



Government of **Western Australia**
Department of **Transport**

Empowering a
thriving *community*

Maritime Planning
**Coastal Adaptation and
Protection Grants 2025/2026**

Information for Applicants



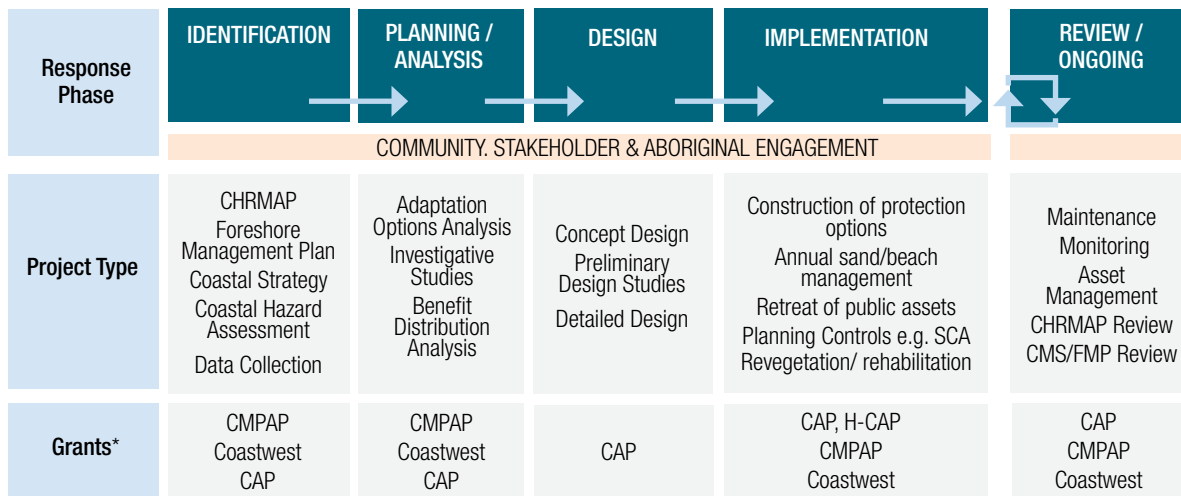
Applications close: Monday 14 April 2025, 12 PM

Introduction

Management of Western Australia’s long coastline is a significant and ongoing task, requiring partnerships between the State Government and local coastal managers.

The Department of Transport (DoT) administer Coastal Adaptation and Protection (CAP) grants to assist local coastal managers with coastal management. Each year local coastal managers are invited to apply for funds to undertake projects associated with identifying and adapting to coastal hazards.

CAP grants are one of the State’s existing coastal management funding opportunities offered through the CoastWA program. An indicative framework is provided below to guide prospective applicants toward the relevant grant.



DoT also administers the Hotspot Coastal Adaptation and Protection Major Project Fund (H-CAP) to support projects which design and implement coastal adaptation works. H-CAP is available to local coastal managers with the following:

- A completed or draft Coastal Hazard Risk Management and Adaptation Plan (CHRMAP).
- One or more locations of erosion and/or inundation concern to be managed by the proposed adaptation project, including but not exclusive to hotspots and watchspots.
- Invitations to apply for H-CAP are sent directly to coastal managers, with applications comprising a project proposal rather than a standard application form, so please do not use these CAP guidelines and/or application form to apply to H-CAP.

Aim and objectives

The aim of CAP grants is to ensure coastal managers understand and adapt sustainably to coastal hazards for the public benefit.

Objectives:

- Build capacity of local coastal managers to identify, understand and adapt to coastal hazards appropriately, effectively, and according to need.
- Improve understanding of coastal processes through data collection and monitoring.
- Facilitate coastal engineering and management studies and works throughout asset life cycles, for the public benefit.
- Ensure an appropriate coastal management approach that adheres to the principles of CHRMAP.
- Ensure adaptation options preserve or enhance coastal values and assets to benefit the community.

