

**TRIBAL**

**Nature-Based**

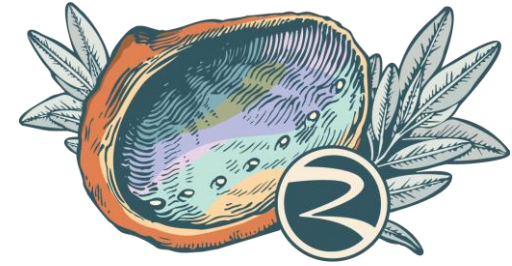
**SOLUTIONS**



**Tribal Nature-Based Solutions  
Grant Workshop**



# Tribal Nature-Based Solutions Grant Program Team



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*California Natural Resources  
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30x30 Program Manager  
*Ocean Protection Council*



# California Natural Resources Agency

The California Natural Resources Agency oversees and supports more than 26 distinct departments, conservancies, and commissions. Our Agency Executive Team leads efforts to steward California's natural environment and to advance Governor Newsom's key priorities.

Over 21,000 Californians work within our Agency all across the state to meet our mission "to restore, protect and manage the state's natural, historical and cultural resources for current and future generations using creative approaches and solutions based on science, collaboration, and respect for all the communities and interests involved."



# Ocean Protection Council Mission and Priorities



Protect California's coast and ocean by advancing innovative, science-based policy and management, making strategic investments, and catalyzing action through partnerships and collaboration.

**Climate  
Change**



**Equity**



**Biodiversity**



**Sustainable  
Blue Economy**



[www.opc.ca.gov](http://www.opc.ca.gov)



# Governor Newsom Policies

## Statement of Administrative Policy on Native American Ancestral Lands

- Directive to increase tribal access and co-management of public lands and identifying opportunities for ancestral land return

## Nature-Based Solutions Executive Order (N-82-20)

- Elevating the role of natural and working lands in the fight against climate change and advancing biodiversity conservation





# Nature-Based Solutions Policies

## Natural and Working Lands Climate Smart Strategy

- Describes and prioritizes management practices of eight landscapes to deliver on our climate change goals and advance broader environmental, economic, and social objectives.

## Pathways to 30x30

- Identifies ten pathways to conserve 30% of lands and coastal waters by 2030

Both documents can be found at [www.californianature.ca.gov](http://www.californianature.ca.gov)

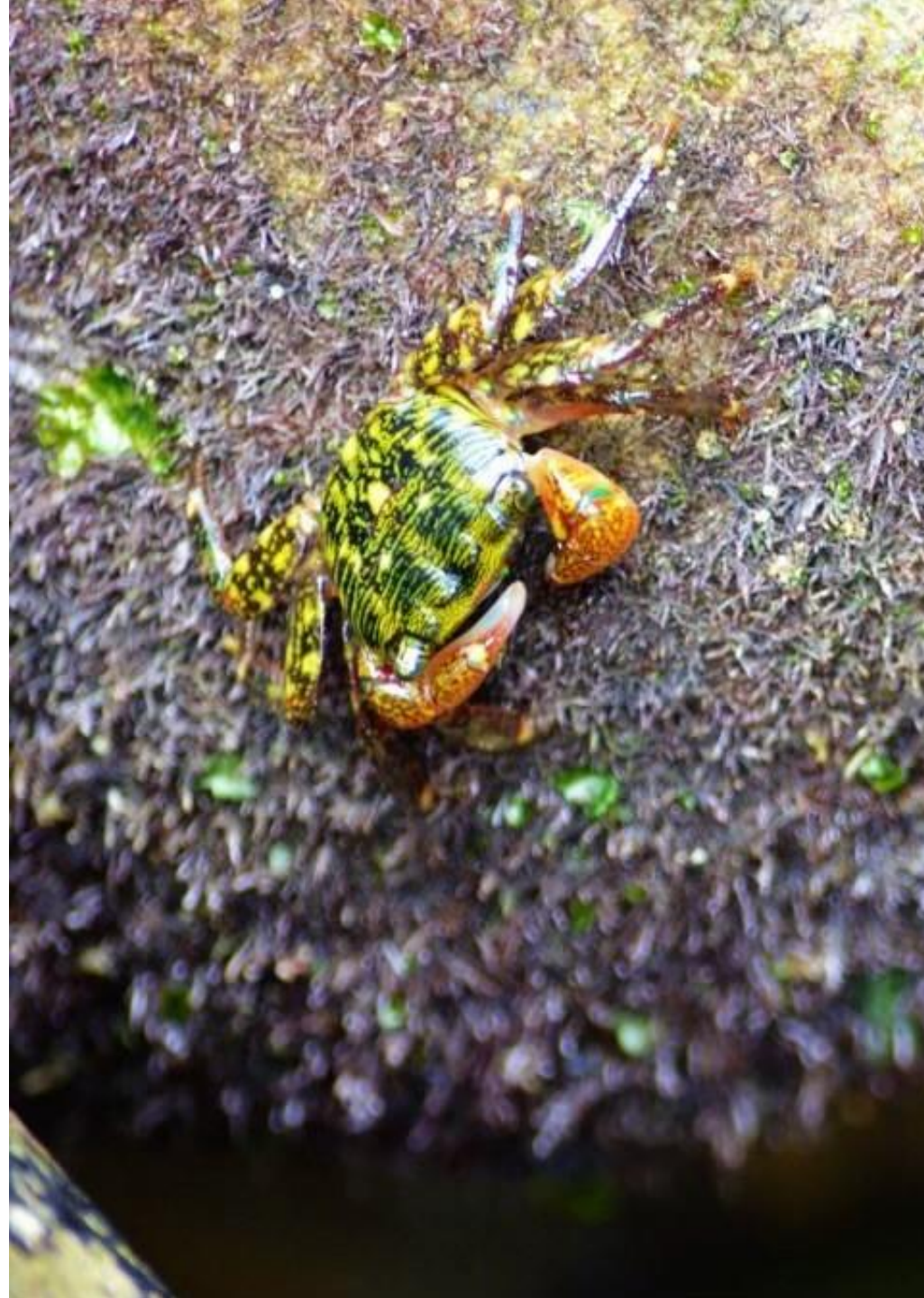




# Ocean Protection Council

## Tribal Engagement Strategy

- A framework to enhance partnership between the California Ocean Protection Council and tribes.
- Advance OPC's mission to ensure that California maintains healthy, resilient, and productive ocean and coastal ecosystems for the benefit of current and future generations.
- One goal in the Strategy is to launch the Tribal Small Grants Program to support tribal priorities in the coast and ocean space.





