the timeframe of the agreed completion date are subject to review and may be terminated.

When a project is terminated, all unspent funding received by the applicant is to be returned to the funding body.

Reporting

Applicants will need to complete and submit (as set out in the Grant Agreement and no later than the month after project completion):

- A Financial Acquittal.
- A Final Report.

Reporting templates will be made available to successful applicants.

The Final Report will be assessed against the aims and objectives of the approved project. Any changes to the aims and objectives of the project must be requested in writing and approved by the Nature Foundation.

Payment of funds

Unless otherwise negotiated, a full payment of the total Grant will be paid to a successful applicant upon Nature Foundation receiving a signed Grant Agreement.

Equipment purchases must be justified to be utilised after the completion of the Grant project funded. Funds must not be used for one off purchases for the project.

Contract professional services must be justified and include credentials of persons to whom fees are to be paid, or the names of Native Vegetation Council Accredited Consultants to be used.

Explanation of expenditure must be clear and precise when completing the Project Budget Table, indicating the project components for which you have sought Small Grant support, and those items for which GST is payable.



'In kind' contributions

- Applicants must contribute 'in-kind' or an amount equal to the grant, for example, labour (own family or friends), materials, equipment or funds.
- Administration costs and in-house expenditure will be considered by the Nature Foundation as an 'in-kind' contribution of the applying body and should not form part of the funding sought in the Grant application.
- In-kind labour is to be costed at \$50 per hour.
- All 'in-kind' funding or other sources of external funding should be clearly identified in the application. This forms an important aspect of the application and preference is given to those who can match in-kind.
- The reimbursement of food will not be considered an eligible activity.

Publicity

All projects funded in full or in part by the Revitalising Private Conservation in South Australia Program must acknowledge the program and the South Australian Government in all publications and promotional activities, including electronic media. All successful projects will be announced publicly. Successful applicants will be asked to share their story as part of the program promotion.

Insurance

The applicant receiving a Small Grant is required to assess and consider the risks and scope of insurance required under the project agreement. Necessary insurance arrangements are the responsibility of the applicant.

Long term outcomes

There is an expectation that the investment is effective in the long term. This applies particularly to activities such as conservation and management of native vegetation. Projects must benefit the biodiversity of the area and must be located within the Heritage Agreement area.

Any questions?

Contact us

E: rca@naturefoundation.org.au

T: 0436 431 660

For more information visit:

www.revitalisingconservationsa.org.au

