

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

**AGENCY/OFFICE:** Bureau of Indian Affairs, Office of Trust Services, Division of Environmental Services and Cultural Resources Management, Branch of Tribal Climate Resilience

### **Annual Awards Program to Support Tribal Climate Resilience for Federally Recognized Tribes and Authorized Tribal Organizations**

**ACTION:** Solicitation, Request for Proposals (RFP)

**ELIGIBILITY:** Federally recognized Tribes are eligible as listed in the current Federal Register, Notice of Indian Entities Recognized and Eligible to Receive Services from the United States Bureau of Indian Affairs, which is the official listing of all Federally recognized Tribes in the U.S. pursuant to Section 104 under the Federally Recognized Indian Tribe List Act of 1994 (Pub. L. 103-454; 108 Stat. 4791-4792). The most recent Notice was published in the Federal Register, 88, FR 2112 (January 12, 2023). Authorized Tribal organizations, as defined at 25 U.S.C. 5304(l) are also eligible to apply.<sup>a</sup> For most Categories of funding, other entities may participate as sub-awardees.

**SUMMARY:** The Secretary of the Interior (Secretary), through the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) Office of Trust Services, Branch of Tribal Climate Resilience (TCR or Branch) solicits proposals from Federally recognized Tribes and authorized Tribal organizations to receive awards to support Tribal climate resilience planning and strategy implementation. The Branch supports Tribes as they prepare for climate change impacts on Tribal Treaty and Trust resources, economies, regenerative agriculture and food sovereignty, conservation practices, infrastructure, and human health and safety. The Branch's Annual Awards Program will provide funding for projects that support Tribal climate resilience as Tribes incorporate science, [Indigenous Knowledge \(IK\)](#), Indigenous languages, and technical information. Documents on TCR's website contain instructions for writing and submitting a proposal on the software service provided. The Department of the Interior (DOI) is committed to equity and environmental justice in program delivery and explicitly seeks to ensure that all projects provide direct, meaningful benefits consistent with the [Justice40 Initiative \(See BIA covered programs Justice40-Covered-Programs-List\\_v1.4\\_04-20-2023.pdf \(whitehouse.gov\)\)](#), [DOI's Equity Action Plan](#), and other related initiatives. The Biden-Harris Administration's Justice40 Initiative set the goal that 40% of the overall benefits of certain federal investments flow to disadvantaged communities, which are defined to include all Federally recognized Tribes or Tribal entities whether or not they

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<sup>a</sup> Note: While both Federally recognized Tribes and Tribal organizations as defined at 25 U.S.C. section 5304(l) are eligible for funding through this solicitation, Tribal organization proposals will be reviewed and ranked separately from Tribal proposals. Pertinent language from 25 U.S.C. 5304(l) is as follows: "(1) "tribal organization" means the recognized governing body of any Indian tribe; any legally established organization of Indians which is controlled, sanctioned, or chartered by such governing body or which is democratically elected by the adult members of the Indian community to be served by such organization and which includes the maximum participation of Indians in all phases of its activities: Provided, That in any case where a contract is let or grant made to an organization to perform services benefiting more than one Indian tribe, the approval of each such Indian tribe shall be a prerequisite to the letting or making of such contract or grant;"

have land.<sup>b</sup> BIA will use a competitive evaluation process based on activity standards as stated in section **D. Activity Standards and Evaluation** of this notice to select projects for funding<sup>c</sup>. Contract proposals must contain the information required by 25 CFR 900.8. If there are questions, please refer below to the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION** section on how to contact the [BIA Tribal Climate Resilience staff](#) for assistance.

**AUTHORITIES:** Awards will be authorized under the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (Public Law 117-58), Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023 (Public Law 117-73), 25 U.S.C. 2, and the Snyder Act (25 U.S.C. 13), as amended, Indian Self Determination and Education Assistance Act (ISDEAA), 25 U.S.C.5301 *et. seq.* Tribal organizations, as defined at 25 U.S.C. 5304(l) are eligible for funding. All proposals must have Tribal resolution(s) supporting their requests in order to receive funding to enter into an ISDEAA Self-Determination contract under Title I or a cover letter for Self-Governance compact under Title VI. Proposals to host trainings and support travel for other Tribes to attend trainings must append Tribal Resolutions from all benefitting and/or participating Tribes. Any award under this announcement does not guarantee future funding (recurring) of any kind, including future BIA Tribal Climate Resilience announcements.

**Uncrewed Aerial System (UAS):** Any acquisition, purchase or use of UAS (e.g. drones) with Federal funding must comply with all federal regulations and policies. The Department of the Interior (DOI), Bureau of Indian Affairs, National Aviation Office (NAO) is not authorized or responsible for determining allocations or appropriate instruments for federal award. The NAO recommends contacting the respective P.L. 93-638 Office, Grants and Agreements Office, Self-Determination Office, Self-Governance Office, Awarding Official, or Solicitor for the proper funding mechanism and applicable policies and restrictions related to federal awards. See Appendix for specific aviation policies and guidance related to DOI aviation and UAS.

**FUNDING LIMITATIONS:** Awards are subject to available funding. The Branch is funded through annual appropriations by Congress, and sometimes through specific legislation. There is no assurance that TCR will be funded in subsequent years. However, Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) funding is slated through fiscal year 2026. BIL funds will provide for some of the Annual Awards Program awards this year, as well as through fiscal year 2026. Additionally, Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) funding is slated through fiscal year 2024 and will also provide for some of the Annual Awards Program awards this year, and through fiscal year 2024. Tribes must maintain a good standing status for the purposes of future funding requests. Any award under this announcement does not guarantee future funding of any kind (recurring), including future Tribal Climate Resilience announcements. *Note: Any information in the possession of the BIA or submitted to the BIA throughout the process, including final work product, constitute*

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<sup>b</sup> For more information, see Executive Order 14008, Tackling the Climate Crisis at Home and Abroad (Jan. 27, 2021); [Justice40 Initiative | Environmental Justice | The White House](#); [M-23-09 \(whitehouse.gov\)](#).

<sup>c</sup> *Category 12, RMP Coordinator applicants will be non-competitively funded: however, if applicant requests which meet the activity standards exceed the amount of appropriations available for FY22, some applicants may be in the second or third cohort instead of the first, and will be required to re-submit their application during the following funding cycles.*

*government records and may be subject to the disclosure to third parties under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), 5 U.S.C. 552, and the Department of the Interior's FOIA regulations at 43 CFR part 2, unless a FOIA exemption or exception applies, or other provisions of law protect the information.*

Because funding is limited, individual awards shall not exceed the designated maximum amounts. There is no award minimum. Applicants are not guaranteed to be funded at the requested amount. There is a limit of two planning awards and one implementation and/or construction award per funding Category per Tribe – this limit includes set aside funding. Eligibility for the First Time Awardees Set Aside is limited to Tribes that have not previously received an award from one of the larger Categories. Recipients of any set-aside are limited to one award in that set-aside to promote equity across all awards and spread the benefits across Tribes. See **D. Activity Standards and Evaluation** for more information on each funding Category and set aside.

