

Pacific Southwest Fuels Management Strategic Investment Partnership

Webinar – Wednesday, June 17, 2020

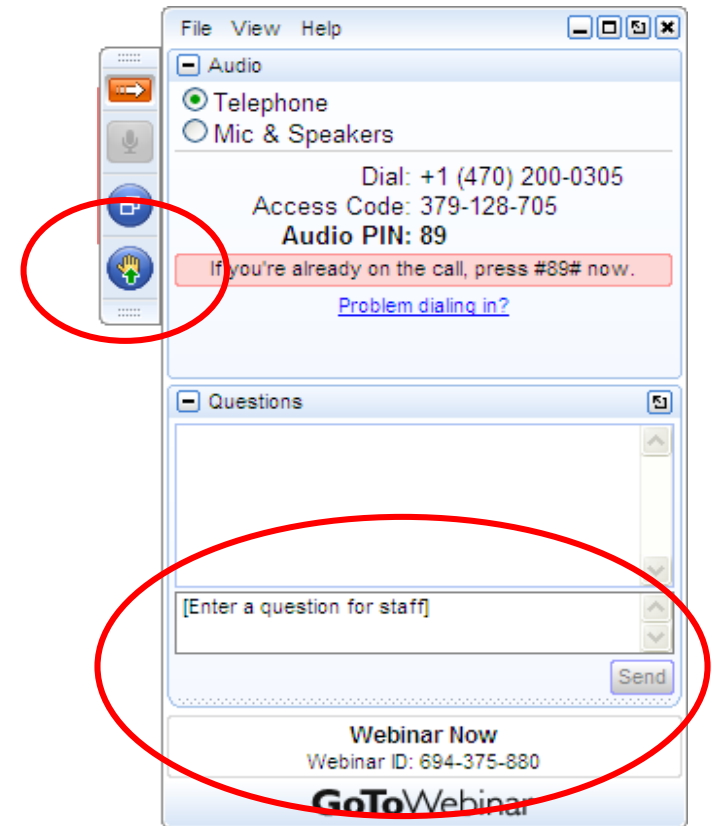


NFWF



Webinar Instructions

- To improve sound quality, all participants will be muted for the duration of the webinar. If you want to ask a question you have two options:
 - Enter your query where it says “Enter a question for staff” and click send. We will read your question aloud when we pause for Q&A.
 - Write it down and contact us after the webinar. We have a lot of material to cover, so you may prefer to have a more in-depth discussion later.
- We may ask you to raise your “hand” in the webinar dialogue box to confirm participants can hear us.
- If you experience a technical glitch, please type it into the question box, since we can’t hear you. (We may not know about the glitch unless you say something!)



Agenda

1. Introduction to the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation and U.S. Forest Service Partnership
2. Overview of Fuels Management Partnership
3. Review of Fuels Management Partnership Request for Proposals
4. How to Submit a Proposal

Introduction to NFWF

WHO WE ARE

- Chartered by Congress in 1984
- 30 member Board appointed by Secretary of the Interior
 - Includes FWS Director & NOAA Administrator
- Non-advocacy, non-litigious

WHAT WE DO

- Sustain, restore, enhance the nation's natural heritage
- Bring collaboration among federal agencies & private sector

