Resilient Communities Webinar

January 15, 2020

Quick Webinar Items

Thank you for joining us!

- All phone lines are muted; please type in your questions into the Questions box in the webinar controls on the right side of your screen.

- We'll answer questions during several questions breaks in the presentation, but you can type them in any time. If you are having technical difficulties, please let us know immediately.

Quick Webinar Items

- Contact information is listed on the last slide. Handouts, including today's presentation are available to download from the Handouts tab on the right.

- **The Webinar is being recorded and we will post a copy of these slides and the recording on the NFWF website at www.nfwf.org/resilientcommunities**

Today's Agenda

I. Program Details

- Program Overview
- Program Priorities

II. Submitting a Competitive Proposal

- Guidelines
- Mapping, Budget and Metrics Guidance

III. Proposal Narrative

IV. Tips and Timeline

Program Overview

Nationwide grant program from NFWF and Wells Fargo helping communities with:
- Adapting to sea level rise
- Sustaining appropriate water quantity and quality
- Enhancing forest conservation
- Community capacity building
- Utilizing nature-based infrastructure

The program places special emphasis on inclusion and helping traditionally underserved, low- and moderate-income communities build capacity.

Grant Categories: Adaptation through Conservation Grants

Award Range: $200,000-$500,000

Period of Performance: up to 2 years

Priorities:

Restore wetlands, coastal habitats and other ecosystems to help communities address floods, storm events and sea level-rise	Conserve critical land, create green infrastructure and protect water resources to address water quantity issues such as floods and droughts	Forest conservation, fuels management, habitat restoration and conservation easements for healthy forest ecosystems
Project Types: • Dune Habitat Restoration • Wetland Restoration • Bird and Wildlife Habitat Restoration • Living Shorelines • Aquatic Migration Connection	Project Types: • Cover Crops & Permaculture • Nutrient Management • Green Infrastructure and Urban Tree Canopy • Invasive Species Management • Stream Buffer Enhancements	Project Types: • Forest Restoration • Forest Management • Habitat Restoration • Conservation Easements • Fuels Management

Note: projects are not tied to regional geographies

Grant Categories: Community Capacity Grants

Award Range: $200,000-$500,000
Period of Performance: up to 2 years
Geography: Nationwide

- Projects should address multiple cities
- Special consideration is given to projects that measurably benefit low-to-moderate income neighborhoods, advance social cohesion address multiple cities nationwide.
- Projects addressing only one city/community will not be considered for funding.

Grant Categories: Community Capacity Grants

Support organizations that build capacity to help cities plan for enhanced resilience in vulnerable areas such as:

- Engaging community partnerships in enhanced preparedness and resilience
- Improving community or neighborhood resilience
- Encouraging small business preparedness and resilience

Proposals should outline how best practices from the cities will be shared with a nationwide audience

Grant Categories: Affordable Housing and Small Business Adaptation Grants

Award Range: $100,000-$500,000
Period of Performance: up to 2 years
Geography: Nationwide

Proposals may address a single city or community

- Special consideration is given to projects that benefit low- to-moderate income neighborhoods including affordable housing areas and small business districts
- Proposals should include information on community demographics to demonstrate impact

Grant Categories: Affordable Housing and Small Business Adaptation Grants

Projects should:
- Focus on adaptation strategies for lower income neighborhoods including affordable housing areas and small business districts
- Improve community resilience through enhanced natural and nature-based infrastructure
- Directly engage the local community in outreach and education on the benefits of nature-based adaptation and preparedness

Project types:
- Increasing tree canopies, pocket parks, community green spaces, storm water bioretention, green schoolyards and/or fire resistant landscaping.
- Innovative solutions will be prioritized!

