



PROTECTION OF THE ENVIRONMENT TRUST (POET) COMMITTEE

20 June 2023



COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN 2018-2028

ONE – CENTRAL COAST IS THE COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN (CSP) FOR THE CENTRAL COAST LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA

ONE – CENTRAL COAST DEFINES THE COMMUNITY'S VISION AND IS OUR ROADMAP FOR THE FUTURE

ONE – CENTRAL COAST BRINGS TOGETHER EXTENSIVE COMMUNITY FEEDBACK TO SET KEY DIRECTIONS AND PRIORITIES

One - Central Coast will shape and inform Council's business activities, future plans, services and expenditure. Where actions are the responsibility of other organisations, sectors and groups to deliver, Council will work with key partners to advocate on behalf of our community.

Ultimately, every one of us who live on the Central Coast has an opportunity and responsibility to create a sustainable future from which we can all benefit. Working together we can make a difference.

RESPONSIBLE

WE'RE A RESPONSIBLE COUNCIL AND COMMUNITY, COMMITTED TO BUILDING STRONG RELATIONSHIPS AND DELIVERING A GREAT CUSTOMER EXPERIENCE IN ALL OUR INTERACTIONS.

We value transparent and meaningful communication and use community feedback to drive strategic decision making and expenditure, particularly around the delivery of essential infrastructure projects that increase the safety, liveability and sustainability of our region. We're taking a strategic approach to ensure our planning and development processes are sustainable and accessible and are designed to preserve the unique character of the coast.

 **Good governance and great partnerships**

G2 Engage and communicate openly and honestly with the community to build a relationship based on trust, transparency, respect and use community participation and feedback to inform decision making

There are 5 themes, 12 focus areas and 48 objectives

COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN 2018-2028 FRAMEWORK

All council reports contained within the Business Paper are now aligned to the Community Strategic Plan. Each report will contain a cross reference to a Theme, Focus Area and Objective within the framework of the Plan.



Meeting Notice

**The Protection of the Environment Trust (POET) Committee
of Central Coast Council
will be held in the Committee Room,
2 Hely Street, Wyong or Remotely – Online,
on Tuesday 20 June 2023 at 3.00pm,
for the transaction of the business listed below:**

1 Procedural Items

- 1.1 Introduction: Welcome, Acknowledgement of Country, Apologies, Disclosure of Interest..... 4
- 1.2 Previous business: Confirmation of minutes, review action log 5

2 Reports

- 2.1 Update from Finance20
- 2.2 Grant Application from the Protection of the Environment Trust to undertake the Frog Conservation Project (POET007 202223).....22
- 2.3 General Business.....35

Chairperson

**1.1 INTRODUCTION: WELCOME, ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY,
APOLOGIES, DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST**

Chairperson

*We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we live, work and play.
We pay our respects to Elders, past, present and emerging and recognise their continued
connection to these lands and waterways.*

We acknowledge our shared responsibility to care for and protect our place and people.

1.2 PREVIOUS BUSINESS: CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES, REVIEW ACTION LOG

Chairperson

Attachments

- | | | |
|---|---------------------------------|-----------|
| 1 | POET - 30 March Meeting Minutes | D15608670 |
| 2 | Action Log | D15710649 |



Central Coast Council
Protection of the Environment Trust (POET)
Committee
Held
2 Hely Street, Wyong and online via TEAMS

30 March 2023

MINUTES

Attendance

Voting Members

Gary Chestnut	Present
Barbara Wills	Present
Joy Cooper	Present
Edward Hock	Present

Staff

	Status
Larry Melican	Present
Luke Sulkowski	Present
Emma Galea	Present
Sharyn Styman	Apology
Jade Maskiewicz	Apology
Teresa Walters	Apology
Rachel Gibson	Present

PROCEDURAL ITEMS

1.1 Introduction: Welcome, Acknowledgement of Country, Apologies, Disclosure of Interest

Gary Chestnut was requested by the Committee to Chair the meeting.

The Chairperson, Gary Chestnut, declared the meeting open at 2:05pm

The Chairperson welcomed the Committee and completed an Acknowledgement of Country.

The following apologies were received for the meeting:

- 1 -

Minutes of the Protection of the Environment Trust (POET) Committee of Council 30 March 2023 contd

Teresa Walters, Section Manager Communication and Engagement,
 Jade Maskiewicz, Assistant Internal Ombudsman
 Sharyn Styman, Environmental Management and Projects Officer

The Chairperson called for any disclosures of interest and none were received.

1.2 Previous business: Confirmation of minutes, review action log

The group confirmed the minutes from the previous meeting as noted below, which were distributed to members via email and uploaded to Council's website:

[POET meeting minutes 12 December 2022](#)

Review of Action log was completed and it is noted that items 107, 112, and 122 have been consolidated into 107.

It is noted that Council does not have expertise to be able to update the Website so will seek external assistance.

REPORTS

2.1 Update from Finance

Financial report for 31 January 2023

Presented by: Emma Galea

Trust received interest \$5836.00. No other activity on the account.

Send any questions on the financial report to Rachel Gibson and advisory inbox.

Joy Cooper requested the minutes be noted that the financial report should be sent to the committee earlier than the day of the meeting.

2.2 POET Grant applications - Additional information on applications considered on 12 December 2022

Resolved

Moved: Gary Chestnut

Seconded: Barbara Wills

1. That the Protection of the Environment Trust Committee recommend release of \$12,200 to the Crommelin Native Arboretum Inc Pty Ltd to undertake both Parts A and B of the project titled Land Survey Ecological Report on the Pearl Beach

Minutes of the Protection of the Environment Trust (POET) Committee of Council 30 March 2023 contd

Arboretum.

