



# **NORTH COAST RESOURCE PARTNERSHIP REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO SUPPORT CAPACITY FOR DEVELOPING LANDSCAPE-SCALE PROJECTS**

**Proposals Accepted on a Rolling Basis**

**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 building the capacity needed to plan, fund, and implement landscape scale projects that enhance forest health, as well as watershed and community resilience to wildfires.

## **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, 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. NCRP's priorities include 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 and historically underrepresented 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. NCRP has a long history of providing technical assistance to North Coast communities to build capacity and support and develop local and regional projects that promote integrated and multi-benefit outcomes in the North Coast region. For more information about NCRP please see the [NCRP website](https://www.northcoastresourcepartnership.org).

## **TYPES OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE**

Eligible activities for NCRP TA directly support building the project sponsor's capacity to plan, fund, and implement a landscape scale portfolio of multi-objective projects that enhance forest health, as well as watershed and community resilience to wildfires. Project sponsors should clearly state how funding



will directly expand and sustain the applicant's capacity for project development, grant development, and project implementation over time.

Categories of eligible activities for which technical assistance can be provided include, but are not limited to:

- Assistance with project and grant development activities that directly support grant applications (i.e., preliminary project design/planning, site assessment, mapping and GIS analysis, permitting, environmental compliance, project benefits quantification, and cost estimates).
- Organizational capacity development (i.e., strategic planning, partner and community engagement, developing internal systems to support project and grant development and administration) in support of the planning and implementation of a landscape scale portfolio of projects.

### **AMOUNT OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE**

The typical value of project development TA is \$5,000-\$15,000. Technical assistance is provided through 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 directly for specified services provided to the project sponsor.

### **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 are approved.
- Project sponsors must work with NCRP and their selected consultant so that NCRP can enter into a contract with the consultant within one year. If project sponsors are not able to utilize their allocation of TA 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. Given the NCRP principles of equity and inclusion, NCRP may limit the number of TA awards that will be provided to the same project.

- Note that TA does not fund on-the-ground project implementation activities.

## ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

Eligible applicants include Tribes and entities serving economically disadvantaged communities: counties and local public agencies, special districts, local Fire and Rescue service providers (including Fire Related Districts, Volunteer Fire Department/Companies, Combination Departments, Career Departments) and non-profit organizations. 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 a quarterly review and selection schedule. 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** with an authorized signature from the project sponsor's entity.
  - **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](mailto:sherri@cieaweb.org), 510-848-2043, and/or Javier Silva, [jsilva9806@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:rroberts@northcoastresourcepartnership.org)

## **PROPOSAL EVALUATION & SELECTION FOR TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE**

Proposals for TA will be evaluated based on a selection process developed by the NCRP Resilience Ad Hoc and Technical Peer Review committees and approved by the NCRP Leadership Council. Technical assistance proposals will be evaluated by staff using the criteria developed by these committees. Proposals will be selected based on score, level of need, equity and inclusion criteria described in the NCRP Handbook, 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 these criteria and scored from 0 – 10, with a weighting factor applied as described below:

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.

See NCRP Project Proposal Scoring Criteria on page 5.



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