



**Amanda Rishworth MP  
Federal Member for Kingston**

January 2012 Environment Grants

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**Grant: Caring for our Country Proposals**

**Provider:** Australian Government

**Category:** Environment Conservation & Heritage

**Funding:** Various

**Closes:** 9 February 2012

**Purpose:** To achieve an environment that is healthier, better protected, well-managed, resilient, and provides essential ecosystem services in a changing climate.

**Overview:** The outcomes are focused on protecting and building resilience into our environment across six national priority areas:

- natural resource management in northern and remote Australia
- community skills, knowledge and engagement
- the National Reserve System
- biodiversity and natural icons
- coastal environments and critical aquatic habitats
- sustainable farm practices.

Activities funded through this business plan will round out over \$2 billion of Australian Government investment across outcomes in these six priority areas. In the final year of this phase of Caring for our Country, the Australian Government will support projects that fulfil the initiative's medium-term outcomes. This 2012-13 business plan identifies the targets and investment focus for the fifth year of Caring for our Country. Caring for our Country is an ongoing Australian Government initiative. The funding arrangements for ongoing natural resource management activities are expected to be announced in 2012.

**Who can apply:** To be eligible for Caring for our Country investment you must meet all of the following:

- be a legal entity. If your organisation is not a legal entity you will need to partner with an organisation that is.

In broad terms, a legal entity is an organisation that can legally enter into a contract

- clearly identify in your application which targets you seek to address
- have, or be able to obtain before agreed commencement, all necessary planning, regulatory or other approvals, to ensure all activities are completed by 30 June 2013
- have no overdue reports or acquittals from previous Australian Government funding
- have the agreement of the lead partner organisation and key partner organisations to submit the application (for example, chief executive officer of the company, president of the community group, chief executive of the government department).

Individual targets may have additional specific eligibility requirements, including ineligible activities. The relevant target information in section 2 details any additional specific criteria. Applicants for projects under the Sustainable Farm Practices and Coastal Environments and Critical Aquatic Habitats priority areas should also refer to the information sheets available at [www.nrm.gov.au](http://www.nrm.gov.au) for additional eligibility requirements.

**How to apply:** See Caring for our Country website [www.nrm.gov.au/business-plan/index.html](http://www.nrm.gov.au/business-plan/index.html)

**Further Information**

**Website:** <http://www.nrm.gov.au/business-plan/11-12/index.html>

**Guidelines:** <http://www.nrm.gov.au/resources/publications/bp-2012-13/pubs/bp-2012-13.pdf>

**Contact Details: Email:** [grant.services@nrm.gov.au](mailto:grant.services@nrm.gov.au) **Telephone:** 1800 552 008

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**Grant: Native Vegetation Fund - Significant Environmental Benefit Grants****Provider:** Department of Environment and Natural Resources**Category:** Environment Conservation & Heritage**Funding:** Various **Closes:** 31 January 2012**Purpose:** To provide funding for research into the conservation, restoration and management of native vegetation.**Overview:** Funding is available for biodiversity projects that will assist in the large scale conservation, restoration and management of native vegetation across Natural Resource Management (NRM) Regions at a landscape scale. The NVC will consider applications that develop partnerships that look at conservation enhancement and landscape management. Projects should address NVC priorities and be consistent with strategies and priorities identified in the regional NRM plans.**How to apply:** Mail**Further Information****Website:**[http://www.environment.sa.gov.au/Conservation/Native\\_Vegetation/Grants/Significant environmental benefit grants](http://www.environment.sa.gov.au/Conservation/Native_Vegetation/Grants/Significant_environmental_benefit_grants)**Contact Details:****Email:** [nvc@sa.gov.au](mailto:nvc@sa.gov.au) **Telephone:** (08) 8303 9725 **Fax:** (08) 8303 9780**Grant: Biodiversity Fund****Provider:** Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities**Category:** Environment Conservation & Heritage**Funding: Total Pool:** \$36,000,000**Additional Info:** Various **Closes:** 31 January 2012**Purpose:** Aims to support projects that reduce Australia's carbon pollution and improve the resilience of our ecosystems to the impacts of climate change.**Overview:** The objectives of the Biodiversity Fund are to:

- help maintain ecosystem function and increase ecosystem resilience to climate change
- increase and improve the management of biodiverse carbon stores across the country.

The Biodiversity Fund will do this through:

- support for revegetation, including in areas of high conservation value
- management and protection of existing biodiverse carbon stores, including publicly owned native forests and land under conservation covenants or subject to land clearing restrictions
- support for actions to prevent the spread of invasive species across connected landscapes.

Through the funding of these activities, the Biodiversity Fund will support restoration and management of areas of the landscape which can store carbon while also achieving biodiversity outcomes. The Biodiversity Fund will promote investment so that, over time, significant and strategic national biodiversity conservation gains can be made. This will include capturing opportunities provided by the Carbon Farming Initiative to establish new biodiverse plantings in order to produce both biodiversity and carbon benefits. A primary mechanism for building resilient landscapes will be undertaking projects that restore and connect ecologically important areas including those where habitats are fragmented and habitat condition is under threat.

**Limitations:** To be eligible, a project must:

- Not include activities that:
  - o have been completed
  - o are being undertaken outside Australia or its territories
  - o are substantially the same as activities completely funded through other initiatives or programs.
- Involve financial and/or in-kind contribution from the public land owner if it is located on public land. For the purposes of these Guidelines, 'public land' means land owned by a government entity or government related entity except where such land is leasehold land (i.e. the subject of a 99 year lease or a pastoral lease).

