



Call for Pre-proposals

Identification of Potential Projects for the California LCC

February 2011

Background

The California Landscape Conservation Cooperative (CA LCC) is a science-management partnership among agencies, non-governmental organizations and other entities working to inform and promote integrated science, natural resource management and conservation to address impacts of climate change and other stressors within and across ecosystems.

The CA LCC is seeking projects throughout the entire CA LCC region (see map on website) that meet the priorities for FY 2011. Additionally, a list of criteria identifies how the projects will be evaluated.

How to Submit a Pre-proposal

The template below identifies the information requested for potential projects to be provided via a form available through the CA LCC website (CaliforniaLCC.org). Each Pre-Proposal should be no longer than 2 pages in length. More than one pre-proposal may be submitted per organization or entity.

Pre-proposal deadline – COB SUNDAY, Feb 20, 2011

Available Funding

Approximately \$850,000 is available for distribution and projects between \$10,000 - \$100,000 are recommended. Projects can be one year or more in duration, however, deliverables should be clearly identified for each year. 2010 CA LCC projects are eligible for continued funding given they meet the additional criteria for continuing projects as listed.

Project Selection Schedule

The CA LCC will evaluate pre-proposals in late February 2011 and invite those who submit pre-proposals that best meet the priorities and criteria to submit full proposals in early March. The CA LCC may suggest partnerships between entities proposing similar or complementary work. A CA LCC Project Selection Team will evaluate and score full proposals in the spring and present funding recommendations to the CA LCC Steering Committee in late April/early May. Awards will be announced soon thereafter. Contracts for this funding will likely not be finalized sooner than June 2011.

For questions, please contact Rebecca Fris, CA LCC Science Coordinator, at 916-414-6558 (Rebecca_Fris@fws.gov) or Tom Suchanek, USGS, at 916-278-9573 (TSuchanek@usgs.gov).

2011 CA LCC Priorities

Projects should support decision-making and conservation delivery for natural resource managers while accounting for sources of uncertainty about system dynamics that would affect management decisions. Projects should address at least one of the following priority issues:

Ecosystem Response/Species and Habitat Information

- Developing models at scales relevant to resource managers that clearly address specific manager needs and characterize habitat/organism responses to projected change under alternative climate/economic/planning scenarios
- Identifying projected future biodiversity hotspots and connectivity needs
- Better understanding of demographic responses to climate change, including dispersal, survival, and productivity (e.g. why hotspots are hot)
- Modeling the frequency, intensity, and impacts of extreme climate-driven events (e.g. sea level rise, floods, wildfires, and droughts)

Decision Support for Climate Adaptation

- Future scenario planning at landscape and ecoregional scales
- Identifying ecosystem impacts of adaptive land-use change – avoiding conflicts between human infrastructure changes and biodiversity/conservation
- Developing open access information retrieval (i.e. metadata commons) systems to inform managers, and decision-support systems/tools that help managers allocate limited resources on prioritization, scenario evaluation and adaptive management
- Developing/standardizing metrics of change, measurement protocols, indicator species, performance measures to assess resiliency
- Monitoring in the context of fully implemented adaptive management frameworks
- Long term monitoring programs designed to establish ecological baselines and trends, and track climate (or adaptation to climate change) effects

Evaluation Criteria – The following describes the criteria by which the CA LCC will score proposals. In order to score highly in the evaluation process, proposals should address all the major headings listed below.

- I. **Applicability to Conservation and Adaptation Decisions-** Highly likely to aid existing or projected conservation and adaptation decisions. Policy makers or other decision makers are clearly asking for support.

2. **Ecological or Ecosystem Response to System/Climate Change** - Will greatly improve understanding or help address crucial sources of uncertainty about how species, ecosystems, habitats, and/or landscapes respond to projected change under alternative scenarios.
3. **Breadth of Understanding** - Project is integrative – multi taxa, crosses trophic levels, includes physical and biological data, enables comprehensive understanding, considers several major climate system components, e.g. water, carbon sequestration.
4. **Accessibility** – Products and information generated will be available and easy to use preferably online, designed for target audience access/understanding.
5. **Scope/Transferability** - LCC-wide or region-specific with projected outcomes and/or products that are clearly transferable to other LCCs.
6. **Partnerships/Leveraging** - Multi-partner project –includes scientists, habitat managers, and/or policy makers from multiple organizations (e.g., conservation and other NGOs, local governments, and state and federal agencies). Builds new collaborations and has secured matching funds and/or in-kind support from multiple partners.
7. **Timeliness and Urgency** - Information is urgently needed because of high risk or to avoid severe impact. Products will inform urgent actions and provide important information for setting up the CA LCC for long term success.

Continuing CA LCC projects will be evaluated by the following additional criteria.

1. **Continued Relevance** - The project addresses one or more of the 2011 priorities.
2. **Project Performance** - The project deliverables were received in a timely manner and were of uniformly high quality.
3. **Readiness** - Previous funds are almost depleted or the project will be expanded with additional funds.

CA LCC Pre-Proposal Template (fill out form on website)

Submitted by: _____

Contact information

→ Please limit description of each Potential Project to no more than 2 pages.

- Project Title:

- Primary Individual, Agency responsible for completing Project:

- List partners and their anticipated contributions to the Project:

- Brief Description of Project:

- Priorities Addressed by Project:

- Describe how Project meets Criteria:

- Timeline for Deliverables:

- Requested Funding (Between \$10,000 and \$100,000 recommended):

Continuing CA LCC Project? _____ Yes _____ No . Continuing projects should provide a brief status of their current CA LCC project.

Submit Pre-proposals via the CA LCC website (CaliforniaLCC.org) by **COB SUNDAY, Feb 20, 2011.**