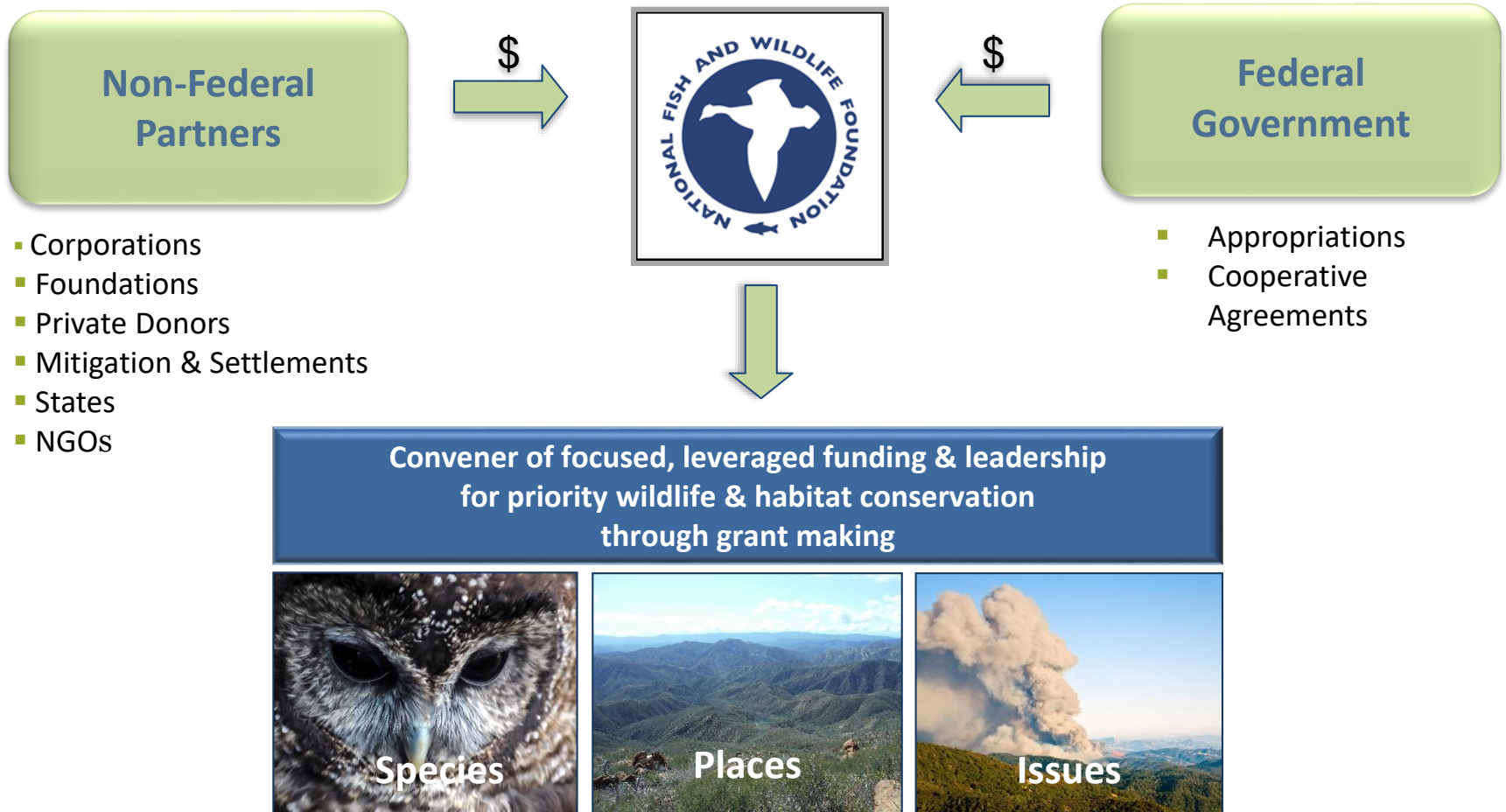
HOW WE DO IT

- Leverage public funding with private money
- Grantmaking for on-the-ground conservation projects
- Transparent process that involves multiple stakeholders



Introduction to NFWF

How We Do It



Overview of Fuels Management Partnership

USFS/NFWF PARTNERSHIP

- Partnership Agreement signed summer 2015

PARTNERSHIP GOALS

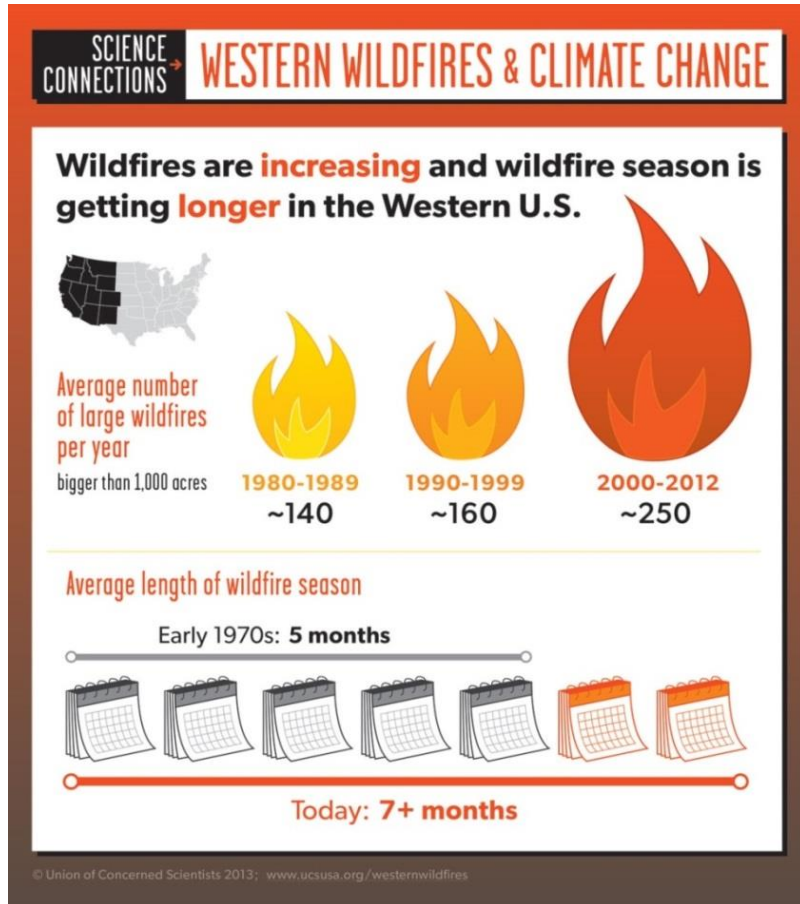
- Increase the pace and scale of on-the-ground conservation management work
- Engage new partners
- Utilize strategic, science-based approach to increase fire resilience and improve forest health

