

## Sample form, not for offline completion.

Visit <https://seaworldfoundation.grantplatform.com> to apply.

# Marine Megafauna Research Grants - Round 2025

To ensure your application aligns with the eligibility criteria and funding objectives, please review the Program Guidelines thoroughly before applying.

Application name

## Eligibility

Is the applicant organisation one of the following in Australia?

- ☐ Charity registered with the Australian Charities and Not-for-Profits Commission (ACNC)
- ☐ Not-for-profit organisation registered under the Corporations Act 2001 or the Co-operatives National Law Act
- ☐ Tertiary education institution administered by the Commonwealth or State
- ☐ Indigenous corporation incorporated under the Corporations (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Act 2006 (Cwlth))

Applicant organisations must be one of the following in Australia to be eligible.

Is the applicant organisation registered for GST?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

Applicant organisations must be registered for GST to be eligible.

Will the project activities be undertaken in Australia or its external territories?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

Project activities must be undertaken in Australia or its external territories to be eligible. Excludes procurement of essential goods and services not available within Australia.

Is the project scheduled for practical completion by 30 June 2027?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

Projects must be completed by 30 June 2027 to be eligible. A maximum 1-year extension may be provided for parental leave and compassionate circumstances.

Will this project address research knowledge gaps in the conservation of wild marine megafauna populations?

☐ Yes

☐ No

Eligible species include large-bodied organisms that inhabit coastal and open ocean habitats, such as cetaceans, pinnipeds, sirenians, large sharks and rays, marine turtles, albatrosses, and penguins. Estuarine crocodiles (saltwater crocodiles) and invertebrates are ineligible.

Does the project include field research activities?

☐ Yes

☐ No

Desktop-only studies are ineligible.

**Please click Check Eligibility below to continue.**

Ineligible applications will be locked. To make changes, you must start a new application.

## Applicant

### Organisation

Name of applicant organisation

Trading name, if applicable (optional)

ABN

Website address of organisation, if applicable (optional)

### Accountable Officer

This person should be a responsible person within your organisation, for example, Head of Institution, President, Executive Director, Chief Executive Officer or similar.

Name

Position in organisation

Email address

Preferred telephone number

Other telephone number

Preferred Contact Person

Name

Position in organisation

Email

Preferred telephone number

Other telephone number

Additional Contact Person

Please provide details of an additional person from your organisation - such as your organisation's post-award office - who is aware of the application and able to readily respond to any queries should the department be unable to contact you.

Name

Position in organisation

Email

Preferred telephone number

Other telephone number

DELETE

## Project Summary

Please complete this section in **clear and simple** language that is easy for everyone to understand. Avoid writing as if for a scientific paper. The information provided in this Summary section may be used by Sea World Foundation in reports, publications, and on the charity's website and social media channels.

Please **avoid** the following:

- Acronyms
- Jargon or technical terms
- Commercially sensitive information

Project Title

100 characters

Project Description

200 words

Include the issue being addressed, the research being undertaken, and the practical benefit translated to marine conservation.

Project Image



Caption for image

100 characters

Include credit attribution, if applicable.

Field Locations

Specify all field research locations

	Reference	Description
1	Field Site 1	
2	Field Site 2	
3	Field Site 3	

Example description: Flat Rock, North Stradbroke Island, Queensland

Please be sure to spell names correctly and get titles correct as the information in this section may be published by Sea World Foundation.

# Project Team

## Lead Investigators

Ensure names are spelled correctly and academic titles are accurate, as this information may be published by Sea World Foundation.

Is this a student project?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

## Other Investigators

Ensure names are spelled correctly and academic titles are accurate, as this information may be published by Sea World Foundation.

Name (optional)

Include academic title (e.g., Dr., Prof.).

Position (optional)

Research Group (optional)

If not relevant, indicate as 'Not Applicable.'

Organisation (optional)

Is this investigator of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander descent? (optional)

☐ Yes

☐ No

# Project Activities

## Schedule

Project start date:

Date cannot be before 1 July 2025.

Project end date:

Date cannot be after 30 June 2027.

## Milestones

List the main milestones in the project.

Milestone	Description	Completion date	Deliverables
1			
2			
3			

Milestones are the key steps or events for the project timeline. Please be specific and concise when listing the project milestones to ensure that the Assessment Panel is able to gain a strong understanding of your project activities and when you expect to have certain activities completed.

Please note that should your application be successful, the project should not proceed until both parties have executed the grant agreement.

# Project Budget

**The amounts of funding sought must be listed excluding GST.**

Applicants will be provided with funding to account for costs directly related to GST and are required to provide the GST exclusive amount in their budget.

## Primary Funding Sought

List all individual items needed and cost. Maximum funding available is \$50,000 (ex GST)

Category	Description	Quote supplied (Yes/No)	Amount (ex GST)
1			
2			
3			

Categories include:

- Personnel
- Consumables
- Facilities hire
- Vessel hire
- Equipment
- Services
- Travel
- Other

### Supplementary Funding Sought

List all individual items needed and cost. Maximum funding available is \$10,000 (ex GST)

Category	Description	Quote supplied (Yes/No)	Amount (ex GST)
1			
2			
3			

Categories include:

- Contractors
- Contractor travel
- Equipment purchase
- Equipment hire
- Training
- Other

### Supporting Documentation

Quotes are required as part of the assessment process. Screenshots are acceptable for online purchases, such as flights and accomodation.

File upload



If you are unable to provide quotes or if any are missing, explain why and outline how the expenditure was calculated. (optional)

# Assessment Criterion

## 1. Significance, Aims and Impact

This assessment criterion evaluates the extent to which the proposed project has the potential to catalyse conservation action.

Outline the conservation issue(s) that the proposed research will help address, the project aims and expected impact.

750  
words

- Clearly articulate the project's objectives.
- Identify likely outcomes and expected long-term conservation impacts.
- Demonstrate the potential for influencing policy, practice, or future research.
- Indicate the relationship of this project to work elsewhere and cite key references where appropriate.
- Identify whether this project aligns with action items in relevant species management and recovery plans.

## 2. Methods

This assessment criterion evaluates how well the proposed methodology demonstrates scientific rigor and comprehensiveness to ensure valid research outcomes.

Include a statement of the overall design of the study.

750 words

- Describe and Justify the selected methods, explaining why they are appropriate for achieving the project's objectives.
- Describe the resources, tools, and technologies that will be used to carry out the project activities.
- Detail how data will be collected, analysed, and interpreted to support the project's goals.
- Identify any potential challenges or limitations in the methods and how they will be mitigated.
- Outline how the findings will be reported.

## 3. Feasibility

This assessment criterion evaluates whether the project is achievable, well-planned, and can be executed effectively within the available constraints.

What is the current stage of your project?

- ☐ Conceptual
- ☐ Preliminary planning
- ☐ Detailed planning
- ☐ Approvals and ethics
- ☐ Shovel-ready



Identify the key **delivery risks** for your project and how you plan to address them.

Risk Type	Likelihood of occurrence (high/medium/low)	Impact on project (high/ medium/low)	Mitigating action(s)
1			
2			
3			

Project management risks are potential issues that could negatively affect a project's success, such as budget overruns, delays, vendor dependencies or external factors.

Identify the key **health and safety risks** for your project and how you plan to address them.

Risk type	Likelihood of occurrence (high/medium/low)	Impact on project (high/ medium/low)	Mitigating action(s)
1			
2			
3			

Supporting Documentation

Provide a Detailed Risk Assessment for your project.

File upload (optional)



If you are unable to provide a Detailed Risk Assessment for your project, explain why. (optional)

4. Value for Money

This assessment criterion evaluates the scale of the project and benefits relative to the funding sought.

Describe how does the project demonstrates value-for-money. 500 words

- Explain how your project demonstrates innovation, cost-effectiveness and return on investment.
- Highlight any unique approaches and secondary social benefits, such as advancing the participation of First Nations peoples or other under-represented groups in marine science.

Is the applicant organisation providing cash or in-kind contributions to this project?

☐ Yes

☐ No

Cash contributions are additional funds provided by your organisation beyond the requested funding amount.

In-kind contributions are non-monetary resources such as staff time, vessel and equipment hire, or facilities provided by your organisation.

Does your project have any additional cash or in-kind contributions from other organisations?

☐ Yes

☐ No

### Supporting Documentation

Attach a letter from any contributing third party organisation/s which clearly states details of their contributions including monetary figures, if applicable.

File upload



## 5. Track Record

This assessment criterion evaluates the project team's capability and capacity to manage and deliver the proposal successfully.

Have the Lead Investigators been previously funded by Sea World Foundation (formerly Sea World Research and Rescue Inc.)?

☐ Yes

☐ No

Why are you the right applicant to carry out this research?

500 words

- Provide evidence of the team's relevant experience in conducting similar research or conservation projects.
- Highlight key achievements and outcomes from previous projects that are relevant to the current proposal.
- Describe the specific roles and responsibilities of each team member, ensuring they are well-matched to the project's needs.
- Outline the team's ability to collaborate with other stakeholders, partners, or experts to enhance project outcomes.

### Supporting Documentation

Submit the three most relevant publications by the Lead Investigators for this project.

File upload



## 6. Public Communication of Science

**Public communication of science** refers to the practice of sharing scientific knowledge, research, and findings with the public in a way that is accessible, engaging, and understandable.

This assessment criterion evaluates how effectively your project will create high-quality communication content to share with Sea World Foundation's diverse audiences.

Have you viewed the webinar “Planning Effective Marine Science Photography”?

☐ Yes

☐ No

Describe your plans for documenting the project through **professional photography**. 300 words

Include details about your photography budget allocation, logistic considerations, and suppliers with relevant science or documentary photography experience. Address underwater, topside, and aerial photography needs, along with required permits and weather contingency plans. While optional, you may also describe any planned video documentation.

Describe your plans for contributing a **popular science article** to Sea World Foundation’s publications. 100 words

- Provide the author’s name and a summary of their popular science writing experience.

Describe your plans for participating as a **guest speaker** in the Sea World Foundation’s speaker series. 100 words

Provide:

- the speaker’s name,
- their preference for virtual or in-person participation
- a summary of their public speaking experience.

