

PROJECT CODE

Site No.

Project No.



## PEEL-HARVEY COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENT GRANTS ROUND 2 CHANGING LANDSCAPES

Project ID: NLP-RI 17

# APPLICATION FOR FUNDING

(Up to \$50,000)

### 1 Project Title (10 words or less)

Restoring Ecological Linkages for the Ngwayir (Western Ringtail Possum)

### 2 Project Outcome (50 words or less)

Conserving biodiversity by raising awareness and addressing the threatening process of habitat loss and fragmentation impacting the Critically Endangered Ngwayir. Deliverables include construction of a rope bridge reconnecting key habitat areas; enhancing other nearby corridors through planting and drey installation; interpretive signage; and community capacity building and citizen science.

Total project budget:	\$29,861	Grant amount requested:	\$12,798
Project start date:	14/7/17	Project completion date:	30/2/2018

Please submit your Application by noon, Monday, 17th April, 2017 to:

#### By mail or in person

PHCC Community Environment Grants  
Peel-Harvey Catchment Council  
58 Sutton Street  
MANDURAH WA 6210



#### By email

Attention: Community Environment Grant – Application

 [peel-harvey@peel-harvey.org.au](mailto:peel-harvey@peel-harvey.org.au)

*This project is supported by the Peel-Harvey Catchment Council, through funding from the Australian Government's National Landcare Programme*

The Peel-Harvey Catchment Council is working closely with its stakeholders to protect and maintain areas in bushland and/or wetlands containing:

- National TEC (Threatened Ecological Communities), including Banksia woodlands, Eucalyptus Woodlands of the Western Wheatbelt, saltmarshes, claypans and Thrombolites
- Regionally Significant species habitats or communities.
- Threatened species, such as the Black Cockatoos.
- Ecological values of the Peel-Yalgorup Ramsar Site.
- Habitats for migratory Species.

The Peel-Harvey Catchment Council is working with community to improve ecosystem function, resilience and biodiversity values of these systems through on-ground works such as fencing, the management of invasive weeds and pests in an effort to address habitat degradation and fragmentation.

Please Note the following:

- In completing this form please ensure you refer to the Guidelines.
- All activities are to be undertaken in accordance with the Minimum Standards for on ground works.
- See Appendix 1; “Minimum Standards for Onground Projects within The Peel-Harvey Catchment”, located at the back of this document, before completing this form.
- All activities must be acquitted before final payment can be made.
- A Completion Form will be sent out prior to the final inspection by a PHCC officer.
- Type your responses directly into the ‘boxes’ following each question.
- Final submission date: April 17th 2017
- Project approval date: May 1st 2017
- Project completion and acquittal: March 30th 2018

#### OFFICE USE ONLY

		Date submitted	
Amount applied for		App. contribution	
Site visit conducted by		Date	
Pre-eligibility done by		Date	
App. No.		Site No.	
Notification			

### 3 Applicant details

Applicant/organisational name	Bouvard Coastcare Group (BCCG)		
Contact person for application	Mel Horton		
Position in organisation	Chairperson		
Postal address	PO Box 5969, Falcon, WA 6210		
Telephone	0478 278 888	Mobile	0478 278 888
Email	chairperson@bouvardcoastcare.org.au		
Person Authorised to sign on behalf of Organisation	Mel Horton		
Project Site (e.g. Lot number and location)	Lot 1939 Gum Nut Ave to Lot 613 Durham Cr Dawesville(Rope Bridge) R35025 716 Estuary Rd Bouvard corridors		
GPS coordinates (if available)	(X 372566 Y 6388029 Dawesville) (X 373541 Y6384853/ X373615 Y 6384524 – Bouvard)		
Landowner/Manager	City of Mandurah (COM)		
If you are working on public land, do you have permission from the landowner to undertake works?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>		
Landowner Public Liability Details: (Please provide a copy with the application)	Name of Policy	City of Mandurah Combined Liability	
	Number of Policy	000051	Expiry Date 30/06/17
Organisational Status	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Incorporated body <input type="checkbox"/> Statutory body <input type="checkbox"/> Corporate body <input type="checkbox"/> Sole trader <input type="checkbox"/> Partnership <input type="checkbox"/> Contractor <input type="checkbox"/> Individual <input type="checkbox"/> Other, please specify:		
Is your group incorporated, a school or a local government council? <i>If you answered no you will need a sponsor (refer to the Guidelines)</i>	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Details	
Registered for GST (If not registered – Sponsor details here)	Entity name	ABN	
Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Bouvard Coastcare Group Inc	74 645 688 310	

## 4 Sponsor organisation (if applicable)

Name			
Postal address			
Contact person			
Position in organisation			
Phone		Mobile	
Email			
Letter of support is attached	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>		

Refer to the guidelines for roles and responsibilities of sponsors and what to include in your application.

## 5 Partnerships

Is this a partnership project? Yes ☒ No ☐

Please provide details of people/organisations partnering this project.

	Partner 1	Partner 2
Organisation	City of Mandurah	Friends of Warrangup Springs
Contact person	Eryn Jackson	Barry King
Position	Senior Environmental Management Officer	Coordinator Warrangup Springs Bushcare
Telephone	+61 (8) 9550 3812	9582 1034
Mobile	+61 (0) 429 860 364	
Involvement in project	Project Management support; In-kind and cash contributions as specified	Community engagement, support planting activities
A letter of support from each partner must accompany your application ( <i>see page 4 of the Guidelines</i> )		
Letter attached	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	

If you have more than two partners please add extra information on a separate page or copy and paste this table.

Has a funding application for this project, or elements of the project, been submitted for a different grant such as State NRM Community Action Grants?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
If yes, name of Grant:	

## 6 Consultation and permissions

Are any proposed actions within your project a requirement of an existing Approval?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Details	
What approvals have you identified as being required to undertake the planned project activities?	<input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal Heritage Sites <input type="checkbox"/> Interference with bed and banks <input type="checkbox"/> Owners/vesting authority approval, (if public land)	X Dial before you dig <input type="checkbox"/> Clearing regulations (these apply to both public and private land) X Other, please specify: Building Permit – City of Mandurah	
If undertaking feral animal control, do you have the required permit? (1080 accreditation)	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Details	Any feral animal control will be undertaken by professional contractors (via City of Mandurah preferred tender) with all appropriate accreditations.

What actions have you taken to date with respect to these approvals?

Quotes for Building Code Compliance Assessment; Certificate of Design Compliance; and certification of the rope bridge design, specification and residual risk assessment for pedestrian safety have been obtained.