Process Overview

Applicants submit a pre-proposal through NFWF's Easygrants system by February 18, 2020 11:59pm
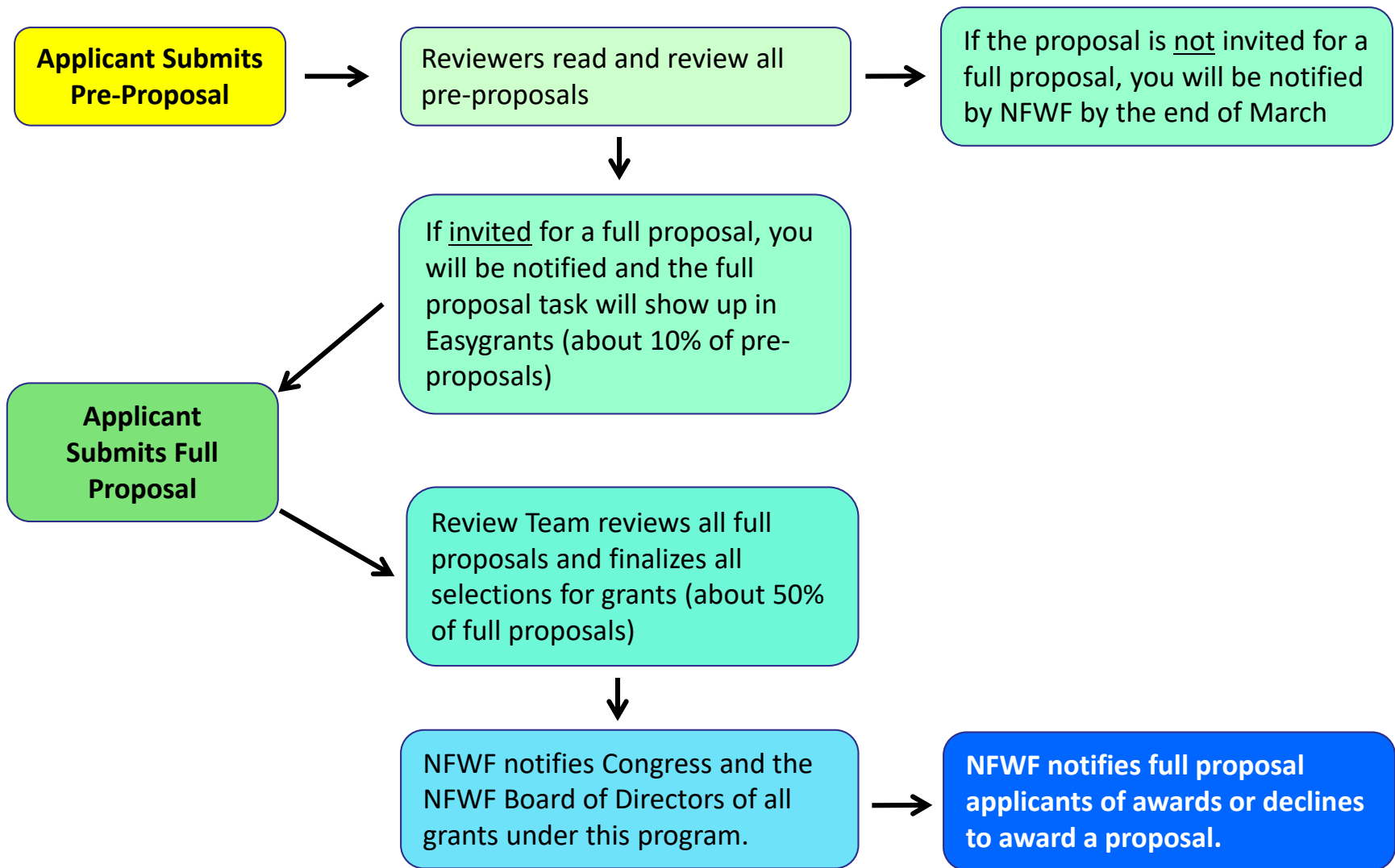
Pre-proposals will be reviewed and full proposals invited by March 24, 2020