# Conservation Framework

- **Key Objectives**

- Protect and Restore Biodiversity
- Expand Access to Nature
- Mitigate and Build Resilience to Climate Change

- **Core Commitments**

- Advance Justice, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion
- **Strengthen Tribal Partnerships**
- Protect our Economic Prosperity, Clean Energy Resources, and Food Supply





# Tribal Nature-Based Solutions Program

- Tribally-led
  - Early, often, and meaningful government-to-government consultations
  - Tribal roundtable sessions
  - Regional workshops
- Fund projects to advance tribal multi-benefit nature-based solutions
- \$100 Million for Tribal Nature-Based Solutions
- \$1 Million for the Ocean Protection Council's Tribal Small Grants



# TNBS Workshops

Thank you for hosting us!

- Big Valley Band of Pomo Indians
- Wiyot Tribe
- Big Pine Paiute of Owens Valley
- Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Indians
- Sycuan Band of the Kumeyaay Nation

CNRA met and consulted with representatives from over 45 different California Native American tribes on draft grant guidelines





# Eligible Projects

1. **Planning** for multi-benefit nature-based solutions projects.
2. **Implementation** of multi-benefit nature-based solutions projects.
3. **Ancestral land return** for the purpose of advancing multi-benefit nature-based solutions projects with a **planning** project.
4. **Ancestral land return** for the purpose of advancing multi-benefit nature-based solutions projects with an **implementation** project.

Applicants may submit multiple applications for unique projects across the categories but cannot include aspects of the same project in multiple applications.





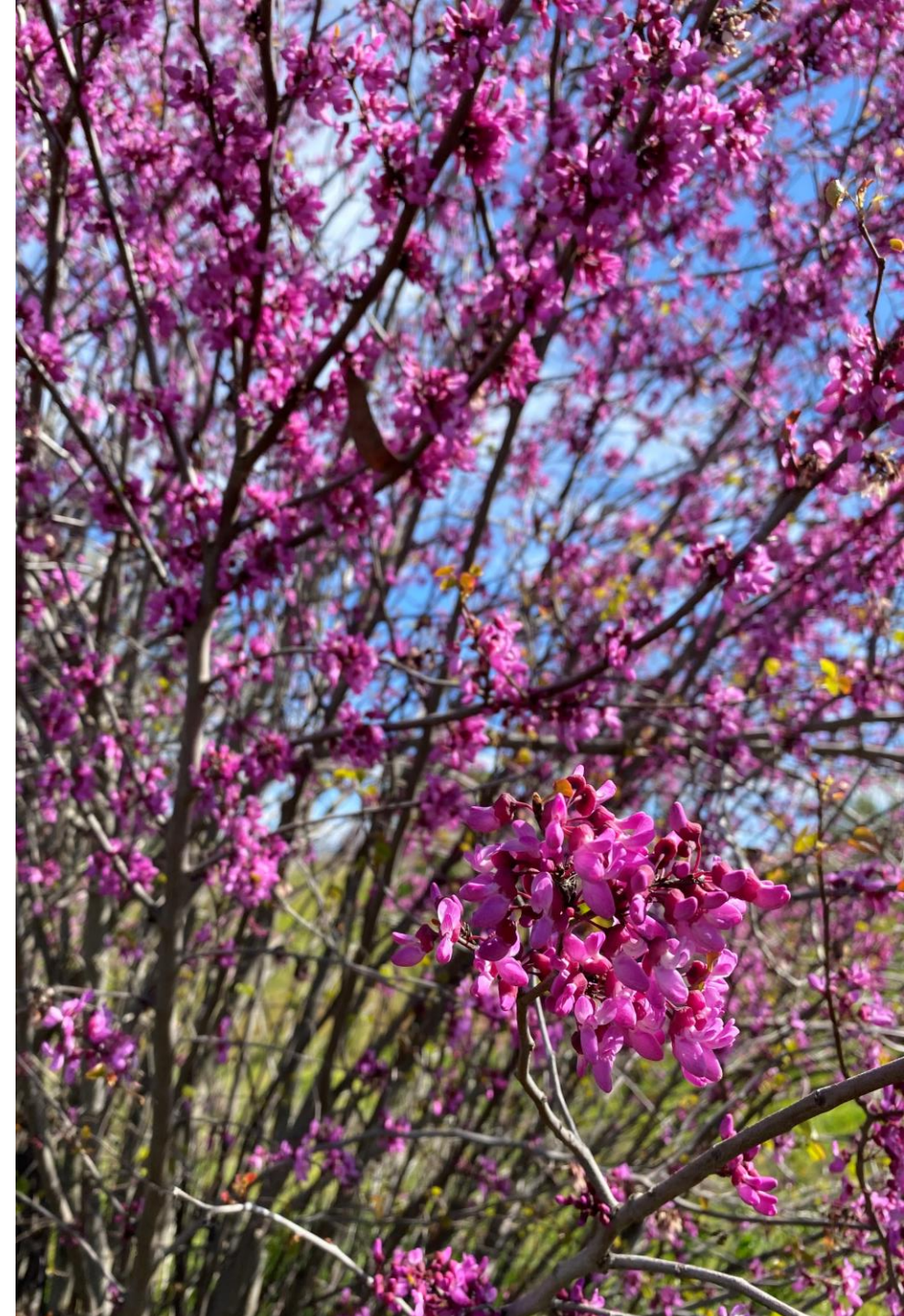
# Key Definitions

## Multi-Benefit:

- means projects that produce two or more benefits. For the purposes of the Program, multi-benefit projects must produce two or more of the benefits, including addressing climate change, improving public health, increasing equity, and protecting biodiversity, as defined by the *Natural and Working Lands Climate Smart Strategy* and *Pathways to 30x30 Strategy*.

## Nature-Based Solutions:

- means actions that work with and enhance nature to help address societal challenges. This term describes a range of approaches that protect, sustainably manage, and restore nature to deliver multiple outcomes, including addressing climate change, improving public health, increasing equity, and protecting biodiversity.



