



NORTH COAST RESOURCE PARTNERSHIP REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FOR GRANT DEVELOPMENT TO SUPPORT ON-THE-GROUND IMPLEMENTATION PROJECTS

Proposals Accepted on a Rolling Basis and

Proposals Reviewed and Awards Considered Quarterly: Feb 1, May 1, Aug 1, Nov 1

The North Coast Resource Partnership (NCRP) is pleased to offer Technical Assistance (TA) to Tribes and economically disadvantaged communities to support project development and grant applications for on-the-ground projects that improve forest health, increase wildfire resilience, and help communities and ecosystems address and adapt to climate change.

BACKGROUND

NCRP is an innovative, partner-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 Tribal, federal, state, 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, biodiversity, 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 and county appointees, relies on scientific and technical review from staff and a Technical Peer Review Committee, and is informed by a broad and diverse array of regional partners. 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. For more information about the NCRP please see the [NCRP website](#).

TYPES OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

A significant goal of the TA program is to enable project sponsors to apply for and receive grant funding for landscape scale implementation projects. Types of TA provided by eligible consultants may include grant development and project development activities that directly support grant applications,



such as preliminary project design/planning, site assessment, mapping and GIS analysis, permitting, environmental compliance, project benefits quantification, and cost estimates.

NCRP has begun conducting capacity assessments and a survey to inform and prioritize future organizational capacity enhancement investments (including project planning) in a fair and transparent manner. The results of this assessment and survey will inform a regional capacity enhancement strategy, which may refine and update the NCRP approach to TA. **Please note that the TA program will not consider proposals focused on organizational capacity or general planning at this time.**

AMOUNT OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

The amount of TA awarded will be based on how well the project concept aligns with the NCRP proposal evaluation criteria, the economic context of the applicant and/or community in which the project is proposed, and how much assistance the applicant requires for project development. The typical value of project development TA is \$5,000-\$15,000. Technical assistance awards are provided in the form of a contract between NCRP and an eligible TA provider authorized to provide consulting services. For a current list of eligible TA providers, please see the [List of Consultant Resources for the North Coast Region](#). NCRP will pay the TA provider for specified services provided to the project sponsor, thus project sponsors will receive TA without the need to develop and administer contracts with the consultant.

Please note the following terms and conditions for TA awards:

- NCRP will enter into only one consultant contract per TA award. Subcontracting is allowed by the lead consultant with NCRP approval, but all subcontractors must meet the same insurance requirements as the lead consultant and insurance certificates must be provided to NCRP before subcontracts will be approved.
- TA awardees must have a contract initiated with a TA provider within one year of the award date. If project sponsors are not able to utilize their awards within one year, they may reapply for a future funding round.
- Upon project completion, project sponsors are required to complete a Final Report that will provide feedback on the efficacy of the technical assistance received and what was accomplished and/or leveraged with the award.
- For project sponsors submitting a new proposal for additional TA for an existing or ongoing project, the first TA contract must be completed, and all deliverables and final reports submitted before a new TA proposal can be considered for further funding. Project sponsors



will need to justify the request for additional TA in the Technical Assistance Application Supplemental Information Form.

- To maximize the sustainability of TA funding and ensure fairness across the region, NCRP will be working on policy and program updates that will request more information about project size and impact and may limit the number of times a project sponsor may submit a proposal for an existing project.

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

Eligible applicants include Tribes and organizations serving economically disadvantaged communities (public agencies, local or state agency/special districts, Resource Conservation Districts, non-profit organizations, and public utilities). Please see the NCRP interactive map to determine disadvantaged community status at <https://northcoastresourcepartnership.org/data/>. Project sponsors are required to sign and return the [NCRP MOMU](#) if they have not already done so.

DELIVERY OF PROPOSALS & DEADLINES

Proposals will be accepted on a rolling basis, with applications reviewed and TA contracts awarded quarterly. Submittal deadlines for proposal review are February 1, May 1, August 1, and November 1. All proposals, including supporting documents, must be submitted via the NCRP Project Tracker; please see the [NCRP Project Tracker Technical Assistance webpage](#) for more information.

