

State of Maine
Master Score Sheet

RFA# 202302033					
Summer 2023 Forestry Stewardship & Career Pathways					
Bidder Name:		Chewonki Foundation	Friends of Katahdin Woods and Waters	Gorham Educational Foundation	Maine Audubon Society
Proposed Cost:		\$65,700	\$66,333.57	\$100,000	\$51,042
Scoring Sections	Points Available				
Section I: Eligibility and Program Requirements	Pass/Fail	Pass	Pass	Fail	Pass
Section II: Proposal	40	25	22	XX	30
Section III: Project Outcomes	35	30	18	XX	20
Section IV: Budget	25	21	15	XX	22
TOTAL	<u>100</u>	<u>76</u>	<u>55</u>	<u>XX</u>	<u>72</u>
Bidder Name:		Maine TREE	Portland Parks Conservancy	Schoodic Institute at Acadia National Park	South Portland Fruit Tree Map 501c3
Proposed Cost:		\$78,225	\$50,000	\$84,000	\$100,000
Scoring Sections	Points Available				
Section I: Eligibility and Program Requirements	Pass/Fail	Pass	Pass	Pass	Pass
Section II: Proposal	40	32	30	5	15
Section III: Project Outcomes	35	30	10	20	15
Section IV: Budget	25	20	18	10	5
TOTAL	<u>100</u>	<u>82</u>	<u>58</u>	<u>35</u>	<u>35</u>

RFA# 202302033

Summer 2023 Forestry Stewardship & Career Pathways

Bidder Name:		The Ecology School			
Proposed Cost:		\$54,904.55			
Scoring Sections	Points Available				
Section I: Eligibility and Program Requirements	Pass/Fail	Pass			
Section II: Proposal	40	30			
Section III: Project Outcomes	35	32			
Section IV: Budget	25	22			
TOTAL	<u>100</u>	<u>84</u>			



**STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

**Janet T. Mills
Governor**

**Pender Makin
Commissioner**

04/28/2023

Chewonki Foundation
485 Chewonki Neck Road
Wiscasset, ME 04578

SUBJECT: Notice of Conditional Contract Awards under RFA# 202302033,
Summer 2023 Forestry Stewardship and Career Pathways

Dear Kate Braemer:

This letter is in regard to the subject Request for Applications (RFA), issued by the State of Maine Department of Education for Summer 2023 Forestry Stewardship and Career Pathways. The Department has evaluated the proposals received using the evaluation criteria identified in the RFA, and the Department is hereby announcing its conditional contract awards to the following applicants:

- Chewonki Foundation
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- Portland Parks Conservancy
- The Ecology School

The applicants listed above received the evaluation team's highest rankings. All organizations are highly encouraged to review the feedback to their application(s). To do this, please view the Selection Package associated with RFA # 202302033 on the State of Maine's Division of Procurement Services website, [Grant RFPs and RFAs](#).

The Department will be contacting the aforementioned applicants soon. Contract negotiations will include, but not be limited to:

- the total award dollar amount
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This award decision is conditioned upon final approval by the State Procurement Review Committee and the successful negotiation of a contract. A Statement of Appeal Rights has been provided with this letter; see below.

Thank you for your interest in doing business with the State of Maine.

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:


3BE6DFC0609D44D...

Mary J Herman
Special Projects, Office of the Commissioner
Maine Department of Education
Mary.Herman@Maine.gov
207-485-5743

STATEMENT OF APPEAL RIGHTS

Any person aggrieved by an award decision may request an appeal hearing. The request must be made to the Director of the Bureau of General Services, in writing, within 15 days of notification of the contract award as provided in 5 M.R.S. § 1825-E (2) and the Rules of the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Bureau of General Services, Division of Purchases, Chapter 120, § (2) (2).



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04/28/2023

Friends of Katahdin Woods and Waters
PO Box 18177
Portland, ME 04112

SUBJECT: Notice of Conditional Contract Awards under RFA# 202302033,
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Dear Kala Rush:

This letter is in regard to the subject Request for Applications (RFA), issued by the State of Maine Department of Education for Summer 2023 Forestry Stewardship and Career Pathways. The Department has evaluated the proposals received using the evaluation criteria identified in the RFA, and the Department is hereby announcing its conditional contract awards to the following applicants:

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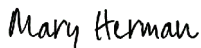
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04/28/2023

Gorham Educational Foundation
P.O. Box 295
Gorham, ME 04038

SUBJECT: Notice of Conditional Contract Awards under RFA# 202302033,
Summer 2023 Forestry Stewardship and Career Pathways

Dear Jason Tanguay:

This letter is in regard to the subject Request for Applications (RFA), issued by the State of Maine Department of Education for Summer 2023 Forestry Stewardship and Career Pathways. The Department has evaluated the proposals received using the evaluation criteria identified in the RFA, and the Department is hereby announcing its conditional contract awards to the following applicants:

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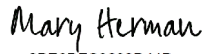
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04/28/2023

Maine Audubon Society
20 Gilsland Farm Rd.
Falmouth, ME 04105

SUBJECT: Notice of Conditional Contract Awards under RFA# 202302033,
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Dear Annette Kraus:

This letter is in regard to the subject Request for Applications (RFA), issued by the State of Maine Department of Education for Summer 2023 Forestry Stewardship and Career Pathways. The Department has evaluated the proposals received using the evaluation criteria identified in the RFA, and the Department is hereby announcing its conditional contract awards to the following applicants:

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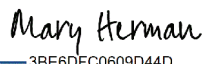
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04/28/2023

Maine Timber Research and Environmental Education Foundation (TREE)
535 Civic Center Dr.
Augusta, ME 04330

SUBJECT: Notice of Conditional Contract Awards under RFA# 202302033,
Summer 2023 Forestry Stewardship and Career Pathways

Dear Logan Johnson:

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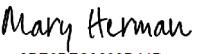
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04/28/2023

Portland Parks Conservancy
212 Canco Road, Suite A
Portland, ME 04103

SUBJECT: Notice of Conditional Contract Awards under RFA# 202302033,
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Dear Nan Cumming:

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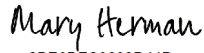
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04/28/2023

Schoodic Institute at Acadia National Park
9 Atterbury Circle
Winter Harbor, ME 04693

SUBJECT: Notice of Conditional Contract Awards under RFA# 202302033,
Summer 2023 Forestry Stewardship and Career Pathways

Dear Nicholas Fisichelli:

This letter is in regard to the subject Request for Applications (RFA), issued by the State of Maine Department of Education for Summer 2023 Forestry Stewardship and Career Pathways. The Department has evaluated the proposals received using the evaluation criteria identified in the RFA, and the Department is hereby announcing its conditional contract awards to the following applicants:

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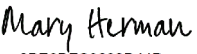
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04/28/2023

South Portland Fruit Tree Map 501c3
62 Old Farm Road
South Portland, ME 04106

SUBJECT: Notice of Conditional Contract Awards under RFA# 202302033,
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Dear Andrew Fersch:

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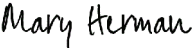
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04/28/2023

The Ecology School
184 Simpson Rd.
Saco, ME 04072

SUBJECT: Notice of Conditional Contract Awards under RFA# 202302033,
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Dear Leanna Bonds:

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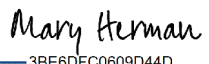
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This award decision is conditioned upon final approval by the State Procurement Review Committee and the successful negotiation of a contract. A Statement of Appeal Rights has been provided with this letter; see below.

Thank you for your interest in doing business with the State of Maine.

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:

3BE6DFC0609D44D...
Mary J Herman
Special Projects, Office of the Commissioner
Maine Department of Education
Mary.Herman@Maine.gov
207-485-5743

STATEMENT OF APPEAL RIGHTS

Any person aggrieved by an award decision may request an appeal hearing. The request must be made to the Director of the Bureau of General Services, in writing, within 15 days of notification of the contract award as provided in 5 M.R.S. § 1825-E (2) and the Rules of the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Bureau of General Services, Division of Purchases, Chapter 120, § (2) (2).