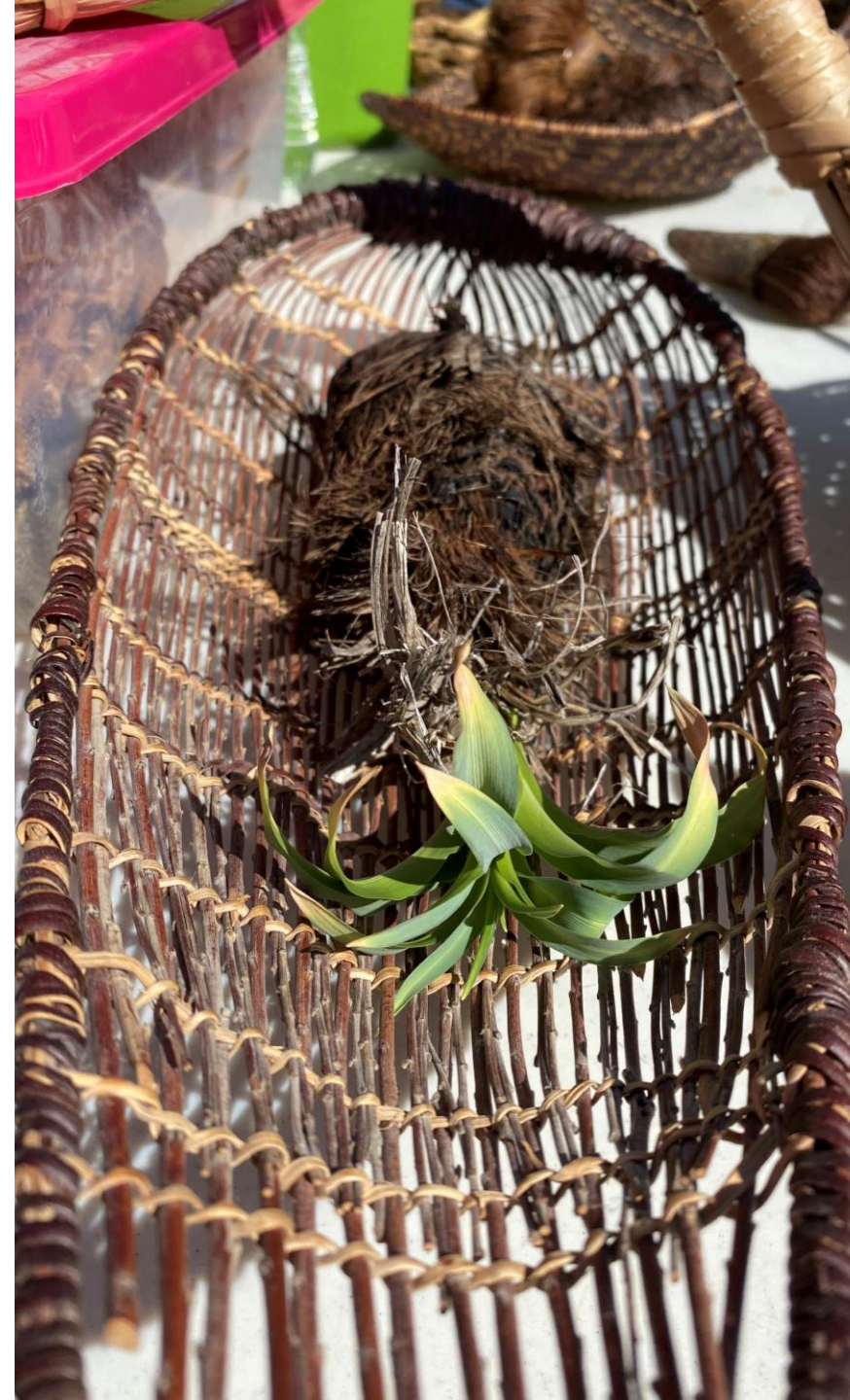


# Eligible Applicants

Eligible applicants include **California Native American tribes and tribally led entities located in California**. Non-tribal entities may support California Native American tribes and tribally led entities in applying for the program. Applications can be submitted on behalf of an inter-tribal consortium, tribal conservation district, or partnerships. Applications submitted by non-tribal entities or inter-tribal consortium, tribal conservation district, or partnerships must meet two requirements:

1. Confirm that a California Native American tribe(s) is actively partnering with and supporting the application through a signed letter or resolution from the chairperson of the tribe(s) and;
2. Describe how the project will serve the supporting tribe(s) and community.

Please note, CNRA will ask that the Chairperson(s) confirm in writing if the inter-tribal consortium, tribal conservation district, partnership, or non-tribal entity has been authorized to submit an application on behalf of the tribe(s).