The City of Mandurah Works and Services have been consulted to confirm requirements regarding the necessary approvals.

### 6.1 Aboriginal consultation & engagement

Does your project require Aboriginal consultation and engagement? Yes ☐ No ☒

If yes, please explain the actions have you taken to date including the names of the people and/or organisations you consulted, the outcomes and any future consultation that is required or planned.

For further information contact <http://www.daa.wa.gov.au/about-the-department/publications/maps/>

Click here to enter text.

Will local Aboriginal people be involved in the project? Yes ☒ No ☐

If yes please detail the people/groups and explain how they will be involved

With permission, Local Noongar knowledge or story of the **Ngwayir** will be incorporated into the content of on-site signage; and a Welcome to Country will be a highlight of the unveiling event of the rope bridge.

### 6.2 Other Persons or organisations consulted (if Applicable)

Organisation/Group	Contact person	Process/Purpose/Outcome of consultation What did you do/find out/agree/decide? Provide copies of approvals obtained.
Allison Dixon – Fauna Relocator		Allison has been deeply involved in the relocation of WRP from the surrounding development area and continues to work with residents and COM all matters relating to WRP.

		Her expert advice was sought in the sighting and design of the rope bridge. Allison supports the proposed location and has provided a cash contribution towards the project.
Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.

## 7 Alignment with other plans

Is the proposal in accordance with a Farm Plan and/or Catchment Management Plan and/or any other NRM plan?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
<p><b>If yes</b>, please name the Plan(s) and provide a brief reference to the recommendations/strategies of the Plan that this project will address. <i>For further information **contact your local Natural Resource Management Officer.</i></p>	<p>Western Ringtail Possum Recovery Plan DPaW 2014 recovery objectives and actions achieved through the project include:</p> <p>2. Mitigate threatening processes constraining the recovery of WRP</p> <p>Action 2.2: support and develop programs aimed at identifying, restoring or creating suitable habitat including ecological linkages.</p> <p>5. Raise awareness of the status of WRP and gain support and behaviour change to mitigate threatening processes</p> <p>5.1 Develop information aimed at increasing community understanding and gaining support for WRP conservation issues and management</p> <p>5.3 Encourage, coordinate and enhance the involvement of groups engaged in WRP conservation.</p> <p>Peel-Harvey's NRM Strategy – Binjareb Boodja Landscapes 2025:</p> <p>B4.3 restore ecological linkages; and</p> <p>B4.2 identify and monitor threats and threatening processes;</p> <p>B4.2.2 implement and support threat reduction activities in priority areas</p>
If no, will a Management Plan be prepared to support this project?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

## 8 Consistency with Minimum Standards and best practice

Outline how Project activities are consistent with the Minimum Standards (see Appendix 1).

Seedlings selected for revegetation will be indigenous to area. Peppermint (*Agonis flexuosa*) and Marri (n) will be planted 3m apart. Some understorey will be planted, however in order to seek a balance between the provision of (arboreal) habitat and minimising bushfire risk to surrounding residents to an unacceptable level, we are seeking a variation to the requirement of revegetation consisting of 60% shrubs.

## 9 Risk Management

What are the major risks associated with the project? How do you plan to minimise or avoid these risks? (see Appendix 2).

1. Possums don't engage with rope bridge.
2. Strategic revegetation does not take.
3. Community/Private Residents voice concerns or object to bridge
4. Funding shortfall
5. Project failure through missing deadline, cost overrun or poor contractor management.

Please see Appendix 2 for risk management and mitigation.

## 10 Eligible activities for projects

Before completing these questions below please ensure you refer to the relevant section of the Guidelines.

### 10.1 NLP objectives

Please indicate where appropriate the NLP Objectives that the project will address and provide hectares that will be managed.

#### 10.1.1 The project will protect, improve or maintain the following Natural Asset/s:

1.1	Regionally significant species habitat or communities	<input type="checkbox"/>	No. Hectares:	
1.2	Habitats for migratory species	<input type="checkbox"/>	No. Hectares:	
1.3	Habitats for threatened species	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No. Hectares:	6.2ha
1.4	Threatened ecological communities	<input type="checkbox"/>	No. Hectares:	
1.5	The ecological character of the Peel-Yalgorup Ramsar site	<input type="checkbox"/>	No. Hectares:	

#### 10.1.2 Threats

Please indicate the threats (to terrestrial biodiversity, aquatic biodiversity and water resources identified in Binjareb Boodja Landscapes 2025) that the project will address.

*Please ensure the Project Plan explains why the treatment/management method for each threat has been chosen.*

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> acidification                      | <input type="checkbox"/> altered fire regimes   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> contamination                      | <input type="checkbox"/> erosion  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> eutrophication & sedimentation     | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> fragmentation & isolation (loss of native vegetation)               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> grazing                            | <input type="checkbox"/> recreational impacts   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> salinity                           | <input type="checkbox"/> weeds & other invasive species (including feral animals)                       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> inefficient use of water resources | <input type="checkbox"/> loss of riparian zone/buffers  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> pathogens (phytophthora)           | <input type="checkbox"/> physical disturbance (including of seagrass beds, sediment and benthic layers) |



☐ impacts of climate change – sea level rise; drought;  
altered water regimes; reduction in flow

