

## April 29, 2026 - Prop4 Invasive Species Grant Informational Webinar

### Questions and Answers

Q1: When can we reach out to CISAC for technical assistance? Should we wait until the grant application period opens?

A1: Please wait until the solicitation is advertised.

Q2: Can we receive a copy of today's presentation?

A2: Yes, it will be posted on the Invasive Species Council of California webpage at [www.iscc.ca.gov](http://www.iscc.ca.gov).

Q3: When is it expected to have a due date for the first round of solicitation?

A3: We are hoping to have a first round of grant solicitation in the mid to later summer and a second round late 2026 or early 2027.

Q4: Will there be preference for funding on-the-ground treatment of invasive species, or will there also be funding available for monitoring?

A4: All applicants that are conducting work on invasive species are encouraged to apply once the grant solicitation is open

Q5: Are feral hogs one of the invasive species that we could work on?

A5: Please refer to the definition of invasive species in Food and Ag Code section 7700:

“Invasive species” means nonnative organisms that cause, or are likely to cause, economic or environmental harm. “Invasive species” does not include humans, domestic livestock, domestic or domesticated species exempted pursuant to [Section 2118](#) of the Fish and Game Code, or nonharmful nonnative organisms.

Q6: Will projects that reduce invasive species impacts in upstream areas be considered as providing direct benefit to downstream DAC/SDAC communities when supported by hydrologic, water quality, or risk modeling?

A6: Projects which involve work in upstream areas and produce benefits in downstream areas will be considered to provide a qualifying benefit to a disadvantaged or severely disadvantaged community given the benefit is direct and meaningful, which will be evaluated using the Meaningful and Direct Benefits Assessments published by CNRA. [https://resources.ca.gov/-/media/CNRA-Website/Files/Bonds/Prop-4/Oct2025\\_Meaningful\\_Direct-Benefits-Assessment.pdf](https://resources.ca.gov/-/media/CNRA-Website/Files/Bonds/Prop-4/Oct2025_Meaningful_Direct-Benefits-Assessment.pdf)

To qualify as providing a direct and meaningful benefit to the downstream community, the downstream benefits must be roughly equal to or exceeding the benefits provided to the upstream community.

Q7: Can multi-species or system-based management approaches be competitive if they demonstrate higher overall ecosystem and community benefit compared to single-species efforts?

A7: All applicants are encouraged to review Senate Bill 867 [Bill Text - SB-867 Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparedness, and Clean Air Bond Act of 2024](#).

Q8: What types of metrics are expected to demonstrate “direct and meaningful benefits” to priority populations (e.g., avoided flood damages, improved water quality, reduced exposure to harmful algal blooms)?

A8: Please refer to the following guidance document [https://resources.ca.gov/-/media/CNRA-Website/Files/Bonds/Prop-4/Oct2025\\_Meaningful\\_Direct-Benefits-Assessment.pdf](https://resources.ca.gov/-/media/CNRA-Website/Files/Bonds/Prop-4/Oct2025_Meaningful_Direct-Benefits-Assessment.pdf)

Q9: Will applicants be able to submit multiple coordinated proposals addressing different geographic areas or species within the same watershed?

A9: Yes

Q10: Will there be a targeted species list?

A10: No there is not a target species list, any species that is invasive and pestiferous can be considered, please refer to the definition of invasive species in Food and Ag Code section 7700:

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Q11: Can for-public-benefit companies eligible for grants?

A11: The Climate Bond, as enacted into law by the California State Legislature, defines eligible applicants, restricting eligibility to public agencies, local agencies, nonprofit organizations, special districts, joint powers authorities, tribes, public utilities, local publicly owned utilities, and mutual water companies ([PRC 90110](#)). The Bond further defines nonprofit organizations as 501(c)(3)s ([PRC 90100](#)).

Other organization types may be eligible to receive funding as contractors or partner organizations on applications where an eligible organization is the primary recipient.

Q12: Do invasive species in question have to be directly related to terrestrial ag or can they be marine and more indirectly related to food and ag?

A12: Please refer to the definition of invasive species in Food and Ag Code section 7700:

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Q13: Are rats in vacant orchards something we can consider as invasive species? The Central Valley counties are having a major issue costing millions of dollars of damage.