**Who can apply:** Biodiversity Fund grants are targeted towards individual land managers, groups of land managers working in partnership or organisations working on behalf of multiple land managers.

To be eligible, applicants must:

- be a legal entity, for instance:
  - o an individual
  - o an incorporated association or cooperative society
  - o a body corporate (company)

o an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander corporation, council or incorporated association  
o a Government-related entity.

• declare that they have, or are able to obtain, the written consent of any organisation that the applicant partners with or represents on the project, including traditional owners.

**How to apply:** Mail Online

### **Further Information**

**Website:** <http://www.environment.gov.au/cleanenergyfuture/biodiversity-fund/index.html>

**Guidelines:**

<http://www.environment.gov.au/cleanenergyfuture/publications/pubs/biodiversityfund-guidelines.pdf>

**Contact Details:** Email: [biodiversityfund@environment.gov.au](mailto:biodiversityfund@environment.gov.au) Telephone: 1800 008 678

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### **Grant: Biochar Capacity Building Program**

**Provider:** Dept of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF)

**Category:** Environment Conservation & Heritage

**Funding:** Various

**Closes:** 3 February 2012

**Purpose:** Aims to facilitate the development of biochar offset methodologies<sup>3</sup> that will be publicly available for use by Australian land managers in carbon markets, through the CFI.

**Overview:** Biochar is a stable charcoal produced by pyrolysis, which is the heating of biomass to high temperatures in low levels of oxygen. The biochar stores part of the biomass's carbon in a stable form and is then used as a soil. The pyrolysis process can also capture combustible gases to produce bio-energy. The Biochar Capacity Building Program is part of the \$45.6 million Carbon Farming Initiative (CFI)<sup>2</sup>. The CFI will develop opportunities for Australian farmers and land managers to generate credits that can be sold in domestic and international carbon markets and receiving income for taking action to reduce Australia's carbon emissions.

The Biochar Capacity Building Program will support research, on-ground testing and demonstration of biochar to provide additional options for land managers to contribute to reducing Australia's carbon pollution. The Biochar Capacity Building Program is a \$2 million (GST exclusive) grants program that will provide funding for approved projects from 2011-12 to 2013-14.

The Biochar Capacity Building Program will complement work under the Climate Change Research Program, including work through the National Biochar Research Initiative and the Soil Carbon Research Program.

**Priorities:** The program priorities are:

- research that determines and quantifies how biochars mitigate greenhouse gas emissions
- demonstration of integrated biochar systems in Australia, from the production of the biochar to its end use. This would include economic analysis and emissions life cycle assessments to inform land managers' decisions about biochar
- the development of biochar offset methodologies to enable land managers to participate in carbon markets through the CFI.

**Who can apply:** Applicants must be an Australian company, business, research organisation, government agency or department, for example:

- Australian business with an Australian Business Number
- Rural Research and Development Corporation
- National or state primary industry organisation
- Australian, state or territory or local government agency or statutory corporation
- Australian tertiary education institution
- Australian Cooperative Research Centre
- Australian public sector research agency
- Australian private research organisation.

**How to apply:** Mail, Email

### **Further Information**

**Website:** <http://www.daff.gov.au/climatechange/cfi/biochar>

**Guidelines:** [http://www.daff.gov.au/data/assets/pdf\\_file/0004/2052787/Biochar-Guidelines.pdf](http://www.daff.gov.au/data/assets/pdf_file/0004/2052787/Biochar-Guidelines.pdf)

**Appl. Form:** <http://www.daff.gov.au/media/documents/climate-change/biochar-app.pdf>

**Contact Details:**

**Email:** [biocharprogram@daff.gov.au](mailto:biocharprogram@daff.gov.au) Telephone: 1800 108 760 Fax: (02) 6272 3027

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**Grant: Junior Landcare Grants Program - Overview**

**Provider:** Landcare Australia

**Category:** Environment Conservation & Heritage

**Funding: Max per grant:** \$5,000 **Additional Info:** Various

**Closes:** Ongoing

**Purpose:** To provide funds to help young people participate in Landcare projects, at their school or within their local community and environment.

**Overview:** Through the Junior Landcare Grants Program, any school or organisation that would like to involve their students in landcare projects, in conjunction with local landcare groups, can apply for grants to assist them with the cost of their projects.

**Westpac Junior Landcare Student Sustainability Leadership Grant**(Closing Date TBA)

The Westpac Student Sustainability Leadership grants of \$1,500 each will be awarded at the beginning of 2011 to help Years 5 and 6 students plan and implement environmental sustainability initiatives.

**Coles Junior Landcare School Garden Grant**

Since 2008 Coles has been providing School Garden Grants of up to \$1,000 to schools and youth groups to help create gardens in their grounds or community, such as bush tucker gardens, water wise gardens or veggie gardens. These programs encourage students to learn about the environment through "outdoor learning" and interaction in developing their own school gardens.

2012 Closing Dates

- Round 1: 5pm Friday 17th February
- Round 2: 5pm Friday 4th May
- Round 3: 5pm Friday 27th July

**Yates Environmental Management Planning Grant**(TBA)

Schools and youth groups can apply for grants of up to \$1000 (ex GST) to undertake School Environmental Management Plans (SEMP) or to undertake works identified in an earlier SEMF.

**How to apply:** Email

**Further Information**

**Website:** <http://www.juniorlandcare.com.au/grants-2>

**Contact Details:** Ms Sheena Martin , Partnerships Manager Landcare Australia

**Email:** [grants@landcareaustralia.com.au](mailto:grants@landcareaustralia.com.au) **Telephone:** (02) 9412 1040 **Fax:** (02) 9412 1060