PROGRAM GOALS

- Reduce the risk of severe wildfire and promote ecological resilience
- Protect natural resource values and function
- Reduce the risk of damage to natural resource or infrastructure improvement investments
- Protect and enhance habitat for species such as Pacific fisher, northern spotted owl, CA spotted owl



Wildfire Threat Is Increasing



- More acres burned in the each of the two last decades of 1990 and 2000 than any other previously recorded.
- More land has burned in the first five years of this decade than seven entire decades in the past.
- Since the 1970's the fire season has increased from 5 months to more than 7.

Fire Severity



Photo: U.S. Forest Service

- Fire Severity is increasing, from an average of 20% high severity a decade ago to nearly **30% high severity** now.
- Megafires – larger and more intense than historic fires – may be the new normal.
- The USFS Region 5 estimates that **6 to 9 million acres** are in need of restoration.

Risks to California's Ecosystems/Species



Large scale and intense fires may:

- Reduce the diversity and distribution of critical habitat
- Eliminate types of habitat necessary to support certain species
- Disperse species, shift migratory patterns, and introduce new competition within habitats



Risks to California's Water Supplies



Large scale and intense fires may:

- Destroy infrastructure and degrade **water quality**
- Affect changes in timing of **water flows** and present challenges for hydropower operations
- Cause massive amounts of **sediment**, resulting in reduced storage capacity and harming wildlife

Request for Proposals Review

COMPETITIVE PROPOSALS WILL:

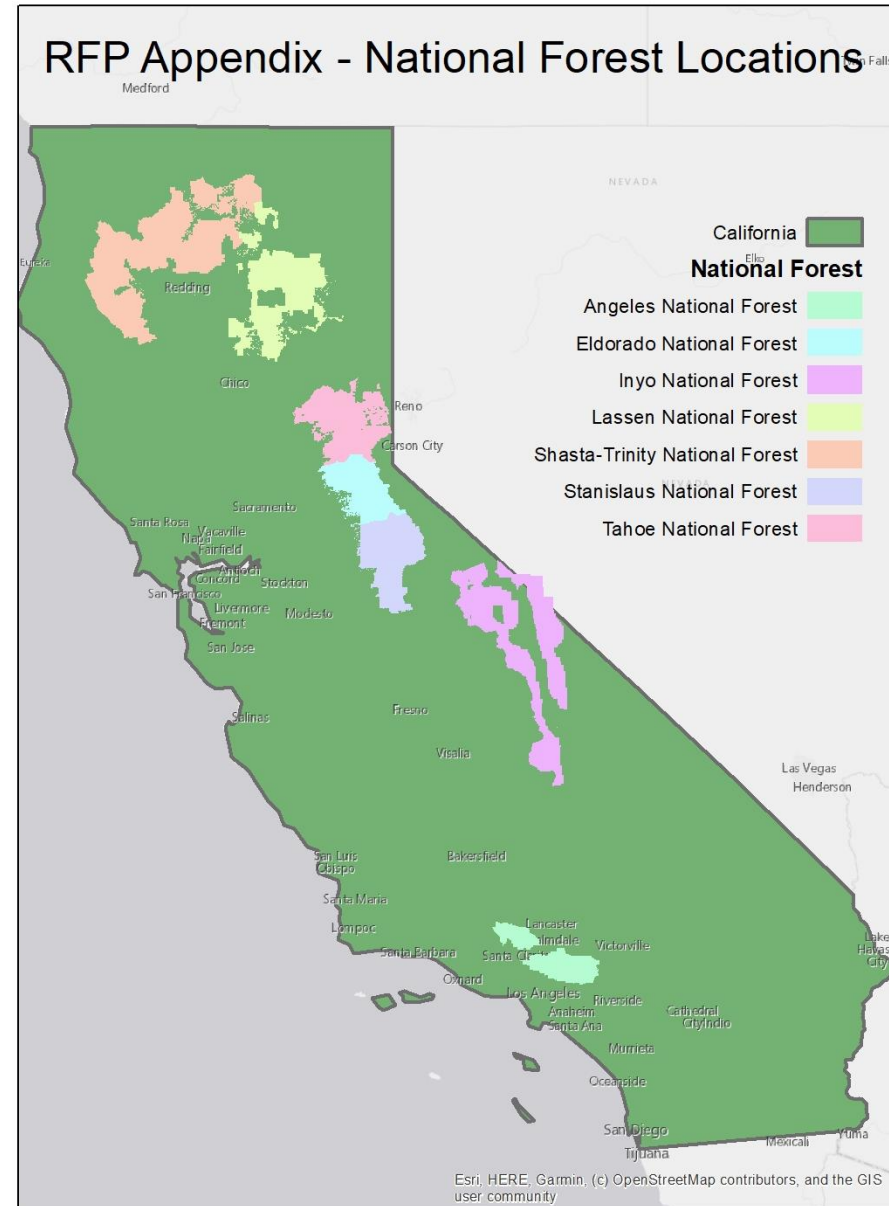
- Address fuels management/forest health related projects ***on US Forest Service lands***
- Implement 'shovel-ready' projects that can be completed within approximately 12 months and ***no later than 3/29/2022***
- Benefits species such as Pacific fisher, northern spotted owl, California spotted owl

