

## **FY2011 Request for proposals targeting high priority science needs**

(Release Date: 18 March 2011)

### **South Atlantic Landscape Conservation Cooperative**

<http://www.southatlanticlcc.org>

**Program Description:** The South Atlantic Landscape Conservation Cooperative (SALCC) is part of a national network of [Landscape Conservation Cooperatives \(LCCs\)](#). LCCs are applied conservation science partnerships among federal agencies, regional organizations, states, tribes, NGOs, universities and other entities within a geographic area. They are designed to inform resource management decisions in an integrated fashion across landscapes at a broader scale than any individual partner's responsibility.

**SALCC Mission:** The mission of the South Atlantic Landscape Conservation Cooperative is to foster landscape scale conservation to sustain natural and cultural resources for future generations.

**Call for Proposals Summary:** In 2011, the SALCC is soliciting proposals from interested groups and individuals that address high priority science needs within the SALCC. This announcement lists SALCC priorities for FY2011 and provides information about the format and timetable for submitting proposals. We are encouraging broad participation from groups and individuals concerned with natural and cultural resource issues in the SALCC.

**Full proposals due: April 18, 2011**

**Program priorities for all projects:** All proposals will be evaluated based on how well they fit the [SALCC niche](#):

- [Landscape-scale](#): How much of the LCC does the project cover?
- [Cross-taxa](#): How well does the project support or integrate the needs of multiple natural and [cultural resources](#)?
- [Forward looking](#): Does the project predict future conditions or incorporate prediction of future conditions?
- [Decision focused](#): Does this project provide information vital to resource managers, policy makers, and conservation planners?
- [Adaptive](#): Does the proposal provide information on how the product can be updated based on new data and information?
- [Making connections and filling gaps](#): How well does this project leverage and integrate existing efforts underway by various organizations?

Proposals should also address one of three focal issues:

**1) The impact of climate change and human population growth on future stream and river flows within the South Atlantic LCC.**

Projects should provide tools to evaluate the impact of future changes in temperature, precipitation, impervious surfaces, and human consumption (e.g., surface and groundwater withdrawal, discharges, interbasin transfers, transfers from groundwater to surface water, future dams and other alterations due to water stress) on stream and river flows. Predictions of future flows should be: 1) at a daily time step, 2) at the 12-digit HUC level or below, and 3) presented in the form of potential future scenarios (e.g., business as usual vs reduced alteration). If projects combine multiple hydrological models, the proposal should document how inconsistencies between models will be resolved.

Funds available: Up to \$150,000 is available to fund one or multiple projects.

## **2) High risk pathways for aquatic species invasions**

Projects should evaluate how high risk pathways for aquatic species invasions will change in the future (climate change, urban growth, changing demographics), and how well current outreach tools (signs, brochures, etc.) reduce the risk of introductions along those pathways.

Funds available: Up to \$150,000 is available to fund one or multiple projects.

## **3) Integrative projects that meet all aspects of the SALCC niche**

Projects should address all the aspects of the SALCC niche as described in the “program priorities for all projects” above. Proposals that integrate natural and cultural resources and/or aquatic and terrestrial systems will also be viewed favorably.

Funds available: Up to \$300,000 is available to fund multiple projects.

**Project Duration and Award Period:** Projects must be completed within 2 years of the award date. Start dates are flexible as they are contingent upon completion of the processing of individual awards.

**Eligibility:** Any individuals in federal, state, or local agencies, institutions of higher education, commercial or non-profit organizations, professional, landowner, and tribes are eligible for funding as investigators or cooperators.

**Indirect Costs:** The SALCC looks to support a number of grants from a variety of institutions and only allows limited indirect costs in certain cases. Indirect cost are subject to the following limitations:

- 0% for governmental agencies, other private foundations and for-profit organizations
- up to 10% for U.S. universities
- up to 15% for all other non-governmental organizations (NGOs)

These rates are the maximum we allow under the SALCC policy. If an applicant has an indirect cost rate lower than the maximum provided above, the applicant should not increase the funding request to the maximum.

**Cost Sharing and Matching:** Although no matching funds or cost sharing arrangements are required, demonstration of in-kind, match or leveraging of funds will be considered favorably in the review process.

**Consultation:** Before submitting a proposal, applicants are encouraged to discuss proposals with Rua Mordecai, the Science Coordinator for the SALCC. His contact information is available here: <http://www.southatlanticlcc.org/page/staff-1>

**Proposal Format:** Proposals must include the following information and must not exceed a total of six pages. Please include CVs as appendices – these do not count to the page limit. Please submit all documents as one file (either PDF or MS Word format).

**A) Project Summary (Page 1)**

- 1) Organization Title
- 2) Project Lead and Co-Participants
- 3) Address, Telephone Number, and E-mail address of Project Lead
- 4) Project Title
- 5) Focal Issue addressed
- 6) Project Duration
- 7) Project Objectives or a Project Abstract

**B) Project Description (maximum 4 pages)**

- 1) Objectives
- 2) Narrative: The project narrative should detail the activities that are to be accomplished during the budget period of the project. This description should include specific methods or activities that are proposed to accomplish the objective(s).
- 3) Relationship to LCC niche: Describe how the project will address each of the elements of the LCC niche
- 4) Project Timeline: Include schedule and specific deliverables of the project, such as publications, geospatial data, or statistical models.

**C) Budget and Budget Justification (maximum 2 pages)**

Please include a detailed budget that includes cost share contributions and resource commitments of in-kind donations, funds, and/or volunteers from other groups.

**D) Appendix**

Brief curriculum vitae for the project lead and co-participants.

**Deadline for Proposal Submission:** Proposals are due no later than 5:00 p.m. on April 18, 2011. Proposals may be sent electronically in MS Word or PDF format via electronic mail to [rua\\_mordecai@fws.gov](mailto:rua_mordecai@fws.gov). Individuals submitting proposals will receive an e-mail acknowledgement.

Proposals will be evaluated and ranked by the SALCC partnership committee. Projects will be ranked according to their technical merit, relevance to SALCC priorities, expertise of participants, and potential for successful completion. Final project selection will be done by the SALCC steering committee.

**Selection Process:**

The staff of the SALCC will screen all proposals to determine eligibility and whether projects address LCC priorities by Late April of 2011. The SALCC Science Coordinator will provide summaries of the top eligible proposals to the partnership committee for their review by May 1, 2011. Partnership committee members will evaluate and rank the projects based on the criteria discussed above. Based on available funds and requested funding support, the highest ranked project(s) will be sent to the steering committee for final selection. Announcement of awards will occur in May or June of 2011. Processing of awards will occur subsequent to final selection by the steering committee. Projects must be completed within two years of the start date.

**PROJECT DELIVERABLES**

All PIs must submit yearly progress reports and a final report at the completion of the project. Award recipients must submit a detailed statement of work as part of the contracting process. The SALCC reserves the right to divert funds to another project if contracted benchmarks are not completed according to plan. If projects that are progressing adequately require additional funds, unspent project funds can be requested if other projects are not completed on time. It is expected award recipients will present final results upon project completion at an SALCC meeting.