



Northeastern States Research Cooperative 2021 Request for Proposals

Pre-proposals due October 27, 2021 by 4:30pm EST
Full proposals due January 18, 2022 by 4:30pm EST

The mission of the Northeastern States Research Cooperative (NSRC) is to foster research that is relevant and beneficial to the people who live within the Northern Forest boundaries, work with its resources, use its products, visit it, and care about it.

NSRC aims to link research to practice to make a difference in forest communities. In this request for proposals (RFP), NSRC seeks to advance problem-driven research that yields actionable results useful to and used by forest stakeholders and decision-makers.

NSRC funds research, supports outreach, and catalyzes actions that balance protection and utilization of the Northern Forest.

The Northeastern States Research Cooperative (NSRC) is a research-granting program administered collaboratively by the USDA Forest Service Northern Research Station, the Rubenstein School of Environment and Natural Resources at the University of Vermont, the Department of Natural Resources and the Environment at the University of New Hampshire, the Center for Research on Sustainable Forests at the University of Maine, the State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry, and the Hubbard Brook Research Foundation.

The NSRC's research priorities are guided by an External Advisory Committee (EAC), selected to represent the communities, businesses, industries, and agencies in the Northern Forest region that contribute to and benefit from knowledge generated through NSRC-funded projects. The primary role of the EAC is to provide advice about the specific research needs for the request for proposals (RFP).

The NSRC is committed to advancing practical applications of forest research and to supporting a diverse, equitable, and inclusive research program. We encourage proposals that are relevant to Tribal Nations and Indigenous communities in the region. In addition, a separate RFP for NSRC's 2022 Indigenous Forest Knowledge Fund is forthcoming. (For more information on that program, visit www.nsrcforest.org/indigenous-forest-knowledge-fund).

For details about the history and mission of the NSRC and information about all past and ongoing NSRC projects, prospective Principal Investigators (PIs) should consult the NSRC website at www.nsrcforest.org. For information about the organization and governance, consult the NSRC at www.nsrcforest.org/governance.

Research Focus, Topics, and Engagement

The NSRC funds research with clear links to application and use by stakeholders and decision-makers in the Northern Forest region. Successful proposals will clearly articulate the research question they are asking, their rationale for why that question is important to stakeholders, and their strategy for making their results actionable.

Focus Areas. Proposals should encompass one or more of the following focus areas.

1. ***State of the forest:*** Research that elucidates the state of the Northern Forest region, with preference given to projects related to forest health and those with predictive power.
2. ***Measuring and quantifying impacts:*** Research that measures/quantifies ecological, social, policy, management, and economic changes in the Northern Forest, with consideration for how to create shared or standardized measurement approaches across the region.
3. ***Developing tools for response:*** Research that leads to practical, standardized tools for practitioners and other decision-makers to predict and respond to change. These tools could include management approaches/techniques, new technologies or applications, decision support tools, and messaging/communication strategies.
4. ***Rural community and economic development:*** Research that addresses the challenges of forest-based communities and economies and contributes to a shared vision of the future of the region.

Priority Issues. NSRC encourages proposals that address one or more of these priority issues relevant to the Northern Forest region:

Invasive pests and diseases

- Insect- and disease-related pressures on the forest and concerns about vulnerabilities due to lack of stand diversity
- Research that can help detect issues earlier and the ability to respond to them sooner
- Health of culturally significant species, including brown or black ash
- Understanding the benefits and limitations of response options to invasive pests

Climate change and energy: mitigation, adaptation, and carbon accounting

- Forests and forest-related industries as part of the solution to climate change
- Managing for carbon, measuring/accounting for carbon, and setting up/accessing carbon markets
- Forest management strategies for increasing resilience to the impacts of climate change
- Tradeoffs between biomass and other energy sources
- Quantifying ecological impacts of solar and wind farms (e.g., tradeoffs between renewable energy and loss of forest cover)

Land use, sustainable forestry, and forest fragmentation

- Role of the future of private lands and how to help landowners keep forests as forests (e.g., incentives, conservation finance, alternative markets)
- Effective messaging and communication tools for working with private forest landowners
- Challenges of navigating management for a variety of competing needs (e.g., wildlife habitat, carbon, resilience)
- Concerns about regeneration and stand diversity
- Potential for increased fragmentation with COVID-related migration to rural areas

- Water quality impacts from forest management strategies, changes in land use, sustainable forestry, and forest fragmentation

