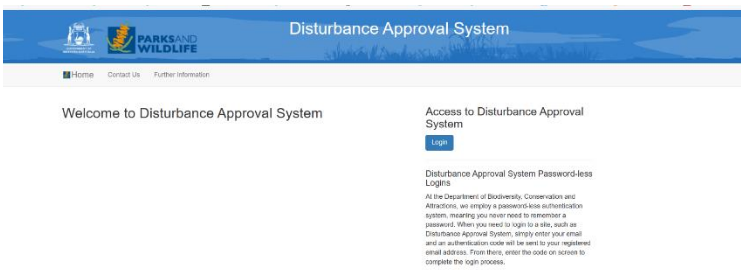
DAS for External Proponents

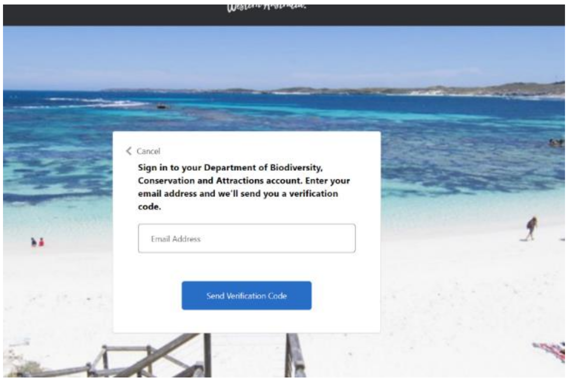
Contents

Logging in to the system.

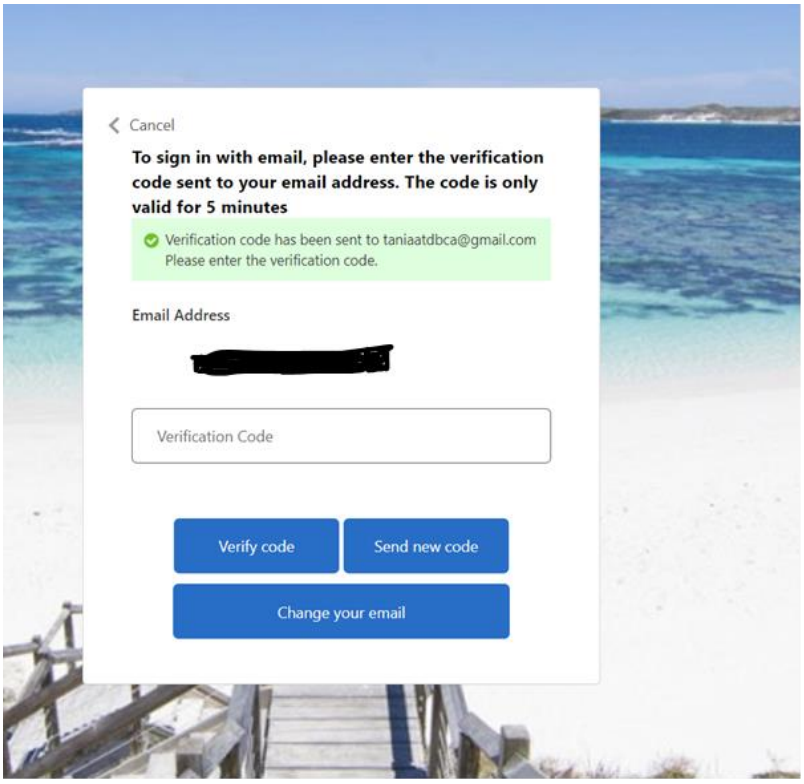
Log into DAS via [Disturbance Approval System - Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions]

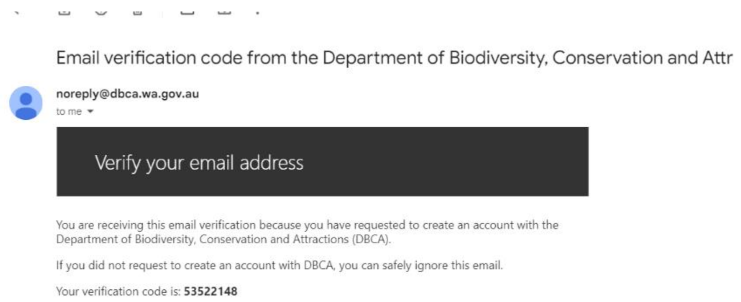


Sign in with your email address and click on Send Verification Code



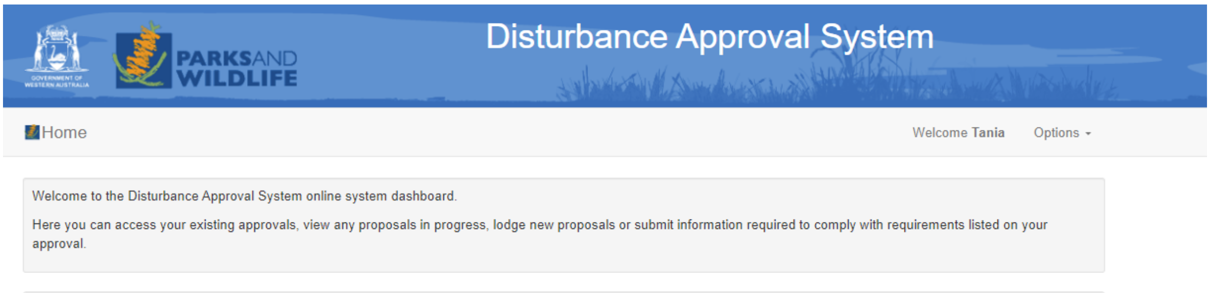
A verification email will be sent to you with a code, enter the code and press Verify code.



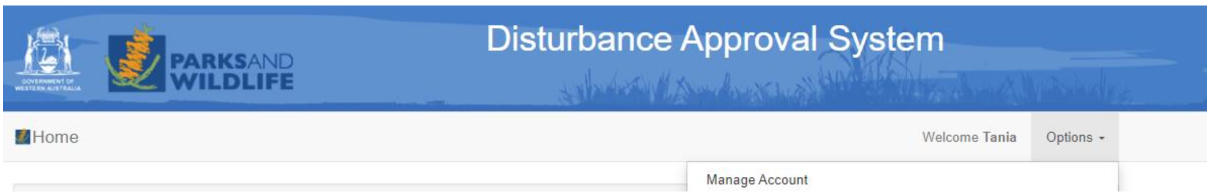


Once you have typed in your code select verify code. You **may** be directed to another screen to put in your name. Type name in and enter.

- Click on the link and this will take you to the below page.

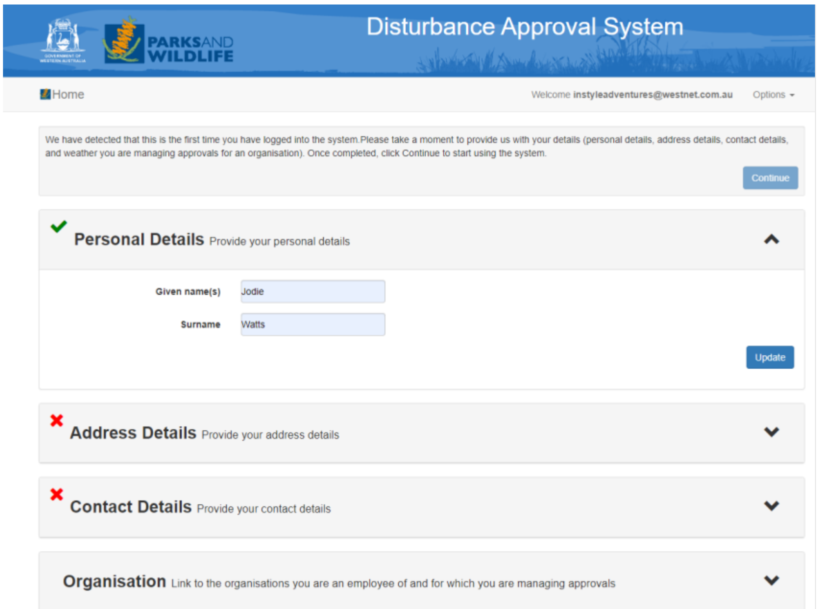


- Click on options on the right-hand side of the top menu.
- Select Manage Account.

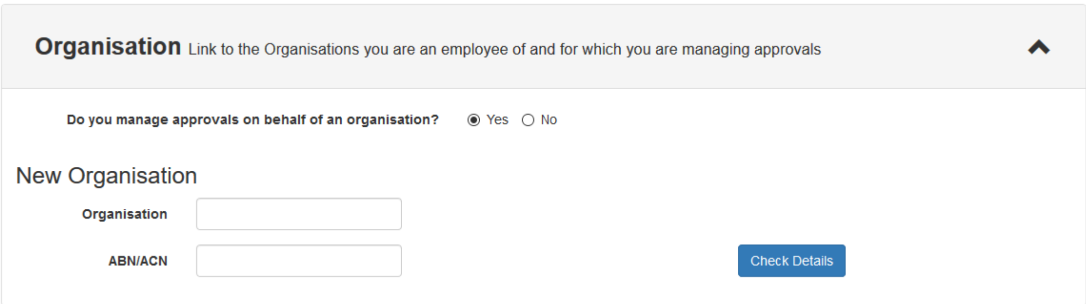


Providing registration details

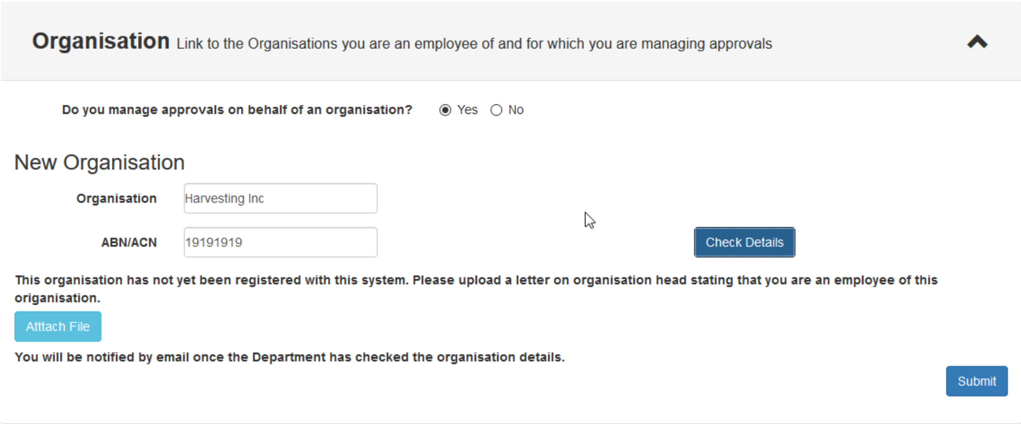
- If the user accesses the system for the first time, the system will ask for details of the new user.



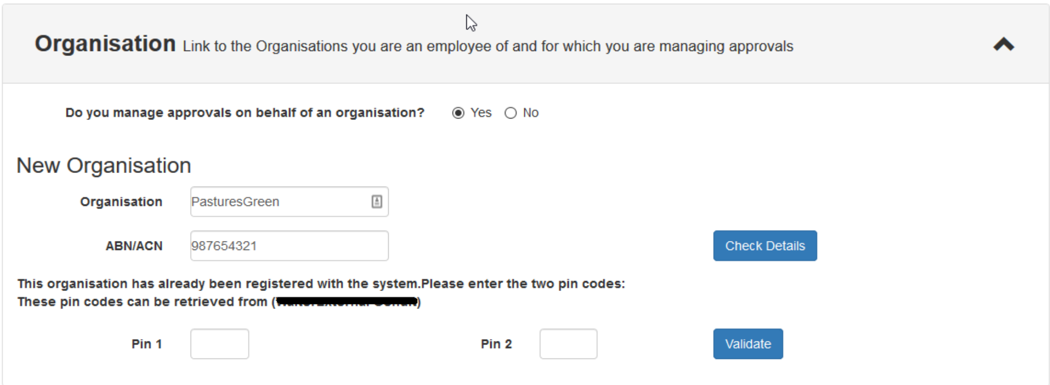
- Update each section. Provide personal details, address details and contact details; make sure the details are saved by clicking Update in each section. Note:
  - The 'red cross' turns to a 'green tick' to confirm update.
  - Either phone number or mobile number is required.
- Link to an organisation by first providing organisation name and ABN/CAN



  - If this is the first user for the organisation, the system requires the user attaches proof that the user is working for the organisation; preferably
    - Use the organisations letterhead
    - Include the users position title
    - Briefly describe the planned proposal
    - Include DBCA liaison person
  - Once submitted, the Department will assess the request. Once assessed, the user is informed via email.



