

Community Capacity and Land Stewardship Grant Program

Southeast Alaska Overview



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Webinar Overview

1. Intro to web conferencing service
2. Presentation on NFF & the CCLS Grant Program
3. Q&A



Webinar Overview

Today's webinar will:

- Provide a coarse overview of the NFF and grant programs.
 - Describe the partnership behind the Community Capacity and Land Stewardship Program (CCLS).
 - Detail CCLS funding priorities.
 - Provide information on requirements for grants.
 - Describe the application process.
 - FAQs.
 - Discuss common missteps organizations sometimes make when submitting proposals.
 - Provide a forum for Q&A.
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Housekeeping

- Everyone is on mute in order to eliminate background noise. In order to mute/unmute yourself, hit “ * # ” on your phone.
 - Please hold your questions until the end. There will be plenty of time for Q&A.
 - Try out the chat function. Any questions that come in over the course of the presentation will be answered as soon as the main presentation is over.
 - The session is being recorded, so we'll be able to provide a web link afterward in case you want to revisit it or share it with someone who wasn't able to be on the session today.
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Who's Here?

A few quick questions to learn about who's on the call today:



About the National Forest Foundation

Mission of the NFF:

Engage Americans in promoting the health and public enjoyment of the 193 million-acre National Forest System

- Chartered by Congress in 1991
 - Action-oriented projects
 - Enhance viability of natural resources & communities
 - Involve surrounding communities
 - Benefit America's National Forests and Grasslands
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About the National Forest Foundation

- The only Congressionally chartered organization to deal specifically with National Forest issues
 - NFF works in close partnership with the USFS nationwide
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About the National Forest Foundation

- How we work:
 - Tree planting programs
 - Grant programs
 - Organizational capacity building
 - Constituency building
 - Outreach and engagement activities
 - *Treasured Landscapes, Unforgettable Experiences* conservation campaign sites
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NFF Grant Programs

Provide grants to nonprofit organizations

- 501(c)(3) groups
- Colleges and universities
- Native American tribes



- Implement projects benefiting America's National Forests and Grasslands
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NFF

Competitive Grant Programs

On-the-Ground

- Matching Awards Program
- Ski Conservation Fund

Collaborative Capacity-Building

- Community Capacity and Land Stewardship Program
 - Oregon & Washington
 - SE Alaska
 - California



Community Capacity and Land Stewardship Program

- Currently Available in Oregon and Washington, Southeast Alaska, and California.
 - CCLS SE Alaska partnership started in 2011
 - Supports local efforts that work toward achieving and increasing scale of restoration to the watershed or landscape scale
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Community Capacity and Land Stewardship Program



- Funding from USFS Alaska Region
- Partnership:
 - USDA Alaska Region
 - National Forest Foundation

Community Capacity and Land Stewardship Program

Desired Primary Outcomes:

1. Organizations are successful in coming to agreement on the design and implementation of watershed and/or **landscape scale** enhancement projects that **benefit the Tongass National Forest**.
 2. Organizations accomplish activities that directly support or help advance the **transition to young growth-based forest management** on the Tongass National Forest.
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Community Capacity and Land Stewardship Program

Desired Secondary Outcome:

3. Organizations have developed plans for facilitating **job creation and retention** and **business development** that will lead to improved watershed health or landscape-scale restoration projects that benefit the Tongass National Forest.