Forest products industry and innovative technologies

- Concerns about workforce and market declines, need for innovations in products and technologies
- Need for engagement with external stakeholder groups about sustainable wood products (e.g., corporate sustainability officers, engineering and architectural groups, business associations)
- Opportunities at the intersections of job creation, sustainable forestry, and climate change mitigation
- Impacts of industrial sugaring on wildlife, site productivity, and ecological function

Recreation and tourism

- Managing for recreation and tourism
- Understanding visitor motivations and behaviors; increased visitation due to COVID-19
- “Carrying capacity” of lands and waters
- Economic impacts of outdoor recreation and tourism
- Recreation impacts on wildlife
- Land use impacts on recreation

Environmental justice, equity, and inclusion

- Creating more inclusive communities, conservation lands, and recreational opportunities within the Northern Forest
- Matters of equity, consideration about who pays for and who benefits from ecosystem services, especially air and water quality
- Access for Tribal citizens and Indigenous community members to forest lands for hunting, gathering, and cultural practices
- Development of support for Indigenous youth to engage in and contribute to scientific education and research and training in natural resource management and decision-making
- Engagement with partners from Tribal Nations in the region and recognition of Traditional Ecological Knowledge of the Northern Forest

Biodiversity and connectivity

- Addressing terrestrial, riparian, and aquatic biodiversity and connectivity
- Balancing management for carbon with long-term biodiversity and sustainability goals
- Amount and configuration of conserved and working lands needed to support biodiversity
- Wildlife, species recovery, species adaptation

NSRC prioritizes problem-driven, engaged research with solid communications to stakeholders. Partnerships between researchers and practitioners are strongly encouraged, as are projects that aim to inform and align with the timeframes of management and policy decisions. NSRC encourages projects that may be at different **stages of development**, including:

1. Early-stage partnership development and problem investigation
2. New investigations with regional scope and importance
3. Synthesis of existing knowledge, perspectives, and tools/resources
4. Implementation of research results to practice
5. Scaling a local project or result to the broader Northern Forest region

Timeline

- **October 27, 2021: Pre-proposals due electronically by 4:30pm**
- November 2021: Non-technical feedback to pre-proposals
- **January 18, 2022: Full proposals due by 4:30pm**
- April 2022: Notification of funding decisions and share narrative reviews
- **May 1, 2022: Funding committed** (Pre-award spending allowed from notification date)

Eligibility

Who may apply? NSRC encourages applicants from all races, ethnicities, national origins, genders, sexual orientations, and career stages.

Participation in this RFP is open to scientists, resource managers, policy makers, and other stakeholders pursuing research relevant to forest lands in the northern tier of New York, Vermont, New Hampshire, and Maine. The PI *must* be from an institution, business, agency, or organization in one of the four NSRC states. Other investigators with expertise in the Northern Forest may be part of the proposal regardless of geographic location. To distribute funds as broadly as possible, a researcher may submit only one proposal to this RFP as the lead-PI. A researcher may be a co-PI or collaborator on multiple proposals to this RFP.

Participation by USFS personnel in projects is encouraged. Special conditions apply to USFS employees who submit proposals as PIs or Co-PIs. Potential USFS PIs or Co-PIs should speak with the NSRC Federal Coordinator (listed at end of this RFP) before submitting the pre-proposal and when developing the full proposal budget. Cooperation on projects by USFS scientists and staff will be considered in the final stage of the review process and is described in greater detail below.

All field research must be conducted in or near the boundaries of the Northern Forest.

Who may NOT apply? PIs who are delinquent with terms of current or previous NSRC awards, such as final or progress reports, are not eligible to apply for NSRC funds until outstanding award terms have been met.

Budget Considerations

Funding Source: Funding from the United States Department of Agriculture Forest Service is made under the authority of Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resources Research Act of 1978 (Public Law 95-307), as amended (16 U.S.C. 1641-1646, Public Law 108-198, December 31, 2003). The Federal Assistance Listing (formerly Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance - CFDA) number and name are 10.652. Forestry Research.

Duration and Budget Limits: Proposals may be submitted for projects with a duration of one to three years, with a start date no earlier than May 1, 2022, and no later than September 1, 2022. Budget requests may range from small seed grants to a maximum total award of \$200,000. NSRC expects to be able to make approximately \$1.8 million available for project awards from this RFP.

Each project will be funded through a single award to the PI's institution/organization. The lead PI's organization may issue sub-awards or sub-contracts as described in the research proposal.

