2025 Tribal Wildfire Resilience Application Questions

Submit questions on eCivis application portal. It is **NOT** possible to upload or email this document as an application.

# Public Summary Information

1. **Project Title \***
2. **ORGANIZATION SUBMITTING APPLICATION**

Organization Name \*

1. **Project Type \***
* Planning
* Implementation

*Implementation projects include ground-disturbing work.*

Instructions: Funding amount requested for this project? This is the sum of Direct Costs + Indirect Costs.

1. **Funding Requested \***
2. **Project Location**. Required: Project location latitude / longitude. Please enter the lat/long for the project area. This will be displayed publicly on CAL FIRE's maps. Please locate the CAL FIRE Unit and Region using [this map](https://34c031f8-c9fd-4018-8c5a-4159cdff6b0d-cdn-endpoint.azureedge.net/-/media/calfire-website/what-we-do/grants/forest-health/application-resources/fhp_admin_unit_map.pdf?rev=6dd423c542ca42c193796c43dade9d8d&hash=898A05E2407FAD59296B8D0640F69D7C).

**5a. County \*** List all counties where work will occur, separated by a comma.

**5b. CAL FIRE Region \***

**5c. CAL FIRE Unit \***List all CAL FIRE units where work will occur. Ex: (AEU) Amador-El Dorado Unit, (VNC) Ventura County

1. **Brief Public Project Description \***

# Eligibility Questions

*Instructions: The questions in this section are meant to establish eligibility of the applicant and project as described in the grant guidelines. If there are questions, please reach out to the Tribal Wildfire Resilience grant team before the application is started. Some categories of eligibility require an applicant to consult CAL FIRE. See page 8 of the grant guidelines for the required documentation If you have any questions or concerns about eligibility, please contact TribalWildfireResilience@fire.ca.gov. We are happy to discuss with you as you decide whether to apply.*

1. **Please Describe if the application has any potential conflicts of interest.**

*These will be tracked for a fair solicitation. Reviewers are expected not to review any application with which there is a potential conflict of interest. For example has anyone who is part of the application has currently or in the past 5 years worked for CAL FIRE or otherwise been in an position to be part of proposal review and award decisions? Does the application have family members working for CAL FIRE or scheduled to review applications? Have the applicants or major partners been part of other proposals this solicitation? If you have any questions, please email TribalWildfireResilienceGrants@fire.ca.gov with your question or to set up a call to discuss. CAL FIRE will follow up if there are any concerns*.

**Applying Organization**

1. **How is the applying organization eligible? Please upload the relevant documentation for the selection made.. \***
* Native Nation (Federally Recognized)
* California Native Nation (Listed on the CA NAHC List)
* Tribally led non-profit

Select one. For eligbility as a Tribally led non-profit please ensure that all requirements are met to apply.

**1a. Federally Recognized Native Nation**

* To be eligible as a federally recognized native nation, an applicant must share documentation such as a letter on BIA/DOI letterhead listing or describing tribe, a printout of BIA/DOI website listing the tribe, etc.

**1b. California Native Nation Eligibility**

* To be eligible as a calfironia native nation on nahc list, share supporting documentation from NAHC showing tribal as a listed tribal government.
* If tribal members are on the NAHC list but the tribal government organization is not, the application may be eligible as a tribal-serving nonprofit. If there is a pending but not finalized federal recognition or NAHC listing, the application may be eligible as a tribal serving nonprofit.

**1c. To be eligible as a tribally led nonprofit an applicant must complete all the following steps.**

* Speak with CAL FIRE Tribal Wildfire Resilience staff before submitting this application. We want to confirm that you’re likely to be eligible before anyone spends lots of time writing an application! Contact us at TribalWildfireResilience@fire.ca.gov.
* Confirm that a California Native American Tribe(s) is actively partnering with and supporting the application through a signed letter or resolution from the Chairperson, Tribal Council, or other official representative of the tribe(s).
* Describe and provide documentation that demonstrates the applicant organization is tribally led. For example, this may include demonstrating that the organization has a majority-tribal board, that it exists to represent and pursue the interests of a California Native American Tribe, or has a primary purpose of the protection of natural, historic, or open-space resources for cultural purposes.
* Describe how the project will serve the supporting tribe(s) and community.
* Provide documentation that the applicant is a non-profit organization registered in California.
1. **Eligibility Documentation \***

Add File

Only one file can be uploaded, please combine documentation into one file. Another upload is optional for any additional documents.