Erosion and inundation are the two primary coastal hazards with potential to negatively impact people, infrastructure, and the environment. Decisions need to be made that respond to the likely threats arising from climate trends and variability. It is important to develop adaptation options to adequately mitigate the risk posed by coastal hazards.

Risk treatment options that allow for a wide range of potential future risk management flexibility are considered more favourably than those that may limit future management decisions. Adaptation options that maintain flexibility will help to create coastal communities that are resilient to the uncertainties associated with coastal environments and climate change impacts.

Successful projects will demonstrate an understanding of coastal hazards and how adaptation options will manage the risk over different timeframes. New coastal protection works are not permitted unless they can be adequately justified in the context of CHRMAP.

Adaptation options that provide solutions to problems arising from coastal hazards should be sought from the following CHRMAP hierarchy on a sequential and preferential basis:

1. **AVOID:** For an area identified to be affected by coastal hazards new development should be avoided.
2. **PLANNED OR MANAGED RETREAT:** Relocation or the removal of assets within an area identified as likely to be subject to intolerable risk of damage from coastal hazards.
3. **ACCOMMODATION:** If sufficient justification can be provided for not avoiding construction as a solution for the area that is at risk from coastal hazards then accommodation adaptation measures should be provided that suitably address the identified risk.
4. **PROTECTION:** Where sufficient justification can be provided for not avoiding the use of engineering intervention and accommodation measures alone cannot adequately address the risks from coastal hazards, then coastal hazard defence works may be proposed for areas in the public interest.

Generally, as options are selected further down the hierarchy (from avoid to protection) future risk management options will diminish.

State Planning Policy No 2.6 State Coastal Planning Policy (SPP 2.6) supports a risk management approach and provides the framework for undertaking risk management and adaptation planning for coastal hazards in Western Australia. The development of CHRMAP is encouraged by DoT and the Department of Planning, Lands, and Heritage (DPLH) to manage coastal hazards.

For further information on CHRMAP, refer to the latest Australian Standard *Managing Environment-Related Risk* (HB 203:2012), *Climate Change Adaptation Guidelines in Coastal Management and Planning* (NCCOE, 2012), and *Coastal Hazard Risk Management and Adaptation Planning Guidelines* (DPLH & WAPC, 2019). A copy of SPP 2.6 can be found on the DPLH website (please see the reference list).

Project eligibility

CAP grants are available for the coastline immediately adjacent to the oceans of WA. Estuarine shorelines are included as an area of secondary focus. Eligible project types include:

- **Monitoring:** Development and implementation of monitoring programs to collect data including beach and hydrographic surveys, wave and water level recordings, aerial photography and photogrammetry.

Apply for a monitoring grant if you do not have appropriate datasets for the section of coast to which you are concerned about.

- **Investigation:** Appropriate investigations/studies to determine the causes of existing coastal hazards and the likely impacts of climate change, hazard assessments, vulnerability assessments, and the development of adaptation/management solutions.

Apply for an investigation grant if you need to:

- *Analyse data to identify relevant local coastal processes.*
- *Develop a detailed understanding of the erosion problem(s).*
- *Undertake a hazard assessment to investigate and model coastal hazards (erosion, accretion and inundation) and produce hazard maps. **
- *Develop appropriate adaptation options to manage the hazards, in accordance with the hierarchy of avoid, managed retreat, accommodate and protect.*

** Following a hazard assessment funded by the CAP grants (the first component of a CHRMAP), the Coastal Management Plan Assistance Program (CMPAP) administered by DPLH on behalf of the Western Australian Planning Commission (WAPC), may be able to fund subsequent components of a CHRMAP. Alternatively, if you are interested in undertaking a full CHRMAP (including a hazard assessment), apply for a CMPAP grant. Please refer to the CoastWA website for further details [CoastWA grants \(www.wa.gov.au\)](http://www.wa.gov.au)*

- **Adaptation:** Design (including concept, preliminary, and detailed design) and/or implementation of managed retreat, construction of coastal protection structures such as groynes and seawalls, or soft protection measures such as beach nourishment. This can include contracted preparation of tender documents and contracted construction supervision.