It is noted that a request be made to mention POET in the Crommelin Native Arboretum newsletter.

Resolved:

Moved: Gary Chestnut

Seconded: Barbara Wills

2. That the Protection of the Environment Trust Committee recommend release of \$1,320 to the Peninsula Environment Group (PEG) to undertake community education components of the project titled Woy Woy Peninsula Community Garden - Promoting Protection of Flora & Fauna.

It is noted that the committee would like to ensure that the PEG use only local provenance.

2.3 POET Grant Applications - New Applications 2022-23

Resolved

Moved: Joy Cooper

Seconded: Gary Chestnut

1. That the Protection of the Environment Trust Committee recommend release of \$3,230 to the Peninsula Environment Group (PEG) to undertake Project POET003 202223 titled Umina Coastal Sandplain Woodland Species Corridor subject to the works being undertaken in accordance with the written approval from Council's Section Manager, Parks and Reserves dated 9 December 2022 and ongoing consultation with the Section Manager, Parks and Reserves during the detailed planning and implementation of the project.

Resolved:

Moved: Joy Cooper

Seconded: Barbara Wills

2. That the Protection of the Environment Trust Committee recommend release of \$4,500 to the Matcham Hall Incorporated to undertake Project POET005 202223 titled the Matcham Holgate Feral Fox Control Program subject to the project works complying with all relevant legislation and in consultation with the NSW Government's Local Land Services agency.

Minutes of the Protection of the Environment Trust (POET) Committee of Council 30 March 2023 contd

**It is noted that Poet will help to promote the success of the control program.
It is requested that Poet is provide with an ongoing status report.**

2.4 General Business

Update from Communications: Teresa Walters sent via email 30/03/2023 @ 9:40AM:

- Draft Communications Plan – no feedback yet received from the Committee; If there is no feedback, please advise budget for communications plan and plan can be updated in more detail aligned with the budget. As per previous recommendations a budget is strongly recommended for social media campaign and minimum spend \$250 to 300 per month with recommended campaign period of 6 months.
- POET separate website (WordPress) requires upgrade – please advise if Committee wish to see quotes to upgrade the site. The site was previously developed at no development cost using Council resources, however Council no longer has those skilled resources inhouse and upgrade will be required to be completed by an external resource.
- New projects – Council staff to provide content about new projects funded so that they may be added to the website, or Council's POET website page

The Meeting concluded at 3:15pm

Next meeting June

Action Log - Protection of the Environment Trust Management (POET) Committee

Action Number	Meeting Date	Action	Responsible Party	Action Update	Status
103	1/07/2021	10 Year Plan for Umina Coastal Sandplain Woodland to be revisited at applicable meeting in 2022.	Section Manager Natural Assets and Biodiversity	<p>Update provided at the June 2022 meeting.</p> <p>Motion moved that the budget be confirmed for a 2-year period, as an alternative to the 3-year period proposed and that staff seek grants to compliment this. Moved – Gary Chestnut, Seconded – Joy Cooper</p> <p>Gary Chestnut suggested information provided regarding Council funds and expenditure for this project over 2 years.</p> <p>Action Peter Correy, Group Financial Controller, Finance to provide this financial report.</p> <p>Action: Distribution of report to Committee: <i>Action #103: Umina Coastal Sandplain Woodland Year 1 (2021-22) Update and Revisit 10 year plan</i></p>	Complete

Minutes of the Protection of the Environment Trust (POET) Committee of Council 30 March 2023 contd

Action Number	Meeting Date	Action	Responsible Party	Action Update	Status
105	1/07/2021	15 Year Plan for Scenic Road Bushland Reserve Offset Area to be revisited at applicable meeting in 2022.	Section Manager Natural Assets and Biodiversity	Update provided at the June 2022 meeting. Committee agrees to adopt 15 year plan for Scenic Road Bushland Reserve Offset Area. Distribution of report to Committee: <i>Action #105: Scenic Road Bushland Reserve Offset Area Year 1 (2021-22) update and revisit 15 year plan</i>	Complete
107	1/07/2021	Communications staff to attend next meeting to discuss opportunities for promoting the Trust including media releases about projects funded, encouraging ongoing philanthropic support through donations, and geo-targeting ads on Facebook. 30 March 2023 meeting Consolidating items 107, 112, 115 and 122.	Section Manager Communication and Engagement	Further update as at June 2022. <i>Communications Plan POET 2021</i> to be re-distributed to Committee member with request to provide their feedback to be used in progressing the finalisation and then commence implementation of the Plan. Committee expressed desire to explore out-of-session meeting (prior to next quarterly meeting of September 2022) to further process the marketing and promotional activities	Ongoing

Minutes of the Protection of the Environment Trust (POET) Committee of Council 30 March 2023 contd

Action Number	Meeting Date	Action	Responsible Party	Action Update	Status
		30/3/2023 Draft communication Plan: Feedback needed from the committee no feedback received as of the meeting date.		component.	
115	5/10/2021	The Protection of the Environment Trust Management Committee do not support funding being provided by the Trust for road barriers at Remembrance Drive Wamberal (grant application POET005202021)	Section Manager Natural Assets and Biodiversity	Applicant advised of outcome.	Complete
116	5/10/2021	The Protection of the Environment Trust Management Committee recommend that the request for road barriers at Remembrance Drive Wamberal be referred to Council's Infrastructure Services Directorate for consideration.	Section Manager Natural Assets and Biodiversity	Request referred to Infrastructure Services. Jeanette Williams acknowledged receipt of advice.	Complete
117	5/10/2021	Environmental Management Staff to review grants received over the past 3 years and report back to the next meeting.	Section Manager Natural Assets and Biodiversity	Reported to 24 November 2021 Extraordinary Meeting.	Complete
118	5/10/2021	The Umina Coastal Sandplain Woodland report provided at the 1 July 2021 meeting to be attached to the minutes of the 5 October 2021 Protection of the Environment Trust Management Committee Meeting.	Meeting Support Officer	Completed.	Complete
121	24/11/2021	The Committee agree to maintain the current situation where applications to the Protection of the Environment Trust Grant Program can be made throughout the financial year, and that applications are referred to a subsequent	Section Manager Natural Assets and Biodiversity	Advice noted by Larry Melican.	Complete

