



Department of
Primary Industries and
Regional Development

Protect
Grow
Innovate

Bird Flu Wildlife Resilience Grants

Helping to prevent and manage the spread of H5
bird flu in wildlife

Large grants Guidelines for applicants

This guideline contains information for applicants and should
be read prior to completing the application form.

August 2026



Acknowledgement of Country

DPIRD acknowledges the Traditional Owners of Country, the Aboriginal people of the many lands that we work on and their language groups throughout Western Australia and recognises their continuing connection to the land and waters.

We respect their continuing culture and the contribution they make to the life of our regions, and we pay our respects to their Elders past, present and emerging.

Content disclaimer

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The Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (DPIRD) is committed to protecting your privacy. This notice outlines how we collect, use, and disclose your personal information for the purposes of verifying your eligibility to apply for this scheme of assistance, and if approved, provide the appropriate support.

Please view the department's [privacy statement](#) on our website to find out more about how we collect, use and safeguard personal information.

If you have any questions or concerns about this collection notice or how your personal information is handled, please contact the Privacy Officer - Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development

Phone: 1300 374 731 (1300 DPIRD1)

Email: pris@dpird.wa.gov.au

For more information about our privacy practices, please visit our website at

[Privacy and Information Access | Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development](#)

Grant contact details

For more details, please contact DPIRD on 1300 374 731 (1300 DPIRD1)

or email snrmo@dpird.wa.gov.au for assistance.



Department of Primary Industries
and Regional Development

Department of Biodiversity,
Conservation and Attractions

The Bird Flu Wildlife Resilience Grant is an initiative of the WA Government, delivered by the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (DPIRD) in partnership with the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA).

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1. H5 bird flu in WA

H5 Avian Influenza (bird flu) is an Emergency Animal Disease (EAD) that has been circulating globally with severe impacts on wild bird and mammal populations.

Bird flu has been detected in WA and in other Australian jurisdictions industries. Wildlife rehabilitators and organisations involved in wildlife rescue, care and recovery are key stakeholders in the government response to bird flu providing support to communities at local and regional levels. This role will continue to be important in surveillance and reporting, providing support to sick and injured wildlife and contributing to broader wildlife management efforts.

2. Bird Flu Wildlife Resilience Grants overview

There are two types of grants available under the Bird Flu Wildlife Resilience Grants (Bird Flu WRG) program:

- **Small grants** between \$1500 and \$10,000 are available to licensed wildlife rehabilitators to support a range of purposes, including enhancing biosecurity measures, purchasing consumables, and undertaking relevant training.
- **Large grants** of up to \$200,000 will be available to eligible organisations with a demonstrated track record in wildlife management to support strategic, longer-term initiatives. Projects designed to enhance the resilience of native species, such as mitigating the impacts of feral animals, may be considered under this category. The large grants are available for eligible community-based projects that directly address the impact of bird flu on WA wildlife.

These guidelines outline the **Large** Bird Flu WRG requirements. To learn more about the Small Bird Flu WRG go to [Bird Flu Wildlife Resilience Grants](#).

2.1 Opening and Closing Dates for Applications

All large applications together with any supporting documentation, must be submitted by the dates detailed below. Late or incomplete applications will not be accepted.

Applications open on: **Tuesday 18 August 2026 at 8.00 am AWST**

Applications close on: **Tuesday 29 September 2026 at noon AWST**

2.2. Funding limits and timeframes

The maximum funding request for each applicant is \$200,000.

Projects/activities may be carried out over a 12 month period from the funding agreement being signed.

3. Eligibility Requirements

Applications for Large Bird Flu WRG must be submitted using the online application form available at <http://www.dpird.smartygrants.com.au>. SmartyGrants is the online grants management tool used and applications will not be accepted in any other format.

3.1. Who can apply

To be eligible for support applicants must:

- have a current Australian Business Number (ABN)
- have an account with an Australian Deposit Taking Institution (bank)

3.2. Applicants who are eligible

To be eligible to apply, applicants must be an incorporated not-for-profit organisation with an ABN.