**STATE OF MAINE
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

RFA #: 202302033

RFA TITLE: Summer 2023 Forestry Stewardship & Career Pathways RFA

BIDDER: Chewonki Foundation

DATE: 04/18/2023

SUMMARY PAGE

Department Name: Department of Education

Name of RFA Coordinator: Mary J. Herman

Names of Evaluators: Mary J. Herman, Natalie Owens, Jennifer Page

<u>Pass/Fail Criteria</u>	<u>Pass</u>	<u>Fail</u>
Section I. Eligibility and Program Requirements	XX	
<u>Scoring Sections</u>	<u>Points Available</u>	<u>Points Awarded</u>
Section II. Proposal	40	25
Section III. Project Outcomes	35	30
Section IV. Budget	25	21
<u>Total Points</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>76</u>

**STATE OF MAINE
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

RFA #: 202302033

RFA TITLE: Summer 2023 Forestry Stewardship & Career Pathways RFA

BIDDER: Chewonki Foundation

DATE: 04/18/2023

**OVERVIEW OF SECTION I
Eligibility and Program Requirements**

Section I. Eligibility and Program Requirements

Evaluation Team Comments:

- I. Pass/Fail:
 - Pass. All evidence provided. Applicant is a non-Profit that specializes in forest ecology, etc.

**STATE OF MAINE
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

RFA #: 202302033

RFA TITLE: Summer 2023 Forestry Stewardship & Career Pathways RFA

BIDDER: Chewonki Foundation

DATE: 04/18/2023

**EVALUATION OF SECTION II
Proposal**

	<u>Points Available</u>	<u>Points Awarded</u>
Section II. Proposal	40	25

Evaluation Team Comments:

I. Demographic Prioritization and Recruitment

- The applicant plans to use household income of \$100,000 as a threshold. The evaluators were concerned that it may be high for this area. The Department in other similar areas has seen closer to \$50,000 being used, but without information on why that threshold was selected it was difficult to fully consider why selected.
- The application was not very clear on how need would be determined. What guidance will be provided to schools on this? For example, what are the criterion that will be used regarding demonstration of interest? What is definition limited access? And how are these to be prioritized? If only ten students can participate, how will they be selected over the other applicants? A better delineation of criteria will be needed if awarded.
- The evaluators liked that students would need to apply and mentor/teacher is to weigh in on applications.
- The outreach plan had the needed details and would have a statewide reach
- The applicant mentioned Teens to Trails but have not reached out yet, therefore, it was not clear if this group was aware of their inclusion. It also was not clear if this group would bring a different access than what applicant already has. The Department will need evidence of committed partnership if awarded.

II. Identification of Need

- It was evident that the Applicant used the RFA as a guide in its response to this section. They did a good job listing what RFA asked, but the application was not clear on why this population had a need. Further articulation of the need would have made this section more complete.
- The evaluators liked that the application mentioned workforce exposure

III. Program Description

- The program would take the students off the grid.
- The program includes exposure to potential career paths
- The description was a little bare.
- There was a focus on leadership skills

**STATE OF MAINE
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

RFA #: 202302033

RFA TITLE: Summer 2023 Forestry Stewardship & Career Pathways RFA

BIDDER: Chewonki Foundation

DATE: 04/18/2023

- It was not really clear as to where the program would take the students What is the route to the forest? (Baxter, Penobscot Nation – are there existing connections?) Are they going to leave the Maine coastal woods?
- The program did not make the requested connections to integrated innovative whole student learning.
- Evaluators were not sure if this was a new program or an existing one.

**STATE OF MAINE
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

RFA #: 202302033

RFA TITLE: Summer 2023 Forestry Stewardship & Career Pathways RFA

BIDDER: Chewonki Foundation

DATE: 04/18/2023

**EVALUATION OF SECTION III
Project Outcomes**

	<u>Points Available</u>	<u>Points Awarded</u>
Section III. Project Outcomes	35	30

Evaluation Team Comments:

- Overall, the outcomes provided were good, student-based indicators for the program
- Would have liked to have seen samples of the SEL
- Once issue raised was that all the outcomes were student-based as opposed to being about the program as a whole. There was not an outcome focused on career. If awarded, the Department should consider working with the applicant to add some additional outcomes.

**STATE OF MAINE
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

RFA #: 202302033

RFA TITLE: Summer 2023 Forestry Stewardship & Career Pathways RFA

BIDDER: Chewonki Foundation

DATE: 04/18/2023

**EVALUATION OF SECTION IV
Budget**

	<u>Points Available</u>	<u>Points Awarded</u>
Section IV. Budget	25	21

Evaluation Team Comments:

- The per student \$312/day, which is a reasonable amount.
- The transportation budget seemed low especially if going to northern Maine
- It was confusing to see the van transportation listed in instruction materials. Will want to verify that it is not in the budget twice?
- It was not clear as to why there was a need for all the listed equipment (bags). In other areas, the applicant mentioned they had this material. Is this duplicative cost or is it to replenish supplies?
- Food costs also appeared to be buried and will need to be clarified.

**STATE OF MAINE
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

RFA #: 202302033

RFA TITLE: Summer 2023 Forestry Stewardship & Career Pathways RFA

BIDDER: Friends of Katahdin Woods and Waters

DATE: 04/18/2023

SUMMARY PAGE

Department Name: Department of Education

Name of RFA Coordinator: Mary J. Herman

Names of Evaluators: Mary J. Herman, Natalie Owens, Jennifer Page

<u>Pass/Fail Criteria</u>	<u>Pass</u>	<u>Fail</u>
Section I. Eligibility and Program Requirements	XX	
<u>Scoring Sections</u>	<u>Points Available</u>	<u>Points Awarded</u>
Section II. Proposal	40	22
Section III. Project Outcomes	35	18
Section IV. Budget	25	15
<u>Total Points</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>55</u>

**STATE OF MAINE
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

RFA #: 202302033

RFA TITLE: Summer 2023 Forestry Stewardship & Career Pathways RFA

BIDDER: Friends of Katahdin Woods and Waters

DATE: 04/18/2023

**OVERVIEW OF SECTION I
Eligibility and Program Requirements**

Section I. Eligibility and Program Requirements

Evaluation Team Comments:

- I. Pass/Fail:
 - Pass. All evidence provided. Applicant is a non-Profit that specializes in forest ecology, etc.

**STATE OF MAINE
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

RFA #: 202302033

RFA TITLE: Summer 2023 Forestry Stewardship & Career Pathways RFA

BIDDER: Friends of Katahdin Woods and Waters

DATE: 04/18/2023

**EVALUATION OF SECTION II
Proposal**

	<u>Points Available</u>	<u>Points Awarded</u>
Section II. Proposal	40	22

Evaluation Team Comments:

- I. Demographic Prioritization and Recruitment
 - The program target audience appears to be pulling students from rural, remote in the applicant’s area as opposed to an area with access challenges like the coast which is a priority of this RFA.
 - The selection of this target population is to promote retention of own population
 - Reading the application, it was clear that the applicant did their research
 - The program includes a teaching position for a recent graduate
 - Recruitment focuses on specific schools and includes the use of poverty rates
- II. Identification of Need
 - The selection of the students focuses on the area’s need to retain own workforce. Loss of population is a significant challenge in this area.
 - Katahdin learning program
- III. Program Description
 - The applicant will partner with local workforce development nonprofit. Additional details about this group would have been beneficial.
 - It was not really clear if the program is to be in schools or outside of schools.
 - Further clarity on the badge system would have helped to address some of the confusion with the application. For example, who does the badge normally go to? Are all the badges made available to students or just staff as the budget seemed to indicate? How will it be possible to complete the requirements for a badge during the summer?
 - The application notes the Penobscot Tribes, but the evaluators would have liked to have known more about what the connections are or will be
 - Overall, this seemed to be a comprehensive program, but it was not clear how this will all happen all in one summer or how it all fit together. One of the badges seemed to be year or extended learning opportunity.
 - There was not a clear flow the program as to what would be presented when
 - There was a lack of cohesiveness in presentation of the program
 - The evaluators wanted to know more about ELO badge program and what recent grads would be doing
 - The program is for 200 kids in grades 6-12

**STATE OF MAINE
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

RFA #: 202302033

RFA TITLE: Summer 2023 Forestry Stewardship & Career Pathways RFA

BIDDER: Friends of Katahdin Woods and Waters

DATE: 04/18/2023

- The evaluators liked the collaboration and building off existing work
- What is the actual curriculum for everyone who isn't doing the ELO pieces?