Equipment: Federal NSRC funds may *not* be used to purchase equipment (defined as \$5,000 or more per unit and a useful life of over one year). Equipment purchased with non-federal dollars may be used as matching funding, as long as Uniform Guidance rules are followed. See CFR-2014-title2-vol1-sec200-306.

Indirect Costs: Applicants to the NSRC RFP may use their institution's or organization's federally negotiated indirect cost rate (NICRA), also called overhead or facilities and administration (F&A) rate. Applicants may elect to charge an indirect cost rate that is lower than their maximum rate for a federal sponsor. In this case, the indirect costs foregone may be used as matching funding for the proposed project if allowed by the institution's indirect cost policy. If an institution or organization does not have a federally negotiated indirect cost rate agreement, a 10% de minimis rate can be used.

Matching Funds: As specified in statute, NSRC must give **preference** to research proposals that offer cost share (matching funds) in an amount not less than 50% of the federal funds requested (i.e., \$0.5 non-federal cost share for each \$1 federal awarded) in cases where proposals are evaluated to have equal merit. Matching funds will be considered in the final funding decision stage of the review process. Matching funds may derive from indirect costs foregone, direct expenditures of non-federal funding sources, or in-kind contributions, as described in uniform guidance for federally funded projects. Matching sources must be described in detail in the budget narrative, especially for non-federal and in-kind sources. Additional documentation of these sources may be required.

Review Process

All reviewers will abide by the NSRC's [Conflict of Interest and Confidentiality Statement](#).

Pre-proposal Review

A pre-proposal is required to be eligible to submit a full proposal. NSRC staff will conduct a review of all pre-proposals with the primary intent to provide rapid feedback to the PIs regarding the likely competitiveness of their proposal relative to the current RFP. *Specifically, the pre-proposal review will identify potential strengths and weaknesses based on the criteria used in the full proposal review, except that there will be no formal assessment of the technical merit of the pre-proposal.*

Pre-proposals will be assessed as either strong or weak using these criteria:

1. The research topic addresses one or more RFP **focus areas and priority issues**.
2. The project **goals, objectives, and methodology** are clearly stated.
3. The research has **wide applicability** to the NSRC region (versus narrow benefit to a specific location or entity).
4. **Solid rationale** for why the project is important to stakeholders and how the project will lead to application and use.
5. The **communication plan and outputs** are designed to meet the needs of practitioners, decision-makers, and target audiences.

6. There is **partner and stakeholder involvement** during the design and execution of the project.
7. The project has **potential to address stakeholder priorities** in the Northern Forest.

The decision to submit a full proposal after receiving the pre-proposal feedback is entirely up to the PI(s). The NSRC expects to receive approximately five times as many full proposals as it can fund. Consequently, PIs are strongly encouraged to address weaknesses identified in the pre-proposal review as they develop their full proposals.

Full Proposal Review

Any eligible PI(s) may submit a full proposal based on their pre-proposal, as long as the pre-proposal was received prior to the deadline. The multi-step process for review of full proposals is described below.

The NSRC expects to receive far more full proposals than can be funded, or that can effectively be reviewed by a Full Proposal Review Panel. The exact number of proposals that can be funded will be a function of the budget sizes of high-ranking proposals received. Based on past experience, we expect to fund between 10 and 15 proposals.

Technical Review

All full proposals will be reviewed by at least two external experts (researchers, practitioners, or both). Please note that, as part of the pre-proposal, PIs are invited to nominate expert reviewers with whom they have no known conflicts of interest. The external experts will score full proposals using the criteria listed below and respond to three short-answer questions to help prioritize closely ranked proposals. Anonymized reviewers' responses to the short-answer questions will be sent to PI(s) in April, when funding decisions are made.

Criteria:

1. The **problem** is clearly defined, justified, and relevant to the Northern Forest.
2. The project **hypotheses or research questions** clearly address the problem and have potential benefit to the Northern Forest.
3. The **approach and methods** are well defined and appropriate.
4. The **budget** fits the scope of work proposed and has a favorable cost-benefit ratio.
5. There is a high **likelihood of success** within the project period.

Short-answer questions:

1. Describe the major strengths of the proposal.
2. Describe the major weaknesses of the proposal.
3. Given adequate resources, would you recommend this proposal for funding and why?

Prioritization of Top-ranked Proposals

The NSRC Executive Committee ([EC](#)) will rank all submitted proposals based on technical merit and applicability to the NSRC RFP. The EC will recommend approximately twenty top-ranked proposals for review by the Full Proposal Review Panel (FPRP).

