Q&A from the September 2023 Conservancy Funding Webinar

(Many questions not answered below were answered live in the webinar. A recording of which is here.

Question	Answer
what is the timeline from submitting the preproposal to a grant agreement	60 day review for pre-proposal, 60 day review for full proposal, then 5 Conservancy board mtgs per year- so total estimate of time 5-6 months+
are orgs able to ask for money upfront?	We issues grants on a reimbursement basis, ie work is done first and then you invoice. But there are some situations that we can advance funds to community-based organizations- we can reply better in answers at the end.
We are wondering how coastal is "coastal"? You've funded some inland projects…	The SF Bay Area program includes the full 9 county bay area. The North, Central, and South Coast regions include coastal watersheds and riparian areas connected to the coast, and we can answer more specifically verbally at the end of the presentation.
Can you please show the map again from the first slide at some point?	live answered
Can one organization submit multiple applications for different projects?	Yes
Can some of the funding awarded to eligible entities be used for private company services, such as consultants?	Yes private company subconsultants are allowed
I've heard previously that workforce development funding is only available in some Conservancy geographies. Is this correct?	It's available in all geographies, but needs to be tied to an implementation project.
Would like to suggest that you have a document that explains in detail everything that is required to move forward with your funded project once the grant has been awarded. That is no where on your site, and it is a significant and strict set of requirements and rules.	We have a Grantee Manual with info from application to implementation of a grant- see it here at this link https://scc.ca.gov/grants/resources-for-current-grantees/
Would including sign language interpreter for educational events be considered appropriate for expanding accessibility?	live answered
For a project that falls within both the North Coast and the Bay Area, how does a grant applicant or Conservancy determine which region is appropriate for pre-application?	You don't need to ID that in your pre or full application, we will identify that for you. In general, the coast side of Marin and San Mateo is managed by North and Central Coast staff, and all of SF and interior bay shorelines are managed by SF Bay staff.
Does the grant cover the cost of the $2m insurance requirement?	We allow up to 15% of the grant total to go to indirect costs, and we can answer more fully at the end.

Is matching necessary?	It is not required, but it helps to show stronger support and leverage which is one of the project selection criteria items.
Can the total amount requested undergo minor changes between the pre-application and full application? I'd imagine costs change as project scope is refined and service providers identified.	Yes, but it's best to have a good idea of those partners and costs and scoping prior to applying.
Can we request acquisition and design/permitting/restoration funding at the same time?	live answered
Thanks, missed that. Would be good to put it as a link on the grant application page so that people know to look at it before they submit the application	Great idea, will do!
How much time is an applicant given to prepare a full proposal, once invited?	There is no time requirement, you can submit it at any time after invited for full proposal.
How detailed are the design plans required to be?	live answered
Do you prefer that the overview be in a bulleted format similar to how it was presented on the slide?	Please see brief detailed guidance in the pre-application and full application guides here https://scc.ca.gov/grants/
If a project has funded design and is requesting funding for construction/implementation, should the tasks in the full proposal include all the tasks from design through construction/implementation?	Generally we recommend you apply for planning/permitting phase first, as CEQA fundings need to be made before our Board can authorize construction/ implementation grants. But some implementation activities are exempt, you can discuss with regional manager as needed.
Are projects that have received previous Coastal Conservancy or state funds in earlier phases eligible?	Yes
If we have matching costs that we would like to show, can they include costs incurred prior to execution of the grant agreement?	live answered
How long can the budget extend - more than two years?	live answered
We were referred to you by our ADA consultant. We're a very small special district in need of an ADA accessible beach wheelchair (under $5,000). Is that too small to apply for under these grant guidelines?	live answered
Remind applicants that there are State of CA limits on some things like lodging and per diem	live answered
I presume that grant funded costs can only be those incurred after execution of the greant agreement? If not, what is the date to use?	live answered
How long can a project extend? Do funds need to be expended by a certain # of months from funding receipt?	live answered