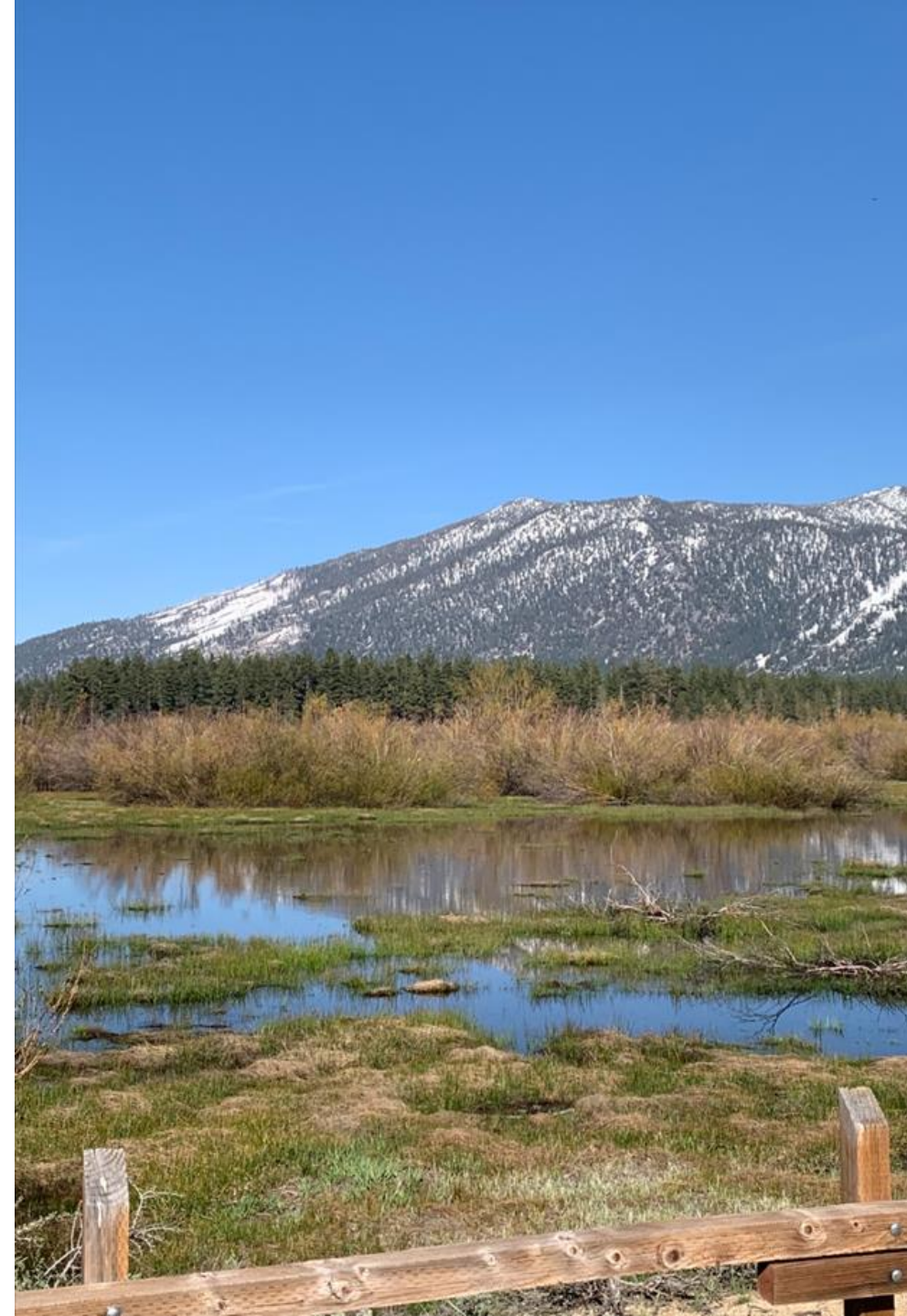
# Funding

- Planning:
  - Minimum: \$50,000
  - Maximum: \$1,000,000
- Implementation:
  - Minimum: \$200,000
  - Maximum: \$5,000,000
- Ancestral Land Return:
  - Minimum: \$200,000
  - Maximum: \$10,000,000

\*\$70 million are available for encumbrance until June 30, 2027, expenditure until January 1, 2029, and final invoices due by March 31, 2029.

\* \$30 million are available for encumbrance until June 30, 2028, expenditure until January 1, 2030, and final invoices due by March 31, 2030.

\*\$1 associated with OPC's Tribal Small Grants are available for encumbrance by June 30, 2025, with final invoices due by March 31, 2027.





# Process for Applying for Funds in Standard Grant Program

- Step 1: Preliminary project proposal stage where applicants can submit short preliminary project proposals to determine eligibility for the program.
- Step 2: Invited applicants can submit full project proposals.
- Step 3: Site visits and presentations on proposed projects.
- Step 4: Last opportunity to submit additional information.





# Time-Sensitive Shovel Ready Projects

In tribal consultations and workshops, tribal representatives expressed the need to have quick funding available for time sensitive ancestral land return projects that are partially funded and need additional support to close.

To help coordinate state funding programs and to meet this need, CNRA reserves up to \$25 million for time-sensitive shovel ready multi-benefit nature-based solutions ancestral land return projects **that are partially funded**.

These projects will be on accelerated timelines and will **condense Step 2 and Step 4** of the Standard Grant process into one application.





# How to Submit Applications

Submit applications via email or mail to the California Natural Resources Agency.

Email submissions are preferred.

Email applications to:

[tribalaffairs@resources.ca.gov](mailto:tribalaffairs@resources.ca.gov)

Mail applications to:

California Natural Resources Agency

Attn: Tribal Nature-Based Solutions

715 P Street, 20th Floor

Sacramento, CA 95814



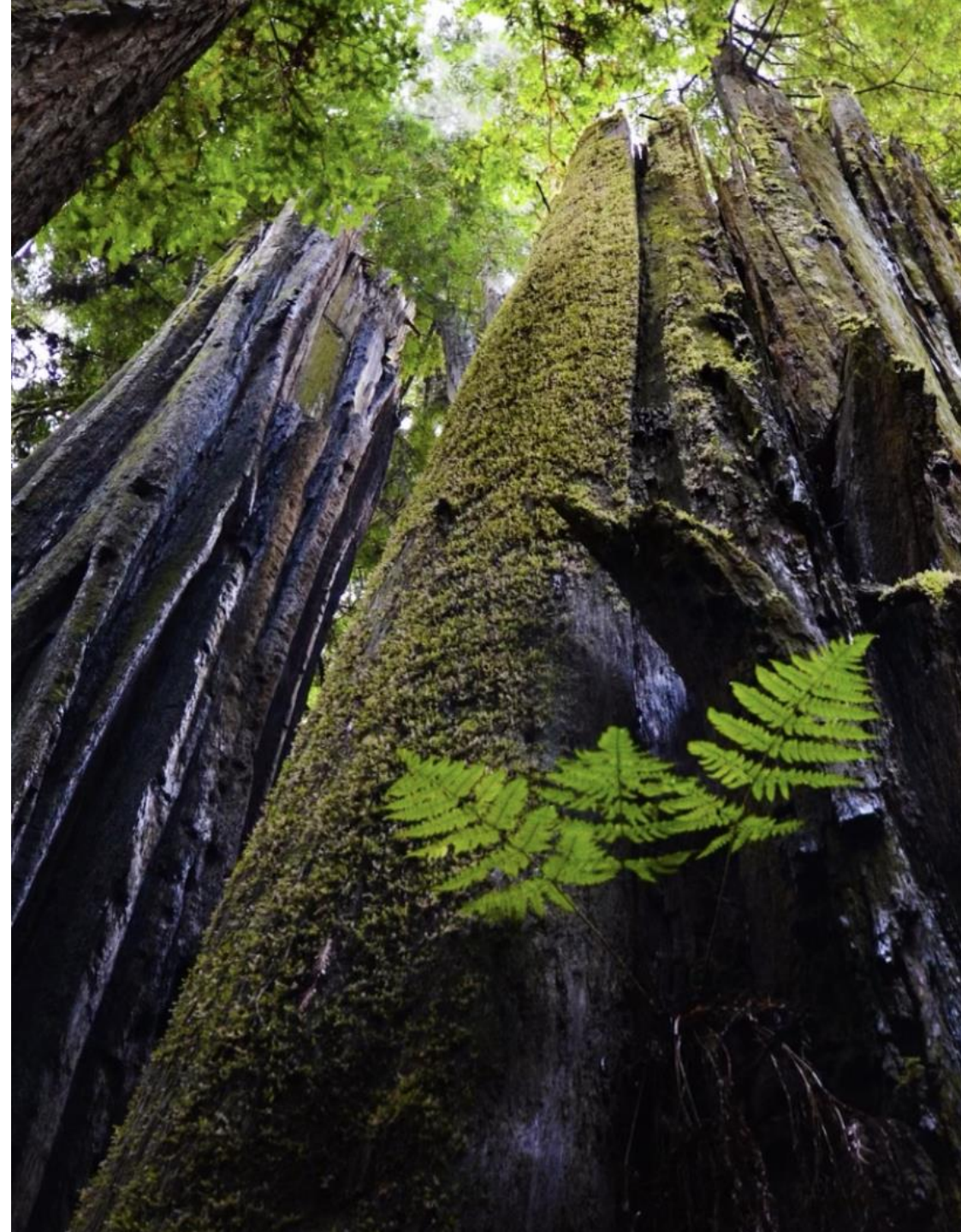


# Step 1: Preliminary Project Proposals

During the Preliminary Project Proposal step (Step 1) applicants' Project Summary section will be made publicly available on the Program website.

Applicants will be provided the opportunity to respond to any requests for collaboration or concerns related to their project. Applicants will be required to address any requests for collaboration or concerns related to their project during the Project Proposal step (Step 2). All information shared during Step 1 may be publicly available.

During the Preliminary Project Proposal step (Step 1) and Project Proposal step (Step 2) applicants are required to consult with other local California Native American tribes and engage with local communities that may be impacted by the applicant's project.





# Step 1: Preliminary Project Proposals Application

1. Preliminary Project Proposal Information Form
2. Project Summary
3. Preliminary Project Questions
4. Signed Letter or Resolution





# Step 1: Preliminary Project Proposals Question

c. Provide a **detailed description of the California Native American tribe(s) that will be served by the project**. Include official name of the tribe(s), tribal demographics, and description of the tribe(s)' ancestral land boundaries and where the project location is related to those boundaries.

d. Explain **how the project is “multi-benefit”** by describing the two or more benefits that address climate change, improve public health, increase equity, and protect biodiversity. Please indicate which strategy (Natural and Working Lands Climate Smart Strategy, Pathways to 30x30 Strategy, and/or Ocean Protection Council’s Tribal Engagement Strategy) the applicant is relying on and include the page numbers of the specific strategies.

e. Explain **how the project is a “nature-based solution”** by describing how the project works with or enhances nature to address societal challenges. What approach is the applicant using, including protecting nature, sustainably managing nature, and/or restoring nature? What is the societal challenge that the project is addressing?

f. Does the project **advance coastal and ocean multi-benefit nature-based solutions**? If yes, please indicate which action included in the Ocean Protection Council Tribal Engagement Strategy the applicant is relying on and include the page numbers of the specific strategies.

g. Explain **how the applicant is an eligible applicant for this program**. Eligible applicants include California Native American tribes and tribally led entities located in California. Non-tribal entities may support California Native American tribes and tribally led entities in applying for the program. Applications can be submitted on behalf of an inter-tribal consortium, tribal conservation district, or partnerships. Applications submitted by non-tribal entities or inter-tribal consortium, tribal conservation district, or partnerships must describe how the project will serve the supporting tribe(s) and community.





# Step 2: Project Proposals Application

The Project Proposal Application:

- Project Information Form
- Project Proposal Form
- Project Summary
- Project Questions
- Ancestral Lands and Boundary Map

The following must be attached to the Project Proposal Application:

- Project Proposal Form Signature Page
- Cost Estimate
- Supporting Documents
- Location Map
- Signed letter or resolution from the chairperson of the tribe(s) that are actively supported by the application (See Appendix F.1)
- Site Plan (Implementation and Ancestral land return projects only)
- Photographs (Implementation and Ancestral land return projects only)





# Requirements and Project Need Questions

1. Project Applicant's Information
  - Name and contact information that can be made publicly available
  - Key partners and collaborating entities
2. Project Type (CHOOSE ONE)
  - Planning project
  - Implementation project
  - Ancestral land return and Planning projects
  - Ancestral land return and Implementation projects
3. Provide a detailed description of the California Native American tribe(s) that will be served by the project. Include official name of the tribe(s), tribal demographics, and description of the tribe(s)' ancestral land boundaries and where the project location is related to those boundaries.





# Requirements and Project Need Questions Cont.

4. Explain how the project **addresses a critical need for the applicant and tribe(s)**.

5. Explain **how the project is “multi-benefit”** by describing the two or more benefits that address climate change, improve public health, increase equity, and protect biodiversity. Please indicate which strategy (*Natural and Working Lands Climate Smart Strategy, Pathways to 30x30 Strategy, and/or Ocean Protection Council’s Tribal Engagement Strategy*) the applicant is relying on and include the page numbers of the specific strategies.

6. Explain **how the project is a “nature-based solution”** by describing how the project works with or enhances nature to address societal challenges. What approach is the applicant using, including protecting nature, sustainably managing nature, and/or restoring nature? What is the societal challenge that the project is addressing?

7. Does the project **advance coastal and ocean multi-benefit nature-based solutions**? If yes, please indicate which action included in the Ocean Protection Council *Tribal Engagement Strategy* the applicant is relying on and include the page numbers of the specific strategies.

8. Explain the **tribal consultations and public engagement the applicant has completed** in the development of the project. How has the applicant addressed any concerns or requests for collaboration?

9. Explain **how the applicant is an eligible applicant for this program**. Eligible applicants include California Native American tribes and tribally led entities located in California. Non-tribal entities may support California Native American tribes and tribally led entities in applying for the program. Applications can be submitted on behalf of an inter-tribal consortium, tribal conservation district, or partnerships. Applications submitted by non-tribal entities or inter-tribal consortium, tribal conservation district, or partnerships must describe how the project will serve the supporting tribe(s) and community.





