

STATE NRM PROGRAM 2010-11

Community Grants

PROJECT APPLICATION

Applicant Details: Shire of Denmark – Biodiversity Surveys on Shire Reserves

Contact

Name/group name:	Shire of Denmark		
Postal address	PO Box 183 Denmark WA 6333		
Project contact person:	Yvette Caruso		
Position on organisation:	Natural Resource Management Officer		
Telephone:	(08) 9848 0300	Mobile:	
Email:	nrm@denmark.wa.gov.au		

Registration

Question	Response
Is your Group incorporated?	Yes
Is your group registered for GST?	Yes
Does your group have an ABN (Australian Business Number)?	Yes

****Please note:**

If your organisation is not incorporated you will need a sponsoring organisation to submit on your behalf.

If your organisation does not have an ABN and/or is not GST registered you will be required to provide the name of a suitably qualified sponsor who is prepared to manage the funds on your behalf.

Sponsor Organisation

Name/group name:	NA		
Postal address			
Contact person:			
Position on organisation:			
Telephone:		Mobile:	
Email:			

Partnerships

(a) Is this a partnership project?

Yes

(b) If so, with whom?

- Great Southern Institute of Technology – TAFE Denmark Campus
- Green Skills – Denmark
- Southern Flora and Landscape Ecologists

The following person/s from partner organisations has been consulted during the preparation of this application and can be contacted to verify their support.

Organisation:	Great Southern Institute of Technology – TAFE Denmark and Denmark Weed Action Group	Southern Flora and Landscape Ecologists
Contact person:	Diane Harwood	Erica Shedley and Nathan McQuoid
Position	Conservation and Land Management Lecturer and Denmark Weed Action Group Convenor	Qualified flora and avian fauna survey experts
Telephone:	(08) 9848 2641	(08) 9761 7512 (08) 9295 3122
Mobile:	0420 211 203	0439 936 591
Nature of relationship to the project:	Supervisor to community members and TAFE Conservation and Land Management students undertaking biodiversity survey work on Shire Reserves Denmark Weed Action Group will also be assisting with follow-up monitoring and flow-on formulation of Friends of Groups.	Co-ordinate and manage on-ground survey work for flora communities and avian fauna within Shire Reserves – Mt Hallowell and Wilson Inlet Foreshore Reserves
Letter of support is attached	Yes	No

Organisation:	Green Skills
Contact person:	Basil Schur
Position	Projects Manager
Telephone:	(08) 9848 1019
Mobile:	0429 481 019
Nature of relationship to the project:	Community not-for-profit organisation who developed on behalf of the Shire, the relevant management plans with recommendations to conduct biodiversity surveys on Mt Hallowell and Wilson Inlet Foreshore Reserves. Green Skills will

	also be assisting with follow-up monitoring and community engagement in future Reserve activities.
Letter of support is attached	Yes

- (c) How have all of the relevant partners/participants been engaged/consulted in the planning of the project? How will they be involved in the delivery?

In 2008 two management plans for the Shire of Denmark were developed for the Mount Hallowell and Wilson Inlet Foreshore Reserves as they were identified as high conservation priority bushland and foreshore Reserves within the Shire of Denmark. The management plans were endorsed by Council in 2008 and recommendations for implementation were identified – a priority recommendation within both plans was for biodiversity surveys to be conducted on aforementioned reserves in the area of fauna, flora, fungi and avian fauna.

An Expression of Interest to undertake biodiversity surveys (fauna, fungi, flora and avian fauna) was then advertised by the Shire of Denmark to identify qualified consultants who would be required to follow a consistent and scientifically valid methodology for surveying natural plant communities and fauna on Shire Reserves - Mt Hallowell and Wilson Inlet Foreshore Reserves. A condition of the tender was for consultants to ensure that they provide the opportunity for engagement of community members such as TAFE Conservation and Land Management students to participate in field surveys.

It is the intention that the Shire encourages the community to embrace the 2011 International Year of Forests theme. By promoting community involvement through an educational institution during surveying the Shire aims to build community capacity to participate in ongoing monitoring, education and field projects within local Reserves.

Other Projects

Please name all other projects that your organisation is currently involved in, either directly managing or delivering components for another organisation.