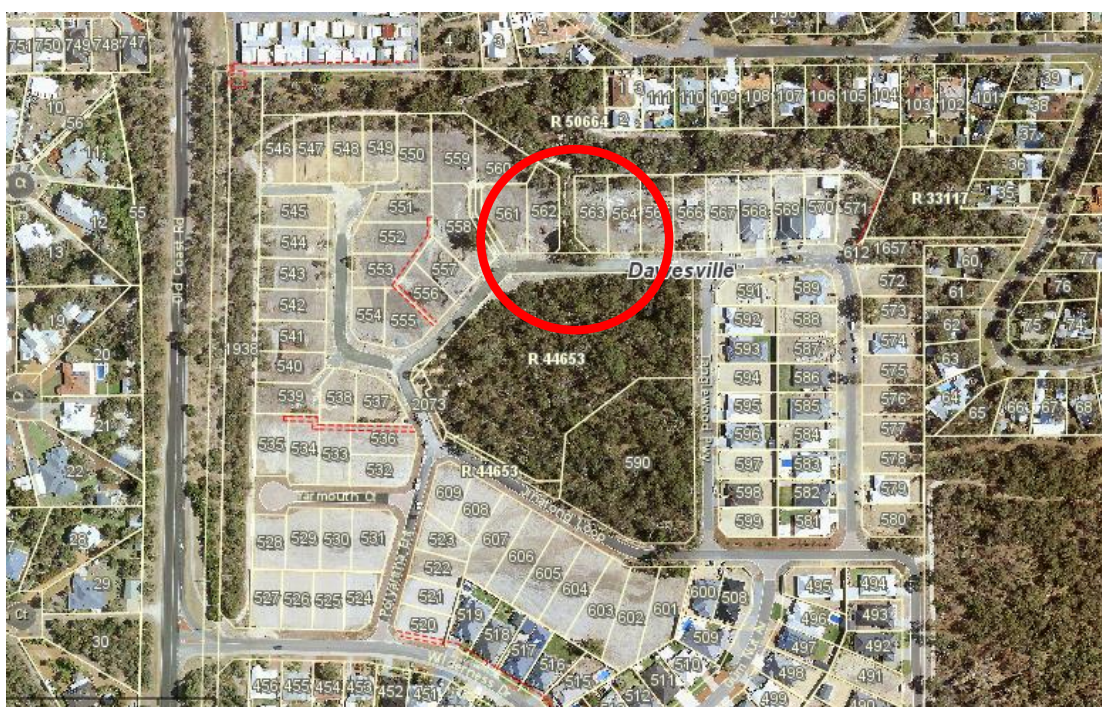
### 10.1.3 Peel-Harvey's NRM Strategy Plan

Please indicate below which of the Activities the project will address:

Goal/strategy	Strategy	Activity	Yes or No
Biodiversity is conserved:	Protect priority terrestrial and aquatic natural areas	• Assist land managers to protect priority natural areas – terrestrial and aquatic	No
	Manage and reduce threats	• Identify and monitor threats and threatening processes and implement and support threat reduction activities in priority areas	Yes
	Restore ecological linkages	• Undertake landscape scale restoration for multiple benefits	No

## 11 Project site map

Site A: Location for rope bridge in Dawesville [Jinatong Loop] connecting 4.99ha of remnant vegetation and crown land.



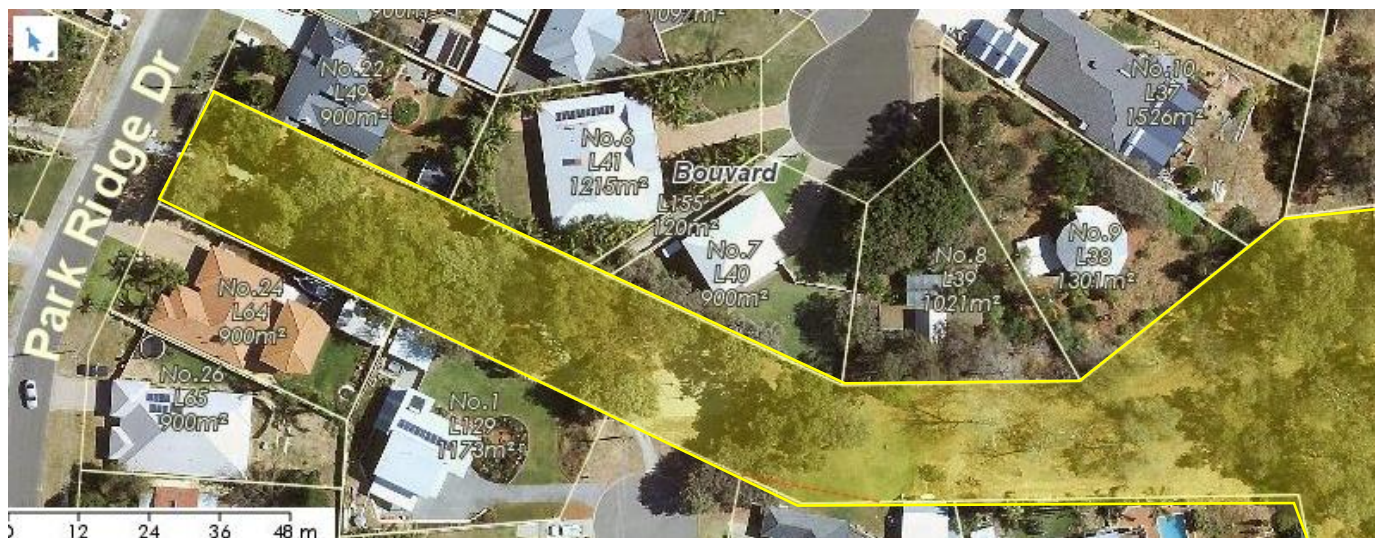




SITE B: Existing corridors (2) enhancement through planting and artificial drey installation:

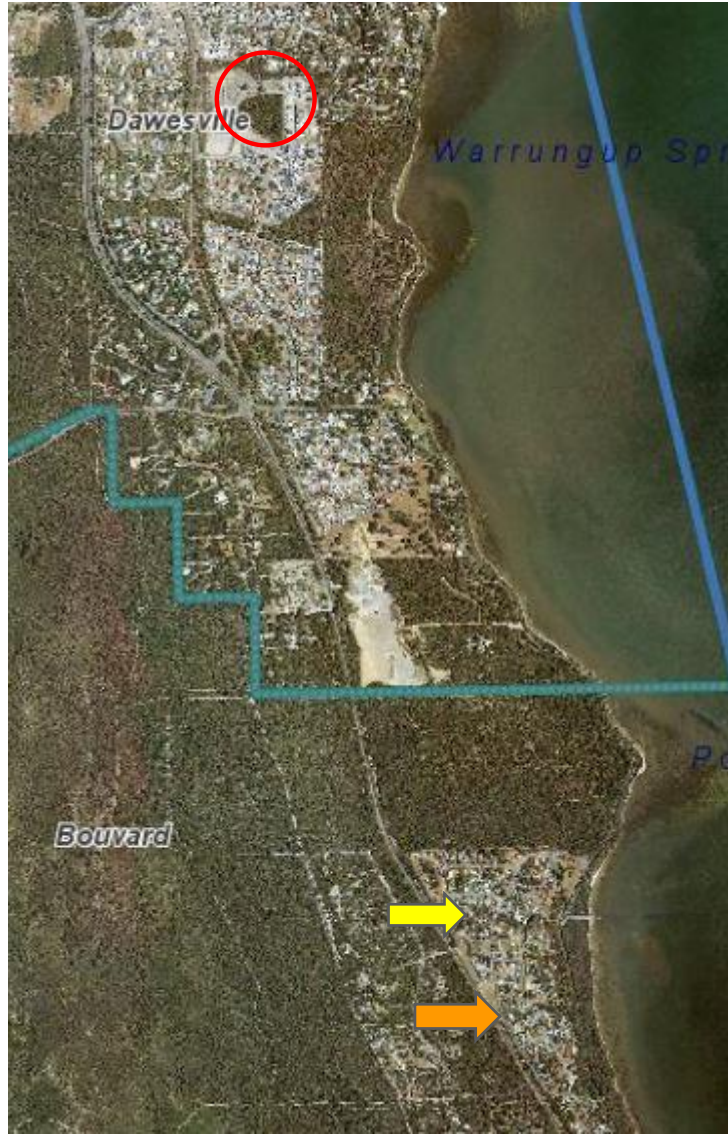






Landscape scale: WRP range within urban areas includes Dawesville and Bouvard





*\* Please ensure you have all the required permits to undertake this project.*

## 12.1 Project Plan/Outline

### 12.1.1

In the box below, please describe in detail the extent and condition of the Natural Assets (10.1) you are protecting, maintaining and improving through this project including:

- a) Hectares treated and hectares protected
- b) The current condition of the asset (very good, good, poor, highly disturbed)
- c) The value of the asset within the landscape
- d) If the asset provides a regional and/or local link to other natural assets

*Please only complete the National Landcare Project Objectives below that you ticked in 10.1.*

*E.g. Threatened Ecological Community*

#### **PROJECT HEADINGS**

*Maintain and improve the threatened ecological community of the Eucalypt Woodlands of the Western Wheatbelt.*

#### **EXTENT AND CONDITION**

*No. of ha treated*

*No. of ha protected*

*Current condition of the Woodlands*

*The value of the asset within the landscape*

*The regional and/or local link to other natural assets*

**Max of 500 words.**

**[1.3] Habitats for threatened species:**

#### **RESTORING ECOLOGICAL LINKAGES FOR THE NGWAYIR (Western Ringtail Possum)**

*Reconnect and improve habitat for the threatened Western Ringtail Possum*

*4.99ha of high value ecological linkage - POS and crown land at (Site A)*

*1.2ha of habitat enhancement: revegetation (Site B)*

The Western Ringtail Possum (*Pseudocheirus occidentalis*) (WRP), is a folivorous arboreal marsupial endemic to South-Western Australia. Since colonial settlement WRP have been impacted by substantial range contraction, with ~10% of the predicted original range remaining. The WRP is listed as specially protected fauna, rare or likely to become extinct under the WA Wildlife Conservation Act 1950 (since 1983) and is ranked as Critically Endangered in WA under DPaw policy. It is listed as Vulnerable under the Commonwealth Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (EPBC Act) and as Threatened (Vulnerable category) in the IUCN Red List (2012).

WRP population densities have been recorded in two Mandurah urban settings, particularly where mature peppermint trees have been retained with large, dense and overlapping canopies, as previously occurring in Dawesville and Bouvard. Increasing urban development in these areas continues to fragment habitat, placing greater pressure on local populations. Remnant patches of urban habitat are surrounded by roads, resulting in frequent disturbance and fatalities; and facilitating feral predator movement.

Gum Nut Reserve and the greater Dawesville area has been identified as a key habitat area for WRP in Mandurah. The project will address habitat fragmentation by constructing a fauna rope bridge over Jinatong Loop (site A),

reconnecting the central POS with the retained corridor to larger habitat patches. The rope bridge will provide safe access across ~5ha of good to excellent habitat in COM managed reserves.

The habitat enhancement proposed for Bouvard (site B) will address the gaps in canopy cover that otherwise prohibits safe movement of WRP through the landscape. Community tree planting will be undertaken in two currently parkland cleared corridors (0.7ha and 0.5ha), to increase and enhance canopy connectivity in the future, with smaller shrubs providing protective cover on the ground while the canopy trees mature.

The project will increase awareness within the community of the status of WRP and promote behaviours that will contribute to the conservation of the species. Capacity building and education will be both formal (e.g. workshops and community surveying) and informal (e.g. interpretive signage) and include citizen science.

BCCG has been working with COM and DPaW to engage the community in fauna reporting. BCCG hosted a workshop (February 2017) focused on how to correctly identify WRP and complete the fauna report for DPaW. Increased reporting of sightings of WRP will better inform conservation efforts and provide more robust data for LG and other agencies assessing development applications.

A second workshop will be delivered but will also include the construction of the artificial dreys and educate residents on how to address associated nuisances of possums, such as deterring them from rooves. Some of the dreys will be installed in the corridors and some will be taken by eligible attendees for their yards, as well as free Peppermint seedlings.

## 12.2 What are the threats to this/these asset(s)?

### 12.2.1

Describe in more detail the threats you are addressing for this asset and the long term risk to the asset if these threats are not managed (10.1.2).

The most pertinent threat to WRP is loss of habitat. Land clearing and unauthorised pruning or removal of Peppermint trees on private property disrupts canopy connectivity and fragments habitat. Susceptibility to road fatalities is increased when the possums need to come to the ground to traverse through the area in search of nesting and foraging opportunities.

Secondary threats to possums in urban/residential areas include poisoning by rat and snail bait; diseases such as toxoplasmosis carried by cats; attack from domestic animals; disturbance; injury during unauthorised tree pruning; and illegal trapping attempts of possums living in rooves.

Currently, the overall population trend for the species is declining. The southern Swan Coastal Plain is considered to be the most important for the WRP because it has a number of unique characteristics. The area supports the largest known [collective] population, with the greatest potential to provide recruits to adjacent areas. The population may form a critical resource for survival of the species.

The risk if not managed, is that the Mandurah WRP population (one of three remaining population bases in WA) will continue to contract. A combination of population decline and isolated range may also contribute to reduced genetic diversity.

## 12.3 What activities will be undertaken to protect the asset(s)?

Please provide a brief description of each activity and how it will mitigate the threats.

The project activities mitigate threatening processes to the WRP by increasing canopy connectivity; reconnecting fragmented habitat; increasing habitat (nesting and foraging opportunities); and engaging the community to minimise habitat loss. The proposed activities afford a combination of future planning and more immediate outcomes.

A fauna rope bridge over Jinatong Loop (site A) will reconnect the central POS to larger habitat patches. Community tree planting in two existing corridors (site B) will address gaps in canopy cover and increase future food sources.