**DATES AND ADDRESS TO SUBMIT APPLICATION:** The application submission portal will open Tuesday, July 18<sup>th</sup>. Application packages must be submitted no later than **7:59 pm Alaska Daylight Time/ 11:59 pm Midnight Eastern Daylight Time, October 13<sup>th</sup>, 2023**. Please submit proposals as far as possible in advance of the deadline to allow BIA time to provide feedback concerning any possible deficiencies and allow for application revisions, if necessary. The BIA Branch of Tribal Climate Resilience will not consider proposals received after this time and date.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:** If you have questions about BIA TCR, the Annual Awards Program, or questions regarding the application process, please contact your TCR Regional Coordinator, which may be found on the Branch's [Regional Resources and Contacts](#) web pages. Proposal development assistance may be provided by the Regional Tribal Climate Resilience Liaison Network, whose contact information are also listed on the [Regional Resources and Contacts](#) web pages. General programmatic questions may be routed to [Resilience.Funding@bia.gov](mailto:Resilience.Funding@bia.gov). Please submit questions or requests for technical assistance well in advance of the submission deadline to allow time to provide appropriate assistance. An FAQ webinar will be provided following the solicitation release, taking place with a live Q&A session in early August. The link to register will also be on the TCR [Annual Awards Program](#) site page. The webinar will be recorded and archived on the Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals (ITEP) website here: [http://www7.nau.edu/itep/main/tcc/Training/Webinars\\_Schedule](http://www7.nau.edu/itep/main/tcc/Training/Webinars_Schedule). Following the webinar, TCR will update the presentation slides with new questions asked during the fiscal year 2023 webinar, and make them available via the TCR [Annual Awards Program](#) site page.

TCR will also host a Grant-writing Webinar for Tribes interested in learning more about writing federal grant applications on Wednesday, July 26<sup>th</sup>. There is no registration required and a link to join will also be made available via the TCR [Annual Awards Program](#) site page.

**CATEGORIES OF AVAILABLE FUNDING:** The Branch of Tribal Climate Resilience has

modified its Annual Awards Program for FY23 and overall funding strategy to respond to input received from Tribes during consultation, which called for increased flexibility in the awarding of climate funds. TCR has significantly increased the overall funding availability for climate adaptation planning and implementation of those plans, including implementation of Relocation, Managed Retreat, and Protect-in-Place (RMP)<sup>d</sup> plans. This year, TCR is announcing two Categories of funding: planning and implementation. Separate from these two Categories of funding, TCR has also set aside funds for First Time Awardees, Habitat Restoration and Adaptation, as well as RMP Coordinators, which will be awarded separately from Categories 1 and 2. These set-asides have separate activity standards as described within this solicitation.

**Category 1: Planning** (maximum: \$250,000) *does not include funding for implementation activities.*

**Category 2: Implementation** (maximum: \$4,000,000) *projects must identify whether they include construction.*

**Set Asides:**

- **First Time Applicants** (maximum: \$250,000) *does not include funding for implementation activities.*
- **Habitat Restoration and Adaptation** (no maximum) *if there are multiple competitive proposals then individual amounts may be reduced to fund all selected; projects may be planning or implementation and must identify whether they include construction if they are implementation projects.*
- **Relocation, Managed Retreat, or Protect-in-Place (RMP) Coordinator** (maximum: \$150,000 per year for up to three years) *does not include funding for implementation activities.*

**PROPOSAL APPLICATION GUIDELINES:**

- A. Background
- B. Contract Proposal Content Requirements
- C. Disallowed Costs
- D. Activity Standards and Evaluation
- E. Transfer of Funds and Reporting Requirements for Awardees

**A. Background:**

Tribal Climate Resilience awards will be made to projects that address vulnerability to climate change impacts. Examples of projects types may include, but are not limited to: development and hosting of regionally focused or topically focused climate adaptation and resilience training; climate adaptation planning and data development; climate adaptation internships and youth engagement; travel to access climate adaptation training and attend technical workshops to build resilience skills and capacity; preliminary scoping/needs assessments to develop a planning

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<sup>d</sup> *Note: while "relocation, managed retreat, and protect-in-place (RMP)" terminology is used within this solicitation, the Branch recognizes there may be sensitivities with this language and is considering other terminology that may be used moving forward.*

proposal in the future; planning and design of relocation, managed retreat, and protect-in-place (RMP) efforts in coastal, riverine, as well as wildfire, flood, and landslide-prone areas; implementation projects identified in previously completed planning documents (planning documents are not limited to BIA funded plans); implementation of projects that address mitigation and resilience as a result of the effects of climate change; capacity building to support RMP coordinators; regenerative agricultural and/or food sovereignty projects that build tribal climate resilience; projects enhancing wildlife and/or biodiversity; utilization of nature based solutions; and international IK virtual exchanges.

## **B. Contract Proposal Content Requirements**

Section 25 CFR 900.8 requires that initial contract proposals contain the information listed below. Applications in each Category of funding and/or set-aside must satisfy all five (5) Content Requirements.

If an incomplete proposal is received at least two (2) weeks prior to the deadline to submit applications, it may be returned to the Tribe with an explanation of missing content requirements. An applicant whose application package is returned for this reason will be allowed to address the missing component(s) and resubmit the application for consideration, provided all issues are resolved and the complete application is resubmitted before the deadline listed in the **DATES AND ADDRESS TO SUBMIT APPLICATION** section above.

### 1. Content Requirement 1: Cover Page and/or e-Form Information

Include the following information in the cover page and/or e-Form information:

- a. *Category*: Category or set aside of funding the application is for.
- b. *Title*: A unique project title with work product in the name: e.g., adaptation plan, relocation plan, etc. Do not use “BIA Tribal Climate Resilience” or “Category” as part of the proposal title.
- c. *Requested amount*: The total amount of funding requested from the Annual Awards Program, not including any matching/leveraged amounts. Contract Support Costs (CSC) will be added to the award after awards are made, so do not include CSC with the proposal. **Note**: applications requesting more than the maximum amount in a Category or set aside with a maximum will not be considered for review.
- d. *Applicant Name*: The full name of the proposing Tribe or Tribal organization.
- e. *Partners* (who **will** receive funding): Indicate whether the proposal includes partners that will receive funding from BIA, such as Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Units (CESU), partner academic institutions, etc. and state their name(s). Formal partnerships must include signed letters of support from the partnering entity and/or Tribal Resolutions if from a partnering Tribe.
- f. *Partners* (who **will not** receive funding): Indicate proposed partners that will not receive funding such as other Tribes or entities, if any. Formal partnerships should include signed letters of support from other Tribes or entities.
- g. *First time awardees*: Indicate whether the Tribe has received a Category 1, 2, 4, 6, 7, 10, 11, or 12 award from BIA Tribal Climate Resilience since 2014. **Note**: if the Tribe **has** received an award since 2014 from TCR in these Categories, the Tribe is

**not** eligible to apply for the first-time awardee set-aside.

h. *Summary*: A brief proposal summary to be made public, if awarded.

2. Content Requirement 2: Tribal resolution and/or cover letter with signature summarizing interest and leadership support

**Tribal resolutions are only required to enter into P.L. 93-638 contracts, if the proposal is selected for award.** Signed Tribal resolutions must summarize interest and intent. Self-governance (compact) Tribes are to submit a cover letter summarizing interest and leadership support but do not need to submit a resolution. For Tribal organizations proposing to develop a product (e.g., plan, assessment, providing training etc.) on behalf of a Tribe/Tribes, they must have a resolution from all Tribes the Tribal organization is servicing. Proposals to host trainings and support travel for other Tribes to attend trainings must append Tribal Resolutions from all benefitting and/or participating Tribes.

3. Content Requirement 3: Proposal describing the proposed project and associated activities

Proposals shall be clear, brief and **should not exceed six (6) pages in length**. The Tribal resolution or cover letter, as applicable, and budget table are part of the application but not subject to the proposal length limit. Supplemental materials such as letters of support, charts, graphs, maps, photographs, graphics, planning documents, and/or other relevant information may be included in an appendix and do not count against the six page proposal limit. See **D. Activity Standards and Evaluation** for more information on required criteria for each type of application.

