

Crown Reserves Improvement Fund (CRIF) grants program in 2025-26

This document provides responses to frequently asked questions about the Crown Reserves Improvement Fund (CRIF) grants program for 2025-26. For the latest information and further guidance documentation please refer to the [Crown Reserves Improvement Fund | Crown Lands](#).

What are the focus areas of this funding round?

The annual funding round consists of 2 key focus areas: **General Projects** and **Pest and Weed Management Projects**, each of which has an overarching objective:

- General Projects: To financially support projects that will have a high community impact.
- Pest and Weed Management Projects: To assist Crown Land Managers meet their duty to biosecurity obligations of the reserves they manage under the Biosecurity Act 2015.

Please note: operational maintenance items and administrative costs do not meet this objective and are not eligible under this funding stream.

When will the annual CRIF funding round be open for applications?

The CRIF annual funding round will open at **9.00am Monday 3 November 2025** and will close at **5.00pm sharp on Friday 5 December 2025**. Please aim to submit early as the system automatically shuts off and no extension of time can be given.

If you require changes to your submitted application **prior to 1.00pm on Friday 5 December 2025** you can contact the funding team who can re-open the application form. **Revised applications must be re-submitted prior to 4.59pm on Friday 5 December 2025 otherwise the application will be ineligible. Note the system will automatically close to all applications at 4.59 + 60 seconds exactly.**

How much funding is available?

\$13.5 million is available in this funding stream across three different application types:

- 1) General grants – approximately \$11 million
- 2) Weed management grants – approximately \$2.3 million
- 3) Pest control grants – approximately \$0.2 million

What are the minimum and maximum amounts that can be applied for?

- General grants: minimum application amount: \$50,000, maximum amount: \$1,000,000
- Pest management: minimum application amount: \$500, maximum amount: \$200,000
- Weed management: minimum application amount: \$500, maximum amount: \$200,000

Note: all amounts listed above are inclusive of GST.

What are the assessment criteria for general grants?

The funding for general grants is targeting projects that will have a significant community impact on high usage reserves. Assessment criteria are:

- a) **Reserve usage criteria** – the higher the visitation the higher the score (score out of 40)
- b) **Project criteria** – assessment of the “community impact” of the project (score out of 40)
- c) **Deliverability and affordability criteria** – assessment of the capability to deliver the project (score out of 20)

What other changes have been made to general grant eligibility and assessment?

- **The minimum grant amount has been reduced to \$50,000 (inc GST)**

What land is eligible for CRIF grants?

All Crown land, apart from the exclusions listed below, is eligible for CRIF grants. This includes land managed by a Crown Land Manager or department managed land. Tenure holders and user groups can apply with permission from the land manager. If unsure about eligibility, please contact the Funding team to discuss.

Who is not eligible for CRIF grants?

- Freehold showgrounds
- Common trusts
- Local Land Services (unless applying for land managed by someone else)
- Freehold Schools of Art

Where do I get more information?

All details including guidance documents regarding the CRIF annual funding round stream will be published on the [Crown Reserves Improvement Fund | Crown Lands website](#).

For further questions please contact the funding team on 1300 886 235 (option 5 or via email) reservefunding@crowland.nsw.gov.au

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