- If other users have been registered for the organisation before, the system will ask for two pin codes that can be entered to complete the process. These pin codes can be retrieved from the Administrator of the DAS for the organisation. Select validate to confirm.



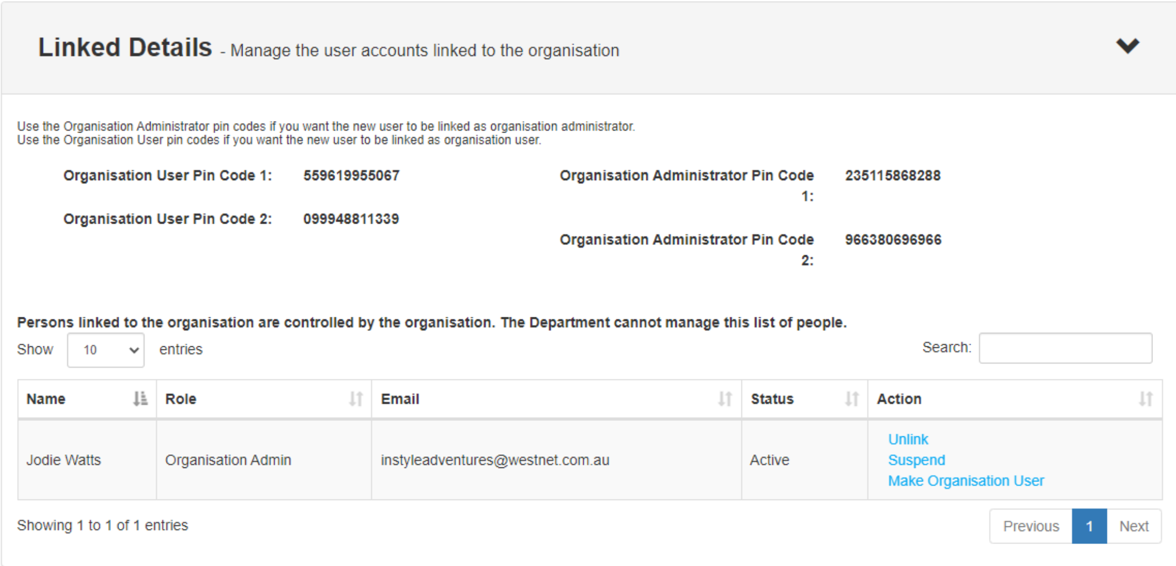
- Once completed, click 

 in the top corner to start using the system

Managing users that can access the system

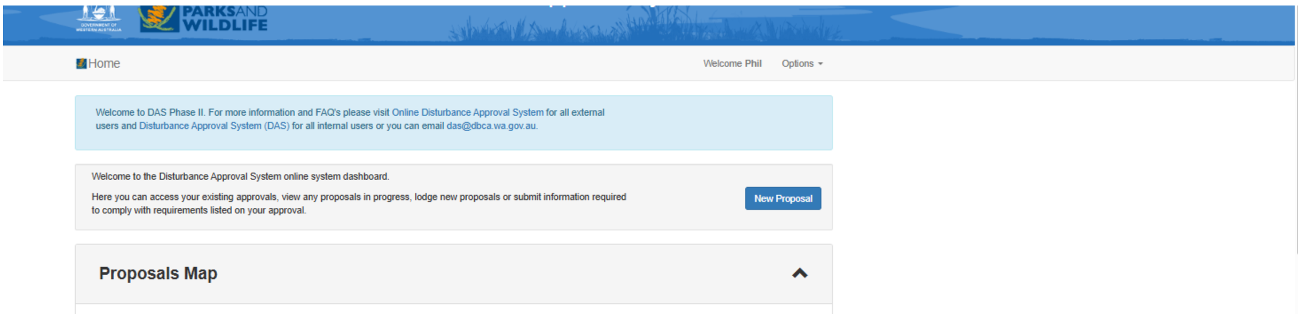
- The company/organisation are responsible for managing the access of users to the system on behalf of the company/organisation
- The company/organisation details can be managed by any user linked to the company/organisation
- Navigate to Options menu (top RHS) in the menu bar, select 'Manage <company/organisation name>'
- Open the 'Linked Details' section to manage the user accounts linked to the Organisation
- The system displays
    - Organisation User Pin Codes
        - Provide the two User Pin Codes to a new user to link to your company/organisation
    - Organisation Administrator Pin Codes
        - Provide the two Administrator Pin Codes to at least one other Staff person to help manage users linked to your Organisation.
        - Note. It's best maintain a small group (2-3) of senior staff as Administrators.

- The list of users currently linked to the company/organisation.
  - Your company/organisation DAS administrator can unlink, suspend, or make other users an Organisation Administrator



- Click Unlink to revoke the access of the user on behalf of the company/organisation

DAS Home Screen

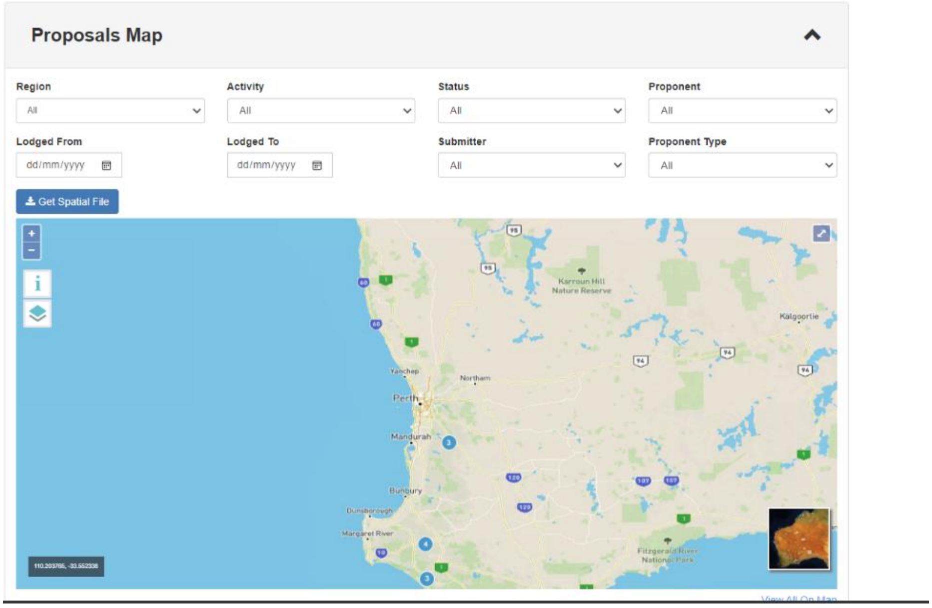


Proposals Map

The Proponent Dashboard features a section called the **"Proposals Map"**—an interactive, map-based tool that provides proponents with a visual overview of all their submitted proposals.

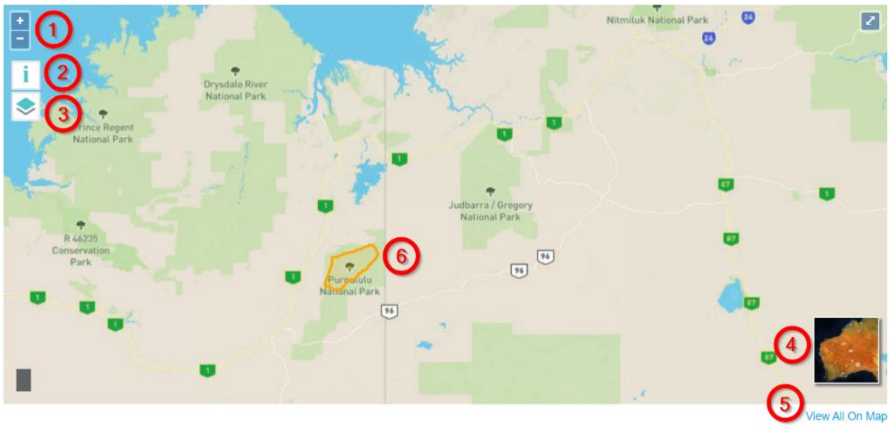
Upon accessing the dashboard, you will see a geospatial map displaying the locations of your proposals. This interactive map includes filtering options that allow users to refine the view based on criteria such as **submission date, proposal status, or geographic region**.

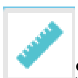
This enhancement is designed to help proponents more easily **track, manage, and analyse** the geographic distribution of their proposals, offering a clearer understanding of their overall project footprint.

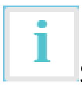


Map Display

The map has numerous features available to enhance functionality, as detailed below.



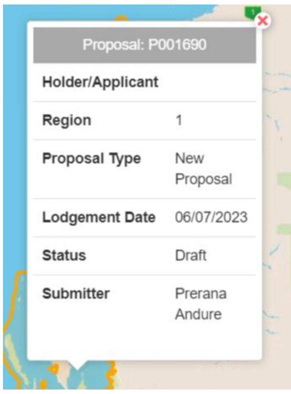
Select the +/- icons to zoom in and out of the map.

Select the icon to change the pointer to ruler functionality

The dashboard map can display layers by clicking the icon. 

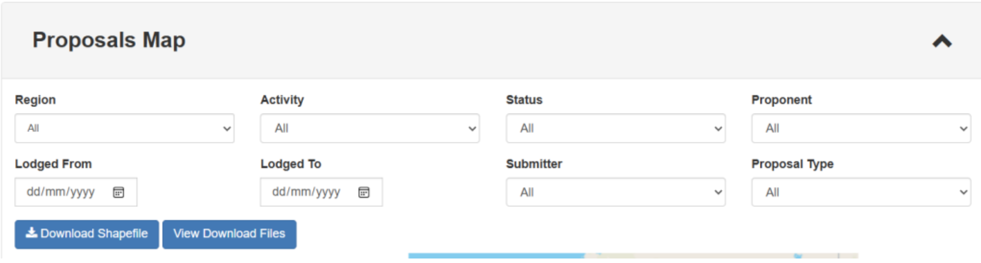
If you zoom out of the map, it is possible that the individual polygons cannot be seen. You can view instead proposals that are in specific regions. A number will be displayed showing the number of proposals available.

For each polygon on the screen, it is possible to display the relevant proposal details. When zoomed into the map to a point where the polygon is displayed, click on the polygon area to view details.



Filters

Using the filters in the proposals map section will provide easy access to display polygons in the map.

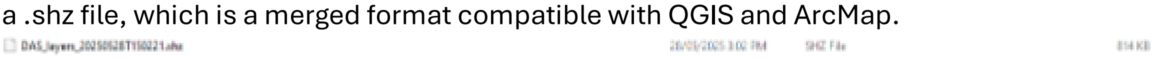


There is also the option to download a shapefile of the displayed proposals. To do this, simply click on the **Download Shapefile** button.

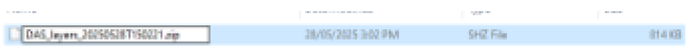
Then click on **View Download Files** button.

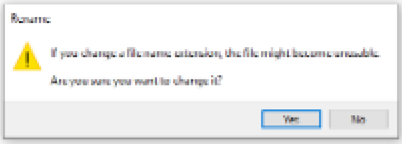
This will prompt you to the list of files downloaded in the last 7 days.