Minutes of the Protection of the Environment Trust (POET) Committee of Council 30 March 2023 contd

Action Number	Meeting Date	Action	Responsible Party	Action Update	Status
		Trust Committee Meeting for consideration.			
123	15/07/2022	<p>Grant applications.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2022/2023 year is now active – one grant application received, from Woy Woy Peninsula Community environment group, for work in their community garden. 	Section Manager Natural Assets and Biodiversity	<p>Environmental Management Staff to review grant application received and report back to the next meeting.</p> <p>Update: 12/12/2022 Environmental Management Staff to review grant application for project (POET002 202122) and request applicant remove, or further explain the tree maintenance aspect of their application, then report back to the next meeting.</p>	30/3/2023 Complete
124	12/12/2022	<p>Grant application</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Crommelin Native Arboretum Incorporated for project (POET001 202223): Land Survey Ecological Report on the Pearl Beach Arboretum. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Two parts to application being: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Part A – to engage a surveying company to prepare a digital land survey of the Arboretum and; Part B – Engagement of a 	Section Manager Natural Assets and Biodiversity	Environmental Management Staff to review grant application for project (POET001 202223) and request applicant further explain the digital survey aspect of their application and what the net benefit would be, then report back to the next meeting.	30/3/2023 Completed

Minutes of the Protection of the Environment Trust (POET) Committee of Council 30 March 2023 contd

Action Number	Meeting Date	Action	Responsible Party	Action Update	Status
		consultant to prepare a report on the ecology of the Arboretum			

Protection of the Environment Trust Management Committee (POET)

Action Number	Meeting Date	Action	Responsible Party	Action Update	Status
103	1/07/2021	10 Year Plan for Umina Coastal Sandplain Woodland to be revisited at applicable meeting in 2022.	Section Manager Natural Assets and Biodiversity	<p>Update provided at the June 2022 meeting.</p> <p>Motion moved that the budget be confirmed for a 2-year period, as an alternative to the 3-year period proposed and that staff seek grants to compliment this. Moved – Gary Chestnut, Seconded – Joy Cooper</p> <p>Gary Chestnut suggested information provided regarding Council funds and expenditure for this project over 2 years.</p> <p>Action Peter Correy, Group Financial Controller, Finance to provide this financial report.</p> <p>Action: Distribution of report to Committee: <i>Action #103: Umina Coastal Sandplain Woodland Year 1 (2021-22) Update and Revisit 10 year plan</i></p>	Complete
105	1/07/2021	15 Year Plan for Scenic Road Bushland Reserve Offset Area to be revisited at applicable meeting in 2022.	Section Manager Natural Assets and Biodiversity	<p>Update provided at the June 2022 meeting.</p> <p>Committee agrees to adopt 15-year plan for Scenic Road Bushland Reserve Offset Area.</p> <p>Distribution of report to Committee:</p>	Complete

Action Number	Meeting Date	Action	Responsible Party	Action Update	Status
				<i>Action #105: Scenic Road Bushland Reserve Offset Area Year 1 (2021-22) update and revisit 15 year plan</i>	
107	1/07/2021	<p>Communications staff to attend next meeting to discuss opportunities for promoting the Trust including media releases about projects funded, encouraging ongoing philanthropic support through donations, and geo-targeting ads on Facebook.</p> <p>30 March 2023 meeting Consolidating items 107, 112, 115 and 122.</p> <p>30/3/2023 Draft communication Plan: Feedback needed from the committee no feedback received as of the meeting date.</p>	Section Manager Communication and Engagement	<p>Further update as at June 2022.</p> <p><i>Communications Plan POET 2021</i> to be re-distributed to Committee member with request to provide their feedback to be used in progressing the finalisation and then commence implementation of the Plan.</p> <p>Committee expressed desire to explore out-of-session meeting (prior to next quarterly meeting of September 2022) to further process the marketing and promotional activities component.</p>	Ongoing
115	5/10/2021	The Protection of the Environment Trust Management Committee do not support funding being provided by the Trust for road	Section Manager Natural Assets and Biodiversity	Applicant advised of outcome.	Complete

Action Number	Meeting Date	Action	Responsible Party	Action Update	Status
		barriers at Remembrance Drive Wamberal (grant application POET005202021)			
116	5/10/2021	The Protection of the Environment Trust Management Committee recommend that the request for road barriers at Remembrance Drive Wamberal be referred to Council's Infrastructure Services Directorate for consideration.	Section Manager Natural Assets and Biodiversity	Request referred to Infrastructure Services. Jeanette Williams acknowledged receipt of advice.	Complete
117	5/10/2021	Environmental Management Staff to review grants received over the past 3 years and report back to the next meeting.	Section Manager Natural Assets and Biodiversity	Reported to 24 November 2021 Extraordinary Meeting.	Complete
118	5/10/2021	The Umina Coastal Sandplain Woodland report provided at the 1 July 2021 meeting to be attached to the minutes of the 5 October 2021 Protection of the Environment Trust Management Committee Meeting.	Meeting Support Officer	Completed.	Complete
121	24/11/2021	The Committee agree to maintain the current situation where applications to the Protection of the Environment Trust Grant Program can be made throughout the financial year, and	Section Manager Natural Assets and Biodiversity	Advice noted by Larry Melican.	Complete

