



APPLICATION FOR PROJECT DEVELOPMENT TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE (Request for Project Concept Proposals)

The North Coast Resource Partnership (NCRP) is pleased to offer project development technical assistance to respond to upcoming grant opportunities through the NCRP Regional Forest & Fire Capacity (RFFC) program, and other funding programs for projects that improve forest health, increase wildfire resiliency, address drinking water, watershed health and wastewater needs, and help communities and ecosystems address and adapt to climate change. Direct technical assistance will be provided by a team of regional experts and may include site assessment, mapping and GIS analysis, greenhouse gas calculations, cost estimates, permitting support, project benefits quantification and preliminary project design. The purpose of this technical assistance support opportunity is to help build projects that are permit ready and competitive for upcoming funding and implementation opportunities. The NCRP anticipates providing between \$5,000-\$15,000 in technical assistance support for priority projects over multiple rounds of funding.

To apply for the project development technical assistance, please submit a concept proposal that describes the project and the nature of the technical assistance requested (see below for more information on how to apply). If you are already receiving technical assistance from the NCRP, these services will continue. If you have additional technical assistance needs that have not yet been met, please apply under this Request for Proposals (RFP).

DELIVERY OF PROPOSALS & DEADLINES

Proposals will be accepted on a rolling basis through April 2022, and reviewed periodically. NCRP is in the process of evaluating and potentially expanding its technical assistance program, and will provide more detailed information about this updated program in future rounds.

If a local project sponsor has immediate needs for assistance (e.g., technical support to apply for the upcoming CAL FIRE Forest Health or CCI programs) please submit your proposal as early as possible, as NCRP will need at least 3 weeks to evaluate proposals and match them with available technical service providers.

Proposals for the Wildfire Resilience and Forest Health technical assistance should be emailed to Katherine Gledhill kgledhill@westcoastwatershed.com.

Tribal proposals for the Wildfire Resilience and Forest Health technical assistance should be emailed to Sherri Norris sherri@cieaweb.org.

BACKGROUND

The [North Coast Resource Partnership](#) (NCRP) is an innovative, stakeholder-driven collaboration among local governments, Tribes, watershed groups, and other interested partners focused on integrated resource planning and local project implementation in California's North Coast region. Since 2005, the NCRP has successfully integrated federal, state, Tribal, regional and local priorities and utilized a multi-benefit approach to identify and seek funding for the highest priority projects throughout the region. The focus of the NCRP includes forest and watershed health, salmonid recovery, water quality and supply, intra-regional cooperation, energy independence, climate change mitigation and adaptation, public health and economic vitality, with a specific emphasis on projects that benefit economically disadvantaged communities. The partnership is led by a Leadership Council comprised of Tribal members and county officials, relies on scientific and technical review from staff and a Technical Peer Review Committee, and is informed by a broad and diverse stakeholder community. For more information about the NCRP please see the [NCRP website](#).

The NCRP has a long history of providing technical assistance to North Coast communities to support and develop local and regional projects that promote integrated and multi-benefit outcomes in the North Coast region. Specific to wildfire resilience, the NCRP was awarded a grant from the [Department of Conservation, Regional Forest and Fire Capacity Program Block Grant](#) which has funding to identify and provide technical assistance for local and regional projects to support forest and community health and long-term resilience to wildfire. Please see the [NCRP Regional Forest and Fire Capacity Planning webpage](#) for more information.

PROJECT CONCEPT PROPOSALS: IDENTIFYING TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE NEEDS

The NCRP is issuing this Request for Project Concept Proposals to identify project development technical assistance needs in the North Coast region that meet the criteria defined by the Department of Conservation and the North Coast Resource Partnership.

A team of technical advisors made up of regional experts will be paid by the NCRP and made available to provide one-on-one technical assistance and capacity building to those interested in creating and developing projects that improve forest health and wildfire fire resilience. Types of technical assistance may include site assessment, grant tool assistance, mapping and GIS analysis, greenhouse gas calculations or associated cost estimates, help with permitting, project benefits quantification, and preliminary project design/reports. Other types of technical assistance not listed here may be requested, and project sponsors will need to articulate how the technical assistance will result in wildfire resilience and forest health, or meet the broader goals of the North Coast Resource Partnership.

