Pulling Together Initiative
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Agenda

• Overview of National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF)
• Overview of the Pulling Together Initiative
• Partnering Opportunities
• Q & A
About NFWF

• Chartered by Congress in 1984

• 501(c)(3) non-profit organization

• Led by a 30 member Board of Directors appointed by the Secretary of the Interior

• Our mission is to sustain, restore, and enhance the nation’s natural heritage

• We achieve our mission through grant making to organizations and agencies to implement on-the-ground conservation projects
Pulling Together Initiative (PTI)

Partnership

• Bureau of Land Management
• U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
• U.S. Forest Service
• National Fish and Wildlife Foundation

Purpose: promote the conservation of natural habitats by preventing, managing, or eradicating invasive and noxious plant species
Since 1997:

- Supported 640 projects
- Awarded $23 million in funding
- Leveraged with $49 million in grantee match
- Total on the ground impact of over $72 million
PTI is a competitive grant program managed by NFWF and funded through a partnership with BLM, USFWS, and USFS.

A RFP process is used to promote, attract, review, select, and award the best projects.

Utilizes NFWF’s *Easygrants* management system.

Projects selected by a review committee composed of representatives of the funding partners.
Program Priorities

Program seeks to fund projects that represent comprehensive approaches to preventing, detecting, and eradicating invasive and/or noxious plant species, both terrestrial and aquatic.

1. Establish CWMAs and CISMAs
2. Increase Capacity of Existing CWMAs and CISMAs
Program Priorities

All proposals must specifically address how projects will directly and measurably contribute to the accomplishment of program goals.

Proposals must also describe:

• the partnership involved

• why the project is significant in relation to the broader conservation context

• if the project involves education

• how the project will implement IPM strategies

• the long-term management plan
Program Priorities

Projects should also specifically describe the connection to:

• Contributing to the management of species of conservation concern

• Providing long-term benefits, especially to threatened, endangered, proposed or candidate species, or rare habitats

• Producing multiple conservation outcomes
Goal: to fund partnerships that are prepared to formally establish themselves as a CWMA or CISMA.

Priorities: projects that include partnerships with a wide cross-section of invasive species stakeholders including private landowners, local non-profit organizations, state and local governments, and federal agencies. Proposals should describe the partnership structure and the plan to maintain the partnership for the long term.

*A CWMA or CISMA that has recently been formed (~ less than one year) will also be considered under this category.
Increase Capacity of Existing CWMAs and CISMAs

**Goal:** to fund CWMAs and CISMAs that are in a position to significantly accelerate their work or those that plan to undertake a significant project.

**Priorities:** supporting established CWMAs and CISMAs that are high-performing and positioned to increase their capacity.
Typical Funding Timeline

• Request for Proposals (RFP) Released in Spring

• Pre-proposals Due Early Summer

• Full Proposals Due in Fall

• Awards Announced in Mid-December
Eligibility

Nationwide Program

- Applications will be accepted from projects occurring within the United States, including U.S. territories

Applicants may include:
- Non-profit organizations
- Federal, tribal, state, and local governments
- Educational institutions

Ineligible use of grant funds:
- Political advocacy, fundraising, or lobbying
- Litigation or legally mandated mitigation projects
Funding

- Approximately $850,000 available in 2017
- Award range: Up to $100,000
- Matching funds of at least 1:1 in non-U.S. federal funds will be required
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Matching contributions may include:

- Cash
- In-kind contributions, including:
  - staff and volunteer time
  - work performed
  - materials and services donated
  - other tangible contributions to the project objectives
  - eligible indirect costs not covered with grant funding
Partnering Opportunities

- Scale and Diversity of Invasive Species Problems in the U.S. is staggering
- PTI focuses on creating and/or supporting existing CWMAs
  - Fills a unique role in the invasive species management space
- Potential future PTI could focus on this niche and/or include additional approaches to advance:
  - Specific landscapes, e.g. Greater Sage Grouse
  - New models for detection, prevention, treatment, and outreach
  - Addressing invasive species issues in new ways e.g. EDRR, education
  - State specific or specific initiatives
- New funding partners are needed to both increase the impact and/or diversify the programmatic approach
- Simple and flexible ways to involve new interested funding partners