Full Proposal Review Panel Review, Discussion, and Ranking

An *ad hoc* FPRP will be composed of forest stakeholders who have reasonable technical knowledge of the areas covered by the annual RFP and how this knowledge could serve regional stakeholders. In addition to receiving the top-ranked proposals forwarded by the EC, all other

proposals and reviews will be available to the FPRP. They may elect—at their discretion—to review any proposal submitted to the RFP.

Each proposal chosen for review by the FPRP will be fully reviewed by two FPRP members. The FPRP will use the criteria listed below to evaluate full proposals, and the reviewers will respond to three short-answer questions. Anonymized reviewers' responses to the short-answer questions will be sent to PI(s) in April, when funding decisions are made.

Criteria:

1. Proposal clearly states (a) **problem** of practice or (b) **research question** to be addressed and why it is important in the Northern Forest.
2. The problem to be addressed is well-defined, with an appropriate **approach and methods** that correlate to a high likelihood of success within the project period.
3. The project is **widely applicable** to the NSRC region (versus narrow benefit to a specific location or entity).
4. The proposal has a solid **rationale and communications plan, and outputs** will lead to wide use by practitioners, decision-makers, or other target audiences.
5. **Partners and stakeholders will be involved** throughout the design and execution of the project.
6. The project demonstrates a favorable **cost-benefit ratio**.
7. The project has high or exceptional **potential to address stakeholder priorities** in the Northern Forest.

Short-answer questions:

1. Describe the major strengths of the proposal.
2. Describe the major weaknesses of the proposal.
3. Given limited resources, would you recommend this proposal for funding? Why?

The FPRP will discuss and rank the proposals during the FPRP meeting (in-person or virtual).

Funding Decisions

The NSRC EC will consider the rankings of the FPRP to decide on the final slate of funded proposals. Additional considerations the EC will use to determine the final slate of successful proposals are:

1. Projects that have the potential to lead to new, lasting partnerships across institutions and entities in the Northern Forest region, particularly across boundaries of forest.
2. Broad geographic distribution of projects/lead institutions across the NSRC region.
3. Projects led by early-career PIs and/or support substantive involvement of graduate and undergraduate researchers.
4. Per statute, in cases where proposals are evaluated to have equal merit, the NSRC will prioritize proposals that offer cost share (matching funds) in an amount not less than 50% of the federal funds requested.
5. The EC will assure that at least \$500,000 of NSRC-funded research projects show tangible coordination with Forest Service research.

Reviewer comments and funding decisions will be sent to PIs in April 2022.

Pre-proposal Content and Submission Instructions

Pre-proposals must provide the required information to be accepted and are a pre-requisite to full proposal submission. Pre-proposals will describe the scientific objective, rationales, significance, and strategy for the research project. A detailed budget, budget narrative, Curriculum Vitae (CVs), figures, tables, references, or appendices are not required or allowed in the pre-proposal.

Pre-proposal Requirements: Pre-proposals are to be submitted via Google forms (link below). All responses are limited to 1,000 characters (approximately 150 words).

1. Project title
2. Principal investigator name, institution, and email address
 - List only one person here. This person will be the sole contact for all NSRC communication and should forward NSRC updates to Co-PIs and others.
3. Project collaborators name, institution, email address, role in the project
 - List persons or entities who will be directly supported by the proposed project or who will contribute documented matching resources to the project.
 - Roles may include Co-PI, Co-researcher, Research User, etc.
4. Estimated total amount of NSRC funds to be requested
5. Estimated matching funds to be provided (if any)
6. Project duration in years
7. Research topic and relevance to RFP
8. Goals and objectives
9. Approach or methods
10. Relevance to stakeholders and how the project will lead to application and use
11. Applicability to the NSRC region
12. Partner and stakeholder involvement
13. Communication plan and outputs
 - At least one substantial, applied, and tangible product or output should be identified. It is understood that outcomes are harder to achieve, but the potential for any outcome that benefits stakeholders in the Northern Forest should be identified and explained where possible
14. Potential to address stakeholder priorities in the Northern Forest
15. Potential technical reviewers
 - Please suggest 2 researchers and 2 practitioners (from public or private sector management or extension agencies) with whom you have no conflict of interest.
 - Please include names, institutions, and email addresses.