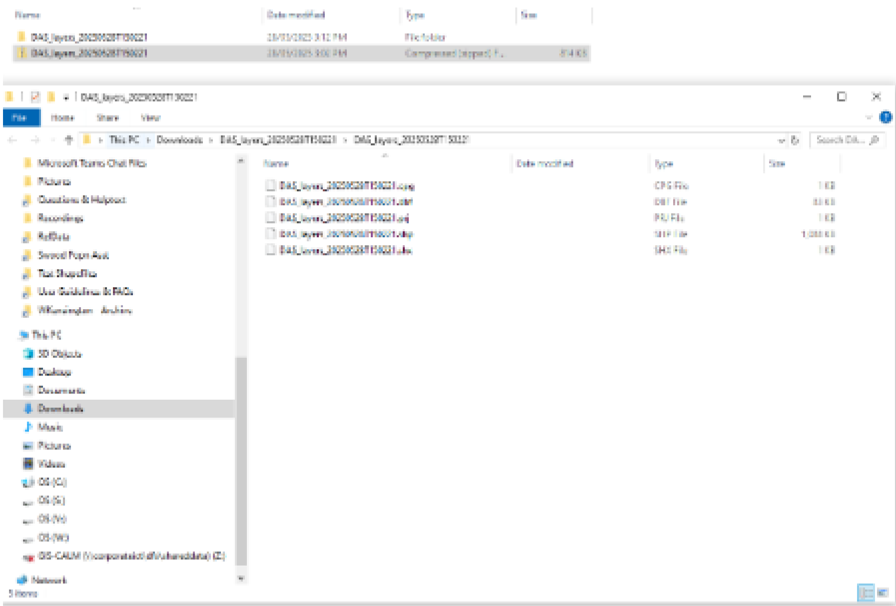
Click on the desired file to automatically download it. The shapefile will be downloaded as a .shz file, which is a merged format compatible with QGIS and ArcMap.



Alternatively, you can rename the file extension from .shz to .zip, confirm the change, and then unzip the folder. This will extract the four standard shapefile components for use in GIS applications.

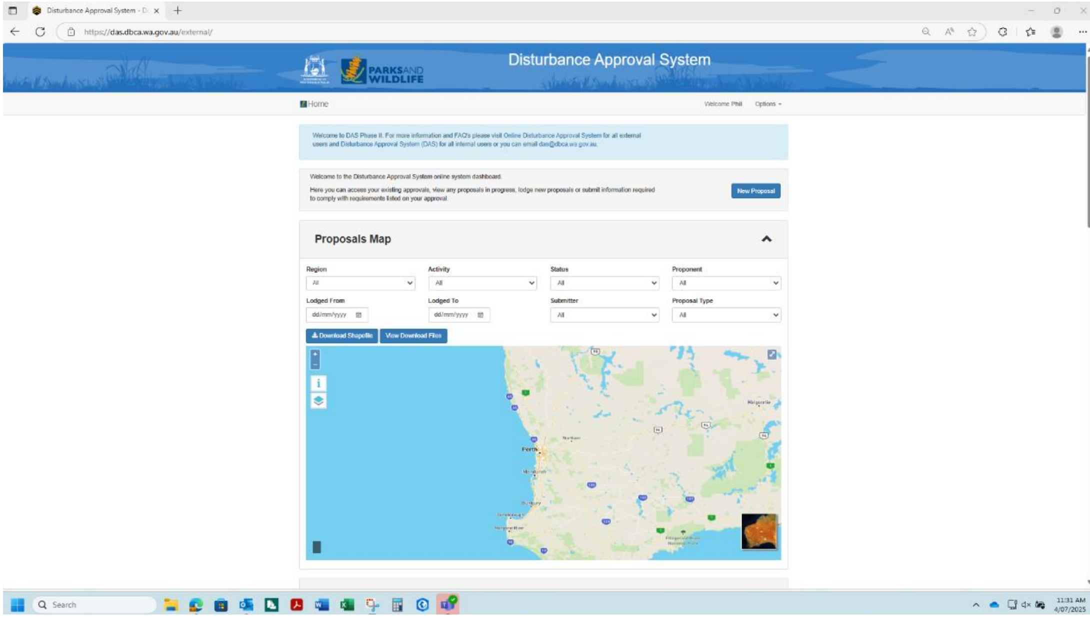



Rename
If you change a file name extension, the file might become unusable.
Are you sure you want to change it?
Yes
No



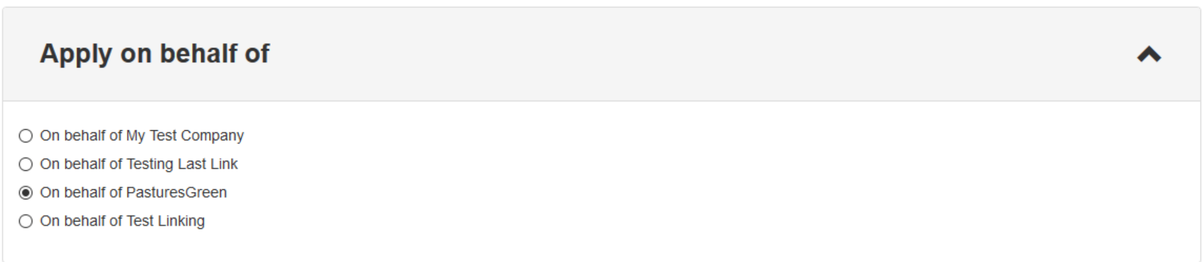
Lodging a new proposal

When you log in you will be taken to the page where you can start your proposal.

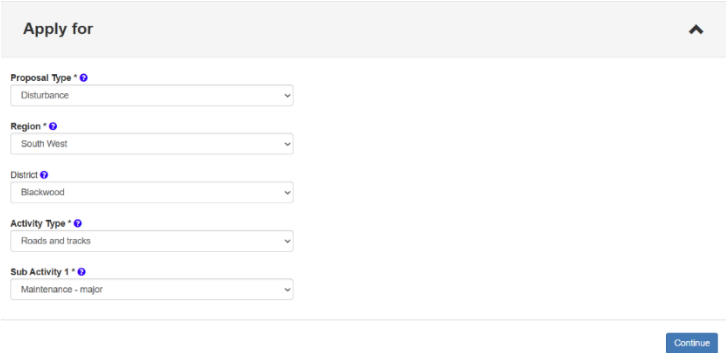


- The image above shows the DAS interface. On this page, you'll find a prominent blue "New Proposal" button located at the top.
- This is the correct location to:
    - Create a new proposal, or
    - Edit an existing proposal
- Start a new proposal by clicking 

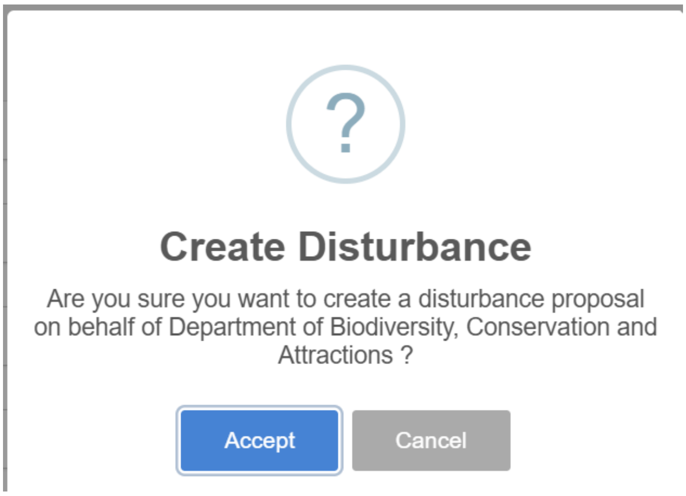
  from the Proposal section on the dashboard page
- Select the organisation you apply on behalf of (Note, normally only one organisation is listed; however, a user can be linked to multiple organisations)



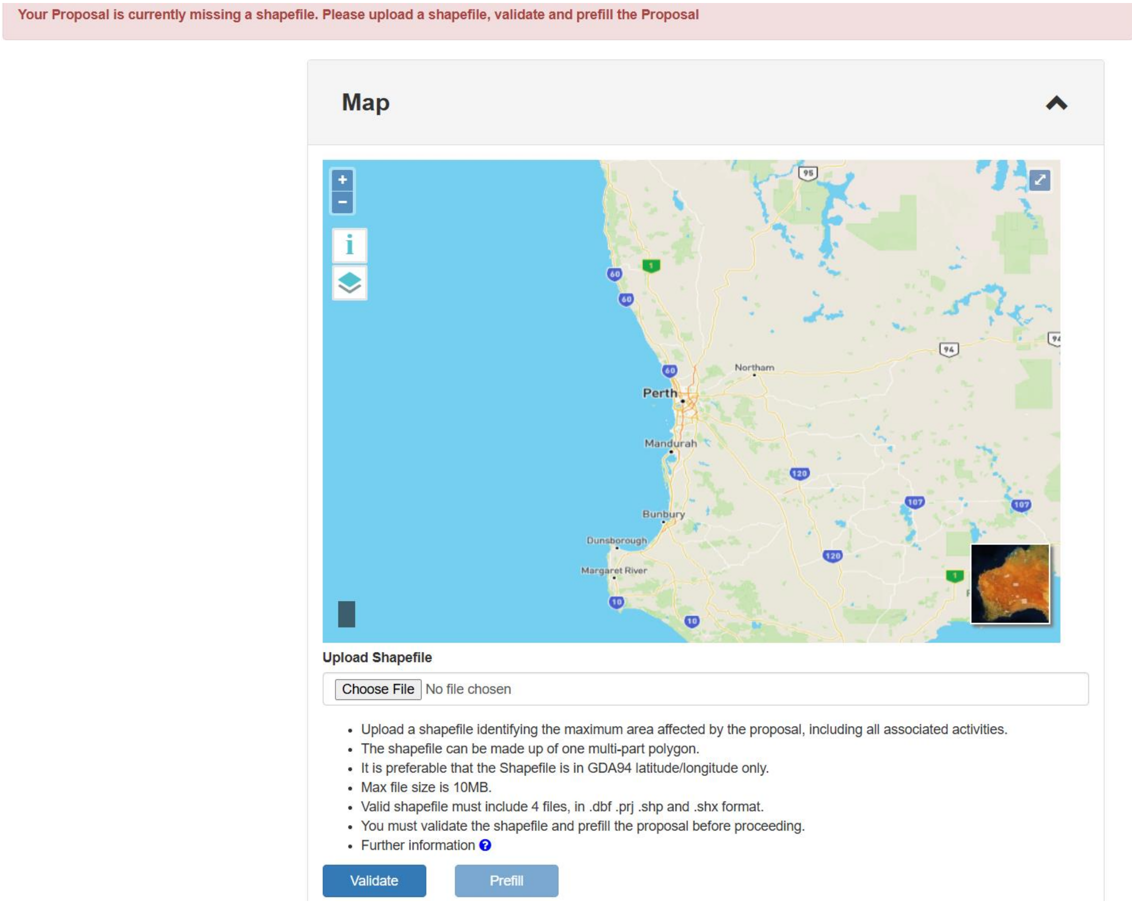
- Select what to apply for



Then hit “Continue”.



Once accepted you will then be taken to the Home Page.