**STATE OF MAINE
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

RFA #: 202302033

RFA TITLE: Summer 2023 Forestry Stewardship & Career Pathways RFA

BIDDER: Friends of Katahdin Woods and Waters

DATE: 04/18/2023

**EVALUATION OF SECTION III
Proposed Services**

	<u>Points Available</u>	<u>Points Awarded</u>
	35	18

- Outcomes seemed okay, but measurements to be used presented questions and could have been improved
- The outcomes needed to elaborate on each element more
- There was no indication of what the ELO program is and what support is provided
- There was no indication of how much time students will actually spend in the Maine Woods and whether they would have had that opportunity otherwise
- What support is provided for the Badge?
- Is this applicant running the career exploration module and what would it look like?
- There seems like high emphasis on career exploration and documentation through existing pathways
- Could be more detailed – explain the goal of how many kids and the details of the badge
- The evaluators liked the seasonal educator career path element
- The evaluators would like more detail in conjunction with the program description

**STATE OF MAINE
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

RFA #: 202302033

RFA TITLE: Summer 2023 Forestry Stewardship & Career Pathways RFA

BIDDER: Friends of Katahdin Woods and Waters

DATE: 04/18/2023

**EVALUATION OF SECTION IV
Budget**

	<u>Points Available</u>	<u>Points Awarded</u>
Section IV. Budget	25	15

Evaluation Team Comments:

- I. Amount requested
 - \$66,333.57 for 200 students = \$331.67/student (no indication of how much time is expected on average from this funding for each pupil)

- II. Program budget
 - \$10,000 for career exploration module intended for 100 students (\$100/student)
 - 10 students will complete the career exploration badge... how much of a role will the applicant play in this? Isn't this a school year ELO?
 - Good to be paying people for their time (qualified, caring individuals – known individuals make a big difference for getting kids to these programs)
 - Including Wilderness First Aid, CPR, Leadership etc is a plus but not clear if students will actually benefit from this – no budget for students

- III. Budget narrative
 - Training for staff doesn't seem appropriate for this program, seemed like this was indicated as a student outcome above
 - When are these programs going to happen?
 - Will the career and Penobscot culture programs actually connect students to the Maine woods in meaningful ways?
 - Where are they going/what are they doing with the transportation? Are they picking up at the schools over the summer?
 - Low detail about the specific elements of the program
 - Do we they need MOU's for Syntiro and the Penobscot Cultural Program?

**STATE OF MAINE
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

RFA #: 202302033

RFA TITLE: Summer 2023 Forestry Stewardship & Career Pathways RFA

BIDDER: Gorham Education Foundation

DATE: 04/18/2023

SUMMARY PAGE

Department Name: Department of Education

Name of RFA Coordinator: Mary J. Herman

Names of Evaluators: Mary J. Herman, Natalie Owens, Jennifer Page

<u>Pass/Fail Criteria</u>	<u>Pass</u>	<u>Fail</u>
Section I. Eligibility and Program Requirements		XX
<u>Scoring Sections</u>	<u>Points Available</u>	<u>Points Awarded</u>
Section II. Proposal	40	XX
Section III. Project Outcomes	35	XX
Section IV. Budget	25	XX
<u>Total Points</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>XX</u>

**STATE OF MAINE
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

RFA #: 202302033

RFA TITLE: Summer 2023 Forestry Stewardship & Career Pathways RFA

BIDDER: Gorham Education Foundation

DATE: 04/18/2023

**OVERVIEW OF SECTION I
Eligibility and Program Requirements**

Section I. Eligibility and Program Requirements

Evaluation Team Comments:

- I. Pass/Fail:
- Fail. Per the RFA “Submitting the Application” directions (pg. 7 of RFA document), the application is disqualified as emails containing links are not acceptable as submissions.

**STATE OF MAINE
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

RFA #: 202302033

RFA TITLE: Summer 2023 Forestry Stewardship & Career Pathways RFA

BIDDER: Maine Audubon Society

DATE: 04/18/2023

SUMMARY PAGE

Department Name: Department of Education

Name of RFA Coordinator: Mary J. Herman

Names of Evaluators: Mary J. Herman, Natalie Owens, Jennifer Page

<u>Pass/Fail Criteria</u>	<u>Pass</u>	<u>Fail</u>
Section I. Eligibility and Program Requirements	XX	
<u>Scoring Sections</u>	<u>Points Available</u>	<u>Points Awarded</u>
Section II. Proposal	40	30
Section III. Project Outcomes	35	20
Section IV. Budget	25	22
<u>Total Points</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>72</u>

**STATE OF MAINE
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

RFA #: 202302033

RFA TITLE: Summer 2023 Forestry Stewardship & Career Pathways RFA

BIDDER: Maine Audubon Society

DATE: 04/18/2023

**OVERVIEW OF SECTION I
Eligibility and Program Requirements**

Section I. Eligibility and Program Requirements

Evaluation Team Comments:

- I. Pass/Fail:
 - Pass. All evidence provided. Applicant is a non-Profit that specializes in forest ecology, etc.

**STATE OF MAINE
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

RFA #: 202302033

RFA TITLE: Summer 2023 Forestry Stewardship & Career Pathways RFA

BIDDER: Maine Audubon Society

DATE: 04/18/2023

**EVALUATION OF SECTION II
Proposal**

	<u>Points Available</u>	<u>Points Awarded</u>
Section II. Proposal	40	30

Evaluation Team Comments:

- I. Demographic Prioritization and Recruitment
 - This is an expansion on last year
 - Curriculum seems clear
 - Stipends upon successful completion (The Department will need to look further into the allowability of this further if awarded). This would allow additional students who need funding to participate.
 - Clear indication of target audience and clear recruitment plan
- II. Identification of Need
 - Good illustration and connection between work, student involvement and the environmental piece.
- III. Program Description
 - This is more of an urban forest. Portland, Lewiston, Bangor. The vision of the RFA was more for Northern and Western woods
 - High focus on students connecting to nature but no real career focus
 - Ash trees example – full circle
 - A lot of partners and letters of recommendations

**STATE OF MAINE
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

RFA #: 202302033

RFA TITLE: Summer 2023 Forestry Stewardship & Career Pathways RFA

BIDDER: Maine Audubon Society

DATE: 04/18/2023

**EVALUATION OF SECTION III
Proposed Services**

	<u>Points Available</u>	<u>Points Awarded</u>
Section III. Proposed Services	35	20

Evaluation Team Comments:

- 1 out 4 was student based
- No career or workforce outcomes
- Did not have specific outcomes for the forestry program even though it is based on an existing program
- Daily check in review, pre and post survey
- Checking in with community partners

**STATE OF MAINE
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

RFA #: 202302033

RFA TITLE: Summer 2023 Forestry Stewardship & Career Pathways RFA

BIDDER: Maine Audubon Society

DATE: 04/18/2023

**EVALUATION OF SECTION IV
Budget**

	<u>Points Available</u>	<u>Points Awarded</u>
Section IV. Budget	25	22

Evaluation Team Comments:

- \$106 per student/day – reasonable cost
- Budget narrative did break down existing program (forest component) salary– was not as clear in supplies and materials
- Stipend for the individuals
- How getting the students to site
- Per diem for food is really close the per diem limit
- Food taking advantage of existing programs (Portland school summer food program)
- Good job articulating the costs and details

**STATE OF MAINE
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

RFA #: 202302033

RFA TITLE: Summer 2023 Forestry Stewardship & Career Pathways RFA

BIDDER: Maine TREE (Timber Research and Environmental Education Foundation)

DATE: 04/18/2023

SUMMARY PAGE

Department Name: Department of Education

Name of RFA Coordinator: Mary J. Herman

Names of Evaluators: Mary J. Herman, Natalie Owens, Jennifer Page

<u>Pass/Fail Criteria</u>	<u>Pass</u>	<u>Fail</u>
Section I. Eligibility and Program Requirements	XX	
<u>Scoring Sections</u>	<u>Points Available</u>	<u>Points Awarded</u>
Section II. Proposal	40	32
Section III. Project Outcomes	35	30
Section IV. Budget	25	20
<u>Total Points</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>82</u>

**STATE OF MAINE
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

RFA #: 202302033

RFA TITLE: Summer 2023 Forestry Stewardship & Career Pathways RFA

BIDDER: Maine TREE (Timber Research and Environmental Education Foundation)

DATE: 04/18/2023

**OVERVIEW OF SECTION I
Eligibility and Program Requirements**

Section I. Eligibility and Program Requirements

Evaluation Team Comments:

- I. Pass/Fail:
 - Pass. All evidence provided. Applicant is a non-Profit that specializes in forest ecology, etc.

**STATE OF MAINE
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

RFA #: 202302033

RFA TITLE: Summer 2023 Forestry Stewardship & Career Pathways RFA

BIDDER: Maine TREE (Timber Research and Environmental Education Foundation)

DATE: 04/18/2023

**EVALUATION OF SECTION II
Proposal**

	<u>Points Available</u>	<u>Points Awarded</u>
Section II. Proposal	40	32

Evaluation Team Comments:

- I. Demographic Prioritization and Recruitment
 - Application process in conjunction with the Brewer school department
 - Indication of low-income and access to traditional summer programs
 - Program intended to be woods immersive
 - Helping to provide credits to students for alt ed pathways

- II. Identification of Need
 - Understanding of need of students to understand Maine forests
 - Exposure to careers
 - Using the work to continue understanding how to keep meeting needs going forwards
 - Early engagement in careers and connections
 - Clear immersion

- III. Program Description
 - Clear thought into the programming to meet student needs within an immersive environment
 - Plan to create sustainability in the program and continue collaboration with schools and businesses
 - Thought into how to meaningfully engage with career/workforce development for the long term through relationships
 - Innovative career connections supports the RFA
 - Sample itinerary was helpful understanding the student experience
 - Appreciate the detail and thought into the proposal
 - Application helps to ensure kids have the skin in the game

**STATE OF MAINE
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

RFA #: 202302033

RFA TITLE: Summer 2023 Forestry Stewardship & Career Pathways RFA

BIDDER: Maine TREE (Timber Research and Environmental Education Foundation)

DATE: 04/18/2023

**EVALUATION OF SECTION III
Program Outcomes**

	<u>Points Available</u>	<u>Points Awarded</u>
Section III. Program Outcomes	35	30

Evaluation Team Comments:

- Appreciate the ELO credit and it is clear what is expected from the student and how it will be measured
- Securing funding for future years is included in outcomes – longevity focused, sustainability outcome
- Focus on the outcomes of the students academic, skills, and career learning but without details
- Seems lacking in what it could be for such an in depth program
- Would request articulating more specific outcomes from the academic side

**STATE OF MAINE
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

RFA #: 202302033

RFA TITLE: Summer 2023 Forestry Stewardship & Career Pathways RFA

BIDDER: Maine TREE (Timber Research and Environmental Education Foundation)

DATE: 04/18/2023

**EVALUATION OF SECTION IV
Budget**

	<u>Points Available</u>	<u>Points Awarded</u>
Section IV. Budget	25	20

Evaluation Team Comments:

- I. Amount requested
 - \$78,225 for 15 students for 24 days = \$217.29/student program day
 - Investment for outcomes seems incredible value

- II. Program budget
 - 5% indirect cost rate will be reviewed if awarded
 - Does the non-instructional materials include lumber for building the platforms
 - \$1000 for a day for contracted speakers seem high

- III. Budget narrative
 - Not clear if teachers would need to be paid for overnight supervision
 - What is related to union rates?
 - Good thought process into meeting the needs of students, especially from low socio-economic background

**STATE OF MAINE
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

RFA #: 202302033

RFA TITLE: Summer 2023 Forestry Stewardship & Career Pathways RFA

BIDDER: Portland Park Conservancy

DATE: 04/18/2023

SUMMARY PAGE

Department Name: Department of Education

Name of RFA Coordinator: Mary J. Herman

Names of Evaluators: Mary J. Herman, Natalie Owens, Jennifer Page

<u>Pass/Fail Criteria</u>	<u>Pass</u>	<u>Fail</u>
Section I. Eligibility and Program Requirements	XX	
<u>Scoring Sections</u>	<u>Points Available</u>	<u>Points Awarded</u>
Section II. Proposal	40	30
Section III. Project Outcomes	35	10
Section IV. Budget	25	18
<u>Total Points</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>58</u>

**STATE OF MAINE
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

RFA #: 202302033

RFA TITLE: Summer 2023 Forestry Stewardship & Career Pathways RFA

BIDDER: Portland Park Conservancy

DATE: 04/18/2023

**OVERVIEW OF SECTION I
Eligibility and Program Requirements**

Section I. Eligibility and Program Requirements

Evaluation Team Comments:

- I. Pass/Fail:
 - Pass. All evidence provided. Applicant is a non-Profit that specializes in forest ecology, etc.

**STATE OF MAINE
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

RFA #: 202302033

RFA TITLE: Summer 2023 Forestry Stewardship & Career Pathways RFA

BIDDER: Portland Park Conservancy

DATE: 04/18/2023

**EVALUATION OF SECTION II
Proposal**

	<u>Points Available</u>	<u>Points Awarded</u>
Section II. Proposal	40	30

Evaluation Team Comments:

- I. Demographic Prioritization and Recruitment
 - It was clear that the applicant has experience with the target population
 - The target audience will be based on socioeconomic and other factors
 - Overall, the response to this section came across as thoughtful and very well put together
 - The pool of eligible student will be Portland area students
 - BIPOC students
 - Includes stipends
- II. Identification of Need
 - This section showed need and understanding of the need
 - The program would help to establish needed pipelines for careers
 - The applicant used existing data
 - The applicant demonstrated how program has worked in past
- III. Program Description
 - Is this an existing program?
 - Students will definitely have a meaningful experience
 - The program does not go to northern or western Maine woods
 - The program includes a career path and environmental-based experiences
 - The evaluators liked the resume writing and interview practice

**STATE OF MAINE
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

RFA #: 202302033

RFA TITLE: Summer 2023 Forestry Stewardship & Career Pathways RFA

BIDDER: Portland Park Conservancy

DATE: 04/18/2023

**EVALUATION OF SECTION III
Proposed Services**

	<u>Points Available</u>	<u>Points Awarded</u>
Section III. Proposed Services	35	10

Evaluation Team Comments:

- Only two outcomes were provided
- Conservation and environment
- If awarded, the Department will need to work with the applicant on additional outcomes

**STATE OF MAINE
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

RFA #: 202302033

RFA TITLE: Summer 2023 Forestry Stewardship & Career Pathways RFA

BIDDER: Portland Park Conservancy

DATE: 04/18/2023

**EVALUATION OF SECTION IV
Budget**

	<u>Points Available</u>	<u>Points Awarded</u>
Section IV. Budget	25	18

Evaluation Team Comments:

- \$96 per day/student without stipend. This is a low dollar amount for what is being provided.
- Stipends (will need to look into allowability) – is this paid work? Is this appropriate for the work being done? The Department will need to look further into this
- Had other money for transportation
- Americorps included
- Overall, it was light on detail.