4. Content Requirement 4: A detailed budget table and budget narrative

Budgets should identify funds requested for the work, including identification of the programs, functions, services, or activities specified in the proposal.

- a. The budget narrative will need to be provided within the six (6) page proposal **or** as an attachment to the proposal.
- b. Attach the budget table in a spreadsheet as a separate attachment (Microsoft Excel preferred).
- c. Ensure the requested amount indicated accurately reflects the requested amount summarized in the budget table and is at or below the maximum for the Category or set aside sought (see the **CATEGORIES OF AVAILABLE FUNDING** section).

*Note: Total amounts should only include those requested from the TCR Annual Awards Program and should **not** include Tribal match, in-kind, or leveraged funds from other agencies and/or organizations.*

**C. Disallowed Costs**

Elements or activities that cannot be funded include:

- a. Establishing or operating a Tribal office and/or purchase of office equipment not specific to the proposed project. Cell phone costs, utilities, and similar costs should be covered under CSC and are **not** allowable direct costs. *Note: reasonable cost for each laptop/computer setup is limited to \$5,000 per laptop/computer.*



- b. No more than 10% of total travel costs may be allocated toward equipment maintenance, if applicable.
- c. Stipends are **not** allowable, though honorariums and speaker fees are allowable. No more than 10% of total costs may be allocated toward speaker fees and/or honorariums.
- d. Supplementing employment for current positions not significantly and directly involved in the proposed project. This includes fringe benefits of positions not significantly and directly involved in the proposed project (e.g., an Executive Director with little to no described involvement in proposed work).
- e. International travel.
- f. Legal fees or contracted negotiation fees (e.g., legal counsel).
- g. Entertainment and artwork.
- h. For remote training or conference locations (where eating establishments are not within a reasonable distance), food costs are allowable, but should not exceed \$17,500 or 7% of the total requested amount (whichever is less). Refreshments for non-remote training or conference locations are allowable up to \$1,700 per proposal.
- i. Any other activities not authorized by the Tribal award letter (e.g., a change in scope).
- j. Contingency funds greater than 10% of the requested amount.
- k. “Miscellaneous” or “other” funds.

#### **D. Activity Standards and Evaluation**

Activity standards must be met in any Contract Proposal submitted under 25 CFR 900.8. The following sections outline the activity standards for each funding Category and set aside. All applications will be evaluated for responsiveness to the following activity standards outlined below under each type of application and will be scored accordingly. Types of applications include planning (Category 1), implementation (Category 2), and each of three set asides.

Applicants are encouraged to use existing decision-support and assessment tools to ensure Federal infrastructure investments are designed to withstand current and projected future climate conditions. The attached best practices document identifies a number of Federal resources that can be used to evaluate climate hazards, such as: the U.S. Climate Resilience Toolkit, Climate.gov, drought.gov, heat.gov, the Sea Level Rise Viewer, the National Climate Assessment, the National Risk Index, the Wildfire Risk to Communities tool, and the recently released Climate Mapping for Resilience and Adaptation (CMRA) portal.

The mission of the BIA Branch of Tribal Climate Resilience is to build climate resilience at the project level through leadership engagement, delivery of data and tools, training, Tribal climate resilience capacity building, and implementation of resilience/adaptation plans. The funds announced in this notice support Federally recognized Tribes in their efforts to build Tribal climate resilience through Tribally designed training, planning, vulnerability assessments, supplemental monitoring, capacity building, implementation, and informational exchanges. The following sections outline the information needed in each proposal, the activity standards, and the scoring system for each type of application. Each of the activity standards are worth up to 100 points, while supplemental points administer additional point value and are intended to

create equity across awards.

### ***Planning Activity Standards: Category 1***

Maximum per award: \$250,000

Planning awards are designed to support the development of climate change considerations into formal planning documents, vulnerability assessments, and the development of data analysis efforts including supplementary monitoring<sup>e</sup>. If management plans have already been established, funds may be used for planning and preliminary design related to implementation, such as feasibility studies and desktop assessments. The Planning category is intended to provide as much flexibility as possible and broadens the scope of types of proposals allowed to address diverse and complex Tribal climate concerns. You may use any of the following topics and examples for potential proposals; however, proposals are not limited only to these topics and examples:

- **Adaptation Planning:** development of adaptation plans, vulnerability assessments, and data analysis efforts including supplementary monitoring to address climate change impacts to Treaty and Trust resources integrating IK. Funding must **not** be used for existing routine monitoring programs or research projects.
- **Ocean and Coastal Management Planning:** marine resource planning, restoration planning, ecosystem and/or vulnerability assessments, emergency management, marine spatial planning, coastal adaptation and/or resilience analysis, resource inventories, identifying monitoring protocols and critical indicator species, implementing a unique pilot study or project that would advance Tribal resilience and adaptation, ocean and coastal management knowledge, and/or infrastructure planning related to ocean and coastal challenges. These challenges **must** be attributed to climate change.
- **Relocation, Managed Retreat, and Protect-in-Place (RMP) Planning:** decision-making processes regarding relocation, site expansion, managed retreat, partial relocation, or protect-in-place options due to threats from intensifying coastal or riverine erosion, flooding, permafrost degradation, sea level rise, increased frequency and intensity of wildfire and resulting impacts, and similar impacts. Examples of planning activities can include design of RMP activities; analysis of options; development of Tribal community mitigation efforts; and design of emergency drills and exercises. Examples of risk assessments can include those for coastal and/or riverine erosion, flooding and storm surge, permafrost vulnerability, structural engineering, etc. Examples of data development and monitoring include obtaining information on erosion, sediment

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<sup>e</sup> “Supplemental monitoring” refers to monitoring which is not included in baseline programmatic monitoring and/or resource inventory.



transport, ground temperature, bathymetric mapping and orthoimagery, tidal determination, shoreline infrastructure (e.g., photos), flood elevation/extent, as well as geotechnical and geophysical investigations.

- **Trainings or Workshops:** design and host regional or national Tribal training(s) and workshop(s) that will assist Tribal leaders, program coordinators, planners, and managers in developing the skills necessary to address climate change by developing Tribal adaptation plans or management options through in-person and webinar trainings and workshops. Funds may also support travel costs for Tribal leadership or staff participation in, coordination of, and/or to provide access to training and technical workshops. *Note: Proposals to host trainings and support travel for other Tribes to attend **must** append Tribal Resolutions from all benefitting and/or participating Tribes.*
- **Internships and/or Youth Engagement:** internships support college, graduate, or professional school students or recent graduate employment opportunities working with Tribal programs, or Tribal organizations. Youth engagement supports K-12 students. All internships or youth engagement activities support integration of climate adaptation planning into programs for the benefit of Tribes and help to integrate climate resilience considerations into new or existing youth programs.

The following information must be addressed within planning proposals:

*Executive Summary (0-10 points):*

1. Provide a brief executive summary.

*Planning Project Design (0-30 points):*

1. **Geographic Location (5/30 points):** geographic area to be covered by the plan or assessment and background information describing challenges the Tribe(s) is/are facing from climate change specific to the geographic area. Include maps when appropriate. *Note: maps may be an approximation in the case that resource location is considered sensitive information.*
2. **Gaps in Existing Information (10/30 points):** Provide a brief overview of existing information and data gaps.
3. **Planning Strategy (15/30 points):** To address data gaps and build upon existing information, include objectives, milestones, and deliverables (e.g., plan or vulnerability assessment), as well as expected outcome(s) and measurements of success.
  - a. Describe how the proposed work would build upon previous relevant work and advance the Tribe to the next step in planning and preparedness for management alternatives.
  - b. Describe how climate resilience considerations will be incorporated into Tribal programs and plans.

