

2009 INNOV.

INNOVATION 13-R6-1N292-13  
KING COUNTY WA MATT KUHARIC

09-DE 11062765-032

## U.S Forest Service: Urban and Community Forestry Program NUCFAC 2009 Challenge Cost Share Grant

### Application Cover Sheet

Proposals are due by 11:59 PM Eastern Standard Time February 17, 2009

**INNOVATION GRANT CATEGORY:** (Total amount available is \$500,000)  
(Select only one per application)

- ENERGY AND URBAN FORESTS
- CLIMATE CHANGE AND URBAN FORESTS
- PUBLIC HEALTH AND URBAN FORESTS

**BEST PRACTICES GRANTS.** (Maximum amount per application is \$50,000 of a total amount available of \$500,000)

PROJECT CONTACT:

NAME OF ORGANIZATION:

MAILING ADDRESS 1:

MAILING ADDRESS 2:

CITY:  STATE:  ZIP CODE:

PHONE NO.  CELL PHONE (OPTIONAL)

FAX NO.

E-MAIL

Is this project being developed to reach a minority or underserved population?  Yes  No

Is this pre-proposal being submitted by a minority or underserved population (owned/operated/directed) business, organization or college/university?  Yes  No

PROJECT TITLE:

A 50 percent match is required of non Federal, cash, donated materials and/or volunteer time.

REQUESTED: \$  + MATCHING: \$  = TOTAL PROJECT: \$

**PARTNERS:**

NAME  LETTER OF SUPPORT INCLUDED: YES  NO

NAME OF ORGANIZATION:

MAILING ADDRESS 1:

MAILING ADDRESS 2:

CITY:  STATE:  ZIP CODE:

PHONE NO.  CELL PHONE (OPTIONAL)

FAX NO.

E-MAIL

\*\*\*\*\*

NAME  LETTER OF SUPPORT INCLUDED: YES  NO

NAME OF ORGANIZATION:

MAILING ADDRESS 1:

MAILING ADDRESS 2:

CITY:  STATE:  ZIP CODE:

PHONE NO.  CELL PHONE (OPTIONAL)

FAX NO.

E-MAIL

\*\*\*\*\*

NAME  LETTER OF SUPPORT INCLUDED: YES  NO

NAME OF ORGANIZATION:

MAILING ADDRESS 1:

MAILING ADDRESS 2:

CITY:  STATE:  ZIP CODE:

PHONE NO.  CELL PHONE (OPTIONAL)

FAX NO.

E-MAIL

**PROPOSAL OUTLINE:** (The Innovation proposal is not to be more than 10 and the Best Practices is not to be more than 5 single spaced pages.) Please make sure each page is numbered and has the project title.

**Project Title:** Community Forestry CPR - Climate Preparedness and Response

**ABSTRACT:** Summarize the proposed project in 200 words or less.

- King County, Washington, in partnership with the NWF, proposes to develop and implement the "Community Forestry CPR - Climate Preparedness and Response" program which will: 1) create tools and implement a model King County program to incentivize (through decreased property taxes) private landowners to maximize the climate change mitigation and adaptation value of their forests and 2) provide tools and guidance on best climate change related land management practices, especially for smaller land parcels. The proposal also addresses how the partners will adapt and disseminate the tools and model policy/program to other communities and individuals across the U.S.

- This project will result in a specific, quantified list of best land management practices to maximize climate benefits, a web based GIS tool to assess the potential and identify best practices for specific sites, and protocols to incorporate these actions into existing government incentive programs such as King County's Public Benefit Rating System Program. The tools and guidance that are generated by this program will also be directly usable by any interested landowner; the NWF will also provide outreach to many of these citizens through its membership and programs.

1. **Scope and Applicability/Justification- Proposal objectives:**
2. **Literature Review: (discussion)**
3. **Organization/Methodology:**
4. **Product:**
5. **Collaboration:**
6. **National Distribution/Technology Transfer of Your Findings:**
7. **Project Evaluation:**
8. **Experience/Personnel/Adequacy of Resources:**
9. **Project Evaluation:**

**Attachments:**

**SF 424 and SF 424 (a). (Make sure DUNS number is on SF424 form)**  
**Copy of indirect cost rate or negotiated rate with cognizant Federal agency**  
**List of Literature reviewed and cited**  
**Letters of Support from Partners**

**When uploading this form to grants.gov, please upload your narrative as a PDF or Word document. Remember that Best Practices proposals should be no more than 5 pages long, and Innovation proposals should be no more than 10 pages long.**

## Community Forestry CPR - Climate Preparedness and Response

A Joint Proposal by King County, Washington and the National Wildlife Federation  
5/11/2009

### **Introduction:**

This proposal outlines the steps for King County, Washington, in partnership with the National Wildlife Federation (NWF), to develop and implement the “**Community Forestry CPR - Climate Preparedness and Response**” program which will: 1) create tools and implement a model King County program to incentivize (through decreased property taxes) private landowners to maximize the climate change mitigation and adaptation value of their forests; and 2) provide improved tools and guidance on best climate change related land management practices, especially for smaller land parcels. The proposal also addresses how the partners will adapt and disseminate the tools and model policy/ program to other communities and individuals across the United States.