If invited, Full Proposals must be submitted by April 28, 2020

Application Process

| Applicant Submits Pre-Proposal | → | Reviewers read and review all pre-proposals | → | If the proposal is not invited for a full proposal, you will be notified by NFWF by the end of March |

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If invited for a full proposal, you will be notified and the full proposal task will show up in Easygrants (about 10% of pre-proposals)

Applicant Submits Full Proposal

Review Team reviews all full proposals and finalizes all selections for grants (about 50% of full proposals)

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| NFWF notifies Congress and the NFWF Board of Directors of all grants under this program. | → | NFWF notifies full proposal applicants of awards or declines to award a proposal. |

Questions?

Program Guidelines

- **Grant requests must be for $100,000 - $500,000**

- **Projects should be completed in 1-2 years and start in fall 2020.**

- **Indirect Costs:**
    - Applicants with a **Federally-approved** negotiated indirect cost rate agreement may take their federally approved rate
    - All other applicants may take **10% de minimus rate**
    - More information is at http://www.nfwf.org/whatwedo/grants/applicants/Pages/indirect-policy.aspx

Program Guidelines

Eligibility

- Eligible applicants include non-profit 501(c) organizations, local governments, federally recognized tribes and state agencies

- Federal agencies, educational institutions and for-profit corporations make great partners but should not be applicants

Match

- Minimum 1:1 match of cash or in-kind goods and services is highly recommended

- Match may be federal or non-federal

Restrictions

- No political advocacy, fundraising, lobbying, terrorism or litigation

- Not to implement legal requirements (mitigation, permit conditions, etc.)

NFWF

Program Guidelines

Budget
- Pre-Proposals don't require a budget, but the award request is required in the project information page
- Pre-Proposal request amounts should be consistent from the pre-proposal to the full proposal

Project Map
- No requirement but may be an optional upload

Metrics/Outcomes
- Include specific outcomes in the narrative that align with the metrics list in the RFP

Project Title, Description and Abstract

- **Project Title**
  - Short, descriptive name that distinguishes your project
  - Include the state abbreviation at the end of the title
  - Don't call your project "Five Star & Urban Waters Project"
  - Example: "Whatcom Stream Stewards Program: Engaging Community in Restoration, Education and Stewardship (WA)"

- **Project Description**
  - Two sentence description
  - First sentence: state the main activity/method being used to address a specific species/habitat and location
  - Second sentence: expected outcome and main metrics that will be completed from the investment and relevance to conservation
  - Example: Restore 15 acres of riparian habitat to improve water quality and habitat for chinook salmon, bull trout and steelhead salmon in Puget Sound. Project will engage 5 local resource management partners and 2,500 volunteers to plant 5,000 trees and remove 6 acres of invasive vegetation.

Project Title, Description and Abstract

- **Project Abstract**
  - Expands upon the Project Description
  - List the project partners, grant deliverables, major activities/outcomes (including both on-the-ground and outreach) and project location.
  - Example: Nooksack Salmon Enhancement Association will restore 15 acres of riparian habitat to improve water quality and habitat for chinook salmon, bull trout and steelhead salmon in Puget Sound. The grantee and partners will engage 5 local resource management partners and 2,500 volunteers to plant 5,000 trees and remove 6 acres of invasive vegetation. Project partners include The Lummi Nation Natural Resources Department, The Whatcom Land Trust, City of Bellingham Parks and Recreation Department, Western Washington University, American Forests and others.

Application Questions?

