



Green Adelaide Blue Carbon Futures Grants Application guide

What are we working to achieve?

Green Adelaide's **Blue Carbon Futures Grant** aims to facilitate collaboration and partnerships to support implementation of the **Blue Carbon Strategy for South Australia 2020-2025**, within the [Green Adelaide region](#).

In this round, Green Adelaide is targeting previous successful applicants from the 2019-20 Blue Carbon Futures round undertaken by the previous Adelaide and Mt Lofty Ranges Natural Resources Management Board. This will build on outcomes of the initial round and address knowledge gaps, or aspects impacted by covid restrictions.

Of specific interest in this round are:

- Knowledge gaps related to carbon storage in coastal habitats such as coastal sedgelands and management.
- Case studies to measure and quantify potential or known impacts to blue carbon habitats and greenhouse gas emissions.
- Quantitative assessments to improve understanding of regional carbon values and opportunities in the region.
- Potential for linking coastal on-ground restoration works to current or future carbon market opportunities.
- Investigations to facilitate potential on-ground works such as tidal reconnection in the region.
- Progressing understanding of seagrass restoration and Blue Carbon in estuarine environments.

The work seeks to build on previous investment in conservation and restoration of coastal habitats over the last decade and demonstration projects with partners, such as the Dry Creek Salt Field tidal restoration project.

Project proposals will need to demonstrate how they align with key outcomes of the *Blue Carbon Strategy for South Australia*. The Blue Carbon Strategy for South Australia can be accessed on line at: <https://www.environment.sa.gov.au/topics/climate-change/programs-and-initiatives/climate-change-blue-carbon-strategy>

How big is the funding pool?

A total of up to \$100,000 plus GST is on offer.

When do applications close?

10:00am Monday 19th April 2021

Who is eligible for the grants?

This is a targeted call to previous successful AMLR Blue Carbon Futures Round funding round applicants. Applicants must be capable of entering into a grant agreement with the Green Adelaide Board and be able to initiate and undertake projects in the Green Adelaide Region.

It is anticipated, following finalisation of the [Green Adelaide Strategic Plan 2021-2026](#), an open call for additional Blue Carbon Futures grant funding will be available in the 2021- 2022 financial year.

Project eligibility criteria

- The grants are open to projects within the [Green Adelaide region](#). Refer: https://www.environment.sa.gov.au/files/sharedassets/public/climate-change/green_adelaide/green-adelaide-proposed-map-gal.pdf
- Projects will need to demonstrate their contribution to the Blue Carbon Strategy for South Australia outcomes.

GREEN ADELAIDE

- Projects will need to demonstrate significant in-kind or cash co-contribution.
- Projects may seek to scope feasibility or improve data on carbon stock, sequestration and methodologies for potential future on-ground or construction activities, consistent with outcomes outlined in the Blue Carbon Strategy for SA.
- Projects with an immediate on-ground, construction or capital works component are unlikely to be considered in this round, unless they can demonstrate:
 - they can be supported by innovative mechanisms to finance carbon sequestration projects; or
 - significant outcomes for blue carbon demonstration projects including partner stakeholder or private sector partnerships to progress and scale-up a demonstration project;
 - they provide novel or unique demonstration site or public awareness opportunities within the Green Adelaide region;
 - they can be completed within the grant period.

As well as achieving Blue Carbon Strategy outcomes, grant assessment will consider how projects:

- Facilitate co-benefit opportunities for biodiversity, fisheries habitat, living shorelines or other ecosystem services.
- Demonstrate co-benefits for conservation of saltmarsh and shorebird habitat in the region.
- Assess feasibility for:
 - introduction of tidal flow to stranded saltmarsh communities;
 - tidal reconnection approaches which can manage tidal regimes to mitigate medium to longer term mangrove incursion to saltmarsh and shorebird habitats;
 - can lead to changes to land-use planning to enable landward retreat and reconnect stranded saltmarsh and provide shorebird habitat co-benefits;
 - avoided disturbance, case studies for measuring impacts of disturbance.
- Contribute to building skills, understanding, and/or organisational commitments for progressing future Blue Carbon actions.
- Improve the understanding and feasibility, costs and benefits and provide additional scientific data to inform implementation of future Blue Carbon Projects in the Green Adelaide region.

Additional outcomes that are important in delivering the primary objective are:

- Recognising the value of the knowledge of Aboriginal people, and of their participation in coastal management.
- Grant recipients will be responsible for securing relevant permissions, permits and approvals.
- Projects that deliver multiple benefits within an integrated coastal management framework and demonstrate broad collaboration and partnerships.
- Projects which leverage co-investment from delivery and other project partners so that a minimum of \$1 is leveraged for every \$1 of grant funding.

How long is the project period?

- Although each project may continue beyond the end of the 2020–2021 financial year, the Blue Carbon Futures contribution will be provided in the 2020–2021 financial year.
- Projects must be initiated by **30th June 2021.**
- Projects will need to be completed and final reporting received no later than 31st May 2022.
- Grant funding needs to be expended and a financial acquittal statement received no later than 30th June 2022

What types of projects are ineligible?

- Projects which may significantly impact negatively on threatened saltmarsh communities or shorebird

GREEN ADELAIDE

habitat values (i.e. replacement of existing significant saltmarsh or shorebird habitat by mangrove restoration).

(For information on significant shorebird sites refer to Purnell, C., 2018. Shorebird Population Monitoring within Gulf St Vincent, Shorebird site profiles [Shorebird population monitoring within Gulf St Vincent 2016-17](#) → pp 94-171)

- Projects which utilise species considered to be non-native to the Green Adelaide region.
- Projects which do not demonstrate significant recipient contributions, (cash and in-kind).

What is the application process?

Friday 19 March 2021	<p>Funding round opens. Application guide and application form distributed to successful applicants of previous 2019-2020 AMLR Blue Carbon Futures.</p> <p>Potential applicants can direct queries to Tony Flaherty Manager, Coast and Marine, Green Adelaide Phone 0477 352 275 / E-mail tony.flaherty@sa.gov.au</p> <p>Applicants complete application form electronically, and email Word document to Green Adelaide.</p> <p>Applicants should use a delivery and read receipt on e-mail. Very large attachments may result in e-mail delivery failure.</p>
Monday 19th April 2021	<p>Applications close at 10:00 am. Applications may be submitted before close date.</p>
After application close	<p>Applications assessed and scored against Blue Carbon Futures Grants outcomes by Green Adelaide and allocation of funding amongst successful applications. Applicants may be contacted to discuss variations to costings or delivery elements.</p>
Week starting Monday 26th April 2021	<p>Applicants advised of the outcomes of the assessment. Drafting of grant agreements commences, and projects commence on finalisation of agreements and provision of funds.</p>

For further information please contact:
Tony Flaherty
Team Leader, Coast and Seas
Green Adelaide
M 0477 352 275
Email: Tony.Flaherty@sa.gov.au