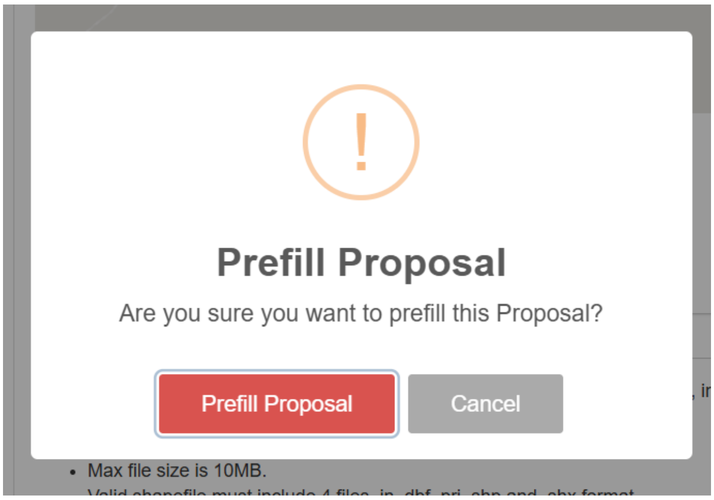


Prefill the proposal.

To enable automatic prefilling of the proposal, proponents must upload shapefiles to the map interface.

- Upload Shapefiles
  Click “Choose File” to upload the required shapefile. Note: If the shapefile consists of multiple components, each section must be uploaded individually.
- Validate Shapefiles
  After uploading, select “Validate” to load the shapefiles onto the map.

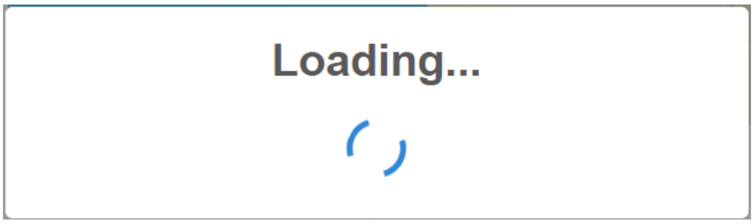
To begin, click the “Prefill Proposal” button.

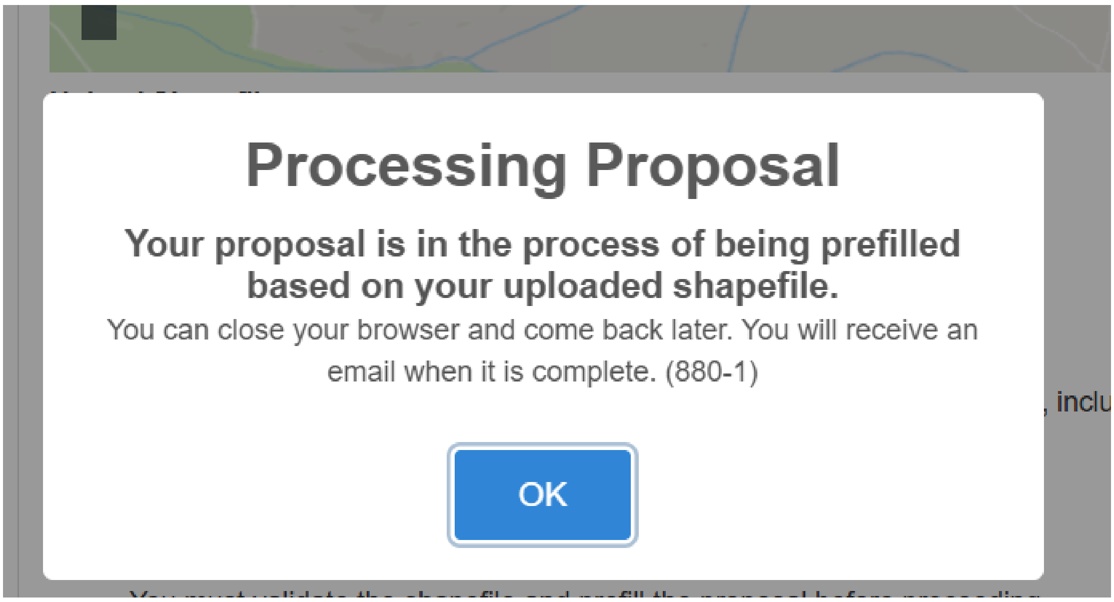


Note: At this stage, the proposal is in read-only mode and cannot be edited. You will be able to enter and modify proposal details once the prefill process is complete.

When the system begins prefilling the proposal with attributes from the allocated layer, the task is placed in a processing queue.

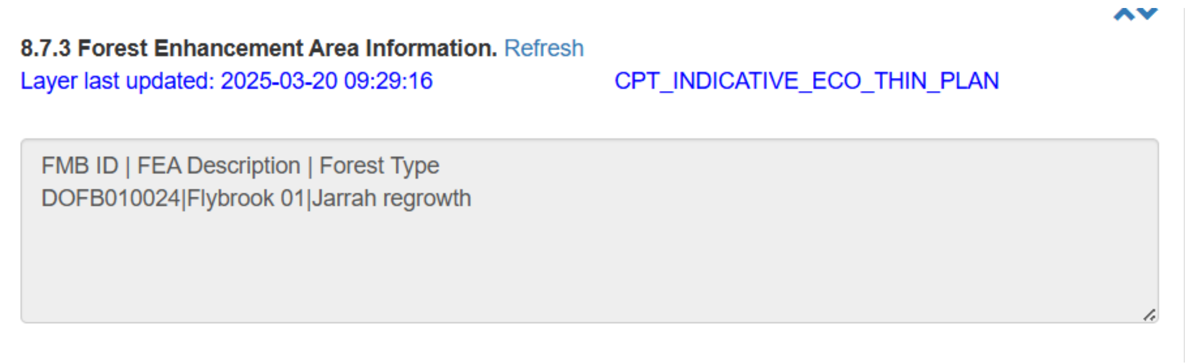
During this time, a loading screen will be displayed while the system retrieves and applies the relevant spatial data.





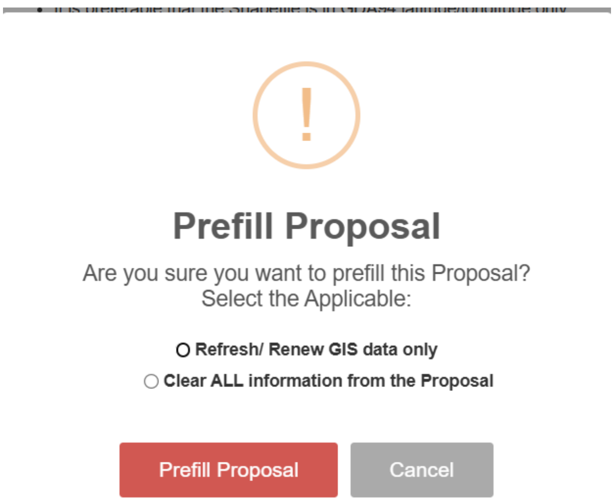
1. Once the form has loaded, the proponent can review the automatically populated responses.
2. Fields that are prefilled based on system data are read-only and cannot be edited. These responses are generated using the most relevant data available.
3. The proponent may also provide additional details in the editable sections of the proposal (Additional Information proponent) as needed.

For each question, you can view which GIS layer was used for the intersection, when it was last updated in the form, and the name of the layer applied.



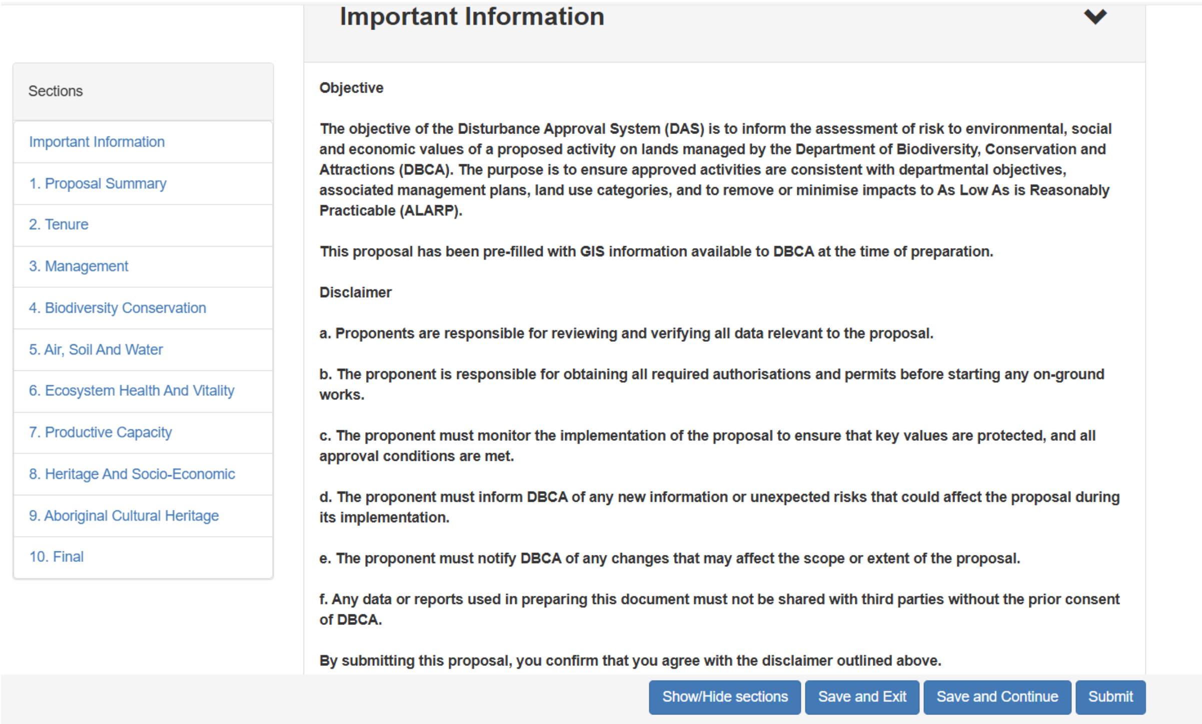
If you've previously started and saved a proposal, then return to it after several weeks or months, we strongly recommend refreshing the GIS data before continuing.

To do this, select the “Refresh/Renew GIS Data Only” option. This will update the GIS-intersected questions with the latest data while preserving all your existing responses.



This step is important because the underlying spatial data is regularly updated, and changes may have occurred since you last accessed the proposal.

Completing a proposal



- User can save the proposal and return to the dashboard page by clicking Save and Exit. This is useful when the user wants to continue working on the proposal at a later time.
- User can save the proposal and continue editing by clicking Save and Continue
- User can submit the proposal by clicking Submit

- When the user tries to submit the proposal while some mandatory questions have not been answered, the system shows an error at the top of the page.

Please answer the following mandatory question(s):
- 1.0 Proposal title
- 1.1 Proposal purpose and description
- 1.7 Are these planned dates
- 2.1 Is the proposal compatible with the purpose of the land tenure?

- After successful submission, the user is shown a confirmation page stating the successful submission of the proposal.

- An email is sent to the user confirming the successful lodgement of the proposal.
- **Please note: "This notification is to confirm your proposal has been submitted for assessment. It is NOT AN APPROVAL. Your disturbance activity cannot commence until you have received the Approval letter."**

Proposals Tab

- Access the dashboard by selecting the Proposals option from the top navigation menu.
- In the Proposals section, you'll find all proposals available to you, along with their current status clearly displayed.

