

Vermont Dairy Farms Working for Water, Wildlife, Climate, Food and Farmers Request for Technical Assistance Providers 2024

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

This FAQ list will be periodically updated as new questions arise and will be posted on the Northeast Forests and Rivers Fund website at <u>Vermont Dairy Farms Working for Water</u>, <u>Wildlife, Climate, Food and Farmers Request for Technical Assistance Providers - 2024 |</u> <u>NFWF</u>

1) Q: Scope – Can we draft a proposal that addresses many of the objectives you're looking to accomplish and request more than the \$1M available for technical assistance cited in the RFP? A: If you are proposing to address all of the outcomes through a broad-based partnership, and one organization is prepared to manage the subawards/subcontracts to the various partners, then it is reasonable to request more than \$1 million.

2) Q: For-Profit Entities- Can for-profit entities earn a profit on the grant dollars? It was mentioned that it may be best if the project is led by a non-profit organization if that was an option. *A: No.– If the lead applicant of a proposal is a for-profit, our compliance department likely will require that we use a contract vehicle rather than a grant vehicle. That's not a deal breaker and won't affect the competitiveness of your proposal. All things being equal, NFWF would simply prefer to have more of a cooperative agreement-style of relationship rather than a contractor-client relationship as we work to deliver the RCPP.*

3) Q: Metrics – It may be difficult to get into some of the specifics outlined in the metrics table (like # of acres, # of jobs created) prior to having full data. Are you looking for specifics here or just HOW the groups plan to quantify? A: These metrics are set up in EasyGrants so that we can track them easily. At the time of proposal, we appreciate that for this initiative they are informed guesses. You will have an opportunity to adjust them prior to signing any agreement with us. The most important metrics at the outset really are the number of producers you are proposing to work with to update plans and prioritize conservation practices. For the practices themselves, I recommend you make some assumptions and include them in the NOTES (e.g., work with 25 farms, of which 5 will prioritize manure storage enhancements, 6 will prioritize riparian buffers, etc.). This approach also will help you build a budget based on the same assumptions regarding TA-I delivery.

4) Q: In the tip sheet, in the Required Financial Documentation table shown on pages 3 and 4, the financial documents needed from applicant organizations are listed. Do you need documents from only the lead organization or from subawardee (partner) organizations as well? A: Only the lead organization submitting the proposal and who would be the grant recipient of record must submit the documents.



5) Q: Will a grant cover indirect costs? *A: Yes.Please review the online "Budget" section of the application, and National Fish and Wildlife Foundation's Indirect Cost Policy for Applicants <u>http://www.nfwf.org/whatwedo/grants/applicants/Pages/indirect-policy.aspx</u> for more information. Please note that cost-effectiveness, including an assessment of both indirect and direct costs in the proposed budget, will be evaluated during the selection process.*

6) Q: When working in Easygrants who should register and submit the application, the Office of Sponsored Research, or the Principal Investigator? A: The applicant of record must be a person authorized to submit the request for funding on behalf of an organization. This may be a Principal Investigator or another individual based upon organizational policies.

1) Q: Is it possible to extend the application period beyond September 12, 2024? *A: The application period must end on Thursday, September 12, 2024 at 11:59pm Eastern time.*