# Planning Projects

- Preparation of CEQA and/or NEPA compliance documents
- Surveying and/or mapping of proposed project areas
- Development of site maps and implementation plans
- Obtaining project permits
- Preparing and delivering an outreach campaign targeted at adjacent landowners, tribes, community partners, etc.
- Researching and training tribal workforce, cultural practitioners, and/or staff on multi-benefit nature-based solutions skill sets, Traditional Ecological Knowledges, and/or other tribal expertise for the purpose of applying to or participating in a specifically identified federal, state, or philanthropic grant process
- Developing restoration plans that can incorporate cultural activities to increase biodiversity, restore habitats and improve wildfire resiliency, forest health, and/or increase access to traditional foods and materials
- Developing a workforce development component of a future multi-benefit nature-based solutions project(s)
- Planning for one or more of the implementation activities listed below
- Hiring consultants, grant writers, and legal counsel for specific multi-benefit nature-based solutions project planning purposes.
- Research and monitoring projects
- Outreach/education/community engagement activities





# Planning Project Questions

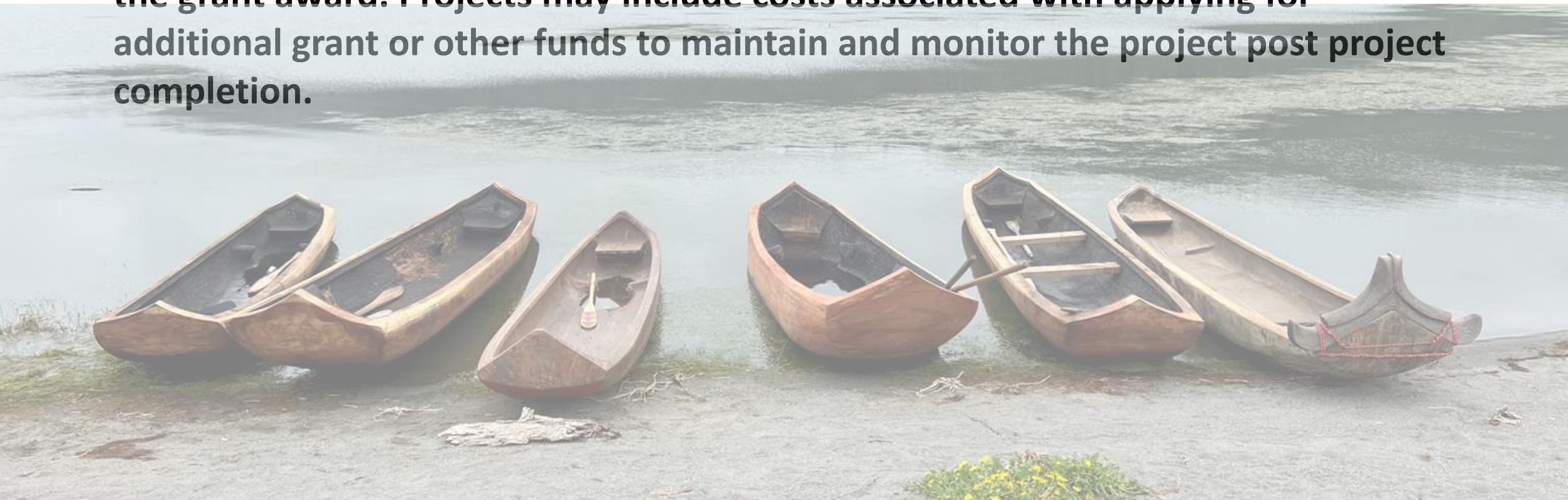
1. How will the planning project and associated activities support the tribe(s)' future **multi-benefit nature-based solutions priorities**?
2. Describe **the assessments**, including, but not limited to, environmental (CEQA/NEPA), hazard, and biological assessments, **that have been conducted to date**. If an assessment has not occurred, describe what is planned to develop a baseline of conditions.
3. If the applicant will be applying for a State or Federal grant program after completing planning, please specify the grant, provide a website link to information on the grant, and provide the timeframe when the application will be submitted. **How will the planning activities paid for by this grant assist the applicant in accessing other grants?**
4. Describe what type of **planning activities** will be completed.
5. How will the **project measure success and document outcomes**?





# Implementation Project

- **A multi-benefit nature-based solutions project that is ready to implement. “Ready to implement” means planned projects which have already undergone scoping and significant design, or which can be completed within two years of the grant award. Projects may include costs associated with applying for additional grant or other funds to maintain and monitor the project post project completion.**





# Implementation Project Questions

1. How will the **proposed project benefit the tribe(s)**' ancestral lands and community?
2. How will the implementation project and associated activities support the tribe(s)' **future multi-benefit nature-based solutions priorities**?
3. Describe, in detail, the **components of the implementation project**.
4. Describe the steps that have already been completed on the project and the **immediate steps to be taken post-grant award**.
5. List all **entities with ownership and jurisdiction over the project** location and the status of notifications, agreements, meetings, etc. about the project with each owner and jurisdictional entity.
6. If the applicant will be including a nature-based solutions **workforce or economic development component** within their implementation project, please describe the specific components that will be funded with the grant.
7. How will the **effectiveness of the project be monitored and assessed**?





