WELCOME TO THE

CONOCOPHILLIPS SPIRIT OF CONSERVATION PROGRAM – 2022 WEBINAR





We will get started momentarily ...

ConocoPhillips SPIRIT of Conservation Program 2022 Funding Opportunity

> **Guidance for Applicants** Thursday, April 21, 2022 – 12 PM ET

Webinar Agenda

- Welcome and Introductions
- NFWF Overview
- SPIRIT of Conservation Program
 Overview
- Funding Availability
- Program Priorities
- Diversity and Community Engagement
- Preparing a proposal
- Timeline
- Q&A

Webinar is recorded and PDF will be available

About Us

Who We Are

- Chartered by Congress in 1984
- Independent 501(c)(3) organization
- 30 member Board appointed by Secretary of the Interior
 - Includes FWS Director and NOAA Administrator

What We Do

- Sustain, restore and enhance wildlife
- Bring collaboration among federal agencies and private sector

How We Do It

 Leverage public funding with private money – average 3:1



Bald eagle

NFWF is

• An implementer – we fund projects

NFWF is not

 An advocacy organization that engages in lobbying or litigation



How We Do It

Non-Federal

Partners

• Corporations

\$

- Foundations
- Private Donors
- Mitigation and Settlements
- States
- NGOs



Convener of focused, leveraged funding and leadership for priority wildlife and habitat conservation through grant making

Federal Partners

- Appropriations
- Cooperative Agreements

\$

Competitive Grants/Strategies

ConocoPhillips SPIRIT of Conservation Program

- **Public-private partnership** since 2005 benefitting migratory and resident bird populations
- **Priority states**: Alaska, Louisiana, Montana, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, and Wyoming
- Funded projects will address one or more of the following **strategies**:
 - 1. Restore/ improve grassland, sagebrush, wetland, and coastal bird habitat
 - 2. Conserve key habitats for birds
 - 3. Conduct identified priority bird population research or monitoring







2022 Funding Opportunity

- \$1.1 million available
 - Typical grant range \$50,000-\$250,000; average grant \$150,000
- Key dates:
 - Pre-proposal due: May 25
 - Full proposals invited: Mid-June
 - Full proposals due: July 20
 - Award announcements: Early November
- Eligible applicants
 - Non-profit organizations
 - ✓ State, tribal & local governments
 - Educational institutions



1) Restore/ improve grassland, sagebrush, wetland, and coastal bird habitat

- Expand or improve habitat patch size, connectivity, and quality
- Remove encroaching woody vegetation that negatively impacts grassland-nesting or sagesteppe habitat nesting birds
- Reduce invasive species' impact on bird habitats
- Restore wetland function more beneficial to birds
- Restore important breeding, wintering or stopover sites.





2) Conserve Key Habitats for Birds

- Fee title or conservation easement acquisitions
 - Parcels with important habitat linkage/connectivity functions, or
 - Important breeding, wintering or stopover sites





3) Conduct Identified Priority Bird Population Research or Monitoring

- Increase the quality or quantity of bird population data that can be used to fill gaps and inform current and future habitat management decisions.
- Data should be useful at specific sites or in assessing bird use of habitats across breeding, wintering, or stopover ranges.
- See key data gaps in:

<u>https://ppjv.org/assets/pdf/SPPI/Conservation</u> <u>strategy_for_Grassland_birds.pdf</u>





Matching Contributions

- Minimum 1:1 match required; at least 50% non-federal
- Match sources:
 - Cash
 - In-kind contributions of staff
 - Materials and services donated
 - Volunteer time
 - Cost of land acquisition/easement
 - Allowable indirect costs not covered by grant funding
 - Other tangible contributions to project goals





Period of Performance

- Start date should be within six months of November award announcement
- End date within 36 months of start date
- Match must be spent between project start and end dates

Compliance

- Subject to requirements under NEPA, Endangered Species Act, and National Historic Preservation Act.
- Documentation of compliance must be approved prior to initiating activities that disturb or alter habitat or other features of the project site(s)

Pre-Proposal Narrative – Community Impact

Describe the community(ies) where the project will take place, who will benefit from the project, and how they were or will be engaged in project development and implementation. Provide demographic information on the community(ies), including but not limited to age, race and ethnicity, poverty rates.

Two-part question:

- 1) Describe community characteristics of the project area and identify any communities impacted.
 - Use demographic data to document (poverty statistics, school lunch data, demographic records
 - This data can be found using Census data, School District data, State data centers, EJ Screen, and other sources

2) Describe outreach and community engagement activities for project development and implementation

Letters of support welcome but not required.



Pre-Proposal Uploads - Applicant Demographic Information Form

APPLICANT DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

- The information you provide will <u>not</u> be shared with proposal reviewers and will <u>not</u> be considered when making grant decisions.
- The Foundation will <u>not</u> share identifying information about any particular entity or project.
- While the form is a required upload, applicants can opt out of providing the information within the form itself
 - If your organization does not collect this information or if you have provided NFWF with this information in the last 12 months, you can opt out.
- The information provided on this excel form will be kept confidential, the Foundation may share its anonymized aggregate findings as appropriate with its staff, Board of Directors, funding partners, and publicly on its website or through other media.