Pre-Proposal Narrative

- **Download the template from Easygrants – each category has a different narrative**

- **Proposals should be no more than 2 pages**

- **Keep the formatting – same font, font size and margins**

- **Do not delete the text provided in the narrative**

Category 1 Proposal Narrative

1. **What are the primary conservation and outreach activities for the project?**
- Identify all activities corresponding to these activities
- Provide geographic information such as location of project sites and communities

2. **How will your organization measure progress towards project outcomes and what monitoring is planned for project sites?**
- List metrics and outcomes
- Provide measurement plans and partnerships

3. **How will the proposed project's strategy and implementation address conservation needs and improve community resilience and well-being?**
- Include community demographics
- Note any vulnerable or underserved communities engaged

4. **What is the current status of planning and implementation for the project?**
- Identify milestones and timeline for the project

Category 2 Proposal Narrative

1. What are the primary conservation and outreach activities for the project?
2. Which cities will be engaged through the projects or what process will be used to select cities if the project has a competitive process?
- Name each city

3. Describe how the proposed project will advance innovative and scalable solutions in vulnerable communities
- Use community demographics

4. How will your organization measure progress towards project outcomes and what monitoring is planned for project sites?
- Identify metrics from metric list in RFP

5. How will the proposed project's strategy and implementation improve community resilience and well-being?

6. What is the current status of planning and implementation for the project?
- Include project timeline
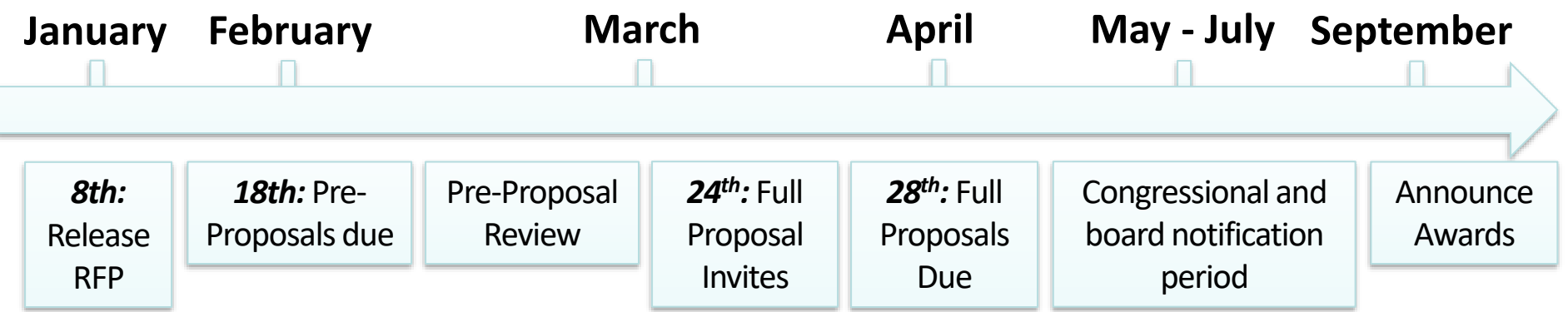
Category 3 Proposal Narrative

1. What are the primary conservation and outreach activities for the project?

2. Describe how the proposed project will advance innovative and scalable solutions for community partnerships, affordable housing areas and small businesses in vulnerable communities.

- Include project areas and community demographics

3. How will your organization measure progress towards project outcomes and what monitoring is planned for project sites?

- Identify metrics from metric list in RFP

4. How will the proposed project's strategy and implementation improve community resilience and well-being?

5. What is the current status of planning and implementation for the project?

- Include project timeline

Narrative Questions?

Resilient Communities 2019 Timeline

January	February	March	April	May - July	September

8th: Release RFP

18th: Pre-Proposals due

Pre-Proposal Review

24th: Full Proposal Invites

28th: Full Proposals Due

Congressional and board notification period

Announce Awards

Additional Tips for Applicants

- If you've never used Easygrants before, create your login **TODAY** and familiarize yourself with the system

- If you aren't new to Easygrants, check and make sure your login is working and that your organization's record is up to date

- Start the application *at least* a week before it is due to minimize last minute Easygrants trouble

- Turn off browser pop-up blockers

- Keep contact info up to date in Easygrants

Contacts

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