

Guidelines - NWC Wildlife Rehabilitation Enclosure or Equipment Grants – 2023-2024

This document sets out the guidelines for the NSW Wildlife Council (NWC) Wildlife Rehabilitation Grant. These guidelines describe the objective of the NWC Wildlife Rehabilitation Grant and the eligibility requirements for participation. They provide guidance on how potential applicants can apply for funding, and outline the assessment and decision-making processes.

Overview

The NSW Wildlife Council is the peak representative organisation for wildlife groups and individual rehabilitators licensed by the NSW Department of Planning and Environment (NSW National Parks & Wildlife Service). The objective of the Grants Program is to increase the capacity for individual wildlife rehabilitators, and groups in exceptional circumstances at the discretion of the management committee, to purchase materials to build animal enclosures or equipment needed to rehabilitate native Australian wildlife within the state of NSW.

Applications for grants need to be submitted to the Grants Committee of the NSW Wildlife Council between 1 July and 31 July 2023. Applications for grants need to be in writing on the approved NWC Wildlife Rehabilitation Grant Application Form.

Applications for grants will be evaluated based on 3 criteria: Need; Excellence and Value for Money. The grant decision will be made in a manner determined by the NSW Wildlife Council Management Committee. Grants of amounts from \$500 to \$4000 will be provided to the applications voted most worthy. Applications are open to NWC groups and individuals; any NWC Group may be awarded a maximum of 2 individual member grants and 1 group grant; an independent general licensee may be awarded 1 grant. The 2023 Grant Budget is \$50,000. Applications are restricted to members of NWC groups in NSW and independent general licensees (IGLs).

Eligibility Criteria

- Applicants must belong to a NWC wildlife rehabilitation group or be an independent general licensee that is licensed by the NSW Department of Planning and Environment National Parks & Wildlife Service.
- Applicants must have the written endorsement (where applicable) of the management committee of the licence holder to which the applicant belongs.
- Independently licensed applicants must contact secretary@nwc.org.au first to discuss eligibility
- Applicants must currently hold an Authority for wildlife and have a minimum of 2 years' experience
- Applications for grants must be in writing on the approved NWC Wildlife Rehabilitation Grant Application Form
- Applications must be received by the NWC Grants Committee on or before 31 July 2023 at 5 p.m. No exceptions will be made to the closing date and time so it is recommended that you get your application in as soon as possible. Internet connection problems on closing day are not an accepted excuse for late lodgement.
- Applications should be emailed to grants@nwc.org.au Allow 7 days for post.
- Only one application will be accepted from any one individual
- Applicants will need to provide a description and/or images relating to the project
- Applicants agree that the photos provided and details of the project or equipment will be published on the NWC website or may be provided to relevant government agencies or other animal welfare organisations specifically to promote the good work of wildlife rehabilitation in NSW.
- The project must be started within 3 months of the date of the Grant Agreement
- The project must be completed within 12 months of the date of the Grant Agreement unless an approval for extension of time to complete the project has been sought and approved in writing from the NSW Wildlife Council.
- It is recommended that enclosures are built on freehold land owned by the applicant

- Enclosures that are partially built may be given preference over enclosures that have not been started.
- Equipment that has already been purchased may be eligible for a grant if receipts are provided.
- Applications that are not signed off by the applicant and the applicant's committee or representative will not be accepted. Applications may be separately endorsed by signature on the group's letterhead and emailed with the application.

Evaluation of applications

The NSW Wildlife Council will evaluate applications based on 3 criteria. The criteria have been ranked in order of importance. The NSW Wildlife Council will give the highest weighting to

- Criteria 1 Need, followed by
- Criteria 2 Excellence, and then
- Criteria 3 Value for Money.

The decision to issue grants will be made by a vote of the NSW Wildlife Council at the Annual General meeting each year. An exception during 2023 may be required due to COVID-19 or other considerations.

The decision of the NSW Wildlife Council will be final and no appeals will be entered into. The NSW Wildlife Council may decide not to issue grants if the standard of applications is not considered to be acceptable or funding is not available.

Grants

Successful applicants will be notified by early September and will be required to sign an agreement explaining the terms and conditions of the grant. Grants will be distributed via Electronic Funds Transfer and may be issued up-front, retrospectively or at key points throughout the project, at the discretion of the Grants Committee

The enclosure or equipment purchased with the assistance of the grant will be the property of the successful applicant. If at some point in the future the enclosure or equipment is no longer required by the successful applicant, it is recommended where practical that the enclosure or equipment is passed onto another licensed wildlife rehabilitator but this will be at the discretion of the successful applicant.

How to apply

Simply fill in the form titled "NWC Wildlife Rehabilitation Grant Application Form" and email it, making sure it includes the group's endorsement, to grants@nwc.org.au Ensure all sections are complete before sending. All applications will be acknowledged.

Additional information

Privacy

Applicants acknowledge that information regarding their application, including personal information, may be provided to relevant government departments or other animal welfare organisations for use to promote the good work of wildlife rehabilitation in NSW.

The NSW Wildlife Council reserves the right to publicise and report on the awarding of grants on the NSW Wildlife Council's website and in newsletters.

Published information includes but is not limited to: name of the individual/s, grant amount, details of the equipment or enclosure and information regarding the estimated number and species of animals assisted by the grant. Enclosure locations would normally not be published and family names may be withheld on request.

By submitting an application for a grant, the applicant consents to the publication of the above information by the NSW Wildlife Council if awarded a grant.

End.