Installation of the artificial dreys constructed will provide habitat and nesting opportunities. Residents planting free Peppermint seedlings on their properties will also increase future canopy cover and foraging.

Community engagement in monitoring and citizen science reporting of sightings to provide more robust data for LG and other agencies assessing development applications that may affect WRP in the future.

Interpretive signage and communications will raise awareness of the WRP and promote behaviours that can be implemented immediately to decrease secondary threats.

### Activities

#### 12.3.1

Please indicate against the relevant eligible activities what the project will undertake and how much will be achieved.

Activity Name	What will your project do with respect to each Activity? <i>e.g. Methodology (what), where, when, how, why, by whom</i>	How much will be achieved *Estimates for these items is acceptable e.g. Km, Ha, etc
Revegetation and habitat enhancement involving the re-establishment of flora	Revegetation to increase and enhance canopy connectivity; Community tree planting of (seedlings) Peppermints and understory in north and south Bouvard corridors (site B), by volunteers from Bushcare and Coastcare groups. June-July 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1.2ha of revegetation (0.5ha and 0.8ha)</li> <li>100 tubestock planted</li> </ul>
Other – habitat enhancement	Construction of a fauna rope bridge to connect fragmented habitat and promote safe movement between POS and Crown Reserve. Construction undertaken by contractors as per approved design and building licence. September – December 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5ha of reconnected habitat</li> </ul>
Other – habitat enhancement	Installation of artificial dreys in north and south Bouvard corridors (site B) and nearby residences to increase and enhance habitat, specifically, nesting opportunities. Construction by volunteers from Bushcare and Coastcare groups. Installation sites advised by fauna relocater, Alison Dixon. November 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minimum of ten artificial dreys</li> </ul>



## 12.4 Why is the Project Important?

The Western Ringtail Possum are in decline and the conservation status was recently upgraded at a state level from Endangered to Critically Endangered. The southern Swan Coastal Plain is considered to be the most important for the WRP because it has a number of unique characteristics and the area supports the largest known [collective] population, with the greatest potential to provide recruits to adjacent areas. The Mandurah population may therefore form a critical resource for survival of the species. The loss and fragmentation of native vegetation cover is identified as one of the principle factors threatening WRP. The long-term viability of populations is further compromised by interconnecting roads in urban areas resulting in gaps in canopy. Insufficient connectivity forces the possums to the ground where they are vulnerable to predation by cats, dogs and foxes and at risk of car strikes. Relocation of possums to other sites is not an acceptable option as studies have shown the survival rate of relocated possums is very low. Possums are strongly territorial and easily stressed and are often killed or perish in search of suitable new territories. Reconnecting habitat patches through the rope bridge over Jinatong Loop (site A) and strategic planting to fill gaps in the canopy of corridors (site B) will better accommodate safe movement of WRP in two key WRP habitat sites in Mandurah, reducing the likelihood of possums being predated on. In addition, the reported outcomes and monitoring that will be undertaken as part of this project will help provide an evidence base for future wildlife corridor projects, such as proposed rope bridge over Old Coast Road where there are high mortality rates for both possum species (WRP and Common Brushtail). This would better connect the Bouvard corridors (Site B) with Yalgorup National Park. The community engagement and capacity building throughout the project will assist residents in these areas to live more harmoniously with the possums and adopt behaviours to support their conservation moving forward.

## 12.5 How will the project be managed into the future?

Please provide information on whether the project will require external funding or will you (the landholder) be able to maintain the project into the future?

The rope bridge will become a City of Mandurah asset and any maintenance requirements will be budgeted by them in the future.

## 12.6 Does the project provide public and private benefit? Y / N

The key public benefit is capacity building to increase community involvement in conservation. Enhancing corridors and preserving landscape attributes within the district also enhances the amenity and aesthetic values. Supporting safe movement of WRP between fragmented areas reduces fatalities (particularly roadkill) which may otherwise be distressing to members of the community.

## 12.7 Measurement and maintenance of results

Outline how you plan to monitor project activity effectiveness. What equipment and experience do you have in this regard?

*PHCC will provide templates, and training where necessary, to assist with the minimum measuring and reporting requirements to assess the impact of project activities.*

Three Key Critical Success Factors will be monitored to measure the effectiveness of project in enhancing ecological linkages for the Ngwayir: (i) delivery of all project components within allocated timeframes and budget resources; (ii) positive response to activities by WRP, namely use of the rope bridge; and (iii) increased community capacity for WRP conservation. Wildlife camera traps will be installed at the rope bridge (site A), the corridors (site B) and other locations within the project area to monitor WRP use of the bridge and artificial dreys. COM Environmental Services staff are experienced in the use of camera traps and can provide field training to BCCG and other volunteers to set-up cameras and analyse footage. Other signs of WRP activity at the sites (such as scat, tree marks and evidence of

grazing) will also be recorded. Success in building community capacity will be measured by workshop attendance (No.); participation in tree planting within the corridors (No.); the number of residences installing artificial dreys or planting Peppermint trees in their yards (No.); expressions of interest of future participation and/or joining the BCG; and feedback receiving during consultation and community communications processes.

What will you produce to show the impact of your activities at the end of the project (data set, maps, photos, report)?

**Reporting and acquittal will include:**

Photos of the completed rope bridge;  
Wildlife camera trapping footage (video and photographic);  
Photo monitoring of the north and south Bouvard corridors (site B) before and after revegetation;  
Quantifiable data such as the number of tubestock planted and artificial dreys installed;  
GPS points or ShapeFiles for: revegetation sites; rope bridge; installed signage; installed artificial dreys in City of Mandurah managed land can also be provided.

**Appendixes will include:**

Copies of media clips, advertisements and any other promotional materials;  
Photos and details (attendance etc) of the events associated with the project, including the unveiling event, community workshop, volunteer tree planting;  
Community survey results.

How will the benefits gained from this project be maintained in the future?

The fauna rope bridge, revegetation sites and artificial dreys installed on COM managed land will be maintained by the City of Mandurah as the land manager. Community engagement regarding conservation of the Ngawyir will remain a focus of the Bouvard Coastcare Group and the City of Mandurah.

How will you promote the work being done in this project?

The project will be promoted (and PHCC and funding programs acknowledged) via a minimum of two media releases distributed to print publications and radio stations around the region; inclusion in communications via existing BCCG and COM electronic e-newsletters and networks; and social media. Community workshop and volunteer tree planting details will be advertised locally. On-site interpretive signage will be installed at the rope bridge (site A) and corridor (site B) locations. Footage obtained from camera trap monitoring (e.g. WRP use of bridge) will be posted to BCG and COM social media sites and will be provided to other stakeholders (such as PHCC) for promotion. There may be future opportunities for the COM to promote the project outcomes to other government bodies or researchers. The rope bridge concept will be promoted to attendees of the 2017 Mandurah Stretch Fest (May 2017).