Apply for an adaptation grant when monitoring and investigation has been completed, and to develop appropriate design and/or implementation of adaptation measures to manage the hazards in accordance with the CHRMAP hierarchy (managed retreat, accommodate and protect).

- **Asset management:** Condition inspections of existing coastal protection infrastructure such as groynes and seawalls, or development of asset management plans, maintenance programs, etc.

Apply for an asset management grant if you have existing assets, asset management plans, and/or maintenance programs and their future management needs to be reviewed; or you have existing assets and a new asset management plan or maintenance program is required.

- **Maintenance:** The maintenance or removal of existing coastal protection structures.

Apply for a maintenance grant when you have existing assets that presently fall within a suitable asset management plan or program, and maintenance works at the asset have already been identified for actioning under that plan or program.

Please note that coastal projects not eligible for CAP grants may be eligible for [Coastwest grants](#) or [CMPAP grants](#), administered by DPLH on behalf of the WAPC. You can find further information <https://www.wa.gov.au/government/document-collections/coastwest-grants>.

Beyond funding assistance, DoT can provide:

- Access to DoT's maritime expertise, including technical advice.
- Access to relevant information held by DoT, such as data on waves, water levels, shoreline movements and beach and hydrographic surveys.
- Review of projects to ensure consistency with relevant Australian standards and coastal management principles.

Selection criteria

Applications will be assessed according to the following criteria:

- There is a demonstrated and substantial public benefit(s) (25 per cent).
- There is a demonstrated need(s) for the project (20 per cent).
- The project approach is suitable to effectively manage the coastal hazard(s) (35 per cent).
- The Coastal Manager has a proven track record, or equivalent experience, for successfully managing coastal management and protection projects or similar (20 per cent).

See the Guidelines at the end of this brochure for more information.

Who may apply?

CAP grants are available to local coastal managers with coastal management authority, defined here as:

- State and Local government authorities with a vested responsibility for coastal management.
- State Government agencies and authorities actively involved in coastal management.
- Aboriginal Land Councils with responsibility for coastal management.
- Other corporate bodies directly responsible for coastal management.

Only coastal managers can apply for a CAP grant. However, others interested in applying may make a joint application with a coastal manager. If the project site will cover land managed by other coastal managers in addition to land managed by your own coastal management authority, then you will need to consult with those other coastal managers, and also attach a letter of support for your project as part of your application.

Old Ironstone revetment, Emu Point, City of Albany



Funding

A total of \$900,000 is allocated for CAP grants in 2025/2026. CAP grants are awarded after the start of the 2025/2026 financial year. Projects must be completed by May 2026. Failure to do so may result in the termination of the grant agreement.

The minimum CAP grant limit is \$15,000 (ex GST) and the maximum CAP grant limit is \$400,000 (ex GST). Funding is available for up to 50 per cent of the total cost for all project types. The remainder of the project cost is to be funded by the applicant, but can include:

- Funding from other sources, including government agencies or authorities;
- In-kind contributions such as machinery, labour or materials, but not administration costs, project management costs, overhead costs or machinery depreciation.

See the Guidelines at the end of this brochure for more information.

General conditions

Before a project commences, successful applicants will be required to:

- Sign a Grant Agreement which sets out the terms and conditions of the grant.
- Seek formal approval of a detailed project scope, design report, detailed design or study brief from DoT.

At the conclusion of the project, the coastal manager:

- Must provide a financial statement covering all project costs, including in-kind costs.
- Must provide an electronic copy of all the data, reporting, and any associated documents in the format requested by DoT.
- Must provide any other project information as requested.
- Owns any assets created and is responsible for all ongoing maintenance and management.
- Encouraged to consider The Western Australian Whole of Government [Open Data Policy 2022](#) and make publicly available data obtained through the grant, with due consideration of their own legislative requirements.

See the Guidelines at the end of this brochure for more information.