Outline any **additional** public communication opportunities within your sphere of influence.

Opportunity	Description	Target Audience	Est. Reach
1			
2			
3			

Example 1.  
Opportunity: University-led Seminar Series  
Description: A series of public seminars hosted by the university’s marine science department, featuring leading experts discussing the latest research and developments in marine conservation, climate change, and oceanography.  
Target Audience: Faculty, general public, students, and local environmental groups.  
Est. Reach: 50-100 attendees per seminar, with online content reaching an additional 2,000 viewers through recorded videos and webinars.

Example 2.  
Opportunity: Social Media Posts  
Description: 2 x video posts on the university’s channels  
Target Audience: Students, faculty, and individuals interested in marine conservation.  
Est. Reach: 1,000-2,000 followers per post across platforms.

Supporting Documentation

Provide websites, portfolios or examples previous work from the project’s suppliers, author or speaker (optional).

URL (optional)

URL (optional)

URL (optional)

File upload (optional)



## Permits and Ethics

Research which involves:

- human experimentation must be carried out in accordance with the guidelines laid down in the NHMRC code of practice; National Statement on Ethical Conduct of Research Involving Humans (1999);
- animal experimentation must be carried out in accordance with the guidelines laid down in the Animal Care and Protection 2001 and the NHMRC Code of Practice for the Care and Use of Animals for Scientific Purposes, 7th ed., 2004. Animal experiments must be carried out by a person or organisation registered as a scientific user with the relevant state government regulatory body and activities must be assessed by an approved Animal Ethics Committee;
- the use of recombinant nucleic acids constructed in vitro from sources which do not ordinarily recombine genetic information must be carried out in accordance with the guidelines laid down by the Recombinant DNA Monitoring Committee;
- all projects involving the genetic modification of animals must be conducted in accordance with requirements and guidelines of the Office of the Gene Technology Regulator and the relevant Institutional Biosafety Committee;
- the use of ionising radiation must have the risks involved assessed by a recognised Ethics, Safety or Bio-Safety Committee, personnel must be trained and hold a current licence.

**A certificate of compliance with the appropriate guidelines must be received before payment of any proposed grant can be made. You have until the 1 October 2025 to provide evidence of compliance, after which time your funding offer may be withdrawn.**

Detail all required permits and ethics approvals, including current status (e.g., secured, date of application or not yet applied).

Authorising Entity	Description	Status
1		
2		
3		

## Insurance

### Certificate of Currency - Public Liability Insurance

Provide insurance policy for public liability insurance coverage of at least \$20 million (in total) that is current and will remain current for the duration of the project.

File upload



## Certificate of Currency - Workplace Health and Safety

Provide insurance policy for workplace health and safety and workers insurance and evidence of adequate insurance coverage for workers and volunteers as required under the Work Health and Safety Act 2011.

File upload



## Certificate of Currency - Volunteers Insurance

If relevant, please provide insurance policy for volunteers insurance coverage. Please only provide this if your project engages volunteers.

File upload (optional)



## Declaration

I declare that all information provided in this application is true and correct and no information is false or misleading.

I am authorised by my group/organisation to complete this form.

I agree that Sea World Foundation does not accept any liability for the project.

I have the written agreement of all parties identified in the application to include their details within the proposal.

I understand that information provided in this project proposal may be disclosed to internal and external parties as required to undertake assessment of the application in accordance with the program guidelines.

I declare that I have, or will obtain, written approvals from landholders and understand that written approvals are a pre-requisite to receiving any funding for the project.

I declare that I have, or will request, all necessary Commonwealth, State and Local planning permits and any other permits and approvals required to undertake this project and understand that such permits and approvals are a pre-requisite to receiving any funding for the project.

I understand that ownership of materials purchased through this grant remains the property of the applicant organisation.

If successful, I will:

- ensure that the project agreement is executed within 60 days of notification
- ensure that all necessary permits/approvals are obtained prior to the commencement of the project and no later than 1 October in the funding year
- ensure that the project will be covered by appropriate insurances
- ensure that all relevant health and safety standards will be met
- ensure that all progress reports are submitted to SWF in the form and on the dates specified in the Grant Agreement
- ensure that acquittal requirements are met in accordance with the Grant Agreement signed by both parties
- accept the terms and conditions of the grant in accordance with SWF requirements
- provide any documentation required by SWF on request.

**I agree to the above:**

☐ Yes

## Feedback

**Please note that this page is not mandatory and individual responses will not be presented to the assessment panel. However, any feedback provided that could assist with administering the grants program and improving user experience would be appreciated.**

How important is this funding in addressing the priorities and gaps in marine megafauna research? (optional)

- ☐ Plays a critical role
- ☐ Plays an important role
- ☐ Plays a supporting role
- ☐ Plays a minimal role
- ☐ Uncertain

How straightforward was completing this application form? (optional)

- ☐ Very straightforward
- ☐ Somewhat straightforward
- ☐ Somewhat difficult
- ☐ Very difficult

Is there any other feedback you would like to share with Sea World Foundation, such as how we could improve the (optional) funding program design, the program guidelines or the application process?