Project	Project proponent	Resources and source	Commencement date	Completion date
Biodiversity Surveys – Fungi and Fauna of Mount Hallowell and Wilson Inlet Foreshore Reserves	Shire of Denmark	Fungi and Fauna technical expertise Funding – Council and Lotterywest	June 2010	30 th June 2011
Revegetation of priority sites along Wilson Inlet Foreshore Reserves	Shire of Denmark	Department of Water (DoW); Wilson Inlet Catchment Committee; Revegetation Officer Funding – Council, DoW DEC Environmental Community Grants	August 2010	30 June 2011
Coastal Management Plan review and update	Shire of Denmark	Land Insights Funding – DPI Coastal Management Plan Assistance Program	July 2010	February 2011
High Conservation Roadside Vegetation Mapping and Surveying Project	Shire of Denmark Roadside Conservation Committee	Shire of Denmark Roadside Conservation Committee Volunteers	October 2010	June 2011

Project Details:

Title: (maximum 15 words)

Biodiversity Surveys (Flora and Birds) on Shire of Denmark Mt Hallowell and Wilson Inlet Foreshore Reserves

Description

(a) Write a general description (150 words or less) of the project. *If the project application is successful, this summary will be used to promote the project.*

Biodiversity surveys are to be conducted targeting flora and vegetation communities as well as avian fauna on high conservation bush-land and foreshore Reserves within the Shire of Denmark. The Reserves targeted for survey include Mount Hallowell Reserve and the Wilson Inlet Foreshore Reserves that are vested with the Shire of Denmark (of which there are 15).

Through an advertised Expression of Interest process, the Shire has identified local and regional qualified and experienced consultants with technical expertise to undertake the biodiversity surveys. These technical experts will follow a consistent and scientifically valid methodology for surveying natural plant communities and fauna which involves both desktop and comprehensive field assessments. A condition of tender was also to ensure that there is provision for engagement of community members such as Conservation and Land Management TAFE students to participate in the field surveys to further promote the involvement and build capacity within the community.

The biodiversity surveys (flora and birds) will complement surveys on fauna and fungi that are currently being conducted over the 2010-11 financial year. The survey work is commensurate with recommendations outlined within the Shire of Denmark endorsed *Mount Hallowell Reserve and Wilson Inlet Foreshore Reserves Management Plans (2008)*, and will contribute to further knowledge of biodiversity values within the Shire of Denmark and broader southern region.

(b) How much grant money are you applying for? *Exclude GST. Note: minimum is \$10,000 and maximum is \$50,000.*

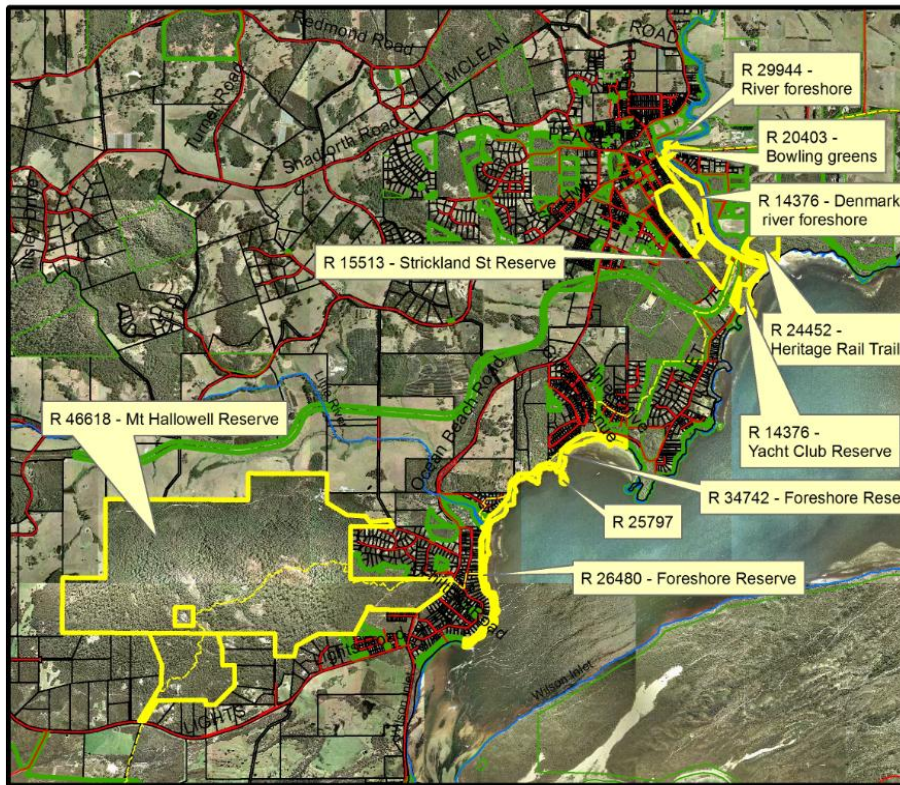
Requested grant funding amount for the flora and bird surveys is **\$19,560 (ex GST)** – to be put towards contracting qualified technical experts and local Conservation and Land Management TAFE students to undertake survey work over a twelve month period.

