

Noosa Biosphere Reserve Grants Scheme

Bringing Fish Life Back to the Noosa River, Lakes and Estuary: Restoring Ecological Function in the Noosa Biosphere Reserve

[1. Organisation](#)

[1.2 Organisation Details](#)

[1.2 Contact Person](#)

[1.3 Auspicing Body Details \(if applicable\)](#)

[2. Project](#)

[2.1 Project Details](#)

[2.2 Project Roadmap](#)

[2.3 Specific question to your type of project](#)

[2.3.1 Program](#)

[2.3.2 Community Event\(s\)](#)

[2.3.3 Infrastructure / Building Work](#)

[3. Budget](#)

[3.1 Income](#)

[3.2 Expenditure](#)

[3.3 Drawdowns](#)

[4. Other Criteria](#)

[5. Certification](#)

[6. Privacy](#)

[7. Instructions](#)

[8. Lodgement](#)

Please don't forget to attach your organisation's:

Most recent annual financial statement
Business Plan or other strategic planning document/s
Public Liability Certificate of Currency

1. Organisation

1.2 Organisation Details

Organisation name <i>Please ensure this organisation name is identical to the name on the Incorporation Certificate. If your organisation is not incorporated, please ensure the name matches the ABN Registration.</i>	Noosa Parks Association Inc. & The Thomas Foundation
Incorporation number <i>Not sure what your incorporated number is - search at this link: Office of Fair Trading</i> <i>If you are not incorporated please refer to the Auspicing information.</i>	IA03807
Organisation's ABN <i>If applicable</i>	18 870 049 909
Registered for GST? <i>(Y/N)</i>	Yes
Postal address	PO Box 836, Noosa Heads, Queensland 4567
Street address <i>if different from postal</i>	5 Wallace Drive, Wallace Park, Noosaville
Website address	http://www.noosaparks.org.au
Financial Reports	See attached
What year was your organisation established?	1962
How many members or clients does your organisation have?	Over one thousand
How many active volunteers does your organisation have?	Over 200
What does your organisation do? <i>Your organisation's purpose and goals?</i>	NPA is Queensland's oldest and largest community conservation organisation. We connect passionate people with conservation initiatives for real world benefits to the Noosa Biosphere Reserve
Insurance <i>What insurance does your organisation have in place to conduct your usual activities? (Public Liability Insurance, Volunteer Insurance, Building Insurance, Content Insurance, other?)</i>	Public Liability Insurance and Voluntary Workers Insurance – see attached.



Please attach your organization's insurance certificates.

1.2 Contact Person

Contact person for this proposal	Dr Michael Gloster OAM
Contact person's position in organisation	Vice President
Contact phone number	0448 471 000
Email address	gloster@westnet.com.au
Signature of contact person	

1.3 Auspicing Body Details (if applicable)

If you are applying for a NBR Grant through a sponsor (auspice) organisation please provide their details here. The auspice organisation will accept the legal and financial responsibility for the project.

Auspicing Organisation name <i>Please ensure this organisation name is identical to the name on the Incorporation Certificate. If your organisation is not incorporated, please ensure the name matches the ABN Registration.</i>	N/A
Incorporation number	
Postal address	
Street address <i>if different from postal</i>	
Auspicing organisation website address	
Auspicing organisation contact person	
Contact person's position in organisation	
Contact phone number	
Email address	
Signature of contact person	

