

Attachment 2: Work Plan (Amendment 1)



Introduction

This scope of work is intended to align with and reflect all elements of the 2022 RFFC program guidelines, and will support the rapid increase of wildfire, forest, and community resiliency projects consistent with the California Wildfire and Forest Resilience Action Plan, Agreement for Shared Stewardship of California's Forests and Rangelands, the California Forest Carbon Plan, and Executive Order B-52-18. This will be accomplished through refining and implementing a regional priority plan (RPP), supporting the enhanced capacity of regional partners, and developing a substantial suite of priority projects ready for implementation. This scope of work builds on and complements the previous RFFC grant awards to the North Coast Resource Partnership (NCRP). Specific elements of the RPP planning process that will be leveraged and built upon include regional remote sensing, evaluation of regional priorities via the NCRP Adaptive Planning and Prioritization Framework (APPF), a portfolio of priority large scale, integrated multi-benefit, landscape scale projects, capacity investments in regional organizations, workforce enhancement, technical assistance to project sponsors, and learnings and applications of knowledge from the RPP demonstration projects, as well as from cross-boundary collaboration among RFFC grantees, DOC, Task Force and other partners.

The NCRP has a long history and focus on equity, as reflected in its Tribal and county governance structure, whereby elected or appointed officials represent all constituents in the Region. These principles of equity are documented in the NCRP MOMU and Policies and Procedures Handbook. However, there are opportunities to increase the NCRP's focus on equity and to ensure that all of the sub-tasks below support and enhance the NCRP's long history of equitable and transparent planning, education, outreach and engagement. NCRP will develop and implement a detailed strategy for enhancing engagement of underrepresented communities, including activities such as translation of meetings and materials, scheduling of meetings at times that are convenient for community members, engaging community members in information gathering, and ensure that planning, and decision making incorporates methods of engagement that facilitate direct participation and eliminate barriers for communities and organizations to participate. This engagement strategy (described in Task 5) will be included in the NCRP RPP Implementation Plan, described below in Task 2.

Task 1. Project Management: fiscal and contracting coordination; maintaining the work plan, ensuring the terms of the grant agreement are met; issuing, awarding, and managing contracts; processing payments; reporting project progress; ensuring environmental compliance, and providing for an auditable record of all funding allocations.

Task 1 Deliverables: quarterly report and invoice; list of contract agreements.

Task 2. Regional Priority Planning

NCRP will build on and begin implementation of the Regional Priority Plan (RPP) developed with Round One RFFC funding and approved by the North Coast Resource Partnership Leadership Council in December, 2022. NCRP has an established geographic regional focus, and a governance structure, comprised of appointees from the Region's Tribes and counties. The NCRP will develop the following elements to support regional priority planning:

- A. NCRP will develop a detailed implementation plan for the RPP that will include all strategies, solutions and actions included in the RPP as well as the tasks outlined in this scope of work, with documentation of existing status, planned future work, funding required or secured, schedule, and lead entity (if known). The RPP implementation plan will be developed and maintained as an Airtable, with links to other tools, documents and resources as needed. The RPP Implementation Plan will complement the NCRP Project Tracker. NCRP and DOC will review and refine the RPP Implementation Plan during regular meetings, and NCRP will use the implementation plan to collaborate with partners and seek funding to leverage RFFC investments.
- B. NCRP will develop a regional data strategy, including an assessment and methodology approach that will rely on the NCRP APPF , which explicitly includes alignment with the data, methods, toolkits and pillars of the Task Force and other key Tribal, state and federal agency partners.
- C. NCRP will perform regional and local data development and collection, spatial analysis and mapping, and integrate non-spatial data – including new plans, reports, research, local assessments, and policy directives from DOC, Task Force, other state, federal, tribal, university and NGO/RCD/private partners - NCRP will evaluate these partner updates and datasets/information as they are available and integrate them into the plan and APPF as appropriate.
- D. NCRP will coordinate Tribal consensus-building meetings to develop policies and procedures to support data sovereignty, protections of confidential data and resources and alignment with local state and federal policies and programs. NCRP will establish criteria to ensure that Tribal data is integrated with Tribal originators' approval in a way that is protective of culturally sensitive data.
- E. NCRP will adaptively update the NCRP Prioritization Framework and the RPP as new data and information becomes available from Tribal, State, Federal, University and other partners, and apply this information to the ongoing updating of regional project priorities. NCRP's regional priority planning will continue to identify, develop, and build