All applicants must be able to evidence current participation in, or contribution to, wildlife care, resilience and habitat protection and recovery.

Applicants from the following groups or organisations are encouraged to apply:

- Incorporated community NFP groups including, but not limited to:
 - Wildlife rehabilitation groups,
 - Aboriginal community organisations including Registered Native Title Bodies Corporates,
 - Recognised Biosecurity Groups
 - NRM groups

3.3. Applicants who are specifically NOT eligible

The following groups are not eligible to apply:

- for profit organisations, businesses, partnerships, or companies including sole traders and primary producers
- individuals
- organisations that do not have a branch or base of operation in Western Australia
- education institutions (includes primary, secondary, tertiary or trade government, privately funded)
- unincorporated associations
- Local Government Authorities
- Western Australian or Australian Government agencies.

3.4. Activities that can be funded

Eligible projects would include projects designed to enhance the resilience of native species populations, for example, by mitigating or reducing the impacts of other threats such as feral animals, weeds, habitat degradation or human disturbance.

Grants can be used to fund a range of activities that will achieve protection for wildlife against, or containment of, any bird flu incidences. Each application must have a specific target.

Eligible Large Bird Flu WRG activities can include:

- purchasing or hire of equipment (e.g. cages, tables etc to facilitate quarantining potential bird flu animals, storage equipment for consumables supplies),
- PPE and safety/first aid equipment,
- consumables for sick, injured or abandoned animal care (e.g. specialist animal food/formula/care products, first aid supplies e.g. bandages, antiseptic ointments),
- accessing veterinary services
- transport costs (e.g. fuel to travel to collect sick or injured animals)
- reference materials; developing and publishing relevant documents (e.g. common treatment guidelines, biosecurity protocols);
- developing and implementing training (including development of courses, speaker fees, printing, catering, venue hire)
- materials to support improved biosecurity and quarantine, such as tarpaulins, temporary or permanent fencing
- permanent structures such as aviaries, overhead structures, etc.
- development and testing of procedures to improve preparedness for biosecurity response
- wildlife habitat restoration and protection i.e. revegetation and feral animal control
- administration and operational expenses (including insurances and financial audit)
- wages for staff to deliver approved activities (above)

3.5. Activities that CAN NOT be funded

The following items and activities are ineligible for funding, however, they may be included in the project as co-contributions:

- Expenses that have already been funded or resourced, including:
 - project coordination (e.g. salaries or salary on-costs)
 - officer 'time'
 - overheads
 - administration expenses
- any prior or retroactive projects, activities or events, including works, planning or site assessment completed prior to the grant being awarded
- expenses to cover salary or on-costs of Western Australian or Australian Government employees
- salaries or on-costs of tertiary institution employees (such as staff, researchers or PhD students)
- any activities focussed on domestic animals
- activities that are a statutory or regulatory responsibility of the landholder
- purchase of equipment or materials that is ordinarily a landholder's responsibility as part of the day-to-day management of a property
- purchase of clothing, excluding items necessary for personal safety

- removal of old infrastructure (including fences)
- purchase of information available free of charge and/or development of data and information that is readily available
- sitting, board or committee fees or reimbursements
- volunteer stipends or subsidies
- student scholarships, stipends, or subsidies
- devolved grants.

3.6. The project location must be in WA

Projects must be based within the state of WA. Applications for project activities in Australian territories (for example, Christmas Island and Cocos (Keeling) Islands) are ineligible.

3.7. Applicant co-contribution

Cash and in-kind contributions are highly valued as evidence of community support. Applicants who are able to identify, describe, and value the source of all co-contributions will be viewed favourably.

Successful applicants will be asked to report against both cash and in-kind contributions.

