



File Code: 3000
Route To:

Date: AUG 25 2016

Subject: Forest Service - Natural Resources Conservation Service Joint Chiefs' Landscape Restoration Partnership Proposal Solicitation for Fiscal Year 2017

To: Regional Foresters, Area Director

REPLY DUE OCTOBER 17, 2016

The Forest Service (FS) and Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) are soliciting proposals for funding consideration in fiscal year (FY) 2017 within the Joint Chiefs' Landscape Restoration Partnership (LRP). The intent of the LRP is to encourage and enable cross-boundary restoration through collaboration between FS and NRCS as well as our many state, local, non-governmental, tribal, and individual landowner stakeholders.

The objectives of the LRP are to (1) reduce and mitigate wildfire threats to communities and landowners, (2) protect water quality and supply for communities and industry, and (3) improve habitat quality for at-risk or ecosystem surrogate species.

Selected projects are designed to measurably improve the health and resiliency of forest and rangeland ecosystems. Projects leverage technical and financial resources between agencies and with our partners to complete on-the-ground accomplishments across jurisdictional boundaries. Successful projects utilize this program to focus investment by both agencies within a 3-year period and to coordinate and accelerate efforts within a shared landscape. The spatial and timing linkages of these projects enable cumulative impacts to be more beneficial and efficient.

Eligibility requirements for proposals in FY17 are as follows:

- Proposals must include two levels of signatures – local NRCS Conservationist and Forest Supervisor with the concurrence of NRCS State Conservationist and USFS Regional Forester;
- Proposals must include at minimum a combination of activities on private land, and National Forest System and/or state land;
- Proposed activities must include land treatments, and education, outreach, and/or coordination activities on public, state, tribal, and/or private land; and,
- Projects may be up to three years in length; however, allocations are made on an annual basis and there is no guarantee of funding in subsequent years.

Proposals should be completed by Monday, October 17, 2016 and submitted electronically to Luther Jones, NRCS, at Luther.Jones@wdc.usda.gov and Laurie Kurth, FS at lkurth@fs.fed.us. The enclosed template provides the required proposal format. An integrated evaluation of eligible proposals received will be completed by the FS and NRCS at National Headquarters in Washington, D. C., to initiate a limited number of additional projects in FY17. Selections will be announced by February 2017. An annual Accomplishment Report will be required of selected projects (further guidance will be provided).

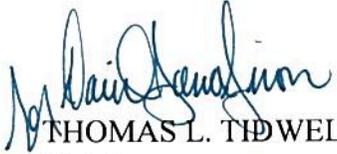


All proposals must follow the enclosed template in order to be considered for funding. The body of proposals should be no more than four pages (maps may appear in an appendix). **Proposals that do not contain the following information will not be reviewed:**

- Project Title;
- Primary Local Points of Contact – *list names and contact information for each agency contact*;
- Project Area - *describe the project area (1-2 paragraphs)*;
- Project Description – *describe the cross-boundary resource objectives for this landscape and the expected outcomes (i.e., the end result of implementing the proposed activities, treatments, and practices). Explain how results are more than a collection of individual projects (e.g., spatial juxtaposition, sharing of expertise, achieving a critical amount of habitat or fuel treatment that tips the balance for a particular risk)*;
- Resource Concerns and Values at Risk– *list values and resources of concern to be addressed (i.e., the reason why this proposal is a priority)*;
- Benefits to Communities and/or Populations – *describe the benefit to communities, counties, or populations (1-2 paragraphs)*;
- Certification of NEPA Readiness – *describe the NEPA documentation on planned work on public lands, and if any proposed work requires pending NEPA, and/or if new NEPA/planning is proposed. NEPA must be complete for activities planned for the first year*;
- Partner Engagement and Contributions– *list actively engaged partners and contributions (funds, staff, or other). Include a budget table clearly showing the financial contribution or dollar value of contribution-in-kind from each partner*;
- Deliverables - *clearly define deliverables by year (up to three years) for both agencies*;
- Monitoring and Evaluation - *describe how the project outcomes will be monitored and evaluated*;
- Budget Request – *provide budget request by agency for each year (up to three years). For NRCS, specify financial and technical assistance needs for EQIP by year. For FS, specify funding need by appropriate program/budget line item for each year. Funds may only be requested from the following programs within National Forest System (NFS), State and Private Forestry (S&PF), and Capital Improvement and Maintenance (CIM):*
 - *S&PF: Hazardous Fuels (WFHF)*;
 - *S&PF: State Fire Assistance (WFCF)*;
 - *S&PF: Forest Stewardship (SPST)*;
 - *S&PF: Landscape Scale Restoration (SPLR)*;
 - *S&PF: Forest Health Protection – State (SPCH)*;
 - *S&PF: Forest Health Protection – Federal (SPFH)*;
 - *NFS: Vegetation and Water (NFVW)*;
 - *NFS: Wildlife and Fisheries (NFWF)*;
 - *NFS: Integrated Resource Restoration (NFRR)*;
 - *NFS: Lands (NFLM)*
 - *CIM: Legacy Roads and Trails Remediation (CMLG); and/or*
 - *CIM: Roads (CMRD).*

- Map(s) – *illustrate the general project location, specific areas targeted for treatment, and land ownership. Include features pertinent to the proposed projects, which may include water bodies, forest types, roads and other infrastructure, fuel risk ratings, etc.*

For questions about the LRP or proposal submission, contact Luther Jones with NRCS at 202-690-3501, or at Luther.Jones@wdc.usda.gov or contact Laurie Kurth with the Forest Service at 202-205-1511 or at lkurth@fs.fed.us.