### **Background of Proposed Project:**

The seed idea for this program came from a property owner in a rapidly developing area of King County who approached King County’s Department of Natural Resources and Parks to ask if the County could provide guidance and incentives for his family and neighbors regarding forest management activities that would sequester carbon and provide resilience-related climate change benefits.

In exploring this idea, the County realized that there is a significant opportunity to develop a program that provides guidance and incentives to maximize the climate benefit of urban, suburban and developing rural areas. Some building blocks for such a program already exist because there has been aggressive development of carbon offset protocols and programs to incentivize climate friendly forestry and land management practices. To date, however, this work has focused on incentives for climate-friendly actions for large parcels of land. The County realized that it is extremely difficult (due to offset cost certification and validation costs, among other reasons) for the owners of smaller parcels to participate in the carbon offset market. Importantly, the County also realized that there is a distinct lack of guidance regarding what specific local actions landowners might take to maximize the carbon sequestration and resiliency capacities of their lands.

The County considered several options for how it could follow through on the development of a program that would provide guidance and incentives for climate-friendly forest management activities. For example, it considered how it might help interested landowners collaborate to bundle together large enough land areas to make carbon offset development and certification costs feasible, and considered potential ways to create revenue streams to directly support appropriate private landowner actions. While these ideas were investigated, they proved less promising than the following proposed program.

### **Proposed Program:**

One of the most promising ways to guide and provide incentives for climate friendly actions is to use a lever held by many government entities across the country; King County and many jurisdictions have programs which provide property or related tax incentives for activities that have a public benefit. In King County, this program is called

the Public Benefit Rating System (PBRs) and provides property tax breaks of 30-90% for private lands that provide a defined public benefit, such as open space or trail easements. The King County PBRs program is a countywide program which includes all cities within the County.

The focus of the proposed Community Forestry CPR Program is to identify, prioritize, measure, reveal, and reward the public benefits that climate-friendly urban and community forest management activities provide to the society.

The initial phase of this effort will focus on policy improvements and the application of best available science to inform and incorporate climate-friendly forest management activities into King County's PBRs program, so these benefits are appropriately valued along with other public benefit actions. This early work, primarily carried out by King County, and informed by a technical advisory committee, has several pieces: 1) the translation of the science of carbon sequestration and climate change adaptation values of land management activities to specific actions and decisions; 2) the development of protocols and rules that outline what activities, under what conditions, receive what property tax reductions; 3) the development of tools to efficiently educate, engage and enroll the maximum number of target constituents; and 4) the development of policy and rules to enable the County's PBRs system to incorporate this new category of climate actions.

It is important to note that the proposed program is receiving a very high level of support from all levels of management in King County's Department of Natural Resources and Parks, from the County's Executive Department, as well as from King County residents that have been introduced to the proposed program through several Unincorporated Area Council meetings that have been held over the last several months. The County has no doubt that this type of project could be efficiently and effectively implemented.

What is particularly compelling about this program is its potential for broad applicability and benefits across the country. With that in mind, King County is excited to partner with the National Wildlife Federation, whose primary roles, particularly in the second main phase of the project, will be in: 1) developing screening criteria for locales where this tool might be most applicable (i.e. strong county governments where property tax incentives exist and there is strong forest carbon sequestration potential); 2) assisting and providing guidance to local governments in tailoring the tools for different local conditions and considerations; and 3) the broad dissemination of these tools and guidance via NWF's national climate education programs.

NWF will use its membership, extensive national volunteer base, and linkages with governments to disseminate the tools/guidance and the model program to government entities, land trusts, and interested private citizens and communities to help maximize the climate change benefit of community forests across the country. In addition, through participation and presentation at various national venues, such as the national Land Trust Alliance Rally, NWF will communicate lessons learned in building the model and in interacting with landowners.