Council has committed \$20,000 cash contribution(ex GST) (as well as \$15,390 of in-kind contributions) towards the entire Biodiversity Surveys project. Of the \$20,000 cash contribution component, \$13,000 is to be put towards the flora and bird surveys (the remaining \$7000 is currently being put towards fungi and fauna biodiversity surveys). (Please refer to Budget Breakdown attached.)

(c) Identify the location and the asset that you intend working on in the project. E.g Lake Chinocup 15km north west of Pingrup. *NOTE: If you are applying for funding for a project involving on-ground works, please provide a map or aerial photograph identifying the project area.*

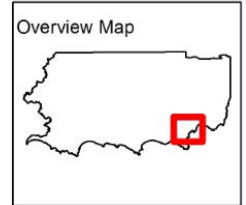
The biodiversity surveys are targeted for the Mount Hallowell Reserve and Wilson Inlet Foreshore Reserves vested with the Shire of Denmark (of which there are 15).
(Please refer to maps attached.)

A Class Reserves vested in Shire of Denmark - Townscape



LEGEND

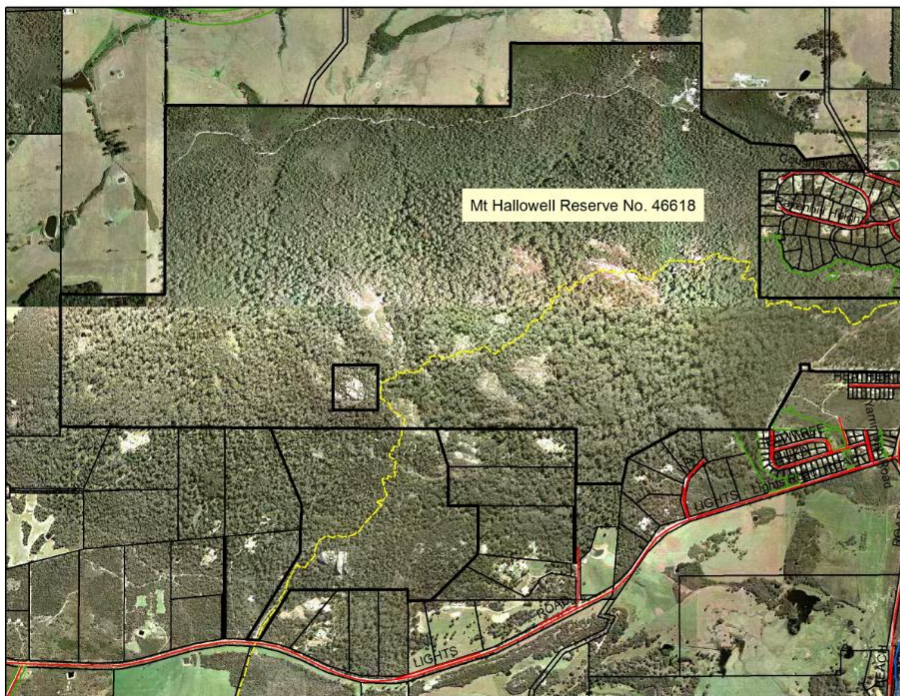
- A Class Shire of Denmark vested Reserves
- Shire of Denmark vested Reserves
- roads