2. Project

2.1 Project Details

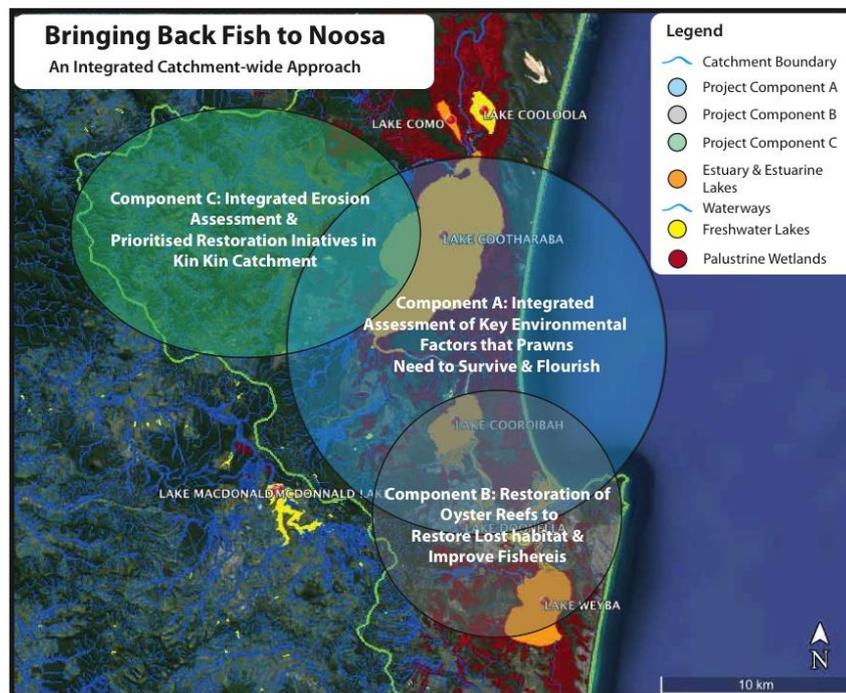
Project Title	Bringing Fish Life Back to Noosa: Restoring Ecological Function in the Noosa Biosphere Reserve
Project Start Date	January 2016
Project End Date	January 2019
Describe the project. What will it achieve?	<p>The Noosa River, Lakes and estuary are of immense, and irreplaceable, value to the people of Noosa: culturally, historically, economically, socially and environmentally. Conserving and, where necessary, restoring the system's ecological health and integrity, is therefore a critical management need. The system was once teeming with life including bountiful amounts of fish and oysters. Recreational fishing flourished, as did commercial fishing; however this is no longer the case¹.</p> <p>Guided by marine scientists and natural resource managers, and complemented by high levels of community engagement and participation (ownership), our vision is to seek a better balance between protecting natural assets and being able to enjoy these assets in a sustainable way. This will be achieved through progressive re-establishment and restoration of resilient natural communities through three key priorities (as identified by an expert scientific panel in 2014)². These key priorities are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Restore oyster reefs, which have been lost due to historical overharvesting; • Restore prawn stocks in the Noosa Lakes, which to be successful will require an understanding of the key environmental factors contributing to the dynamics of prawn populations in the Lakes and estuary, and a full stock assessment; and • Improve management of catchment processes such as controlling sediment loss in the upper catchment due to substantial clearing of vegetation and resulting erosion of steep slopes in the upper Kin Kin catchment². <p>This project proposes scientific approaches with proven track records in delivering conservation benefits in rivers and estuaries to improve the ecological condition of the Noosa River, Lakes and Estuary. This will be achieved through several inter-connected and innovative components designed to link applied scientific knowledge with tangible community engagement and ownership. The three components of this project outlined below will directly address key priorities previously identified² and have the potential to increase fish productivity and restore oyster and prawn populations in the Noosa River</p>

and Lakes system, which can meet priorities of the Noosa Biosphere Reserve Foundation as well as 'Our Vision' for a better, more resilient and healthier ecosystem.

Component A) An assessment of current baseline environmental conditions against which the success of restoration efforts can be measured, including assessing the links between school prawns and the prevailing environmental conditions, a current stock assessment, and recommendations for enhancing or restocking prawns in the Noosa Lakes and Estuary (to be undertaken by UQ, refer to Appendix A for detail).

Component B) Direct restoration of lost oyster reef habitat removed by overfishing; construction of artificial reefs and monitoring of results; and improved understanding of how the restored oyster reefs secure fish diversity, biomass and connectivity in the system (to be undertaken by USC, refer to Appendix B for detail).

Component C) A parallel project proposed by Noosa and District Landcare, and partly funded by Noosa Parks Association and the Thomas Foundation, involving an assessment of erosion prone areas in the Kin Kin Creek catchment to determine current sediment inputs into the Noosa Catchment and identification of priority areas for riparian restoration. The objective of this work is to reduce the overall sediment load in the system that currently hinders the growth of oyster reefs and seagrass beds, which provide habitat for fish (refer to parallel Noosa Landcare project proposal).



1 Thurstan R. 2015 Historical Ecology of the Noosa Estuary Fisheries. Report prepared for Noosa Council, The Nature Conservancy and The Thomas Foundation. University of Queensland, Brisbane.

2 The Nature Conservancy (2015) *Assessment of aquatic restoration and management options for Noosa Estuary and Lakes*. Report prepared for The Thomas Foundation and NPA.