The project partners recognize huge potential to improve and expand the role of community forests in responding to and helping solve climate change. Relevant forest management actions include expanding protected areas, diversifying tree species, removing invasive species, and adding soil amendments, all which can significantly add capacity to take carbon dioxide out of the atmosphere and store it in biomass. In addition to the carbon sequestration benefits, implementing these actions can boost the functional capacities and climate change resilience of ecosystems by improving water quality, soil health, vegetative and habitat diversity, and ecological productivity.

This program will improve urban and community forestry's role in climate response by rewarding location-specific actions that landowners can implement to maximize the climate benefit of their property. This effort will include the development and utilization of web-enabled GIS to present existing site conditions that has a 'sketch planning' tool integrated that will allow land managers to experiment with and commit to site-specific forest management plans that is a precursor to enrolling in the PBRs program. Through their interactions with the website, land owners can explore the location-specific value of various forest management practices that are location-calibrated based on soil type, vegetation/canopy cover, terrain (slope, elevation, surface water) and the surrounding context.

Importantly, the tools and information that are generated by this project can also be directly used by any land managing entity. For example, the King County Parks Division is very interested in the tools and guidance that will be created and has indicated it will incorporate, as appropriate, the guidance into its programs. Additionally, the Green Seattle Partnership (see letter of support) and others have indicated their interest in these tools and guidance to inform their management actions.

Finally, it is important to point out that the guidance and tools that will be developed will also inform any landowners who are interested in choosing forest management practices that have the highest climate benefit, regardless of where they live or whether there is a local government incentive program in place to support them. NWF, especially through its Certified Backyard Wildlife Habitat Program can directly incorporate this program's guidance into many of its existing programs that interact with thousands of potentially interested property owners. For example, there are over 1,700 Certified Backyard Wildlife Habitats in King County today. Additionally in King County, there are three Certified Community Wildlife Habitats – in Tukwila, Lake Forest Park, and Alki – and five more pending, all of which are communities that are committed to providing habitat for wildlife throughout the community--in individual backyards, on school grounds and in public areas such as parks, community gardens, places of worship and businesses. These communities also educate their residents about sustainable gardening practices<sup>1</sup> such as reducing or eliminating chemical fertilizers and pesticides, conserving water, planting native plants, removing invasive plants and composting. Community Wildlife Habitats are organized by a team of people, who not only help create habitat, but also hold workshops about gardening for wildlife and organize community events such as stream or trail cleanups. The Community Forest CPR project could integrate seamlessly

---

<sup>1</sup> <http://www.nwf.org/gardenforwildlife/sustainablegardening.cfm>

within the Community Wildlife Habitat educational and community outreach components.

### **1. Scope and Applicability/Justification**

This program directly addresses the intent of the Innovation Grants - Climate Change and Urban Forests category. The program's objective is to maximize the mitigation and adaptation value of urban and community forests by informing and rewarding the highest value forest management actions.

There are two primary national target audiences for this project: 1) local governments across the country who can replicate the model King County program or use the tools to inform their land management, and 2) proactive individual property owners who can directly use the forest management guidance and tools that will be developed by King County and tailored to specific geographic regions by the NWF.

King County is a diverse and large jurisdiction that includes 2,134 square miles and 39 cities, including Seattle, and is now home to more than 1.8 million residents. This diverse jurisdiction ranges from farmland and the Cascade Mountains on its east side to the Puget Sound and an urban coastline on its west side.

The target audience within King County has the potential to make a significantly improved contribution to the mitigating climate change. In 2005 in Washington State, an equivalent of roughly 30% of all greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions was sequestered as carbon in Washington forest biomass and in agricultural soils<sup>2</sup>. These forest and soil sinks of carbon have played an essential role in reducing the region's net contribution to atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub>. In conjunction with region works to reduce its climate change pollution, is vital to scale up this important climate response strategy.

Unlike previous work that looks to large lot forests, this program is scaled to smaller properties in urban and urbanizing communities. The primary beneficiaries of the program will be the general public, as the goal of the project is to reduce the impacts of climate change. Additionally, private businesses and non-profits that help implement the best management practices, such as afforestation and selective thinning of forests, will also benefit. The products of this effort will also benefit government entities, as it will help them to promote climate-friendly management practices and better serve their constituents.

As defined in Collaboration Section 5, this project will require deep collaboration between King County and NWF, as each entity needs the other to maximize the national impact of the project.