Request for Proposals Review

RFP APPENDIX

Priority Projects for R5 Forests

- Angles
- Eldorado
- Inyo
- Lassen
- Shasta-Trinity
- Stanislaus
- Tahoe & Lake Tahoe Management Basin Unit



Request for Proposals Review

FUNDING AVAILABILITY

- Award amounts are expected to range **\$50,000 - \$500,000**
- Grant awards anticipated to total **~817,000**
- Grants for single projects are typically awarded to projects that can be **completed within 12 months** from the date of award



Request for Proposals Review

APPLICATION & REVIEW TIMELINE

✓ Full Proposal Due Date	<i>Thursday, July 16, 2020</i>
✓ Review Period	<i>August - October 2020</i>
✓ Awards Announced	<i>November 2020</i>
✓ <i>Projects Completed By</i>	<i>March 29, 2022</i>

Request for Proposals Review

ELIGIBILITY



Eligible applicants

- ✓ non-profit 501(c)(3) organizations
- ✓ local and municipal governments
- ✓ resource conservation districts
- ✓ state and federal agencies
- ✓ Indian tribes
- ✓ educational institutions
- ✓ mutual water companies
- ✓ irrigation districts



Ineligible applicants

- unincorporated individuals
- international organizations
- businesses

Request for Proposals Review

INELIGIBLE USES OF GRANT FUNDS



NFWF funds and matching contributions may not be used to support political advocacy, fundraising, lobbying, litigation, terrorist activities or Foreign Corrupt Practices Act violations.



NFWF funds may not be used to support ongoing efforts to comply with court directed legal requirements, including permit conditions, and mitigation and settlement agreements.

ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE REQUIREMENTS

Most projects will be expected to have all regulatory compliance and permitting completed by, or relatively soon after, awarded grant agreements are finalized

Applicants should identify relevant compliance requirements for their project in their proposal, and reference the appropriate documentation or how they intend to meet those requirements

Request for Proposals Review

MATCH REQUIREMENT

- Projects are expected to **meet or exceed a 50% match ratio** to be competitive. The **strongest projects will meet or exceed a 1:1 match ratio**. Projects not meeting the match expectations will be considered on a limited case-by-case basis.
- Eligible match = **non-federal** cash or in-kind contributions, such as:
 - staff and volunteer time
 - donated materials and services
 - cash
 - other tangible contributions to the project objectives and outcomes
- Matching funds do not need to be fully secured prior to submitting a grant proposal, but should have a demonstrable likelihood of being secured during the project period.

Request for Proposals Review

EVALUATION

Proposals will be evaluated by a Review Committee made up of representatives from the USFS, NFWF, and other experts as needed.

Grant applications are evaluated according to:

- How well they address the priorities and goals of the Pacific Southwest Fuels Management Strategic Investments Partnership Program
- How well they address the specific project needs described in the RFP
- Adequacy and clarity of application information
- Ability to meet evaluation criteria

Organizations may submit multiple proposals for funding consideration.



Submitting a Proposal

HOW TO APPLY?



www.nfwf.org/pswfuels



Submitting a Proposal

EASYGRANTS REGISTRATION



Enter your login ID and password and click **Log In** below. If you have forgotten your password, click **Forgot your password?** below.
If you are a first time visitor to this system, click **Register here** below.

[Frequently Asked Questions](#)

Log In

[New User?](#)

Login ID / Email

Password

☒ Remember Me

[Forgot Password?](#)

Log In

For the optimal Easygrants experience, please:

[Use a Supported Browser](#)

[Enable Pop-ups](#)

[Allow Cookies](#)

[Only Use One Tab](#)

[Get Adobe Reader](#)

[Log Out and Close Browser for Security](#)

- **New user?** Click on “New User?”
- **Lost your password?** Click on “Forgot Password” - An email with password is sent from easygrants@nfwf.org.
- **Locked out?** Contact helpdesk at easygrants@nfwf.org or 202-595-2497.



