

EFFECTIVENESS MONITORING COMMITTEE

P.O. Box 944246
SACRAMENTO, CA 94244-2460
Website: www.bof.fire.ca.gov



(916) 653-8007

Request for Effectiveness Monitoring Project Proposals Initial Project Concept Proposals Due by **September 30, 2019**

Effectiveness Monitoring Committee California State Board of Forestry and Fire Protection

The Effectiveness Monitoring Committee (EMC) is seeking project proposals that:

- (1) Address one or more of the **critical effectiveness monitoring questions** identified in the [EMC 2018 Strategic Plan](#)¹ and
- (2) Address **natural resource protection issues** that are important for **California forestlands**.

The critical monitoring questions referenced in (1) above are organized under 11 themes:

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. Watercourse and Lake Protection Zone (WLPZ) riparian function | 6. Wildfire hazard |
| 2. Watercourse channel sediment | 7. Wildlife habitat: species and nest sites |
| 3. Road and WLPZ sediment | 8. Wildlife habitat: seral stages |
| 4. Mass wasting sediment | 9. Wildlife habitat: cumulative impacts |
| 5. Fish habitat | 10. Wildlife habitat: structures |
| | 11. Hardwood values |

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In FY 21/22, the EMC has prioritized the following thematic questions, though not to the exclusion of thematic questions that may be proposed outside of the above list:

- Question 6c: Are the FPRs and associated regulations effective in managing fuel loads, vegetation patterns and fuel breaks for fire hazard reduction?
- Question 11a: Are the FPRs and associated regulations effective in retaining diverse forests with a mixture of tree species that includes hardwoods [14 California Code of Regulations (CCR) § 897 (b)(1)]?
- Question 6a: Are the FPRs and associated regulations effective in treating post-harvest slash and slash piles to modify fire behavior?

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Background

The EMC was formed by the California State Board of Forestry and Fire Protection (Board) in 2014 and acts as a technical advisory committee to the Board. Supported monitoring efforts aim to deliver a physical and ecological process-based understanding of the effectiveness of the California Forest Practice Rules (FPRs) and other forestry-related laws and regulations in maintaining or enhancing water quality, aquatic habitat, and wildlife habitat. In addition, the EMC fosters collaborative, transparent, and science-based effectiveness monitoring, providing an active feedback loop to policy makers, managers, agencies, and the public. Applicants are encouraged to submit monitoring project proposals that contribute to this active feedback loop.

¹ <https://bof.fire.ca.gov/media/9122/2018-emc-strategic-plan-ada.pdf>

The Board's mission is to lead California in developing policies and programs that serve the public interest in environmentally, economically, and socially sustainable management of forest and rangelands, and a fire protection system that protects and serves the people of the state.

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For more information, please see the [EMC Charter](#), [Strategic Plan](#), [most recent Annual Report and Workplan](#), and reviewed and supported projects on the [EMC's website](#)².

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Available Funding

The Board anticipates having \$~~215,270,500-528~~ available to fund EMC projects ~~each in~~ fiscal year ~~for the 2019~~2021–2022, and \$425,000 in fiscal years 2022–2023 and 2023–2024. The EMC strives to fund multiple research projects annually, for multiple years; therefore, given the annual funding caps EMC is subject to, proposers are asked to factor this into their budget request if feasible.

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Award Limitations

The EMC will provide up to \$646,500 in total for an individual project. Funding installments of up to \$215,500 will be dispersed annually for up to three fiscal years with demonstrated progress towards project completion. Longer-term projects (greater than three years) may re-apply for additional funding through the competitive

grants process. Applicants requesting more than \$215,500 per fiscal year or more than \$646,500 total will not be considered.

Indirect costs may not exceed ~~XX~~20% of the total funding request. Additionally, only one professor's summer salary may be included in funding requests.

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Eligibility

Eligible applicants are limited to public entities, e.g., state agencies, public universities, federal agencies, and local government agencies or bodies. Proposals with matching funds or in-kind contributors are strongly encouraged, but not required. All funding awards will be distributed through state procurement processes. The EMC also encourages proposals that address critical monitoring questions and themes that have not been addressed by previously funded projects.

Proposed projects must clearly apply to management activities on private timberlands in California. Projects on public land may be eligible for EMC funding so long as they apply to the activities and systems that exist on non-federal timberland.

