



Fact Sheet 1.

“Caring for our Country” Moreton Bay Oil Spill Environmental Restoration Program Project Guidelines

SEQ Catchments Ltd is running two competitive funding rounds for the ‘Moreton Bay Oil Spill Environmental Restoration Program’. **All Expressions of Interest for Round 2 must be received by Thursday 17, December 2009.**

Projects will range from small projects (i.e. \$500-\$10,000) up to more substantial projects where there is a demonstrated and substantiated outcome. **All projects must be completed by June, 30 2010.**

SEQ Catchments Ltd is seeking projects that will;

- Contribute to and have measurable influence on the restoration and recovery of the natural environment in the oil spill affected areas of Southeast Queensland, in particular the Ramsar listed Moreton Bay Wetlands and coastal areas in Moreton Bay, Bribie Island and the Sunshine Coast.
- Deliver tangible natural resource benefits whilst aligning with the ‘Caring for our Country’ Outcomes and the ‘Healing Country Environmental Recovery Action Plan April 2009’ for SE Queensland.

Further information on the *Caring for our Country Business Plan 2009-2010* can be found at: <http://www.nrm.gov.au/business-plan/index.html>

Further information on the *Healing Country Environmental Recovery Action Plan April 2009* for SE Queensland can be found at: <http://www.seqcatchments.com.au>

Caring for our Country Priorities

The ‘Caring for our Country’ priorities that are relevant to the oil spill impacted areas include;

- Coastal environments and Critical Aquatic Habitats.
- Biodiversity and Natural icons.
- Community Skills, Knowledge and Engagement.

Inline with the scope of activities outlined in the *Caring for our Country Business Plan* for increasing coastal community engagement, recovery activities will focus on:

- On-ground actions that protect the conservation values of coastal ecosystems and environments in the oil spill affected areas and adjacent ecosystems.
- The protection, rehabilitation and enhancement of coastal habitats, waterways, and wetlands to stabilise dunes, prevent coastal erosion, establish wildlife corridors and enhance remnant coastal vegetation.
- Work with Indigenous communities to protect Indigenous cultural landscapes and culturally sensitive sites.
- Prevent the decline of water quality and the protection of coastal habitats through management of point source pollution and establishment of buffer zones.
- Enhance skills and knowledge and raising community awareness.
- Meeting Australia’s obligations in relation to management of Ramsar Wetlands.

In response to the March 2009 Moreton Bay Oil Spill, the Australian Government has allocated \$2M Dollars from the ‘Caring for our Country’ Program to be managed by SEQ Catchments Ltd.

Community organisations are encouraged to submit an Expression of Interest that provides details of proposed coastal restoration projects associated with the oil spill.

Projects should focus on coastal and estuarine areas of the Sunshine Coast, Moreton and Bribie Islands impacted by the Oil Spill.

All interested proponents are encouraged to contact Sean Galvin or Samantha Lloyd, at SEQ Catchments, prior to submitting their Expression of Interest.

Sean Galvin:

M: 0400910680

E: sgalvin@seqcatchments.com.au

Samantha Lloyd:

M: 0437 726 279

E: slloyd@seqcatchments.com.au

Or Send to:

SEQ Catchments

PO Box 13204

George St Brisbane Q 4003

Or fax 3211 4405

Eligibility

To be eligible to apply for funding you must be a legal entity, such as:

- an incorporated association;
- a body corporate;
- a company;
- a trust;
- a partnership;
- a Local Government;
- an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander corporation, council or incorporated association.

Projects must be located in the oil spill affected areas E.g. Sunshine, Bribie Island and Moreton Island coastal and estuarine areas.

Eligible Activities

- Revegetation of dunes and other coastal systems following removal of contaminated material.
- Re-profiling of sand dunes following mechanical removal of contaminated sand.
- Installation of protective fencing and other stabilisation structures to protect sensitive and or damaged ecosystems to enhance resilience and aid natural recovery of oil spill affected areas.
- Re-establishment of coastal biodiversity (e.g. beach fauna, flora and invertebrates).
- Management of weed incursions and feral animals.
- Ongoing spot clean up of emergent oil.
- Training of community groups in low level oil spill clean up techniques and care of wildlife including handling oiled wildlife.
- Installation of Interpretive signage associated with community awareness related to the oil spill.
- Community based monitoring associated with on-ground project activities.