Action Number	Meeting Date	Action	Responsible Party	Action Update	Status
		that applications are referred to a subsequent Trust Committee Meeting for consideration.			
123	15/07/2022	Grant applications. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2022/2023 year is now active – one grant application received, from Woy Woy Peninsula Community environment group, for work in their community garden. 	Section Manager Natural Assets and Biodiversity	Environmental Management Staff to review grant application received and report back to the next meeting. Update: 12/12/2022 Environmental Management Staff to review grant application for project (POET002 202122) and request applicant remove, or further explain the tree maintenance aspect of their application, then report back to the next meeting. 62/23 Resolved Funds released \$1,320	30/3/2023 Complete 23/05/2023
124	12/12/2022	Grant application <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Crommelin Native Arboretum Incorporated for project (POET001 202223): Land Survey Ecological Report on the Pearl Beach Arboretum. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two parts to application being: 	Section Manager Natural Assets and Biodiversity	Environmental Management Staff to review grant application for project (POET001 202223) and request applicant further explain the digital survey aspect of their application and what the net benefit would be, then report back to the next meeting. 62/23 Resolved	30/3/2023 Complete Complete

Action Number	Meeting Date	Action	Responsible Party	Action Update	Status
		Part A – to engage a surveying company to prepare a digital land survey of the Arboretum and; Part B – Engagement of a consultant to prepare a report on the ecology of the Arboretum		Funds released \$12,200	23/05/2023
125	23/05/2023	Grant application <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Umina Coastal Sandplain Woodland Species Corridor for project (POET003 202223) 	Section Manager Natural Assets and Biodiversity	62/23 Resolved Funds released \$3,230	23/05/2023 Complete
126	23/05/2023	Grant application Matcham Holgate Feral Fox Control Program (POET005 202223)	Section Manager Natural Assets and Biodiversity	62/23 Resolved Funds released \$3,230	23/05/2023 Completed



Item No: 2.1
Title: Update from Finance
Department: Corporate Services

20 June 2023 Protection of the Environment Trust (POET) Committee

Reference: F2018/00732 - D15690803
Author: Emma Galea, Chief Financial Officer

Financial report as of 31 May 2023.

Attachments

1 PoET - May 2023 Finance Report D15715671

Protection of the Environment Trust - 31 May 2023

Income Statement

	This Month			YTD			Last Year		
	Public Funds \$	Trust Funds \$	PoET Total \$	Public Funds \$	Trust Funds \$	PoET Total \$	Public Funds \$	Trust Funds \$	PoET Total \$
Income									
Donations	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Interest Received	734.46	6,010.87	6,745.33	6,733.77	59,256.79	65,990.56	0.00	19,921.60	19,921.60
Total Income	<u>734.46</u>	<u>6,010.87</u>	<u>6,745.33</u>	<u>6,733.77</u>	<u>59,256.79</u>	<u>65,990.56</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>19,921.60</u>	<u>19,921.60</u>
Expenditure									
Bank Fees	0.00	0.03	0.03	0.00	25.42	25.42	0.00	335.33	335.33
Project Expenditure	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	88,850.00	88,850.00	66,570.00	0.00	66,570.00
Total Expenditure	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.03</u>	<u>0.03</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>88,875.42</u>	<u>88,875.42</u>	<u>66,570.00</u>	<u>335.33</u>	<u>66,905.33</u>
Operating Surplus/(Deficit)	<u>734.46</u>	<u>6,010.84</u>	<u>6,745.30</u>	<u>6,733.77</u>	<u>(29,618.63)</u>	<u>(22,884.86)</u>	<u>(66,570.00)</u>	<u>19,586.27</u>	<u>(46,983.73)</u>

Statement of Financial Position

	YTD			Last Year		
	Public Funds \$	Trust Funds \$	PoET Total \$	Public Funds \$	Trust Funds \$	PoET Total \$
Current Assets						
Cash at Bank	226,626.33	539,468.80	766,095.13	308,742.56	480,237.49	788,980.05
Total Current Assets	<u>226,626.33</u>	<u>539,468.80</u>	<u>766,095.13</u>	<u>308,742.56</u>	<u>480,237.49</u>	<u>788,980.05</u>
Net Assets	<u>226,626.33</u>	<u>539,468.80</u>	<u>766,095.13</u>	<u>308,742.56</u>	<u>480,237.49</u>	<u>788,980.05</u>
Equity						
Accumulated Surplus	226,626.33	539,468.80	766,095.13	308,742.56	480,237.49	788,980.05
Total Equity	<u>226,626.33</u>	<u>539,468.80</u>	<u>766,095.13</u>	<u>308,742.56</u>	<u>480,237.49</u>	<u>788,980.05</u>

Balance by Purpose

Purpose	YTD			Last Year		
	Public Funds \$	Trust Funds \$	PoET Total \$	Public Funds \$	Trust Funds \$	PoET Total \$
Bush Regeneration	660.18		660.18	644.48		644.48
MacMasters Beach Bush Regeneration	42,242.29		42,242.29	41,237.97		41,237.97
Interest Coastal Open Space (\$1,500,000 COSS)		539,468.80	539,468.80		480,237.49	480,237.49
Davistown Wetlands	211.23		211.23	206.21		206.21
General Donations	1,761.92		1,761.92	1,720.03		1,720.03
Pearl Beach Scraping	0.00		0.00	0.00		0.00
Conservation Agreement COSS The Scenic Rd - 26186	75,439.22		75,439.22	80,391.91		80,391.91
Umina Coastal Sandplain Woodland (45 Hillview St, Woy Woy) - 26187	106,311.49		106,311.49	184,541.96		184,541.96
Geo Targeting ads on Facebook - 26233	0.00		0.00	0.00		0.00
Community Environmental Network - Friends of COSS Workshop - 26234	0.00		0.00	0.00		0.00
TOTAL	<u>226,626.33</u>	<u>539,468.80</u>	<u>766,095.13</u>	<u>308,742.56</u>	<u>480,237.49</u>	<u>788,980.05</u>