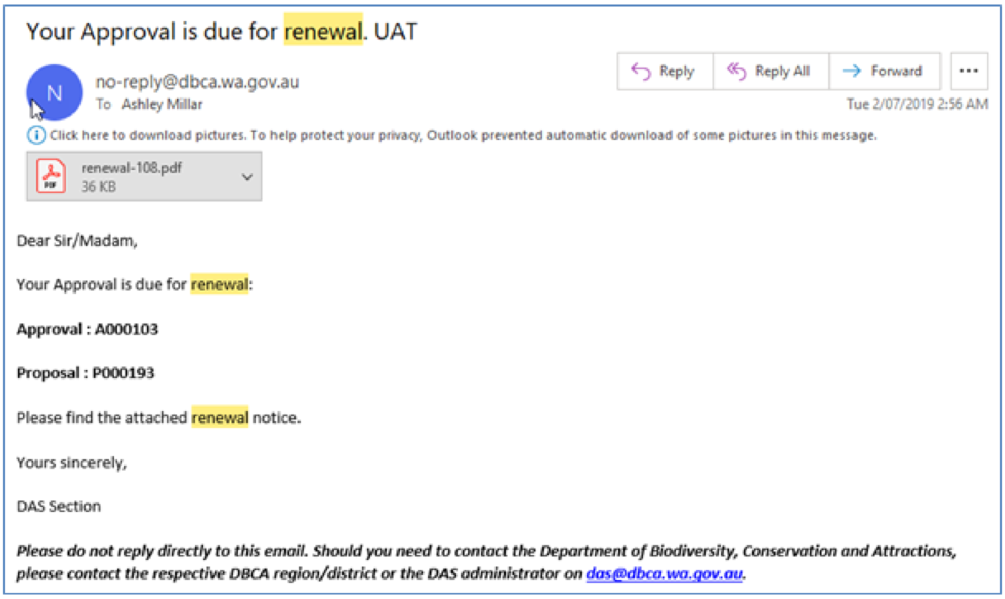
Renewing DAS proposals

Renewals

- The user can renew an existing approval by submitting a renewal proposal
- The approval holder will be notified by email when the approval is up for renewal
- The user can submit a renewal proposal after the renewal email notification has been issued and before the approval expiry date

Renewal Notification

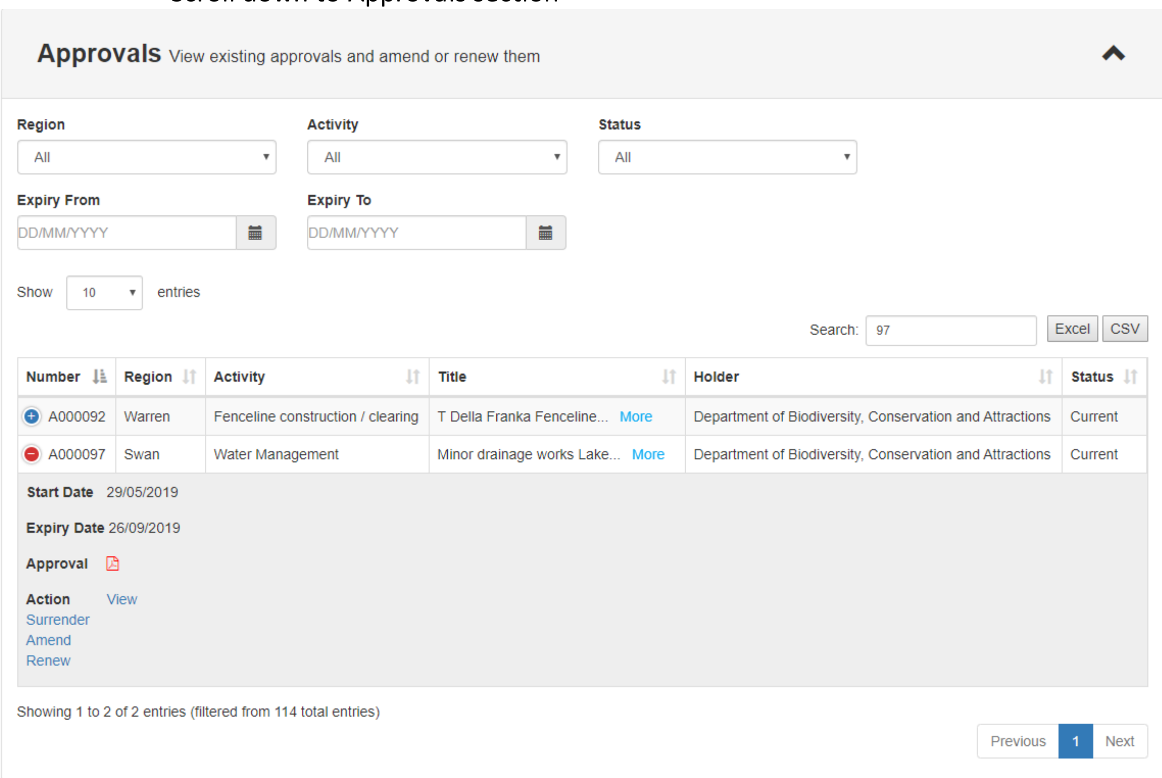
- An email notification is sent to the approval holder (proponent) 30 days prior to the approval expiry date.



- The user must submit the renewal proposal within the 30-day period (i.e. between the renewal email notification and the approval expiry date)
- The user cannot renew a proposal more than 30 days prior to the expiry date
- If the proposal does not need to be renewed, ignore renewal email notifications

Submit a Renewal Proposal

- Navigate to the external DAS site das.dbca.wa.gov.au
- Scroll down to Approvals section



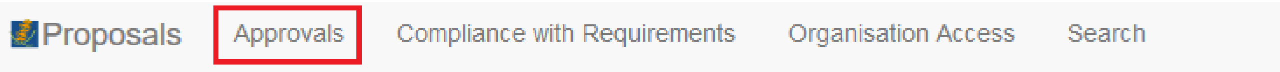
- Search for correct approval using e.g. region, title, approval number etc.
- Click for the applicable approval
- Click Renew to start a renewal application. Note, the renewal proposal will be prefilled with the details of the original application and can be edited by the user

- The proponent updates the proposal as necessary and submits renewal proposal

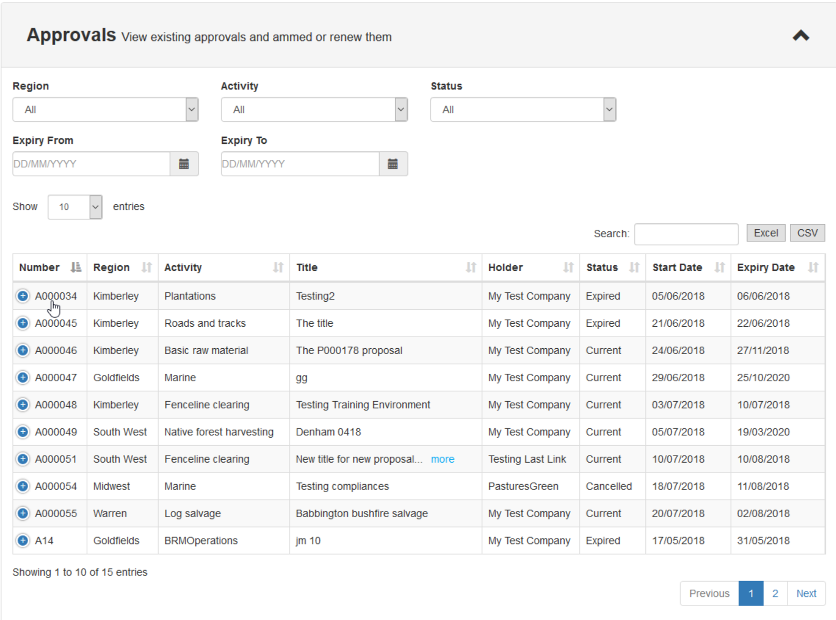
Approvals Tab

View all approvals

- Navigate to the Approvals dashboard page via the Approvals menu item.



- The approvals table is shown



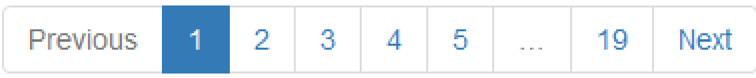
Number	Region	Activity	Title	Holder	Status	Start Date	Expiry Date
A000034	Kimberley	Plantations	Testing2	My Test Company	Expired	05/06/2018	06/06/2018
A000045	Kimberley	Roads and tracks	The title	My Test Company	Expired	21/06/2018	22/06/2018
A000046	Kimberley	Basic raw material	The P000178 proposal	My Test Company	Current	24/06/2018	27/11/2018
A000047	Goldfields	Marine	gg	My Test Company	Current	29/06/2018	25/10/2020
A000048	Kimberley	Fenceline clearing	Testing Training Environment	My Test Company	Current	03/07/2018	10/07/2018
A000049	South West	Native forest harvesting	Denham 0418	My Test Company	Current	05/07/2018	19/03/2020
A000051	South West	Fenceline clearing	New title for new proposal... more	Testing Last Link	Current	10/07/2018	10/08/2018
A000054	Midwest	Marine	Testing compliances	PasturesGreen	Cancelled	18/07/2018	11/08/2018
A000055	Warren	Log salvage	Babbington bushfire salvage	My Test Company	Current	20/07/2018	02/08/2018
A14	Goldfields	BRMOperations	jm 10	My Test Company	Expired	17/05/2018	31/05/2018

How to manage an approval

The user can change how the approvals are displayed in the table:

- Select how many rows are shown per page

- Navigate through the table by clicking the page numbers

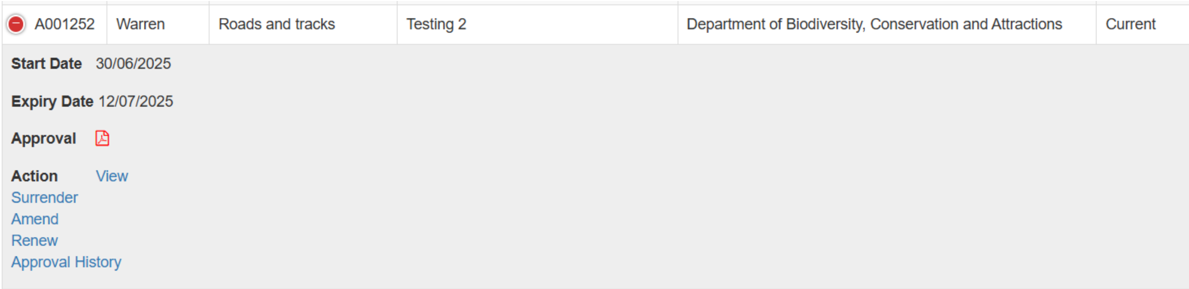


- Filter the shown approvals by using the filter selections
  - Filter per applicable region via the Region filter field
  - Filter per activity via the Activity filter field
  - Filter per approval status via the Status filter field
  - Filter per expiry date via the Expiry From date and/or Expiry To date filter fields

- Search in the table via the Search field

- Sort the rows in the table by clicking the column header
    - Click the column header a second time to reverse the sorting
- Shift click a different column header to add a second level sorting within the sorting on the first column.

