

GRASSROOTS GRANTS 2026

2026-27 GUIDELINES



Grassroots Grants 2026

The Northern and Yorke Landscape Board is launching its annual Grassroots Grant Program to support landholders, volunteers, community groups, First Nations organisations, schools and other bodies with funds to deliver local projects that help to sustainably manage our region’s precious natural resources.

The following document provides advice and support to apply for a Grassroots Grant.



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Cover image: Community action delivering real benefits for the region and local wildlife, species and landscapes. Pictured are Ingrid Wilson, Possum Coordinator, Penny Devlin, and Rose Brooks, Operations Manager, Barossa Wildlife Rescue. Photo courtesy of the Barossa Council.



Our region

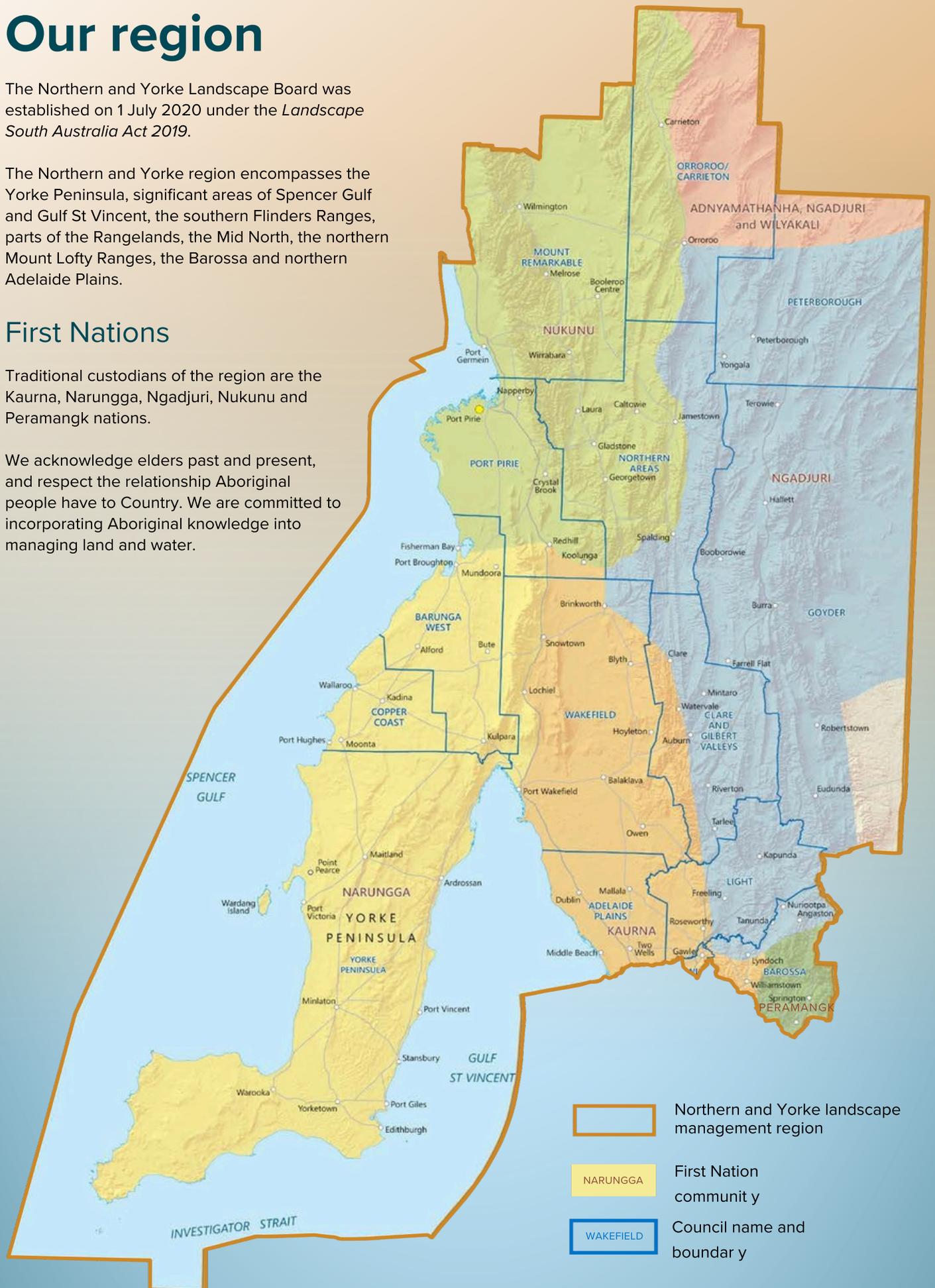
The Northern and Yorke Landscape Board was established on 1 July 2020 under the *Landscape South Australia Act 2019*.

The Northern and Yorke region encompasses the Yorke Peninsula, significant areas of Spencer Gulf and Gulf St Vincent, the southern Flinders Ranges, parts of the Rangelands, the Mid North, the northern Mount Lofty Ranges, the Barossa and northern Adelaide Plains.