Retaining wall Ocean Beach, Shire of Denmark



How to apply

Applications for the CAP and H-CAP will open on Wednesday 22 January 2025 and close on Monday 14 April 2025.

In July 2024 the Department introduced a new on-line grants management system. All grant programs, with the exception of H-CAP, will be integrated into the new system by July 2025.

Applications and supporting documentation for CAP grants must now be submitted via a DoT Grants (Omnistar) account.

www.transport.wa.gov.au/aboutus/grants-and-funding.asp

The above link includes instructions for applicants and how to register an account.

Email applications for CAP grants are no longer available and will not be considered.

Ensure that you set aside sufficient time to complete your application and provide all the required supporting documentation.

Eligible applicants will receive an invitation to submit a project proposal for H-CAP grants. Please prepare a concise document demonstrating that you meet the eligibility criteria outlined in the 2025/2026 project proposal guidelines (included in your invitation). Attach any necessary attachments or photos to support your proposal and email them to coastal.management@transport.wa.gov.au

For more information on the H-CAP, visit this information sheet. www.transport.wa.gov.au/mediaFiles/marine/MAC_P_CoastalErosionHotspotsInformationSheet.pdf

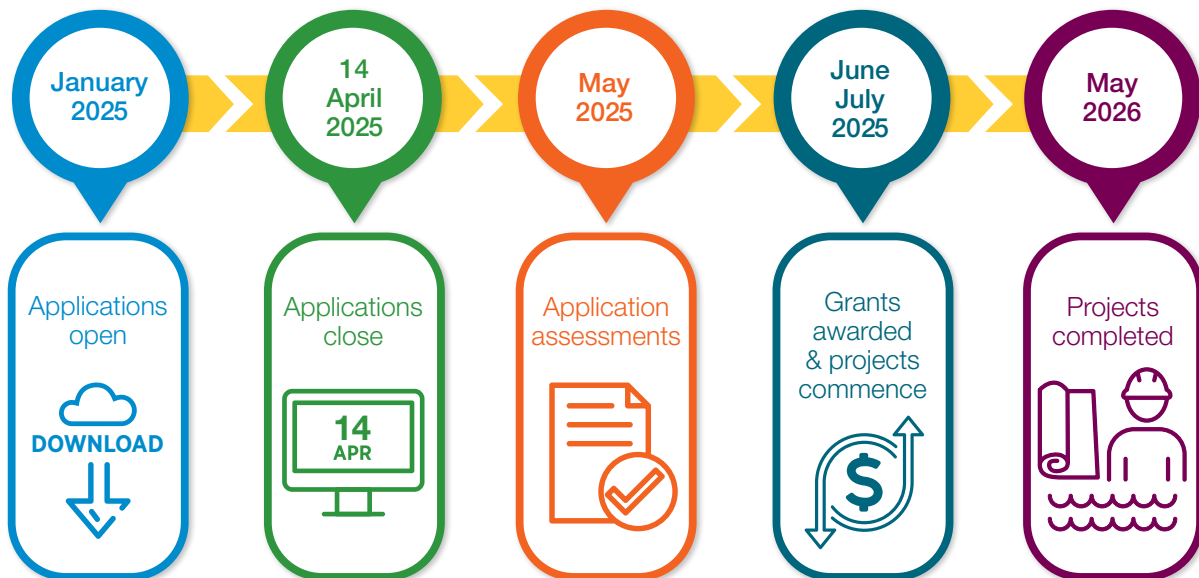
When submissions close, all applications will be assessed for their eligibility.

