Where the Wild Things Are

Guidelines and EOI Form

Do you have a Eucalypt Woodland* you would like to protect? It may be on your property or a local community reserve or creekline.

* The Eucalypt Woodland will need to meet a range of specific criteria.

These guidelines and EOI form will enable you to apply for support to protect your bushland.

Send applications to:

Please submit the Application Form online. The form is located here http://wheatbeltnrm.org.au/what-we-do/healthy-environments/where-wild-things-are or alternatively submit using one of these methods:

Post:
Wheatbelt NRM
Attention: Anika Dent – Project Manager
PO Box 311
Northam WA 6401

Email/Fax:
adent@wheatbeltnrm.org.au
Fax: (08) 9670 3140

Hand Delivery:
Wheatbelt NRM
269 Fitzgerald Street
Northam

Background:

Wheatbelt NRM recognises the importance of supporting our community organisations and individuals to manage and undertake on-ground activities to protect remnant bushland and conserve biodiversity values.

Our Healthy Bushland Program provides support to community groups, groups of neighbours and individuals to help cover the cost of materials for a range of activities including fencing, revegetation, bushland weed and feral animal control.

Where support comes from:

Wheatbelt Natural Resource Management are supporting conservation activities, through the Australian Government's Regional Land Partnerships program, for work that aims to protect and enhance quality patches of Eucalypt Woodlands. This support is to protect and enhance the entirety of the threatened ecological community – including the soil fungi, microbes, invertebrates, native animals and native vegetation.

Identifying Eucalypt Woodlands of the Western Australian Wheatbelt:

Wheatbelt NRM has developed a survey tool to help community to identify Eucalypt Woodlands of the Western Australian Wheatbelt and understand the condition of Eucalypt patches. What we're looking for:

- The dominant tree species of the woodland being one of 31 specified Eucalyptus species.
    - This list does not include any mallee species - however mallees may be a midstorey or co-dominant canopy species
    - More information can be found on the Where the Wild Things are webpage www.wheatbeltnrm.org.au/what-we-do/healthy-environments/where-wild-things-are
- Both the size and condition of the eucalypt patch will be considered along with the conservation values.

Apply for support if you want to:

- Prevent and control the impact of feral animals and weeds on Eucalypt Woodland bushland
- Protect and enhance the habitat of threatened flora and fauna found within Eucalypt Woodlands
- Protect and enhance significant Eucalypt Woodland patches

General Criteria:

- Your activity should be carried out in the future. Wheatbelt NRM will not fund past activities eg. The fencing project completed a couple of months ago;
- Your activity may be used by Wheatbelt NRM for demonstration and/or promotional purposes;
- If your activity contains on-ground works it should be conducted within the Wheatbelt NRM region;
- Generally, support will be provided up to a value of $15,000 per property;
- If you have any questions about eligibility or other concerns about the application form please contact Project Manager, Anika Dent;
- You must ensure that your event has all necessary public liability insurances, approvals, licences, permits, landowner consents, etc. and that your activity complies with all relevant legislation (State Govt, Local Govt etc).

Eligibility:

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

- an incorporated organisation
- a company
- a trust
- a partnership
- a school
- a land manager/owner
- a local government authority

- If you or your group are not the owner/lessee of the land, or there are any third party encumbrances on your land, you will need to get written permission from the owner/lessee for your activity. This letter should be attached to your application.
- Timelines for completion of project activities will be negotiated between Wheatbelt NRM and successful

applicants. Feral management activities will be funded for a 3-year period from initiating control activities. Fencing projects must be completed within one year of signing contract unless otherwise agreed.

What assistance is available?

Activities that can be supported include:

- **Feral Animal and Weed Control in Remnant bushland**
    - Herbicide for environmental weed control
    - 1080 Baiting of rabbits and foxes for 3 years or, in approved cases, phostoxin for fumigation of rabbit warrens
    - Cage traps for cats and Foxes
    - Project must demonstrate a high conservation benefit. Activities must be aimed at protection of native species and not be for the sole purpose of protecting livestock and chickens.
- **Fencing Remnant Vegetation**
    - Funding provided for fencing materials up to $4,000 per kilometre
    - All material must be new
    - The final fence location and specification will be approved after discussion with Wheatbelt NRM
    - The fence must be stock proof and maintained as such for a minimum of 25 years
    - Funding may be available for fencing of vulnerable populations of threatened flora
    - Fenced areas of bushland must remain stock free for 25 years
    - Maintenance is the responsibility of the land holder
    - Boundary fencing will considered on a case by case basis, giving consideration to landowner's legal responsibilities. Fencing of roadside boundaries will not be approved.
- **Revegetation – Biodiverse**
    - We will cover 100% cost of seedlings
    - A Species list will be developed by Wheatbelt NRM based on local species
    - Seedling and seeds will be ordered from nurseries by Wheatbelt NRM to ensure quality standards are met
    - Corridors should be a minimum of 30m wide
    - Revegetation along waterways will be a minimum of 15m wide on either side of the main channel