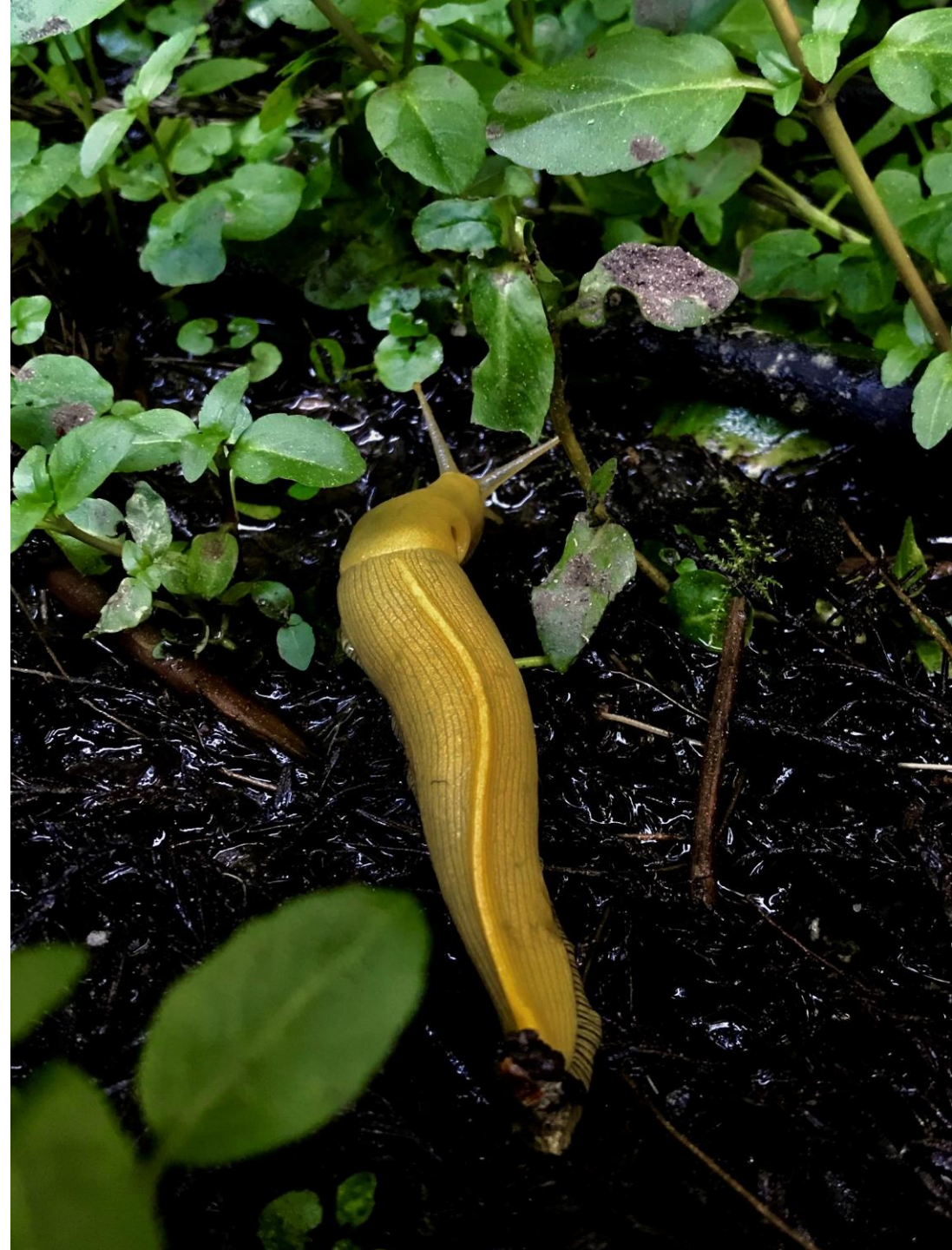
# Ancestral Land Returns

- Purchase of property, conservation easements, water rights, or instream flows.
- Priority Projects:
  - Within current reservation boundaries and addresses “checkerboarding” issues.
  - Directly adjacent to reservation or trust land boundaries.
  - If in shared ancestral territories, that will be jointly owned and/or managed by intertribal consortium, collaborative, or partnership.
  - Directly adjacent to conserved lands or coastal waters and improving habitat connectivity.
  - Eligible, seeking, or have secure partial funding from other state, federal, tribal, or private funds and/or
  - Applicants are landless tribes or tribes with minimal lands (20 acres or less) in reacquiring ancestral lands
  - Returns or restores access to and cultivation of culturally significant natural resources and traditional foods to tribes and their members



# Ancestral Land Return Project Questions

1. Describe the project location **as it relates to the applicant's ancestral lands**, the significance of the property to the tribe and community.
2. Describe the significance of the property for **advancing multi-benefit nature-based solutions priorities**.
3. Describe if the property to be purchased meets any of the **ancestral land return priorities**.
4. Describe if the project is for the **purchase of property, conservation easement, or water rights/instream flows**.
5. Describe what **multi-benefit nature-based solutions projects** will be planned or implemented after the purchase of property.
6. Describe if the owner of the property is a **willing seller** and list all current owners and jurisdictions over the property.





# Ancestral Land Return Project Questions Cont.

7. Describe the **basic title analysis**, including the analysis of the legal access to and encumbrances on the property. Applicants may include a title report.
8. Describe the **steps that have already been completed** on the project and the immediate steps to be taken post-grant award.
9. List all entities that would have **future ownership** and jurisdiction over the property.
10. Describe the **long-term ownership and management** plans, including management funding of the project.
11. Describe **if the property is in shared ancestral territories** with other California Native American tribes and likelihood of any conflict or opposition from other tribes. If so, what actions has been taken to address potential conflict?
12. How will the **effectiveness of the project be monitored and assessed?**





# Organizational Capacity

1. Describe the applicant's **experience in completing similar projects**. If the applicant doesn't have experience in completing similar projects, please identify the resources or partnerships that will be relied upon and what technical assistance may support the applicant's efforts.
2. Describe the applicant's **fiscal capacity** to carry out the proposed project.
3. Describe the **make-up of the decision-making body** of the applicant. This could be a description of the members of the tribal council, board of directors, or other decision-making body.
4. Describe the **applicant's mission, community served**, and include a website link. This could include a summary of a tribal constitution or an entity's mission statement.
5. Describe the qualifications of the **top five (5) project team members** that will be implementing the project if awarded.





# Step 3

Applicants with the most competitive Step 2 Project Proposals will proceed to the next phase (Step 3), which **involves a field visit or project presentation at the discretion of CNRA**. At the field visit or during the project presentation, applicants should be prepared to respond to project-specific questions including, but not limited to, the cost estimate, funding, site plan, project goals, site control, community involvement, operations and maintenance, sustainability, partnerships, transportation, and any possible barriers to completion.

Applicants may be required to provide additional documentation about the project before being granted a field visit or provided an opportunity to present on their project.





# Step 4

- Signed Authorized Resolutions or Certification Letter
- Timeline

## For Planning Projects

- Work Plan
- Staff/Contractors and Rates

## For Implementation and Ancestral Land Return Projects

- Assessor's Parcel Map
- Property Data Sheet
- Proof of Ownership
- Adequate Site Control/Land Tenure
- Operation and Maintenance
- Project Permit Approval Status
- Payee Data Record
- Willing Seller Letter





# Confidentiality

- CNRA's preference is to not receive sensitive or confidential information from California Native American tribes or applicants.
- In the event an applicant believes sharing sensitive or confidential information is necessary as part of the applicant's application, please contact CNRA before submitting the information to discuss potential solutions.