An assessment panel will evaluate applications and make recommendations for approval to the Minister for Transport

Contact

Email: coastalmanagement@transport.wa.gov.au

Grant timeline



Examples of successful past projects

City of Cockburn – 2023/2024

Monitoring the extension of the wave-attenuating engineered fringing reef at C.Y. O'Connor Beach

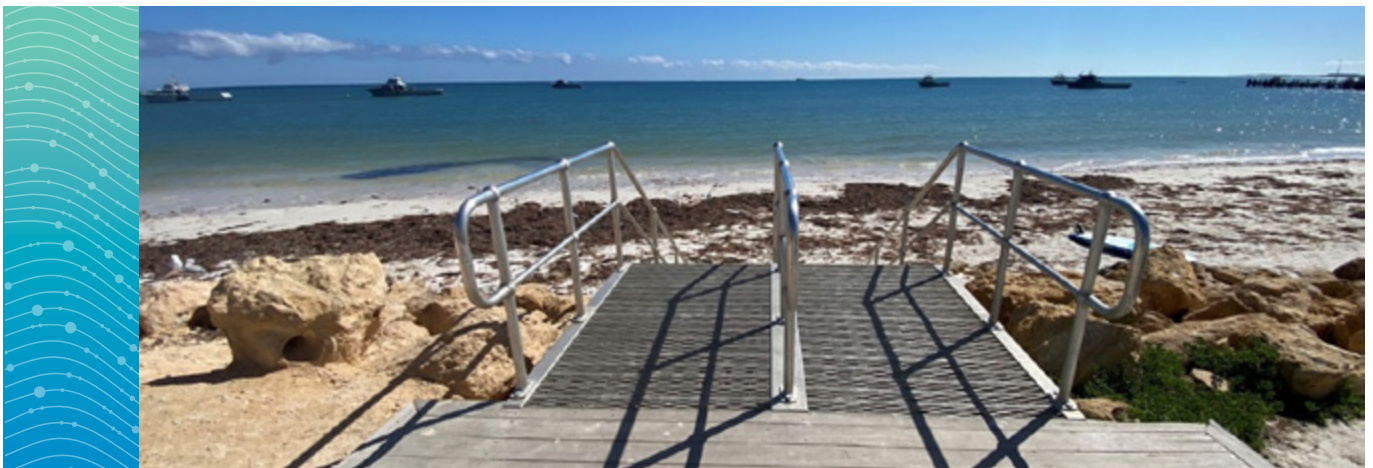
In 2022, the City of Cockburn installed an artificial reef at C.Y. O'Connor Beach. The City received a grant of \$33,940 to monitor and assess the reef's impact on shoreline change since its installation. The data collected from this program will inform future optimisation efforts, including potential extensions to enhance the reef's coastal erosion protection capacity. This project ensures that data-driven and evidence-based decision-making can be implemented to protect the C.Y. O'Connor foreshore from erosion and asset damage.



Shire of Dandaragan – 2023/2024

Detailed design of coastal management options for Cervantes

The Shire of Dandaragan received a grant of \$84,293 to investigate coastal protection options for the Cervantes Foreshore and advance the preferred solution to detailed design. Multiple options were evaluated, with Beach Nourishment identified as the optimal choice following a comprehensive Multi Criteria Analysis. A staged beach nourishment program was progressed to detailed design, considering the unique local sediment transport regime, particularly the anticipated movement of a significant sand cuspsate into the foreshore area in the near future. The Shire is now preparing to enhance the resilience of the Cervantes Foreshore against erosion by implementing the planned works.



City of Wanneroo – 2023/2024

Yanchep and Quinns Beach sand nourishment

A \$100,000 grant received by the City of Wanneroo was used to undertake beach nourishment of Yanchep and Quinns Beach. The beach nourishment works were successfully executed and resulted in the provision of a wider beach that enhanced the beach amenity and its resilience to erosion. This wider beach buffer now provides improved erosion protection for numerous public foreshore assets.



City of Stirling – 2023/2024

Construction of a disability "friendly" water access ramp at Mettams Pool that accommodates coastal hazards

Mettams Pool provides one of the most protected, safe bathing areas along the metropolitan coast and, as such, is widely used by the visitors and the local community. In addition to providing shade, seating, and beach shower facilities the site also provided a continuous path of travel between the disabled parking on West Coast Drive terminating with an access ramp into the water for bathing. Unfortunately, the existing ramp was closed due to concerns with structural integrity and local changes to beach levels.