Submitting a Proposal

Creating a Username or Organization

Add Person Contact

Prefix

First Name *

Middle Name

Last Name *

Suffix

Email Address *

Organization *

Add or Edit Grant Administration Organizations

Primary Organization ☐

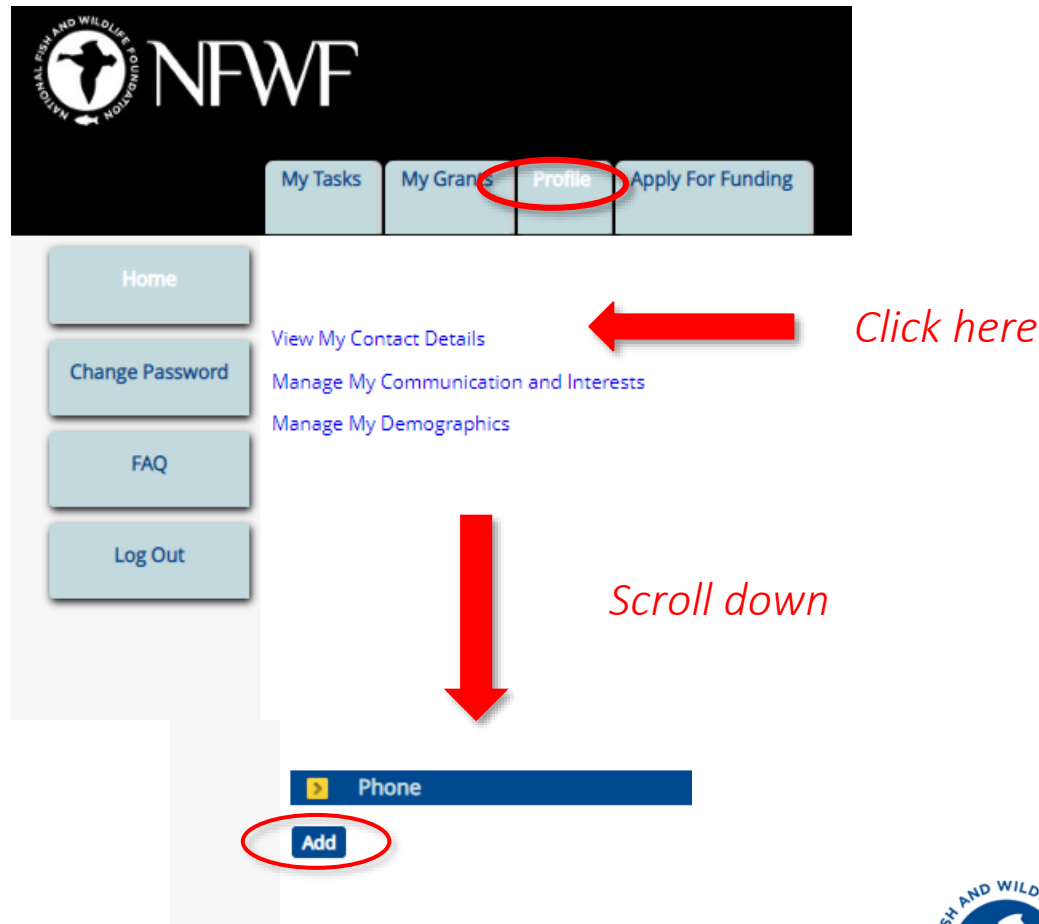
Role

Organization *

- Do not create duplicate accounts.
- Use your professional email address and full legal organization name.
- Fill out all required information.
- Unsure if you already have a user account or if organization is registered in Easygrants? Contact helpdesk at easygrants@nfwf.org or 202-595-2497.