A complete proposal is made up of 2 elements:

1. **NCRP Project Tracker Project Proposal**
2. **Supplemental Supporting Document** attached and uploaded to the NCRP Project Tracker, which includes:
 - **Proposal Cover Page**
 - **Certification of Authority**
 - **Supplemental Questions** that address the potential project benefits to Tribes and/or economically disadvantaged communities; specific information about the grant opportunity and the need for Technical Assistance to develop the proposed project.
 - **Organization Statement of Qualifications** that briefly describes the organization's key personnel and their qualifications and list/hyperlinks to examples of relevant work that support the proposal.
 - **NCRP MOMU, version 2022** (if not already submitted).



Please see the [List of Consultant Resources for the North Coast Region](#) and indicate on the Supplemental Question form which consultant you would like to work with. We will try to pair you with the requested provider, contingent on provider availability and capacity. If you do not have a preferred provider, we will help match you with an appropriate consultant qualified to provide the requested TA.

INQUIRIES, PROPOSAL OR PROJECT TRACKER SUPPORT

- Tribal applicants please contact the NCRP Tribal Engagement team, Sherri Norris sherri@cieaweb.org, 510-848-2043, and/or Javier Silva, jsilva9806@gmail.com. Note that Tribal project sponsors can request proposal assistance from the NCRP Tribal Engagement Team.
- Non-Tribal applicants contact Rose Roberts at rroberts@northcoastresourcepartnership.org

PROPOSAL EVALUATION & SELECTION FOR TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

Proposals for TA will be evaluated based on a selection process developed by the NCRP RFFC and Proposition 1 Ad Hoc committees and approved by the NCRP Leadership Council. Technical assistance proposals will be evaluated by staff using the criteria developed by the Ad Hoc committees. Projects will be selected based on project score, timing of requested technical assistance, level of need, and available funding. 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 as described in the following table.

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 points will be awarded where the criterion is marginally addressed and achieves outcomes that are low in significance.
6. A score of 0 points will be awarded where the criterion is not addressed.



NCRP PROJECT PROPOSAL SCORING CRITERIA	WEIGHTING FACTOR	RANGE OF POINTS
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA Is the project sponsor an eligible applicant? Is the project type eligible for the current solicitation? Is the project sponsor a Tribal or disadvantaged organization? Does the project serve a Tribal or disadvantaged community? Does the project align with the goals/objectives of the NCRP and the funding source? Will the TA support leverage substantial outcomes related to these goals/objectives? If the project is located on private land, do the primary benefits provide direct public good?	N/A	y/n
REASONABLE NEED Is the financial need clear for this TA support? Are the project technical assistance needs reasonable and justifiable? Can the needs be effectively addressed by the technical assistance team?	N/A	y/n
PROPONENT CAPACITY INFORMATION Does the proposal demonstrate that the sponsor/project team has successful outcomes, permitting viability and work products for projects similar in nature to the project proposal submitted?	1	0-10
PROJECT DESCRIPTION Does the Project Description include a clear problem statement, intended purpose and appropriate solution?	2	(0 – 10 X 2)
PROJECT GOALS ALIGNMENT Do the goals and objectives of the Proposal help to achieve the goals and objectives of the NCRP and the NCRP RFFC grant?	1	0-10
STRATEGIES & BENEFITS Does the project implement effective strategies? Does the project provide multiple benefits of significant magnitude?	2	(0 – 10 X 2)
PROJECT NEED Is the need for the project clearly supported? Does the proposal demonstrate that the project is needed and important to the local community and region?	2	(0 – 10 X 2)
PROJECT DAC STATUS Is the project is located in and substantially benefitting an economically disadvantaged community? Is the project is located in and substantially benefitting a severely disadvantaged community?	2	(0 – 10 X 2)
TOTAL SCORE		0 – 100