3.8. Conflict of interest

Applicants must declare and describe any conflicts of interest (actual, perceived or potential) in the appropriate section of the application form. Declarations help to ensure conflicts of interest can be managed openly and transparently and do not automatically rule out a project from consideration.

4. How to apply

Applications must be submitted using the online application form available at <http://www.dpir.dpird.smartygrants.com.au>. SmartyGrants is the online grants management tool used by this grant program. Applications will not be accepted in any other format.

Your application should describe the purpose, activities, and budget you wish to undertake with grant funds.

Your application should provide all that apply where relevant:

- quotes for assets,
- plans, diagrams, maps or other evidence of the purpose of the project,
- copies of any documents that have been referenced in the body of the application,
- If your project involves third parties you will need to provide evidence of their commitment. This could be in the form of
 - letters of commitment: a letter from each partner organisation that proposes to contribute (cash or other resources or effort) which provides general

- information on what is being contributed, and the estimated value of that co-contribution,
- land access permission: confirmation that land access permission (from all relevant land owners/managers) has been obtained at the time of applying. Noting that a full landholder agreement will be required as a milestone of the funding agreement,
- quotes for any services provided by a third party, such as contractors, consultants, speakers,

4.1. Application deadline

All Large Bird Flu WRG applications with any supporting documentation must be submitted by **Tuesday 29 September 2026 at noon AWST**.

5. Assessment –

How will the applications be assessed?

5.1. Assessment process

The assessment process will identify applicants eligible to be supported under this grants program.

Applications will be assessed by an assessment panel drawn from DPIRD and DBCA where:

- each assessment panel member individually reviews each application
- all projects are assessed by the panel member group, seeking technical advice as required, resulting in a shortlist of recommended applications for Ministerial approvals.

5.2. Assessment criteria

Applicants must provide all responses and supporting information requested in the application form to allow assessment of the application to be carried out against scheme requirements.

The merit of each application will be assessed against the following criteria:

- Effectiveness of proposed activities that will improve the long-term resilience of native wildlife populations and reduce other pressures on vulnerable species OR support wildlife surveillance, biosecurity and response activities in the event of H5 bird flu outbreak in Western Australia (40%),
- Capacity of applicant i.e. demonstrated experience in wildlife and project management (30%),
- Value for money (30%).

5.3. Conflict of interest

Panel members

All members of the grants assessment and decision-making team will complete a conflict of interest (COI) declaration before commencing to consider applications. Officers will not participate in the processing of applications where there is a real or perceived conflict of interest.

5.4. Decision

The Ministers for Agriculture and Food and Environment will be provided with a list of recommended prioritised applications and will make the final decision on applications to be supported under this grant round.

Appeal process

There will not be an appeal process.

6. Important information for applicants

6.1. Mapping

Applicants are required to provide detail on the location of their proposed project activities.

Mapping involves:

- The online application form requires applicants to enter the address of the project's primary location; this will automatically populate. The primary location could be:
 - the place where the majority of project activities will take place, or
 - the central point if the project activities are equally dispersed across a large area.

6.2. The budget

The budget table can be found in the application form and determines what resources and expenses will be required to undertake the project activities.

6.3. Insurances

Applicants are required to have and maintain current and adequate insurance appropriate to the Project funded activities and will supply certificates of currency of insurances if requested.

If an applicant does not have appropriate current insurances, they are ineligible for grant funding.

6.4. Project specific travel

The Bird Flu WRG Program recognises that general travel-related expenses can arise from time-to-time as part of the delivery of a project. Funding requests for travel that is essential to the delivery of a particular project activity should be itemised and shown in the application budget 'at cost' (the actual cost), up to a maximum of 88c per kilometre.

6.5. Assets

Grant funding can be used to purchase a specific asset if it is essential to project delivery. The Bird Flu WRG Program considers an asset to be:

- any single item of a transferrable physical nature (i.e. that can be moved from one place to another)
- valued at \$5,000 or more.