upon a landscape portfolio of projects and actions identified in the first draft of the Regional Priority Plan. Updates will be considered quarterly, at a minimum.

Task 2 Deliverables: a) RPP Adaptive Implementation Plan; b) North Coast Regional Data Strategy; c) documentation of updates to the Regional Priority Plan and Adaptive Planning and Prioritization Framework (APPF); d) datasets, assessments, and map catalogs available on NCRP website; e) Documentation of recommendations for protection of Tribal culturally sensitive information in data gathering, sharing, and incorporation into refinements/updates of the plan.

Task 3. Project Pipeline: Project Identification, Evaluation, Documentation, Technical Assistance: The APPF process of using regional screening and assessments to inform project priority areas will be followed by the next APPF steps including project identification, evaluation, and technical assistance. NCRP and partners will engage in a transparent and equitable project identification, development, environmental compliance analysis, evaluation, and selection processes. Project development strategies will be equitable, supporting Tribes, NGOs, RCDs, organizations, agencies, and subregions with both higher and lower capacity.

- A. Project identification outreach will identify projects, via local and regional planning documents, RFPs, interviews, and uploading of project information via Project Tracker (NCRP Core Staff Team, Consultants, and partners).
- B. Support project proponents in accessing technical assistance, provide resources and guidance (NCRP Core Staff Team and Consultants assigned based on technical expertise related to the specific project need).
- C. Support evaluation of project priority via the NCRP Prioritization Framework (NCRP Core Staff Team and NCRP Technical Peer Review Committee, per approved policy guidance and criteria approved by NCRP Leadership Council).
- D. Provide regular updates of project information via the ongoing updating of the NCRP Project Tracker and performance reporting application (NCRP Core Staff Team).
- E. Technical assistance will be provided to resource challenged entities and communities based on objective criteria including project priority and project merit, per the NCRP Project Prioritization Framework. (NCRP Core Staff Team and Consultants assigned based on technical expertise related to the specific project need).

A major expected outcome of Task 3 is a portfolio of priority, large scale, integrated multi-benefit, landscape scale projects that support the goals of the Task Force's million-acre strategy. This outcome will take time to achieve - some projects will be identified and included in Project Tracker at an early stage of development, having a single thematic or geographic focus, requiring technical assistance and NCRP team support in order to be fully integrated into the larger portfolio of cohesive, landscape scale, multi-benefit projects.

Task 3 Deliverables: a) List of priority projects ready for implementation by a variety of Tribes, organizations, agencies; b) performance reporting matrix; c) copy of RFPs and ranking and evaluation processes; d) list of technical assistance, capacity building and workforce

development support provided; e) project tracking tool deployed and maintained on NCRP website, displaying overview, location, status, and outcomes for all projects in the NCRP region.

Task 4. Building and Sustaining Programmatic Capacity: To implement the capacity elements in the NCRP RFFC Regional Resilience Plan, NCRP will support regional partners in building and sustaining capacity to develop and implement actions and projects to enhance the resilience of North Coast communities and landscapes, by:

- A. Maintaining and building upon the NCRP’s ability to provide regional collaborative infrastructure and building on the NCRP Adaptive Planning Prioritization Framework to effectively and transparently prioritize investments in capacity building. This will include investing resources to maintain and expand the core NCRP staff and consultant team to provide this regional collaborative infrastructure.
- B. Supporting North Coast Tribes and Tribal partners’ in developing/refining individual or sub-regional fire-related programs and needs. The outcomes from this task will be used to inform the larger intertribal interregional meetings, workshops, and strategies as outlined in Task 6.
- C. Soliciting and awarding sub-grants to North Coast Tribes and other entities to enhance their capacity to plan and implement projects, including but not limited to some or all of the below elements:
 - a. Work with NCRP project developers to support the refinement of the “project pipeline” and build the suite of priority projects.
 - b. Develop the associated organizational, technical, and administrative capacity to prepare project plans, specifications, and cost estimates.
 - c. Secure funds for and implement projects in the pipeline.
 - d. Conduct trainings.
 - e. Support for Tribes and economically challenged community representatives to travel to and attend meetings, workshops, training, and other capacity building events, including mileage and lodging.
 - f. Work with NCRP to develop demonstration projects or test beds to evaluate tools or techniques that will result in enhanced capacity to accomplish projects or strategies listed in the RPP.

Sub-grant applications will be solicited via a competitive RFP that will be reviewed and vetted by the NCRP TPRC and Leadership Council and awarded based on set criteria and priorities that achieve DOC RFFC criteria, are approved by the NCRP Leadership Council, and are informed by needs assessments performed during the first round of RFFC funding (combined with other funding sources including capacity needs assessment funded by Humboldt Area Foundation).

The grants will include specific requirements to:

- a) assess and document capacity needs of each entity to more effectively work with the NCRP to identify, plan for, and implement projects; and
- b) assess and document the benefits resulting from these capacity investments (e.g., increased # of projects, better quality projects, faster timeline for project implementation).

Task 4 Deliverables: a) summary of findings and recommendations for scaling up capacity investments to the rest of the NCRP Region and the State; b) criteria for capacity investments via sub-grants and RFPs; c) documentation of grant application solicitation process including copies of RFPs and application guidelines.

Task 5. Outreach and Education

- A. Development of website content, story maps, videos, reports (including contributing to sitewide RFFC program reports), handouts, performance reporting dashboards, posters, presentations (for: partners, legislators, agency staff, et al).
- B. Planning and executing meetings, conferences, training, and workshops, including the purchase or rental of remote access equipment.
- C. Planning and implementing webinars for NCRP or in support of partners.
- D. Miscellaneous activities to share learnings and communicate the effectiveness of RFFC program investments within the North Coast Region, as well as to State and Federal Partners.
- E. Development of and implementation of engagement plan for enhancement of regional equity. This strategy will be reviewed by DOC and approved by the NCRP Leadership Council and will include activities such as translation and engagement with organizations that serve communities that are underrepresented due to language, economic or cultural barriers.

Task 5 Deliverables: videos, webpages, story maps, dashboards, photos, handouts, submittals to RFFC statewide reporting efforts, detailed plan for engagement of underrepresented communities, reporting on engagement plan implementation.

Task 6. Intraregional, Interregional and Statewide Coordination and Partnership Collaboration:

NCRP staff team work to:

- A. Participate in WRTC/DOC RFFC meetings/performance reporting.
- B. Continued coordination with other RFFC partners, including Tribes, state and federal agencies, NGOs and RCDs.
- C. Continued coordination of intertribal meetings to support intraregional and interregional coordination, shared learning, and collaboration.
- D. NCRP Leadership Council engagement on North Coast strategic direction and Tribal and county constituent representation.
- E. Continued coordination meetings with CAL FIRE, USFS, UCCE, CFSC, RCD Collaborative.
- F. Continued engagement with the Wildfire and Forest Resilience Task Force and participation in the regional frameworks as a North Coast-Inland Region Grantee (including the development and maintenance of partnerships and coordination of regional forums).

Task 6 Deliverables: Summary of meetings, learnings and benefits from cross-boundary collaboration and partnership; documentation of lessons learned from tasks 1-5 with other

regions and entities to support ongoing shared learning on the best mechanisms to increase the pace and scale of forest and wildfire resilience projects.