First Nations

Traditional custodians of the region are the Kurna, Narungga, Ngadjuri, Nukunu and Peramangk nations.

We acknowledge elders past and present, and respect the relationship Aboriginal people have to Country. We are committed to incorporating Aboriginal knowledge into managing land and water.



Who can apply

- An incorporated community group (or a non-incorporated group with an incorporated sponsor)
- A group of three or more landholders working together on a project on their lands (landholders will need an incorporated sponsor such as a local government or agricultural bureau)
- Local government organisations with matched contribution (funding or in-kind)
- A school, university or other educational entity
- First Nations organisations

Who can't apply

- Successful applicants who were awarded a multi-year project in 2024-2025
- Individuals
- Businesses (sole traders, partnerships)
- Natural resource centres (alternative funding available)

If you are not a legal entity (i.e. not incorporated) you will need to seek sponsorship from a legal entity that is prepared to take responsibility for the legal and financial accountability of the project. A written agreement and/or letter of support from the sponsor organisation must be included as part of the application.

The sponsor will receive the funding on your behalf and will be required to provide a final acquittal of project funds. The applicant's sponsor organisation can apply for administration costs of up to 10%.

If you require more information regarding sponsorships or eligibility, please contact Kate Pearce on 0429 362 002 or email kate.pearce@sa.gov.au.

Key considerations

- The project must be within the Northern and Yorke Landscape region and undertaken on a not-for-profit basis.
- The project must align with one or more of the Northern and Yorke Landscape Board's priorities: communities, biodiversity, water management, sustainable agriculture, and pest plant and animal control.
- All applicants must discuss their projects and applications with their local Landscape Board staff.
- Applicants can only submit one application as a primary applicant and one application as a sponsor.
- Local government must provide matched contribution (funding or in-kind) when applying as a primary applicant and when sponsoring an applicant.
- Applicants who have been successful in previous Grassroot Grants rounds may not necessarily be successful in this round.
- Applicants must be adequately insured with minimum of \$1 million public liability insurance coverage for the life of the project.
- Written approval for any works undertaken on land owned by another person/entity (other than the applicant) must be included as part of the application.

How to apply

The application process has two stages:

1. Complete the online [Expression of Interest](#) form.
2. A Landscape Board staff member will contact you to discuss your project and advise whether you can proceed to the next stage.

If approved to apply, you will be invited to submit a full application online using [SmartyGrants](#).

Dates are indicative and may change.

Key dates*

Stage 1: Expression of interest

- **Opens:** Monday 30 March 2026
- **Closes:** Friday 10 April 2026 (5pm)*

Stage 2: Full applications

- **Opens:** Wednesday 22 April 2026
- **Closes:** 15 May 2026 (5pm)*

Stage 3: Assessment by panel

- Assessment period June 2026

Stage 4: Project announcements and completion

- Successful applicants announced July 2026
- Grantees must complete their project by 30 June 2027
- Grantees must complete project reporting and financial acquittal by 31 July 2027

**Please note no late applications will be accepted.*

Types of projects that will be supported

All projects must contribute to one or more of the Board's regional priorities and focus areas. Refer to the [Northern and Yorke Landscape Plan](#) for more information.

Priorities	Focus areas	Project examples
<p>Pest plant and animal control</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deliver programs that control priority weeds and feral animals to reduce their impact on agriculture and biodiversity • Develop land manager networks and facilitate collaboration for pest control and management 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordinated control of emerging declared weed populations across neighbouring properties (landscape-scale) • Pest plant and pest animal surveys/monitoring • Feral animal mustering and trapping • Weed mapping and monitoring surveys • Educating community about pest plant and animal control
<p>Sustainable agriculture</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Building land managers' capacity in adaptive agriculture and best practice land management • Support innovation and adoption of resilience and adaptive practices • Protect and improve the condition of soil, groundcover and vegetation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Erosion management such as building stock crossings and moving stock watering points away from creeks and rivers • Revegetation and fencing of newly planted areas • Soil monitoring and improvement • Establishing perennial pastures, integrated pest management and establishing and protecting shelterbelts • Educating community on sustainable agriculture practices
<p>Water management</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustainably manage the region's prescribed water resources • Protect and rehabilitate watercourses and wetlands • Promote the sustainable use of water for environmental, cultural, social and industry outcomes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Watercourse and/or wetland protection and restoration • Citizen science projects • Water quality surveys/training • Rehabilitation of water courses and creeks through removal of weeds and planting • Educating community about water quality and water management
<p>Biodiversity</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support the protection and restoration of coastal habitats • Coordinate programs to improve climate change resilience and adaptive capacity • Improve ecosystems through restoration of habitat 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creating or improving habitat for wildlife through planting trees or native vegetation • Fauna and flora monitoring and surveys • Cultural knowledge sharing, workshops and surveys with First Nations partners • Sand dune and coast rehabilitation • Community education on biodiversity
<p>Communities</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make decisions based on best available science, cultural knowledge and local experience • Actively engage community at the centre of landscape management • Foster partnerships that increase communication, expertise and collaboration in landscape management 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Workshops and field days • Community citizen science projects • First Nations partnerships, engagement, or knowledge sharing activities • Developing educational or communication materials