What will not be funded:

- External Contractors
- Fencing along roadsides
- Fencing of roadside boundaries
- Machinery and equipment hire costs
- Infrastructure such as seating, toilets and so on
- Drainage activities
- River crossings
- Water points, windmills, reticulation etc.
- On-ground works unrelated to the bushland
- Revegetation corridors less than 30m wide
- Control of emus and kangaroos
- Control of wild dogs
- Ammunition

Generally, support will be available for the purchase of materials only, with land managers providing labour and equipment as an in-kind contribution along with maintenance of the investment. Other activities may be eligible and will be considered on the merits of the activity and the benefit to biodiversity conservation.

Lodging an Expression of Interest:

Stage 1

- Complete the brief online Expression of Interest form
- This available at www.wheatbeltnrm.org.au/what-we-do/healthy-environments/where-wild-things-are
- If you have any questions regarding the application please contact Anika at adent@wheatbeltnrm.org.au or 9670 3104

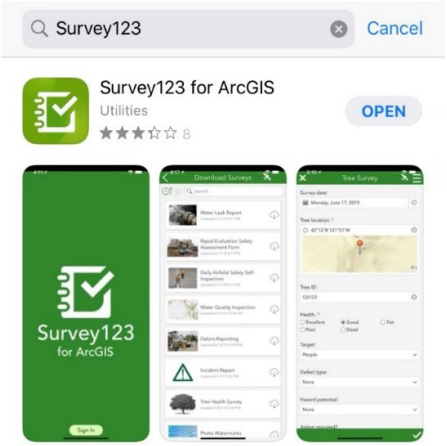
Stage 2

Please complete a survey of your Eucalypt Woodlands: This shows us what type of woodland it is and gives us an indication of what condition it is in.

- The phone application:

1. Start by downloading the app:
   iPhone:
   Follow this link to download
   https://apple.co/2N4R1wY

   Android:
   Follow this link to download
   https://bit.ly/37RKKg9



2. Once you have download that then click on this link:
   https://arcg.is/THO0X

3. The link will take you to the following website:

4. If you click on the bottom link (open in the Survey123 field app) it will open up in the app you have downloaded and you can complete the survey from there.

5. If you have any questions, or would like assistance with downloading or using the app please contact us at adent@wheatbeltnrm.org.au or 9670 3104

If you are unable to complete the survey following the process above please contact us to discuss other options.

What criteria will be used to assess expressions of interest?

Your Expression of Interest will be reviewed by a panel against the following criteria;

- **Project outcome**
  - Will the proposed activity result in long term protection of the bushland
  - Commitment to maintain the work over the long term
  - Capacity to get the on ground work completed within the agreed timeframe

- **Budget**
    - How does the cost of the activity stack up against the benefit
    - What is the proposed in kind contribution
- **Bushland itself**
    - What area(s) of bushland are you interested in protecting and how much is there
    - What sort of plants and animals are likely to live within, or rely on, the patch of bushland and how will they benefit from the proposed activities
- **Previous projects with Wheatbelt NRM**
- **Project partnership**
    - Are the proposed activities taking place in collaboration with adjoining land managers
    - What sort of wider community engagement opportunities are there

Assessment process

Once your Expression of Interest is received by Wheatbelt NRM:

- A selection panel will individually assess the EOI against the listed criteria
- The panel's assessment results will be combined to give the project an overall score
- You will be notified of the outcome relating to your expression of interest
- A staff member from Wheatbelt NRM will be in touch to progress your expression of interest if it has been recommended for further negotiation.

Activity approvals

After initial assessment, preliminary approval will be given to successful projects within 1 month of receipt of the expression of interest. Final approval is subject to an onsite assessment.

Wheatbelt NRM will assess applications as they are submitted.

Successful applicants will be invited to enter into an agreement for on-ground management activities and associated support.

All members of the Assessment Panel will be required to declare any conflicts of interest relating to each application prior to undertaking the assessment.

Further Information

For further information on this program, please contact the Project Manager– Anika Dent

Ph.: (08) 9670 3104

Email: adent@wheatbeltnrm.org.au

wheatbelt natural resource management

Australian Government | National Landcare Program