*Methods and Frameworks (0-20 points):*

Explain how scientific and/or IK methodology and frameworks will be integrated into the strategic planning effort. Describe how the methods and frameworks used will enable Tribal

program managers to prioritize specific actions/alternatives, make progress on identified Tribal goals and objectives, and incorporate climate resilience into more detailed program level management plans. If IK will be incorporated into work, explain:

1. The use of IK and how it will inform decision-making in the project planning process. Also, briefly explain the general methods to be used (e.g., literature review, semi-directed interviews, consultation with cultural experts, etc.).
  - a. A brief description of potential IK methods can be found here: <https://www.nps.gov/subjects/tek/learning.htm>.
2. Discuss the extent of disclosure of specific IK information: any information shared should be of free, prior, and informed consent (FPIC) with any potential partners to ensure ethical research sharing in the details of the proposal and throughout the project.
  - a. Information on FPIC and protections: <https://climatetkw.wordpress.com/>
  - b. November 2022 Guidance for Federal Departments and Agencies on Indigenous Knowledge: [https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2022/12/OSTP-CEQ-  
IK-Guidance.pdf](https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2022/12/OSTP-CEQ-<br/>IK-Guidance.pdf)

*Tribal Capacity Building (0-20 points):*

Describe how the proposed work builds Tribal capacity to address preparedness and increased ability to develop adaptation plans of the Tribes to be served. Include how the plan, assessment, or study will aid the Tribe in the development of informed solutions and build Tribal community support. Include:

1. Specific training (or examples of previous trainings if not offered yet) to be attended
2. Specific technical, leadership, and community planning skills to be gained by Tribal employees, which furthers internal Tribal capacity.
3. How the project will further the Tribe's/Tribes' ability to address future adaptation management planning, perform data analysis, or implement plans.
4. Development of partnerships with institutions (e.g., academic), local communities, other land holders, or stakeholders that are non-tribal cooperators and/or partners that will result from the project.
5. Methods to be used to share capacity and skills acquired with the broader Tribal community.

*Budget (Budget is also Content Requirement 4) (0-20 points):*

Budgets should be reasonable and free of disallowed costs (see section **C. Disallowed Costs**).

Budgets should include the following:

1. Budget Table (10/20 points): Identify funds requested for the work, including:
  - a. Full Time Equivalent (percent FTE), rate of pay, and number of hours of each personnel and associated costs.
  - b. Contractors receiving funding **must** be identified as contractual/consultant services if they are not employees of the Tribe or Tribal organization receiving funds. Contractor costs **must** be broken down and itemized by service/cost type. Append contractor estimates.
  - c. Modified Total Direct Cost (MTDC) Uniform Guidance include supplies and exclude equipment in base calculations.
    - i. "Equipment" means tangible personal property (including information

technology systems) having a useful life of more than one year and a per-unit acquisition cost which equals or exceeds the lesser of the capitalization level established by the non-Federal entity for financial statement purposes, or \$5,000.

- ii. “Supplies” means all tangible personal property other than those described in the definition of *equipment* in this section.
2. Budget Narrative (10/20 points): Each line item in the budget table should be described in detail in the narrative. Clearly align any personnel identified in the budget narrative to the personnel identified in the “Personnel Plan” within the proposal and the budget table.
    - a. Identify each personnel’s role(s) in the project, full time equivalent (percent FTE), rate of pay, and number of hours expected to perform project work.

*Supplemental Points (0-15 points):*

1. Previous Capacity Building Awardee (5/15 points): List any BIA Tribal Climate Resilience awards received since 2014. Supplemental points are available if the applicant **was** previously a Category 6, Capacity Building awardee in one of the 2016-2022 Annual Award cycles **and has not** received a Planning award since 2014.
2. Broad Benefits (5/15 points): If multiple Tribes, Tribal programs, or communities will be served or benefited, identify them. Proposals that serve multiple Tribes, multiple Tribal programs, or multiple communities within a Tribe result in the broadest range of benefits. *Note: To be eligible for “broad benefits” supplemental points, letters of support or resolutions **are required** from Tribes that will be involved or benefit.* Examples include:
  - a. High level adaptation plans, strategic adaptation frameworks for a plan, dataset development for use in decision-making, or cooperative planning efforts covering multiple Tribal programs, Tribal government functions, or multiple Tribes.
  - b. Broad scope vulnerability assessment(s) that serves multiple Tribes (e.g., vulnerability assessment by a Tribal consortium, ecosystem wide vulnerability assessment for natural, ocean, and/or coastal resource(s) that can be used by multiple Tribes for planning efforts or is the foundation of a program-wide training package for Tribal program managers).
3. Risk Prioritization (5/15 points): If the Tribe was identified on a priority list of at-risk communities in a national, regional, or state-wide document in the past 10 years, describe: this document’s risk ranking, where the Tribe is listed within the ranking, and provide a hyperlink to the document.

<b><i>Implementation Activity Standards: Category 2</i></b>
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Implementation awards are designed to support application of on-the-ground, shovel-ready activities that already have a completed plan in place and are identified in official Tribal planning document(s)<sup>f</sup>. Examples of completed plan types may include: Tribal climate adaptation plans, natural resources plans that contain climate resilience considerations and integration (e.g.,

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<sup>f</sup> *Note:* As a reminder, **only Federally recognized Tribes** are eligible for implementation category of funding, though other entities may participate as sub-awardees.

agricultural resource management plans, forest management plans, wildfire management plans, integrated resource management plans, comprehensive economic development strategy plans), drought contingency plans, hazard mitigation plans, ecological restoration plans, greenhouse gas mitigation plans, RMP master or related plans, construction or engineering plans, etc. Implementation proposals can emphasize co-stewardship opportunities, sacred site access and/or protection, as well as treaty rights protection efforts. Implementation awards are considered construction contracts per P.L.93-638, subpart J.<sup>g</sup> If selected, the Tribe will abide by the provisions of 25 CFR Part 900 Subpart J in all phases of the proposed implementation project. Subpart J addresses the process by which a Tribe may contract for construction activities or portions thereof. If the proposed work is generally funded by another specific Federal funding source, please provide a rationale as to why the applicant is not applying to that existing Federal program and/or has not been able to access funding from that source.<sup>h</sup> For Alaska Native communities, the Community Resilience in Alaskan Communities Catalog of Federal Programs (July 2018) may be a useful resource to identify additional implementation resources: <https://www.denali.gov/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/Catalog-of-Federal-Programs-for-Alaskan-Communities-27Jul2018-Final.pdf>. To the extent that other federal programs require matching funds from Tribes, and the activity is identified in an existing plan, the TCR awards can be used as a federal match as they are under P.L. 93-638.

The Implementation category aims to maximize flexibility and expand the range of acceptable proposal types to effectively tackle diverse and intricate Tribal climate issues. While the following topics and examples serve as potential proposals, it's important to note that proposals can extend beyond these topics and examples.