<p>List the stakeholders and partners and describe their contributions.</p> <p><i>Attach letters of support from stakeholders and partners.</i></p>	<p>Noosa Parks Association (NPA) – An association of likeminded individuals who are passionate about restoring the Noosa River, Lakes and Estuary to a better state including improved ecological function and improved fish abundance. NPA is offering to partly fund the project by providing cash and in-kind support, and is seeking additional funding for the project through NBRF.</p> <p>The Thomas Foundation (TTF) – A private philanthropic foundation with an interest in enhancing biodiversity, and returning fisheries in the Noosa Biosphere to a better state for future generations to enjoy. TTF will provide partial funding support for the project through grants, and is seeking additional funding for the project through NBRF.</p> <p>The Nature Conservancy (TNC) – A not for profit organisation providing global leadership in the restoration and conservation of natural ecosystems including leading the National Shellfish Restoration Network, NESP Marine Biodiversity Hub, and Great Southern Seascapes Project among other restoration efforts in Australia. A global leader in shellfish restoration.</p> <p>University of the Sunshine Coast (USC) – A local university project partner that will provide scientific knowledge, training opportunities, and community engagement opportunities for the restoration of oyster reefs in the lower Noosa River and Estuary.</p> <p>University of Queensland (UQ) – A local university project partner that will provide scientific knowledge, training opportunities, and community engagement opportunities to understand the current status of the Noosa Lakes and Estuary, and provide a pathway to bring back prawns.</p> <p>Ecological Service Professionals (ESP) – A private environmental consulting company with a scientific interest in assisting with the restoration of natural places and providing sustainable science solutions that will support future generations.</p> <p>Noosa and District Landcare – A community association providing project management for Kin Kin Creek erosion detection and proposed remediation.</p> <p>Noosa Biosphere Reserve Foundation – A key funding partner providing seed funding for the first 3 years of the project to support each component. It will receive in return critical information that meets several objectives including providing baseline information on the current environmental condition of the Noosa River, Lakes and Estuary; a greater understanding of key functional groups in the lakes and estuary (sentinel species such as prawns and other benthic species); and restoration of a lost biological habitat that will be the largest oyster restoration undertaken in Australia.</p> <p>Noosa Council (NC) – A key funding partner (via contributions to NBRF) providing critical project support for each component, as well as providing logistical support.</p> <p>Local Noosa Community – Indirect funding partner (through their contribution to Noosa Council’s environment levy which in turn funds NBRF) and the ultimate jury on the success of the project to bring back fish to Noosa River, Lakes and Estuary. Including key stakeholder groups such as fishing clubs and local environmental groups with an interest in restoring the Noosa Biosphere for the benefit of present and future generations.</p>
<p>Please describe the risks associated with your project.</p>	<p>The project proponents will complete a formal risk analysis in consultation with NBRF and their stakeholders that will include detailed assessment of the key hazards and measures used to mitigate them prior to completing any restoration efforts. Key risks are briefly described below:</p> <p>1) Potential Hazard - Human Health</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Direct injury or indirect consumption of oysters, which have the potential to cause harm to individuals.

Assessment of Risk

- LOW – oysters will take several years to reach a size for consumption
- Restoration areas will be located away from direct public access (except by boat), and
- there is currently access to oysters growing on jetties and pylons, which to our knowledge, have not resulted in any major health incidents to date (although anecdotally these are only harvested by anglers for bait).

2) Potential Hazard – Navigational Hazard

- Reefs will become a navigational hazard.

Assessment of Risk

- LOW – due to detailed design solutions and existing knowledge / learnings from other restoration projects globally through the contribution of TNC and the National Shellfish Restoration Network (which our project partners are a member of).

3) Potential Hazard – Failure of Oyster Recruitment/Fish Attraction

- Failure of the reef substrate to attract fish due to a lack of recruitment of oysters or smothering from sedimentation, the reefs fail to become viable natural infrastructure.

Assessment of Risk

- LOW – pilot studies demonstrated that there was adequate recruitment and growth of oysters (up to 40 mm in 5 months despite heavy sediment loads).
- Existing literature from restoration efforts in the USA demonstrated the potential for increased fisheries production.

4) Potential Hazard – Project Delivery

- Failure to deliver the project due to the complex nature of ecological restoration work, the project partners may be delayed in project delivery.

Assessment of Risk

- LOW – progress payments are contingent on successful completion of milestones and key performance indicators.

5) Potential Hazard – Ongoing Funding

- Inability to successfully obtain ongoing funding for the project once project restoration is complete to enable long-term monitoring of the success and ongoing maintenance of the reef habitat.

Assessment of Risk

- LOW – community will be heavily engaged and consulted on this project to foster community ownership of the restoration efforts through NPA and project partners.
- Previous shellfish restoration projects elsewhere in the world are well supported through the formation of deductible trust funds and philanthropic organisations.

6) Potential Hazard – Permitting and Permissions

- Delays in project completion due to permitting and permissions for restoration efforts.