Submitting a Proposal

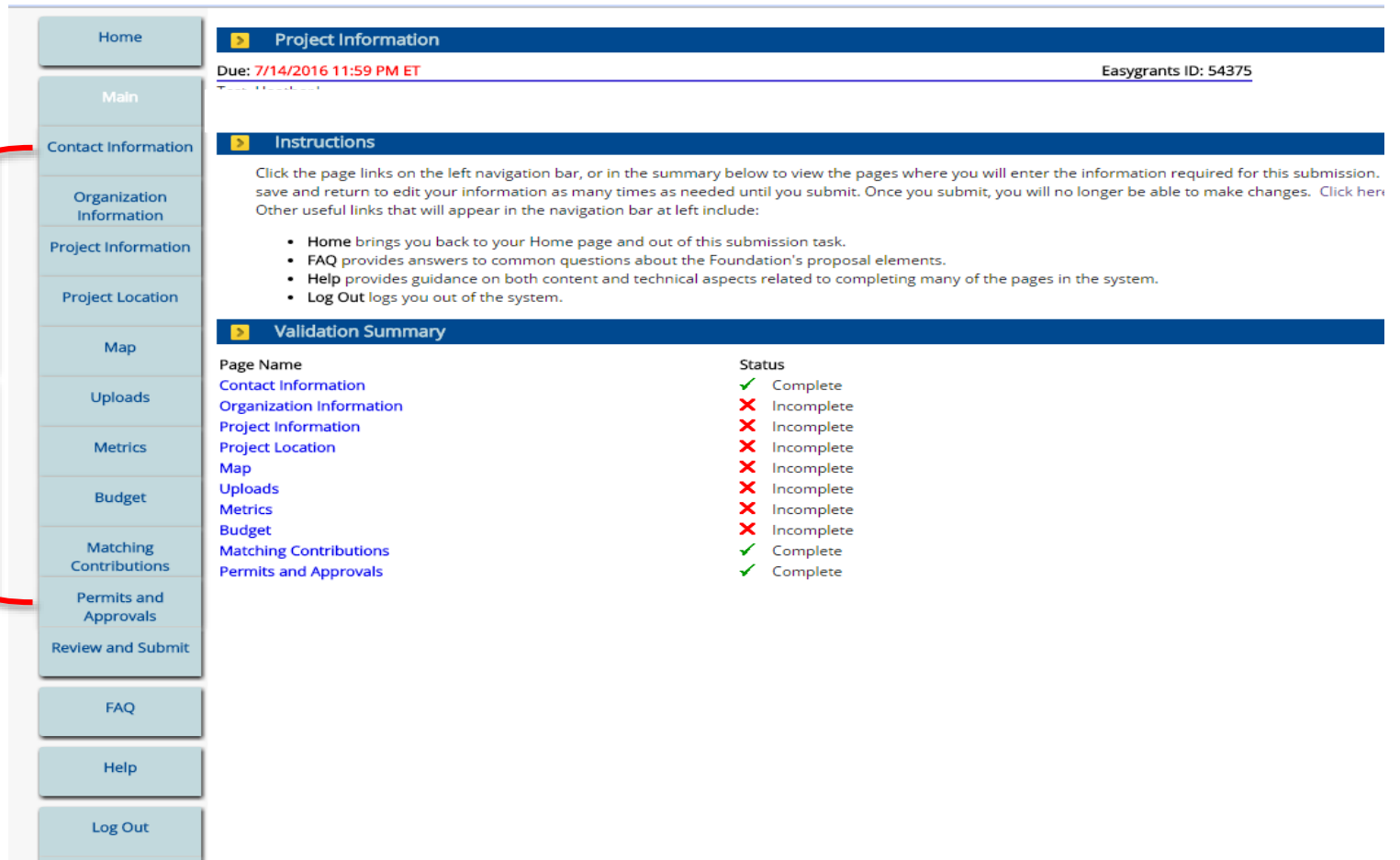
Once you have created your Easygrants log-in and or you log-in as an existing user, please visit review your contact details and make sure that you provide a phone number. To do so...



The screenshot displays the NFWF Easygrants user interface. At the top, the NFWF logo is visible. Below it, a navigation bar contains four tabs: 'My Tasks', 'My Grants', 'Profile' (which is circled in red), and 'Apply For Funding'. On the left side, there is a vertical menu with buttons for 'Home', 'Change Password', 'FAQ', and 'Log Out'. To the right of this menu, there are three links: 'View My Contact Details', 'Manage My Communication and Interests', and 'Manage My Demographics'. A red arrow points from the text 'Click here' to the 'View My Contact Details' link. Below these links, a large red arrow points downwards, with the text 'Scroll down' next to it. At the bottom of the page, there is a form field labeled 'Phone' with a yellow icon to its left. Below the 'Phone' field, there is a blue button labeled 'Add', which is circled in red.

Submitting a Proposal

Used for
navigating
through your
application in
Easygrants



The screenshot displays the Easygrants application interface. On the left is a vertical navigation bar with buttons for Home, Main, Contact Information, Organization Information, Project Information, Project Location, Map, Uploads, Metrics, Budget, Matching Contributions, Permits and Approvals, Review and Submit, FAQ, Help, and Log Out. A red bracket on the left side of the navigation bar, spanning from 'Contact Information' to 'Review and Submit', points to the text 'Used for navigating through your application in Easygrants'. The main content area has a blue header bar with a yellow icon and the text 'Project Information'. Below this, it shows 'Due: 7/14/2016 11:59 PM ET' and 'Easygrants ID: 54375'. The next section is 'Instructions', which provides guidance on navigating the application and lists useful links: Home, FAQ, Help, and Log Out. The final section is 'Validation Summary', which displays a table of page statuses.

Page Name	Status
Contact Information	✓ Complete
Organization Information	✗ Incomplete
Project Information	✗ Incomplete
Project Location	✗ Incomplete
Map	✗ Incomplete
Uploads	✗ Incomplete
Metrics	✗ Incomplete
Budget	✗ Incomplete
Matching Contributions	✓ Complete
Permits and Approvals	✓ Complete

Project Information

- **Title:** short, descriptive name indicating project purpose. (~100 characters)
- **Description:** Two sentences about primary project activities, location, outcome/metrics and relevance to conservation. (~500 characters)
 - Clearly state the main activity and the method being used
 - Address a specific habitat, location or species benefitted
- **Abstract:** More detailed description including location, major activities, outcome/metrics, and partners. (~1,500 characters)
 - State what your organization will do
 - Provide context and background information
 - Explain how the project outcomes will specifically address a conservation issue

Submitting a Proposal

Uploads

Upload Checklist	
Upload Type	Required
Full Proposal Narrative	Yes
Project Map	No
Letters of Support	No
Photos - Jpeg	No
Statement of Litigation	Yes
Board of Trustees, Directors, or equivalent	Yes
GAAP audited financial statements	Yes
IRS Form 990	Yes
A-133 Audit	Yes
Indirect Rate Agreement	No

Review 'Upload Checklist' and upload relevant files into Easygrants.

