Blank Table 1 for use in capturing 2022 EPA GIT Funding Ideas

(See version below for more detailed instructions)

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| **Required Components of the Phase 1 Development of Project Ideas (*Table 1*)** | |
| Goal Implementation Team (GIT) | Water Quality GIT |
| Proposed GIT Technical Lead | Julie Mawhorter (USFS, Forestry Workgroup-Tree Canopy Coordinator)  julie.mawhorter@usda.gov |
| Annual Weighting Factors to Consider |  |
| CBP Functional Areas  (Yes or No) | No |
| Preparers | Julie Mawhorter |
| Project Title  (10 words or less) | Addressing Regional Tree Supply Challenges & Opportunities |
| Project Type (Describe the type of project submitted) | Logic & Action Plan Implementation:  -Policy research & recommendations |
| Proposed Project Outcomes | * Assess current capacity of regional public and private tree nurseries to meet current and future tree planting needs * Identify key needs and strategies for meeting future demand through a coordinated, proactive approach * Provide a set of recommended actions to bolster supply of climate resilient trees for urban and rural contexts |
| Project Justification  (500 words or less) | Ambitious tree planting goals are included in the Chesapeake Watershed Agreement (Tree Canopy, Riparian Forest Buffers) and the State Watershed Implementation Plans for meeting TMDL requirements, with current levels of tree planting lagging far behind targets. Climate resilience constitutes a newer driver for state tree goals, such as Maryland’s Climate Solutions Now Act passed in 2021, which calls for 5 million additional trees to be planted by 2031, with 500,000 of these targeted to underserved urban areas.  One of the important limiting factors on achieving these goals is having an adequate supply of high quality, diverse, and climate resilient seedlings and larger stock trees to plant. The few State tree nurseries that exist play a critical role in helping to meet seedling supply but there are a number of limitations and challenges that need to be addressed in order to effectively plan for and scale up supply for all the different entities that need trees. Private or non-profit nursery operations are essential to supplement state nursery supply and to provide the larger stock and variety needed in urban settings. New climate and infrastructure-related funding at the federal level could be directed to bolstering tree supply, but a well-informed, coordinated and strategic approach is needed to produce the best outcomes from such opportunities.  This project will lay the groundwork for such a strategic approach by 1) a rapid assessment of the current network of tree suppliers serving the Chesapeake region, including key gaps/issues to address 2) gathering insights from state forestry agencies, nursery producers, and other major planting organizations in a 2-part virtual Scaling Up Chesapeake Tree Supply Forum, and 3) providing an actionable set of strategies based on Forum findings and “best practice” examples gleaned from across the country through r |
| Proposed Project Steps and Timeline | 1. Select and convene Project Steering Committee – input on key issues, stakeholders, and overall project design 2. Information gathering – interviews (or focus groups) with key stakeholders (state forestry agencies, nursery associations, other major planting organizations) to define the network of players currently involved in supplying trees and seedlings in the watershed; initial gap analysis of key issues to address (deliverable: brief report of findings with invite list generated for Tree Supply Forum) 3. Plan and convene a Scaling Up Chesapeake Tree Supply Forum to gain insights from stakeholders on key needs and actionable strategies (virtual ok? Part 1-seedlings/state nurseries, part 2 larger/urban tree stock/private nurseries, 1 day each, a month apart?) 4. Information gathering – solution pathways; research and summarize 5-10 promising strategies for scaling up tree supply based on model examples from around the country; should address a range of issues such as quality/diversity/climate resilience of seed and seedling supply; equitable solutions that address the interests of underserved communities, including workforce development opportunities in nursery production 5. Generate final report of project findings and recommendations; present to CBP leadership and in a free webinar open to all stakeholders/interested public |
| Estimated Costs | $70,000 ? |
| Cross-Outcome Benefits | Riparian Forest Buffers, Water Quality, Climate Resilience, Diversity |

