

Whārangī Tono Pūtea Kōwhiri-ā-rohe

Natural Environments Fund

Application

Fund Purpose

The Natural Environments Fund was established to promote and assist the protection, restoration, or enhancement of areas of significant biodiversity, indigenous vegetation and/or significant habitats of indigenous fauna on private land throughout the District.

This policy applies to both Significant Natural Areas (SNAs) and non-SNAs as defined below: Significant Natural Areas (SNAs), in the schedule of the operative District Plan, are areas which have been identified as having a level of ecological significance.

The Council also introduced a general rule in the District Plan to protect areas of significant indigenous vegetation and significant habitats of indigenous fauna. These areas are known as non-SNAs and are not included in the District Plan schedule.

The Council will consider projects that:

- Assist with protection, enhancement, or restoration of identified SNAs.
- Assist with the protection, enhancement, or restoration of non-SNAs.
- Promote the protection of areas of significant indigenous vegetation and significant habitats of indigenous fauna throughout the District.

Funding Types

SNAs

- The Council will contribute up to 50% towards project costs for SNAs, if all conditions made by the Council for such funding are fulfilled.

Non-SNAs:

- To be considered for this fund, non-SNAs must already be legally protected (through QEII or similar perpetual legal protection agreements), or the landowner must be prepared to legally protect the area as part of the funding conditions. The area for the project either has or will have legal protection status within 12 months of being funded. Legal protection may include but is not limited to: Queen Elizabeth II National trust, Open Space Covenant, or a Memorandum of Encumbrance.
- The council will contribute up to one third (of the total cost) of project costs, for non-SNAs, provided that all conditions made by the Council for such funding are fulfilled. In exceptional circumstances, grants of a higher contribution towards total project costs may be approved.
- Non-SNA sites that have an active Biodiversity Plan with the Taranaki Regional Council will be prioritised for funding.

Other projects:

- The Council will consider a funding contribution for other projects that assist in the protection or promotion of the protection of significant indigenous vegetation and habitats of indigenous fauna (for example: environmental education projects or landscape-scale environmental projects or similar).
- This funding does not need to be linked to specific areas (SNAs or non-SNAs), and funding applications for these kinds of projects are assessed by the Council on a case by case basis.

Funding Conditions

Conditions

- Both individuals and organisations are eligible to apply.
- Applications for Natural Environment Funding grants may only be accepted for requests between \$5,000 and \$30,000, but smaller grants may be allocated on a case-by-case basis. The applicant's contribution towards the project must be clearly detailed in the relevant application form. Note: An applicant's contribution towards the total costs does not need to be financial and can include volunteer time or inkind support.
- Council funding is complementary rather than a primary funder. Priority will be given to applicants that can demonstrate they are seeking and/or have secured other sources of funding.

Assessment of applications

- The Council will consider applications for multi-year Natural Environments Funding grants.
- The Council reserves the right to revoke multi-year Natural Environments Funding grants, at its discretion.
- The Council may take into consideration any current or previous funding the applicant has received from the Council, when assessing a funding application.
- The applicant must disclose in the application form financial information and past contributions from the Council. This may include past applications, rates rebates, or lease agreements.
- Failure to complete the disclosure of previous funding allocations from the Council may result in the funding application being denied.
- Funding contributions by the Council will not be made available until the projects have been completed to the Council's satisfaction, and conditions of the funding have been fulfilled. This may include a site inspection.
- If funding is approved, successful applicants will receive a funding agreement which will outline the amount and conditions of the grant.

For further terms and conditions: Refer to STDC's [Community Funding Policy](#).

Questions?

Contact the Environment and Sustainability team by emailing envirosus@stdc.govt.nz or calling 0800 111 323.

Section 1 – Applicant Details

Name of applicant:

Email:

(Note: all correspondence relating to your application will be sent to this email address in the first instance)

Physical Site Address

Postal Address (incl. Post code)

Phone number (day):

Project title:

Amount requested:

Which of the following is your application on behalf of?