Building upon the planning and design work already completed by the City, a grant of \$80,000 was provided under the CAP scheme allowing for the construction of the replacement ramp. Works were completed in July 2024, successfully restoring the amenity of the site.



Coastal Adaptation and Protection Grant Guidelines

January 2025

General

- 1 Coastal Adaptation and Protection (CAP) Grants are available for the coastline immediately adjacent to the oceans of Western Australia. Estuarine shorelines are included as an area of secondary focus.
- 2 Grants are available to local coastal managers defined as: local government authorities who have vested responsibility for coastal management; State Government agencies and authorities actively involved in coastal management; Aboriginal land councils with responsibility for coastal management; other corporate bodies directly involved with coastal management. Others interested in applying for the grant may make a joint application with an identified coastal manager.
- 3 The applicant must have appropriate authority/approval to manage the coastal lands in this project. If the project site will cover land managed by other coastal management authorities in addition to land managed by your own coastal management authority, then you will need to consult with those other authorities, and also attach a letter of support for your project as part of your application.
- 4 More than one application can be submitted by the same coastal manager.

Funding

- 5 A total of \$900,000 is available for allocation to CAP grants in the 2025/2026 financial year. Projects must be completed by May 2026; failure to do so may result in termination of the grant.
- 6 Funding is available for up to 50 per cent of the total project cost for monitoring, investigation, asset management, adaptation, and maintenance project types. The remainder of the project cost is to be funded by the applicant.
- 7 The minimum grant limit for each application is \$15,000 excluding GST. The maximum grant limit for each application is \$400,000 excluding GST. Grant amounts applied for must exclude GST.
- 8 Grants are limited to immediate project costs and payment will not be made for incidental costs such as administration or project management. Funding by the applicant can include funding from other sources, including government departments.
- 9 Funding by the applicant can include in-kind contributions from their organisation such as machinery, labour or materials, but not administration or internal project management costs. In-kind contributions, in terms of materials, labour or machinery use, need to be quantified. Overhead cost (e.g. overtime, leave, superannuation, etc) and machinery depreciation cannot be included as in-kind. Applicants must provide details of the value of any in-kind work claimed.
- 10 The applicant is to fund any cost overruns. Only significant increases in costs due to factors beyond the applicant's control may be considered for funding upon lodgement of a variation request, if financial capacity exists within the CAP grant at the time.
- 11 Applicants may be offered funding for certain elements of a project or offered a percentage of the funding requested.
- 12 Grants are typically paid in arrears. However, the applicant may request up to 50 per cent of the grant to be paid following project commencement if there is proper justification. The remaining 50 per cent will be paid on project completion.

Project eligibility criteria

13 Eligible project types include:

- **Monitoring:** Development and implementation of monitoring programs to collect data including beach and hydrographic surveys, wave and water level recordings, aerial photography and photogrammetry.
- **Investigation:** Appropriate investigations/studies to determine the causes of existing coastal hazards and the likely impacts of climate change, hazard assessments, vulnerability assessments, and the development of adaptation/management solutions.
- **Asset management:** Condition inspections of existing coastal protection infrastructure (e.g. groynes, seawalls) and development of asset management/maintenance programs.
- **Adaptation:** Design and implementation of managed retreat, construction of coastal protection structures (e.g. groynes, seawalls) or beach nourishment. This can include the preparation of tender documents and construction supervision.
- **Maintenance:** The maintenance of existing coastal protection structures.

14 Coastal engineering works will only be considered for grant funding if:

- All other options for avoiding and adapting to coastal hazards have been fully explored and documented, as part of a coastal hazard risk management adaptation planning process.
- Comprehensive investigation (including data collection, review and appropriate design) have been undertaken to demonstrate that the engineering works will not cause significant adverse impacts on the adjacent environment within the sediment cell.
- The engineering works are primarily proposed in the public interest to ensure they maintain a coastal foreshore reserve, public access, public amenity, public safety and high value public infrastructure that is not expendable.
- Appropriate planning, documentation and funding arrangements are in place for the ongoing monitoring and maintenance.