Item No: 2.2
Title: Grant Application from the Protection of the Environment Trust to undertake the Frog Conservation Project (POET007 202223)

Department: Environment and Planning

20 June 2023 Protection of the Environment Trust (POET) Committee

Reference: F2018/00732 - D15697124
Author: Larry Melican, Section Manager Natural Assets and Biodiversity
Rochelle Lawson, Senior Ecologist, Natural Assets and Biodiversity
Manager: Luke Sulkowski, Unit Manager Environmental Management
Executive: Alice Howe, Director Environment and Planning

Recommendation

Further information relating to Australia's Wildlife Ark Ltd's application for \$24,000 from the Protection of the Environment Trust be requested from the applicant to assist with the Trust Committee's decision making.

Report purpose

To provide information on grant application POET007 202223 to the Protection of the Environment Trust from Australia's Wildlife Ark Ltd (Aussie Ark) to undertake a Frog Conservation Project.

Executive Summary

Australia's Wildlife Ark Ltd (Aussie Ark) has applied for \$24,000 to undertake a Frog Conservation Project with the aim of breeding and re-release into the wild to bolster the wild populations of 4 endangered species, Giant Barred Frog, Stuttering Barred Frog, Green and Golden Bell Frog and Green Tree Frog. These four endangered frog species occur within the former Gosford Local Government Area.

However, it is not clear from the application what specifically the funding will achieve and the application would benefit from re-submission with more detail and closer adherence to the grant program guidelines.

The project is consistent with the two-part purpose of the Protection of the Environment Trust.

2.2 Grant Application from the Protection of the Environment Trust to undertake the Frog Conservation Project (POET007 202223) (contd)

Background

Application has been made by the Australia's Wildlife Ark Ltd (Aussie Ark) for funds from the Protection of the Environment Trust Grants Program to assist in the delivery of a Frog Conservation Project.

Current Status

Aussie Ark has submitted an application for funding. The application describes the purpose of the project and outcomes. However, in order for the Trust Committee to judge the merit of the application, further information on outputs and metrics of success are needed.

Report

Application number POET007 202223, from Australia's Wildlife Ark Ltd for the frog conservation project includes the following:

Aussie Ark has built specialist frog conservation facilities for the purpose of breeding endangered frog species that occur in the Central Coast Region. Frogs are environmental indicators and the combination of chytrid fungal disease, degradation of natural water systems and population growth impacts on habitat quality and availability has led many of our Central Coast frog species to become endangered. Aussie Ark is working to treat chytrid and to breed 4 different endangered frog species at our Conservation Ark facility located at the Australian Reptile Park on the Central Coast. These species are: Giant Barred Frog, Stuttering Barred Frog, Green and Golden Bell Frog and Green Tree Frog. Our aim is to breed and re-release to the wild to build and bolster the wild populations of these species to prevent extinctions.

Australia's Wildlife Ark Ltd has requested \$24,000 from the Protection of the Environment Trust and will provide an in kind contribution to the value of \$80,000, with a cash contribution of \$190,000. The total value of the project is \$294,000.

It is not clear how the application meets the grant program guidelines of having a beginning and an end, or that ongoing or recurrent costs can be met by the applicant once grant funding has been expended. Further details would be required in the application in terms of the numbers of frogs to be released into the wild, locations of release, and future management of release sites to ensure long-term survival in the wild. This information would be needed to determine the project's overall value for money.

Based on the information provided, the project appears to be consistent with the two-part purpose of the Protection of the Environment Trust

1. Promotion of the protection or conservation of the natural environment, an aspect of it, or flora and fauna indigenous to the area.

2.2 Grant Application from the Protection of the Environment Trust to undertake the Frog Conservation Project (POET007 202223) (contd)

2. Provision of information and education or carrying out of research about the natural environment, an aspect of it, or flora and fauna indigenous to the area.

Consultation

The project application is accompanied by a letter of support from Chrissie Goldrick, Editor in Chief, Australian Geographic.

Financial Considerations

At its meeting held 19 October 2020, Council resolved the following:

1108/20 That any motions put before Council for the remainder of this term of Council that have financial implications require the Chief Executive Officer to provide a report on how those additional costs will be met.

The following statement is provided in response to this resolution of Council.

Recommendations by the Protection of the Environment Trust Committee to fund grant applications received does not affect Council's general fund. The requested \$24,000 is held within the restricted Protection of the Environment Trust and pending the Trust's and Council's endorsement of the proposed grant, would draw down on trust funds by that amount.

Link to Community Strategic Plan

Theme 3: Green

Choose Focus Area

G-F1: Protect our rich environmental heritage by conserving beaches, waterways, bushland, wildlife corridors and inland areas, and the diversity of local native species.