Ineligible Activities

- Long term research and data monitoring activities will not be funded.
- Oil affected areas that are still in the Oil Spill clean up phase where initial clean up activities are ongoing and Occupational Health and Safety, legal and cultural issues restrict access.
- Projects that are mainly to beautify or improve amenity, such as in school grounds or municipal parks.
- Capital Works - construction of buildings, seawalls, rock walls, groynes, car parks, access tracks or roads.
- Purchase of computer hardware or software, photocopiers, GPS equipment or media equipment including videos, cameras and projectors.
- Day-to-day operating costs, including costs of incorporation, insurance, office accommodation, telephone and internet costs, administrative, accounting and word processing services, and other overheads (i.e. expenses that are incurred whether or not you do the project).

Budget Guidelines

The funding will pay for:

- Equipment and machinery hire (spray packs, fencing materials, etc).
- Training (UniDap Data input, Occupational health and Safety etc).
- Labour (Coordination, contractor).
- Native Plants.
- Tools (Gardening tools etc).
- Permits.
- Travel expenses.
- Other items (contact SEQ Catchments for further information).



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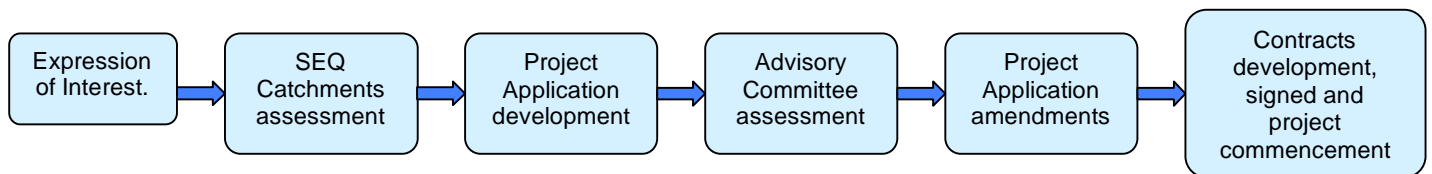
Permission and Approvals

All applications need to:

- Meet legal and planning requirements under Australian, State, and local government laws. This may involve obtaining relevant permits for the proposed works.
- Marine plant permits are required for rehabilitation works in mangrove and saltmarsh ecosystem. Contact Qld. Dept. of Employment, Economic Development & Innovation (DPI&F).
- Permits may be required for working on dune systems. Contact Qld. Dept. Environment and Resource Management for further information. (Inspections – EPA. Permits – DNR&W).
- Local government permission may be required before starting any coastal projects in Queensland. Partnerships with your Local Council is strongly encouraged.

Project Assessment

Expression of Interest will first be assessed by SEQ Catchments and successful Expressions of Interest will be invited to develop a more detail Project Application to be assessed by an Advisory Committee including QW&LC, DERM, the Australian Government, Traditional Owner representation and others. Successful project partners will be contacted by SEQ Catchments staff to amend Project Applications if required and develop contracts. Once Project Application has been finalised and the contracts signed, the first payment can be made and the project can commence.



Merit of projects activities

The assessment panel will consider favourably projects that demonstrate:

- Contribution to and have measurable influence on the restoration and recovery of the natural coastal and estuarine environment.
- Good partnership arrangements with relevant Local Government.
- Good Partnership arrangements with the recognised Traditional Owner Group relevant to the area.
- Mitigate negative impacts on sensitive Cultural Heritage sites if relevant.
- Risk, OH&S and waste management issues have been thoroughly dealt with.
- An ability to measure and monitor the success of the project.
- An ability to manage the financial responsibilities of the project.
- An ability to fulfil reporting requirements, including monthly reports, progress reports and final reports.
- An ability to link the project to the outcomes of the '*Caring for our Country Business Plan 2009/2010*' and the '*Healing Country Environmental Recovery Action Plan April 2009*' for SE Queensland.

Important Dates

- **Round 2 Expressions of Interest must be received by close of business on Thursday 17, December 2009.**
- **All projects must be completed by 30th June 2010.**



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