Produced by Y.Caruso
and H.Heydenrych
NRM Officer
Shire of Denmark
25/06/2009

0 375 750 1,500 2,250 3,000 Meters Scale: 1:50,000

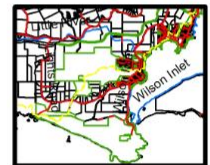
Mount Hallowell Reserve No. 46618



LEGEND

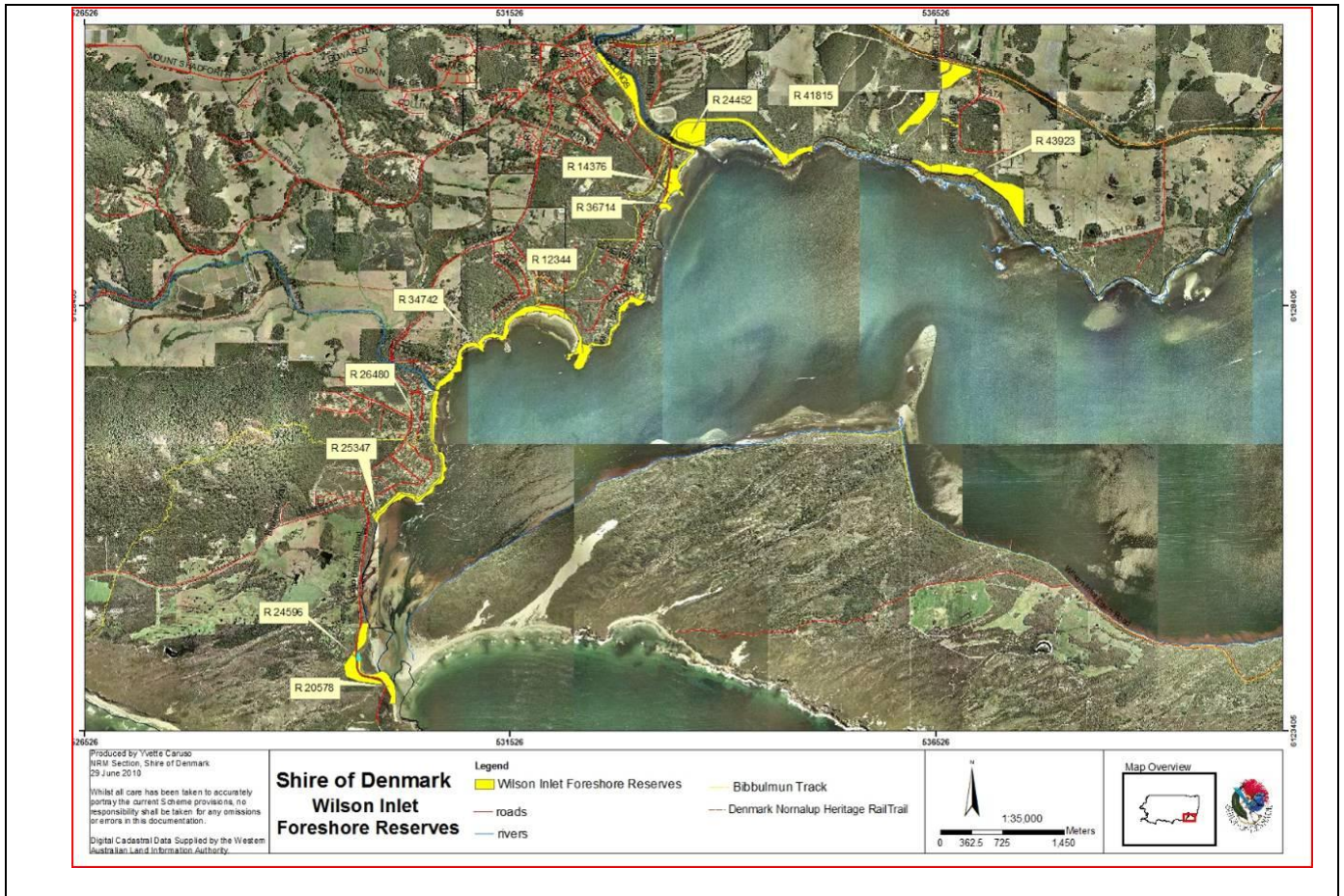
- BibbulmunTrack
- roads
- Mount Hallowell Reserve

Overview Map



Produced by Y.Caruso
NRM Officer
Shire of Denmark
15/06/2009

0 150 300 600 900 1,200 Meters Scale: 1:20,000



(d) Who owns the asset? Will the project benefit (either directly or in-directly) a public asset? If so, describe how this will occur. E.g. A-Class Reserve State Government Managed

The Mount Hallowell and Wilson Inlet Foreshore Reserves are A-class high conservation reserves -- vested with Shire of Denmark.

The Mt Hallowell Reserve and the Wilson Inlet Foreshore Reserves are significant bushland Reserves within the Shire due to their location, their relative size, (532ha and 113.5ha respectively), and proximity to the township.