Options

The options for Protection of the Environment Trust Committee are to:

- Request further information relating to Australia's Wildlife Ark Ltd's application for \$24,000 from the Protection of the Environment Trust from the applicant to assist with the Trust Committee's decision making. **Recommended.**
- Fund the Australia's Wildlife Ark Ltd's application to the amount of \$24,000 for the frog conservation project. **Not recommended until additional information has been provide by the applicant.**

2.2 Grant Application from the Protection of the Environment Trust to undertake the Frog Conservation Project (POET007 202223) (contd)

- Fund part of the Australia's Wildlife Ark Ltd's application for the frog conservation project. **Not recommended until additional information has been provide by the applicant.**
- Not fund the Australia's Wildlife Ark Ltd's application for the frog conservation project. **Not recommended until further information has been provided by the applicant.**

Critical Dates or Timeframes

A decision on the grant application at this meeting would benefit the applicant in project planning and potentially sourcing alternative funding.

Attachments

- 1 Australia's Wildlife Ark Ltd Application for Frog Conservation Project D15694740

Central Coast Council Protection of the Environment Trust 2022/23
Protection of the Environment Trust Application Form 2022/2023
Application No. POET007 202223 From Jo Runciman
 Form Submitted 28 Apr 2023, 12:50PM AEST

Protection of the Environment Trust Grant Program

BACKGROUND

What is the Protection of the Environment Trust?

The Protection of the Environment Trust (the trust) was established in 2006 with a twofold purpose:

- To promote the protection and enhancement of the natural environment or of a significant aspect of the natural environment and in particular, the conservation of flora and fauna indigenous to the Local Government area; and
- For the provision of information or education or the carrying on of research about the natural environment or a significant aspect of the natural environment in particular relating to flora and fauna of the area for the benefit of persons with the Local Government area.

What is the Protection of the Environment Trust Grant Program?

The Protection of the Environment Trust is able to provide small amounts of financial support to individuals, groups and organisations in the community that are able to deliver projects and works that contribute to the stated purpose of the Trust. The projects and works are not restricted to on-ground activities.

The Protection of the Environment Trust may elect to preferentially fund projects that are consistent with a particular topic or theme within the Trust's stated purpose. The Trust may, for example, choose to fund different organisations to deliver complementary projects about a significant native species.

The grants program is open to community groups and organisations, incorporated associations, not-for-profit organisations, non-commercial cooperatives, education organisations and research organisations.

Available Funding

The annual funding available for the Protection of the Environment Trust is in the order of \$60,000, however this amount may vary between years. The Trust will aim to fund multiple projects each year with available funds. Funding requests by eligible applications should therefore be scaled accordingly.

Program Information and Guidelines

Please [click here](#) to read the full Protection of the Environment Trust Grant Guidelines for additional information including criteria, eligibility and program objectives.

INFORMATION FOR APPLICANTS

1. Expected Program Outcomes The expected outcomes of grants funded by the Protection of the Environment Trust are to be consistent with the intentions of the Protection of the Environment Trust and to benefit the geographic area formerly identified as the Gosford Local Government area. These outcomes should deliver on either or both of the following objectives:

1.1 Promotion of the protection or conservation of the natural environment, an aspect of it, or flora and fauna indigenous to the area. 1.2 Provision of information and education of carrying out of research about the natural environment, an aspect of it, or flora and fauna indigenous to the area.

2. Types of Activities/Projects Supported 2.1 On-ground projects that are consistent with the purpose of The Trust. 2.2 Information, education programs and/or activities that are

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consistent with the purpose of the Trust. 2.3 Research that is consistent with the purpose of the Trust.

3. Eligibility 3.1 Applicants must be a legally constituted not-for-profit organisation or be auspiced by a legally constituted not-for-profit organisation. 3.2 The applicant must be able to demonstrate capability to obtain all regulatory approvals for the event/project/activity, if relevant, before receiving funding. 3.3 All applicants must meet the grant program eligibility criteria and address one or more program outcome(s).

4. The following are ineligible 4.1 Applications that are not consistent with the purpose of the Trust. 4.2 Incomplete applications. 4.3 Applicants who have overdue acquittals from previous funding from the Protection of the Environment Trust. 4.4 Applications for purchases or expenses related to privately owned items. 4.5 Applications seeking funds for projects which may have an adverse impact on neighbouring residents or businesses. 4.6 Applications where the consent of the land owner(s) is not provided in writing. 4.7 Applications seeking funds for salaries, accommodation or travel costs that are not directly related to the project activities.

4.8 Applications seeking funds for projects of a commercial nature that is for profit or that raise funds for philanthropic purposes for other organisations. 4.9 Applications seeking funds for goods or services to 'on-sell' for a commercial benefit and without prior approval of the Trust. 4.10 Applicants who have an outstanding debt to Council or are seeking funds for debt repayment.

5. Assessment Criteria

Each application will be assessed as follows: 5.1 Applicant addresses an outcome consistent with the purpose of the Trust as outlined in Section 1. 5.2 The funding request has a clear beginning and end, or demonstrates that any ongoing or recurrent costs can be met by the applicant once grant funding has been expended. 5.3 The extent to which the budget is comprehensive, realistic and provides value for money. 5.4 Demonstrated need to ensure financial viability of the activity. As funding is limited, not every application that meets the assessment criteria will necessarily be successful. Consideration may be given to part-funding of a project.

6. Assessment Process 6.1 Applications are only accepted through Central Coast Council's website: www.centralcoast.nsw.gov.au and the appropriate online application form. Assistance is provided to any group or individual if requested to ensure access and support with the online system. 6.2 Applications will be assessed by the Protection of the Environment Trust Committee and reported to Council. 6.3 The Protection of the Environment Trust and/or Central Coast Council have the right to request further information in considering any application, as well as the right to reject any application that does not meet the assessment criteria. 6.4 The Protection of the Environment Trust has the right to award a different amount than applied for if it is assessed that the amount requested is not justified by the information provided in the application, or the full amount is not available at the time of the request. 6.5 All decisions of the Trust are final and no negotiations will be entered into.