- Climate Adaptation Implementation: support climate resilient applications, operations, and actions identified in existing final plans. Climate adaptation strategies fulfill planning designs that support climate adaptation and climate resilience around natural resources, cultural resources, regenerative agriculture and food sovereignty, conservation practices, earth-moving or construction community projects, Tribal infrastructure, and other priority areas identified in existing plans. *Note: consider applying for an implementation project under the Habitat Restoration and Adaptation Set Aside if the work is related to ecological restoration.*
- Relocation, Managed Retreat, and Protect-in-Place (RMP) Implementation: support Tribes dealing with urgent and acute climate change impacts requiring the movement or protection of existing infrastructure and/or the development of new infrastructure. Existing, imminent, and compounding impacts such as sea level rise, coastal and/or

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<sup>g</sup> Read about P.L.93-638, subpart J in full at

[https://www.bia.gov/sites/default/files/dup/assets/bia/ots/ots/pdf/Public\\_Law93-638.pdf](https://www.bia.gov/sites/default/files/dup/assets/bia/ots/ots/pdf/Public_Law93-638.pdf)

<sup>h</sup> E.g. renewable energy, solid mineral, and conventional energy feasibility studies are funded through BIA Division of Energy and Minerals Development (DEMD); renewable energy implementation projects are funded through the Department of Energy's (DOE) Office of Indian Energy (OIE); home energy efficiency and weatherization is funded through the DOE's Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP); and the development of source reduction practices are funded through Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Pollution Prevention (P2) grant program.

riverine erosion and flooding, sea ice loss and storm surge, permafrost degradation, etc. and even non-coastal impacts such as extended drought, unpredictable and increased frequency/intensity of extreme flooding or wildfire, etc. may require a Tribal community to consider RMP options. Examples include, but are not limited to, implementation of master planning, engineering designs, construction operations involved in new infrastructure and/or reinforcement of current critical infrastructure, shoreline stabilization, activities that may involve excavation, backfill, earth moving, etc., or other activities associated with heavy equipment.

The following information must be addressed within implementation proposals:

*Executive Summary (0-10 points):*

1. Provide a brief executive summary.

*Project Design (0-20 points):*

1. Proposed Actions (10/20 points): Provide a detailed description of the proposed implementation actions to be taken, including the project background, purpose, design, and outcomes. Applicants should use evidence-based, best-available climate data sets, information resources, and decision-support tools, including Federal resources, to identify current and future climate risks over the project's expected service life.
  - a. Geographic location: geographic area of proposed actions and risks faced.
  - b. Identify the planning document(s) used to determine implementation action(s) and provide hyperlink or attach it as an appendix. Describe any previous actions taken, including site preparation and infrastructure designs.
2. Risk Level (5/20 points): Include information on the Tribal community's risk level to climate change impacts. For example, consider whether the community or specific infrastructure has already been identified as "imminently threatened" in any previous report(s) or assessment(s).
  - a. Identify these report(s) and/or assessment(s), including a hyperlink to the published document(s).
3. Resilience Benefits (5/20 points): Describe the proposed activities and how they would contribute to Tribal resilience, preparedness, and ability to respond to climate change impacts.
  - a. Explain the benefits of proposed actions, as well as the benefits of using the chosen design and taking the proposed approach.

*Methods and Frameworks (0-15 points):*

Explain how scientific and/or IK methodology and frameworks will be integrated into the implementation effort. Describe how the methods and frameworks used will enable Tribal program managers to prioritize specific actions/alternatives, make progress on identified Tribal goals and objectives, and incorporate climate resilience into more detailed program level management plans. If IK will be incorporated into work, explain:

1. The use of IK and how it will inform decision-making in the project implementation process. Also, briefly explain the general methods to be used (e.g., literature review, semi-directed interviews, consultation with cultural experts, etc.).

- a. A brief description of potential IK methods can be found here: <https://www.nps.gov/subjects/tek/learning.htm>.
2. Discuss the extent of disclosure of specific IK information: any information shared with potential partners should be of free, prior, and informed consent (FPIC) to ensure ethical research sharing in the details of the proposal and throughout the project.
  - a. Information on FPIC and protections: <https://climatetkw.wordpress.com/>
  - b. November 2022 Guidance for Federal Departments and Agencies on Indigenous Knowledge: [https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2022/12/OSTP-CEQ-  
IK-Guidance.pdf](https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2022/12/OSTP-CEQ-<br/>IK-Guidance.pdf)

*Feasibility (0-15 points):*

1. Project Schedule (5/15 points): Provide the estimated project schedule showing the stages and duration of the proposed work, including major tasks, milestones, and dates. A table format to show the timeline of tasks is preferred.
2. Preparedness Level (5/15 points): Describe the Tribe and/or community's preparedness level and project readiness to ensure that the chosen activity/activities are actionable.
3. Permitting (5/15 points): Identify any permitting processes needed for proposed actions. This includes any required NEPA processes, internal Tribal policies and guidelines, as well as any procedures on co-managed or adjacent land areas.
  - a. For applicants that are pursuing site expansion/relocation options, please explain which site options are already identified to expedite processes and for viability, consolidation, and/or acquisition.

*Co-stewardship, Sacred Sites, and Treaty Rights (0-5 points):*

1. Describe how the project will support one or more activities of co-stewardship, sacred sites access and/or protection as well as treaty rights access and/or protection.

*Identified Personnel and Expertise (0-15 points):*

1. Tribal Expertise (5/15 points): Identify any Tribal expertise holders, knowledge holders, and personnel who will be directly involved with or contributing to the project. Ensure all subject matter experts are also identified in the budget narrative if they are to receive funds for the project.
2. Contractual Expertise (5/15 points): As applicable. Identify any contractual expertise being used for the project, including a brief background and their experience working with Tribes. Also identify the key individuals who will be corresponding with Tribal managers and/or leadership, with descriptions as to their role(s) in the proposed project work.
  - a. *Note: if **no** consultants will be sub-awarded, please identify Tribal enterprises, partners, or other Tribes/local governments and municipalities and their role(s) in the project.*
  - b. If no other sub-awardees, identify and describe other partners as appropriate.
3. Standards of Practice on Engagement (5/15 points): Describe any standards of practice, Tribal protocols or guidelines, and/or any other frameworks that will help guide the engagement between Tribal expertise and contractor/sub-awardee expertise.



- a. *Note: if **no** consultants will be sub-awarded, please expand upon engagement approach(es) with Tribal enterprises, partners, or other Tribes/local governments and municipalities involved.*

*Budget (Budget is also Content Requirement 4) (0-20 points):*

Budgets should be reasonable and free of disallowed costs (see section **C. Disallowed Costs**).

Budgets should include the following:

1. Budget Table (10/20 points): Identify funds requested for the work, including:
  - a. FTE (percent FTE), rate of pay, and number of hours expected for the work of each personnel and associated costs.
  - b. Contractors receiving funding **must** be identified as contractual/consultant services if they are not employees of the Tribe or Tribal organization receiving funds. Contractor costs **must** be broken down and itemized by service/cost type. Append contractor estimates.
  - c. MTDC Uniform Guidance include supplies and exclude equipment in base calculations.
    - i. “Equipment” means tangible personal property (including information technology systems) having a useful life of more than one year and a per-unit acquisition cost which equals or exceeds the lesser of the capitalization level established by the non-Federal entity for financial statement purposes, or \$5,000.
    - ii. “Supplies” means all tangible personal property other than those described in the definition of *equipment* in this section.
2. Budget Narrative (10/20 points): Each line item in the budget table should be described in detail in the narrative. Clearly align any personnel identified in the budget narrative to the personnel identified in the “Personnel Plan” within the proposal and the budget table.
  - a. Identify each personnel’s role(s) in the project, percent FTE, rate of pay, and number of hours expected to perform project work.