Amend an approval



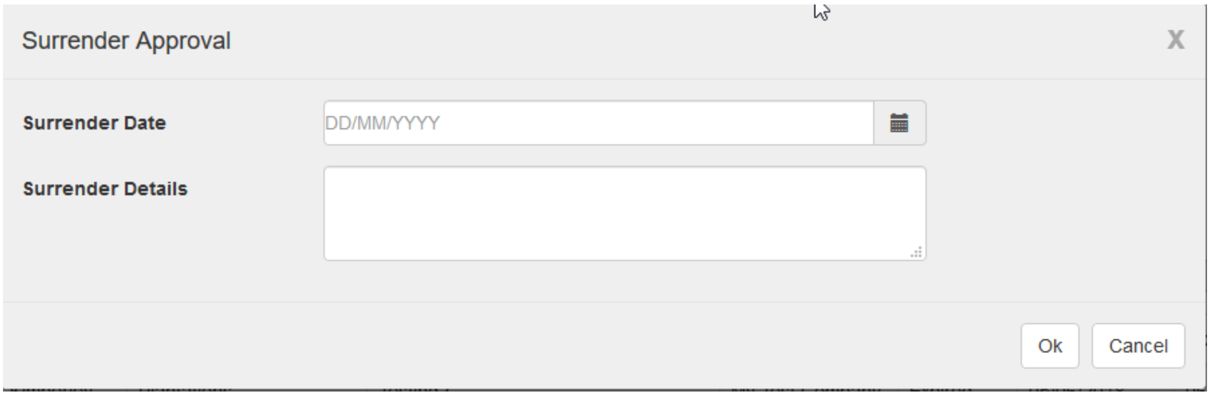
- The user can amend an existing approval by lodging an amendment application
    - Click for the applicable approval
    - Click Amend to start an amendment application. Note, the amendment application will be prefilled with the details of the original application but can be edited by the user
    - Be aware that you can add in extra information/documents **BUT you will not be able to change anything that was in the original proposal.**

Renew an Approval

- The user can renew an existing approval by lodging a renewal application
    - The approval holder will be notified by email when the approval is up for renewal
    - Click for the applicable approval
    - Click Renew to start a renewal application. Note, the renewal application will be prefilled with the details of the original application but can be edited by the user. **You will not be able to change anything that was originally in the proposal only add extra information/documents.**

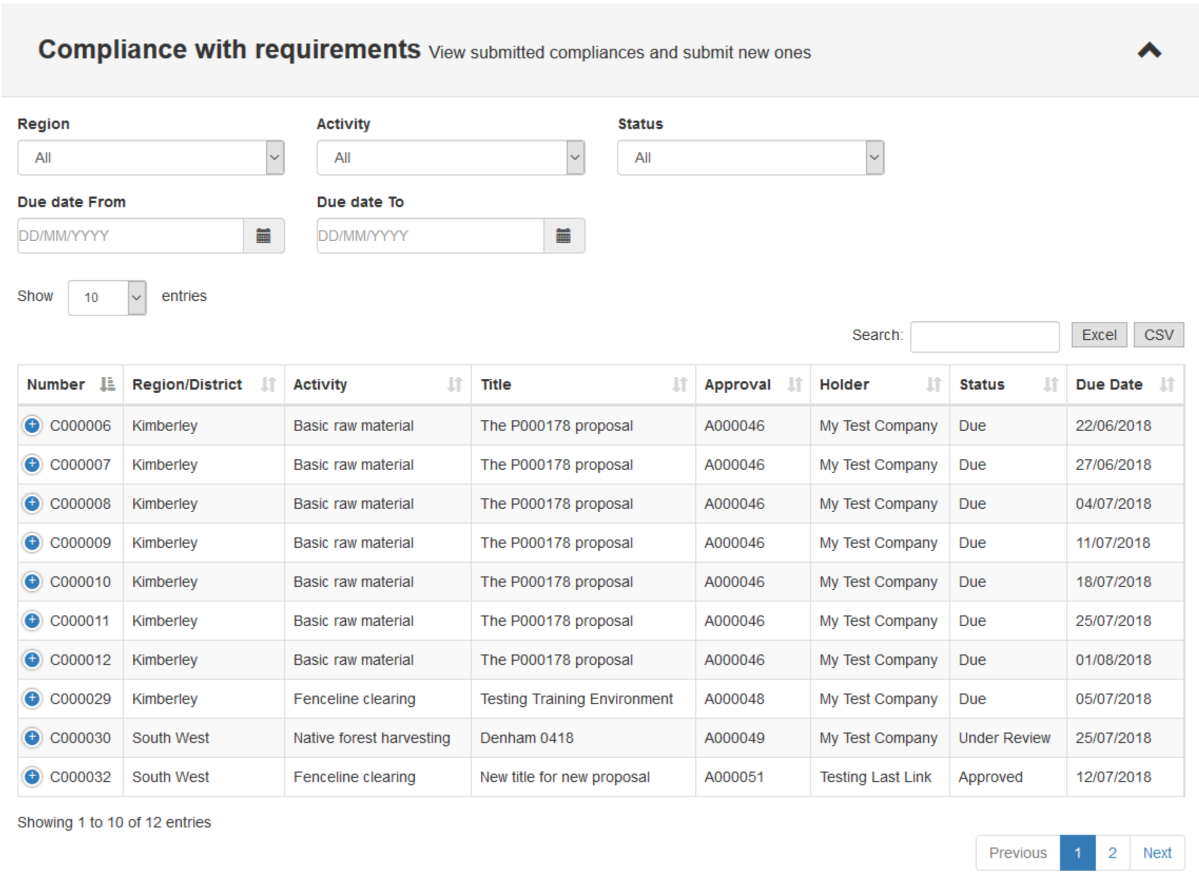
Surrender an Approval

- The user can surrender an existing approval
    - Click for the applicable approval
    - Click Surrender to surrender the approval
    - The user can select the date as per when to surrender the approval and provide additional details.



Compliance with Requirements

- Access the dashboard by selecting the Compliance with Requirements option from the top navigation menu.
- Scroll down to the Compliance with Requirements section will include all compliances with requirements that can be accessed by the user.



Number	Region/District	Activity	Title	Approval	Holder	Status	Due Date
C000006	Kimberley	Basic raw material	The P000178 proposal	A000046	My Test Company	Due	22/06/2018
C000007	Kimberley	Basic raw material	The P000178 proposal	A000046	My Test Company	Due	27/06/2018
C000008	Kimberley	Basic raw material	The P000178 proposal	A000046	My Test Company	Due	04/07/2018
C000009	Kimberley	Basic raw material	The P000178 proposal	A000046	My Test Company	Due	11/07/2018
C000010	Kimberley	Basic raw material	The P000178 proposal	A000046	My Test Company	Due	18/07/2018
C000011	Kimberley	Basic raw material	The P000178 proposal	A000046	My Test Company	Due	25/07/2018
C000012	Kimberley	Basic raw material	The P000178 proposal	A000046	My Test Company	Due	01/08/2018
C000029	Kimberley	Fenceline clearing	Testing Training Environment	A000048	My Test Company	Due	05/07/2018
C000030	South West	Native forest harvesting	Denham 0418	A000049	My Test Company	Under Review	25/07/2018
C000032	South West	Fenceline clearing	New title for new proposal	A000051	Testing Last Link	Approved	12/07/2018

Showing 1 to 10 of 12 entries

Previous 1 2 Next

The user can change how the compliances with requirements are displayed in the table:

- Select how many rows are shown per page

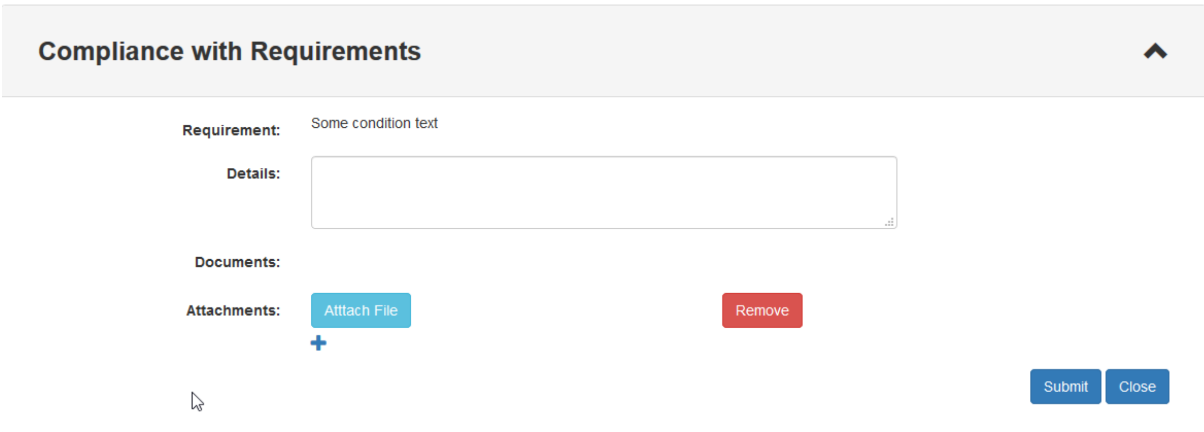
- Navigate through the table by clicking the page numbers

- Filter the shown compliances with requirements by using the filter selections
    - Filter per applicable region via the Region filter field
    - Filter per activity via the Activity filter field
    - Filter per status via the Status filter field
    - Filter per due date via the Due date From and/or Due date to filter fields
- Search in the table via the Search field

- Sort the rows in the table by clicking the column header
    - Click the column header a second time to reverse the sorting
- Shift click a different column header to add a second level sorting within the sorting on the first column

Lodge a Compliance with Requirements

- Any compliance with the status Due can be submitted to the Department (once the user has complied with the stated requirement)
- Click for the applicable compliance with requirement
- Click Submit to open the compliance



- Provide any details, upload any document, and submit the compliance with requirement
- The user is shown a confirmation of successful lodgement of the compliance with requirement.

Your Compliance with requirements is due for submission. DEV

NR no-reply@dbca.wa.gov.au
To Lisa Smith

Reply | Reply All | Forward

Mon 7/07/2025 2:00 AM

Dear Proponent,

Your Compliance with requirements C001994 is due for submission.

Region: Warren
District: Donnelly
Approval No: A001270
Proposal No: P002657
Title: Lindsay 27
Activity: Ecological Thinning
Compliance No: C001994 - Phytophthora cinnamomi Occurrence Map remains valid and is rechecked annually. The Phytophthora Dieback Management Plan and Map are updated accordingly.

Note:

- Failure to submit this compliance requirement prior to the expiry date may result in your Approval being suspended.

You can access this Compliance using the following link:

Access Compliance

Yours sincerely,

DAS Section

Please do not reply directly to this email. For DAS enquiries, please contact the relevant Department of Biodiversity,

Your Compliance with requirements has been submitted. UAT

NR no-reply@dbca.wa.gov.au
To Tania Read

Reply | Reply All | Forward

Tue 17/06/2025 12:19 PM

Dear Proponent,

Your Compliance C000047 has been submitted.

Region: Warren
District: Donnelly
Approval No: A000043
Proposal No: P000095
Title: Bolbelup - MAF - Fire break maintenance
Activity: Fire management
Assessor: Tania Read
Compliance No: C000047 - In season flora survey required on internal track, no ground disturbance to occur on this track until survey completed and ATT approved if required.

Submitter: Tania Read
Lodgement date: 17 Jun 2025, 12:18 p.m.

Note:

- Your submission will be provided to an assessor to assess compliance.
- You will be notified by email once your submission has been reviewed and approved, or if further action is required.

Frequently Asked Questions

Shapefile Questions

What is a 1 multipart polygon of no more than 20 parts?

A 1 multipart polygon is a type of geometry used in GIS that represents a merged single GIS feature made up of multiple polygons. DAS supports up to 20 sections within one polygon and only accepts polygons in shapefile format—lines and points are not supported.

How do I upload a Shapefile?

Once you have created a new proposal and entered the Disturbance type, Region, district, activity type and accepted the proposal on behalf of your organisation, you will be prompted to upload a shapefile.

- Upload a shapefile identifying the maximum area affected by the proposal, including all associated activities.
- The shapefile can be made up of one multi-part polygon.
- It is preferable that the Shapefile is in GDA94 latitude/longitude only.
- Max file size is 10MB.
- Valid shapefile must include 4 files, in .dbf .prj .shp and .shx format.
- You must validate the shapefile and prefill the proposal before proceeding.

Please note that you will need to select the four required shapefile files individually (.dbf, .prj, .shp and .shx).

Can I upload a polygon in a different file format (e.g., .kml, GeoJSON)?

No, DAS only accepts files in **shapefile format**. Other formats, such as KML, are **not supported**.
To ensure your upload is valid, your shapefile must include the following four components:

- .shp — the main geometry file
- .shx — the shape index format
- .dbf — the attribute data file
- .prj — the projection information file

All **four files must be included** for the upload to be successfully validated.

Do I have to upload a shapefile to start?

Yes. All proposal fields will remain **read-only** until you have **uploaded**, **validated**, and **prefilled** the proposal. This step is required to begin editing and completing your proposal.

Why can't I upload my shapefile?