At the end of the project, the asset will remain with the grant recipient, however it must continue to be used for the purpose for which it was originally approved. Please contact the State NRM Office for further information about items that should be considered as assets.

6.6 Acknowledgement of funding

All organisations receiving funding must correctly acknowledge the funding provided to the project by the Western Australian Government as outlined in the [Acknowledgement Guide](#) as a condition of funding.

7. Notification of application outcomes

All applicants will be informed of the outcome of their application within 7 business days of decisions.

7.1. Agreement Arrangements

DPIRD will discuss the development of an appropriate funding agreement with each successful applicant. The agreement will describe how and when payment of funds would be made, milestones and measures to be met and reporting requirements.

8. Aboriginal heritage compliance

Laws are in place in Western Australia to protect and manage Aboriginal heritage. This includes rock art, ancient caves or burial sites, waterways, ceremonial sites or scar trees.

Applicants under this scheme/grant must comply with all legal obligations regarding the [Aboriginal Heritage Act \(WA\) 1972](#) and where required provide evidence that you have

conducted due diligence specific to Aboriginal heritage before undertaking any activities on land, sea or country.

For more information

- [Home - ACHknowledge Portal](#)
- [Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Inquiry System](#)

9. Reporting and monitoring requirements

The reporting arrangements include completion of a progress report and final report through the online Smartygrants system.

There will be an initial up-front payment on signing of the funding agreement with a second payment due on approval of a progress report. A final report is required. If the grant is greater than \$50,000, an independent financial audit statement is required as a part of the final report.

Any project specific items to be reported on will be identified in the funding agreement.

Reports are to be submitted on or before due dates.

Monitoring activities will be included in reporting and will be detailed in the funding agreement.

9.1. Personal Information and disclosure of information

DPIRD will handle personal information in accordance with the *Privacy and Responsible Information Sharing (PRIS) Act (2024)* and the *Freedom of Information Act 1992 (WA)*.

Applicants under this scheme/grant will receive a Privacy Collection Notice as part of the online application form. This notice outlines the personal information DPIRD will require in order to process the application and other parties DPIRD may need to share information with.

9.2. Intellectual Property

Any intellectual property rights that may exist in an application will remain the property of the applicant or the rightful owner of those intellectual property rights.

Any part of an application considered to contain any intellectual property rights should be clearly identified by the applicant. The applicant grants to the State (and will ensure that relevant third parties grant) a non-exclusive, irrevocable licence to use and reproduce the intellectual property for the purpose of administering the fund.

10. Payment arrangements

The payment process for this scheme is:

- Payments will be made by DPIRD
- Payments will be made on invoice, and DPIRD's receipt of and acceptance of progress reports;
- Payments will be made electronically to the bank account nominated and confirmed during the application and assessment process.

10.1. Tax information

Grant funds are a payment for a supply, therefore the approved grant amount will have GST added to the total amount to be paid if the recipient is registered for GST.

Recipients will be requested to provide a tax invoice for the GST inclusive value of the approved grant. If a recipient is not registered for GST, GST is not able to be provided in addition to grant funding and recipient must cover the GST component of any project items.

Applicants are encouraged to seek tax advice on the potential implications of receiving grant funding.

Glossary of terms

Applicant - the entity/individual who makes the application for funding.

Application - an application (or relevant part of an application) made to the State of Western Australia for funding under the Fund

AWST - Australian Western Standard Time

DPIRD - Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development

DBCA – Department of Biodiversity Conservation and Attractions

Scheme / Grant – Bird Flu Wildlife Resilience Grants

Guidelines – are the guidelines for the scheme / grant, this document

Key Contact – the applicant person to contact if there are any queries or information required in relation to the scheme / grant.

SmartyGrants – is the online grant management software tool used by DPIRD.

Important Disclaimer

The Chief Executive Officer of the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development and the State of Western Australia accept no liability whatsoever by reason of negligence or otherwise arising from the use or release of this information or any part of it.

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