~~Proposals that do not require funding but seek to support EMC objectives and be part of the effectiveness monitoring program also are encouraged.~~

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Proposal Format

The EMC requires that proposals be submitted on the EMC's proposal templates, as described in the paragraph below. While applicants are encouraged to review past accepted projects on the [EMC's website](#)~~EMC website~~, the previous years' proposals may not adhere to the current formatting standards.

² <https://bof.fire.ca.gov/board-committees/effectiveness-monitoring-committee/>,² <https://bof.fire.ca.gov/board-committees/effectiveness-monitoring-committee/>

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Applicants must submit a one to two-page project summary for initial review using the [“Initial Concept Proposal” template](#)³ found on the [EMC’s website](#). If endorsed, the EMC will request a more detailed [“Full Project Proposal”](#)⁴. The EMC will use this “Full Project Proposal” to evaluate the project and consider it for final approval and funding recommendations to the Board. All sections of the templates must be filled out, and they may be broken into further subsections if necessary. There is no page requirement or page limit for the Full Project Proposal.

Timeline

Initial Concept Proposals are solicited annually in July and are due by September ~~30~~, ~~2019~~~~2021~~. Following review of Initial Concept Proposals, the EMC may request a Full Project Proposal at the end of September, ~~2019~~~~2021~~. Full Project Proposals will be due by early December ~~2019~~~~2021~~ and will be evaluated by the EMC using the

ranking criteria and approach outlined in ~~section~~~~Section~~ 5.0 of the [EMC 2018 Strategic Plan](#). Ranking results will be posted on [EMC’s website](#) and project proponents will be notified of the results and receive comments from the EMC. The EMC will complete the review of Full Project Proposals and make any funding recommendations for the ~~2019~~~~2021~~~~–2022~~ fiscal year at their December, ~~2019~~~~2021~~ meeting.

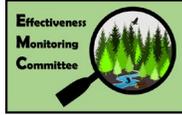
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³ <https://bof.fire.ca.gov/media/9176/concept-proposal-template-6419-ada.pdf>

⁴ <https://bof.fire.ca.gov/media/9175/clean-full-project-proposal-template-6419-ada.pdf>

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July 2019 2021	September* 2019 2021	December* 2019 2021	January – March 2020 2022	June 2020 2022
Request for Proposals released	Initial Concept Proposals due; EMC will review & request Full Project Proposals	Full Project Proposals due; EMC will rank projects, recommend funding, and notify applicants	Grants developed and submitted to grant staff	Funds dispersed; project work begins

*EMC quarterly meetings will be held in September, December, March, and June

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Project Deliverables

Applicants should include a description of project deliverables in the Full Project Proposal, as indicated on the required form. The EMC is interested in receiving periodic updates, field tours, scientific reports, published journal articles, and/or other relevant deliverables during the life of the project. The EMC also encourages education and outreach events for the public. A final report with scientific results and discussion should be submitted to the EMC upon completion of project analyses. The Science to Policy Framework should be consulted to ensure the final deliverables meet the EMC's high standards for scientific integrity, and to ensure a strong link from research to policy and practice.

Commented [KMW3]: Referring to the 6 screening questions in this in-development document; add and link?

Transparency and Conflicts of Interest

Transparency is important to the EMC. All proposals, requests for funding, ranking results, and related project materials will be made publicly available on the [EMC website](#)EMC-website. Final results and data from EMC-approved projects will also be made publicly available.

If an EMC member is the principal investigator or a collaborator on a proposed project, the EMC member will recuse him- or herself from ranking that project or participating in funding recommendations for that project. Applicants and EMC members shall disclose to the EMC any potential financial or non-financial conflicts of interests related to the proposal, including direct or indirect financial or non-financial relationships with the EMC, Board, Department, or applicants.

Proposal Submission and Contact Information

Interested applicants should carefully review this RFP and the [EMC website](#)EMC-web-site. **All Project Concept Proposals must be submitted on the form provided and received or postmarked by the due date.** To apply, proposals should be mailed or faxed in printed format or emailed in Microsoft Word or PDF format to:

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Kristina Wolf, Environmental Scientist
California State Board of Forestry and Fire Protection
P.O. Box 944246, Sacramento, CA 94244-2460
Phone: (916) 215-4947 / Fax: (916) 653-0989
kristina.wolf@bof.ca.gov

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Please direct all questions and requests for further information to ~~Brandi Goss~~[Kristina Wolf](#), Environmental Scientist.

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