Required:

- IRS-990
- A-133 Audit
- GAAP Audit
- Board of Trustees, Directors or Equivalent

Templates provided for:

- Statement of Litigation
- Full Proposal Narrative

For additional information on required documents, visit <https://www.nfwf.org/apply-grant/application-information/required-financial-documents>

If you don't have a required document, just upload an explanation on your company letterhead in place of the required document.



Submitting a Proposal

Uploads - Narrative

- **Activities:** Elaborate on the primary activities that will be employed through the grant. Explain how these activities are expected to lead to the outcome(s). Describe how these activities relate to established plans (management, conservation, recovery, etc.) and priority conservation needs in the specific project location.
- **Outcome(s):** Elaborate on the outcome(s) summarized previously in the application; discuss what makes this outcome(s) achievable and important.
- **Tracking Metrics:** Indicate how the project will monitor/assess progress on the metrics selected previously in the application. Please note any challenges or limitations anticipated with tracking the metrics.
- **Project Team:** List key individuals and describe their qualifications relevant for project implementation. (include contractor info is known)
- **Other (Optional):** Provide any further information important for the review of this proposal

Most Competitive Narrative Elements:

- ☐ Program Goals and Priorities
- ☐ Technical Merit
- ☐ Partnership
- ☐ Transferability
- ☐ Communication
- ☐ Funding Need
- ☐ Conservation Plan and Context
- ☐ Monitoring
- ☐ Long-term Sustainability
- ☐ Past Success
- ☐ Key Personnel

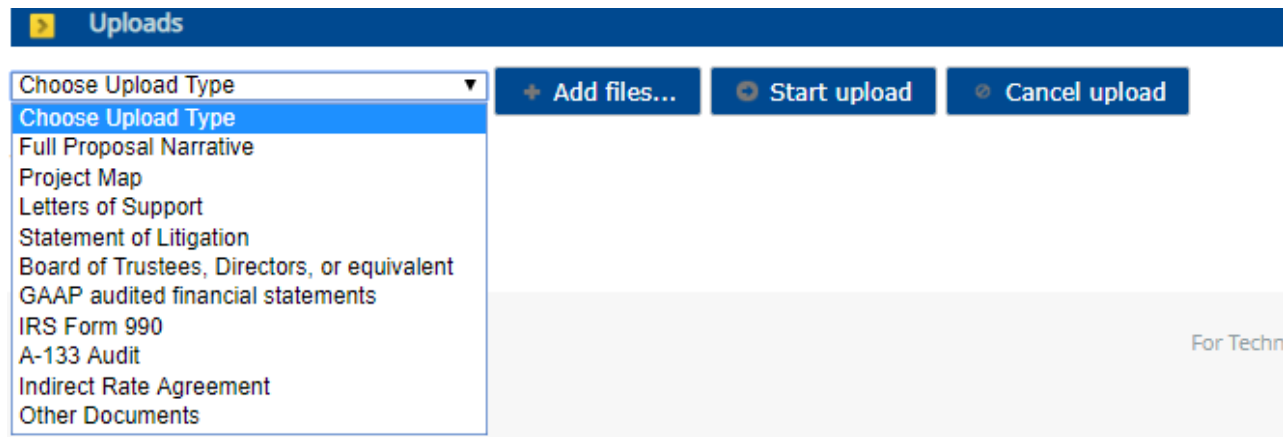


NFWF

Submitting a Proposal

Uploads

- All financial documents uploaded should be no older than 2 years.
- Select the appropriate upload type from the dropdown menu when uploading financial documents.
- If an upload type for a specific financial document is not available, do not use the “Other Document” upload type. Instead, contact NFWF staff directly to assist with securely uploading the financial document.
- To re-upload a document, you will need to first delete the original document and then upload the new/revised document



The screenshot shows a web interface for uploading documents. At the top is a blue header bar with a yellow folder icon and the text "Uploads". Below this is a dropdown menu labeled "Choose Upload Type" which is open, showing a list of options: "Choose Upload Type", "Full Proposal Narrative", "Project Map", "Letters of Support", "Statement of Litigation", "Board of Trustees, Directors, or equivalent", "GAAP audited financial statements", "IRS Form 990", "A-133 Audit", "Indirect Rate Agreement", and "Other Documents". To the right of the dropdown are three buttons: "Add files..." (with a plus icon), "Start upload" (with a circular arrow icon), and "Cancel upload" (with a circular arrow icon). Below these buttons is a large, light gray rectangular area. On the right side of this area, the text "For Techn" is partially visible.

