



## CitSci Fund 2020 Evaluation Criteria

### **RFP Section: Project Goals, Objectives, and Evaluation Metrics**

Judge how effective citizen science is for achieving the stated goals and objectives of the project.

Judge how measurable and useful the evaluation metrics are for assessing the success of the project goals and objectives.

### **RFP Section: Expertise and Partnership Contributions**

Judge how well the knowledge and expertise of the Forest Service and partners prepare them to achieve the project goals and objectives.

Judge how well the partnership will leverage technical, financial, or social resources through coordination of activities.

### **RFP Section: Science & Resource Management Information Need**

Judge how well the proposal articulates a scientific or resource management related Forest Service information need.

Judge how well the proposal articulates how the outputs of this project (e.g. data gathered, analysis produced, information to decision makers, etc.) will be used/applied by the **Forest Service**.

Judge how well the proposal articulates how the outputs of this project (e.g. data gathered, analysis produced, information to decision makers, etc.) will be used/applied **by partners**.

### **RFP Section: Project Design**

#### **Phase 1:**

Judge how well the proposal articulates a plan for how partners will work together to develop a sound project design.

#### **Phase 1:**

Judge how well the proposal articulates a plan for engaging community members and volunteers in the development of the project.

#### **Phases 2&3:**

Judge how well the proposal articulates a plan for volunteer recruitment, training, and safety; protocols and data collection instruments used; and data entry, management, storage, and analysis.



**Phases 2&3:**

Judge how well the project design ensures scientific integrity through quality assurance processes.

**Phases 2&3:**

Judge how well the proposal articulates the project's timeline and milestones.

**RFP Section: Meaningful Volunteer Engagement**

**Phase 1:**

Judge how well the proposal articulates how the project could result in a beneficial experience for volunteers.

**Phases 2 & 3:**

Judge whether there is a logical connection between the type of volunteers (age, experience, etc.) that will be recruited, and the volunteer work to be performed.

**Phases 2 & 3:**

Judge how beneficial the experience will be for volunteers.

Examples of volunteer benefits include:

- The volunteers/community are brought to the table early to help determine the project and/or outcomes
- Addressing a need of interest to the community
- Engaging in multiple parts of science
- Receiving benefits from the project (hands-on science education, job training, conservation of something of importance, increased shared understanding)
- Having multiple opportunities for participation and events (feedback on project, opportunities to socialize with other volunteers, awards programs, etc.)
- Increasing access to and relationships with the Forest Service, etc.

**RFP Section: Past Success and Knowledge Transfer – Phase 3**

Judge how well the proposal describes outcomes that indicate their project has been successful.

Judge how well the proposal demonstrates a valuation of knowledge transfer.

**RFP Section: Budget**

Judge how well the funds requested support achievement of the goals and objectives of the project.

Judge the relative investments made by Forest Service and partners based on percent contribution to the overall budget.