A13: Please refer to the definition of invasive species in Food and Ag Code section 7700:

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Q14: Will weed biocontrol research be included-important since massive cuts to USDA ARS?

A14: Please refer to the definition of invasive species in Food and Ag Code section 7700:

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Q15: Could you give an example of an invasive species project that supports DAC or SDAC

A15: Please refer to the following guidance document [https://resources.ca.gov/-/media/CNRA-Website/Files/Bonds/Prop-4/Oct2025\\_Meaningful\\_Direct-Benefits-Assessment.pdf](https://resources.ca.gov/-/media/CNRA-Website/Files/Bonds/Prop-4/Oct2025_Meaningful_Direct-Benefits-Assessment.pdf). Applicants will need to determine the direct and meaningful benefits to DAC or SDAC for their project.

Q16: Can grant funds be used to discover and develop new bio-based naturally occurring microbial treatments?

A16: Funded projects may include, but are not limited to, management actions for preventing introduction of invasive species, control, containment or eradication of an invasive species, and outreach, education, and research related to invasive species.

Q17: Where do we find the Primary Applicant/Subrecipient agreement documents to negotiate indirect cost rate with CDFA?

A17: Indirect cost options for bond-funded grants are a federally negotiated indirect cost rate (NICRA), a rate proposed by the grantee in their application, a rate the organization has previously negotiated with another state agency, or the federal de minimis indirect cost rate. CDFA will not make agreement documents available to third party organizations for the purpose of selecting an indirect cost rate, as the indirect cost rate selected by the applying organization should be based on the real indirect costs of that organization.

Q18: Can there be multiple project areas targeting the same species?

A18: Yes

Q19: Does workforce development in underserved communities count as having direct impact on invasive species, if the workforce training is focused on invasive species removal, monitoring, and other related skills?

A19: Funded projects may include, but are not limited to, management actions for preventing introduction of invasive species, control, containment or eradication of an invasive species, and outreach, education, and research related to invasive species.

Q20: How does CDFA intend to evaluate watershed-scale or regional projects that must be broken into smaller grant requests due to the \$1M funding cap?

A20: Each portion of the project will be evaluated individually on its own merits.

Q21: Can funding be used to augment other invasive detection work?

A21: Funding may supplement, but not supplant, existing activities/programs and funding.

Supplement is defined as adding to existing funds to enhance or expand existing activities.

Supplant is defined as replacing existing funds for an ongoing activity or funding an already funded activity.

Q22: Are impacts of invasive species on potable systems within the scope of this grant?

A22: The Bond disallows the use of grant funding for the costs of the design, construction, operation, mitigation, or maintenance of Delta conveyance facilities (PRC

90107). Funding to support invasive species work on other water systems is allowable provided the proposed project meets the standards outlined in the *Request for Proposals*.

Q23: If the proposed invasive species is a known competent vector of another known pestiferous organism (like South American Palm Weevil vectoring Red Ring nematode), can both species be addressed by a single grant application if the vectored organism has yet to be found in the US? Basically, can we argue that by preventing/eradicating the competent vector, can we also argue that we are preventing the other pest species from establishing as well?

A23: If proposed project includes a pathogen vector and by controlling the vector the project would control the pathogen, both can be included in the proposal. Please refer to the definition of invasive species in Food and Ag Code section 7700:

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Q24: Any insights on what the CEQA requirements for funding under these CISAC grants will be?

A24: Applicants are responsible for meeting CEQA requirements for their projects.

Q25: Are impacts on human behavioral or psychological impacts in response to a project that is implemented an important consideration to the board? Even though the issue is mostly concerning invasive species?

A25: Funded projects may include, but are not limited to, management actions for preventing introduction of invasive species, control, containment or eradication of an invasive species, and outreach, education, and research related to invasive species.

Q26: Does the grant fund prevention, monitoring, or only remediation?

A26: Funded projects may include, but are not limited to, management actions for preventing introduction of invasive species, control, containment or eradication of an invasive species, and outreach, education, and research related to invasive species.

Q27: Is there a way to distinguish between and emphasize BOTH the development of needed strategic solutions in contrast to treating existing invasive species. Are there any priorities? Such as Golden Mussels, for example?