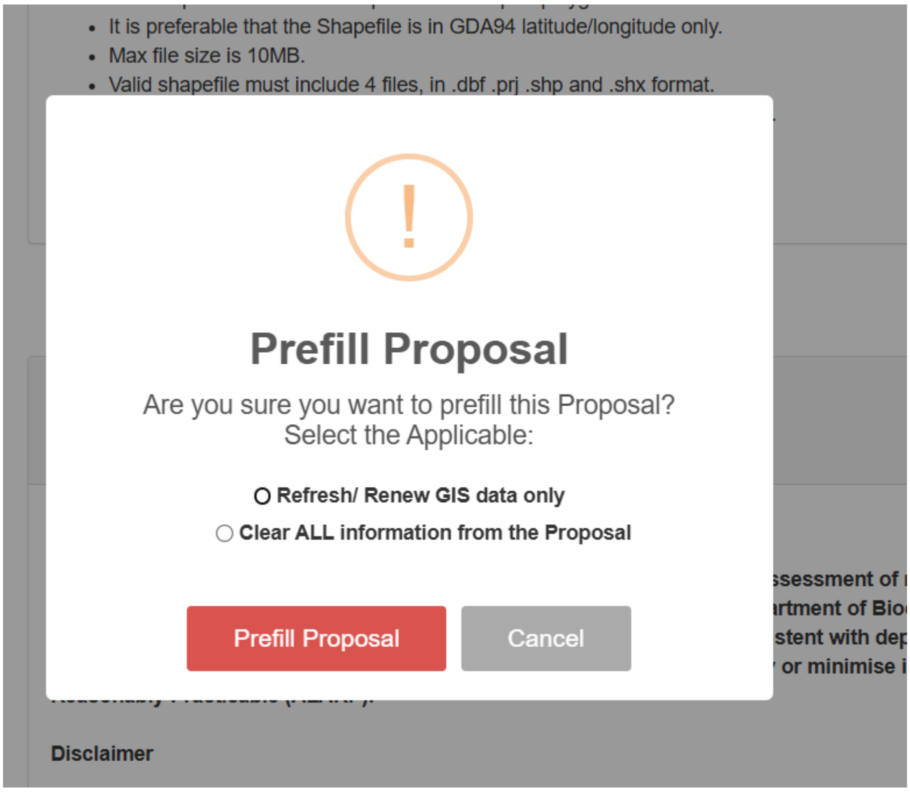
There are several possible reasons why your shapefile upload may fail:

1. **More than one polygon** – Only a single multipart polygon is accepted.
2. **More than 20 parts** – The multipart polygon must not exceed 20 sections.
3. **Corrupt shapefile** – The file may be damaged or incomplete.
4. **File size exceeds 10MB** – Ensure your shapefile is under the size limit.
5. **Incorrect geometry type** – Only polygon shapefiles are accepted; lines and points are not supported.
6. **Unsupported projection** – While other projections are accepted, **GDA94** is preferred for compatibility.
7. **Polygon not saved from editing mode** – If the polygon is still in editing mode and hasn't been saved in your GIS project, the system may not recognise the shapefile.
8.

Can I change the shapefile once I have started my proposal?

Yes, you can update your shapefile at any time during the proposal process. However, please note the following:

- After updating your shapefile, you must run **Prefill** again to refresh the spatial data.
- You will be given two options:



- **Refresh/Renew**:
  This option updates only the prefilled questions based on the new spatial data. Any information you've entered in the non-prefilled questions will remain unchanged.
- **ClearAll**:
  This option refreshes both the prefilled questions and clears all your previous answers to the non-prefilled questions. You will need to start your proposal from the beginning.

- If your updated shapefile covers a different location or a larger area, the spatial answers may change, as the new area might intersect with different corporate attributes.

Prefill Questions

What does 'Prefill' mean?

Prefill refers to the process where your uploaded polygon automatically intersects with available corporate GIS layers. Based on these spatial intersections, **relevant questions are automatically answered** using the associated spatial data—where applicable.

How long will it take to prefill my proposal?

The time it takes to prefill your proposal depends on several factors:

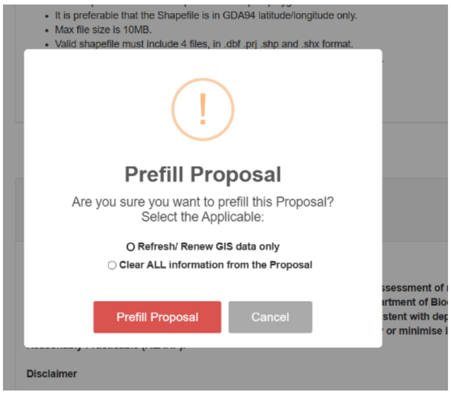
1. **Size of your shapefile** – Larger files take longer to process.
2. **Number of GIS layers intersected** – The more corporate GIS layers your shapefile overlaps with; the more attributes need to be processed.
3. **Queue position** – If other proposals are ahead of yours, it may take longer.

If you're first in the queue, prefilling usually takes 5 to 20 minutes. If there's a backlog, it may take longer. If it takes more than 60 minutes, contact the DAS Coordinator on das@dbca.wa.gov.au to check the status.

When is the best time to start to prefill a proposal.

Anytime. Just be aware that you will be placed in a queue while your proposal is being prefilled. You do not need to keep your proposal open while you wait. You can close it and return it later – once Prefill is complete, you will receive a notification via your registered email.

TIP: We have found that sometimes it is best to prefill your proposal prior to leaving work and letting it run overnight so it is ready for you when you get back to work. Also note that we advise NOT to prefill on Sundays due to the system updating GIS data.

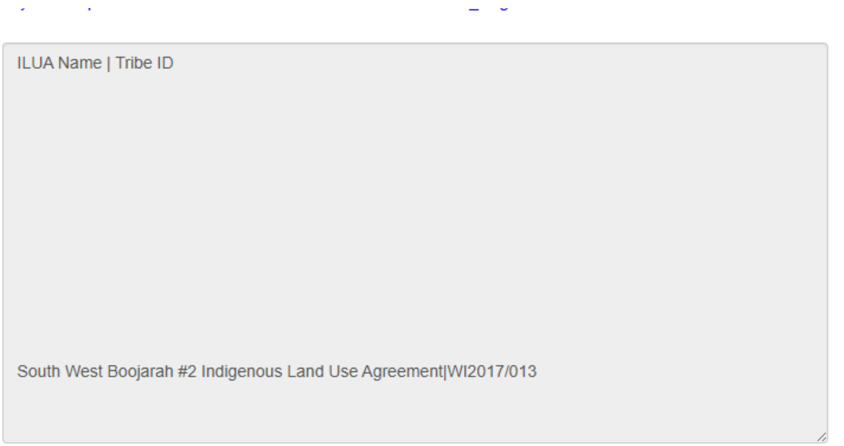


If you want to only refresh certain questions, we've designed the system so that **prefilled questions can be refreshed individually** if needed. This means you can update only the parts of the proposal that rely on time-sensitive spatial data, without having to redo everything. Select the Refresh option at the end of the question as per the example below.

GIS data appears to be disconnected from the response fields. What causes this?

For certain questions, the shapefile entered into the proposal may intersect with multiple GIS layers. In some cases, the intersection occurs with a layer further down the list, which can result in a visible gap between the GIS displayed in the text box and the corresponding response.

See example below



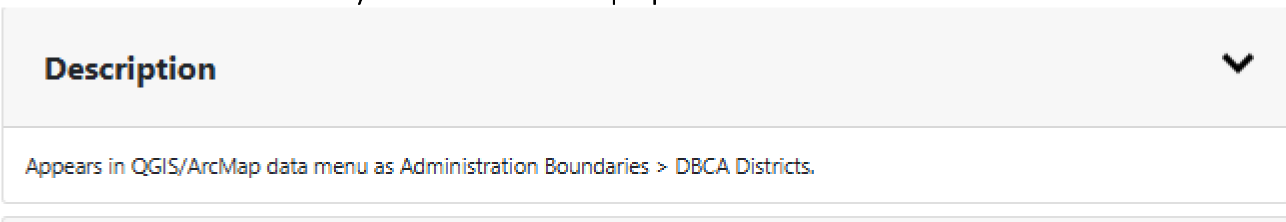
To view the full response, we recommend expanding the text box by dragging it downward.

GIS Data

Where does the GIS data come from?

The data comes from the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions corporate database Kaartdijin Boodja (KB).

- **For DBCA staff**: Staff can refer to KB to identify how the intersected layer is named in **QGIS** and/or **ArcMap**. KB typically provides descriptions of each layer, including any limitations and the date of the most recent update. It is recommended that staff familiarise themselves with the layers relevant to their proposal.



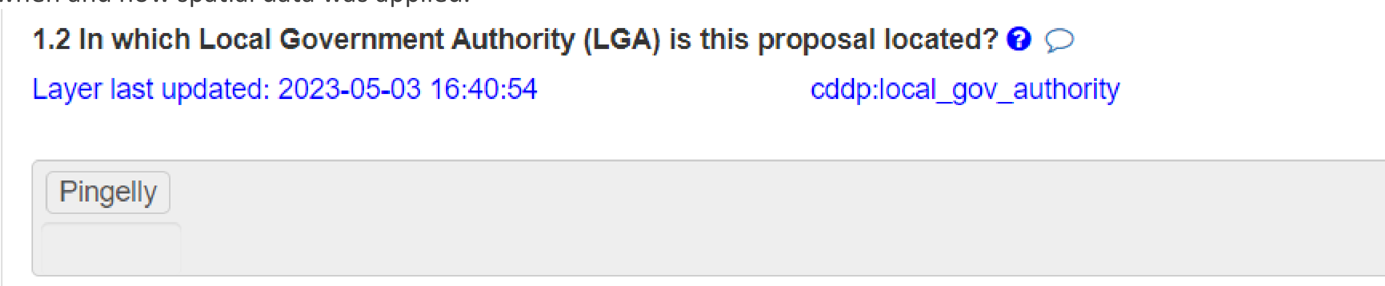
- **For non-DBCA staff**: non-staff users can access relevant GIS data via Data WA by searching for the layer name that was intersected with their proposal. However, note that not all layers used in DAS are publicly, and some may appear under **a different** name on Data WA. Availability is subject to data sharing agreements and the sensitivity of the information.
-

GIS Data Usage and Currency

GIS data is updated regularly or as needed. Each data layer is maintained by its respective custodian, who is responsible for ensuring updates occur at appropriate intervals—these intervals may vary between layers.

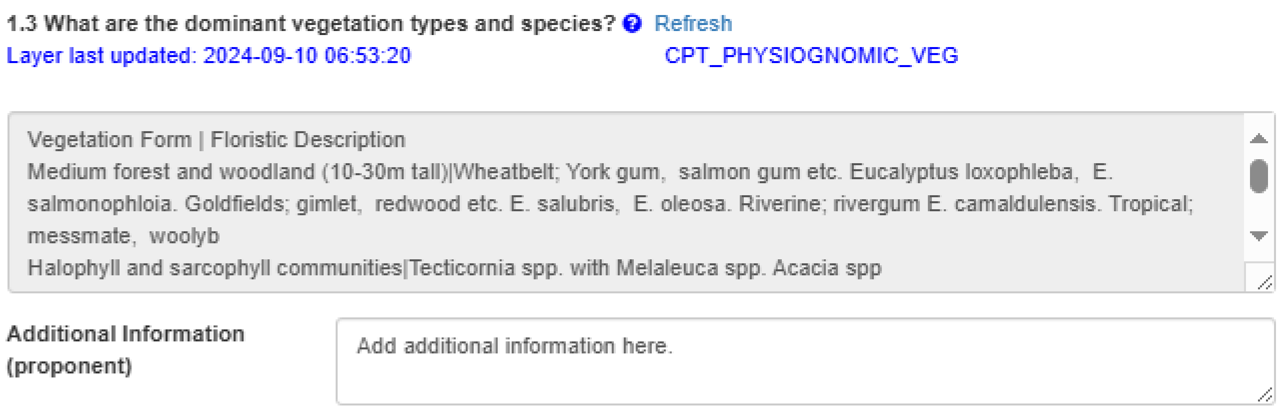
TIP: We strongly recommend that you re-prefill your proposal prior to submission to ensure that all the data is current.