Assessment of Risk

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MODERATE – council will obtain permitting for the restoration initiatives, which should reduce the time taken to get permits.
<p>How will you mitigate those risks?</p>	<p>1) Mitigation Measures - Human Health</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NPA will conduct a community education campaign stressing that oysters are being regenerated as a fish food source, not for human consumption. • Reef will be designed to minimise potential harm from direct contact (cuts and abrasions). • Adequate educational signage warning of the dangers placed on shore adjacent to restoration area. • Reef habitat is designed to support increased fish productivity rather than for direct harvest of fish. Engaging local angling clubs to assist in protection and policing of the reef habitat. • Sufficient Public Liability and Professional Indemnity Insurances for all proponents. <p>2) Mitigation Measures – Navigational Hazard</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Suitable design of reefs, placement where they will be in clear view of skippers and location away from major channels. • Engagement of Marine Safety Queensland and other relevant Government agencies (through existing contacts of ESP). • Restoring reefs at the low tide mark rather than within existing channels. • Education of local boating groups of the objectives of the project to inspire ownership of the project and hopefully community driven policing of the restoration areas. • Adequate educational signage warning of the dangers placed on shore adjacent to restoration area. <p>3) Mitigation Measures – Failure of Oyster Recruitment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Previous pilot study completed which demonstrates that the estuary is substrate limited, so the likelihood of recruitment failure is very low. • Tackle the three components of the project to improve overall condition of the Noosa Estuary and lakes simultaneously (i.e. proposed components 1, 2 and 3), to improve probability of oyster recruitment and growth in the lower estuary. • Reef design to maximise opportunities for oyster recruitment and growth and improve opportunities for supporting fish. <p>4) Mitigation Measures – Project Delivery</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manage community and stakeholder expectations through appropriate milestones, articulation of a clear vision and open access to information as required. • Multiple project components that are connected to broader restoration of the Noosa River, estuary and lakes (i.e. Components 1, 2 and 3). • Clear deliverables and key performance indicators linked to funding. • Ongoing independent scientific review of all project components. • Involvement of local Universities as program partners. <p>5) Mitigation Measures – Ongoing Funding</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engaging the community in the restoration journey including sourcing

	<p>construction materials locally.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Initial project funding will provide suitable engagement opportunities and co-investment with other funding bodies including the Fisheries Research and Development Corporation and Australian Research Council. • Potential to set up a deductible trust through NPA or independently for ongoing support of restoration efforts (see http://reviveourgulf.org.nz for model example of how this is working for restoration of mussel beds in New Zealand). • Involvement of local Universities as program partners. <p>6) Mitigation Measures – Permitting and Permissions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council will seek necessary permitting and permissions for the restoration initiatives. • We have existing fisheries permits, ethics approvals and scientific user permits to enable project components to begin through involvement of Ecological Service Professionals Pty Ltd. (although our current permissions do not extend to substantial disturbance of the benthos – i.e. for reef restoration). • This is a local government environmental initiative so possible to navigate through the permitting and permissions process quickly. • Key stakeholder engagement in the project design phase for restoration initiatives, which should allow easier permitting and permissions process. • Experience obtaining the necessary permits and licenses. • Involvement of local Universities as program partners, who are considered peak scientific bodies.
<p>Outline your media and communication plans</p>	<p>Noosa Parks Association will, pro bono, coordinate all engagement with media and the community for the project. This will include hosting community awareness events; Science in the Pub (in association with the Australian Marine Science Association); involvement of the community in reef restoration training where possible and also assisting in fostering support and training for oyster gardens.</p> <p>We will provide regular updates on the success of the project through our project website and knowledge portal, newsletter and through social media (Facebook and Twitter) and YouTube (e.g. USC Coastal Research Network YouTube channel – https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-1fea7mFpf8).</p> <p>NPA will work with ESP and the other project proponents to deliver PR and media releases about the success of the project to be picked up by broader media outlets such as newspaper, internet news, radio and television sources.</p>
<p>Other supporting information</p> <p><i>Attach any other relevant supporting documentation.</i></p>	<p>Attachment 1) Detailed Project Proposal</p> <p>Attachment 2) NPA Financial records</p> <p>Attachment 3) Insurance Certificates of Currency</p> <p>Attachment 4) Letters of support from relevant organisations</p>

2.2 Project Roadmap

Activities and timings (add more rows if required)