***Set-Aside Funding: First Time Awardees; Habitat Restoration and Adaptation; or Relocation, Managed Retreat, or Protect-in-Place (RMP) Coordinator***

**First Time Awardees Set Aside** – maximum \$250,000

First Time Awardee awards are designed to assure equity in available funding for Tribes at different places in their climate resilience and adaptation planning efforts. Funding will be set aside for Tribes who have **not** received a planning or implementation award in previous years. Tribes without dedicated staffing or climate programs who are at the beginning stages of their climate change program development are encouraged to apply. These funds may be used to perform a scoping needs assessment and develop a planning proposal in future funding cycles. Applicants of this set aside should be seeking to build internal Tribal capacity for climate resilience, thus they are only eligible to receive one additional planning award.

Eligibility:

- Indicate whether the Tribe has received a Category 1, 2, 4, 6, 7, 10, 11, or 12 award from BIA Tribal Climate Resilience since 2014. Only Tribes that have **not** received a planning or implementation award in previous funding cycles from the BIA Branch of Tribal Climate Resilience.
- Only Federally recognized Tribes are eligible for funds from this Category to directly build Tribal capacity, **not** Tribal organizations.
- Consultants are **not** eligible as sub-awardees, as the intent of this funding is to build internal Tribal staff capacity.

The following information must be addressed within the proposal:

*Executive Summary (0-10 points):*

Provide a brief executive summary justifying the need for the capacity-building set-aside, with a description of the current state of affairs for planning and capacity building.

*Project Design and Implementation Feasibility (0-70 points):*

1. Climate Impacts (30/70 points): Describe the Tribe’s recognition of current climate change risks and threats to Tribal resources and values (economic, social, cultural, natural resources or other).
2. Work Plan (40/70 points): Provide a one- to two-year work plan that identifies priority funding needs and next steps toward building resilience, and the percent of FTE (full time equivalent) staff to be funded. This should provide an idea of the extent to which a project will result in appropriate climate resilience needs and similar scoping efforts.

*Budget (Budget is also Content Requirement 4) (0-20 points):*

Budgets should be reasonable and free of disallowed costs (see section **C. Disallowed Costs**) and must address **Content Requirement 5**. Budgets should include the following:

1. Budget Table (10/20 points): Identify funds requested for the work, including:
  - a. Percent FTE, rate of pay, and number of hours expected for the work of each personnel.
  - b. MTDC Uniform Guidance include supplies and exclude equipment in base calculations.
    - i. “Equipment” means tangible personal property (including information technology systems) having a useful life of more than one year and a per-unit acquisition cost which equals or exceeds the lesser of the capitalization level established by the non-Federal entity for financial statement purposes, or \$5,000.
    - ii. “Supplies” means all tangible personal property other than those described in the definition of *equipment* in this section.
2. Budget Narrative (10/20 points): Each line item in the budget table should be described in detail in the narrative. Clearly align any personnel identified in the budget narrative to the personnel identified in the “Personnel Plan” within the proposal and the budget table.
  - a. Identify each personnel’s role(s) in the project, percent FTE, rate of pay, and number of hours expected to perform project work.

**Habitat Restoration and Adaptation Set Aside** – no maximum amount

TCR will award \$35 million in IRA funding annually for two years through the Annual Awards Program for habitat restoration and adaptation planning or implementation projects related to conservation and restoration for cultural subsistence resources. Awards allocated through this set-aside will fund watershed-level restoration, especially after fire, flood, drought, and for landscapes at risk due to climate change impacts, such as forests and grasslands. Criteria could support all things covered under the current awards program and potentially:

- Habitat Restoration – Restoration for coastal ecosystems, including wetlands, marine systems, fire prone arid ecosystems, forests, and other critical ecosystems
- Emergency Restoration – Habitat or adaptation projects due to a natural disaster. Requires either a) a Presidential Disaster Declaration in accordance with the Stafford Act, or b) environmental degradation resulting from an acute event which requires significant environmental remediation.
  - Examples of natural disasters may include but are not limited to: following acute natural hazard events, such as hurricane, erosion, landslides, flooding, and/or major wildfire events.
  - Examples of emergency restoration may include but are not limited to: bioremediation, vegetative filter species recovery for contaminated floodwaters, species to reduce erosion risk and increase shore and bank stabilization, and restore keystone species habitat to support resilient ecosystems.
- Equity in Restoration Projects – Cost-share provided for tribes to other Federal agency awarded habitat restoration or adaptation projects

The following information must be addressed within the proposal:

*Executive Summary (0-10 points):*

1. Provide a brief executive summary.

*Project Design (0-20 points):*

1. Provide a detailed description of the proposed plans to be developed or actions to be taken, including the project background, risk level, purpose, design, and outcomes (5/20 points).
  - a. Geographic location of proposed actions and risks or emergency/emergencies faced.
  - b. If project includes implementation components, identify the planning document(s) used to determine implementation action(s) and provide hyperlink or attach it as an appendix. Describe any previous actions taken, including site preparation and infrastructure designs.
2. Risk Level (5/20 points): Include information on the Tribal habitat/resources' risk level to climate change impacts. For example, consider whether the ecosystem has already been identified as “threatened”, “damaged”, or “altered” in any previous report(s) or assessment(s) to emphasize the need for restoration actions.

- a. Identify these report(s) and/or assessment(s), including a hyperlink to the published document(s), such as: a) a Presidential Disaster Declaration in accordance with the Stafford Act, or b) environmental degradation resulting from an acute event which requires significant environmental remediation.
3. Proposed Activities (10/20 points): Describe the proposed activities and how they would contribute to habitat restoration and emergency restoration as they relate to a response to impacts from climate change and/or disasters, and increase capacity and the Tribe's ability to respond to climate change impacts, including:
  - a. Objectives, milestones, and deliverables for the project, as well as expected outcome(s) and measurements of success.
  - b. Describe how the proposed work would build upon previous relevant work and advance the Tribe to the next step in planning and preparedness for management alternatives and/or actions.
  - c. Explain the benefits of proposed actions, as well as the benefits of using the chosen design and taking the proposed approach.
  - d. Describe or identify any type of permitting needed, such as Clean Water Act, Army Corps of Engineers permits, or NEPA documents that have been completed or anticipated to be needed.
  - e. Provide any plans that may be in place, such as engineering/construction designs, Integrated Resource Management Plans, or any other plans that support the project's purpose and need.

*Methods and Frameworks (0-15 points):*

Explain how scientific and/or IK methodology and frameworks will be integrated into the strategic planning or implementation effort. Describe how the methods and frameworks used will enable Tribal program managers to prioritize specific actions/alternatives, make progress on identified Tribal goals and objectives, and incorporate habitat restoration and climate adaptation into more detailed program level management plans. If IK will be incorporated into work, explain:

1. The use of IK and how it will inform decision-making in the project planning process. Also, briefly explain the general methods to be used (e.g., literature review, semi-directed interviews, consultation with cultural experts, etc.).
  - a. A brief description of potential IK methods can be found here: <https://www.nps.gov/subjects/tek/learning.htm>.
2. Discuss the extent of disclosure of specific IK information: any information shared should be of free, prior, and informed consent (FPIC) to ensure ethical research sharing in the details of the proposal and throughout the project.
  - a. Information on FPIC and protections: <https://climatetkw.wordpress.com/>
  - b. November 2022 Guidance for Federal Departments and Agencies on Indigenous Knowledge: [https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2022/12/OSTP-CEQ-  
IK-Guidance.pdf](https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2022/12/OSTP-CEQ-<br/>IK-Guidance.pdf)

*Feasibility (0-15 points):*

1. Project Schedule (5/15 points): Provide the estimated project schedule showing the stages and duration of the proposed work, including major tasks, milestones, and dates. A table format to show the timeline of tasks is preferred.
2. Preparedness (5/15 points): Describe the Tribe and/or community's preparedness level and project readiness to ensure that the chosen activity/activities are actionable.
3. Permitting (5/15 points): Identify any permitting processes needed for proposed actions. This includes any required NEPA processes, internal Tribal policies and guidelines, as well as any procedures on co-managed or adjacent land areas.