### **2. Literature Review**

King County has engaged with multiple national leaders to discuss this potential program, and to find out what research, programs or examples are available to work with

---

<sup>2</sup> Washington State GHG Inventory and Projections.  
[http://www.ecy.wa.gov/climatechange/docs/WA\\_GHGInventoryReferenceCaseProjections\\_1990-2020.pdf](http://www.ecy.wa.gov/climatechange/docs/WA_GHGInventoryReferenceCaseProjections_1990-2020.pdf)

or from. In addition to NWF, these groups include: the Northwest Natural Resource Group (NNRG), the Pacific Forest Trust, and the Model Forest Policy Program. Discussions with these groups have helped King County and the NWF develop this proposal to address what has been widely viewed as an important gap and opportunity.

In developing the initial menu of climate friendly land management strategies and relevant scientific background, many resources have been tapped. These include Forestry Offset Protocols from the California Climate Action Registry, researchers from the University of Washington's College of Forestry Program, including Associate Professor Sally Brown, as well as the Washington State Climate Action Team's Forestry Sector Working Group.

While previous NUCFAC grants have funded some work to quantify the carbon sequestration value of trees<sup>3</sup> or support the development of technical advice or guidance to support the implementation of sustainable forestry practices by local governments<sup>4</sup>, previous research has not focused on the critical need to address climate change through tools, guidance and programs that will define locally relevant best land management practices, especially for private citizens in their own communities.

King County and the NWF both have significant expertise related to climate change science, forestry, and related fields such as soil amendments. However, both partners recognize that additional expertise needs to be tapped to ensure appropriate management practices are defined and credited. Therefore, during Phase I of the work, King County will form a technical advisory team to advise the County as it 1) translates of the science of carbon sequestration and climate change resiliency activities to specific actions and decisions and 2) develops protocols and rules that outline what activities, under what conditions, receive what property tax reduction. King County will be leading this effort (see section 8 regarding specific personnel and experience) but has identified key potential partners it hopes to engage in this work in an advisory role. These potential partners include, but are not limited to: the NWF, the Green Seattle Partnership, the Cascade Land Conservancy, the University of Washington's College of Forest Resources, the Center for Urban Forest Research, the Pacific Forest Trust, the Model Forest Policy Program, and King County staff from its Forestry and Science Sections of the Water and Land Resources Division.

### **3. Organization/Methodology**

As described in the Introduction and Project Proposal sections of this application, and detailed more specifically in the products section, the methodology of this project is to jointly develop King County's model program. Once King County's model program has been developed and tested, the approach and tools will be shared nationally by NWF who can assist local governments in tailoring the program to varying local conditions across the United States.

---

<sup>3</sup> For example, Evaluating Air Quality Effects of Urban Trees: Developing Directionally Sound Programs For Use in State Ozone Attainment Goals. 1995 Costs & Benefits of Urban Forests Project

<sup>4</sup> Fore example, A City Among the Trees. 1996 Urban Forestry Educational Material for City or State Government Project



The following sections regarding budget allocations and match sources should be viewed in conjunction with the specific allocations outline in the Budget 424 Form. These allocations and the below work plans outline the general methodology for completion of the program products.

*King County Budget Allocations and Match Sources:*

- Policy development activities will be lead by Ted Sullivan, PBRS and Timber Land Coordinator, in King County's Water and Land Resources Division. Grant dollars will support Sullivan's effort to develop climate-related program categories in PBRS; some match to this work will be provided by the Department of Natural Resources and Parks (DNRP) Director's Office (see Section 8 for personnel details and qualifications) and the King County Council Staff who analyze policy proposals and will prepare the Community Forestry CPR Ordinance for Council action.
- Lead by the Science Section in King County's Water and Land Resources Division, grant dollars for science will initially support a deep literature review on studies and interpretation of findings to help inform the basis of algorithms for the 'design rate' of soil amendment applications and vegetative enhancements based on location-specific conditions. Match in this arena (see the Technical Advisory Committee description in Section 2) includes local, regional, and national technical expertise that will be tapped to help refine proposed values for various forest management actions.
- The largest percentage of King County effort will support GIS layer development and the web-based parcel viewer tool with sketch pad overlay. Much of this technology development work would be reimbursed by the grant funds. Some project management work will be contributed as match from the DNRP Director's Office, and several local residents have already volunteered to participate in extensive website testing.
- Outreach and communication are a small percentage of King County's grant budget, and one with a large opportunity for match. King County's Unincorporated Area Newsletter will be leveraged (<http://your.kingcounty.gov/dnrp/newsletters/uac-newsletter.htm>), as well as meetings of our Unincorporated Area Councils (<http://www.kingcounty.gov/exec/rural/community.aspx>).
- Administrative responsibilities for this program will be shared by Greg Babinski, Finance Officer for the King County GIS Center, and the project managers in the DNRP Director's Office. While much of Greg's time will be billed to the grant, the DNRP Director's Office staff will be provided as match.

*NWF Budget Allocations and Match Sources:*

- Policy development will be led by Eric Palola, Senior Director of Forests for Wildlife at National Wildlife Federation. Grant dollars will be used to support his role in program design, development of educational outreach work, and networking with national level partners. Match to this work will be provided by NWF support for his work on national and regional forest climate and forest taxation policies.
- Technical input will be led by Patty Glick who is Senior Global Warming Specialist at the National Wildlife Federation (NWF) and based in Seattle, WA. Ms Glick has led research studies on the impacts of climate change on coastal and terrestrial

systems and has participated in governor-appointed working groups to develop climate change adaptation strategies. Grant dollars will support Ms Glick's involvement in the development of technical evaluation protocols, subsequent PBRs policies and local educational outreach programs within King County. Match to this work will be provided by NWF's Safeguarding Wildlife from Climate program which seeks to promote successful adaptation strategies at state and local levels

- Educational outreach and training will be led by Laura S. Hickey Senior Director, Global Warming Education and Training. Laura is responsible for developing and deploying global warming educational trainings and materials for diverse constituencies including land trusts, hunters and anglers, gardeners, birders, river guides, and the general public. Grant dollars will support the development of national outreach and training approaches on the PBRs model and will be matched by NWF resources for developing online training curricula, workshops for national partners, and dissemination through NWF educational programs.

#### **4. Products**

The funding for this project would support the development, implementation, and transfer of the suite of tools for enabling incentive-driven, location-specific community forestry practices that help sequester climate pollution and prepare the landscape for the unavoidable impacts of climate change.

The project partners will first build, test, and implement both the policy instruments and the web-enabled GIS application and sketch planning tool in King County, Washington, and then package and tailor the approaches and guidance for implementation by a broader national audience.

The project will integrate policy instruments with a website that enables best available science to guide site-specific climate responses in urban and community forestry. Specifically, the project will support:

- the development of a forest management 'action menu' that guides landowner practices toward carbon sequestration and increasing adaptive resiliency (collaborative effort by NWF and King County, with support from the Technical Advisory Committee – see literature review section for details);
- the development of a web-enabled GIS application that allows landowners to pull up a view of their parcel, then identify, commit to, and be rewarded for forest management actions that are locally-calibrated based on their soils, canopy cover, elevation/slope, and proximity to migration corridors and ecological reserves (led by King County with support from the Technical Advisory Committee);
- the development of a model ordinance/rules for King County to implement an incentive program for climate response actions (led by King County); and
- outreach and tailoring of the tools, guidance and model rules to communities across the United States (led by the NWF).

The products will become part of the County's PBRs program and will be available online through the County's website. Additionally, the products will be disseminated through a focused outreach effort by NWF. NWF could feature this program and tools on unique web pages on its Habitats website (<http://www.nwf.org/gardenforwildlife/>) In addition, King County has been in discussions with the Model Forest Policy Program (MFPP), who intends to develop a forest policy focused resource sharing website and tool. King County and the NWF would be happy to further disseminate this project's tools and guidance in collaboration with MFPP.

NWF currently has a robust online training program, *Wildlife University*, and could potentially develop an online training module for this program for county government officials, community volunteers, and other interested parties. The online training module could provide guidance and information for tailoring and using the GIS-enabled software as well as general education on climate friendly land management strategies.

In addition, NWF and King County could co-host a webinar for State and municipal urban and community forestry staffers introducing them to this program and its benefits as well as participating in urban forestry conferences, land trust regional and/or state conferences, and other multiple venues which would reach engaged, interested constituents.

## **5. Collaboration**

King County is an extremely diverse jurisdiction with a history of urban forest innovations<sup>5</sup> and a robust capacity with both GIS<sup>6</sup> and e-government innovations. It is also a nationally recognized leader on climate change mitigation, adaptation and sequestration strategies. For details on these strategies, see the 2007 King County Climate Plan<sup>7</sup> and the 2008 Climate Plan Update<sup>8</sup>; also see the "Preparing for Climate Change - Adaptation Guidebook"<sup>9</sup>, done in partnership with the University of Washington's Climate Impacts Group and ICLEI- Local Governments for Sustainability.

The National Wildlife Federation is the nation's largest membership based conservation organization with offices in nine regions, including the Northwest regional office based in Seattle, and state affiliate groups in forty-eight states. Founded in 1936, NWF is known for its award winning educational programs and for assisting people and organizations from all across society to work on habitat restoration and confront the challenges posed by global warming. NWF has significant work underway focusing on the role of land management in storing and sequestering carbon, as well as on programs and new funding approaches to help states and natural resource agencies adapt to the stressors that climate change poses on natural systems. NWF has been a leader in the Forest Climate Working group, a national coalition of forest industry, landowner, public

---

<sup>5</sup> <http://www.kingcounty.gov/environment/waterandland/forestry.aspx>

<sup>6</sup> <http://www.kingcounty.gov/operations/gis.aspx>

<sup>7</sup> <http://www.metrokc.gov/exec/news/2007/pdf/climateplan.pdf>

<sup>8</sup> [http://www.kingcounty.gov/exec/news/release/2009/February/~/\\_media/exec/news/documents/2009/2008 Annual Climate Report February 2009.ashx](http://www.kingcounty.gov/exec/news/release/2009/February/~/_media/exec/news/documents/2009/2008%20Annual%20Climate%20Report%20February%202009.ashx)

<sup>9</sup> <http://your.kingcounty.gov/exec/news/2007/0912globalwarming.aspx>

agencies and conservation groups working to identify climate-friendly policy mechanisms for forests in federal cap and trade legislation.

This program will be co-managed between King County's DNRP Director's Office/GIS Center and National Wildlife Federation. King County will develop carbon sequestration and climate change resilience opportunity maps and the GIS application to serve up maps, action menus, and program sign-up. NWF will then turn the King County products into a nationally available toolbox with customizable policy, scientific and technology instruments to enable jurisdictions and community organizations to create location-specific guidance and incentives for highest-value community forestry climate-response actions.

#### **6. National Distribution/Technology Transfer of Your Findings**

In addition to NWF's experience in conservation education and work with the above noted coalition on forest climate policy, there are several specific opportunities for distributing and marketing the results of this project to a more national audience. We see the following key audiences for this work: private forest land owners, especially in urbanizing areas, and landowner association groups, land trusts (who work directly with landowners and local governments), "smartgrowth" networks of land use planners, and state and local policymakers who are developing carbon offset programs that apply to private lands.

Specifically relevant to this proposal, NWF is developing a new collaboration with the Land Trust Alliance, the national umbrella group for land trusts large and small across the country, to work specifically on approaches to carbon sequestration with their members. The King County effort will be of keen interest to LTA members. NWF is similarly well connected and has personal relationships with leaders in the forest landowner community (AFF and NAFO), the National Association of State Foresters, the urban forestry community, and the National Conference of Mayors. NWF is currently working with several landowners in the voluntary carbon market to create "pre-compliance grade quality" forest carbon offset projects in the northeast, southeast and lower MS alluvial valley. And NWF is working on an urban tree revitalization and youth education program in the greater Atlanta city region, as well as another educational program – A Forest for Every Classroom (FFEC) – which is a professional development program for educators focused on place-based education in the Northeast, Colorado, and Montana. Teachers who participate in FFEC develop curriculum that foster student understanding of and appreciation for the forest lands in their communities. Working with King County staff, NWF expects to develop a set of comprehensive educational materials on the role of property tax incentives in providing carbon storage and sequestration benefits, as well as guidelines for private landowners on best practices to enhance carbon sequestration on their private forest lands.

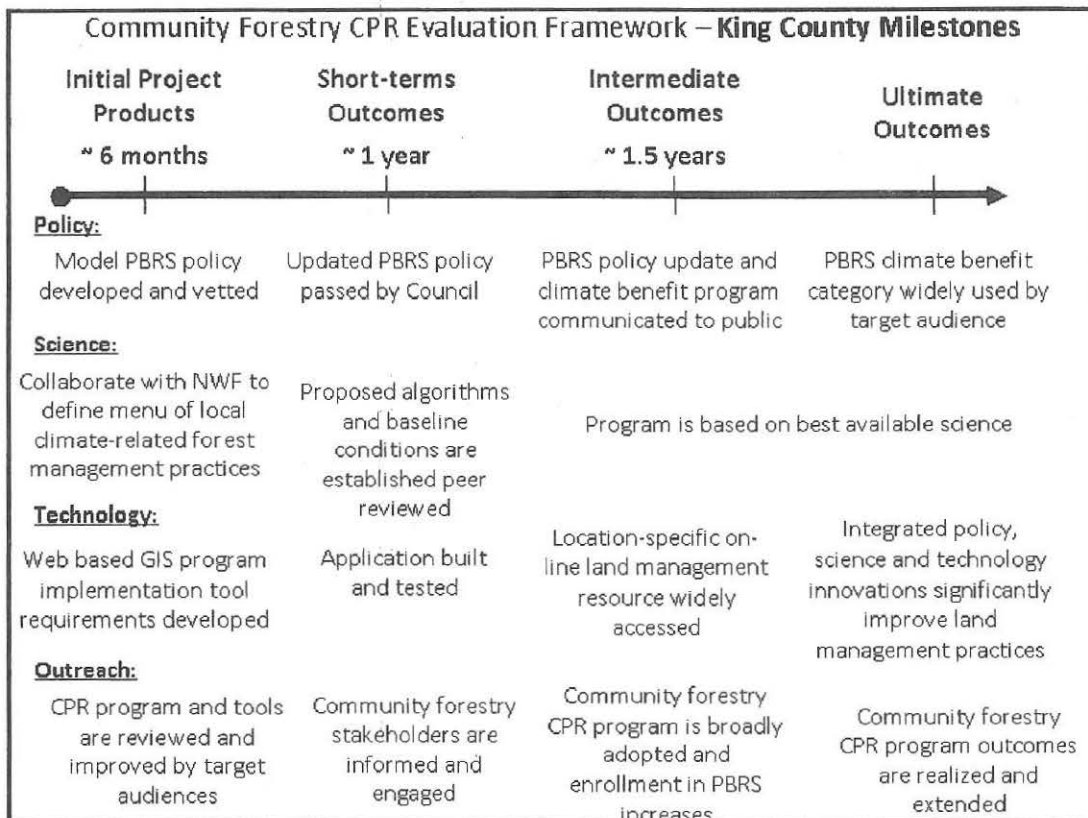
#### **7. Project Evaluation**

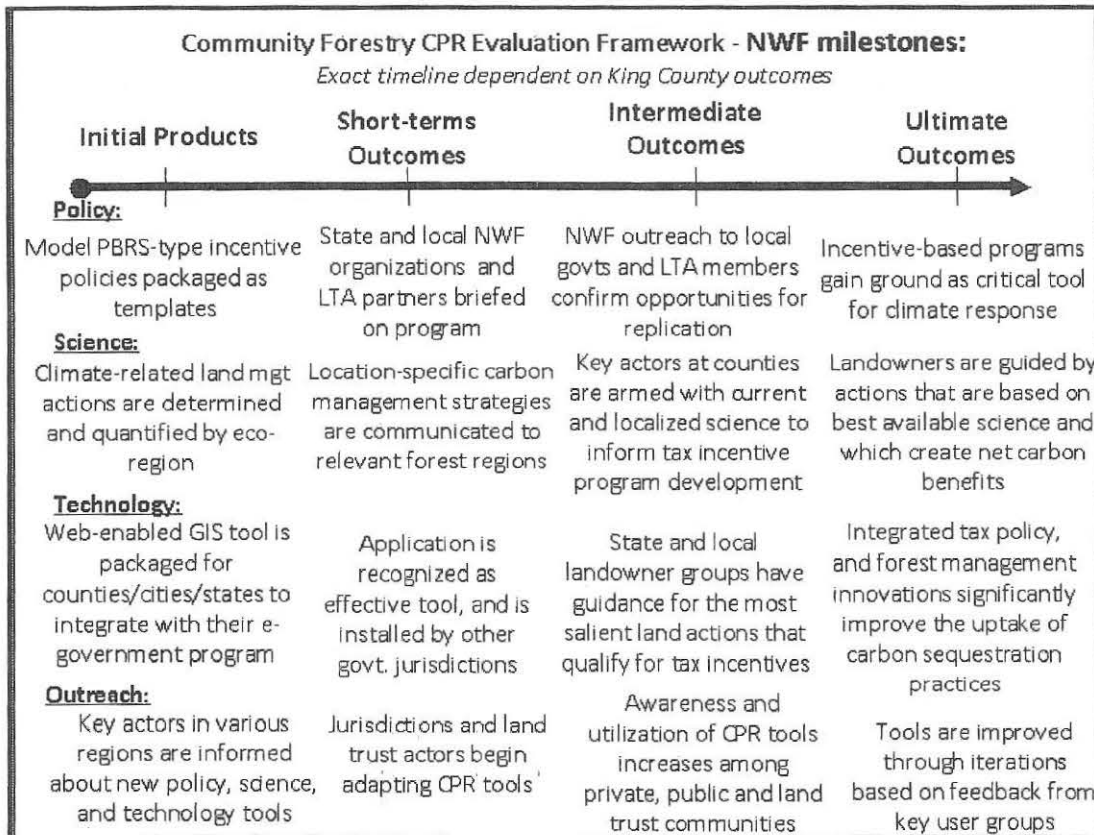
This project will focus on developing tools and guidance to landowners to inform what management actions that have the most climate change related benefits; secondly, it will provide guidance to governments on how to incorporate information about these benefits into appropriate programs using King County's PBR system as a model. King County's

model program and NWF's outreach efforts will focus on increasing the general public and governments' knowledge of the importance of urban and community forestry.