**STATE OF MAINE
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

RFA #: 202302033

RFA TITLE: Summer 2023 Forestry Stewardship & Career Pathways RFA

BIDDER: Schoodic Institute at Acadia National Park

DATE: 04/18/2023

SUMMARY PAGE

Department Name: Department of Education

Name of RFA Coordinator: Mary J. Herman

Names of Evaluators: Mary J. Herman, Natalie Owens, Jennifer Page

<u>Pass/Fail Criteria</u>	<u>Pass</u>	<u>Fail</u>
Section I. Eligibility and Program Requirements	XX	
<u>Scoring Sections</u>	<u>Points Available</u>	<u>Points Awarded</u>
Section II. Proposal	40	5
Section III. Project Outcomes	35	20
Section IV. Budget	25	10
<u>Total Points</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>35</u>

**STATE OF MAINE
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

RFA #: 202302033

RFA TITLE: Summer 2023 Forestry Stewardship & Career Pathways RFA

BIDDER: Schoodic Institute at Acadia National Park

DATE: 04/18/2023

**OVERVIEW OF SECTION I
Eligibility and Program Requirements**

Section I. Eligibility and Program Requirements

Evaluation Team Comments:

- I. Pass/Fail:
 - Pass. All evidence provided. Applicant is a non-Profit that specializes in forest ecology, etc.

**STATE OF MAINE
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

RFA #: 202302033

RFA TITLE: Summer 2023 Forestry Stewardship & Career Pathways RFA

BIDDER: Schoodic Institute at Acadia National Park

DATE: 04/18/2023

**EVALUATION OF SECTION II
Proposal**

	<u>Points Available</u>	<u>Points Awarded</u>
Section II. Proposal	40	5

Evaluation Team Comments:

- I. Demographic Prioritization and Recruitment
 - It was clear that the applicant understood the need for access, but it was not clear how students with that need will be identified
 - The applicant would work with specific schools.
 - The program included transportation which would address some access issues
- II. Identification of Need
 - The applicant was not very clear regarding the identification of need
 - The applicant would taking show on the road to schools and rec programs
 - The applicant did highlight that there inadequate access to hands on learning attendance barriers, and travel barriers
- III. Program Description
 - There would be a variety of programs, but there was no clear frequency
 - The program does not seem to be designed or tailored for this RFA
 - The programs did not include bringing students to the northern woods
 - Overall, the application was missing a lot of details about the programs that would be useful for the evaluators
 - Are these all existing programs?
 - Why no residential portion?
 - The programs were not directed at just the target audience

**STATE OF MAINE
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

RFA #: 202302033

RFA TITLE: Summer 2023 Forestry Stewardship & Career Pathways RFA

BIDDER: Schoodic Institute at Acadia National Park

DATE: 04/18/2023

**EVALUATION OF SECTION III
Outcomes**

	<u>Points Available</u>	<u>Points Awarded</u>
Section III. Outcomes	35	20

Evaluation Team Comments:

- There was some apprehension that because of concerns with program description, it was not possible to fully evaluate the outcomes
- The outcomes would measure individual knowledge growth of the student on particular elements – but are they clear about what the student should actually get
- All the outcomes were student specific outcomes. There was no on the program ones

**STATE OF MAINE
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

RFA #: 202302033

RFA TITLE: Summer 2023 Forestry Stewardship & Career Pathways RFA

BIDDER: Schoodic Institute at Acadia National Park

DATE: 04/18/2023

**EVALUATION OF SECTION IV
Budget**

	<u>Points Available</u>	<u>Points Awarded</u>
Section IV. Budget	25	10

Evaluation Team Comments:

- Per student/day \$28
- Not clear what would go towards forestry related experiences
- Transportation – buses
- Supplies – binoculars \$300 seem a lot – do they not already have a pair?
- Indirect costs included
- Not clear if the teachers will only be teaching the dedicated target audience

**STATE OF MAINE
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

RFA #: 202302033

RFA TITLE: Summer 2023 Forestry Stewardship & Career Pathways RFA

BIDDER: South Portland Fruit Tree Map

DATE: 04/18/2023

SUMMARY PAGE

Department Name: Department of Education

Name of RFA Coordinator: Mary J. Herman

Names of Evaluators: Mary J. Herman, Natalie Owens, Jennifer Page

<u>Pass/Fail Criteria</u>	<u>Pass</u>	<u>Fail</u>
Section I. Eligibility and Program Requirements	XX	
<u>Scoring Sections</u>	<u>Points Available</u>	<u>Points Awarded</u>
Section II. Proposal	40	15
Section III. Project Outcomes	35	15
Section IV. Budget	25	5
<u>Total Points</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>35</u>

**STATE OF MAINE
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

RFA #: 202302033

RFA TITLE: Summer 2023 Forestry Stewardship & Career Pathways RFA

BIDDER: South Portland Fruit Tree Map

DATE: 04/18/2023

**OVERVIEW OF SECTION I
Eligibility and Program Requirements**

Section I. Eligibility and Program Requirements

Evaluation Team Comments:

- I. Pass/Fail:
 - Pass. All evidence provided. Applicant is a non-Profit that specializes in forest ecology, etc.

**STATE OF MAINE
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

RFA #: 202302033

RFA TITLE: Summer 2023 Forestry Stewardship & Career Pathways RFA

BIDDER: South Portland Fruit Tree Map

DATE: 04/18/2023

**EVALUATION OF SECTION II
Proposal**

	<u>Points Available</u>	<u>Points Awarded</u>
Section II. Proposal	40	15

Evaluation Team Comments:

- I. Demographic Prioritization and Recruitment
 - Says will work with folks to identify students (teachers, social workers)
 - The application was not clear on how will determine who has access issues
 - The geographic focus was also missing
 - The response to this section does not mention forest access, but did mention access to coast instead
 - Is there an existing relationship with schools?
- II. Identification of Need
 - Need identified was the need for workforce experience but there was no mention of this need for the specific target audience
- III. Program Description
 - Is this a daycamp for local kids?
 - Field trip to south Portland and cape
 - Tied in food security awareness
 - Run by students
 - It was not really clear how the program will be run, how will students get there? Where will students be engaged?
 - Urban forest focused
 - Highly conservation focused

**STATE OF MAINE
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

RFA #: 202302033

RFA TITLE: Summer 2023 Forestry Stewardship & Career Pathways RFA

BIDDER: South Portland Fruit Tree Map

DATE: 04/18/2023

**EVALUATION OF SECTION III
Program Outcomes**

	<u>Points Available</u>	<u>Points Awarded</u>
Section III. Program Outcomes	35	15

Evaluation Team Comments:

- All outcomes are student-based understandings, which do not feel completely connected to nature, skills to be learned, or the whole student element
- The outcomes also do not evaluate the empowerment and the working pathways
- Final event/proposal

**STATE OF MAINE
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

RFA #: 202302033

RFA TITLE: Summer 2023 Forestry Stewardship & Career Pathways RFA

BIDDER: South Portland Fruit Tree Map

DATE: 04/18/2023

**EVALUATION OF SECTION IV
Budget**

	<u>Points Available</u>	<u>Points Awarded</u>
Section IV. Budget	25	5

Evaluation Team Comments:

- \$100,000. There was no indication of how many students would be connected in this program. It could possibly be about 25 and 12 program days = \$333.33 per student program day
- 2 and a half weeks of programming
- Materials don't have clear connection to forestry
- Contracted services are broken up across multiple disciplines, not just forestry.
- What would the lodging be and where
- If awarded, the Department would need to work with the applicant on clearer budget
- Per diem would exceed the allowable amount
- No mention of van rental
- Really high costs for instructional materials/supplies
- Really high costs for contracted services
- Are only meals for mid day for ~12 days? If a meal is \$15 then that would indicate ~25-30 people (including collaborators/instructors)
- Unclear how much time the teacher leader would actually be paid for
- No breakdown of personnel

**STATE OF MAINE
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

RFA #: 202302033

RFA TITLE: Summer 2023 Forestry Stewardship & Career Pathways RFA

BIDDER: The Ecology School

DATE: 04/18/2023

SUMMARY PAGE

Department Name: Department of Education

Name of RFA Coordinator: Mary J. Herman

Names of Evaluators: Mary J. Herman, Natalie Owens, Jennifer Page

<u>Pass/Fail Criteria</u>	<u>Pass</u>	<u>Fail</u>
Section I. Eligibility and Program Requirements	XX	
<u>Scoring Sections</u>	<u>Points Available</u>	<u>Points Awarded</u>
Section II. Proposal	40	30
Section III. Project Outcomes	35	32
Section IV. Budget	25	22
<u>Total Points</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>84</u>

**STATE OF MAINE
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

RFA #: 202302033

RFA TITLE: Summer 2023 Forestry Stewardship & Career Pathways RFA

BIDDER: The Ecology School

DATE: 04/18/2023

**OVERVIEW OF SECTION I
Eligibility and Program Requirements**

Section I. Eligibility and Program Requirements

Evaluation Team Comments:

- I. Pass/Fail:
 - Pass. All evidence provided. Applicant is a non-Profit that specializes in forest ecology, etc.

**STATE OF MAINE
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

RFA #: 202302033

RFA TITLE: Summer 2023 Forestry Stewardship & Career Pathways RFA

BIDDER: The Ecology School

DATE: 04/18/2023

**EVALUATION OF SECTION II
Proposal**

	<u>Points Available</u>	<u>Points Awarded</u>
Section II. Proposal	40	30

Evaluation Team Comments:

- I. Demographic Prioritization and Recruitment
 - It was not clear how limited access to forest environments was to be decided.
 - There was not a detailed recruitment plan
 - The applicant will use existing school partnerships and statewide networks
- II. Identification of Need
 - The response to this section made good connections
 - Showed awareness of SEL needs
 - Demographics and socioeconomic
- III. Program Description
 - 55 students
 - The response to this section focused on why location (Saco) met the definition for forest and forest management; career development – This was appreciated as it was not in Northern Woods. It is a wooded location.
 - Workforce connections and components identified
 - The response demonstrated how the program matters in the bigger context
 - Comfortably comprehensive
 - Age appropriate
 - Significant academic focus
 - Forest management planning
 - Sustainability and energy
 - Even focus on buildings – what built with certain materials
 - Academic standards

**STATE OF MAINE
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

RFA #: 202302033

RFA TITLE: Summer 2023 Forestry Stewardship & Career Pathways RFA

BIDDER: The Ecology School

DATE: 04/18/2023

**EVALUATION OF SECTION III
Proposed Services**

	<u>Points Available</u>	<u>Points Awarded</u>
Section III. Proposed Services	35	32

Evaluation Team Comments:

- Formative assessments
- Elements that address whole student approach (SEL)
- Good job with the program elements but it lacked granularity
- Explanations of how and when would be measured – although were in wrong boxes

**STATE OF MAINE
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

RFA #: 202302033

RFA TITLE: Summer 2023 Forestry Stewardship & Career Pathways RFA

BIDDER: The Ecology School

DATE: 04/18/2023

**EVALUATION OF SECTION IV
Budget**

	<u>Points Available</u>	<u>Points Awarded</u>
Section IV. Budget	25	22

Evaluation Team Comments:

- \$166 per student per program day – this is a good value
- Narrative was good at identifying for the forestry elements.
- Low rate for impact
- Provided the requested details
- Supplies and materials reasonable
- Transportation was not included. It seemed there should be funding for transportation to provide for students who have it as a barrier

STATE OF MAINE

INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES

RFA #: 202302033

RFA TITLE: Summer 2023 Forestry Stewardship & Career Pathways

BIDDER NAME: Chewonki Foundation

DATE: 04/18/2023

EVALUATOR NAME: Jennifer Page

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Department of Education

Instructions: *The purpose of this form is to record proposal review notes written by individual evaluators for this Request for Proposals (RFP) process. It is required that each individual evaluator make notes for each proposal that he or she reviews. No numerical scoring should take place on these notes, as that is performed only during team consensus evaluation meetings. A separate form is available for team consensus evaluation notes and scoring. Once complete, please submit a copy of this document to your Department’s RFP Coordinator or Lead Evaluator for this RFP.*

Individual Evaluator Comments:

I. *Eligibility and Program Requirements (pass/fail)*

The applicant indicates they meet all requirements

II. *Proposal 30*

1. *Demographic prioritization and recruitment*

- The applicant indicates they would target households with a combined annual income of less than \$100K... this potentially seems high if the goal is to target students who may have financial barriers.
- The applicant doesn’t specifically indicate how they will evaluate the access of students
- The applicant hasn’t indicated their level of involvement with Teens To Trails currently and whether they actually will be willing to reach out to other folks and why their access is different than any of the methods already listed.

2. *Identification of Need*

STATE OF MAINE

INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES

RFA #: 202302033

RFA TITLE: Summer 2023 Forestry Stewardship & Career Pathways

BIDDER NAME: Chewonki Foundation

DATE: 04/18/2023

EVALUATOR NAME: Jennifer Page

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Department of Education

- Not clear to me why this general identification of need adds anything specific to this program. May become clearer when I read the program description.
-
-

3. *Program description*

- What is meant by “verified experience”?
- Are they actually moving students beyond Wiscasset and are they intending to create off-trail opportunities?
- Not familiar with Marine Forest Service... do they mean Maine?
- Do they have viable connections with Penobscot Nation Leaders?
- Are they proposing a funding need for students to access an existing program or are they proposing a new program?
- Applicant doesn't make direct ties between their program and innovative, interdisciplinary, whole student learning

III. *Program Outcomes 35*

- All outcomes listed are student based, not whole program
- Outcomes appear to be largely skills and identification based.
- No indication of more comprehensive, interdisciplinary understanding or connection to career

IV. *Budget 25*

1. *Amount requested*

- \$65,700 for 10 students for 3 weeks (21 days) = \$312.86/student day

2. *Program budget*

- Overhead rolled into ‘non-instructional material and supplies’, is this allowable as an expense?
- Transportation seems low

3. *Budget narrative*

- Why is transportation in Instructional Materials and Supplies?

STATE OF MAINE

INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES

RFA #: 202302033

RFA TITLE: Summer 2023 Forestry Stewardship & Career Pathways

BIDDER NAME: Chewonki Foundation

DATE: 04/18/2023

EVALUATOR NAME: Jennifer Page

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Department of Education

- If the center already has the equipment, what is that budget line for?
- I want to understand how much of these costs are true to this program.
\$14K = 21.3% of the total requested budget. This seems high.

