



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

Washington, DC 20240

Memorandum

To: All Regional Directors

Through: Deputy Bureau Director, Field Operations

From: Director, Bureau of Indian Affairs

Subject: Request for Proposal (RFP) for Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Ecosystem Restoration (BIL-ER), Bison Project Funding

This memorandum serves as the announcement of the availability of funding through the Office of Trust Services, Division of Natural Resources' Agriculture Branch, Bison Management. Through this competitive process, the Bison Project expects to fund 3 projects with non-recurring 1-year project funding for ecosystem restoration supported by bison conservation and expansion through in Fiscal Year 2023:

1. BIL-ER Bison Project – The Bureau expects to provide \$1.5 million in BIL-ER competitive funding for 3 projects at \$500,000 each. The attached, *Bureau of Indian Affairs – Bison Project Funding, Criteria, and Application Process*, provides guidance for those interested in applying for this program. Should additional funds become available we will publish notice for additional applications, however applicants to this RFP will not need to resubmit their application.

The Central Office, OTS Agriculture Program requests your assistance in informing the Tribes within your Region of the project funding opportunity and in conducting initial processing of funding requests. Each Region will be responsible for distributing program materials to eligible entities, receiving completed funding proposals from applicants, reviewing proposals to ensure they meet eligibility criteria, and ranking proposals according to the ranking criteria and regional priority.

The regional offices must receive all applications for the Agricultural Branch BIL-ER Bison Project funding within 30 calendar days of the announcement date. Regional contact information is included within the application guidance document. Please contact Thomas Mendez, Branch of Agriculture by email at Thomas.Mendez@bia.gov or at (505) 270-3599 for information regarding the proposal.

Attachments