Activities	Who is responsible	by (date)
Project inception and contract engagement of relevant organisations	Noosa Biosphere Reserve Foundation	January 2016
Application for Permits and Permissions for Reef Deployment	Noosa Council	01 February 2016
Provision of interim fisheries and scientific research permits to begin ecological assessments and inform design phase (but not large scale restoration)	ESP	Currently available
Application for ethics and research permits for reef monitoring and support of council application for permits and permissions	USC	01 February 2016
Design of Oyster Reefs including formal risk assessment	USC	14 February 2016
Application for ethics and research permits for ecological assessments following desktop review and gap analysis	UQ	01 March 2016
Oyster Reef Deployment (Year 1 – 10 patch reefs in each restoration location)	USC	30 March 2016
Monitoring Oysters Reef Restoration Success (including fisheries productivity, settlement and overall biodiversity of the integrity of reef structures)	USC	Quarterly each year for 3 years
Provide a Baseline Assessment of the Environmental Status of the Noosa River, lakes and Estuary, including a seascape analysis of historical changes in the availability of key habitats, changes in the water and sediment quality over time and assessment of diversity in the system (focussed on the Noosa Lakes and Estuary). This baseline will provide critical information against which the success of this and future restoration efforts can be measured.	UQ	Within 6 months of inception (30 June 2016)
Annual report on Oyster Reef Restoration Progress against agreed milestones and KPIs including monitoring outcomes and recommendations for further reef restoration in subsequent years. To be submitted for independent science review coordinated by TNC.	USC	End of Years 1, 2 & 3 (i.e. 30 January 2017, 2018 & 2019)
Provide an assessment of the status of sentinel species that are reliant on an ecologically functional estuary (i.e. prawn stocks, including various life history stages) and provide an assessment of the environmental and ecological reasons for any observed stock declines.	UQ	End of Years 1-2 (i.e. 30 January 2017, 2018)
Oyster Reef Maintenance (maintain the integrity)	USC	Year 2 & 3

Activities	Who is responsible	by (date)
of existing reefs ongoing through the year and adding additional 10 reef patches in years 2 & 3, contingent on success of the initial reef deployment in year 1).		(30 March 2017 & 2018)
Provide recommendations & a recovery plan for prawn fisheries in the Noosa Lakes and Estuary	UQ	Year 3 (30 January 2019)
Independent Scientific Review of Ecological Assessment and Oyster Reef Restoration	TNC to coordinate with assistance from other project partners and panel of independent scientists	Following submission of annual project reports in Years 1, 2 and 3 (February 2017, 2018 & January 2019)
Brief annual project progress reports to the NBRF including success against relevant milestones and KPIs	NPA and ESP with input from TNC, USC and UQ	Following submissions from TNC, UQ and USC in Years 1, 2 & 3 (February 2017, 2018, & January 2019)

2.3 Specific question to your type of project

Is your project a program, community event or an infrastructure/building work? Complete the relevant sections only.

2.3.1 Program

Only complete this section if your project is a program of activity.

<p>Where will the program take place? <i>This could be an area or a specific address</i></p>	Noosa River, Lakes and Estuary
<p>List the stakeholders and partners and describe their contributions.</p>	<p>Noosa Parks Association (NPA) – An association of likeminded individuals who are passionate about restoring the Noosa River, Lakes and Estuary to a better state including improved ecological function and improved fish abundance. NPA is offering to partly fund the project by providing cash and in-kind support, and is seeking additional funding for the project through NBRF.</p> <p>The Thomas Foundation (TTF) – A private philanthropic foundation with an interest in enhancing biodiversity, and returning fisheries in the Noosa Biosphere to a better state for future generations to enjoy. TTF will provide partial funding support for the project through grants, and is seeking additional funding for the project through NBRF.</p> <p>The Nature Conservancy (TNC) – A not for profit organisation providing global leadership in the restoration and conservation of natural ecosystems including leading the National Shellfish Restoration Network, NESP Marine Biodiversity Hub, and Great Southern Seascapes Project among other restoration efforts in Australia. A global leader in shellfish restoration.</p> <p>University of the Sunshine Coast (USC) – A local university project partner that will provide scientific knowledge, training</p>

	<p>opportunities, and community engagement opportunities for the restoration of oyster reefs in the lower Noosa River and Estuary.</p> <p>University of Queensland (UQ) – A local university project partner that will provide scientific knowledge, training opportunities, and community engagement opportunities to understand the current status of the Noosa Lakes and Estuary, and provide a pathway to bring back prawns.</p> <p>Ecological Service Professionals (ESP) – A private environmental consulting company with a scientific interest in assisting with the restoration of natural places and providing sustainable science solutions that will support future generations.</p> <p>Noosa and District Landcare – A community association providing project management for Kin Kin Creek erosion detection and proposed remediation.</p> <p>Noosa Biosphere Reserve Foundation – A key funding partner providing seed funding for the first 3 years of the project to support each component. It will receive in return critical information that meets several objectives including providing baseline information on the current environmental condition of the Noosa River, Lakes and Estuary; a greater understanding of key functional groups in the lakes and estuary (sentinel species such as prawns and other benthic species); and restoration of a lost biological habitat that will be the largest oyster restoration undertaken in Australia.</p> <p>Noosa Council (NC) – A key funding partner (via contributions to NBRF) providing critical project support for each component, as well as providing logistical support.</p> <p>Local Noosa Community – Indirect funding partner (through their contribution to Noosa Council’s environment levy which in turn funds NBRF) and the ultimate jury on the success of the project to bring back fish to Noosa River, Lakes and Estuary. Including key stakeholder groups such as fishing clubs and local environmental groups with an interest in restoring the Noosa Biosphere for the benefit of present and future generations.</p>
--	---