You say not to send letters of support, but I was subsequently told to send them as part of my application in order for it to make it to review. So which is it?	They are not required for the application generally, but there could have been a specific interest in the area that the Project Manager wanted to confirm. And also, letters of support are required at the Board phase.
No Letters of Support are recommended?	live answered
No letters of support in the pre-application OR the final application, is that correct?	live answered
Do they have to take place on the coast?	live answered
Could the chat be shared as an FAQ document?	Yes, we can make a FAQ document from the Q&A.
You mention a focus on sea level rise but are there other themes of projects that are likely to rise to the top of getting funded?	
How much funding is remaining of the $37 million mentioned for wildfire resilience?	live answered
Please confirm, every single grant offered is a reimbursable only?	live answered
If already approved for a past grant, are we able to request additional grant funding for succession of a program?	live answered
Please forgive this basic question, but are grants limited to projects on the coast line? How far inland can projects cover? Thank you.	Projects aren't limited to the coast line. We can support projects up to the upper extent of coastal watersheds and in the 9 county Bay area, but the farther from the coast outside the Bay area, the stronger the needed link to coastal resources like salmonids.
The proposal we have in mind would take place on City owned property. We are a very small non-profit, and wondering in this case the City should be the applicant. Can a local government be the applicant?	live answered
Are projects that don't involve purchasing land or directly modifying the coast/habitat still be eligible (for example, restoring an endangered species by breeding and then releasing it)?	live answered
If the project is a feasibility study ..it may not be possible to define end date of implementation until feasibility study is complete. Is this OK ?	live answered
Wildfire resilience is a broad topic. Are you looking for specific types of Wildfire resilience work?	live answered
Do projects have to be directly on the coast/watershed or directly tied to a project on the coast watershed? How closely related to the coast do projects have to be?	

Can you talk more about workforce development? And examples of how this has been successful for other orgs?	
Are construction costs associated with stream crossings/bridges eligible as climate/wildfire resilience projects?	Possibly - if the crossing/bridge is aiding fish passage or restoration for example.
We had a recent experience with acquisition where we requested what our 1st appraisal showed, but when we got the new appraisal and it was lower, we were turned down. Is it better to shoot for a low grant request, since you don't seem to adjust requests once in process??	
Apologies, I meant to use Q&A function! Putting here: Would be curious if place-based nature-positive insurance pilots or scoping for such pilots would qualify here? I see obvious connections to project criteria listed but also no one criteria that this would fit perfecty under? Thank you.	
If we are trying to acquire land how would we know how much to request if we don't yet have the funds to be able to negociate with the current land owners? I guess we could estimate, but what if we are way off? Can we then request more funds since there is no max request?	
Apologies if this was covered already, I missed the beginning of the presentation - are scientific research/data collection projects eligible under any of the current funding opportunities? such as genetic research	
Is SCC interested in intertidal restoration projects.	Yes
Can you share any examples of how non profit entities and gov entity such as a county parks system have partnered together to receive funding from SCC in the past? examples related to public access or land quisition if possible	
Our project has multiple benefits - we engage Title-1 school students in bay area bird habitat restoration /enhancement. For that component to be successful, we also have a classroom component where the students are first educated on the importance of coastal wildlife conservation. This is really important for our program because we serve under-resourced schools who are underrepresented in environmental education. So, both the in classroom and outdoor habitat restoration component can be supported?	
The question was the date that the grant-funded work starts	
You really need to clarify this, because I had to scramble to get them as I was told 3 days before the Board review that they were needed	

If one is already funded by the SCC (Community Wetlands Restoration Grant program) does that preclude receiving a grant from this program?	
can the projects have already begun and we could apply for funds for extant and current work to begin?	
Can another State agency also be a recipient? Such as a collaborative project with CA State Parks, could their share be included?	yes
Can you please speak to any long-term maintenance requirements for implementation projects?	
We are in partership with an org who was recently awarded an SCC grant (we are written in for activities, field trips, etc), are we still eligible to receive an award on our own?	
Can funding for veg management projects to reduce WF risk be done in same area more than once? Example a large Open Space or park that needs addtional work?	
I may have missed this, but what is the deadline for the pre-application?	It is an ongoing application process. We accept pre-applications on a rolling basis.
I may have missed this during the presenation - but for the cost info, should we include funds already expended by the sponsoring agency on the proposed project during prior phases?	This is not required. It could show the support for the project by others, so might be worth mentioning.
regareding CEQA needing to be complete for a construction/implementation project funding—does CEQA need to be completed at the time of pre-application, full application, or just prior to funding agreement?	