

**ASSESSMENT OF THE SCOPE OF CONSERVATION PLANNING AND ACTIVITIES IN NATIVE NATIONS IN
THE NORTHERN GREAT PLAINS
Buffalo Nations Grasslands Alliance**

Summary

Buffalo Nations Grasslands Alliance (BNGA) is seeking a consultant to assess the status of conservation planning and specific types of activities in Native nations in the Northern Great Plains (NGP). The consultant will closely follow best-practice data collection protocols, interview Tribal staff in Native nations, review documents, and complete a written assessment. The full Terms of Reference is available upon request by emailing Libby Khumalo at info@bngalliance.org. To apply, please send a cover letter detailing the consultant's previous experience with assessing conservation programs, as well as a resume, by May 15th, 2022 to info@bngalliance.org

BNGA

BNGA is a new, Native developed and led, 501(c)(3) nonprofit collaborating with a broad coalition of partners to support conservation and sustainable livelihoods in Native nations in the Northern Great Plains (NGP). BNGA envisions Native nations uniting so that the diversity of life in the NGP flourishes for current and future generations. Its mission is to ensure that the 15 Native nations in the NGP have the technical and financial resources to plan and act on the vision for their traditional lands and waters, which includes ensuring that:

- a) Tribal members thrive by sustainably stewarding and connecting with natural resources;
- b) Grasslands and native wildlife on tribal lands are restored or enhanced; and
- c) Tribal fish and game departments have the capacity to deliver conservation at scale.

Scope of Work

The Consultant will undertake the following activities to achieve the objective of this Consultancy:

- a. Speaking with the Assessment Team and colleagues to get initial grounding in the range of existing conservation plans and activities.
- b. Reviewing existing WWF documents, plus relevant plans, white papers, and peer reviewed literature to ascertain what knowledge already exists.
- c. Creating a working framework for conservation plan and activities scoping.
- d. Reviewing the draft list of assessment questions and, in consultation with the Assessment Team, revise the questions as needed to produce a high-quality assessment (See Annex 2).
- e. Outlining timeline and methods for completing the assessment, including identifying, with the Assessment Team, the four or five specific Native nations that will be the focus of the assessment.
- f. Completing all required research protocols prior to beginning research, including filling out all relevant Institutional Review Board applications, with clear descriptions of data protection and sharing procedures, and ensuring approvals are granted from each relevant Native nation prior to commencing data collection.
- g. Follow planned methods for completing the assessment, including interviewing multiple Tribal managers from four or five Native nations (e.g., staff from natural resources/wildlife departments, land and range, environmental offices, and economic development departments, etc.), as well as relevant staff from BIA, USDA American Indian Liaisons, and other organizations.
- h. Meeting regularly with the Assessment Team to discuss progress, findings, and issues.

- i. Drafting the assessment and following up on requests for more information or clarification from the Assessment Team.
- j. Writing the final report.
- k. Presenting the final report to the Assessment Team, BNGA's Board, and other colleagues.
- l. Participating in weekly meetings with WWF Technical Director to share updates and advise on next steps.

The Assessment Consultant

The Assessment Consultant will have at least:

- Knowledge of Native-led grassland conservation;
- Experience assessing conservation programs; and
- Experience completing written assessments
- A master's level degree or background in at least one of the following areas: conservation, natural resources management, environmental studies, and/or Native American studies.

Timeline

The proposed timeline for the Consultancy is June 1 – October 31, 2022.

Budget

The consultant will be paid up to \$30,000, and travel expenses will be paid up to \$5,000.

To apply:

Please send a cover letter detailing the consultant's previous experience with assessing conservation programs, as well as a resume, by May 15th 2022 to info@bngalliance.org