(Optional) Eligibility Documentation

Add File

Optional upload, for files that were not able to be combined.

**2a. Describe Eligibility documentation uploaded (optional)**

*Instructions: Does the applicant organization have a legal status of federally recognized sovereign immunity? This usually applies only to federally recognized tribal governments as well as non-profits or land conservancies that are affiliated with federally recognized tribal governments.*

1. **Sovereign Immunity of Applicant \***

*Please look at the Grant Guidelines section on Limited Waivers of Sovereign Immunity. For any questions or comments, please contact us at TribalWildfireResilience@fire.ca.gov.*

1. **Access to Project Area**

**4a. Is all work proposed in this application to occur in California? \***

* Yes
* No

*Unfortunately, CAL FIRE Tribal Wildfire Resilience is unable to fund projects for lands outside of the state of California.*

**4b. Does the applicant have legal jurisdiction or ownership of the project area? \***

* Yes
* No

Instructions: If you answered No to the previous question you may still be eligible. As written in the grant guidelines, an applicant must demonstrate that the project includes long-term access to the lands on which the project is proposed. Please upload and describe documentation that does so. An example of sufficient documentation includes: An MOU with land holder(s) that are valid through the date ranges of the proposed project, a dated stewardship agreement, etc.

1. **Long term access documentation**

Add File

*Please upload and make clear a document that demonstrates the applicant's ability to access the project lands long term, as defined in the grant guidelines.*

# Project Contact and Timeline

Instructions: Fill out the following project information, contact and proposed timeline.

1. **Organization mailing address**

Address Line 1 \*

Address Line 2 \*

City \*

State Picker \*

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1. **Project manager contact**

Name \*

Name of the primary contact for the project.

Email Input \*

Phone Number \*

1. **Anticipated date range (Start after October 2025. End by March 2028.) Start Date \***
2. **Admin Forms**

**4.a Payee Data Record (**[**Std. 204**](https://www.documents.dgs.ca.gov/dgs/fmc/pdf/std204.pdf)**)**

Instructions: The Payee Data Record formal states the mailing address and contact information for payment. A W-9 may be substituted for tribal governments. Std 204 (Payee Data Record) or W-9

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Instructions: **Step 2 video interviews are tentatively scheduled for the** weeks of April 7 and April 14, 2024.Please request an interview time spot at this link. It will send an automated "confirmed" email. Tribal Wildfire Resilience Staff will then follow up with more details.

[CAL FIRE Tribal Wildfire Resilience Grants - Booking](https://outlook.office365.com/book/CALFIRETribalWildfireResilienceGrants-Booking%40calfirecloud.onmicrosoft.com/)

Step 2 video interview time slots will be scheduled first-come, first-serve. The form to request scheduling a spot will be available throughout the Step 1 application period. CAL FIRE will also confirm the times after Step 1 applications have been reviewed and when it is announced which proposals will move on to Step 2.

Please contact TribalWildfireResilienceGrants@fire.ca.gov if any questions about tentative interview time scheduling.

1. **I have requested a time slot for a Step 2 video interview. \***
* Yes, done.

# Project Purpose and Background

Instructions: The questions in this section are meant to capture the broad goals and context of the proposed project.

**1.What is the purpose of this project? Why is it important to do this work, in this place, at this time? What are the goals of the project? Describe briefly the how the project will reach its end state and why it necessary. \***

Up to 1000 characters.

1. **Describe briefly the land history of the project area, especially any impacts by fire. \***

Up to 1000 characters.

1. **Describe how this project was developed, include any details on how this project builds off of previous work. \***

Up to 1000 characters

1. **Do you expect this project would have climate or greenhouse gas benefits? If yes, please describe. \***

The project can be eligible either with or without climate benefits. Up to 500 characters.