Mt Hallowell Reserve is an A class Reserve and is designated as a conservation priority area for the maintenance of the flora and fauna and all ecological processes pertaining to the natural environment. It is also recognised that Mt Hallowell Reserve is a significant scientific reference site.

The Wilson Inlet Foreshore Reserves contain sites of ecological, historical and cultural significance and also support a variety of recreational activities.

In 2008 the Shire of Denmark adopted management plans for the aforementioned Reserves which outlined conservation goals which included priority recommendations of the need for systematic fungi, flora, bird and fauna surveys.

- (e) What activity do you intend undertaking in the project. Please identify what problem you are trying to address? **E.g. Revegetate 20 ha with species local to the area, to connect two areas of remnant vegetation on the lake foreshore. Fire has destroyed 50% of the remnant vegetation surrounding the lake.**

To conduct comprehensive biodiversity survey inventories (fauna, flora, fungi, avian fauna) on high conservation value bush-land peri-urban Reserves of the Shire of Denmark commensurate with recommendations outlined within *Shire of Denmark Mt Hallowell Reserve and Wilson Inlet Foreshore Reserves Management Plans*.

The funding contribution requested from *State NRM Program Community Grants 2010-11* is specifically for conduction of the floristic and avian fauna surveys. Biodiversity surveys are to be undertaken seasonally to ensure all available data is captured over a twelve month period from April/May 2010.

- (f) Explain why this project is important to you. **E.g. Lake Chinocup is an important lake for migratory birds during the breeding season and the group wishes to ensure that the birds continue to come and use the lake as a breeding site. It is a great bird watching site for all bird enthusiasts.**

The Shire of Denmark has recognised that in order to promote and retain the biodiversity values within peri-urban bush-land and foreshore Reserves that comprehensive biodiversity surveys of high conservation bush-land Reserves is required. These surveys are commensurate with recommendations outlined within the Shire of Denmark endorsed *Mt Hallowell Reserve and Wilson Inlet Foreshore Reserves Management Plans (2008)*.

- (g) Why have you chosen to undertake the activity described rather than some other activity? **E.g. Local vegetation species are more likely to survive than non-indigenous species. They will attract the migratory birds and local birds whereas non-local species may not.**

The Mount Hallowell Reserve and Wilson Inlet Foreshore Reserves have been targeted as they are high conservation, high visitation reserves – due to their proximity, high biodiversity value, and relative size – undertaking biodiversity surveys will enable a more thorough understanding of values that exist within the Reserves, to enable more strategic landscape decision-making and ensure continued protection and conservation of these biodiversity values.

The biodiversity surveys are also a direct recommendation from within recently endorsed shire management plans (2008). The flora and bird surveys will be complementary to those currently being undertaken on fauna and fungi within these Reserves.

- (h) What is the long-term aim for the asset and how will this project contribute to this? **E.g. Local vegetation species are more likely to survive. They will attract the migratory birds and local birds whereas non-local species may not. The long-term aim is to revegetate all of the burnt areas so that the lake surrounds return to pre-burnt condition. This project will revegetate 10% of the burnt area.**

The biodiversity survey results will be the first step in the development of a holistic Biodiversity Management Plan that will cover all Shire bush-land Reserves. It is anticipated that significant details, such as locations of species which are rare, endangered or of limited range, will be prioritised as "minimal impact" zones within Reserves. The Shire's Planning and Sustainability, Infrastructure Services, Community and Regulatory Services, and Fire Management directorates all have varying levels of activity and responsibility within Shire Reserves. It is intended that the outcomes and recommendations from the surveys will enable more informed decision-making processes and strategic land management across all Shire directorates, enabling a better understanding and ensuring continued protection and conservation of high biodiversity values within these Shire Reserves.

Project Plan

Activities

(a) Describe the major activities you will do in your project and when you will complete them.

Description of key activities	Timeframe for completion
Literature search of previous surveys with relevant data utilised and collated for survey work	First month of project – May 2011
Desktop assessment conducted and incorporated into survey findings	First month of project – May 2011
Consistent and scientifically valid methodology for surveying in accordance with biodiversity templates provided by the Shire	Quarterly over 12 month period – June 2011, September 2011, December 2011, March 2012
Survey sites sufficiently representative of each vegetation community within each Reserve	Quarterly over 12 month period
A variety of survey type conducted to capture relevant data on diverse flora and avian fauna	Quarterly over 12 month period
Maintenance and provision of meticulous data records including site co-ordinates	Quarterly over 12 month period

Milestones and outputs

(a) Name all activities you intend achieving (**ie milestones**); identify what you will do to achieve this (**ie output**); how you will measure these (**ie output measure**) and the expected number.