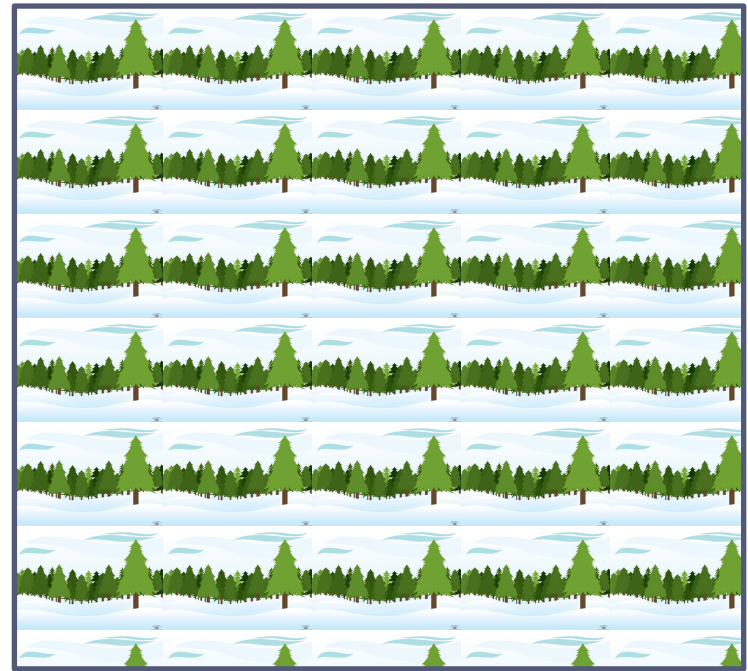
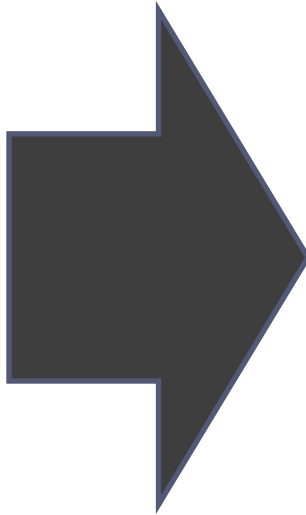
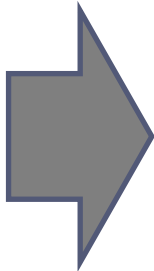


Community Capacity and Land Stewardship Program

- Funding is NOT for on-the-ground work, but rather to help groups **remove barriers to large scale restoration.**



