



Case Studies - How Well Do They Align with the RFA?

Instructions: Please read through each of the case studies below and consider how well it aligns with the specified RFA. Please use [S3A Handout 3 - RFA Alignment Worksheet](#) to guide your thought process.

Note: Though the descriptions below may draw from real-life scenarios, the organizations and projects described in the case studies are purely hypothetical.

Case Study #1

Organization: Trees for Wyoming

Project: Expanding Canopy Coverage in the State of Wyoming

RFA: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1g4EHxuQdhd0UW18YqwHgT7S5XuLf-Et1/view?usp=share_link

Our organization, Trees for Wyoming, is dedicated to enhancing urban and community forestry in the state. We work with local government entities, tribal organizations, and nonprofit organizations to plant and manage trees in underserved communities. Although we are unable to provide the required matching funds or in-kind contributions per this proposal, our organization has a proven track record of success in improving urban tree canopy and providing access to nature and its benefits. We have experience in planting and maintaining trees on non-Federal lands, including private lands. Furthermore, we have partnerships with local organizations working to support disadvantaged communities, and we are committed to delivering at least 40% of the benefits of our projects to such communities. We are seeking funds to primarily go toward our basic research on urban and community forestry. Additional funds will be for 1,000 additional trees in our target low-canopy areas and the construction of our new research building.

Case Study #2

Organization: Florida Urban Forestry Council

Project: Building Resilient Communities in Florida through Urban Forestry

RFA: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1g4EHxuQdhd0UW18YqwHgT7S5XuLf-Et1/view?usp=share_link

The Florida Urban Forestry Council (FUFC) is a non-profit organization committed to advancing the understanding and practice of urban forestry in Florida. Our mission is to promote healthy urban and community forests by providing leadership, education, and resources to citizens, organizations, and communities throughout the state. We have been working towards this goal for over 30 years and have developed a reputation for being a trusted source of information on urban forestry in Florida. We have a

network of partnerships with community organizations, government agencies, and private sector entities that can help us to effectively reach and engage underserved populations.

The Florida Urban Forestry Council proposes a workforce development apprenticeship program with an arboretum. This program aims to research and grow native horticulture that will be planted around the city by youth. With the state's contribution of matching funds, the project will not only create jobs and educate the next generation but also beautify the city with sustainable greenery. The project will include educational and outreach components to engage communities and promote the benefits of urban forestry. One-third of the grant will go toward the development of an outdoor classroom which is vital to bring youth together in a space that is outfitted with the necessary tools and equipment for the success of the program.

We would be working with three key partners: 1) a government entity, 2) a consulting firm, and 3) a nonprofit organization to complete this project.

Case Study #3

Organization: Maine Green Alliance

Project: GreenGenius: Empowering Maine's Future Environmental Leaders

RFA: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1g4EHxuQdhd0UW18YqwHgT7S5XuLf-Et1/view?usp=share_link

Our organization, Maine Green Alliance, is a newly-formed nonprofit committed to enhancing the environment and quality of life for Maine residents. We have been in operation for just under one year and have formally registered three months ago. With no current partnerships, we recognize the importance of building relationships and collaborating with local organizations to achieve our goals. Our team is composed of experienced environmental professionals who have worked in the state for many years and have a deep understanding of the unique challenges and opportunities that Maine presents. Second, we are committed to promoting equity and social justice in all of our activities, and will prioritize projects that benefit underserved and marginalized communities. Finally, we are eager to leverage the funding to catalyze new partnerships and collaborations, bringing together diverse stakeholders to work towards a shared vision of a healthier, more sustainable Maine.

Maine Green Alliance would like to use the funding for a statewide environmental education initiative for K-12 students. The initiative would focus on educating students about the importance of sustainability, conservation, and environmental stewardship, using hands-on learning activities and interactive workshops. The project would partner with local schools and teachers to develop a comprehensive curriculum and provide training and resources for teachers to incorporate environmental education into their classrooms.

Case Study #4

Organization: Blacks in Green

Project: GreenGenius: Empowering Maine's Future Environmental Leaders

RFA: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1g4EHxuQdhd0UW18YqwHgT7S5XuLf-Et1/view?usp=share_link

Blacks in Green (BIG) creates whole-system solutions for whole-system problems. BIG's signature initiative is known as the "Sustainable Square Mile" which works in Black communities to holistically address quality of life issues related to economic development; access to local, healthy food and green space; clean energy; and community building. With USDA Urban Forestry grant funds the organization will develop and replicate a new element to our comprehensive model. This new element will include workforce development, training young people in the neighborhood of West Woodlawn about horticulture and how to maintain the Emmett Till Botanical Garden. This is a neighborhood where BIG is already working extensively and thus this project will add value and be a leveraged resource. In addition to the benefits of having a means to maintain this garden which is a neglected centerpiece of this depressed neighborhood with little shade structures and no tree canopy on most streets, we will train residents to plant trees, and we as a community will plant an estimated 1,000-2,000 native tree species across our 1-square mile area of focus.