A27: Funded projects may include, but are not limited to, management actions for preventing introduction of invasive species, control, containment or eradication of an invasive species, and outreach, education, and research related to invasive species.

There is not a priority list, please refer to the definition of invasive species in Food and Ag Code section 7700:

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Q28: How does the CDFA plan to coordinate with federal prize winners, such as those from the Bureau of Reclamation’s 'Halt the Hitchhiker' challenge?"

A28: Funding may supplement, but not supplant, existing activities/programs and funding.

Supplement is defined as adding to existing funds to enhance or expand existing activities.

Supplant is defined as replacing existing funds for an ongoing activity or funding an already funded activity.

Applicants should identify any other funding they have been awarded to ensure Prop 4 funding would supplement that funding.

Q29: What if there is a species that first proliferated in California and is now invading elsewhere and is impacting disadvantaged communities elsewhere, can a proposal evaluating those impacts work or does it have to be impacts only in California?

A29: Prop 4 funding is intended to benefit California communities.

Q30: Are there any plans relative to working lands (invasive plants/weeds?)

A30: Invasive plants and weeds meeting the definition set in Food and Ag Code Section 7700 would be considered.

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Q31: Is it possible to introduce a way to connect people who might want to share ideas and knowledge to address issues to be better at achieving solutions.

A31: Please visit the Invasive Species Council of California webpage at [www.iscc.ca.gov](http://www.iscc.ca.gov) to see opportunities for participating in Invasive Species Council or California Invasive Species Advisory Committee meetings.

Q32: When is the Invasive Species Summit scheduled?

A32: October 1 & 2, 2026 in Sacramento at the Natural Resources Building.

Q33: Are applicants recommended to attend the summit?

A33: It would be good to have a wide variety of people attend the summit and we would recommend attendance if it is feasible.

Q34: Will the Invasive Species tours be scheduled before or after the summit?

A34: Before the summit.

Q35: May need to provide training on the climate vulnerability map.

A35: Noted, we will make sure this is available through technical assistance. CDFA will look at conducting a training session.

Q36: For the upcoming solicitation, will there be a 'Technical Assistance' track or simplified application process for independent researchers and non-traditional applicants? Specifically, how can an individual with a high-impact technical solution best partner with the state if they lack the administrative infrastructure of a large public agency?

A36: TA providers will support all eligible grant applicants with technical assistance. Application TA activities may include, but are not limited to:

- Direct application assistance, including clarification of application requirements, financial analysis, review of responses and application coordination.
- Assistance with the compilation/development of all application materials (project proposal, estimated timeline, budget, pre-development documents (if available));
- Identification of project area, integration of projects, and
- Assessment of project readiness
- Applicants are not required to receive TA.
- Receiving application TA does not guarantee that an applicant will be awarded a grant.

Q37: Is there a definition of "Technical Assistance" and "invasive species"?

A37: TA providers will support all eligible grant applicants with technical assistance. Application TA activities may include, but are not limited to:

- Direct application assistance, including clarification of application requirements, financial analysis, review of responses and application coordination.

- Assistance with the compilation/development of all application materials (project proposal, estimated timeline, budget, pre-development documents (if available));
- Identification of project area, integration of projects, and
- Assessment of project readiness
- Applicants are not required to receive TA.
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Q38: I notice there is a request for a resume for the project lead. What should be emphasized in this resume?

A38: This is up to the applicant, it can be a simple resume showing experience in the area, or all the way up to a curriculum vitae.

Q39: Without a resume that shows any relevant experience in these fields or science is it unlikely to be taken seriously?

A39: Applicant should do their best to identify professional experience that would be relevant to the proposal.

Q40: If one were to first go to the local department to partner with the idea if it was believed to have potential be a better path before applying?

A40: This is up to the applicant to decide if they want to partner with other entities.

Q41: The guidelines say maximum grant duration is 24 months, but I believe you said in the presentation it was 36 months. Can you clarify?

A41: The grant duration will be 36 months.

Q42: My question is clarification, if we had submitted a proposal in late 2025 before the rulemaking changes will we need to resubmit our application?

A42: If your submission was for the Rapid Response funding, No. If it was for Prop 4 funding then Yes, you will need to resubmit after the grant solicitation opens.