## 13 Project Work Plan and Budget

The table below is designed to help you work out a budget for your project.

Activities & Actions			Resources				Funding Source		
Describe what you will achieve	Start MM/YY	Finish MM/YY	Describe the materials, equipment and resources you need (Include unit type where appropriate e.g. km)	Cost per unit \$ (ex GST)	No. required	Total cost \$ (ex GST)	Detail who will contribute to this activity. Include cash and in-kind contributions from your group and others (including other grants)	Co-contributions (cash and in-kind) \$ (ex GST)	PHCC amount requested \$ (ex GST)
<i>Community awareness: implement media strategy and advertise volunteer opportunities</i>	05/17	05/18	2< Media Releases – print and radio	\$0	2	\$0	City of Mandurah will implement a media strategy; and COM and Bouvard Coastcare will promote the project via social media	\$800 <i>cash</i>	\$0
			2< Flyers and/or Ads	\$400	2	\$800			
			5< Social Media Posts	\$0	5	\$0			
<i>Community survey and consultation regarding rope bridge</i>	05/17	07/17	Email online survey	\$0	N/A	\$0	Online survey via survey monkey (free) designed by COM; Door knocking within immediate vicinity of sites by at COM/BCG volunteers; notices left for homes or posted where required	\$800 <i>cash</i> \$1150 <i>in-kind</i>	\$0
			Printing	\$2	50	\$100			
			Door-knocking – labour/volunteer hrs	\$30/hr	35	\$1050			
			Advertising	\$400	2	\$800			
<i>Community Tree Planting in (2) Bouvard Cooridors</i>	06/17	07/17	1.2 ha (0.5ha + 0.8ha)				Seedlings provided by the COM and PHCC funding (50% each), for volunteer tree planting (site B)	\$575 <i>in-kind</i>	\$125
			100 tubestock	\$2.50	100	\$250			
			Min attendance of 10 * 1.5 hours @ \$30/hr	\$30	15hrs	\$450			
<i>Complete building and design certifiiction process for the rope bridge</i>	06/17	07/17	Building certification	\$480	1	\$480	COM will organise - in-kind support as hours, is accounted for in the concluding budget item.	\$0	\$1030
			Structural design certification	\$550	1	\$550			

							Funding is requested for the material costs.		
<i>Commence drafting interpretive signage and provide proofs to stakeholders</i>	06/17	08/17	3< interpretive signs in COM design specifications	\$1229	2	\$2458	COM will organise	\$2458 <i>cash</i>	\$0
<i>Construction of rope bridge and footings</i>	09/17	12/17	Rope ladder Poles Concrete + installation 10% contingency of total costs	\$22/m \$506 \$5000 \$1,041	200 2 [1] [1]	\$4400 \$1012 \$5000 \$1,041	Majority of the funding requested from PHCC will cover the expenses of the materials and installation of the fauna rope bridge.	\$0	\$11,453
<i>Capacity building: workshop and artifical drey constrution</i>	10/17	10/17	Venue hire Catering Guest speakers Materials for dreys Volunteer construction of dreys Plant giveaways	\$250 \$500 \$700 \$14 \$30 \$2.50	1 1 3 10 10 20	\$250 \$500 \$2100 \$140 \$300 \$50	COM actual costs (excluding in-kind contributions) include catering. Tubestock/giveaways and the drey materials to be funded by PHCC. Some materials will be provided by one of the presenters.	\$500 <i>cash</i> \$2650 <i>In-kind</i>	\$190 <i>cash</i>
<i>Artifical drey installation in cooridors, overseen by consulting Fauna Relocator, Alison Dixon</i>	11/17	12/17	Min. 3 Volunteers engaged Consultant time	\$30 \$70	15 5	\$450 \$350	Volunteers will accompany and assist Alison Dixon in installing WRP dreys in the corridors (Site B).	\$800 <i>in-kind</i>	\$0
<i>Installtion of interpretive signage at both sites</i>	11/17	12/17	Included in signage cost			N/A			

<i>Rope bridge unveiling event</i>	01/18	01/18	Invitations Catering Welcome to Country Guest speakers, including Mayor	\$0 \$500 \$900 \$0	[1]	\$1400	COM will cover the costs of the unveiling event.	\$1400 <i>cash</i>	\$0
<i>Community monitoring: commence citizen science program, monitoring WRP and use of the rope bridge</i>	01/18	02/18	Min. 4 Volunteers engaged weekly-fortnightly; COM Officer labour Wildlife Camera Traps * Likely to continue after project completion	\$30 \$50 \$240	35 2 2	\$150 \$100 \$480	COM will provide a minimum of two wildlife cameras and field training to interested volunteers to assist with camera monitoring for a minimum of six weeks.	\$730 <i>in-kind</i>	\$0
<i>Reporting and aquittal, including promoting the outcomes of the project</i>	03/18	04/18	Volunteer hours COM Staff hours, particularly for data collection	\$30 \$50	10 30	\$300 \$800	COM officers will assist BCG with much of the data collection, reporting requirements and public communications.	\$1100 <i>in-kind</i>	\$0
<i>Maintenance of sites and infrastructure (first three years)</i>	05/18	05/21	Monitoring, graffiti removal and repair as required of signage, rope bridge footings; revegetation monitoring and grounds keeping as required in corridors	\$1000	3	\$3000	COM will ensure funds are budgeted for annual maintenance and any repair as required. Community monitoring and reporting will also inform COM maintenance schedules.	\$3000 <i>in-kind / cash as required</i>	\$0
<i>Project Management and Administration</i>	05/17	03/18	Volunteer hours; and COM Officer time Overall, throughout the project life	\$30 \$50	10 30	\$300 \$800	Volunteer hours – e.g. Administration; communications; community engagement; record keeping between stakeholders;	\$1100 <i>In-kind</i>	\$0

							COM Officer labour – e.g. survey design; media releases; sign design; liaison with contractors; rope bridge certification; unveiling event		
Total						\$29,861	Total	\$17,063	\$12,798



## 14 Funding requested

What is the total amount of Peel-Harvey Community Environment Grants funding you are applying for?