Submission: Pre-proposal submissions will be via Google Forms at <https://forms.gle/CqWxKB8NAKStq6sY8>

If a confirmation email from Google Forms (subject “Northeastern States Research Cooperative Pre-proposal”) is not received after submitting the pre-proposal, please contact an NSRC manager, listed on the last page of this RFP.

Full Proposal Content and Submission Instructions

Please include the following in your full proposal in 10-point (or greater) font.

1. Title Page

The proposal narrative should include the following elements.

- Heading: “2021 NSRC Full Proposal” Project Title
- Principal Investigator (name, affiliation, address, telephone number(s) and email)
- Project collaborators names, institutions, email addresses, roles in the project. Roles may include Co-PI, Cooperator, Research User, etc. Forest Service collaborations should be highlighted, as the Forest Service requires NSRC-funded research projects show tangible coordination with Forest Service research. Please also indicate any early career PIs or collaborators (e.g. <7 years since degree).
- Total amount of NSRC funds requested and the amounts requested per year
- Total amount of matching funds offered (if any) and the amounts offered per year
- Total project costs (total amount of NSRC funds requested and matching funds offered)

2. Abstract (One-half of a page)

The abstract should briefly summarize the overall research project, including the problem, research question/s, specific objectives, approach or methods, expected outputs and/or outcomes, and short- and long-term benefits for the Northern Forest and its stakeholders and communities. If the proposal is funded, this summary will become the basis for public documents describing NSRC-supported research projects. The abstract should be written for a wide-ranging audience with limited use of field-related terminology.

3. Proposal Narrative (Six pages maximum)

The proposal narrative should include the following elements.

- **Introduction:** A summary of the issue(s), why the project needs to be done, and the benefits derived. How will this project address the specific focus areas and priority issues in the Northeastern States Research Cooperative RFP?
- **Project Goals and Supporting Objectives:** Include a clear statement of the project goals and specific objective(s). Clearly state the a) problem of practice or b) research question or hypothesis to be addressed. Submissions proposing basic research must clearly document an end user who will endorse that the proposed work would be beneficial, even if it is risky.
- **Project Justification and Relevance: why it is important in the Northern Forest.** This section is intended to describe how the proposed project is relevant and beneficial to the Northern Forest region, including the people who live within its boundaries, work with its resources, use its products, visit it, and care about it. Provide a concise review and synthesis of existing knowledge to justify your goals and objectives. If your proposal builds on research previously funded by NSRC, please take special care to explain this connection. Also include the rationale behind the current need for the proposed research and its timeliness. Be sure to describe the project’s potential for *application* to Northern Forest lands and communities and how will it address the needs and interests of stakeholder groups in the

Northern Forest region (Who will directly benefit from the results of the proposed research and why do the beneficiaries or stakeholders that you have defined need this research?). This section is intended to provide peer reviewers with evidence that the proposed work addresses concerns in the Northern Forest four-state region as stipulated in the RFP. Although the literature may be extensive, the synthesis should be restricted to the most important and/or most relevant sources.

- **Approach and Methodology:** Include a clear description of the proposed research methods without going into detailed statistical or technical descriptions and formulas. This section should include concise details of methodology as well as justification that would allow a diverse group of reviewers to assess (1) the merits of the proposed methods in providing long-term, credible, scientifically rigorous results; (2) the degree to which partners and stakeholders are involved throughout design and execution of the project.; (3) the qualifications of the researchers to successfully complete the proposed study; and (4) the roles and responsibility of *all* collaborators and cooperators listed on the project.
- **Expected Products, Outputs, and Possible Outcomes:** Include an explicit description of expected products, outputs, and possible outcomes as well as the benefits of the research project for lands and communities of the Northern Forest region. Remember that “outcomes” are different from “products and outputs.” Outputs are specific deliverables such as a report, workshop, or dataset that should be deliverable by the conclusion of the project. Outcomes are changed behaviors, attitudes, understanding or conditions within the community that may take some time to mature. Consider who wants this information and why. Fully describe (1) communication plans for how research results and products will serve and be disseminated to stakeholder groups and communities in the region, and (2) how you expect practitioners, decision makers or other target audiences to widely use the results of your research. *Note:* Funded proposals will be required to submit annual progress reports and a final report that follows the NSRC-specified format. These required outputs do not need to be described in the proposal.
- **Results from Prior NSRC Support** (if applicable): If the lead PI has received NSRC support of any kind in the past (either as lead PI or Co-PI), list the project(s) and identify all specific products (papers, brochures, datasets, etc.). Describe how your previous research has made a difference to the Northern Forest communities and include outcomes and outputs. You do not need to identify required NSRC reports, e.g., final reports. Also explain whether and how the proposed research builds on your previous NSRC research.
- **U.S. Forest Service Collaboration** (if applicable): Please describe the nature of the proposed role (co-PI, collaborator, etc.) and project involvement by any Forest Service employees on the project.