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFA #: 202302033

RFA TITLE: Summer 2023 Forestry Stewardship & Career Pathways

BIDDER NAME: Chewonki Foundation

DATE: April 17, 2023

EVALUATOR NAME Mary J Herman

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Department of Education

Instructions: *The purpose of this form is to record proposal review notes written by **individual** evaluators for this Request for Proposals (RFP) process. It is **required** that each individual evaluator make notes for each proposal that he or she reviews. No numerical scoring should take place on these notes, as that is performed only during team consensus evaluation meetings. A separate form is available for team consensus evaluation notes and scoring. Once complete, please submit a copy of this document to your Department's RFP Coordinator or Lead Evaluator for this RFP.*

Individual Evaluator Comments:

- I. *Eligibility and Program Requirements (pass/fail)*
P (need Proof of N-P)

- II. *Proposal*
 1. *Demographic prioritization and recruitment*
 - limited access to backcountry, econ/socially disadvantage'd
 - Household income<\$100,000 combined
 - ?Demonstrated interest, Application, letter of support teacher or mentor; existing org database, collar w Teens-to-Trais
 - Detailed OUTREACH list

 2. *Identification of Need*
 - Desire to focus on Me students who lack access to backcountry, esp econ disadvtgd
 - Provide "Interdisciplinary woods and forest ecology experiences, skills leading to working environment
 - Provide workforce development exposure, skill building, hope for lifelong interest in forest flora and fauna, env sci, env stewardship....>Imptc of Me Forest ecosystems and human impact

 3. *Program description*
 - Three week, gr 9-12, experiential training/exposure (career) conservation and recreation fields
 - Off-grid living, navigation, weather, maps;
 - Plant, animal id,
 - survival skills

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFA #: 202302033

RFA TITLE: Summer 2023 Forestry Stewardship & Career Pathways

BIDDER NAME: Chewonki Foundation

DATE: April 17, 2023

EVALUATOR NAME Mary J Herman

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Department of Education

- “Hiking School” at outset (map, compass, first aid, cooking, group travel, weather-reading, then backcountry living, off-grid health and hygiene, imptc of weather, time, communication (group))
- Leadership opportunities
- Field Journaling
- Visit at least 5 business/n-p, governmental orgs w environmental/woods/ logging, history, Wabanaki focus (rangers, Trail stewards, property mgrs)

III. Program Outcomes

- Safely travel in woods(student and ldd assess't; guidelines)
- Navigate w GPS; id features, hazards, route on chart; navigation decisions
- Safety equipment--demonstrate
- LNT/camping skills—pre/post surveys
- identify woods ecosystem components—pre/post surveys
- Expeditionary skills—self-assessment and pre/post surveys
- Ldrshp/teamwork—self assess and pre-post
- Devel sense of place for Me woods—pre/post

IV. Budget

1. Amount requested

- \$65,700 (p.8)
-

2. Program budget

- seems reasonable; greatest portion Personnell (\$30,000, salaries for trip leaders/instructors and support (food, logistics, health care, transept ([see \$500 for shuttle])
-

3. Budget narrative

Impressed that they seem to rely/depend on existing materials when possible

*** Non-Instru: Communication parents impressive “Hallmark of Chewonki programming for decades”*

***travel TO Chewonki is parents (reimbursed) or their vans*

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFA #: 202302033

RFA TITLE: Summer 2023 Forestry Stewardship & Career Pathways

BIDDER NAME: Chewonki Foundation

DATE: 04/12/2023

EVALUATOR NAME: Natalie Owens

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Department of Education

Instructions: *The purpose of this form is to record proposal review notes written by individual evaluators for this Request for Proposals (RFP) process. It is required that each individual evaluator make notes for each proposal that he or she reviews. No numerical scoring should take place on these notes, as that is performed only during team consensus evaluation meetings. A separate form is available for team consensus evaluation notes and scoring. Once complete, please submit a copy of this document to your Department's RFP Coordinator or Lead Evaluator for this RFP.*

Individual Evaluator Comments:

I. Eligibility and Program Requirements (pass/fail)

Passed; proof of nonprofit status provided & specializes in forest ecology, etc.

II. Proposal

1. Overview of program

- The same 10 high schoolers for 3 weeks, camping
- all meals, lodging and transportation included. Sleep outside in tents on islands studied. "Full package".
- They are an established org but don't give an impression if these are scholarships for existing program or will be separate program.

2. Demographic prioritization and recruitment

- State-wide recruitment
- Since only 10 seats, their participant app includes a "demonstrated interest" & teacher recommendation be provided
- Thorough standards/expectations of the ideal participant
- Outreach/recruitment plan is very detailed. It includes inland and underserved communities focused on their Title 1 status; ongoing partnership with Maine Wabanaki Reach program; ongoing partnership with Maine Wabanaki Reach program; partner with Teens to Trails

3. Identification of Need

- Maine woods have unlimited learning opportunities and careers. ME Students who lack access to backcountry are less likely to have connections to the people, places, and experiences to give them a chance to develop the skills, knowledge, and relationships crucial for entering these careers tracks.
- Hands-on training aids in lifelong interest and workforce development

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFA #: 202302033

RFA TITLE: Summer 2023 Forestry Stewardship & Career Pathways

BIDDER NAME: Chewonki Foundation

DATE: 04/12/2023

EVALUATOR NAME: Natalie Owens

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Department of Education

4. Program description

- first few days of Hiking School safety related training – map and compass, leadership roles, first aid, cooking outside weather reading
- camping outside. No impression of the route or where they'll sleep.
- take turns in leadership role as personal confidence increases over time with task exposure
- Visits to 5 leading business/edu institutions
- a variety of itineraries planned have been out based on weather & tides. Named three likely field trips.

III. Program Outcomes

- 8 total outcomes (increased from the 4 requested)
- measurements are too reliant on student's self assessment pre and post trip survey
- Add an outcome & deliverable based on The Northern Forest?
- If awarded, we'll want to add a career based outcome. I.E. see a change in student attitude/interest in 2-3 professions.'

IV. Budget

1. Amount requested

- \$65,700 / 10 kids = 6,570 each

2. Program budget

- Sufficient given 24 hr education and care to 10 kids for 3 weeks

3. Budget narrative

- Included. Detailed Scale of 1-10: 3/4
- 15 day trip, 24 hrs care, \$30K for instructions/leaders. But how many people? We want an hourly rate x people.
- Food budget is buried in \$21K materials budget. They need to be sure to follow per diem rates.
- Vans buried in the \$21K supply budget
- Plenty of equipment mentioned. What will happen with any new equipment after camp?
- \$14,000 non-instructional materials and supply budget. We want an hourly rate for the admin support.
- Only requested \$500 budget to personally shuttle all students to/from statewide homes

STATE OF MAINE

INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES

RFA #: 202302033

RFA TITLE: Summer 2023 Forestry Stewardship & Career Pathways

BIDDER NAME: Friends of Katahdin Woods and Waters

DATE: 04/15/2023

EVALUATOR NAME: Jennifer Page

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Department of Education

Instructions: *The purpose of this form is to record proposal review notes written by individual evaluators for this Request for Proposals (RFP) process. It is required that each individual evaluator make notes for each proposal that he or she reviews. No numerical scoring should take place on these notes, as that is performed only during team consensus evaluation meetings. A separate form is available for team consensus evaluation notes and scoring. Once complete, please submit a copy of this document to your Department’s RFP Coordinator or Lead Evaluator for this RFP.*

Individual Evaluator Comments:

I. *Eligibility and Program Requirements (pass/fail)*

The applicant indicates that they meet all eligibility and program requirements

II. *Proposal*

1. *Demographic prioritization and recruitment*

- Program is intending to pull from students who live in rural/remote areas within the Maine woods
- It is clear the program would be pulling from the overall target demographic in regards to low-income but not as clear how they will actually target the low income students specifically (not just the overall demographic)
- Interesting note to bring in a teaching position for a recent high school graduate – good career pipeline connection
- No indication as to how they will judge whether students have less opportunity for forest ecology experiences

2. *Identification of Need*

- Clear indication why they have prioritized students who are already in the Maine woods area from a career/community retention perspective

STATE OF MAINE

INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES

RFA #: 202302033

RFA TITLE: Summer 2023 Forestry Stewardship & Career Pathways

BIDDER NAME: Friends of Katahdin Woods and Waters

DATE: 04/15/2023

EVALUATOR NAME: Jennifer Page

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Department of Education

- If the students already indicate they are interested in those careers, is this really increasing that workforce?