**Total amount of Peel-Harvey Community Environment Grants funding requested \$ 12,798**

Bouvard Coastcare in-kind contribution \$ 3050

City of Mandurah in-kind contribution \$ 5,605

City of Mandurah cash contribution \$ 5,958

Other– consultant and guest speakers \$ 2,450

If you are unable to identify in-kind contributions that at least match the grant requested, please provide justification why this is not possible or appropriate (see guidelines p.8 & p.9).

The greatest cost attributed to the project is construction of the rope bridge which must be installed by professional contractors, to a particular design for safety and structural reasons. In addition, volunteer hours can only be estimated at this early stage; however, overall, in-kind contribution is expected to significantly exceed the funding requested.

If you are applying for funding for contractors or consultants, please provide their name(s), qualifications including a justification, and quotes (see guidelines p.10).

Rope bridge construction: not yet appointed (due to grant application timeframes), however a minimum of three quotes will be appointed before a contractor is engaged; Technical advice regarding WRP and part community capacity building: Alison Dixon, Fauna Relocator.

Will the project require the purchase of any assets? Please outline the need for the purchase, the cost and provide three quotes.

The assets obtained through the project include two interpretive signs (2) purchased; and the fauna rope bridge (1) once constructed is completed. The costs of the signs is a total of \$2458 funded by the City of Mandurah and the total cost of the rope bridge is \$12,483 [asset total of \$14,941]. The interpretive signage is not a requirement but is an effective tool in informing recreational users and visitors about the significance of the sites and promote local stewardship of the WRP. The fauna rope bridge is the essential component of the funding application as it is the costs that are prohibitive to the required infrastructure being installed; yet is most likely to have an almost immediate impact. As well, the success of the rope bridge will inform future provisions for wildlife movement in urban areas, such as a proposed second fauna bridge over Old Coast Road in Bouvard, connecting the corridors (Site B) to Yalgorup National Park.

## 15 Additional information relevant to this application

*This is where you can attach other relevant documents including quotes. Please provide a list identifying each of the attachments.*

Written quotes were not able to be obtained in time for the application but a minimum three quotes will be requested before any contracted services are engaged. The costings provided in the budget are based on the costs of previous COM projects.

## 16 Where did you hear about this grant program?

From City of Mandurah

## 17 Application Checklist (please mark each box once completed)

You must submit this checklist with your application.

Complete all questions and attach requested information to the application form.

*An application could be deemed ineligible if all boxes are not marked, or a comment provided, as to why the criteria cannot be complied with.*

Yes	No	N/A	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Have you read the Community Environment Grants Changing Landscapes Round 1 Guidelines?
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Have you checked your eligibility to apply?
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Have you identified the main contact person for the project?
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Have you identified your sponsor (if required) and attached a letter from that organisation confirming that they are willing to fulfil this role on your behalf?
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Have you identified all of your project partners (where applicable) and provided a contact person and a letter confirming the contributions they will make?
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Have you undertaken the required Aboriginal consultation?
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Have you obtained relevant approvals or made enquiries?
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Have you used the information provided in the guidelines to estimate your co-contributions or provided information on why this is not possible or appropriate?
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Have you attached a site map showing proposed project activities?
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Are the activities you have planned eligible according to the guidelines?
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Are the Project activities consistent with the Minimum Standards?
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Is your application in a Microsoft Word format for submission?
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Have you listed the additional documents that support this application (if applicable)?

## 18 Declaration

I declare that the information provided on this form is complete and correct to the best of my knowledge.

I understand that the application does not guarantee funding and that the Peel-Harvey Catchment Council reserves the right to grant funds based on the selection process and the total pool of funds available.

If awarded funding, I agree that the work will be undertaken to the “Minimum Standards” and within the guidelines and timeframes as set by the PHCC. I further agree to enter into a “Funding Agreement” that will reflect these commitments.

Signature of Applicant	
Print Name	Melinda Horton
Date	24/4/17

*\* Where the applicant is not the landowner, the applicant must seek permission from the landowner/vesting authority to undertake these works.*

Signature of Landowner	
Print Name	Mark Newman (CEO), City of Mandurah
Date	24/4/17

*Before submitting your application, please make a copy for your records.*

## APPENDIX 1

### Minimum Standards for On Ground Projects within the Peel-Harvey Catchment

#### “Fencing and Revegetation Projects”

In applying for funding, Land owners and managers must agree to undertake works in accordance with the following Minimum Standards.

#### Fencing Minimum Standards

Any fence is required to be constructed in accordance with local laws/best practice in your relevant local government area.

- **Ringlock** – 90/30 ringlock with top plain or barb wire with galstar posts at approximately 7 to 8m apart.
- **Plain wire** – 7 strands, 165 galvanised posts with 7 to 8m spacing.

Where fencing is undertaken along a waterway, the fence must be placed at a minimum distance of 15m from the highwater mark on that bank. If the waterway runs through the property, both sides of the waterway must be fenced.

If a contractor is used to install the fence, the landholder is required to oversee any works undertaken by the contractor to ensure that the proposed works are undertaken in accordance with the Project Application & Minimum Standards.

Fencing of native vegetation refers to remnants patches that contain some understory and is of an appropriate size and has the potential to create links in the landscape.

**Note: Any requested variation to these standards must be submitted with the application form for assessment.**

#### Revegetation Minimum Standards

##### Site Preparation

- Site preparation, such as ripping, and/or mounding, should be undertaken when the site is dry.
- Site preparation should be undertaken once stock have been removed.
- Weeds **must** be sprayed before planting takes place. Where couch and/or kikuyu are present, two applications of herbicide are recommended. Applications of a knockdown herbicide and a pre-emergent herbicide have given the best results.

##### Revegetation

- Revegetation sites on private land must be fenced to exclude stock.
- All seedlings must be indigenous to the area.
- Seedlings are to be selected and planted according to soil type and topography.
- Composition of seedlings to be a minimum of 60% shrubs and to include a diversity of species. Minimum planting density of 1,500 seedlings per ha (in areas where there is no vegetation) or equivalent if direct-seeding. Where prior plantings and/or natural vegetation is occurring the number of seedlings is to be discussed with the project officer.
- There is to be a maximum spacing of 3m between planting rows.
- Upper storey seedlings to be planted at a maximum space of 3m apart. Smaller shrubs and ground covers to be planted at a maximum space of 1m apart. Tree guards should be used where rabbits and kangaroos are likely to graze within the revegetation area.

- When undertaking revegetation within the riparian zone, the vegetation buffer on each bank must be at least 15m wide. Recommended width is 30m. Preference will be given to wider riparian zones.
- Shelter belts are to be a minimum width of 15m.

