

SAMDB NRM Community Grants 2019–20

GUIDELINES FOR APPLICANTS

What are the SAMDB NRM Community Grants?

The SAMDB NRM Community Grants aim to increase community skills, knowledge and participation to promote the sustainable management of natural resources in the South Australian Murray-Darling Basin (SAMDB). The grants are funded by the SAMDB Natural Resources Management (NRM) Board (the Board) levies.

What is the scope of the grants?

The grants focus on increasing the community's NRM skills, knowledge and participation. Projects should align to the strategic directions and focus areas that the Board has identified from the Regional Action Plan as its priorities for investment.

Projects must contribute to one or more of the 'People' focus areas which are:

- P1. Build and maintain partnerships with key stakeholders including different sectors of government, non-government organisations, community, farming and industry groups.
- P2. Engage and strengthen the capacity of Aboriginal communities and groups to manage natural resources, and support their leadership in the protection of cultural values and assets.
- P3. Create positive behavior change and build leadership capacity through increased knowledge, skills and participation in NRM (including young people).
- P4. Facilitate and support landholder and community networks to collaborate and share knowledge that empowers them to effectively manage the region's natural resources.
- P5. Encourage and support the community's contribution in NRM decision making, including their provision of data and evidence.
- P6. Provide opportunities for the broader community (including young people) to connect with nature.

Priority will be given to projects which also connect the community to one or more of the focus areas related to biodiversity, water, sustainable production and atmosphere, which are outlined in Figure 1 below.