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| **Required Components of the Phase 1 Development of Project Ideas (*Table 1*)** | | |
| Goal Implementation Team (GIT) | As defined by the Chesapeake Bay Program and described below:   * Sustainable Fisheries Goal Implementation Team (GIT 1) * Habitat Goal Implementation Team (GIT 2) * Water Quality Goal Implementation Team (GIT 3) * Maintain Healthy Watersheds Goal Implementation Team (GIT 4) * Fostering Chesapeake Stewardship Goal Implementation Team (GIT 5) * Enhance Partnering, Leadership and Management Goal Implementation Team (GIT 6) * Scientific, Technical Assessment and Reporting (STAR) Team * Communications Team | |
| Proposed GIT Technical Lead | A GIT Technical Lead should be identified at the time the Table 1 is submitted. If this project idea is selected to move forward for funding, the person identified as the GIT Technical Lead will work with the Trust to refine the project idea into a detailed scope of work (Table 2). GIT Technical Leads provide overall management of the project, from the idea phase in Table 1 to ultimately overseeing the project through to completion. GIT Technical Leads cannot be a part of the bidding team or financially be involved in the project. Provide the following for the GIT Lead: 1) First and Last Name, 2) Organization, and 3) email address. | |
| Annual Weighting Factors to Consider | Each year, annual weighting factors will be described, depending upon current program needs. In FY21, the following annual weighting factors are described for the Phase 1 Project Idea:   1. Project addresses a Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Justice (DEIJ) need. 2. Project addresses a Climate Change need. 3. Project addresses a Local Engagement need. 4. GIT Priority Project (one priority project identified per GIT). 5. Projects that address outcomes that are lagging in outcome attainability.   Describe the extent to which the project addresses: 1. Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Justice; 2. Climate Change, and/or 3. Local Engagement ; 4. describe if your project is a GIT Priority, and 5. Describe if your project addressees an outcome lagging in attainability. | |
| CBP Functional Areas  (Yes or No) | Does this project involve components that require input from the following functional areas: Web/Creative, GIS, Communications, IT, and/or Science Prioritization Teams? If yes, have you communicated the project idea with the applicable functional areas and incorporated input (Yes or No)? | |
| Preparers | List names of all parties who were part of developing the content of this table; list first the lead preparer (the point of contact for questions/clarification). These entities will not be allowed to bid on the scope of work during the Request for Proposals (RFP) stage. Provide the following for each Preparer: 1) First and Last Name, 2) Organization, and 3) email address. | |
| Project Title  (10 words or less) | The title should be short and give a high-level view of what the project is trying to accomplish. Creative and catchy is fine only if it also captures the real purpose of the work. (Recent examples from previously funded GIT projects include *Development of Cost-Effective Methods to Measure Site-Specific Denitrification Rates for the Proposed Oyster Restoration Best Management Practices*; *Cultivating and Strengthening Partnerships with Underrepresented Stakeholders*; *Synthesis of Shoreline, Sea Level Rise, and Marsh Migration Data for Wetland Restoration Targeting*). | |
| Example Project Type (Describe the type of project submitted) | Metric Development and Tracking Projects:  Support for science needed to develop metrics  Metric/indicator development  Performance measure development  Monitoring/tracking program development  Data collection program development  Assessments of data to evaluate metric progress  Modeling support  Other (please describe) | Logic and Action Plan Implementation Projects:  Economic modeling  Database development  Policy research and recommendations  Training  Mapping, lands assessment  Baseline analyses  Environmental monitoring/demonstration  Other (please describe) |
| Proposed Project Outcomes | Project outcomes are the changes you expect to see as a result of the work being completed. Examples of Project *Outcomes* could be increased knowledge around how fish are changing habits/will change habits due to climate change; future fish ladders will be more successful due to readily available improved design standards; future fish passage policies will be reflective of resulting research. | |
| Project Justification  (500 words or less) | This is the elevator speech - why is this work important to the over-arching goals? Why is it important to the other GITs? How does this work build on previous work? Be succinct in the answer. | |
| Proposed Project Steps and Timeline | List all the steps required to accomplish the project goals. Make sure to include any meetings with GIT teams and other relevant stakeholders (try to quantify number of meetings anticipated); a step to review draft deliverables by relevant stakeholders; and a step for the contractor to refine the deliverables after draft review. Indicate whether the methods by which a contractor will be expected to undertake the work are well known or whether you intend for the bidders to propose the methodology; assume work will start in June 2022. | |
| Estimated Costs | Provide an estimate of the project cost (generally $25,000-$100,000). Estimating accurate budgets can be a challenge. Some tips to improve budget accuracy: to start, estimate number of the hours and other costs like supplies and travel that it would take to accomplish each of the steps identified above. Contractors can range from approximately $50 to $150 per hour (when indirect costs are factored in). Include the time it would take for the contractor to attend any meetings. Finally, account for contractor time to revise final products to incorporate stakeholder feedback. | |
| Cross-Outcome Benefits | List any cross-outcome or cross-goal benefits succinctly (Appendix A includes detailed examples). | |