The amount of technical assistance will be based on how well the project concept aligns with the NCRP proposal evaluation criteria, the economic challenge of the applicant, and how much assistance the applicant requires for project development. The typical value of technical assistance for this round is anticipated to be in the range of \$5,000 to \$15,000 per entity.

SPECIFIC TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE CONCEPT PROPOSAL REQUIREMENTS

Proposal Packet

1. **Proposal Cover Page (Exhibit A)**; downloadable PDF form: [Proposal Cover Page \(Exhibit A\)](#)
2. **Project Technical Assistance Concept Proposal (Exhibit B, maximum 5 pages)** that demonstrates an understanding of the NCRP goals and objectives related to watershed and community resilience, describes potential projects or activities that promote one or several of the following: forest and watershed health, wildfire resilience, fuel load reduction, ecosystem health, biodiversity, water quality and supply, , climate change mitigation and adaptation, community health and safety, economic vitality. The concept proposal must also demonstrate a clear need for Technical Assistance to develop the proposed multi-benefit project. A project concept proposal template can be found as Exhibit B.
3. **Organization Statement of Qualifications**, including key personnel and their qualifications, proposed subcontractors, hourly rates, references, and list/hyperlinks to examples of relevant work that support the proposal (*maximum 5 pages*)
4. Signed NCRP [Memorandum of Mutual Understandings](#).

Inquiries

Call or email Katherine Gledhill with questions kgledhill@westcoastwatershed.com or 707-795-1235

For Tribal questions please call or email Sherri Norris sherri@cieaweb.org or call 510-334-4408

Eligible Applicants

Eligible applicants include federally recognized Indian Tribes, California State Indian Tribes, public agencies, local or state agency/special districts, Resource Conservation Districts, non-profit organizations, and public utilities.

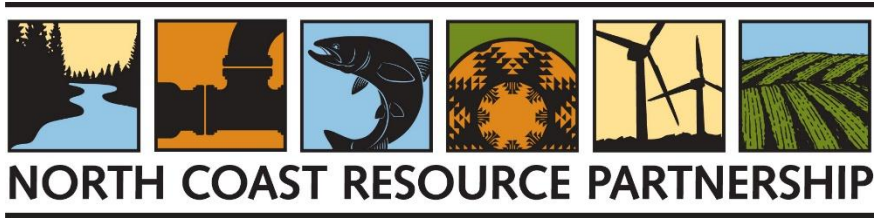
PROPOSAL EVALUATION & SELECTION FOR TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

Proposals for technical assistance will be evaluated based on a selection process developed by the NCRP RFFC ad hoc appointed by the NCRP Leadership Council. Support for proposal evaluation may be provided by NCRP technical consultants as requested. Technical assistance proposals will be evaluated by staff using the criteria developed by the Ad Hoc committee and will recommend a suite of projects based on available funding. NCRP RFFC Ad Hoc or TPRC committee will consider the draft suite of projects and make the final selection. The specific criteria used to evaluate and rank the proposals for technical assistance submitted for this RFP are listed below. Proposals will be evaluated based on the following criteria and scored from 0 – 10, with a weighting factor applied where:

1. A score of 9-10 points will be awarded where the criterion is fully addressed, achieves significant outcomes and is supported by thorough and well-presented documentation & logical rationale.
2. A score of 7-8 points will be awarded where the criterion is addressed, achieves significant outcomes but is not supported by thorough documentation or sufficient rationale.
3. A score of 5-6 points will be awarded where the criterion is addressed, achieves moderate outcomes and is supported by thorough and well-presented documentation & logical rationale.

4. A score of 3-4 points will be awarded where the criterion is marginally addressed, achieves moderate outcomes but is not supported by thorough documentation or sufficient rationale.
5. A score of 1-2 point will be awarded where the criterion is marginally addressed, but achieves outcomes that are low in significance.
6. A score of 0 points will be awarded where the criterion is not addressed.

