

Cudlee Creek fire Landscape Recovery Grants



Guidelines for applicants

Applications close 27 March 2020

What are the Cudlee Creek Landscape Recovery Grants?

The Cudlee Creek Fire Landscape Recovery Grants support rural landholders and farmers in the Cudlee Creek fire scar, who have been fire-affected and are working to protect and restore their natural resources, after the bushfire which started on 20 December 2019. Consideration may be given for eligible works that have already been undertaken prior to signing of a grant agreement, provided that they commenced after 20 December 2020.

These funds are being made available from the Adelaide and Mount Lofty Ranges and South-Australian Murray-Darling Basin Natural Resources Management boards levies.

What can the grants be used for?

The funding can be used for a variety of works on rural private property including:

Fencing:

- Native vegetation and revegetation to restrict stock access.
- Riparian areas to protect aquatic ecosystems and limit stock impacts on water quality.
- To land class to manage stock grazing impacts, maintain groundcover and prevent soil erosion.

Pest animal and plant control:

- Rabbit, fox and deer control and weed control such as Gorse, Blackberry, Broom to protect native vegetation and primary production values.

Revegetation with local native plants for:

- Habitat creation.
- Linking/buffering remnant vegetation.
- Stock shade/shelter.
- Establishing or replacing paddock trees.
- Stabilising soils, watercourses or reducing recharge/discharge in areas of salinity risk.

Erosion control works to:

- Reduce the effect of soil loss or movement on water quality and biodiversity.

Perennial pasture renovation/improvement:

- Soil testing to establish pH and nutrient levels.
- Lime spreading if required by soil test.
- Pasture seeding perennial species (including natives) to improve existing pastures or establish groundcover.
- Weed control.

Establishment of seasonal stock containment areas:

- Fencing, gates, water points, feeding pads/troughs, portable electric fence units.

Install stock water points:

- Troughs, pipe and fittings to reduce stock access to watercourses, dams.

Professional agronomic or land management advice:

- For livestock health and nutrition, feed budgeting, pasture management, weed management, soil management, property planning, farm business planning.

Note: *Retrospective activities (i.e. works which have been carried out after the fire, but before the grants were available) may also be considered, provided they were not part of an insurance claim or another grant. Provision of dated receipts must accompany an application.*

Ineligible activities

- Items and activities already funded through other agency grants or works covered by existing or future insurance claims for this event.
- Activities causing environmental damage, either directly or indirectly.
- Reimbursement for personal labour costs.
- Property boundary fencing.
- Preparation of the original grant application.
- Farm machinery, plant and equipment.

This list is not exhaustive. *Other activities or specific expenditure may be ineligible where they do not directly support the achievement of the planned outcomes of the project or that they are contrary to the spirit and intention of the grant funding.*

Who can apply?

The grants are available to fire-affected rural landholders and farmers located within the 2019-20 Cudlee Creek fire scar (refer to map). Properties which have been totally or partially burnt during the fire event are eligible. They are intended to provide financial assistance to help restore the landscape and natural resources affected by the Cudlee Creek bushfire.

How much can be applied for?

Each landholder can apply for up to \$5,000+GST.

The total amount of funding available for this grant program is \$400,000 which is being provided by the Adelaide and Mount Lofty Ranges and South-Australian Murray-Darling Basin Natural Resources Management boards levies.

Where there are multiple properties held by family trust, distinct businesses within a larger holding and spatial differentiations between properties, there may be the opportunity to apply for multiple grants for discrete purposes. Please contact us to discuss your individual situation and options.

Funding will be awarded on merit to those projects that demonstrate value for money and delivery of agricultural and environmental benefits. Projects should align with the principles listed on page 5.

When do works need to be completed?

Funding must be spent, and works completed, by no later than 31 May 2021. A simple final report, using the template provided to successful applicants, with evidence of work completed (copies of tax invoices and photos) will be due no later than 25 June 2021. Grant agreements will be drawn up with successful applicants, detailing the works to be funded and carried out, along with the agreed work and reporting deadlines (not to exceed those above). Reporting will include a statement of the activities carried out and associated costs, signed by the grantee. A property map will also be provided to grantees, to record where the work was carried out.

When are applications due?

The application form must be received by **5.00 pm ACT on Friday 27 March 2020**

Where are applications submitted?

Applications should be emailed to dew.amlr@sa.gov.au or posted to:

Olivia Prohoroff
Natural Resources Adelaide and Mt Lofty Ranges
205 Greenhill Rd
EASTWOOD SA 5063

What happens after applications are submitted?

Applications will be assessed and applicants will be notified of the outcome.

Successful applicants will be emailed a letter of offer and grant agreement, which includes the terms and conditions of the funding. Funding will be paid direct to the nominated bank account upon receipt of a signed letter of offer and any other required documents from the applicant.

Assessment of project submissions

Funding principles

The work should seek to:

- Facilitate the sustainable use of natural resources.
- Enhance the productivity or profitability of sustainably-managed farm businesses through natural resources management.
- Enhance biological diversity through the protection of areas of remnant native vegetation and support the restoration of systems and processes that have been degraded or lost.
- Protect catchments through the sustainable use of land and water resources and seek to rehabilitate resources that have become degraded.
- Prevent or reduce the impacts of pest plant and animal species that may have an adverse effect on the environment, production systems and the community.
- Contribute to the Adelaide and Mount Lofty Ranges and South Australian Murray-Darling Basin's Natural Resources Management Plan priorities.
- Provide value for money.

Need assistance or more information?

For assistance or for more information please contact Nicole Bennett -

Team Leader, Sustainable Agriculture, Natural Resources Adelaide and Mount Lofty Ranges on 0427 840 443 or nicole.bennett@sa.gov.au between 9 am and 3 pm.

For a range of information and contact details regarding bushfire recovery and support please visit <https://www.naturalresources.sa.gov.au/adelaidemtloftyranges/land/fire-management/cudlee-creek-fire-recovery>