As part of NFWF's goal to encourage and support diversity across the conservation projects we fund, we would like to better understand the existing diversity in our grantmaking community and in the local communities To accomplish this task, we are asking organizations that we fund to assist us by providing basic information about their workforce demographics on this form.	
As part of this effort to support diversity, we also desire to understand how our grantees engage with the communities where the projects take place and who in those communities might benefit from them. We ask for this The information provided on this excel form will be kept confidential, although the Foundation may share its aggregate findings as appropriate with its staff, Board of Directors, funding partners, and publicly on its webs not share identifying information about any particular entity or project. These anonymized aggregate data will be used by NFWF to better understand the demographic profiles of the organizations that we fund.	
The information you provide will not be shared with proposal reviewers and will not be considered when making grant decisions.	
Instructions: Complete all pertinent fields shaded in green. Your Human Resources Department may have some of the information requested readily available. Please be sure to complete the General Information sec If you do not know an answer, use the "don't know/not sure" option instead of guessing. If a section does not apply to your organization you may skip it. Do not make any other changes to this form. You may opt out of providing this information to NFWF; however, you still <u>must upload this form to Easyarants</u> with your application and complete the first section of the form.	
All applicants must complete this section, even if you have provided this data to NFWF in the past 12 months or are opting out for another reason.	
If you have provided this data to NFWF in the past 12 months you do not need to provide it again but you must still complete this top section of the form and submit it with your proposal.	
Easygrants project # from your grant application:	
Grant program name shown on the RFP:	
If you are opting out, select a reason from the dropdown list in the green box:	
General Information	
Date Completed:	
Project Title:	
Organization Full Name: Organization EIN:	
Organization Type:	Click on the green box to select from the dropdown list
Organization Size (number of employees)	Click on the green box to select from the dropdown list
organization size (number of employees)	check on the green box to select y on the dropdown hist
PART 1: APPLICANT ORGANIZATION - ALL EMPLOYEES (if applicable)	
Please provide the following demographic information about <u>all</u> of your organization's employees, <u>including senior leaders</u> .	
1. How many people currently work for your organization? (Include temporary and part-time employees in your response but do not include contractors)	
Total Number:	
2. How many of your employees identify as each gender?	
Female:	
Male:	
Non-binary:	
Unknown/Not sure:	



Metrics (Full Proposal)

- Select only the most relevant metrics
- Starting Values should be set to 0
- Metrics have been revised. Pay careful attention to metrics instructions in the RFP and provide metrics notes and proposal narrative as directed:
 - "Acreage of project footprint" recommended for all proposals
 - Habitat restoration metrics used both establishment and enhancement of habitat, specify in notes landcover type before and after restoration

Full Proposal – Map Section:









- 1. Upload Shapefile 2. Select by Geography
- 3. Draw a Custom Area

Application Assistance – Reference Sheet

Supporting Documents:

- 1. <u>ConocoPhillips SPIRIT of Conservation 2022 RFP webpage</u>
 - a. <u>Tip Sheet</u>
 - Step-by-step pre- to full proposal guidance
 - b. Easygrants Instructional Webinar
 - Step-by-step video tutorial on how to start and complete a proposal in <u>Easygrants</u> (<u>https://easygrants.nfwf.org/</u>)
- 2. <u>NFWF Application Information</u>
 - a. <u>Budget instructions</u>
 - Download the <u>Detailed Budget and Narrative Guide</u>
 - *For the Full Proposal Budget section, please provide a respective budget narrative describing the purpose of each line item towards the project.
 - b. <u>Required financial documents</u>
 - Financial documents must be for the same fiscal year and **no more than 2 years old**
 - c. Indirect Cost Policy



Application Assistance – Easygrants Tips

- If you've never used Easygrants (<u>https://easygrants.nfwf.org/</u>) before, create your login TODAY and familiarize yourself with the system. View the <u>pre-recorded instructional webinar</u>.
- Turn off your browser's pop-up blockers.
- Download the "Tip Sheet" (available on the RFP webpage) and use it as a reference to complete each field of the proposal.
- Save often!
- DO NOT mail physical letters of support to NFWF, they must be digital copies uploaded into the online proposal.
- Provide a phone number in your Easygrants account. Keep your email and proposal contact information up-to-date.





Pre-Proposal Due Date:

Wednesday, May 25th by 11:59 PM ET

Full Proposal Invites Sent: Mid-June

Full Proposal Due Date:

Wednesday, July 20th by 11:59 PM ET

Awards Announced:

Mid-November 2022



Contacts

Programmatic Questions:

Bridget Collins Program Director Central Region Working Lands Phone: 202-595-2655 Email: Bridget.Collins@nfwf.org

Application/Easygrants Questions: Minna Wong Coordinator, Regional Programs Phone: 202-595-2657

Email: <u>minna.wong@nfwf.org</u>

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.