- Individual Informal Community Group
- Incorporated Society
- Other (please state)

Are you GST registered? Yes, GST Number No

Does your site have an active Biodiversity Plan with the Taranaki Regional Council?

If yes, please attach a copy of this plan. Yes No

Does your site have any legal conservation protection status (such as a QEII covenant or similar perpetual legal protection agreements)? If yes, please describe. If no, what legal conservation protections are you prepared to seek over the next twelve months?

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Section 2 – Project Details

Project start date: Project end date:

Provide a brief project description. Attach additional pages and photos if needed.

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Explain how your project or activity contributes towards the protection, restoration or enhancement of areas of significant biodiversity, indigenous vegetation and/or significant habitats of indigenous fauna. Attach additional pages and photos if needed.

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Section 3 – Financial Details

Project cost details

Applicants who are GST-registered need to provide budget figures that exclude GST. If you are not GST-registered your budget figures need to include GST.

Item	Cost
	\$
	\$
	\$
	\$
	\$
	\$
	\$
	\$
Total Project Cost:	\$

Project Income Details

Project income and other sources of income e.g. Other grants, donations, discounts on services, own contribution, existing funds, expected fundraising.

Income Source	Confirmed (Yes/No/Awaiting Outcome)	Amount
		\$
		\$
		\$
		\$
		\$
		\$
		\$
Total Funds Available		\$

Funding Summary

Total Project Cost:	\$
Less/Minus Total Funds Available	\$
Difference/shortfall	\$
Amount requested from Natural Environments Fund	\$

Section 4 – Privacy Statement

The South Taranaki District Council (the Council) wishes to collect personal information from you, which includes your name and contact details. The Council is collecting your personal information to contact you and follow up with you regarding your application for funding. Providing contact information is optional. If you choose not to provide your contact details, we are unable to follow up with you (if required), and this application form will be deemed incomplete. The information will be kept until the fund ceases and following that, will be disposed of securely.

You have the right, under the Privacy Act 2020, to ask for a copy of any personal information we hold about you and to ask for it to be corrected if you think it is wrong. If you'd like to ask for a copy of your information, or to have it corrected, please contact us at privacyofficer@stdc.govt.nz, or 0800 111 323. To view the Council's Privacy Policy, please visit the website: www.southtaranaki.com

Section 5– Declaration

I/we declare that:

- The information supplied in this application is correct.
- We certify that any funding received through the Natural Environments Fund will be used solely for the project or purposes disclosed in our application.
- If this application is successful, we agree to provide any report, receipts or invoices which may be requested (including allowing site visits if requested).
- I/we understand that my/our organisation name and brief details about the project may be released to the media or appear in publicity material.

If this application is successful, I/we agree to:

- Use funding received solely for the project or purposes disclosed in our application.
- Provide a report for each year of funding no later than 30 June. Provide any receipts or invoices which may be requested by the funding administrators.
- Promote/acknowledge the support of the South Taranaki District Council at every opportunity.
- Return funds to the Natural Environments Fund for future allocations, should funding no longer be required, or is surplus or unspent from the agreed funded project.

Please provide your signature

Name: Date:

Signature:

Position in
group (if applicable):

Attachment Details

Please make sure you have attached the following information:

- Quotes/cost estimates for your project costs
- A map indicating the site boundaries
- A bank deposit slip with the applicant's printed bank account details
- Copy of meeting minutes confirming group's approval to apply to this fund (if applicable)
- Evidence of non-Council financial or resourcing co-funding contributions to the project
- Any additional materials that will help explain the details of your project. This can include site details, photos, restoration plans, planting plans and plant lists

Closing date 2024

Applications close on 20 September 2024.

Applications ready for submission should be sent to the following submission email: envirosus@stdc.govt.nz

INCOMPLETE APPLICATIONS WILL BE RETURNED TO APPLICANT FOR COMPLETION

(please be aware this could delay the consideration/outcome of your application)

LATE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED

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