7. Notification and Payment 7.1 All applicants will be notified of the outcome of their application. 7.2 Unsuccessful applicants are encouraged to seek feedback from the Trust contact about their application, to assist in later applications. 7.3 Successful applicants will be required to sign a Funding Agreement outlining the requirements of their grant. The Funding Agreement must be signed before funding will be provided. An invoice must accompany the completed Funding Agreement. 7.4 Projects are typically to be completed within 12 months of receiving grant funding from the Trust. 7.5 Successful applicants may be required to provide an interim report on their project as per their Funding Agreement. 7.6 A final project report must be submitted no later than 12 months from the commencement of the project. The project report is to include evidence of the project outputs (including where applicable; before and after photos for the on-ground works, copies of education,

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information materials produced and research results). All funds need to be acquitted as detailed in the Funding Agreement. 7.7 Applicants that do not complete and return a final report by the due date may be ineligible for future funding from the Trust. In the case of any foreseeable delays in project completion, applicants must contact **POET@centralcoast.nsw.gov.au** for possible extension.

8. Additional Information 8.1 For incorporated organisations, the following documentation will be required to be provided with your application: • A copy of your most recent audited financial statement (or a statement of income and expenditure signed by your finance manager, if your organisation is not subject to audit requirements). • Your organisation's most recent Annual Report – minimum of Form A12, if this is your annual reporting obligation to the NSW Fair Trading. • A copy of your organisation's Certificate of Incorporation or evidence of being a legally constituted not-for-profit organisation or Authority to Fundraise from the NSW Office of Liquor, Gaming and Racing. • A copy of your organisation's public liability insurance certificate or a written quotation for public liability insurance cover for \$20 million. 8.2 Applicants will be requested to provide two quotes for each item valued at \$1000 or more for capital works and/or equipment. 8.3 Offers of funding by The Protection of the Environment Trust in no way implies any on-going funding commitment or obligation by the Trust. 8.4 Approval of a grant does not imply that Central Coast Council has given any consent required for the project or works. Applicants should note that events and the use of Council facilities or land have established approval processes that must be followed. Applicants are reminded to consider approval processes in their project planning. 8.5 To ensure an accountable and transparent assessment process is maintained, Council staff and funding assessors are required to declare any potential pecuniary or non-pecuniary conflict of interest. 8.6 All written and verbal communication regarding an application will only be with the applicant of the contact person listed in the application.

Lodging an Application To lodge an application, please click on the link and follow the instructions: <https://centralcoast.smartygrants.com.au/POET202223>

Ask us a Question

For any further questions, please send an email to: **POET@centralcoast.nsw.gov.au**

Organisation Information

* indicates a required field

Organisations Details

Organisation Name * Australia's Wildlife Ark Ltd (Aussie Ark)

Organisation Email * jo@aussieark.org.au
 Must be an email address

Organisation Postal Address 36 Myoora Rd
 Somersby NSW 2250 Australia
 Must be an Australian post code

Organisations ABN 51 417 871 203

Information from the Australian Business Register	
ABN	51 417 871 203

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Entity name	AUSTRALIA'S WILDLIFE ARK INC
ABN status	Active
Entity type	Other Incorporated Entity
Goods & Services Tax (GST)	Yes
DGR Endorsed	Yes
ATO Charity Type	Charity More information
ACNC Registration	Registered
Tax Concessions	FBT Rebate, GST Concession, Income Tax Exemption
Main business location	2250 NSW

Information retrieved at 2:58am today

Is your organisation Not For Profit? *

- No
 Yes

Is your Organisation Incorporated? *

- No
 Yes

Briefly describe what services, activities and/or facilities are offered by your organisation? *

Aussie Ark is a conservation organization that specializes in establishing insurance populations of Australian Endangered Species.
Must be no more than 50 words

Contact Person Details

Contact Person *

Mrs Liz Gabriel

Contact Person Email Address *

lvella@reptilepark.com.au

Contact Person Phone Number

(02) 4326 5333

Contact Person Mobile Number *

0405 312 958

Position in Organisation *

Director
Applicant must hold a position listed

Project Information

* indicates a required field

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Project Details

Project Name *	Frog Conservation Project -
Describe your proposed project / activity? *	Aussie Ark has built specialist Frog conservation facilities for the purpose of breeding endangered frog species endemic to the Central Coast Region. Frogs are environmental indicators and the combination of Chytrid fungal disease, degradation of natural water systems and population growth impacts on habitat quality and availability has led many of our Central Coast frog species to become endangered. Aussie are are working to treat Chytrid and to breed 4 different endangered frog species at our Conservation Ark facility located at the Australian Reptile Park on the Central coast. The Giant Barred Frog, The Stuttering Barred Frog, The Green and Golden Bell Frog and the Green Tree Frog. Our aim is to breed and re-release to the wild to build and bolster the wild populations of these species to prevent extinctions. Must be no more than 250 words
Proposed Start Date *	31/05/2023 Must be a date
Proposed Finish Date *	31/05/2024 Must be a date
What is the location of your project *	Somersby - Conservation Ark at the The Australian Reptile Park
Are you as the applicant, the owner of ALL the land referred to in this application? *	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> Not applicable, provide reason below <input type="radio"/> No, please see instruction below INSTRUCTION: If you are NOT the owner of the land, you will need to attach a Letter of Consent from all the legal landowner/s, which includes any conditions that may apply. Please attach the Letter of Consent/s at the end of this application.
If your answer to the above question is Not applicable, please provide reason	Aussie Ark has been gifted use of the land at The Australian Reptile Park for the purposes of Conservation. Where Aussie Arks the Turtle and Frog conservation projects an facilities are housed.
Have you recieved funding under this program in the past?	<input type="checkbox"/> 2019 <input type="checkbox"/> 2015 <input type="checkbox"/> 2018 <input type="checkbox"/> 2014 <input type="checkbox"/> 2017 <input type="checkbox"/> 2013 <input type="checkbox"/> 2016 <input type="checkbox"/> 2012

