

Expression of Interest: Funding ideas to pursue BCLN's purpose

Background

The Bass Coast Landcare Network (BCLN) Board invites member groups to submit potential funding ideas to advance the pursuit of BCLN's purpose.

This exciting opportunity has become available as a result of the BCLN Community Projects Reserve being assessed as having the capacity to provide a funding source for community projects, research projects and donations that align with the strategic objectives and priorities of BCLN and will progress the achievement of key areas of focus. Funding ideas that help to target activities that currently have limited alternative funding sources or require seed funding for new and innovative ideas will be highly regarded. Collaborative proposals that involve organisations outside of Landcare to help deliver project objectives are also acceptable.

The maximum amount of funding available in the Community Projects Reserve is reviewed annually, determined by recent financial performance of BCLN and other factors outlined in the BCLN reserve policy. In 2026 the estimated reserve is \$120,000, noting that any unspent funds rollover from year to year.

It is also important to note that recurrent funding requests beyond one year cannot be committed to; however new funding requests for the same project can be submitted in subsequent years for consideration.

Funding submission ideas will be reviewed by the BCLN Board, and shortlisted proposals for 2026 will then be invited to work up a more detailed proposal.

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Timeline

Stage	Description	Milestones
Stage 1	Invite high level funding proposals	Closing 13th February 2026
Stage 2	Board to review and shortlist proposals	Complete during March 2026
Stage 3	Short listed proposal to be developed in further detail (if required) and final submission presented to the Board	April 2026 - May 2026
Stage 4	Successful projects announced for 2026	Complete by June 2026

Selection Criteria	Weighting
Project Alignment: The degree to which the project aligns and contributes to the Objectives of the BCLN Strategic Plan basscoastlandcare.org.au/uploads/8/9/8/3/89835233/bcln_strategic_plan_2023_final.pdf	45%
Innovative Approaches: Projects should demonstrate innovative methods and approaches	15%
Impact Assessment: The project must have a measurable impact and be an area of need for additional funding	15%
Community Engagement: Projects should involve BCLN Landcare and community participation and engagement	15%
In-kind contributions: % of in-kind or cash contributions to the project	10%

Mandatory Criteria

BCLN Landcare Group approval: Project must involve and be approved by a BCLN Landcare Group

Detailed Proposal: Be prepared to develop a more detailed proposal if the funding submission idea is shortlisted

Project Lead(s): Project Lead(s) provided who will be responsible for managing and delivering the project plan.

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High Level Summary of Proposed Funding

Organisation/group:

Name:		
Contact Person:		
Registered address:		
		Postcode:
Postal address (if different to above):		
		Postcode:
Telephone:	(AH):	(BH):
Facsimile:		Email:
Website:		

Proposal name:

I: Provide below a very brief outline of the funding proposal

Expression of Interest: Funding ideas to pursue BCLN's purpose

2: Alignment with Key Areas of Focus

Tick the relevant box(es) below to describe how the proposal aligns with BCLN programs to deliver on strategic priorities.

Key Area of Focus	
<p>Biodiversity</p> <p>Programs to deliver on our strategic priority: <i>"Linking, protecting and enhancing biodiverse landscapes"</i></p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Support Landcare groups to revegetate the landscape</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Create biolinks across the landscape</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Identify opportunities to protect threatened species</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Deliver invasive species control programs</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Undertake waterway protection projects</p>
<p>Brief summary of alignment of proposal – include information on all ticked boxes above.</p>	
<p>Landcare Groups, People and Partnerships</p> <p>Programs to deliver on our strategic priority: <i>"Strong rural & urban communities engaged and connected through Landcare partnerships"</i></p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Support Landcare groups to meet their goals</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Build and strengthen partnerships with local government - Bass Coast and South Gippsland Shires</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Strengthen partnerships with local, regional, State, Federal organisations and businesses for the benefit of our Landcare community</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Offer opportunities for volunteers to actively engage in Landcare activities</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Continue to build a strong partnership with Bunurong Land Council Aboriginal Corporation</p>

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<p>Brief summary of alignment of proposal – include information on all ticked boxes above.</p>	
<p>Strong Professional Organisation</p> <p>Programs to deliver on our strategic priority: <i>“A strong & professional organisation that meets all the governance needs and is safe, skilled and effective.”</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Maintain a quality Board and Management team providing effective, accountable and strategic leadership <input type="checkbox"/> Support a skilled and safe professional workforce <input type="checkbox"/> Employ a skilled works crew available to undertake environmental contracting services <input type="checkbox"/> Live a culture of safety, zero harm <input type="checkbox"/> Diversify funding sources including government, philanthropic, corporate and fee for service
<p>Brief summary of alignment of proposal – include information on all ticked boxes above.</p>	
<p>Sustainable Agriculture</p> <p>"Programs to deliver on our strategic priority: <i>“Promoting</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Support landholders to undertake whole farm planning <input type="checkbox"/> Deliver soil management programs <input type="checkbox"/> Deliver innovative farming programs including regenerative agriculture

Expression of Interest: Funding ideas to pursue BCLN's purpose

<p><i>innovative & sustainable property management"</i></p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Deliver programs focused on helping conserve biodiversity with farm dams</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Investigate and deliver Carbon mitigation and adaption strategies</p>
<p>Brief summary of alignment of proposal – include information on all ticked boxes above.</p>	
<p>Knowledge Sharing</p> <p>Programs to deliver on our strategic priority: <i>“Supporting, promoting & sharing knowledge across our region”</i></p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Produce easily accessible information and communication across all media</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Deliver high quality education programs with schools</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Co-ordinate environmental activities and sharing knowledge including involvement in research projects</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Engage and encourage youth in Landcare activities</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Deliver a range of Landcare training programs to meet the needs of our Landcare community</p>
<p>Brief summary of alignment of proposal – include information on all ticked boxes above.</p>	

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3: Provide an estimated budget (a detailed budget will be developed if the proposal progresses to the next stage) including GST. Feel free to include with the submission a separate budget to provide more detail.

4: Provide an estimated timeline for delivering key stages and deliverable for the project

5: If the funding idea is shortlisted, do you agree to develop a more detailed implementation proposal as determined by the selection committee (if required)?

Yes

No

6: Is the funding proposal endorsed by you Landcare Group Committee and President? Please provide a letter of support.

Yes

No



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7: Authorisation of Application:

I certify that all details supplied in this application form and in the attached documents are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, and that the application has been submitted with the full knowledge and agreement of the management of the applicant organisation.

I have read the accompanying guidelines.

I agree to contact Bass Coast Landcare Network if any information regarding this application changes or is found to be incorrect.

Completed application forms should be submitted to the Bass Coast Landcare Network Office at 2-4 Bass School Road, Bass, 3991, or emailed to info@basscoastlandcare.org.au

For further assistance please call 5678 2335