Scale of Ecological Benefits



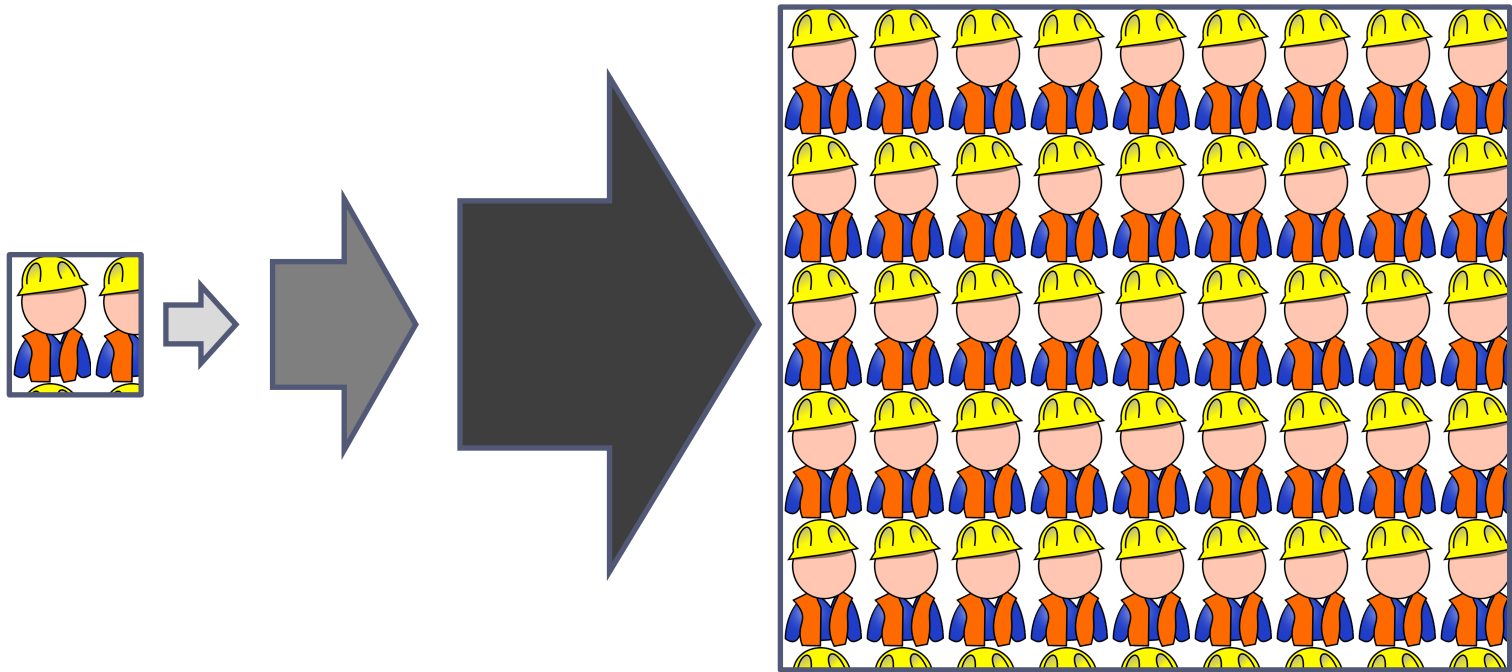
Hundreds
of Acres

Hundreds of
Thousands of Acres

Time



Scale of Economic Benefits



A few short-term jobs

Many long-term jobs

Time



Funding Examples

- Community outreach to help a forest collaborative group be more effective on the ground;
- Workshops or training on facilitation, contracting, or other topics to assist groups in building their capacity to meet restoration goals;



Funding Examples

- Dissemination of best practices and tools for collaborative project development, implementation, and monitoring;
- Prioritization of restoration needs to plans to mitigate ecological impacts;



Funding Examples

- Organizational and staff support: for facilitation, technical assistance, networking, and peer to peer learning;
- Travel supporting collaborative group activities;
- Development of action plans, project strategic documents or similar to advance collaborative processes;



Quick Pause for Questions

Questions about partnership, program as a whole,
or funding scope?

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Up Next:

- Grant Terms
 - Application Process
 - FAQs
 - Common Grant Missteps
 - Q&A
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CCLS Grant Terms

- 12-month project period
 - No match required
 - Applicants are encouraged to leverage additional resources
 - Letter of Support required from USFS District Ranger(s)
 - Work planned or coordinated can be on or off Tongass NF lands, but there must be a clear benefit to USFS-managed watersheds
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Wyden Authority

Funding Authority is broad, but all awarded grants must either:

- Support the protection, restoration, or enhancement of fish and wildlife habitat and other resources on public or private land, or
 - Reduce the risk of natural disaster upon these resources when public safety is threatened.
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Application Information

- Proposal deadline:
 - May 1, 2018
 - Online Application
- Funding Decisions:
 - 2-3 months from proposal deadline to final funding decisions



Frequent Questions

- Are there geographic priorities?
 - No geographic priorities
 - Projects eligible throughout Southeast Alaska as long as compelling case for Tongass National Forest watershed benefit is made
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Frequent Questions

- Can organizations have multiple CCLS grants?
 - Organizations can have only one CCLS grant open at a time
 - Currently open grants must be completed before new funds can be released
 - Are there different expectations for previous CCLS grant recipients?
 - Previous recipients should clearly show how work builds on previous grants, or highlight how it is clearly different from previous work
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Frequent Questions

- Can my organization utilize a Fiscal Sponsor?
 - Yes, but be sure to understand the NFF policy on fiscal sponsorship
 - Who should I contact with questions?
 - NFF National Office (Montana)
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Common Missteps

- Not fully reviewing and understanding program requirements
 - Not following proposal guidelines
 - Building a program to solely to match a grant opportunity
 - Poorly defining the project
 - Not aligning proposal narrative and budget
 - Insufficient budget detail
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Common Missteps

- Dusting off an old proposal without strong regard for fit
 - Not including clear and realistic measures of success
 - Not acknowledging shortcomings, i.e.:
 - Questionable history
 - Questionable capacity
 - Unfulfilled obligations
 - Making an especially bold ask without the qualifications to back it up
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Questions?

**Community Capacity and Land
Stewardship Program Deadline:
May 1, 2018**

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<https://www.nationalforests.org/grant-programs/ccls>