2.3.2 Community Event(s)

Only complete this section if you are planning to run community events.

<p>Have you applied for an event permit?</p> <p><i>Yes, no, not required?</i> See event information on Noosa Council's website.</p>	<p>Community engagement and education activities</p>
<p>Outline schedule of activities at the event(s)</p>	<p>Initial on-ground support for oyster reef restoration implementation – March 2015</p> <p>Call for Expression of Interest for Oyster Gardens – June 2015</p> <p>Training event for development of oyster gardens – July 2015</p>



	Science in the Pub (held in collaboration with Australian Marine Science Association – Queensland Branch and other project partners) – Annually dates to be determined
List the stakeholders and partners and describe their contributions.	Stakeholders as listed above, plus Australian Marine Science Association – Queensland Branch will host, provide volunteers and support of up to \$250 to cover venue hire for a science in the pub event in Noosa to disseminate information about the project to scientists and interested members of the broader community. Additional funds will be sought from project partners to cover catering costs for this event.
Permission of site owners <i>Upload written permission from owner(s) of the proposed events site.</i>	Community events will be held at private venues. Permission is not required.

2.3.3 Infrastructure / Building Work

Only complete this section if you are planning to conduct infrastructure and/or building work as part of your proposal.

What is the street address where your project is taking place <i>Yes, no, not required?</i> <i>See event information on Noosa Council's website.</i>	Noosa Estuary – exact location to be determined as part of the detailed design phase.
Who owns the land? <i>Noosa Council? State Government?</i> <i>Freeholder/private?</i> <i>Attach a letter of landowner indicating permission</i>	Tidal land controlled by Noosa Council Subtidal land owned by State Government Relevant permissions will be sought as part of this project and the restoration of oyster reefs is contingent of necessary permissions and permits being granted.
Outline the approvals your organisation has in place which are required to undertake the proposed project e.g. planning and development approvals, owner's consent etc. <i>Attach supporting documents</i>	We currently have sufficient permits and approvals to complete the desktop review and gap analysis, environmental assessments and any preliminary design works for the oyster reef restoration. We do not yet have permission or permits to construct the oyster reefs – Noosa Council will obtain these with the support of project proponents. A copy of existing permits is attached.

3. Budget

- Please identify the sources of individual monetary contributions as well as the specific beneficiaries of all proposed monetary payments.
- Proposed budgets should not include payments to fund the general operations of a NFP organisation.

- In kind or volunteer inputs should be described separately and the basis of valuation included.
- Please state all figures exclusive of GST

Total Project Cost <i>Include all co-funding secured and unsecured:</i>	\$ 679 804.00 over three years, excluding in kind (Ex. GST) \$1,472,951.00 over three years, including in kind (Ex. GST)
Amount of grant requested from NBRF	\$ 441,304.00 over three years (Ex. GST)

3.1 Income

List all income items - insert extra rows if required.

Please attach any budget documents, written quotes, letters of support etc.

Item	Income \$ (Ex. GST)	Source
NBR Grant Requested Amount	\$441,304.00 over three years	NBRF
Cash at bank (your organisation cash contribution to project)	\$45,000.00 over three years	Noosa Parks Association
Donations (project specific)	\$75,000.00 over three years	The Thomas Foundation
Other Grants/Sponsorship	Nil	–
In kind contributions (project specific) Component A: Integrated Ecological Assessment	\$605,951.50 over three years	University of Queensland
In kind contributions (project specific) Component B: Oyster Restoration	\$129,000.00 over three years	University of the Sunshine Coast
In kind contributions (project specific) project Components A & B	\$24,000.00 per annum (120 volunteer person days at \$200/person/day)	Noosa Parks Association
In kind contributions (project specific) Sustainable Science Solutions and Project Support	\$34,800.00 over three years	Ecological Service Professionals Pty Ltd
Unsecured Funding Source(s)	Nil	–
Secured Funding Source(s)	\$118,500.00 over three years	University of the Sunshine Coast

3.2 Expenditure

List all expenditure items - insert extra rows if required.

