

Noosa Biosphere[®] Reserve Foundation Ltd

Expressions of Interest for a Noosa Biosphere Reserve Grant

The Noosa Biosphere Reserve Foundation is inviting Expressions of Interest for project grants. Please read the **NBR Grants Scheme Guidelines** before completing this form.

*All fields are required

Your Full Name *	Dr Michael Gloster OAM
Contact Phone Number *	0448 471 000
Your Email Address *	gloster@westnet.com.au
Name of Applicant Organisation *	Noosa Parks Association Inc
Type of Organisation * <i>Refer to Guideline 2. Eligibility for an NBR Grant</i>	Incorporated Community Association
Title of Your Proposed Project * <i>This can be a working title and can be changed later.</i>	Project 3: Entrepreneurial restoration of biodiversity connectivity across the Noosa Biosphere Reserve
Summary Project Idea * <i>Keep it short, around 200 words. Outline your project idea, noting 'what', 'where', 'who' and 'how it would work'. Describe the main issue(s) the project would aim to address.</i>	This is a proposal for an entrepreneurially driven approach to restoring biodiversity connectivity across the Noosa Biosphere Reserve. The need for such an approach comes into focus when it is realised that: i) Areas that are legally protected for biodiversity conservation purposes in the Noosa Biosphere Reserve (National Parks, Conservation Parks, Environmental Parks, and privately owned land with perpetual conservation covenants on title e.g. Nature Refuges, Voluntary Conservation Agreements with Noosa Council) are spatially fragmented; ii) To achieve linked and legally protected biodiversity conservation corridors spanning the Noosa Biosphere Reserve, legally protected linkages between the types of areas outlined above are required; iii) Noosa Council's laudable conservation-levy-funded strategy of outright purchase of environmentally significant private land, or encouragement of private owners of such land to enter into Voluntary Conservation Agreements, is unable to address the scale of the connectivity challenge being discussed here.

	<p>iv) By creating an entrepreneurial capability that can complement Council's approach, restoration of biodiversity connectivity across the Noosa Biosphere Reserve can be accelerated.</p> <p>Noosa Parks Association invites the Noosa Biosphere Reserve Foundation to work alongside NPA and possibly other parties to jointly form an entrepreneurial capacity to:</p> <p>i) Purchase privately owned land suitable for conservation connectivity corridors and/or stepping stones, and legally protecting these corridors by:</p> <p>a) Subdividing a purchased property and transferring one subdivided part to NBR's national, conservation or environmental parks, and putting other subdivided parts back onto the market for resale to recoup most or all of the purchase price, or;</p> <p>b) Placing voluntary covenanted agreements over a purchased property (e.g. Nature Refuge, Voluntary Conservation Agreements), then placing the property back on the market for resale to recoup most or all of the purchase price.</p> <p>Where appropriate, the land management plan that forms part of the covenanted agreement may include sustainable agricultural or other land use practices on those areas not set aside for covenanted conservation purposes.</p> <p>ii) Raise funds for bridging risk capital to enable the purchase and resale of land for the purposes outlined above.</p>
<p>Significance for Conservation and Sustainability * <i>Highlight the contributions your project would make to conservation and sustainability in the Noosa Region.</i></p>	<p>This project seeks increase biodiversity conservation by linking protected habitat for climate change adaptation and for wildlife movement and sustainability within the Noosa Biosphere Reserve.</p> <p>At the same time it seeks to encourage complementary sustainable agricultural development and human settlement in these corridors, thereby strengthening the Noosa Biosphere Reserve's local economy and way of life.</p>
<p>Main Project Activities and Timings (month, years) *</p> <p>Summary Budget * <i>Estimate your total project costs. Indicate all potential sources of funding including the NBR Grant</i></p>	<p>Noosa Parks Association is inviting the Noosa Biosphere Reserve Foundation to work alongside it in partnership to establish the type of entrepreneurial capability outlined above, and as a first step is seeking agreement in principle to do so by the end of 2015.</p> <p>No NBR grant is sought for this proposal.</p> <p>If NBRF accepts NPA's invitation to join it and possibly others to jointly establish the type of entrepreneurial capability canvassed above, then NPA is likely to pledge \$100,000 per year for three years towards a bridging risk capital fund.</p>