NCRP PROPOSAL SCORING CRITERIA	WEIGHTING FACTOR	Range of Points
Project type and sponsor eligibility		y/n
Demonstration that the project technical assistance needs are reasonable, justifiable and can be effectively addressed by the technical assistance team.		y/n
Demonstrated successful outcomes and work products for projects similar in nature to the project proposal submitted	1	0 – 10
A Project Description that includes a clear problem statement, intended purpose and appropriate solution	2	0 – 20
The goals and objectives of the Proposal help to achieve the goals and objectives of the NCRP and/or objectives of the NCRP RFFC grant	1	0 – 10
The project implements effective strategies, provides multiple benefits of significant magnitude	2	0 – 20
Need for the project and demonstration that the project is clearly supported by and important to the local community and region	2	0 – 20
The project is located in and substantially benefits an economically disadvantaged community or severely disadvantaged community	2	0 – 20
TOTAL SCORE		0 - 100



**EXHIBIT A
PROPOSAL COVER PAGE**

Project Name

Organization Name

Organization Type

- Federally recognized Tribe
- California State Indian Tribe
- Public agency
- Local or state agency/special district
- Resource Conservation District
- Non-profit organization
- Public utility
- City or Town
- Other: _____

Contact Name/Title

Name: _____

Title: _____

Email: _____

Phone Number (include area code): _____

Organization Address (City, County, State, Zip Code):

Authorized Representative (if different from the contact name)

Name: _____

Title: _____

Email: _____

Phone Number (include area code): _____

Certification of Authority

By signing below, the person executing the certificate on behalf of the proposer affirmatively represents that s/he has the requisite legal authority to do so on behalf of the proposer. Both the person executing this proposal on behalf of the proposer and proposer understand that the NCRP is relying on this representation in receiving and considering this proposal. The person signing below hereby acknowledges that s/he has read the entire Request for Proposals document and has complied with all requirements listed therein.

Official Authorized to Sign for Proposal

Signature

Date

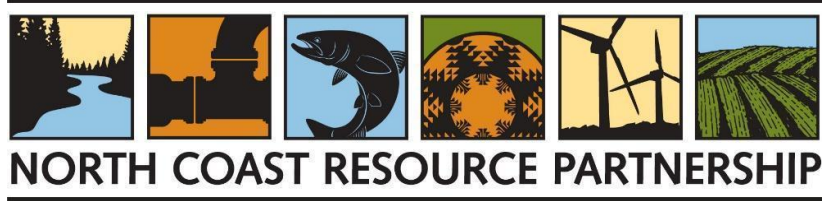


EXHIBIT B CONCEPT PROPOSAL TEMPLATE

Please complete a Concept Proposal for Project Development and Technical Assistance (maximum 5 pages) that demonstrates an understanding of the NCRP goals and objectives, describes potential project activities that promote one or several of the following: forest and watershed health, fuel load reduction, salmonid recovery, intra-regional cooperation, climate change mitigation/ adaptation, public health, and economic vitality. The concept proposal must also demonstrate a clear need for Technical Assistance to develop the proposed project.

Project Name: _____

1. Project Abstract [750 characters max.]
2. Project Description [2000 characters max.]

The Project Description should include: the intended purpose of the project; a problem statement: why the project or process is needed; setting and background; the major components of the project or process; a description of how the project or process will be implemented; and a summary of the expected benefits.
3. List and describe specific Project Goals/Objectives
4. Describe how the project addresses the [North Coast Resource Partnership Goals and Objectives](#)
5. Describe the location and size of the project and the communities served by this project.
6. Indicate whether the project provides direct benefits to a project area comprised of Tribes, Disadvantaged Communities or Severely Disadvantaged Communities and list these communities. [[NCRP Interactive Map](#)]
7. Describe how the project addresses the need of the communities listed above.
8. List and describe the partnerships involved in the project and local and/or political support.
9. List the estimated benefits expected to result from the proposed project.
10. List the approximate project cost and potential sources of matching funds, amounts and indicate their status.
11. List any scientific studies, plans, designs or engineering reports related to the project.
12. Describe the specific technical assistance needed to fully develop the project and why technical assistance is requested from your organization.