

2 June 2023

Frequently Asked Questions

Early Needs Recovery Program

Early Needs Weed Management Guidelines FAQ

FAQ for the Early Needs Weed Management Program Grants application for the Early Needs Recovery Program

What is the Early Needs Recovery Program – Weed Management Grants?

The \$13 million Early Needs Recovery Program (ENRP) is part of the \$150 million Primary Industry Support package which is co-funded 50-50 by the Australian and NSW governments under the Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DRFA).

The \$1.5 million Early Needs Weed Management Program (the program) is part of the Early Needs Recovery Program. The flooding events are understood to have caused wide-spread weed dispersal and disturbed ground (which supports weed infestation). This program is designed to directly support recovery of primary production, by providing landscape scale support for weed management, control activities and projects.

The program is offering a targeted, competitive grant opportunity over one round of funding, to eligible Local Control Authorities (LCA's) within the Greater Sydney and South East regions.

All projects are required to be completed by 31 May 2024.

Local Land Services (LLS) is delivering the ENRP in collaboration with the Department of Regional NSW and the NSW Department of Primary Industries (DPI).

Is the grant only available in certain Local Government Areas (LGAs)?

Yes – the grant funding can only be used to support industries that fall within the LGAs identified under AGRN 1012 and within the Greater Sydney and South East LLS Regions. These have been identified in Appendix A in the Grant Guidelines

Who can apply?

The weed management grants are targeted grants. This means that the applicants have been invited by the Department and others cannot apply. This is to ensure that the funding will be handled by the appropriate industry organisations as well as Local Land Services. These applicants were invited after consideration of the declared disaster zone and declared LGAs.

I haven't received an invitation to apply for the ENRP Weed Management Grant. Can I apply anyway?

No - only local control authorities that have been identified and invited to apply can submit an application for the Early Needs Early Needs Weed Management.

What is the close date for applications?

Applications close 11:59pm AEST 16 June 2023

Can I submit more than one application?

No - organisations can only submit one application.

What if my application is late?

Applications close 11:59pm AEST 16 June 2023 via the online application process.

All requests for a submission extension must be received in writing before 12pm AEST on the application closing date. Extension requests may be accepted at the sole discretion of Local Land Services.

What activities are eligible?

Eligible activities are to be undertaken in the defined disaster area for the NSW storms and floods that occurred from 22 February 2022 onwards (AGRN 1012) and can include:

- Weed control programs
 - Weed surveillance programs
 - employing or contracting a person/organisation to coordinate and/or deliver control/surveillance activities
 - grant administration (maximum of 10% of total grant value)
 - Weed identification and control workshops, field days, seminars, educational materials and roadshows with a weed identification, control, and surveillance focus
 - Weed related and focused communication materials including development of newsletters, handbooks, fact sheets, webinars, podcasts, videos, and website content.
 - Capital expenditure for items that will contribute to weed control/surveillance programs (for example - boats, sprayers, trailers, drones, ATV, laboratory equipment, safe storage facilities etc
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How much funding is available?

There is \$1.5 million allocated for the Early Needs Weed Management Grants Program. Each eligible applicant can up for a portion of the total amount allocated. Eligible applicants can apply for between \$50,000 and \$400,000 excluding GST.

Can ineligible projects be referred to a more appropriate funding program?

Yes. Projects that are more suitable for other NSW Government programs may be referred to those programs. Applications that are referred will be subject to the full assessment criteria of the other NSW Government program to which they are referred. Applicants may need to update their application to meet the criteria of the referred program.

What if there are unspent funds?

If the situation arises where a grant recipient's project is completed and there are unspent funds remaining from the grant allocation, Local Land Services may require the grant recipient to return the unspent funds. If the grant recipient requests to use the funds to extend the scope of the project, Local Land Services may assess that request if it aligns to the objectives of the grant program and can be completed by 31 May 2024. Local Land Services may require the grant recipient to provide supporting information such as revised economic or social impact data.

When do I have to spend the funding amount by?

The funding provided must be spent and all claims submitted by 31 May 2024.

How will I get paid if I am successful?

All Early Needs Recovery Program funds will be paid via milestones. Milestone payments and reporting requirements will be outlined in the Funding Deed.

Where do I get further information?

For more information and to request documentation including grant guidelines and an application form, please contact Kiera Turner 0492 166 068 or Peta Holcombe 0456 760 556 from the Early Needs Recovery Program team or email recovery@lls.nsw.gov.au

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