*Co-stewardship, Sacred Sites, and Treaty Rights (0-5 points):*

1. Describe how the project will support one or more activities of co-stewardship, sacred sites access and/or protection as well as treaty rights access and/or protection.

*Identified Personnel and Expertise (0-15 points):*

1. Tribal Expertise (5/15 points): Identify any Tribal expertise holders, knowledge holders, and personnel who will be directly involved with or contributing to the project.
2. Contractual Expertise (5/15 points): As applicable. Identify any contractual expertise being used for the project, including a brief background and their experience working with Tribes. Also identify the key individuals who will be corresponding with Tribal managers and/or leadership, with descriptions as to their role(s) in the proposed project work.
  - a. *Note: if **no** consultants will be sub-awarded, please identify Tribal enterprises, partners, or other Tribes/local governments and municipalities and their role(s) in the project.*
  - b. If no other sub-awardees, identify and describe other partners as appropriate.
3. Standards of Practice on Engagement (5/15 points): Describe any standards of practice, Tribal protocols or guidelines, and/or any other frameworks that will help guide the engagement between Tribal expertise and contractor/sub-awardee expertise.
  - a. *Note: if **no** consultants will be sub-awarded, please expand upon engagement approach(es) with Tribal enterprises, partners, or other Tribes/local governments and municipalities involved.*

*Budget (Budget is also Content Requirement 4) (0-20 points):*

Budgets should be reasonable and free of disallowed costs (see section **C. Disallowed Costs**).

Budgets should include the following:

1. Budget Table (10/20 points): Identify funds requested for the work, including:
  - a. FTE of each personnel and associated costs.
  - b. Contractors receiving funding **must** be identified as contractual/consultant services if they are not employees of the Tribe or Tribal organization receiving funds. Contractor costs **must** be broken down and itemized by service/cost type. Append contractor estimates.
  - c. MTDC Uniform Guidance include supplies and exclude equipment in base calculations.
    - i. "Equipment" means tangible personal property (including information technology systems) having a useful life of more than one year and a per-unit

acquisition cost which equals or exceeds the lesser of the capitalization level established by the non-Federal entity for financial statement purposes, or \$5,000.

- ii. “Supplies” means all tangible personal property other than those described in the definition of *equipment* in this section.
2. Budget Narrative (10/20 points): Each line item in the budget table should be described in detail in the narrative. Clearly align any personnel identified in the budget narrative to the personnel identified in the “Personnel Plan” within the proposal and the budget table.
- a. Identify each personnel’s role(s) in the project, rate of pay, and number of hours expected to perform project work.

**Relocation, Managed Retreat, or Protect-in-Place (RMP) Coordinator Set Aside – maximum \$150,000**

RMP Coordinator awards are designed to support Tribes that have limited technical staffing capacity to hire a full time Coordinator for this purpose. This Coordinator would support and organize community involvement, coordinate with federal and non-federal partners, and develop community RMP plans and/or implementation actions. Tribes at middle to high risk to the effects of climate change may apply for **non-competitive** funding for a coordinator for up to three years, as well as first year cohort training for that Coordinator. Communities that are at the highest risk tiers (outlined in the activity standards below) will be considered for funding from this Category. Coordinators will have the opportunity to prioritize strategic planning, vulnerability assessments, and data gathering, as well as travel to trainings and coordination meetings with regional resilience efforts, as needed. Permissible activities include attending BIA/Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals (ITEP) RMP Coordinator Cohort training and consulting with resilience experts, such as other Tribes or regional resilience networks. The RMP Coordinator Cohort training is a ten month long series that provides space for peer-to-peer learning and knowledge exchange between Tribal RMP Coordinators to take place about RMP decision-making and processes.

Please note, while this is a non-competitive category, requests may exceed funding, so points allow **prioritization of communities with the highest risk**. Eligible applicants will be considered in future years, pending funding availability. RMP Coordinator applicants are encouraged to consider also applying for Planning funding to include an intern to provide additional support and capacity.

Eligibility:

1. Only Federally recognized Tribes are eligible for funding from this Category to directly build Tribal capacity, **not** Tribal organizations.
2. Contractors/consultants are **not** eligible as sub awardees in this set-aside, as the intent of the funding is to build technical staffing capacity internal to the Tribe.



3. Only Tribes that have **not** been previously funded for an RMP Coordinator position are eligible.

The following information must be addressed within the proposal:

*Risk Level and Current State (0-40 points):*

1. Risk Level (10/40 points): Describe the current state of risk that the Tribe is facing, providing reference to report(s) and/or assessment(s) which identify the Tribal community as either imminently threatened or one of highest risk tier. Include a hyperlink to the document(s). Describe the overall current state of the Tribe's decision-making with respect to RMP decisions.
2. Previous/Existing Work (15/40 points): Whether the community is already engaged in RMP related efforts and if so, describe how.
  - a. Include the level of experience and expertise (or lack thereof) of the current Tribal staff to address these specific resilience considerations. State whether the Tribe already has an existing and completed RMP plan.
  - b. If applicable, identify any completed or in-progress planning document(s) used to consider and determine community actions, as well as alternatives.
  - c. Describe the level of community readiness with respect to community buy-in and the level of leadership engagement.
3. Existing/Current Coordinator (15/40 points): State whether the Tribe has an existing Coordinator in place for these efforts, and when the current funding period ends, if so.

*Work Plan and Proposed Project (0-40 points):*

1. Hiring Plan (10/40 points): Provide an overview of the hiring/recruitment plan, including minimum qualifications, and ensure recruitment activity costs (if any) are reflected in the budget.
2. Work Plan (15/40 points): Provide a work plan for the Coordinator that identifies needs and next steps toward RMP actions, the percent of FTE (full time equivalent) personnel to be funded, the salary, benefits, and potential training and travel (e.g., for coordination). Also include:
  - a. Technology needs (e.g., laptop, etc.) and ensure these are also reflected in the budget.
  - b. Ensure that any of those identified activities or items in the work plan are also clearly identified in the budget, and that both the work plan and the budget reflect one another exactly.
3. Bigger Picture (10/40 points): Describe how the proposed actions in the work plan relate to the Tribe's broader planning efforts, including the project purpose, design, and approach.
4. Commitment (5/40 points): State the Tribe's commitment to the RMP Coordinator cohort trainings put on by BIA and training partners, if selected. *Note: There is no cost to Tribes for first year RMP Coordinator cohort training. Commitment is required to receive a RMP Coordinator award.*

*Budget (Budget is also Content Requirement 4) (0-20 points):*

Budgets should be reasonable and free of disallowed costs (see section **C. Disallowed Costs**).

