California Forests: Large Watershed Planning Grants

Applicant Webinar December 12, 2023





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:
 - 1. Enter your query where it says "Enter a question for staff" and click send. We will type a response or read your question aloud when we pause for Q&A.
 - 2. 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!)

The webinar will be available for download within 48 hours at <u>California Forests: Large Watershed Planning Grants</u> <u>2024 Request for Proposals</u>



AGENDA

- RFP Overview
 - Program Overview
 - Geographic Focus
 - Program Priorities
 - Project Metrics
 - Eligibility
 - Funding Availability and Match
 - Evaluation Criteria
 - Timeline
- How to Apply in Easygrants





YOUR NFWF CONTACTS

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Program Overview

Purpose of Program:

Ecological restoration and protection at a landscape scale requires a comprehensive approach that takes into account the interdependencies between water and fire. Applicants will have to exhibit their competency to manage not only funding, but also project activities across the landscape.

The major goals of grants which will be awarded through this solicitation are to: Improve fuels management, forest/upland restoration and management, and aquatic organism passage improvements.





Program Priorities

- 1. Increase the pace and scale of restoration to address impacts to communities and watersheds from unnatural, high intensity wildfire events;
- 2. Working closely with USFS and CAL FIRE to align large scale forest health projects;
- 3. Plan for post-fire resilience and manage the risk of climate-driven hazards;
- 4. Engage in inclusive community-driven process;
- 5. Facilitate appropriate environmental compliance and permitting strategy to meet long-term objectives;
- 6. Establish a transparent strategy and funding which will give organizational clarity on capacity needs and opportunities;
- 7. Provide sustainable and lasting ecological benefits to the forests;
- 8. Engage in efficient, strategic, and innovative solutions to develop and implement forest health and resilience projects;
- 9. Encourage shared stewardship of USFS lands through expanded partnerships and cooperation;
- 10. Increase the capacity to plan and implement prescribed fire to reduce hazardous fuel loads;
- 11. Increase forest carbon storage capacity;
- 12. Accelerate species recovery, protect biodiversity, decrease the rate of loss for sensitive species' habitat, and reduce the footprint of invasive species, and;
- 13. Incorporate monitoring to track species and habitat recovery.



Geographic Focus

- Areas of focus should include, but not be limited to, the following USFS lands and exhibit significant watershed and community benefits as a result of their work:
- <u>Mendocino National Forest</u> Watersheds impacted by the August Complex.
- <u>Shasta-Trinity National Forest</u> Watersheds impacted by the River Complex.
- <u>Six Rivers National Forest</u> Watersheds impacted by the Knob and McCash fires.
- Lassen National Forest Watersheds impacted by the Dixie Fire.
- <u>Eldorado National Forest</u> Watersheds impacted by the Caldor Fire.
- <u>Angeles National Forest</u> Watersheds within the San Gabriel Foothills
- <u>Klamath, Los Padres, and Inyo National Forests</u> Landscapescale projects which protect communities within the wildland, urban interface and benefit the Klamath; Watersheds impacted by the Thomas Fire within the Ventura-San Gabriel Coastal area, and; Owens River watersheds respectively.





Project Metrics

Funding Strategies:

- Habitat Restoration
- Habitat Management
- Capacity & Outreach
- Species-specific Strategies
- Planning, Research, Monitoring



California Forests and Watersheds <u>RFP Webpage</u>



Eligibility

Eligible and Ineligible Entities

- Eligible applicants include: non-profit 501(c) organizations, U.S. Fed local governments, municipal governments, Indian tribes, educational institutions.
- Ineligible applicants include:
- businesses, unincorporated individuals

Ineligible Use 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 legal requirements, including permit conditions, mitigation and settlement agreements. However, grant funds may be used to support projects that enhance or improve upon existing baseline compliance efforts.



Funding Availability and Match

Funding Availability

- Funding Availability:
- Typical Grant Award Range:
- Number of Grant Awards Planned:
- Grant Period:
- Matching Contributions Requirement:

\$50M \$5M - \$10M 5-10 Up to 7 years 20%

Program Partners







Evaluation Criteria

All proposals will be screened for relevance, accuracy, completeness and compliance with NFWF and funding source policies. Proposals will then be evaluated based on the extent to which they meet the following criteria:

- Program goals and priorities
- Technical merit
- Cost-effectiveness
- Transferability
- Communication
- Funding Need
- Conservation Plan and Context
- Monitoring
- Long-term Sustainability
- Past Success
- Partnership



Timeline

Dates of activities are subject to change. Please check the program page of the NFWF website for the most current dates and information.