# Due Dates and Timelines

## Time Sensitive Shovel Ready Ancestral Land Return Projects:

- July 31, 2023 - Solicitation Release
- August 1 – August 28, 2023 - Office Hours: Fridays from 2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.
- **August 28, 2023 - Deadline for Submitting Time-Sensitive Shovel Ready Applications by 5:00 p.m. (PST)**
- Early September, 2023 - Anticipated Notice of Proposed Award Posting Date
- Late September, 2023 – Anticipated Agreement Start Date



# Due Dates and Timelines Cont.

## Standard Grant Process:

- July 31, 2023 – Solicitation Release
- August 1, 2023 – February 6, 2024 - Office Hours: Fridays 2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.
- **September 29, 2023 - Deadline for Submitting Preliminary Project Proposals (Step 1) by 5:00 p.m. (PST)**
- October 23, 2023 - Anticipated Notice of Invitation to Submit Full Project Proposals (Step 2)
- **February 6, 2024 - Deadline for Submitting Full Project Proposals Applications (Step 2) by 5:00 p.m. (PST)**
- February 6, 2024 – April 29, 2024 - Anticipated Timeline for Step 3-4 Review and Submission
- Early to Mid-May, 2024 – Anticipated Notice of Proposed Award Posting Date
- Mid-June to Early July, 2024 – Anticipated Agreement Start Date



# Office Hours

The California Natural Resources Agency is providing **open virtual office hours every Friday from 2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.** (PDT) from August 1, 2023 – February 06, 2024, excluding holidays.

To join the conversation during a virtual office hour, please use the Teams video conferencing link or call in found on our website.





# Technical Expert Panel Nominations

The California Natural Resources Agency is seeking nominations for the Tribal Nature-Based Solutions Technical Expert Panel to establish a multidisciplinary evaluation team to review project proposals for the new Tribal Nature-Based Solutions grant program.

Nominations are **due September 1, 2023.**

Please fill out the nomination form found on our website and submit the completed form to [tribalaffairs@resources.ca.gov](mailto:tribalaffairs@resources.ca.gov).





# Tribal Nature-Based Solutions Website

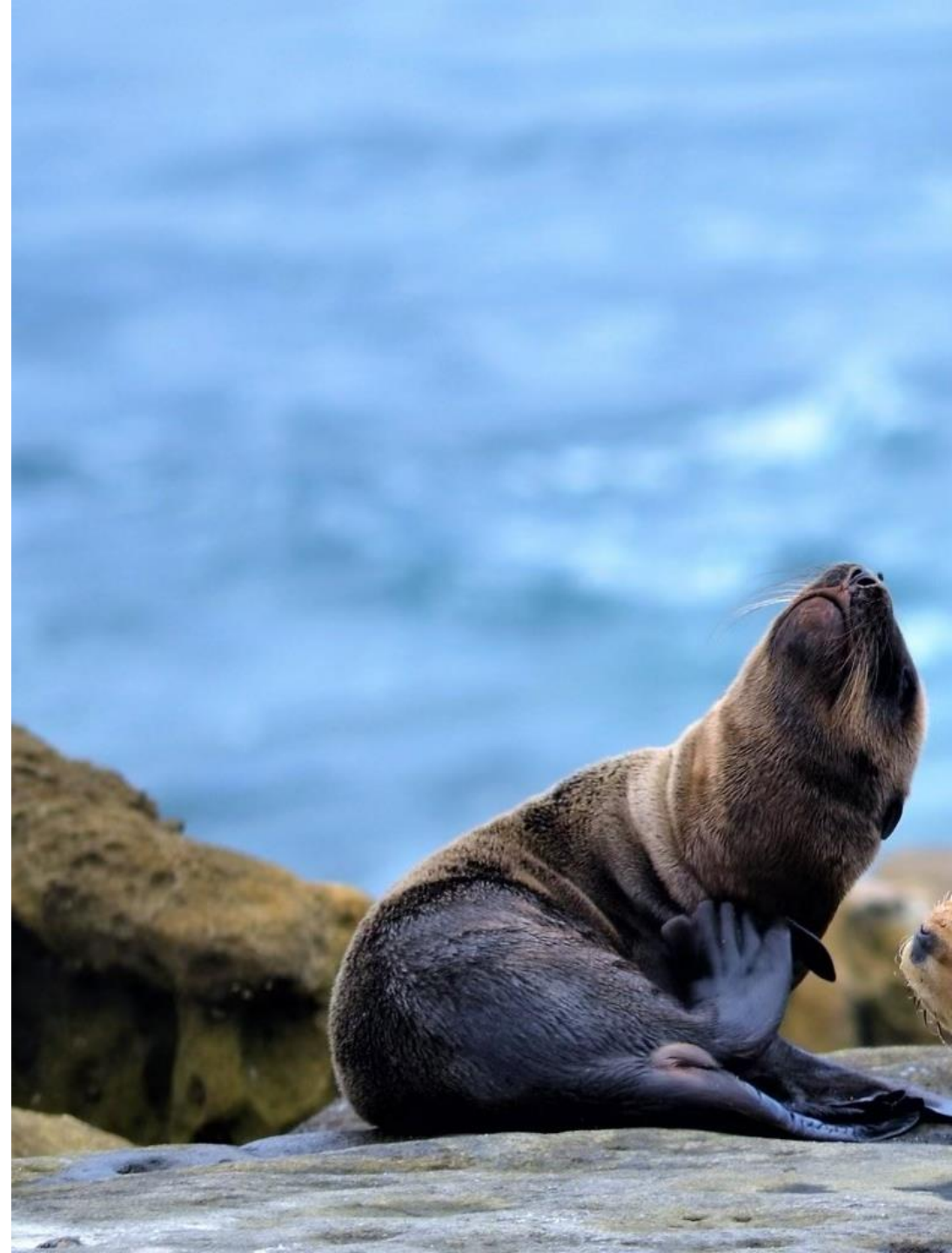
[resources.ca.gov/Tribal-Nature-Based-Solutions-Program](https://resources.ca.gov/Tribal-Nature-Based-Solutions-Program)





# Questions?

Please contact us at  
[tribalaffairs@resources.ca.gov](mailto:tribalaffairs@resources.ca.gov)





**Wado and Thank You**