KEY CRITERIA

EXPECTED PROGRAM OUTCOMES

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Explain how your project meets the expected program outcomes:

The Aussie Ark Frog Conservation program meets the criteria as the four focus species are endemic to the area. The facilities are located in the Gosford Local Government Area and by locating them at the Reptile Park we have ensured that there has been investment and opportunity for education and awareness of both the project as well as these species, what their challenges are and how we are working to save them. 300,000 people a year visit the park and will see the frog conservation project and the education elements to the display.

We have already invested in comprehensive educational signage and have made sure that the work we are doing is visible to the public for education purposes.

We are producing a video content series for distribution to the general public to raise awareness and fundraise for the project.

We are also working with research scientists and academics on the conservation projects.

This program is long term and on-going so we are applying for funding to help staff it, maintenance of the facilities, animal care and community outreach for the project.

Additional Criteria

COMMUNITY BENEFIT:
How will the community benefit from your project?

1) The local community will benefit from these endangered frog species not becoming extinct and being able to be seen in the wild in the future. 2) local community will benefit from our efforts to raise awareness and to educate the public on the plight of our local frogs and the ways in which we are working to save them.

SUCCESS: How will you measure the success of your project?

Success will be seen in the continued breeding success and numbers of these endangered frogs we are able to breed and ultimately re-wild back into their original habitats and ranges locally. Central Coast residents being aware of the species in their local area.

VALUE FOR MONEY: How does the project offer value for money?

Aussie Ark is incredibly cost efficient in all of it's conservation work and we strive to ensure we get maximum benefits to the species we work with. Only 13% of funds that come to Aussie Ark are spent on administration with the rest going directly into the on the ground conservation work

SUSTAINABILITY:
How does the project demonstrate ongoing sustainability including

Everything that Aussie Ark does is done as sustainably as possible, threatened species work is highly regulated and we ensure excellent record keeping and project management on all of our conservation projects.

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Economic, Social, Environmental and Governance?

How will your group manage and maintain this project without continuing financial help from the Trust?

Aussie Ark has a number of funding sources, some self generated via our tourism and private tours at the Barrington Wildlife Sanctuary, some from our campaigns and fundraising via our highly engaged social media audiences and then we also have some corporate and government support for some of our projects.

Project Budget

* indicates a required field

Budget Information

It is important to provide an accurate budget.

The budget shows the organisation/applicant contribution in cash or in-kind and identifies the cash contribution/resources requested from the Trust for the project.

To calculate in-kind community contributions use the cost price of the supplies, materials, or services contributed as a guide. To calculate the volunteer time or labour you contribute to a project, use the fee of \$25 per hour. For professional or contractor fees, use \$75 per hour.

Please note: Any capital work of equipment items that are valued at \$1000 or more will need to have two or more accompanying quotes with the submission.

Amount of Funding Being Applied For:

Requested Trust Contribution (Table A)

Project Item	\$ Value
Expert wildlife keepers	\$17,000.00
public outreach education and content	\$5,000.00
Specialist animal food	\$2,000.00
	\$
	\$
	Must be a dollar amount.

Value of In-kind activities and Cash you are contributing to the Project

Applicant Contribution - In-kind (Table B)

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For example resources, volunteer time, labour etc. at no cost to the project.

Project Item	\$ Equivalent Value
Directors and curators time	\$50,000.00
land use at Australian Reptile Park	\$30,000.00
	\$
	\$
	\$
	Total: \$80,000.00

Applicant Contribution - Cash (Table C)

Project Item	\$ Value
Specilaist Advice / Management	\$40,000.00
Animal Care / environment	\$20,000.00
content/ public engagement / signage	\$10,000.00
Fundraising / partnerships	\$60,000.00
other grants / donations	\$60,000.00
	Total: \$190,000.00
	Must be a dollar amount.

Total Project Cost * \$294,000.00
This number/amount is calculated.
Must be a dollar amount

The Total Project Cost figure is equal to the total value of all items listed in the budget Tables A, B & C.

Total Amount Requested from Trust * \$24,000.00
This number/amount is calculated.
Must be a dollar amount

The Total Amount Requested from the Trust figure is equal to the total value of all items listed in Table A.

Is there any other funding sources being sought for this project? * No Yes

If Yes, please list fundraising, corporate sponsorship, environmental / community grants.
Eg. Fundraising

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Attachments

Please attach the following documents prior to submitting your application

Organisations Certificate of Incorporation

Filename: Australia's Wildlife Ark Incorporation Certificate.pdf
File size: 85.1 kB

Current Certificate of Public Liability Insurance and/or professional indemnity

Filename: COC - Liability_.pdf
File size: 156.6 kB

Supporting documents / information, eg. Business Case, Letters of Support.

Filename: Aus Geo Letter.pdf
File size: 212.2 kB
Only if needed

Attached two quotes for each capital work project and equipment over \$1000.00

No files have been uploaded

Landowner 1, Letter of Consent

No files have been uploaded
**including any conditions that may apply*

Landowner 2, Letter of Consent

No files have been uploaded
**including any conditions that may apply*

Landowner 3, Letter of Consent

No files have been uploaded
**including any conditions that may apply*

2.3 GENERAL BUSINESS