Applicant Webinar: Pre-Proposal Due Date: Invitations for Full Proposals Sent Full Proposal Due Date Review Period Awards Announced Tuesday, December 12, 2023 at 1:00pm PST Thursday, January 18, 2024 by 8:59pm PST Mid-February Wednesday, March 20th 2024 by 8:59pm PST April 2024 Spring 2024





Frequently Asked Question	stions
Log In	New User?
Login ID / Email	
Password	
🕑 Remember Me	Forgot Password?
Log In	
For the optimal Easygrants experie	ence, please:
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💼 Only Use One Tab 🛛 🛓 Get	Adobe Reader
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Once you are on your Easygrants homepage, click on "Apply for Funding"

Choose the Funding Opportunity you're applying to.



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Project Information

Title: Short, descriptive name indicating project purpose. (~100 characters)

Project start and end dates: Start within <u>four to six months</u> of the award announcement date and end within <u>five to seven years</u> of the start date.

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 $\frac{1}{2}$



Uploads

Home	Project Information								
Main	Due: 1/18/2024 11:59 PM ET Easygrants ID: 82433 Newborn III, Ernest Grants California Forests and Watersheds California Forests and Watersheds - 2024								
Contact Information	> Instructions								
Organization Information Project Information	Below is a list of documents that can be attached to your submission. Documents marked as required must be uploaded before you will be able to submit. If you do not have a required document, upload a Word document with an explanation in its place. To create your narrative document, begin by downloading the template provided below, and saving it to your computer. Use the template to create and save your narrative document on your computer. Follow these steps to download and create your narrative document: 1. In the Upload Checklist below, click the Template link for the document you want to create, and save the template file to your computer. This is a MS Word document.								
Uploads	To attach/upload your document(s) to this task: 3. In the Uploads section below, select the appropriate upload type from the Choose Upload Type drop-down list and click Add Files. 4. Select the file or files to upload from your computer and return to this page.								
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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.								
FAQ	> Upload Checklist								
Help	Upload Type	Required	Template	File Types Allowed	Max Uploads	Max File Size	Max Pages	Max Words	Max Characters
	Pre-Proposal Narrative (DEI)	Yes	Pre-Proposal Narrative Template (DEI)	.doc, .docx, .pdf, .rtf	No Limit	16 MB	2	No Limit	No Limit
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	Continue								

Pre-Proposal Narrative Tips

Length:

2 pages

Formatting:

Keep font and spacing please

Part I:

Basic information about proposed project

Part II:

Brief description of proposed methods, activities, and outcomes

Part III:

Information about the effects on which this project may have on the community around it



Pre-proposal Project Narrative

Writing Instructions: Please provide a two-page narrative that elaborates on the outcome(s) summarized previously; how progress will be measured; the strategy (activities) for achieving project outcomes, including the status of their planning and implementation; and how that strategy is appropriate for addressing priority conservation needs in the specific project location.

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.



Uploads - Applicant Demographic Information Form



- The information you provide will not be shared with proposal reviewers and will not be considered when making grant decisions.
- The Foundation will not 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.



Matching Contributions

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Review and Submit

- Make sure to click the blue **"Submit"** button to submit your proposal.
- If correctly submitted, you will receive a confirmation e-mail and the task will disappear from your homepage.

Home	Project Information						
	Due: 8/25/2022 11:59 PM ET	Killer Whale	Conservation				
Main	Grantee, NFWF (National Fish and Wil Grants Killer Whale Research and Cor		search and Conservation Fund 2022				
Contact Information	Instructions						
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Organization Information	Click the View PDF button below to view, print, and/or save your final PDF. This PDF will contain all of the information that contain financial documents that may have been uploaded. After submission, you will be able to view your PDF from your Tasks button, finding your proposal, and clicking the View PDF button. The PDF copy will be available for a limited time an						
Project Information							
Uploads	NOTE: You must enable pop-ups to use this system. If a link does not open please try holding the Shift or Control (CTRL) k the link, which may tell a pop-up blocker to allow the link to open. Click here for more information.						
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