15 Projects ineligible for funding include:

- Applications that do not demonstrate that the appropriate monitoring or investigation have been undertaken to initially understand the coastal hazard.
- Construction projects that have not demonstrated that all other options for avoiding and adapting to coastal hazards have been fully explored as part of a coastal hazard risk management adaptation planning process.
- Projects that have significant adverse impacts on the adjacent environment within the sediment cell.
- Retrospective projects. Funding is not available for projects that have commenced (are not a stage of a previously approved project) or have been completed.
- Rehabilitation or landscaping primarily for amenity value rather than maintaining erosion buffers.
- Projects that have not obtained the relevant environmental and statutory approvals.

16 Existing coastal protection structures that require significant upgrade or maintenance will be subject to the conditions in guideline 14 (above) to be considered for funding.

17 Non-performance or poor performance on any previous Coastal Adaptation and Protection Grant project may reduce your chance of being awarded future CAP funding; this is one of the selection criteria (refer Guideline 23).

Application process

- 18 Applicants are encouraged to provide as much relevant information as possible. Providing clear evidence of the coastal management requirements in the area will be critical for a grant funding application to be successful.
- 19 Applications that provide relevant plans, reports and/or detailed concepts and show evidence of how the project fits into a greater context of coastal management planning for the management area will be considered favourably.
- 20 On request, technical advice and review of the proposed project may be provided by DoT coastal specialists during the application process.
- 21 Applicants are able to access data held by DoT. Applicants are encouraged to visit DoT at 5 Newman Court, Fremantle to gain an understanding of what historical data and information is available.

Project assessment

- 22 An assessment panel will review all applications. Applications are first assessed by individuals, then the panel meets to discuss the applications and reach a consensus score. Each member has an equal vote and must declare any vested interests and abstain from voting on such projects. The highest-ranking applications are allocated funds until the budget pool has been allocated.
- 23 Applications will be assessed according to the following selection criteria:
 - There is a demonstrated and substantial public benefit(s) (25 per cent).
 - There is a demonstrated need(s) for the project (20 per cent).
 - The project approach is suitable to effectively manage the coastal hazard(s) (35 per cent).
 - The Coastal Manager has a proven track record, or equivalent experience, for successfully managing coastal management and protection projects or similar (20 per cent).

Conditions of successful grants

- 24 Applicants are responsible for obtaining all necessary statutory approvals required for the project.
- 25 A detailed project scope must be approved by DoT before commencement.
- 26 The work in the proposed project must be undertaken by suitably qualified and experienced organisations and personnel, approved by DoT before commencement.
- 27 For coastal protection structures a design report including design criteria (for example design life, design wave and water level conditions), technical specification and construction drawings must be approved by DoT prior to construction.
- 28 For construction projects, as-constructed drawings must be provided to DoT detailing the actual work undertaken, in the format requested by DoT.
- 29 The applicant will own any assets created through the CAP grant and will be responsible for all associated ongoing maintenance, insurance and management.
- 30 Any reports and associated documentation produced must be provided to DoT for review prior to finalisation.
- 31 An electronic copy of all the data, final report and any associated documents shall be provided to DoT in the format requested by DoT.
- 32 The applicant must provide a financial statement and associated invoices upon completion of the project, which includes the actual cost of each component, as set out in their application.
- 33 DoT may publish details of grants, projects and recipients and/or use the information for promotional purposes.
- 34 DoT may specify additional project requirements or conditions where necessary.
- 35 DoT encourages successful projects to consider The Western Australian Whole of Government Open Data Policy 2022 and make publicly available data obtained through the grant. Note that applicants should consider their own legislative requirements and the value and intended outcome of openness against the cost and potential implications of making that data open.

References

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WAPC (2013b) *State Coastal Planning Policy Guidelines*. Western Australian Planning Commission <https://www.dplh.wa.gov.au/spp2-6-coastal-planning>

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Site excavation Mettams Pool, City of Stirling



Contact

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