# Scope of Work

Instructions: The questions in this section are to capture the needs, goals, and details of the project and any planned accomplishments.

1. **Upload your completed workbook below.**

The Tribal Wildfire Resilience (TWR) workbook template and example can be downloaded below. **Please review the entire workbook and READ ME**. If there are any questions on the workbook, or if you find it is taking a very long time to draft, please contact TribalWildfireResilience@fire.ca.gov.

* TWR\_Workbook\_2025
* TWR\_Workbook\_2025.xlsx
* TWR\_Workbook\_2025Example.xlsx

See the attached template and example for the TWR workbook. There are three main parts: Treatment Acres is a list of what on-the-ground activities are proposed and where. Deliverables is a list of all project deliverables and major activities that do not include on-the-ground treatments. Environmental Compliance describes the CEQA, NEPA & permitting that would be used for the project.

Completed TWR Workbook Upload \*

Add File

For reference, here is an example of a completed TWR Workbook.

 TWR\_Workbook\_2025Example.xls

1. **Scope of Work Description: How will this proposal support the goals ad purpose? What actions will the grant work include? (2000 characters)**
2. **Does the project include ay of these categories . . .**

*Please check all that apply and describe briefly how each is part of the project.*

* Traditional Ecological Knowledge or other cultural knowledge
* Burning, cultural fire, prescribed fire
* Planning for burning, cultural fire, prescribed fire
* Increase biodiversity
* Restore or enhance a site allowing for Tribal cultural preservation and activities
* Increase use, access, availability, or knowledge of traditional foods or other culturally important species
* Improve wildfire safety or wildfire resilience on tribal lands?
* Plan in order to improve wildfire safety for tribal communities?
* Certifications, credentials, & qualifications
* Workforce Development
* Job training that partners with employers
* Economic Development
* Provides quality jobs in the region
* Co-management
* Supports land return (Note: This grant cannot pay for land purchase, conservation easements, etc.)
* Carbon Offset or other environmental credit on the project area
* Community, cultural, and social benefits
* Videos
* Interviews
* Conference / Symposium
* Outreach to the community, tribal members, neighbors, or others
* Fuels Reduction
* Defensible Space, hazard tree removal, or ingress/egress clearing
* Education (such as with schools, nonprofits, or tribal organizations)
* Reduces climate impacts such as air pollution, flood, or fire risk
* Other (please describe)
1. **Describe project elements (up to 2000 characters)**
2. **Optional: Pictures, maps, and/or shapefiles**

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# Environmental Compliance

Instructions: Questions in this section are meant to capture information about the Environmental Compliance needs of the project. Because of California State funding, CEQA applies to all projects. For resources on environmental compliance see the Grantee Resources page on the Tribal Wildfire Resilience website.

1. **Environmental Compliance Narrative \*** First, confirm that you have completed the environmental compliance tab in the TWR Workbook, in the previous section (Scope of Work). Please include a short narrative here that correlates to the workbook about how you will be completing environmental compliance.

Up to 1000 characters.

1. **Environmental Compliance Jurisdictions \*** This is the acres where on-the-ground project work would happen directly. It is usually smaller than the whole area held by the tribe. *Check all that will apply.*
* Tribal – Trust land (Reservation, Rancheria, etc.)
* Tribal – Trust status on fee-title land
* Tribal – Allotments (Trust)
* Tribal – fee title ownership, not Trust
* Tribal – Other ownership, no BIA or Trust
* Tribal – Other ownership, has BIA or Trust
* Privately owned (fee title)
* Local District (water, parks district, etc.)
* State-owned
* Federal – USFS
* Conservation Easements
* Other - Please describe in the Environmental Compliance Narrative
1. **List corresponding Acreage for each Jurisdiction \*** Ex: Federal - USFS: 20 Acres, State owned: 120 acres, Tribal - Trust land: 130 acres.
2. **Has the applicant talked about the project with CAL FIRE Environmental Compliance staff? \***
* Yes
* No

This is required in order to avoid surprises about CEQA requirements. Please come to Environmental Compliance Office Hours or email CEgrants.ceqa@fire.ca.gov.

