

# 2021 Landscape Conservation Catalyst Fund Application Process

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*Network for Landscape Conservation (NLC)*

## *Eligibility Screen*

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Please use this initial section as a self-administered eligibility screen. **If you answer "no" to any of these questions, you should not proceed with your application:** you will not be a strong fit with the Catalyst Fund and will not receive a grant award.

**The Partnership seeking funding is place-based and working within a specific, defined landscape.\***

Refer here to see what the Catalyst Fund considers to be place-based.

### Choices

Yes

No

**The proposal is for a long-term, enduring Partnership.\***

A Partnership focused on achieving a specific, short-term project (e.g. to build a trail or complete a land deal) would answer "no" here.

### Choices

Yes

No

**The Partnership's purpose is to actively achieve conservation outcomes and goals.\***

### Choices

Yes

No

**The proposal is for investments in the Partnership's collaborative capacity and process.\***

Requests for funding support for direct conservation project implementation [e.g. land acquisitions or stewardship costs] would answer "no" here.

### Choices

Yes

No

Again, if you answered "no" to any of the above screening questions, you should not continue with a proposal as you will not be a strong fit with the Catalyst Fund and will not receive a grant award.

## *Indigenous-led Partnership*

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### **Is this a proposal from an Indigenous-led Partnership?\***

A portion of the Catalyst Fund is dedicated to advancing Indigenous landscape conservation priorities. Is this a proposal that should be considered under this priority focus?

#### **Choices**

Yes

No

## *Partnership Information*

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### **Name of Landscape Conservation Partnership:\***

*Character Limit: 250*

### **Year Launched (ex. 2008)\***

*Character Limit: 4*

### **Landscape Conservation Partnership Website, if applicable:**

*Character Limit: 2000*

### **What is the relationship of the applicant organization to the Landscape Conservation Partnership?**

If your Landscape Conservation Partnership is not a registered 501(c)(3) organization and instead a 501(c)(3) partner organization is applying on behalf of the Partnership, clarify the relationship by selecting the best descriptor below:

#### **Choices**

The applicant is the lead convener of the Partnership.

The applicant is a partner organization within the Partnership.

The applicant is the formal fiscal sponsor organization but otherwise uninvolved in the Partnership.

Not applicable.

### **In which geographic region does this Partnership operate?\***

Select the region that best fits, recognizing that some partnerships may cross these arbitrary boundaries; more than one region can be selected. View this map if you are unsure which region your landscape is located in.

#### **Choices**

Northeast: New England

Northeast: Middle Atlantic  
South: South Atlantic  
South: East South Central  
South: West South Central  
Midwest: East North Central  
Midwest: West North Central  
West: Mountain  
West: Pacific

### Size (in acres) of the Partnership's landscape?\*

#### Choices

<500,000  
500,000-999,999  
1 million-5 million  
6 million-10 million  
11 million-50 million  
51 million-100 million  
>100 million

### How often does the core group of partners within the Partnership meet?\*

Please select the option that best matches your Partnership experience over the last year or 18 months, recognizing that many Partnerships may meet on differing schedules or with varying frequency.

#### Choices

Monthly  
Quarterly  
Annually  
Less Frequently

### How is the Partnership coordinated/staffed?\*

#### Choices

A paid full-time (.76 or greater FTE) coordination position is staffed.  
A paid part-time (.25-.75 FTE) coordination position is staffed.  
A paid limited part-time (less than .25 FTE) coordination position is staffed.  
Staff member(s) from partner organizations provide part-time, undedicated coordination support.  
Community members or other individuals provide volunteer coordination support.  
No coordination support is currently provided.

## *Grant Request*

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### We are requesting:\*

#### Choices

One year grant  
Two year grant

**Total grant amount requested:\****Character Limit: 20***Total budget for proposed activities:\***

Please indicate how much the proposed activities will cost in total, including the grant amount requested and additional direct match funding.

*Character Limit: 20***Approximate budget for your Partnership this year:\***

Please do not provide the annual budget for the applicant organization (if organization is applying on behalf of a Partnership); instead provide an estimate for the budget of the actual Partnership.