Item	Beneficiary	Expenditure \$ (Ex. GST)
Complete Scientific assessments and restoration efforts	The University of Queensland	\$187,804.00 of which we seek \$157,804.00 from NBRF over three years; the remaining funds will come from The Thomas Foundation (gifted to UQ) (\$30,000.00) over three years.
Complete Scientific assessments and restoration efforts	University of the Sunshine Coast	\$435,000.00 of which we seek \$283,500.00 from NBRF over three years and the remaining funds will come from USC (\$118,500.00), The Thomas Foundation (gifted to USC) (\$31,500.00) and NPA (\$1,500.00) over three years
Complete Scientific assessments and restoration efforts including providing project cohesion, reporting QAQC, scientific support	Ecological Service Professionals Pty Ltd	\$43,500 sourced from NPA over three years
Conservation leadership, QAQC and independent Scientific Review	The Nature Conservancy	\$13,500 sourced from the Thomas Foundation over three years. Likely to be reinvested in community led restoration efforts.
	TOTAL Project Expenditure	\$679,804.00

3.3 Grant Payment Schedule

Depending on the scale of your project, we might not pay out the entire approved grant amount and link payments to successful achievement of agreed milestones. Please provide relevant milestones at which point you require funds for the project to continue.

Milestone	Approx. date	Amount \$ (Ex. GST)
1) Initial Payment (for detailed budget and milestone descriptions see attachments 2 and 3)	January 2016	\$91,875.00
2) Report on the Baseline Assessment of the Environmental status of Noosa River, lakes and Estuary; Installation of reefs, baseline surveys completed and community engagement started	June 2016	\$70,062.00
3) Key stakeholder workshop and community engagement	September 2016	\$14,918.00
4) Complete planning for expansion of reefs complete, ecological surveys for year 1 complete and oyster gardens ready for deployment from private jetties	December 2016	\$58,700.00
5) Annual Progress Report including independent science review Year 1	February 2017	\$30,028.00
6) Installation of additional reef habitat complete, fish biomass and association studies underway, oyster settlement assessment complete and community oyster gardens and oyster watch operating in the estuary	June 2017	\$24,350.00
7) Planning for expansion of reefs complete, ecological surveys for year 2 on expanded reef; oyster gardens established at several locations and comprehensive web presence, including community engagement activities such as Science in the Pub	December 2017	\$58,700.00
8) Annual Progress Report including independent science review Year 2	February 2018	\$23,770.00
9) Report on Baseline Assessment of the Environmental status of Noosa River, lakes and Estuary including key environmental components that support critical prawn populations	June 2018	\$30,596.00
10) Successful reef deployment in Year 3; predictive model of how fish diversity and biomass is influenced by oyster reefs; community activities running and Noosa oyster reefs are recognized locally, regionally and nationally as having been brought back from historical extirpation and contributing to ecosystem services in the Noosa estuary.	June 2018	\$24,350.00
11) Final Report including independent science review Year 3 and applications to extend the project beyond 2018 submitted.	January 2019	\$13,955.00
Total Grant Funds Requested from NBRF over three years		\$441,304.00

