



Northeastern States Research Cooperative Releases 2023 Request for Proposals

For Release
July 12, 2023

The Northeastern States Research Cooperative (NSRC) is pleased to announce the release of the [2023 Request for Proposals \(RFP\)](#) to put science to work across the Northern Forest in support of a vibrant and thriving economy and culture rooted in forest health.

NSRC expects to award nearly \$5.5 million in funding for projects that will begin in spring 2024. Research projects may range from small seed grants to three-year research efforts, with budgets ranging from \$75,000 to \$500,000. The expectation is that NSRC will be able to fund between 15 and 25 projects in response to this RFP.

Informed by our external advisory committee, NSRC seeks proposals addressing (1) the state of the forest, (2) measuring and quantifying impacts, (3) developing tools for response, and/or (4) rural community and economic development.

“The Forest Service looks forward to building our partnership and research collaborations in the Northern Forest, and we look forward to the good work emanating from NSRC research,” stated US Forest Service NSRC Federal Coordinator Dr. Daniel Dey.

Successful proposals will clearly articulate the research question, the rationale for why that question is important, and the strategy for making research results actionable.

Participation in this RFP is open to scientists, resource managers, policymakers, and others pursuing research relevant to forest lands in Maine, New Hampshire, the northern tier of New York, and Vermont. Participation by US Forest Service personnel in projects is encouraged. Special conditions apply to Forest Service employees who submit proposals as PIs or Co-PIs.

“NSRC has provided vital regional research funding for nearly two decades. Ongoing challenges to Northern Forest communities require comprehensive, cutting-edge science and research to provide the understanding needed for our communities to thrive,” noted Aaron Weiskittel, Director of UMaine’s Center for Research on Sustainable Forests.

Proposals that are led by and/or are relevant to Indigenous and Tribal Nations communities in the region and that have regional applicability are encouraged. A separate RFP for the NSRC Indigenous Forest Knowledge Fund is forthcoming. **To stay informed on this and future RFPs, subscribe to the [NSRC updates](#) email list.**

Timeline: Interested researchers are required to submit a **letter of intent by August 28, 2023; proposals are due September 26, 2023.** Letters of intent are required to be eligible to submit a proposal, but there will be no assessment of the intellectual or technical merit of the proposed project. Notification of final proposal selections will be made in February 2024, and funding will be awarded in time for the 2024 field season.

In 2022, NSRC received 33 proposals requesting \$5.2 million dollars in funding. After an external and internal review process, NSRC awarded 12 grants totaling \$2 million of federal funding and \$1.1 million of matching funding for research that addressed priority issues identified by people in the Northern Forest region. The awarded projects include new investigations with regional scope and importance, transformation of research results into practice, and early-stage partnerships and problem investigation. For more information about ongoing projects and previous awards, visit the [NSRC website](#).

The Northeastern States Research Cooperative (NSRC) is a competitive grant program for Northern Forest research, jointly directed through the USDA Forest Service [Northern Research Station](#), the [Hubbard Brook Research Foundation](#), and a designated institution in each of the four Northern Forest states: 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 [Department of Sustainable Resources Management](#) at the College of Environmental Science and Forestry at the State University of New York. Funding is provided by the US Congress through the USDA Forest Service. The NSRC and its partner institutions are equal opportunity providers.

For more information about NSRC, please visit our website at <https://nsrcforest.org>. Questions on the RFP should be directed to NSRC state managers, listed below:

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