How much you can apply for

The total value of the Grassroots Grants Program for Northern and Yorke in 2026-27 is up to \$200,000 (including First Nations projects), with grants between \$2,000 and \$10,000 available for 12-month projects. *The Grassroots Grants are not considered as a supply of services and therefore GST does not apply. No GST will be paid.*

The table below describes the information required in your full application.

Application information requirements

Funding	Mandatory information	Extra information to include
<p>\$2,000 to \$10,000 1-year projects</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quotes, cost estimates, hourly rates (e.g. contractor) • Landholder permission to undertake project (if applicable) • Approvals or permits, or evidence that approvals are being sought • Letter confirming project sponsorship (if applicable) • Funding for a project manager may be considered for more complex projects. <i>This needs to be itemised in the budget with a maximum of 10% for administration or management costs</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Photos of project site • Map showing where project will be delivered • Letter of support from partners (if applicable) • Plant species list • Chemical details, including label application rates and ChemCert qualifications of person undertaking weed spraying • Site drawing or design for projects

If your project hasn't obtained permits or landholder approvals prior to submission, your application may not be considered.

Funding agreements

The Board reserves the right to negotiate the level of funding provided for individual projects with any grantee, prior to entering into a grant agreement.

Funding will not be provided for projects that have already commenced prior to signing of the grant agreement.

Successful applicants will be paid upon signing of the grant agreement and the provision of a compliant tax invoice before the project commences.

Larger projects may be required to complete progress reports, prior to release of full funding. Payment schedules will be detailed in the grant agreement.

Successful projects will be expected to acknowledge the Northern and Yorke Landscape Board in their promotions and publications. Logos and branding guidelines will be supplied upon request.

Successful applicants must provide a Project Completion Report at the end of their project outlining what was achieved, how many people were involved and provide photos of the project.

The Project Completion Report is required by 30 June 2027, with funds fully acquitted by 31 July 2027. No extensions beyond 30 June 2027 will be available.

Projects must commence upon signing of the grant agreement.



Limits on grant activities

Grassroots Grants **cannot** be used for:

- Sensory bushtucker or bush gardens
- Fulfilling your obligations as a landholder under the Landscapes South Australia Act 2019
- Activities that are causing or likely to cause environmental damage, either directly or indirectly
- Establishment of new agricultural production sites or facilities
- Activities that would create beneficial monetary profits for the applicant or sponsoring body
- Administration and finance costs (unless paid to sponsor organisations)
- Preparation of the grant application and grant reporting purchase of assets that could be considered for personal use
- Purchase of assets that could be obtained by other means (e.g. hire or loan)
- Retrospective funding of completed activities existing debts or shortfalls
- Marketing and promotion of the organisation or existing services (unless directly associated with the project and educational in nature)
- Activities that are unlawful

Additional considerations

- Project management costs are only available for the delivery of the project and will be considered on a case-by-case basis. The budget, FTE amount and hourly rate must be specified
- Research projects must demonstrate how delivery of the outcomes associated with the research project will be implemented (e.g. include on-ground works)
- Irrigation will only be funded if it directly relates to new plantings associated with this grant

How grants will be assessed:

Applications will be assessed against a set of pre-determined criteria by a panel of Northern and Yorke Landscape Board members and staff. Recommended successful applications will be submitted to the Board for endorsement. A site assessment may also be conducted as part of the assessment process. A staff member will contact you to organise this if required.

Priority will be given to projects that:

- **Clearly contribute to the priorities** of the Northern and Yorke Landscape Board
- Represent **good value for money** based on the scale and impact of the project
- Will be **delivered through partnerships**, including financial and/or in-kind contributions
- Will engage or **build capacity** of the community
- Can **measure their success**
- Can support and **sustain outcomes** after the grant has ended
- Provide outcomes that **benefit landscapes** outside the public land system (may include work in national parks and state reserves)
- Include appropriate and sufficient supporting **documentation** showing:
 - How project outcomes and outputs will be supported and maintained into the future
 - The capability and capacity to effectively deliver the project
 - Clear timelines, milestones and risk management

All applicants will be formally advised of the outcome of their application in writing. Feedback will be provided to unsuccessful applicants upon request.

Contact

For general enquiries email ny.landscapeboard@sa.gov.au or call **(08) 8841 3444**.

For advice or help with your application and project ideas, please contact:

**Grassroots Grants
Coordinator**

Kate Pearce

 kate.pearce@sa.gov.au

 **(08) 8841 3444**





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For further information



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