For each prefilled question, the associated GIS layer is displayed. This indicates which spatial dataset was used to intersect with your shapefile to generate the response. It also shows the date when that layer was last used to update the proposal. This information helps you verify the source and timeliness of the spatial data used in your proposal and supports auditing by providing a transparent record of when and how spatial data was applied.



Why am I unable to add additional information in the text box area where spatial information was prefilled?

If spatial information is pre-filled and displayed in the response, the associated text box will be **read-only**. If you have additional details to provide, please enter them in the ‘Additional Information’ box.


1.3 What are the dominant vegetation types and species? Refresh
Layer last updated: 2024-09-10 06:53:20 CPT_PHYSIOGNOMIC_VEG

Vegetation Form | Floristic Description
Medium forest and woodland (10-30m tall)|Wheatbelt; York gum, salmon gum etc. Eucalyptus loxophleba, E. salmonophloia. Goldfields; gimlet, redwood etc. E. salubris, E. oleosa. Riverine; rivergum E. camaldulensis. Tropical; messmate, woolyb
Halophyll and sarcophyll communities|Tecticornia spp. with Melaleuca spp. Acacia spp

Additional Information (proponent)
Add additional information here.

If there is no Additional Information (proponent) box attached, and you believe one is needed, please notify the DAS team to rectify future proposals.

Why am I unable to select or change checkboxes in sections where spatial information has automatically answered the question?

Note: Checkboxes that are automatically selected based on spatial data are **read-only** and cannot be manually changed.
If you believe additional checkboxes should have been selected, please provide that information in the **'Additional Details'** box.
If the 'Additional Details (proponents)' box is not available, include the relevant information in another appropriate section of the proposal. Be sure your response clearly addresses the question, and if you believe one is needed, please notify the DAS team to rectify future proposals.
See example below:

Why does it say an intersection happened, but the checkbox isn't ticked? Why is no data showing in the details box after a question intersects?

Occasionally, the system might show that an intersection occurred, but it doesn't behave as expected—like not ticking the checkbox or displaying any data in the details box. This usually happens during background updates, especially on Sundays when certain GIS layers are refreshed. Since different layers update on their varying schedules, this may also affect the availability and accuracy of intersection results.

Quick fixes:

- **Refresh a single question**: Click on the refresh icon next to the question to run a prefill for that specific item only.
- **Run a full prefill**: Perform a full prefill of the proposal, ensuring that only the **Refresh/Renew GIS** data only option is selected.
- **Still not working**: If neither of these steps resolve the issue, please contact the DAS team for further assistance.

See example below:

Email responses for Troubleshooting GIS Shapefiles

Error Message

['Cannot upload a Shapefile - no features found in shapefile']

A shapefile with no features means that the file exists and may contain the necessary structure (like attribute fields and spatial reference information), but it doesn't contain any actual geographic data—no points, lines, or polygons.

Here's a breakdown of what that could imply:

A shapefile typically includes:

- Geometry: The spatial features, which includes polygon, polyline and point (e.g., boundaries, roads locations).
- Attributes: Data associated with each feature (e.g., name, ID, type).
- Metadata: Coordinate system and other structural info.

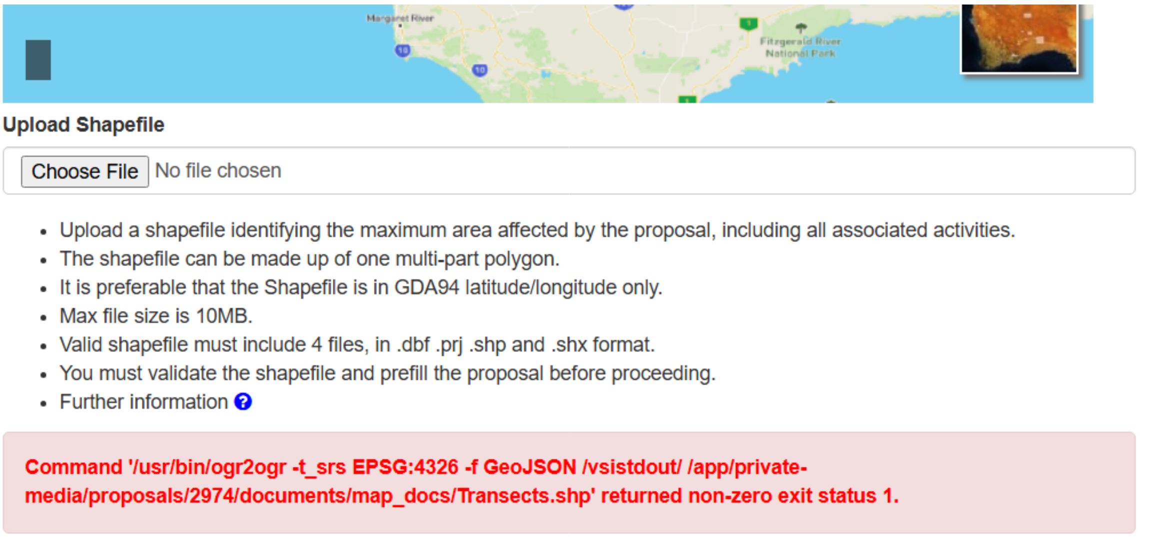
What "No Features" Means

- The file is empty—no rows in the attribute table.
- There are no spatial elements to display on a map.
- It might be a placeholder or a result of a failed data export or filter.

Possible Causes

- Data was filtered out during processing.
- Exported from a GIS tool with no selected features.
- Corruption or error during creation.
- Trying to upload an image as a shape.

Error Message



The Disturbance Approval System (DAS) is expecting a **polygon** shapefile. But the shapefile that is provided is a polyline, which is a different type of geometry.

Here's the difference:

Polygon: A closed shape with an area (like a boundary or zone).

Multi-part polygon: A single polygon that may consist of multiple disconnected parts but is treated as one feature.

Polyline: A line or series of connected lines that do not enclose an area.

What you need to do:

- Convert your polyline shapefile into a polygon shapefile, if the lines are meant to represent boundaries.
- Ensure it's a single multi-part polygon, not multiple separate polygons.

How to buffer.

If you're working in ArcGIS or QGIS and need to represent linear infrastructure (such as roads or tracks) as polygons, one effective method is to use the Buffer tool.

The Buffer tool allows you to create a polygon around a linear feature. For example, if your road is approximately 6 metres wide, you can buffer the line by 3 metres on each side (or adjust the distance as needed) to represent the full disturbance area. This will generate a polygon that reflects both the footprint of the infrastructure and the area of environmental impact.

Error Message

"Geometry has Z dimension, but column does not".

Please note that the Disturbance Approval System (DAS) only work with 2D data and so only accepts coordinates with X and Y values; Z (elevation) is not supported.

The Z dimension in geometry refers to the third coordinate in a 3D space — typically representing elevation, height, or depth.

- X: Horizontal position (east-west)
- Y: Vertical position (north-south)
- Z: Height or depth (up-down)

So,

2D space is written as (X, Y) — like a flat map.

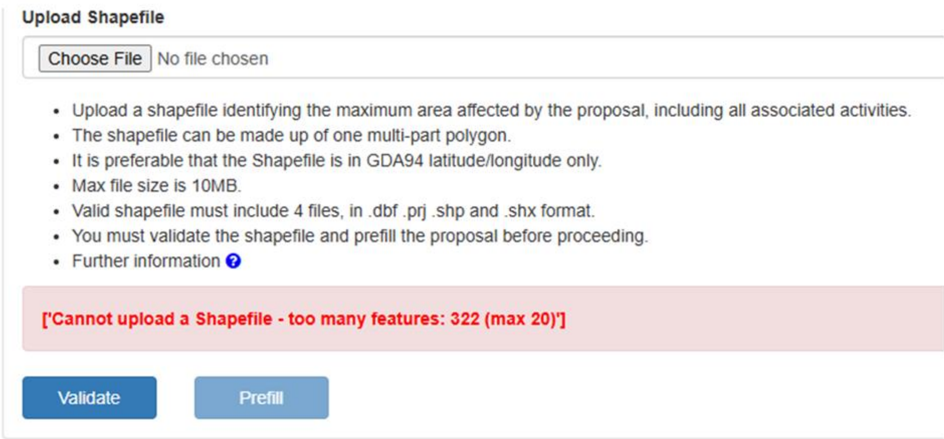
3D space is written as (X, Y, Z) — like a terrain model or a 3D object.

- Geometry has Z dimension: This means the geometry includes a third coordinate — usually representing elevation or depth. So instead of just (x, y), the geometry is (x, y, z).
- The column you're trying to store or compare this geometry with expects only 2D data — just (x, y), without the z-coordinate.

Common Scenarios

- You might be trying to assign a 3D geometry to a GeoDataFrame that expects 2D geometries.
- You're performing operations between geometries of different dimensions (e.g., intersecting a 3D geometry with a 2D one).
- You're inserting 3D geometries into a spatial column that only supports 2D.

Error Message



It looks like your shapefile contains 322 features, but the system you're uploading to only allows a maximum of 20. To fix this, you'll need to reduce the number of features in your shapefile. Here are a few ways to do that:

- Filter by Attribute: Use GIS software like QGIS or ArcGIS to select only the features you need (e.g., based on a specific attribute or category), then export those selected features to a new shapefile.

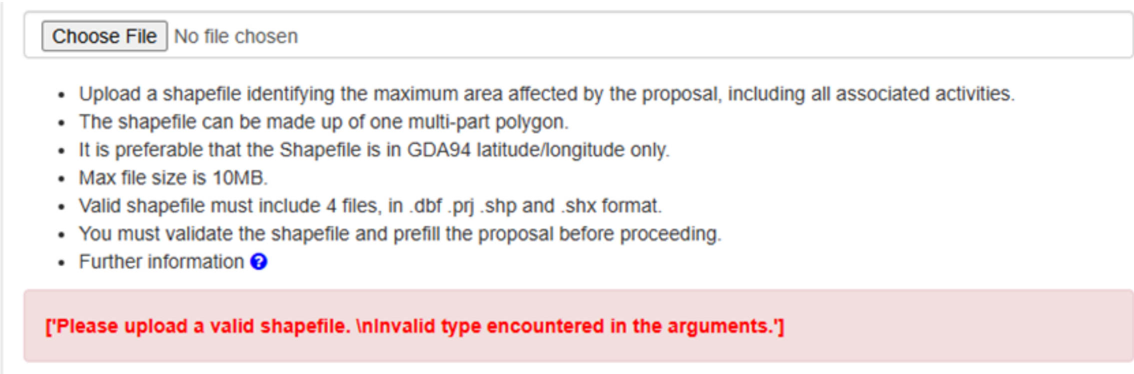
- Manual Selection: If you only need a small sample, manually select 20 features and export them.

- Spatial Filtering: Use a spatial query to select features within a certain area (e.g., a bounding box or region of interest).

- Merge Features: If appropriate, you can dissolve or merge features to reduce the total count.

- Split the File: If you need all features eventually, consider splitting the shapefile into multiple files, each with 20 or fewer features.

- This is probably the best option - Upload the original disturbance area boundary before breaking it into smaller sections.



The error message you're seeing likely indicates that the shapefile was either corrupted or not properly formatted during the merge process or you are missing a component of the shapefile.

Ensure the merged shapefile includes all required components:
.shp - geometry
.shx - index
.dbf -attributes
.prj - project

What you need to do.

- Re-save the layer: Load the shapefile, then right-click → Export → Save Features As → Shapefile. This often fixes formatting issues.
- Check attribute table: Look for null values, strange characters, or mismatched field types.