**Note:** *Requested variation to these standards must be submitted, with the application form, for assessment.*

#### Site Maintenance

*The landholder is responsible for all aftercare and maintenance of the project site(s).*

*If this application for funds is successful the land owner/manager agrees that:*

- Stock will be excluded permanently from the revegetation site. If controlled grazing is used as a method of fire management and weed control, seedlings must be at least 3 years old before stock can enter the site to crash graze only. Best Management Practices need to be followed where stock is used for fire and management control to ensure that the revegetation is not compromised. Please discuss this during the application phase with the Project Manager/Officer.
- Fencing will remain in place in perpetuity and be maintained to meet the minimum standards set out in this document.
- Pest animals and weeds within the fenced area will be controlled.

## APPENDIX 2

### Risk Matrix

What assumptions have been made in the project's design?

No.	Assumption <i>What assumptions have been made in the project's design? What assumptions are being made about how the output/s will be achieved? How it will lead to the achievement of the Projects Outcome? What evidence is there to support the assumption?</i>
1.	Possums will utilise rope bridge once constructed. There is a population of possums in the area. The construction of the bridge will reduce possum mortality rates as it will provide a safe linkage between habitat patches. Assumption supported by evidence from a rope bridge constructed over Caves Rd in Busselton where possums immediately began to use the rope bridge. <b>Kaori Yokochi and Roberta Bencini, (2015) A remarkably quick habituation and high use of a rope bridge by an endangered marsupial, the western ringtail possum, Nature Conservation 11: 79-94</b> Officers at the City of Mandurah have been carrying out camera trap monitoring at the site and recently found a dead ringtail possum at the proposed location of the bridge. The possum is thought to have been killed by a cat.
2.	Strategic revegetation will lead to a continuous canopy cover which will help reduce the impacts of habitat fragmentation on the WRP. Artificial drey installation will improve habitat quality through provision of a greater number of refuge sites and lessen impacts of habitat loss on the local WRP population. Hollow abundance has been positively correlated with possum abundance in peppermint/tuart ( <i>Eucalyptus gomphocephala</i> ) associations - Jones, B.A. and Hillcox, S. (1995). A survey of the possums <i>Trichosurus vulpecula</i> and <i>Pseudocheirus occidentalis</i> and their habitats in forest at Ludlow, Western Australia. <i>Western Australian Naturalist</i> <b>20</b> : 139-150. This project has been influenced by the work carried out by Geocatch -The Peppies for Possums project aims to improve the conservation of the Western Ringtail Possum (WRP) and to encourage community members to become actively involved with management of habitat for the Western Ringtail Possum. The project fulfills its aim through community awareness and involvement, planting Peppies ( <i>Agonis flexuosa</i> ) and native understorey to provide food and habitat.

In the table below, please define the major risks associated with this project and what management actions you will put in place to minimise or avoid these risks. What risks to successful project delivery have been identified? What is in place to address each risk? Include the assumptions in the risk assessment. For ratings, please refer to the Consequence: Likelihood matrix below.

Risk/Threat Description: Describe the threat/risk, its sources and impacts	Likelihood See matrix (below) for levels	Consequence See matrix (below) for levels	Rating See matrix (below) for levels	Current: Controls/Contingency/Management actions. Describe what you will do to mitigate the threat/risk, source or impact to an acceptable level	Residual Risk: What is the new risk rating after mitigations applied
1. Possums may not utilise rope bridge, which would affect community engagement for future projects so this is seen as a significant risk	Unlikely	Major	Medium	Research results from the Busselton rope bridge has been reviewed which showed possum utilisation of the bridge within 48 hours of construction completion. This shows possums readily adapt to using a rope bridge. In addition to monitoring for possible reasons for underuse, other short term enticements such as temporary fencing either side of	Low



				the rope bridge to encourage travelling possums to go upwards rather than across the road could be engaged.	
2. Strategic revegetation does not take due to poor planting methods, poor seedlings or poor species choice, reducing canopy for possums.	Possible	Moderate	Medium	BCCG & Friends of Warrangup Springs in conjunction with COM have carried out many plantings with great success and work continuously to improve planting methods. Monitoring plantings will enable any failures to be replaced either with an improved planting method or a more viable sapling or native species.	Low
3. Community/Private Residents voice concerns or object to bridge due to inadequate communication or information causing bridge to fail planning consent.	Possible	Moderate	Medium	A considerable portion of the budget is allocated to community engagement through survey, door knocking, and advertising. Considerable enthusiasm for both fauna and flora has already been observed by BCCG and Friends of Warrangup Springs by residents who regularly put in sighting reports. Any specific concerns will be fully addressed face to face with residents prior to putting in planning consent.	Low
4. Cost overrun could cause project incompleteness.	Possible	Moderate	Medium	Due to the short turnaround available for this grant application, quotations for the rope bridge couldn't be obtained, however 3 quotes will be requested before any contractor is engaged. Costings have been based on previous COM projects plus a 10% contingency has been applied. In the unlikely event of any shortfall, it will be met by raising additional funding by BCCG to ensure project completion.	Low
5. Project failure through missing deadline, cost overrun or poor contractor management as a result of inexperienced or poor project management.	Possible	Moderate	Medium	This project will be run in partnership with COM's Senior Environmental Officer Eryn Jackson BSc and BCCG Chairperson & Elected COM Coast Care Co-ordinator for Bouvard Mel Horton FBCS CIP. Mel Horton has 30 years' project management experience in the IT industry successfully bringing in significant value projects to specification, within budget and by business deadlines. This project will be run utilising that experience and that of experienced Senior staff at COM.	Low

Consequence: Likelihood matrix

Likelihood	Consequence					
		Insignificant	Minor	Moderate	Major	Critical
	Almost Certain	Low	Medium	High	Severe	Severe
	Likely	Low	Medium	Medium	High	Severe
	Possible	Low	Low	Medium	High	Severe
	Unlikely	Low	Low	Low	Medium	High
	Rare	Low	Low	Low	Medium	High

## 19 Checklist

1. Please ensure you have completed all the details in the Application Form.
2. Throughout the document, please tick or complete details where applicable and write N/A if Not Applicable.

### Have you attached the:

- ☐ Material **quote/s** (detailed quote).
- ☐ Copies of any permits, where required (i.e. 1080 accreditation).
- ☐ Accreditation and licence for baiting (if undertaking feral animal control).
- ☒ Project site map and photos.