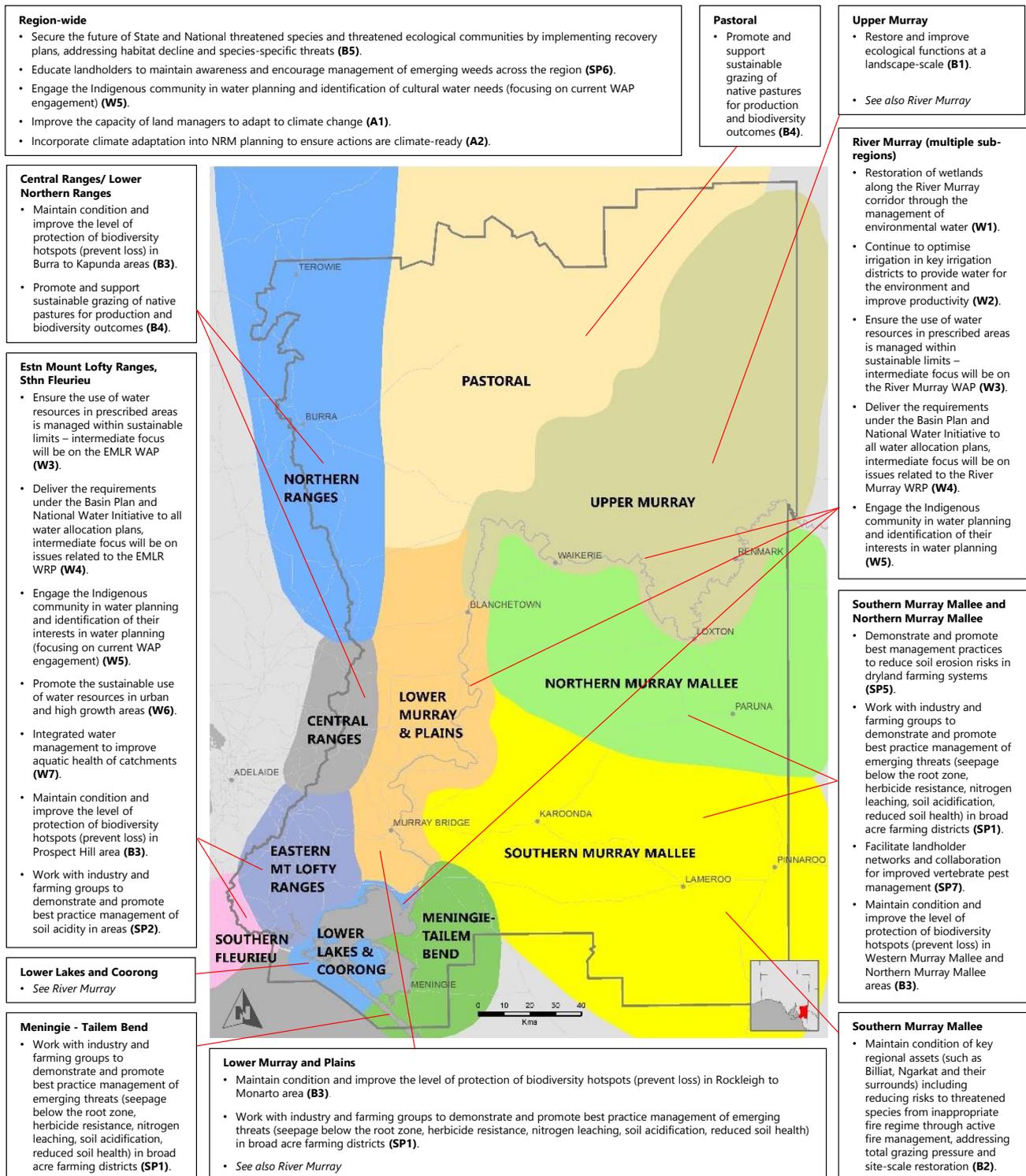


Figure 1 – The SAMDB NRM Region, subregional areas and the ‘focus areas’ for biodiversity (B), water (W), sustainable production (SP) and atmosphere (A). Each focus area has a code (e.g. **B1**) which will need to be referred to in the application form.

The grants can be used to support a range of activities including:

- Employment of local community engagement staff
- Workshops, training events and field days aimed at increasing community skills and knowledge
- Providing support and technical advice to landholders and community groups
- Recruitment, management and support of NRM volunteers
- Supporting citizen science activities such as monitoring events, equipment, technical support and promotion
- Communications activities such as newsletters, displays, media releases, web pages and social media
- Assisting community groups to secure funding and other resources for NRM activities.

Who can apply?

Incorporated not-for-profit organisations and local governments are eligible to apply. Applicants must be able to demonstrate good local knowledge of their project area and its community. Projects which provide a 'local face' and incorporate local community input into their development and management will be highly regarded.

Applicants are strongly encouraged to form partnerships (i.e. joint applications) with relevant organisations and explore ways to share resources between areas and projects to maximise outcomes and minimise the costs of administration and other forms of duplication.

Who cannot apply?

Individuals, profit-making organisations and State Government are not eligible to apply.

Where can projects take place?

Projects must relate to the SAMDB NRM Region. Applicants must indicate which one or more subregional areas within the SAMDB (see Figure 1) their project is going to take place in.

For more information on these subregional areas, including the priority NRM issues identified for each, see <http://www.naturalresources.sa.gov.au/samurraydarlingbasin-rap/Homepage>

When can projects start and finish?

Projects must start and finish within the 2019-20 financial year (1 July 2019 – 30 June 2020).

How much funding can be applied for?

The total amount of funding currently available in the program for 2019-20 is \$300,000. While there is no minimum or maximum amount of per project funding, when planning the size of the project and the proposed budget, applicants should keep in mind the total funding available across the region. Applicants are encouraged to include other financial contributions to their projects where possible.

How will applications be assessed?

Applications will be initially assessed by a range of Natural Resources SAMDB staff. The final assessment will be made by the Board or their delegate.

A range of criteria will be used to assess applications including:

- How well the project contributes to the Board's strategic directions and focus areas
- How well the project compliments or supports other existing programs / initiatives
- How effective the proposed methodology and activities are likely to be in achieving the project's objectives
- The level of partnerships involved in the project, including other financial contributions
- How well the budget matches the proposed outcomes and activities.

When will applicants be notified of the outcome?

It is anticipated that applicants will be notified about the outcome of the assessment process in May 2019.

What requirements must applicants be aware of when applying?

Reporting:

- Successful projects will be required to submit a mid-year report and a final report. Reporting includes monitoring and evaluating projects against key evaluation questions (including the use of standardised participant evaluation forms for capacity building events).

Publicity and acknowledgement:

- Successful applicants will be required to work with Natural Resources SAMDB staff to publicise project activities in regional communications including print media, website and social media.
- All project communications must acknowledge the SAMDB NRM Board as the funding source. More detailed acknowledgement information, wording and logos will be provided to successful applicants.

Insurance:

The type of activities that are funded will determine the type and level of insurance that is required by the applicant. It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure they are adequately insured. For Not-for-Profit Sector grants of \$10,000 or above, the applicant **will be** required to have a minimum of \$1 million public liability insurance coverage.

When are applications due and how should they be lodged?

Applications are due by **5:00pm ACDT on the 1st of April 2019**. Late applications will not be accepted. Applications should be lodged via email as MS Word/Excel documents with a scanned PDF of the signed declaration and consent page (Question 18) to phil.mcnamara@sa.gov.au.

Need assistance or more information?

For assistance or more information please contact Jem Tesoriero, NRM Communities Team Leader, on (08) 8532 9100.