*Character Limit: 20*

## *Proposal Narrative*

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As you consider your answers to the following questions, we encourage you to clearly convey how your Partnership reflects the Catalyst Fund's prioritized Partnership characteristics, and how a Catalyst Fund grant award will catalyze your Partnership at a critical point in its development, in ways that change the trajectory of conservation outcomes on your landscape over the long term.

**We request that each of the four narrative questions below be addressed in 500 words or fewer.** There is a margin of buffer built into the character limits set below, as we don't believe spending extensive time editing slightly longer responses down to hit precise limits is productive or beneficial. However, we do ask that you be mindful of length here; your responses to the following four narrative questions should not exceed five pages in length in total.

**Proposal Title\***

Provide a brief title for your proposal.

*Character Limit: 100***Proposal Purpose\***

In one paragraph, succinctly summarize what the funding will enable you to accomplish and the impact that this will have on your Partnership's ability to achieve its conservation goals within your defined landscape. Not: this may be used in public descriptions of awarded grants.

*Character Limit: 500***The Why—Tell us why your Landscape Conservation Partnership exists?\***

Ground us briefly in the geography and context of your landscape—what defines the landscape that you are focused on? We want to understand the shared conservation purpose of your

Partnership—what are partners coming together to try to achieve? We will be looking for a clear sense of the mission, goals, and strategies of your Partnership.

*Character Limit: 3500*

### **The Who—Introduce us to your Landscape Conservation Partnership.\***

We encourage you to share the story of who comprises your Partnership and how it operates. We're less interested in names of specific individuals/organizations and more interested in understanding the breadth and range of entities and interests represented.

Questions that may be helpful to consider here include: How often are partners meeting or communicating? How are decisions made? What does the leadership of the Partnership look like? (e.g., a lead convening and/or host organization(s)? A core leadership team, such as a steering committee? Are there working groups?) How has your Partnership grown or evolved over time? How do you ensure your efforts are community-grounded and centering a diversity of voices, including voices that have been historically marginalized and/or silenced?

*This is not a definitive list of questions to answer one by one but rather is intended to orient you to the direction of our inquiry. Some of the above questions may not be relevant to your Partnership.*

*Character Limit: 3500*

### **The What—Tell us what you propose to do with Catalyst Fund support.\***

We want to understand what your Partnership plans to do with a Catalyst Fund grant award: what activities will you undertake to build the collaborative capacity and process of your Partnership? Please share the work plan that grant funding would support, outlining specific Partnership-building activities and the resulting deliverables that you plan to pursue over the course of the grant period.

*Character Limit: 3500*

### **Impact—Tell us how a grant will accelerate your Partnership's ability to achieve conservation goals.\***

We want to understand how the planned collaborative capacity and process investments will change the trajectory of your Partnership over the long term. How do the activities and deliverables identified above strengthen and accelerate the development of your Partnership? What will be the significance of this accelerated Partnership development on the landscape? How does the Catalyst Fund investment better position your Partnership to achieve its conservation goals over the long term?

*Character Limit: 3500*

## Peer Learning

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### Would a representative of your Partnership be able to participate in a peer learning cohort?\*

The Catalyst Fund couples financial support with capacity-building support, and each funded Partnership will be invited to participate in a two-year Peer Learning cohort. Would a representative of your Partnership be able and willing to participate in the Peer Learning program?

#### Choices

Yes

No

#### Comment:

*Character Limit: 1000*

## Attachments

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### Proposal Budget\*

Download the Catalyst Fund budget template, complete, and upload.

*File Size Limit: 1 MB*

### Map of Partnership landscape (if available)

If available, upload a map or schematic of the Partnership boundary and the associated landscape. Note: If no map is available, this will not influence the evaluation of your proposal. Please do not spend additional time here: only upload if you have something available at your fingertips.

*File Size Limit: 10 MB*

### Additional Materials

Our expectation is that nothing further will be needed for us to understand your proposal. However, if you feel an additional item (e.g. a strategic or conservation plan, a partners or leadership list, a storymap, etc.) is critical to conveying the story of your Partnership and how a Catalyst Fund grant award will accelerate your conversation efforts—beyond what is already captured in the narrative—you may upload it here. Because the evaluation process will primarily focus on your responses to the above narrative questions, we **STRONGLY** recommend that you only upload materials here if doing so is critical to advancing the concept of your proposal.

*File Size Limit: 10 MB*