Budgets should include the following:

1. Budget Table (10/20 points): Identify funds requested for the work.
  - a. Identify FTE of each personnel identified and associated costs.
  - b. Break down travel costs, e.g. estimated number of trips and costs associated with each trip.
  - c. MTDC Uniform Guidance (applied when 10% de minimus rate is being used) include supplies and exclude equipment in base calculations.
    - i. "Equipment" means tangible personal property (including information technology systems) having a useful life of more than one year and a per-unit acquisition cost which equals or exceeds the lesser of the capitalization level established by the non-Federal entity for financial statement purposes, or \$5,000.
    - ii. "Supplies" means all tangible personal property other than those described in the definition of *equipment* in this section.
2. Budget Narrative (10/20 points): Each line item in the budget table should be described in detail in the narrative. Clearly align any personnel identified in the budget narrative to the personnel identified in the "Personnel Plan" within the proposal and the budget table.
  - a. Identify each personnel's role(s) in the project, rate of pay, and number of hours expected to perform project work.

#### **A. Transfer of Funds and Reporting Requirements for Awardees**

BIA's obligation under this solicitation is contingent on receipt of congressionally appropriated funds and will be transferred from TCR to the Tribe's region via the Self-Determination program or through the Office of Self-Governance.

##### Annual Reporting Requirements for All Categories and Set Asides:

During the life of an awarded project, deliverables will include an annual project and/or technical progress update, as well as a final written report addressing components outlined in the scope of work. Reporting requirements will be determined by the Awarding Official and Awarding Official's Technical Representative (ATOR), with input from the program official. Reporting dates will be established by the regional AOTR/SAOTRs and written into the agreement once the award has been made but will coincide with the federal fiscal year calendar. The annual report consists of two parts: 1) a narrative report: a summary of events, accomplishments, problems and results during the year, and 2) a financial report SF-425: a listing of expenditures during each quarter, how the funds were spent, an inventory of equipment purchases > \$5,000, and the amount remaining.

##### Final Reporting Requirements for All Categories and Set Asides:

**Delivery Schedules:** The Tribal awardees will deliver all products and data generated under the project to BIA within 90 days after project completion as required by the signed agreement, and may withhold sensitive information (e.g., proprietary Tribal data or IK) that may be redacted at the Tribal government's discretion because information in the possession of the BIA or submitted to the BIA throughout the process, including final work product, constitute government records and may be subject to the disclosure to third parties under the

Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), 5 U.S.C. 552, and the Department of the Interior's FOIA regulations at 43 CFR part 2, unless a FOIA exemption or exception applies or other provisions of law protect the information.

Digital format requirements for Reports and Data: Reports can be provided in Microsoft Word or Adobe Acrobat PDF formats. Spreadsheet data can be provided in Microsoft Excel (preferred) or Adobe PDF formats. All vector figures should be converted to PDF format. Raster images can be provided in PDF, JPEG, TIFF, or any of the Windows metafile formats. The Tribe's proposal should account for the requirement that all final products be delivered in the format described above, one digital copy.

## **Appendix**

### Uncrewed Aerial System (UAS) Guidance:

Any acquisition, purchase or use of UAS with Federal funding must comply with all federal regulations and policies. The Department of Interior (DOI), Bureau of Indian Affairs, National Aviation Office (NAO) is not authorized or responsible for determining allocations or appropriate instruments for federal award. The NAO recommends contacting the respective PL638 Office, Grants and Agreements Office, Self-Determination Office, Self-Governance Office, Awarding Official, or Solicitor for the proper funding mechanism and applicable policies and restrictions related to federal awards.

The following links specify aviation policies and guidance related to DOI aviation and Uncrewed Aerial Systems (UAS):

- **Part 1 Title 2 CFR 200**
  - a. Office of Management and Budget (OMB) guidance on Federal agencies on government-wide policies and procedures for the award and administration of grants and agreements; and

- b. Federal agency regulations implementing that OMB guidance.
  - <https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-2/subtitle-A/part-1>
- **Federal Aviation Administration (FAR) 14 CFR Part 107**
  - FAA rules for operating small UAS (less than 55 pounds) in the United States and pilot certification requirements.
    - [https://www.faa.gov/uas/commercial\\_operators/become\\_a\\_drone\\_pilot](https://www.faa.gov/uas/commercial_operators/become_a_drone_pilot)
    - [https://www.faa.gov/uas/commercial\\_operators/part\\_107\\_waivers](https://www.faa.gov/uas/commercial_operators/part_107_waivers)
- **Department of the Interior and Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Memorandum**
  - The purpose of this MOA is to allow DOI to access the National Airspace System (NAS) through the Certificate of Waiver or Authorization (COA) via Notification process for small UAS operations.
    - [www.doi.gov/sites/doi.gov/files/uploads/DOI\\_FAA\\_MOA\\_Class\\_G\\_09112015.pdf](http://www.doi.gov/sites/doi.gov/files/uploads/DOI_FAA_MOA_Class_G_09112015.pdf)
- **Departmental Manual (DM 350-353)**
  - Department Manuals 350-353 (DMs) and the Operational Procedures Memoranda (OPMS) outline policies for the use of all aircraft within DOI. UAS are considered aircraft and must comply with regulations, policies, and procedures required by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and DOI and its bureaus and offices.
    - <https://www.doi.gov/aviation/library/dm>
- **Operations Procedures Memoranda (OPM-11)**
  - Provides DOI policy on the operations and management of UAS within DOI and DOI managed lands and waters.
    - <https://www.doi.gov/sites/doi.gov/files/opm-11.pdf>
- **UAS Acquisition Requirements - Defense Innovation Unit (DIU) Blue UAS, DOI Memorandum – Cleared Blue UAS List Link**
  - Blue small Uncrewed Aerial Systems (sUAS) Acquisition
    - <https://www.doi.gov/sites/doi.gov/files/as-pmb-memo-restoring-oas-authority-to-procure-blue-suas-signed-2021-01-19.pdf>
    - <https://www.diu.mil/blue-uas-cleared-list>
- **Indian Affairs Manual (IAM 57)**
  - Establishes management responsibilities and provides an overview of the use and operation of aircraft within the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

- [57 IAM 1 Aviation Responsibilities and Overview](#)
- [57 IAM 1 Aviation Management Operations](#)
- [57 IAM 3 Aviation Management Safety](#)
  
- **National Aviation Plan (NAP, 2017 most current)**
  - Details the policy, organization, responsibilities and procedures for the BIA aviation program. The interaction and mutual requirements between the National Aviation Office (NAO) and the Regional Offices (ROs) are outlined.
    - [https://www.bia.gov/sites/default/files/dup/assets/bia/ots/dfwfm/bwf/aviation/NatAvnPlan\\_2017\\_ver\\_2017-05-18\\_final\\_508.pdf](https://www.bia.gov/sites/default/files/dup/assets/bia/ots/dfwfm/bwf/aviation/NatAvnPlan_2017_ver_2017-05-18_final_508.pdf)
  
- **Deputy Assistant Secretary Memorandum 10/2022**
  - Currently allows for the procurement of non-covered UAS for departmental purposes.
    - [https://uas.nifc.gov/sites/default/files/sites/default/files/inline-files/UASP\\_20221021\\_OAS-28%20Information%20Bulletin.pdf](https://uas.nifc.gov/sites/default/files/sites/default/files/inline-files/UASP_20221021_OAS-28%20Information%20Bulletin.pdf)
  
- **Presidential Letter Feb. 2015/ Security/PII UAS**
  - Promoting Economic Competitiveness While Safeguarding Privacy, Civil Rights, and Civil Liberties in Domestic Use of Uncrewed Aircraft Systems.
    - [Presidential Memorandum: Promoting Economic Competitiveness While Safeguarding Privacy, Civil Rights, and Civil Liberties in Domestic Use of Unmanned Aircraft Systems | whitehouse.gov \(archives.gov\)](#)