4. Other Criteria

<p>How will you monitor and measure outcomes?</p> <p><i>Specify clear and measurable objectives and expected results, including nomination of KPIs subject to independent expert assessment.</i></p> <p><i>How will you measure a current baseline, subsequent conditions; and make provision for monitoring and reporting on progress, achievements, issues and lessons for the future?</i></p>	<p>KPIs have been provided for each milestone in the attached proposals for each project component. We have also included a cost for annual independent scientific review to be coordinated by TNC, which is also a requirement for funding from the Thomas Foundation.</p>
<p>Your experience and capacity</p> <p><i>What is your past experience running similar projects to a high standard?</i></p>	<p>The project will have sufficient capacity to complete the project drawing on the previous experience of TNC, ESP and both universities. We are also seeking funding to provide dedicated research support to each project component.</p> <p>Our team has substantial experience completing similar sized projects for a range of stakeholders. The Nature Conservancy is recognised as a global leader in the provision of on the ground restoration and conservation projects.</p> <p>Prof. Schlacher runs the Marine Ecology group at USC and he and his team have contributed to numerous seminal research projects on the Sunshine Coast and around the world. He is a recognised expert in Coastal Ecology and has completed several key projects in Noosa including an assessment of the Health of the Estuary and impacts of nuisance algal blooms on the foreshore. More recently his group is assessing the ecological function of estuaries and the contribution of scavengers to nutrient dynamics in coastal estuaries throughout Southeast Queensland</p> <p>A/Prof. Skilleter and Prof. Loneragan are both recognised experts in estuarine ecology and in particular fisheries ecology and management. They each have substantial previous track record working with organisations such as the Fisheries Research and Development Corporation (FRDC), CSIRO, The Australian Research Council and for a variety of NGOs. Prof. Loneragan is recognised as a global leader in understanding the dynamics of prawns, their stock assessment and restoration or restocking to improve declining populations.</p> <p>Key previous experience across the project partners includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NPA has been involved in multiple Noosa River, Lakes, Estuary and Catchment conservation projects throughout its over half century of operation. • TTF provides key philanthropic funding to a variety of terrestrial and marine conservation initiatives and were instrumental in TNC establishing -in Australia. • TNC is a global leader in conservation and restoration of ecological habitats including oyster reefs.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TNC completed the Noosa Estuary Restoration Prioritisation for The Thomas Foundation and Noosa Parks Association in 2014. • TNC and Dr Walker of ESP completed an assessment of oyster recruitment for TTF and NSC in 2014-15. <p>Information on additional experience can be provided upon request including CVs if required.</p>
<p>Will you engage the community and other stakeholders?</p> <p><i>Does your proposal include project actions with community participation, and program linkages with other groups, stakeholders or partners?</i></p>	<p>Community participation and engagement is a primary objective in both proposals, as is accessing information and knowledge of indigenous elders and other stakeholders. Specific initiatives include (but are not limited to the following and are elaborated in each proposal component:</p> <p>Education and engagement of local angling clubs including greater understanding of the value of oyster reefs for fisheries productivity and instil ownership of reef restoration areas (previous involvement of angling clubs in Port Phillip Bay has proven successful for oyster reef restoration there).</p> <p>Science in the Pub (sponsored in part by AMSA QLD), which will provide a forum for communicating the science to the general public.</p> <p>Active community participation in restoration activities, including construction of oyster reefs (where practical and possible), 'oyster watch', oyster gardens and environmental monitoring programs.</p> <p>Linking to existing community monitoring programs such as seagrass watch and mangrove watch.</p> <p>Dissemination of information to the community though newsletters, knowledge hub, media outlets and social media.</p>

5. Certification

By submitting this Grant Application to Noosa Biosphere ® Reserve Foundation you are agreeing with the following statements:

I am authorised by my Organisation to complete this form and I agree that:

- The statements made in this application are true.
- My Organisation is covered by appropriate insurances and undertakes to maintain cover for the currency of the project.
- All necessary permits and approvals will be obtained from relevant authorities, prior to the beginning of the project.
- All relevant Workplace Health and Safety standards will be met.
- Noosa Biosphere ® Reserve Foundation and/or Noosa Biosphere Reserve Public Trust do not accept any liability or responsibility for any proposal.
- My Organisation is compliant with the Office of Fair Trading requirements.

If successful, my Organisation will:

- Collaborate with Noosa Biosphere ® Reserve Foundation representatives and agree to regular site inspections, reporting or other reasonable requests associated with delivery of the project.
- Accept the terms of the grant in accordance with Noosa Biosphere ® Reserve Foundation requirements and guidelines and agree to enter into an agreement with the Foundation for allocation of any grant.
- Ensure that the Noosa Biosphere ® Reserve Foundation requirements and relation to final reporting and acquittal requirements are met.

6. Privacy

Noosa Biosphere ® Reserve Foundation will only use any personal information provided for the purpose of processing this application and for remaining in contact with you. Your personal information is only accessed by persons authorised to do so.

Please note the information provided in this application and in any related documentation/discussions may be provided to members of an assessment panel in order to assist in processing the application.

By submitting an application you consent to Noosa Biosphere ® Reserve Foundation publishing the applicant organisation's name, description and amount funded on our website. This information may also be used for promoting Noosa Biosphere® Reserve Public Trust funding programs.



7. Instructions

Enquiries	Please contact the Biosphere Executive Officer secretariat@noosabiosphere.org.au to discuss your application.
Take care	Before completing your application, please read the grant policy, guidelines and instructions.
Checklist	<input type="checkbox"/> Make sure all questions have been answered <input type="checkbox"/> Attach most recent annual financial statement <input type="checkbox"/> Attach business plan (or other strategic planning document) <input type="checkbox"/> Attach any other supporting documents <input type="checkbox"/> Attach copy of Public Liability Certificate of Currency

8. Lodgement

By Email <i>20Mb is the maximum email size our system can receive. We prefer PDF files.</i>	Please email your completed proposal with all relevant documents to secretariat@noosabiosphere.org.au .
---	--

END OF DOCUMENT