# Budget Narrative

Instructions: The questions in this section are to capture the required budgetary elements of the project. For applicants requesting an Indirect Cost Rate between 13% and 20%: you may include the requested rate within your application request and budget breakdown. CAL FIRE will evaluate your request for higher indirect rate concurrently with your grant application. If your project is selected for award but the higher rate is not approved, CAL FIRE will notify you of the revised award amount and changes to your budget if needed. Approval of the higher indirect rate is solely at CAL FIRE’s discretion.

1. **Please enter upload the budget narrative here and enter the budget into the budget portion of the online application portal.**

Example budget spreadsheet with formulas. Here is an example budget spreadsheet. This includes all the required categories and a correct calculation for a standard indirect cost of 12%.

 EXAMPLE\_Blank\_Budget\_Report - With Formulas.xlsx

Recommended: use this template to draft the budget, then enter each line into the budget portion of the application portal.

(Optional) Upload Grant Budget Spreadsheet

Add File

If you find it helpful to share a grant budget spreadsheet, please upload it here. Please note, it is required for all applications to enter the budget line-by-line into the Budget portion of the application portal. In the application portal, the budget is linked at the bottom of list of application sections. If you have any questions about entering the budget, please contact TribalWildfireResilience@fire.ca.gov.

1. **Budget Narrative: Introduce the budget and include a brief (~1 sentence) description for each category or major line item. \***

Up to 2000 characters.

1. **Indirect Rate Exemption: is there a request for an indirect cost rate higher than 12%?**
* Yes
* No

See grant guidelines for CAL FIRE definitions of indirect costs.

Upload indirect rate exemption justification documentation

# Statement of Qualifications

Instructions: The questions in this section are meant to understand the applying organizations history and experience in grant management.

1. **Has the applying organization been awarded any CAL FIRE grant(s) previously? \***
* Yes
* No

**1a. If answering yes to the previous question, describe applicant's current or past CAL FIRE grant(s). Please include awarding program, amount awarded, and the dates of grant period.** *Ex: Forest Health, $2,000,000, 11/11/2020 - 11/28/2024.*

1. **Describe the applicant’s experience in grant management and/or work similar to project activities. \*** *Who are key staff or partners with the knowledge, experience, or time to succeed? Is there currently capacity to complete reporting requirements as written in the grant guidelines? Is capacity for the grant reporting written into the applying budget?*
2. **Does the applicant have liability insurance that would cover project work?**

Note: This information is optional in Step 1 and is expected to be required in Step 2 for all implementation projects.

# Collaboration and Local Support

Instructions: The questions in this section are meant to capture the local support for the project and any collaborative efforts by the applicant.

1. **Does this project include major partners that are confirmed to work with the applying organization? \***
* Yes
* No
1. **Confirmed Project Partners. If the applicant does not currently own the land, include all current landowners.** *If project partners are involved, please list them and describe their roles.*

**4. Upload letters of participation from the partners listed above.** *Please combine into one PDF for upload.*

Partner Letters of Participation

Add File

1. **Are other indigenous groups that call your project area their ancestral homelands aware of the applicant's work and supportive? \***
2. **Are local stakeholders not already mentioned aware of your project? Describe how communities have been informed of this project work. \*** *Describe briefly support from and outreach to communities and stakeholders that are not indigenous-led.*
3. **Do you have other Letters of Support to share?** *Please combine into one PDF and upload here. These may be from community members, other organizations, other tribes, and so on.*

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# (Optional) Application Feedback

Instructions: This optional section is meant to capture feedback on the application process. Any answers to these questions will not impact scoring on the application.

1. **How much time did the applicant spend preparing and completing this application?**

**Please feel free to include time spent in meetings, preparing documents (like budget), and filling out the application itself.**

1. **Was it costly to complete this application? Please describe.**
2. **Is there any other feedback you would like to share about this application process?**

NOTE THAT THE BUDGET MUST BE COMPLETED IN ECIVIS AND IS ON THE BUDGET TAB:

