Bureau of Land Management

Notice of Funding Opportunity

FY25 IIJA/IRA Bureau of Land Management Oregon/Washington (ORWA) Fuels Management and Community Fire Assistance Program Activities

Funding Opportunity Number

L25AS00080

Table of Contents

BASIC INFORMATION	1
ELIGIBILITY	3
Cost Sharing Requirement	4
GET READY TO APPLY	4
Required System Registrations	4
PROGRAM OVERVIEW	4
Program Goals	4
Program Description	5
Legislative Authority	6
Type of Award	6
PREPARE YOUR APPLICATION	6
Applications Content and Format	6
Application Documents	6
SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS AND DEADLINES	g
Address to Request Application Package	9
Submission Dates and Times	g
Submission Instructions	<u>C</u>
APPLICATION REVIEW INFORMATION	10
Eligibility Review	10
Merit Review	11
Review and Selection Process	12
Risk Review	12
AWARD NOTICES	13
POST AWARD REQUIREMENTS AND ADMINISTRATION	13
Administration and National Policy Requirements	
Reporting	14

BASIC INFORMATION

Announcement Type: Initial

Funding Opportunity Number: L25AS00080

Assistance Listing Number(s): 15.228

Estimated Total Program Funding: \$8,000,000

Expected Number of Awards: 10

Award Ceiling: \$900,000

Award Floor: \$30,000

Cost Sharing Required?

No

Closing Date for Applications: 03/05/2025

U.S. states and local governments may be required under <u>Executive Order 12372</u>, <u>Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs</u> to submit their application to their State Single Point of Contact (SPOC) for review. For more information, see the <u>Intergovernmental Review SPOC List</u>.

Have Questions?

Prior to submitting an application, applicants are encouraged to contact the fuels or community assistance program lead at the BLM district or field office where the work is proposed to take place to discuss proposed projects in order to determine eligibility under the BLM priorities and criteria described in this NOFO. If the project crosses multiple states or is national in scope, applicants are also encouraged to contact the HQ Fuels Management and Community Fire Assistance Lead Jason Simmons at jsimmons@blm.gov.

District/field office project points of contact are identified below for FY2025:

Oregon State Office: Zach Ellinger, zellinger@blm.gov Burns District Office: Derek Shoun, dshoun@blm.gov

Coos Bay District Office: Shaye Edwards, smedwards@blm.gov Lakeview District Office: Jesse Morris, jhmorris@blm.gov Medford District Office: Chris Glode, cglode@blm.gov

NW Oregon District Office: Yanu Gallimore, ygallimo@blm.gov Prineville District Office: Sheldon Rhoden, srhoden@blm.gov Roseburg District Office: Shaye Edwards, smedwards@blm.gov Spokane District Office: Whitney Machado, wmachado@blm.gov

Vale District Office: Al Crouch, acrouch@blm.gov

Executive Summary

BLM Oregon/Washington (ORWA) has an opportunity to work with partner organizations to assist with fuels management and community fire assistance program activities to reduce the risk and impact of catastrophic wildfires to local communities through coordination, reducing the amount of hazardous fuels, and furthering the education of landowners about wildfire prevention and mitigation. These activities will assist BLM in addressing the effects of climate change by working to create resilient landscapes and communities, will create jobs, and it will help further conservation and restoration efforts by providing an opportunity to support planning and implementation of hazardous fuels reduction projects in wildland urban interface (WUI) areas and education and outreach programs that help create fire adapted communities and resilient landscapes. This program supports the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) Public Law

117-58, Sec. 40803 Wildfire Risk Reduction. This program supports projects funded through the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA), Sections 50221 Resilience, 50222 Ecosystems Restoration and 50303 DOI.

ORWA Program Strategic Goals:

- 1. Accomplish fuels management activities on federal and non-federal land.
- 2. Develop and implement fire education, training, and/or community action plans/programs.
- 3. Conduct Community Wildfire Protection Plans (CWPPs), community wildfire assessments, and planning activities.
- 4. Expand community capability to enhance local employment opportunities.
- 5. Develop and implement short and long-term monitoring and maintenance plans for hazardous fuels reduction, community fire education and training, and community action programs.

ELIGIBILITY

Eligible Applicants

State governments

County governments

City or township governments

Special district governments

Public and State controlled institutions of higher education

Native American tribal governments (Federally recognized)

Native American tribal organizations (other than Federally recognized tribal governments)

Nonprofits having a 501(c)(3) status with the IRS, other than institutions of higher education

Nonprofits without 501(c)(3) status with the IRS, other than institutions of higher education

Private institutions of higher education

Additional Information on Eligibility

Individuals and For-Profit Organizations are ineligible to apply for awards under this NOFO.

This program NOFO does not support entities hiring interns or crews under the Public Lands Corps Act of 1993. The Public Lands Corps Act of 1993, 16 USC, Chapter 37, Subchapter II-Public Lands Corps, is the only legislative authority that allows BLM to "hire" interns under this authority. Therefore, eligible Youth Conservation Corps may only apply for projects developed under NOFO 15.243 – BLM Youth Conservation Opportunities on Public Lands.

CESUs are partnerships with a purpose to promote, conduct, and provide research, studies, assessments, monitoring, technical assistance, and educational services. If a cooperative agreement is awarded to a CESU partner under a formally negotiated Master CESU agreement which is consistent with the CESU purpose, indirect costs are limited to a rate of no-more-than 17.5 percent of the indirect cost base recognized in the partner's Federal Agency-approved Negotiated Indirect Cost Rate Agreement (NICRA). Applicant's should specify if their proposal

furthers the purpose of the CESU program, and if so which CESU Network should be considered as host.

Cost Sharing Requirement

Nο

GET READY TO APPLY

Required System Registrations

Unique Entity Identifier and SAM.gov Registration

Before applying, all **applicants** except individuals applying as a natural person **must be registered in SAM.gov**. During the SAM.gov registration the entity will obtain their Unique Entity Identifier (UEI).

The SAM.gov registration process can take several months. If your organization is not already registered in SAM.gov, begin the registration process as soon as possible.

To register in SAM.gov, go to the <u>SAM.gov website</u> and use the available resources to complete registration.

- **Financial assistance registrants** must review and certify compliance with the SAM.gov "Financial Assistance General Representations and Certifications".
- **Already registered?** You already have a Unique Entity ID. Before applying, check that your "Financial Assistance General Representations and Certifications" on SAM.gov is complete. Remember to renew your registration every year to keep it active while you have an award or application in progress. You can update your registration whenever you need, including during renewal.
- **Need help?** For additional information and contact information on the <u>SAM.gov Help</u> page.

Refer to Attachment - Submission Instructions & Tips.

GRANTS.GOV

This program accepts application through <u>Grants.gov</u> so once you receive your UEI return to Grants.gov to <u>register</u> with Grants.gov. Please allow for 30 days to register and set up a Workspace in Grants.gov. See <u>Submission Instructions</u> section below for additional details.

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Program Goals

- Accomplish fuels management activities on federal and non-federal land.
- Develop and implement fire education, training, and/or community action plans/programs.
- Conduct Community Wildfire Protection Plans (CWPPs), community wildfire assessments, and planning activities.

Program Description

BLM Oregon/Washington (ORWA) has an opportunity to work with partner organizations to assist with fuels management and community fire assistance program activities to reduce the risk and impact of catastrophic wildfires to local communities through coordination, reducing the amount of hazardous fuels, and furthering the education of landowners about wildfire prevention and mitigation. These activities will assist BLM in addressing the effects of climate change by working to create resilient landscapes and communities, will create jobs, and it will help further conservation and restoration efforts by providing an opportunity to support planning and implementation of hazardous fuels reduction projects in wildland urban interface (WUI) areas and education and outreach programs that help create fire adapted communities and resilient landscapes. This program supports the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) Public Law 117-58, Sec. 40803 Wildfire Risk Reduction. This program supports projects funded through the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA), Sections 50221 Resilience, 50222 Ecosystems Restoration and 50303 DOI.

ORWA Program Strategic Goals:

- 1. Accomplish fuels management activities on federal and non-federal land.
- 2. Develop and implement fire education, training, and/or community action plans/programs.
- 3. Conduct Community Wildfire Protection Plans (CWPPs), community wildfire assessments, and planning activities.
- 4. Expand community capability to enhance local employment opportunities.
- 5. Develop and implement short and long-term monitoring and maintenance plans for hazardous fuels reduction, community fire education and training, and community action programs.

Project must assist BLM in meeting one or more of the Department of Interior priorities, as well as one of the following priorities of the Biden-Harris Administration:

- Executive Order 14008: Tackling the Climate Crisis at Home and Abroad
- Executive Order 13985: Advancing Racial Equity and Support for Underserved Communities Through the Federal Government
- Executive Order 14002: Economic Relief Related to the COVID-19 pandemic
- Executive Order 14005: Ensuring the Future is Made in All of America by All of America's Workers

All proposed projects submitted under this funding opportunity must state a benefit to the public and indirectly benefit the BLM in conservation activities.

The following program legislation authority, BLM Manuals, etc. are applicable to this program:

1. National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) – BLM Handbook 1790-1

This program continues to advance the Department of the Interior's priorities to create a conservation stewardship legacy while generating revenue and utilizing our natural resources. BLM's continued commitment to reduce and streamline its processes and procedures to serve its customers and the public better and faster across all its program areas. These reforms allow the Bureau to complete important on—the-groundwork.

Buy America Preferences for Infrastructure Projects

This program has Federal funding for infrastructure projects. Buy America preferences apply to Federal awards for infrastructure projects in the United States. Reference <u>2 CFR Part 184 - Buy America Preferences for Infrastructure Project</u> for further guidance.

Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and Inflation Reduction Act Priority Language

Legislative Authority

Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (FLPMA), 43 USC § 1737(b)

Watershed Restoration and Enhancement Agreements, 16 USC § 1011 (b)

Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2022, H.R. 2471 Division G, Title 1, Wildland Fire Management

Type of Award

Projects will be funded through:

CA (Cooperative Agreement)

Recipient should expect the Federal agency to have substantial involvement in the project.

The recipient should expect Bureau of Land Management (BLM) to have substantial involvement in the project. Prior to submitting an application, applicants are encouraged to contact the fuels and community fire assistance program lead at the BLM district or field office where the work is proposed to take place to discuss proposed projects in order to determine eligibility under the BLM priorities and criteria described in this NOFO.

Substantial involvement may include, but not be limited to, such things as:

- Joint collaboration between the BLM and recipient in carrying out management, development, implementation, and evaluation of the proposed work.
- Training of recipient personnel.
- Review and approval by the BLM of one stage of work prior to the start of the next stage.
- Review and approval by the BLM of modifications or sub-awards prior to their award.
- Participation in selecting recipient project staff.
- Directing or redirecting of recipient work by the BLM because of relationships to other projects.
- Ability to immediately halt work because of failure to meet agreement objectives; and
- Close monitoring and/or operational involvement in the proposed work.

PREPARE YOUR APPLICATION

Applications Content and Format

Application Documents

Applicants must submit the following forms with their application as specified below. Instructions for accessing and submitting application forms are provided in the <u>Submission Instructions</u> section of this document below. For instructions on completing form fields, see the form instructions on the <u>Grants.gov Forms Repository</u>.

Forms/Assurances/Certifications	Submission Requirement
SF-424, Application for Federal Assistance Note: For applicants requesting more than \$100,000 in Federal funds, the Authorized Representative's signature (or electronic equivalent) on the Application for Federal Assistance form also represents their certification of the statements in Appendix A to 43 CFR 18-Certification Regarding Lobbying	Required from all applicants
SF-424A, Budget Information – Non-Construction Programs	Required for non-construction projects
SF-LLL, Disclosure of Lobbying Activities	Required if requesting more than \$100,000 in Federal funds <u>and</u> the applicant has used or plans to use funds other than Federal appropriated funds for lobbying related to the proposed project.
Project Abstract Summary (OMB 4040-0019). Must include, in plain language: • Award purpose, • Activities to be performed, • Expected deliverables or outcomes, • Intended beneficiaries, Subrecipient activities (if known or specified at time of award)	Required from all applicants

Project Narrative

(Suggested format, Attachment A Project Proposal template may be used when submitting your proposal.) The project proposal must be no longer than 15 pages, with a typeface no smaller than 11-point, and have at least one (1) inch margins on all sides. The 15-page limit includes all text, figures, references, and vitae, but does not include the Budget Detail (Attachment B).

Application narrative requirements may include:

- Project title
- Statement of need
- Goals and objectives
- Public and program interest of the BLM
- Activities
- Methods
- Timetable or milestones
- Information to support environmental compliance review requirements. (NOTE: Projects under wildlife management, the native plant program, threatened and endangered species habitat conservation the narrative should provide enough detail so that reviewers are

able to determine project compliance with Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973)

- Description of stakeholder coordination or involvement
- Required project monitoring and evaluation plan, including how you will measure project performance and assessment tools to be used
- Information on key project personnel
- Anticipated future funding needs
- Details and supporting documentation on the project location
- Other program or project-specific narrative requirements

All proposals are confidential.

Budget Narrative

Applicants must describe and justify items and costs listed in their budget. The budget narrative must identify the following cost items: total estimated costs, non-Federal cost share, third-party contributions, and any pre-award costs. Total project cost is the sum of all allowable costs, including required and voluntary cost share and third-party contributions.

Budget items must be:

- Reasonable, allowable, allocable, and necessary
- Compliant with <u>2 CFR §200 Subpart E</u> cost principles

Indirect Costs: Applicants must indicate in their budget narrative how they will charge indirect costs, including the rate to be applied:

- De Minimis Rate: If eligible, state if your organization is opting to use the de minimis rate of up to 15% of total modified direct costs. Entities that do not have a current Federal negotiated indirect cost rate (including provisional rate) may propose to use the de minimis rate. For more information, refer to 2 CFR 200.414(f).
- Negotiated Rate: State if you will negotiate with your cognizant agency. If your
 organization has previously negotiated a rate, attach a copy of the most recently
 negotiated rate agreement (active or expired).

This program has a mandated cap on indirect costs or approved rate deviation.

CESUs are partnerships with a purpose to promote, conduct, and provide research, studies, assessments, monitoring, technical assistance, and educational services. If a cooperative agreement is awarded to a CESU partner under a formally negotiated Master CESU agreement which is consistent with the CESU purpose, indirect costs are limited to a rate of no-more-than 17.5 percent of the indirect cost base recognized in the partner's Federal Agency-approved Negotiated Indirect Cost Rate Agreement (NICRA). Applicant's should specify if their proposal furthers the purpose of the CESU program, and if so which CESU Network should be considered as host.

Refer to Budget Detail and Narrative, Attachment B as a suggested format.

Other Required Information

Conflict of Interest and Unresolved Matters Disclosures: If any actual or potential conflict of interest exists related to this project at the time of application, the applicant must provide

sufficient information to support a program determination of significance per <u>2 CFR 1402.112</u>. Refer to <u>2 CFR 200.112</u> Conflict of Interest and <u>2 CFR 200.113</u>.

Overlap or Duplication of Effort Statement:

Applicants must state in their application if the activities, costs, or time commitment of key personnel proposed in this application overlap with those in any other Federal proposal or award or not. If no overlap exists, include a statement to that effect. If any overlap exists, provide:

- Activities: Description any overlapping activities.
- Costs: Description of any overlapping costs.
- Time: Description of any overlapping key personnel time.
- A copy of any overlapping or duplicative proposal submitted to any other potential funding entity.
- Details on when any overlapping proposal was submitted, to whom, and the expected date of the funding decision.

Other documentation may include curriculum vitae or other biographical information for key personnel, project location maps, any documentation to support an eligibility determination (e.g., proof of certain tax status, authorizing tribal resolution), third-party references, letters of support, or letters of cost sharing or other commitments to the project, independent audit report, or negotiated indirect cost rate letter.

SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS AND DEADLINES

Address to Request Application Package

This NOFO includes all information, documents, and electronic addresses needed to submit an application through www.Grants.gov. Contact Bonnie Bates at babates@blm.gov with any additional questions.

Submission Dates and Times

Closing Date for Applications: 03/05/2025

Closing Date Explanation

Submission Instructions

Apply Through Grants.gov

To apply through <u>Grants.gov</u>, please follow the instructions in the <u>Quick Start Guide for Applicants</u>. Before applying, ensure that at least one person at your organization is registered and has the Authorized Organization Representative (AOR). Only the AOR can submit the application. If you need more users, they must create their own Grants.gov account. Follow these steps below to apply:

- *Create a Workspace*: Creating a workspace allows you to complete it online and route it through your organization for review before submitting.
- *Complete a Workspace*: Invite participants to the workspace so you can collaborate on the application. Required applications forms are included in the Grants.gov Funding

- Opportunity Package and can be completed in the Workspace, unless noted otherwise in the Required Forms table above. Check for errors before submission.
- *Submit a Workspace*: An application may be submitted through workspace by clicking the Sign and Submit button on the Manage Workspace page, under the Forms tab
- Track a Workspace Submission: After successfully submitting a workspace application, a Grants.gov Tracking Number (GRANTXXXXXXXX) is automatically assigned to the application.

The system generates a date and time stamp and sends it to the applicant's AOR via email as proof of submission. Make sure your application passes the Grants.gov validation checks. Do not encrypt, zip, or password-protect any files. Only registered individuals in SAM as both a user and an AOR can submit applications. Please allow 30 days to register in Grants.gov.

Application System Technical Support: For Grants.gov technical registration and submission, downloading forms, and application packages, contact Grants.gov Customer Support at 1-800-518-4726 or by email at Support@grants.gov.

APPLICATION REVIEW INFORMATION

Eligibility Review

During the eligibility review, the application is checked for timely submission, completed packages (see <u>Application Documents</u> above) and alignment with the requirements of this announcement. The Federal agency may remove an application if it does not pass the eligibility review.

Applications will be screened by the Grants Management Officer to ensure that applications meet basic eligibility requirements. Depending on the specifics of the funding opportunity, screening may include, but is not limited to, the following:

- Submission is timely;
- Program and/or legislative authority requirements are met; and
- Complete and properly executed required application package documents are included.

Applications must satisfy basic eligibility screening requirements to be considered for further review.

If an applicant selected for funding hasn't finished their SAM.gov registration (see <u>2 CFR 25.200</u> and <u>2 CFR 25.110</u>) when the federal agency is ready to make an award, we may decide that the applicant is ineligible for the award and choose to grant it to someone else. Please refer <u>2 CFR 25.205</u> for more information.

Prior to making an award, the DOI checks the anticipated recipient and their key project personnel against the current list of prohibited or restricted persons or entities in the System for Award Management (SAM.gov) Exclusions database. We are prohibited from making an award if a recipient or any key personnel are found ineligible, prohibited, restricted, or otherwise excluded from receiving or participating in an award, as their ineligibility condition applies to this program.

If removed from consideration for ineligibility, the Federal agency will notify the applicant in writing.

Merit Review

Eligible applications will be evaluated in an objective and unbiased manner using the following merit review criteria:

Proposals will be evaluated on strengths or weaknesses for each merit review criterion and rated "Exceeds" "Meets" or "Does not meet" expectations with the highest importance on **Qualifications/Past Performance.**

Each of these ratings is defined as follows:

Exceeds – The proposal exceeds the criteria factors without any deficiencies.

Meets – The proposal meets criteria factors with few, or only minor, deficiencies.

Does not meet – The proposal does not meet the criteria factors, or there are significant deficiencies identified.

APPLICANT STATEMENT OF NEED

- Mission and objectives, including achievable project goals and how they relate to fuels management and community fire assistance program activities
- Objectives of the project
- DOI priorities met

APPLICANT TECHNICAL APPROACH

- Techniques, processes, and methodologies
- Data collection, analysis, and means of interpretation
- Significant anticipated accomplishments
- Clear milestones and measurement criteria
- Tasks performed by partner organizations, sub recipients, contractors, and/or consultants
- Environmental compliance plan
- Project monitoring and evaluation plan including monitoring of sub recipients, contractors, consultants, volunteers, etc.
- How project performance will be measured and assessment tools to be used
- Measurable expected outcomes

PUBLIC BENEFIT AND PROGRAM INTEREST OF THE BLM

- Direct Public Benefit
- Projects in which the BLM receive the indirect benefit of conservation activities.

APPLICANT QUALIFICATIONS/PAST PERFORMANCE

- Key project personnel experience and qualifications
- Qualifications of any contractors, sub recipients and/or consultants
- Experience with federally funded assistance agreements within the last three to five years
- Similar successfully completed projects
- Unique qualifications
- Licenses and/or certification held

LEVERAGING OF RESOURCES

(Will be considered in the review process as a tiebreaker among applications with equivalent scores after evaluation against all other factors)

A proposal that demonstrates effective partnerships to share resources and expertise.

Review and Selection Process

This program reviews proposed budgets to ensure:

- figures are correct
- estimated costs are necessary and reasonable and clearly linked to project narratives
- avoid obviously unallowable costs
- identify costs requiring prior approval
- ensure indirect cost rates are applied correctly
- confirm cost sharing requirements are reflected in the budget.

This program reviews applications for potential overlap or duplication between the proposed project and any other funded or proposed project. Depending on the circumstances, DOI may choose to not make an award.

Budget review is based on the following:

- Budget line items must be allowable, allocable, reasonable in price, and appropriate for the level of effort needed to accomplish the project.
- Budget details and narrative must provide adequate explanation of, and justification for, each estimated cost.
- Requested equipment must be justified and necessary for completion of the project.
- Cost sharing/matching funds must not come from Federal sources.

Final review will be made by management to determine if the selected proposed project(s) are in line with current DOI and BLM priorities. This process may take a few months to finalize.

Risk Review

Prior to making an award, the program assesses the risk posed by the applicant per <u>2 CFR</u> <u>200.206</u>. If an award will be made, the program may apply special conditions corresponding to the risk assessed. For awards over the simplified acquisition threshold (currently \$250,000), the program reviews eligibility and financial integrity information in the applicant's SAM.gov records per <u>2 CFR 200.206(a)</u>. The program also assesses financial management capabilities, project delivery experience, staffing resources, past performance, administration and reporting compliance records, and overall project complexity and potential challenges.

Prior to award, the BLM will evaluate the risk posed by applicants as required in 2 CFR 200.206. BLM programs document applicant risk evaluations using the DOI "Financial Assistance Recipient Risk Assessment" form. Prior to approving awards, the BLM is required to review and consider any information about or from the applicant found in the Federal Awardee Performance and Integrity Information System. The BLM will consider this information when completing the risk review. The BLM uses the results of the risk evaluation to establish monitoring plans,

recipient reporting frequency requirements, and to determine if one or more of the specific award conditions in 2 CFR 200.207 should be applied the award.

If the results of all pre-award reviews and clearances are satisfactory, an award of funding will be made once the agreement is finalized. If the BLM determines that a Federal award will be made, special conditions that correspond to the degree of risk assessed may be applied to the Federal award.

AWARD NOTICES

Notices of Federal Award are sent electronically via GrantSolutions or e-mail. These notices outline the terms, conditions, and payment instructions per <u>2 CFR 200.211</u>. The Notice of Federal Award signed by an authorized Grants Officer is the legal instrument obligating financial assistance to a recipient. Any other prior notice is not an authorization to begin work. If the program allows pre-award costs per <u>2 CFR 200.458</u>, beginning performance before receiving a Notice of Federal Award is at the applicant's own risk.

Anticipated Project Start Date: 07/01/2025 Anticipated Project End Date: 09/30/2030

Proposals will have a start date in FY2025 and a maximum end date of 09/30/2030.

POST AWARD REQUIREMENTS AND ADMINISTRATION

Administration and National Policy Requirements

For award administration and national policy requirements, see the <u>DOI Standard Terms and Conditions</u>. Infrastructure projects require the use of American iron, steel, manufacture products, and construction materials per <u>2 CFR 184</u>.

BLM Standard Terms and Conditions

<u>See the Award Term - Required Use of American Iron, Steel, Manufactured Products, and Construction Materials:</u>

Geospatial Data

If you receive financial assistance from the Department of the Interior (DOI), recipient must follow these rules for geospatial data:

Follow Federal Standards: All geospatial data you collect or create must meet the standards set by the Federal Geospatial Data Committee (FGDC) or the Department of the Interior. This is required by the Geospatial Data Act of 2018, which is part of Public Law 115-254, specifically in Subtitle F (Geospatial Data), sections 751-759C (codified at 43 U.S.C. §§ 2801–2811).

Include Metadata: Your Geographic Information Systems (GIS) files must include complete metadata. Metadata is information that describes the data, such as where it came from, how accurate it is, and how it should be used. This is to ensure that anyone using the data understands its context and quality.

Check for Existing Data: Before you start collecting new geospatial data, you need to check GeoPlatform.gov. This is to see if there is already existing geospatial data from federal, state,

local, or private sources that can meet your needs and is available for free. If such data is available, you should use it instead of gathering new data.

These rules help ensure that geospatial data is reliable, high-quality, and that resources are used efficiently.

Reporting

The recipient's Notice of Award will detail all reporting requirements, including frequency, due dates, and instructions for requesting extensions. In general, but not limited to, recipients must:

- Submit Federal Financial reports and Program Performance reports.
- Use the Federal Financial Report (SF-425) form for financial reporting,
- Monitor award activities and report on program performance per <u>2 CFR 200.329</u>,
- Promptly notify the awarding program in writing of any issues, delays, or conditions impairing award objectives per 2 CFR 200.329(e),
- Disclose any conflicts of interest related to their award that arise during the award period per <u>2 CFR 1402.112</u>,
- Report on the status of real property acquired under the award in which the Federal government retains an interest per 2 CFR 200.330, and
- Report all violations of Federal criminal law involving fraud, bribery, or gratuity violations potentially affecting the Federal award per <u>2 CFR 200.113</u>.
- Report any matters related to recipient integrity and performance to SAM.gov per <u>Appendix XII to 2 CFR 200</u>.
- If the Federal share of the award is more than \$100,000 and the recipient makes or agrees to make any payment using non-appropriated funds for lobbying in connection to the award, disclose those activities using the Disclosure of Lobbying (SF-LLL) form per 43 CFR 18.100.
- Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006 (FFATA) requires certain recipients to report information on executive compensation through SAM.gov and information on all sub-awards, subcontracts, and consortiums over \$30,000 to the FFATA Subaward Reporting System (FSRS).

Other Information