THOMAS L. TIDWELL
Chief

Enclosure

cc: James Hubbard, Leslie Weldon, Victoria Christiansen, Brian Ferebee, Frank Beum, Shawna Legarza, Laurie Kurth, Denise Blankenship

PROJECT TITLE:

Natural Resources Conservation Service

John Doe, title
USDA-NRCS Illinois State Office
2118 W. Park Court, Champaign, IL 61821
xxx-xxx-xxxx
John.Doe@il.usda.gov

United States Forest Service

Jane Doe, title
USDA-FS Shawnee National Forest
50 Hwy 145 S, Harrisburg, IL 62946
xxx-xxx-xxxx
JaneDoe@fs.fed.us

Project Area

Describe the project area (1-2 paragraphs)

Partnership Engagement

Describe the existing or new partnership and need for collaboration in the area

Cross-Boundary Objectives

List your cross-boundary resource objectives for this landscape

Resource Concerns

List values and resources of concern to be addressed. Example:

Soil Erosion	Soil Quality Degradation	Streambank Improvement
Water Quality Degradation	Air Quality Impacts	Fish Habitat Improvement
Degraded Plant Condition	Wildlife Habitat Improvement	Wildfire Hazard

Benefits to Communities and/or Populations

List communities, counties, or populations that directly benefit from the proposed activities

Certification of NEPA Readiness

Describe the NEPA documentation on planned work on public lands, and if any proposed work requires pending NEPA, and/or if new NEPA/planning is proposed.

Partners and Associated Contributions:

List actively engaged partners and contributions (funds, staff, or other)

Partner Contributions	2017	2018	2019	Total
Kinkaid RCCD (CASH)	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$60,000
Kinkaid RCCD (TA)	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$15,000
KAWP (CASH)	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$3,000
KAWP (TA)	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$15,000

In kind services by...

Monitoring and Evaluation

Describe how the project will be monitored and evaluated.

Deliverables

Clearly define deliverables (e.g. units of accomplishment and outcomes) by year (up to three years) for

both NRCS and USFS. EXAMPLE 1:

Natural Resources Conservation Service: (Environmental Quality Incentives Program) *			
Core Practices:		Cost	
Brush Management	100ac x200/ac=\$20,000	Nutrient Management	400ac x20/ac=\$8,000
Cover Crop	250ac x70/ac=\$17,500	Pond	5no. x7,000/ea=\$35,000
Prescribed Grazing Fence	10,000ft x1.25/ft=\$12,500	Prescribed Burning	200ac x71/ac=\$14,200
Forage and Biomass Planting	100ac x150/ac=\$15,000	Prescribed Grazing	100ac x22/ac=\$2,200
Forest Stand Improvement	120ac x153/ac=\$18,400	Streambank Protection	1500ft x27/ft=\$40,500
Grade Stabilization Structures	20 no x3500/ea=\$70,000	Terrace	1000ft x3/ft=\$3,000
Grass Waterway	5ac x3500/ac=\$17,500	Winter Feeding Structure	1 no x 33,000/ea=\$33,000
Sediment Control Basin	20no x1800/ea=\$36,000	Underground Outlet	3000ft x3/ft=\$90,000
Total Cost – Core Practices			\$432,800
Supporting Practices:			\$62,200
Conservation Cover	Field Borders	Pipeline	
Critical Area Planting	Watering Facility	Riparian Forest Buffer	
Mulching	Heavy Use Area	Filter Strip	
United States Forest Service: (Shawnee National Forest)			
Shoreline Stabilization	1500 feet–at \$80/Ft.	\$120,000 (First Year Only)	
Gully/Streambank Stabilization	1500 feet at 35/Ft.	\$52,500 (Repeats all three years)	
Prescribed Fire	810 acres of prescribed fire at \$65/acre	\$52,500 (Repeats all three years)	
Watershed Inventory	Seasonal college students at \$22,000/season	\$40,000 (Repeats all three years)	

EXAMPLE 2:

Implementation Activities	YEAR 1	YEAR 2	YEAR 3
Private Lands			
Conservation Cover	100 acres	100 acres	100 acres
Forest Stand Improvement	300 acres	300 acres	300 acres
Prescribed Burning	500 acres	1,500 acres	2,000 acres
Tree Establishment	100 acres	100 acres	300 acres
Forest Stewardship Plans	1,500 acres	2,500 acres	3,000 acres
Conservation Plans	15 plans	30 plans	40 plans
CWPP's			
National Forest Lands			
Timber Thinning/TSI	500 acres	500 acres	500 acres
Fuel Reduction	2,600 acres	2,600 acres	2,600 acres
Herbicide Treatment (invasives)	100 acres	100 acres	100 acres
Native seed collection	330 acres	330 acres	330 acres
Native plant establishment	-	-	75 acres

Budget

Agency Request	2017	2018	2019	Total
NRCS (FA EQIP)	\$145,000	\$175,000	\$175,000	\$495,000
NRCS (10% TA EQIP)	\$14,500	\$17,500	\$17,500	\$49,500
<i>S&PF: Hazardous Fuels (WFHF)</i>				
<i>S&PF: State Fire Assistance (WFCF)</i>				
<i>S&PF: Forest Health Protection – State (SPCH);</i>				
<i>NFS: Integrated Resource Restoration (NFRR)</i>				

<i>NFS: Vegetation and Water (NFVW)</i>				
<i>NFS: Wildlife and Fisheries (NFWF)</i>				
Grand Total				

Map