Submitting a Proposal

Budget

- Budget represents only the grant amount requested from NFWF
- Must comply with OMB's Uniform Guidance ([whitehouse.gov/omb/circulars/index.html](https://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/circulars/index.html))
- Itemize all costs in appropriate budget categories. Costs must relate to project activities.
- No lumping costs i.e., 'All Salaries: \$10,000' Add narrative details to explain costs in budget line items.
- 'Total Amount Requested' in Project Information section must equal the 'Budget Grand Total' in Budget section
- Budget Narrative must accompany every section of the budget

▼ <u>Materials and Supplies</u>	\$0.00
Materials and Supplies + 📄	\$0.00
▼ <u>Contractual Services</u>	\$0.00
Subcontract/Contract - Per Agreement + 📄	\$0.00
Subgrant - Per Agreement + 📄	\$0.00
▼ <u>Other Direct Costs</u>	\$0.00
Other Direct Costs + 📄	\$0.00
▼ <u>Indirect Costs</u>	\$0.00
Indirect Costs + 📄	\$0.00
<u>Total Direct Costs</u>	\$0.00
<u>Total Indirect Costs</u>	\$0.00
<u>Total Costs</u>	\$0.00

Submitting a Proposal

Adding a Budget Narrative

▼ <u>Travel</u>	
▼ Domestic Airfare - Per Flight	
To Seattle from Boston Round Trip	
To Anchorage from St. Petersburg Round trip	

\$4,271.00
\$2,645.00
\$1,750.00
\$895.00

Notes

Line Item

Budget

Domestic Airfare - Per Flight

Travel for one biotech and one volunteer to Seattle from Boston for Killer Whale Conference.
Travel for principal investigator to Anchorage from St. Petersburg for site visits.

Save

Save and Close

Cancel

Submitting a Proposal

Review and Submit

NOTE: You must enable pop-ups to use this system. If a link does not open please try holding the Shift or Control (CTRL) key on your keyboard while clicking on the link, which may tell a pop-up blocker to allow the link to open. Click [here](#) for more information.

Options

Matching Contributions

Review and Submit

FAQ

Help

Log Out

Return to Staff Module

View Full Submission

View PDF

Submission

Validation Status

Page Name	Status
Organization Information	✓ Complete
Project Information	✗ Incomplete
Project Title is required.	✗
Project Start Date is required.	✗
Project End Date is required.	✗
Description is required	✗
Abstract is required.	✗
Project Location Description is required	✗
Requested Amount is required.	✗
Uploads	✗ Incomplete
Pre-proposal Narrative is required and has not been uploaded.	✗

Submitting a Proposal

Program Homepage:

<https://www.nfwf.org/programs/pacific-southwest-fuels-management-partnership>

RFP:

<https://www.nfwf.org/programs/pacific-southwest-fuels-management-partnership/pacific-southwest-fuels-management>

Appendix:

<https://www.nfwf.org/sites/default/files/2020-06/2020-fuels-appendix.pdf>

Technical Assistance / Easygrants Helpdesk:

Email: Easygrants@nfwf.org

Voicemail: 202-595-2497

Hours: 9:00 am to 5:00 pm ET, Monday-Friday.

Include: your name, proposal ID #, e-mail address, phone number, program you are applying to, and a description of the issue.



Submitting a Proposal

QUICK TIPS FOR APPLICANTS

- ✓ If you've never used Easygrants before, create your login *TODAY* and familiarize yourself with the system.
- ✓ Turn off your pop-up blockers. If you use Internet Explorer, turn them off again and again...
- ✓ Print the "Tip Sheet" from NFWF.org/pswfuels and use it as a reference tool, field-by-field in EasyGrants.
- ✓ Do not mail letters of support to the office – upload electronic copies.
- ✓ Re-read the RFP. Call us if you're confused.
- ✓ Talk to people about your project idea. Listen.
- ✓ Save as you go!

Request for Proposals Review

APPLICATION PROCESS AND TIMELINE

Full Proposal

Detailed description of project, including itemized budget, task descriptions, qualifications, and other supporting documents

Full Proposal Due Date	Thursday, July 16, 2020 – 11:59pm EDT (8:59pm PDT)
Review Period	August – October 2020
Awards Announced	November 2020
Projects Completed By	March 29, 2022



Contact Information

Programmatic Questions

Jonathan Birdsong

Regional Director

Western Regional Office

415-243-3101

Jonathan.Birdsong@nfwf.org

Programmatic Questions

Jim Bond

Senior Manager

Southern California Forests

415-243-3107

Jim.Bond@nfwf.org

Application/Easygrants Questions

Jessica Perla

Coordinator

Western Conservation Programs

202-595-2422

Jessica.Perla@nfwf.org