4. References and Citations (Two pages maximum)

Citation page formatting may include smaller font sizes and/or spacing.

5. Project Timeline (One page maximum)

Include a **project timeline** to show your plans for managing the project over the course of the proposed project period.

6. Budget and Budget Narrative

Use the **budget and budget narrative template** found on the [NSRC RFP webpage](#). If applicable, please note whether requested funding is a part of a larger effort where NSRC funds may leverage or complement other funds. Details regarding matching funds/cost share should mirror the categories and level of specificity found in the federal budget request. The budget narrative template is located in the same Excel workbook as the budget. The budget narrative should describe the requested funding and matching funding (if provided) in sufficient detail to allow an independent review panel to assess the likelihood of meeting project objectives with the proposed funding level. The budget narrative is critical for reviewers to understand budget allocation choices that might not be clearly explained in the project narrative or budget table. It is required that the budget narrative address *each* component of the budget. Persons or entities that would receive NSRC funds must be explained and justified in sufficient detail to judge whether the requested funds are warranted. See “Budget Considerations” section above for details on equipment, indirect costs and matching funds.

Subawards: A subaward budget in the same format as the proposal budget is required for any subawards described in the application. To be clear, the main proposal should have the annual budgets of subaward(s) listed. An additional budget and budget narrative form is required to provide detail about each subaward.

Budgets and budget narratives should be saved as or printed to a PDF and combined with the overall proposal PDF prior to submission.

7. **Résumés or CVs**

Include resumes or curriculum vitae (CV) of the PI, co-PI, and any other cooperators specifically identified in the proposal. CVs should reflect recent, relevant experience and publications demonstrating expertise relevant to successful completion of the project. CVs are limited to two pages maximum per person, one page per person is acceptable.

8. **Signed Endorsement from Proposed Funding Recipients**

A signed letter from an Authorized Organizational Representative (AOR) denoting that the enclosed application is accurate and approved for submission based on relevant institutional rules is required. A signed letter from an AOR of any institution or organization that would receive proposed NSRC funding or provide matching funds is also required. An AOR is typically someone from the institution’s office of sponsored programs or research or from the organization’s business office. This endorsement from the AOR can be provided in many different formats. No matter the form, the endorsement should indicate approval of submitted budget and amount as well as transmittal information for the institution, in preparation for the possibility that the proposal may be funded.

9. **Letters of Commitment**

The expertise, involvement, and responsibility of collaborators, cooperators, and/or specifically identified groups acknowledged to participate in the project must be explained if they are not included in the budget, and a **letter of commitment** must be included from each individual and/or group identified as Collaborator or Cooperator. A letter of commitment indicates a willingness to work with the PI(s) on a project and states what the collaborator or cooperator will

do for the proposed research. A sample letter of commitment could contain the following statement: “If the proposal submitted by [insert PI name] entitled [insert the proposal title] is selected for funding by the NSRC, it is my intent to collaborate and/or commit resources as detailed in the scope of work, budget, or budget narrative.”

10. Additional Supporting Documentation

Letters of support are allowed, but letters of recommendation or support are *not* considered letters of commitment or letters of endorsement. Additional appendices of figures/tables are *not* allowed.

Full Proposal Submission Process

When your proposal is ready for submission, please access the Google Form (<https://forms.gle/wJ56hbAnTnvGF1LHA>), where you will be asked to enter basic proposal metadata. (If the link does not work, please copy and paste into your browser.)

After submitting the form, please send a pdf of the full proposal via email to this email address: 2021_NS.9cywy65p1sul1t4u@u.box.com. Files should be labeled as **Last Name_First Name_NSRC 2021_FP**. Simply attach the combined PDF file (all proposal sections as well as the budgets and budget narratives as one PDF) to a blank email and send. Please email the proposal PDF only once. If you do not get a confirmation email from Box or have trouble with submission, please contact one of the program managers (see contact information below).

Contact Information

Questions or concerns should be addressed to the NSRC Program Managers.

Maine

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Governance documents (NSRC Charter, Conflict of Interest and Confidentiality Statement) are available at www.nsrcforest.org/governance.