Milestone	Due Date	Output	Output Measure	Expected Number
Progress and update reports	Quarterly over 12 month period	Progress reports and updates of findings provided throughout the project	Progress Reports	4 - quarterly
Production of a final written report outlining methodology of survey	May 2012	Final report, inventory, methodology, and maps to be supplied in hard copy triplicate as well as electronic copies of each in editable format (preferably M.Word) as well as PDF	Final Report	1 - final
Inventory and corresponding spatial data provided	May 2012	Survey results and inventory data provided classified by family, with attached spatial documentation in relation to survey results	Inventory	1
GIS spatial information produced	May 2012	GIS spatial information (co-ordinates) relating to each species identified in survey to be provided in shapefile format for mapping display purposes	Shapefile	1

Measurement of Results

- (a) Explain how you will determine whether you have addressed the problem.

Biodiversity surveys are to be comprehensive, scientifically valid (utilising standardised survey templates provided by the Shire), to be conducted over a 12 month period to capture seasonal variability and maximise optimal conditions for survey of all species. Data is to be provided as quarterly progress update reports and also as a final report with an inventory list, description and detail of methodology, species list, and corresponding GIS spatial co-ordinates, as well as a GIS shapefile of all species identified in survey work to be utilised for mapping purposes.

- (b) How will you maintain the benefits gained from the project in the future?

The final report which will outline the inventory, methodology, species list, corresponding with the GIS shapefile which will be housed at the Shire in the corporate library, NRM section, and stored on the server under GIS systems.

The report and corresponding shapefile will be referenced on a regular ongoing basis by the Shire when undertaking land management decisions for reserve management as well as against proposed operational activities within these Reserves – to ensure the continued protection of the biodiversity values identified from the surveys.

Promotion and publicity – *(how will you promote your groups project and the contribution of the funders?)*

- (a) Outline any public relations activities associated with the project.

Planned events eg tree planting, weeding, monitoring	
Date	Location / special feature / activity
May 2011	Media release – local newspaper(s) and media outlets, as well as WALGA Eco-news
September 2011	Media article and photos regarding on-site in the field survey work with community members
May 2012	Media release – local newspaper(s) and media outlets as well as WALGA Eco-news

- (b) How and/or when will local or regional media be involved in your project?

Local and regional media such as newspapers and media outlets, as well as WALGA Eco-newsletters will be contacted at the beginning and at the cessation of the project. A media release and photographs will be produced for circulation to all relevant media outlets.

An interim media release and photographs will also be undertaken in spring focusing on site in the field the survey work being undertaken on the Shire Reserves with technical experts working with TAFE students and community members.

Financial Requirements

Please list all cash and in-kind contributions; all activities and costings including the source of all funds whether they are program funds requested or resources that you have secured. It may include such items as:

- Administration, project management, insurance and audit costs (no more than 10% of the total grant requested can be spent on this item),
- Materials including fencing, trees etc,
- Hire of specialist equipment,
- Provision of expert/professional services,
- Labour (voluntary and paid) and
- Travel.

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Please use GST exclusive figures

Major area of proposal activity (please describe)	Proponent/ partner <i>in-kind</i> contributions (please name the contributions individually)	Proponent/ partner <i>cash</i> contributions (please name the contributions individually)	State NRM funds Required	Budget Breakdown		
				Employment costs	Capital costs	Operating costs
1. Flora Survey work	\$2,160 – Shire of Denmark	\$6,000 – Shire of Denmark	\$11,600	\$2,160		\$17,600
2. Flora Survey work	\$4,800 – TAFE students and community members			\$4,800		
3. Bird Survey work	\$2,160 – Shire of Denmark	\$7,000 – Shire of Denmark	\$7,960	\$2,160		\$14,960
4. Bird Survey work	\$1,920 - TAFE students and community members			\$1,920		
TOTAL FUNDS	\$11,040	\$13,000	\$19,560	\$11,040		\$32,560

** Please also refer to Biodiversity Surveys Budget – Council and Grant Funding (application) table provided in Appendices **