The long term criteria for judging the success of the program will be to assess if this guidance and program, guidance and tools are being effectively used in King County and in other forested jurisdictions across the United States.

In the short term, metrics of success are related to the satisfactory completion of the project's proposed products. Specifically, have the policy, science, technology and outreach been completed per the timeline defined in the budget and outlined below?





### 8. Experience/Personnel/Adequacy of Resources

King County and the National Wildlife Federation both have long and proud histories of innovations in community forestry policies, science, and technology.

King County's Department of Natural Resources and Parks (DNRP) is implementing several progressive forest stewardship and current use taxation programs. A summary of King County community forestry program performance targets (for enrollment and participation) can be seen at:

<http://your.kingcounty.gov/dnrp/measures/performance/es-land-resource-conservation.aspx>

The King County DNRP has 2,000 employees, an annual operating budget of \$400 million, and spends \$800 million annually on infrastructure improvements to support: wastewater, solid waste, parks and recreation, and water and land resources programs.

Besides policy analysts at the Director's Office level, DNRP has communication and outreach specialists, web development and user interface experts, a robust science section, and the King County GIS Center, which has developed a wide range of web-enabled GIS applications. A very popular product of the King County GIS center is the web-enabled parcel viewer, which can be viewed at:

<http://www.kingcounty.gov/operations/GIS/PropResearch/ParcelViewer.aspx>

The National Wildlife Federation recognizes global warming as the most urgent threat to our children's future. After an intense strategic planning process, we have reorganized all our efforts to focus on three goals: Confronting Global Warming; Restoring Wildlife and Habitat; and Connecting People with Nature. Bringing together an uncommon focus of mission, vision, and effective action, NWF is at the forefront of many efforts to ensure fair climate solutions for both people and wildlife. NWF's national headquarters are located in Reston, Virginia. NWF has an operating budget of approximately \$80 million with roughly 300 staff. NWF produces three children's educational magazines, and the National Wildlife magazine with a circulation of approximately one million. NWF's global warming solutions team has specialists in both forestry and agriculture who are working to ensure that land conservation and management have an appropriate role in climate policies going forward.

NWF's role in this project will be led by Eric Palola. His background focuses on national and international forest climate policy, forest restoration, and market incentives. He currently serves as Vice Chair of the international Board of Directors of the Forest Stewardship Council based in Germany, and on the Steering Committee for the national Forest Climate Working Group involving over thirty U.S. forest industry and conservation groups. He is a past Chair of the Northern Forest Alliance and previous Board member of the National Network of Forest Practitioners. He has served in numerous consultancies and task forces for the U.S. Forest Service, the Pinchot Institute, the states of Maine and Vermont, and in formal Keystone dialogues on forest taxation and ecosystem management. He is native to Seattle, WA and a natural resource economist by training with degrees from University of Vermont and Harvard University.

This program will be co-managed between the DNRP Director's Office/GIS Center and National Wildlife Federation. King County will develop carbon sequestration and climate change resilience opportunity maps and the parcel-viewer application to serve up maps, action menus, and program sign-up. NWF will then turn the King County products into a nationally available toolbox with customizable policy, scientific and technology instruments to enable jurisdictions and community organizations to create location-specific guidance and incentives for highest-value community forestry climate-response actions.

King County leadership will come from DNRP Director's Office, including staff Richard Gelb and Matt Kuharic. Matt Kuharic is the Department's Program Manager of Climate Change Initiatives. Matt has an academic BS in Geology from Carleton College, Minnesota and a graduate degree in Environmental Management from the University of Washington, Seattle. Richard Gelb is the Performance Manager for the DNRP, where he helps determine success measures, tracks progress, and reports on achievements for the Wastewater, Solid Waste, Parks, and Water and Land Resources divisions. In a prior role, he served as an senior advisor for the Seattle Office of Sustainability and Environment. Richard has a BS in Business Administration, a Masters in Environmental Science, and is a LEED Accredited Professional.