3. *Program description*

- Who is Syntiro?
- Will the unit on forestry stewardship be provided in schools?
- What is the cost of the Maine Career Exploration badge and what is the access to it normally?
- How many students will be able to access the wilderness first aid, cpr, swiftwater rescue, leadership courses? Those typically have a high price tag per person
- Are there existing Penobscot cultural programs established, who would run them?
- What would be the role of the recent graduate as indicated earlier?

III. *Program Outcomes*

- No indication of how much time students will actually spend in the Maine Woods and whether they would have had that opportunity otherwise
- What support is provided for the Badge?
- Is this applicant running the career exploration module and what would it look like?
- Seems like high emphasis on career exploration and documentation through existing pathways

IV. *Budget*

1. *Amount requested*

- \$66,333.57 for 200 students = \$331.67/student (no indication of how much time is expected on average from this funding for each pupil)

2. *Program budget*

- \$10,000 for career exploration module intended for 100 students (\$100/student)
- 10 students will complete the career exploration badge... how much of a role will the applicant play in this? Isn't this a school year ELO?

STATE OF MAINE

INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES

RFA #: 202302033

RFA TITLE: Summer 2023 Forestry Stewardship & Career Pathways

BIDDER NAME: Friends of Katahdin Woods and Waters

DATE: 04/15/2023

EVALUATOR NAME: Jennifer Page

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Department of Education

3. *Budget narrative*

- Training for staff doesn't seem appropriate for this program, seemed like this was indicated as a student outcome above
- When are these programs going to happen?
- Will the career and Penobscot culture programs actually connect students to the Maine woods in meaningful ways?

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFA #: 202302033

RFA TITLE: Summer 2023 Forestry Stewardship & Career Pathways

BIDDER NAME: Friends of Katahdin Woods and Waters

DATE: April 17, 2023

EVALUATOR NAME Mary J Herman

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Department of Education

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Individual Evaluator Comments:

I. Eligibility and Program Requirements (pass/fail)

P(proof of N-P not attached)

II. Proposal

1. Demographic prioritization and recruitment

- Primarily serve Kathadin region: rural, remote, “persistent econ barriers, “
- Four (4) school dx (“gateway to N Woods” where logging and paper making historical economy until mills began closing 70’s;
- Region lost 20%pop, highest st **unemployment (10%)**; 15.1% foo insecure w **21% kids food insecure, 8% rise since Covid**
- Millinocket Stearns M and HS, Medway MS, Schenck HS, Katahdin M and HS
- S Aroostook schools, **16% food insecure, 23.8% kids food Insecure, 24% w/0 broadband**
- Recruitment: schools, 21C after-school programs (Title schools), municipal rec; Teacher relationships of 8 yrs and direct outreach
- Utilize recent grad w interest in teaching as “Seasonal Educator” (CAREER!)
-
-

2. Identification of Need

- Regions severe workforce challenges; desire to “**grow our own**, “/retain youth for careers in forestry, forestry mgmt, outdoor rec, hospitality
- Katahdin Learning Project already works w sts in schools and field; current/past participants report interest in outdoors and **94%** report interest in additional outdoor exp

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFA #: 202302033

RFA TITLE: Summer 2023 Forestry Stewardship & Career Pathways

BIDDER NAME: Friends of Katahdin Woods and Waters

DATE: April 17, 2023

EVALUATOR NAME: Mary J Herman

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Department of Education

-
-

3. Program description

- Collab of Friends of KWW(“Friends:”) (www.friendsofkww.org) Mission: “... preserve and protect outstanding natural beauty, eco vitality and distinctive cultural resources....and Syntiro (“Gear-up Maine, college aspirations n- p(www.syntiro.org)
- **200** Katahdin-area 6-12 yrs
- Wilderness experience
- Forestry stewardship unit
- Career exploration; gr 6 up and Maine Career Explore Badge (11 and 12)
- Engage in authentic, interdiscipl wildlife/forest eco
- Wilderness First Aid/ CPR, Swift water rescue, leadership (at least 16 ant up)
- Penobscot/Wabanaki cultural programs
-

III. Program Outcomes

- 200 sts—sign up sheets, End of summer report
- 10, 11, 12 gr complete Maine Career Badge—ELO enrollment
- 6-12 Career exploration module (forestry stewardship and career pathways —End of summer report
- Seasonal Educator (?former student), 240 hours OJT and program delivery —End of summer report
- (Could be more detailed)
-

IV. Budget

1. Amount requested

- \$66, 357
-

2. Program budget

- Personnel (salary/benefits)—\$29,000 full time KLP staff; \$5520 Summer Seasonal YOUTH & \$1000 “transition to Fall Seasonal
- 2K “water Rangers Educ Test Kits, lesson rucksacks
- \$15,000 Syntiro (“Gilmer”) Forestry Career Explore Module
- 5k Penobscot Culture

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFA #: 202302033

RFA TITLE: Summer 2023 Forestry Stewardship & Career Pathways

BIDDER NAME: Friends of Katahdin Woods and Waters

DATE: April 17, 2023

EVALUATOR NAME Mary J Herman

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Department of Education

- Transpntn—4k staff travel, 8, 4000 student reims to schools/towns
- “Other” Wilderness FA, CPR, ldrshp including for summer intern

3. *Budget narrative*

***KLP (Katahdin Long Project staff in field 2/week, incl planning and curio*

***Full time seasonal (intern) for hands-on experience w youth;*

***Syntiro/Debbie Gilmer—Module*

***Penobscot Culture programs*

***Transportation from schools (gave example of previous mileage/time....)*

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFA #: 202302033

RFA TITLE: Summer 2023 Forestry Stewardship & Career Pathways

BIDDER NAME: Friends of Katahdin Woods and Waters

DATE: 04/12/2023

EVALUATOR NAME: Natalie Owens

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Department of Education

Instructions: *The purpose of this form is to record proposal review notes written by individual evaluators for this Request for Proposals (RFP) process. It is required that each individual evaluator make notes for each proposal that he or she reviews. No numerical scoring should take place on these notes, as that is performed only during team consensus evaluation meetings. A separate form is available for team consensus evaluation notes and scoring. Once complete, please submit a copy of this document to your Department's RFP Coordinator or Lead Evaluator for this RFP.*

Individual Evaluator Comments:

I. Eligibility and Program Requirements (pass/fail)

Passed; proof of nonprofit status provided & specializes in forest ecology, etc

II. Proposal

1. Overview of program

- 200 students primarily from Katahdin region. No food or student p/up.
- At least one recent hs grad interested in teaching "Seasonal Educator" internship
- collaborate with Syntiro, a local workforce readiness non profit

2. Demographic prioritization and recruitment

- Excellent use of data and citations to illustrate why the students of region need this opportunity
- Listed the 4 specific middle & high schools they'll recruit
- Clear outreach plan and details

3. Identification of Need

- They recognize the best way to face workforce challenges is to "grow our own". This starts with young people having passion and affinity for outdoors. With the funding they will provide students a structured, meaningful opportunity to cultivate interest in outdoors. Sited a survey from prior program students. 30% reported an increased interest in the activities; 94% reported wanting more experiences.

4. Program description

- They connected the description to the Need as the RFA instructed. However, more specifics of day-to-day student experience would have been

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EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Department of Education

appreciated. There's a huge transportation budget. Where will they be?
Where are they going?

- Need detail about Summer Internship
- What is the ELO *Badge* program?
- Who will get CPR, etc training? Budget says staff but proposal says students.

III. Program Outcomes

- If awarded, will work with org to have deliverables instead of end of summer report.
- Could use the various trainings as student deliverables

IV. Budget

1. Amount requested

- \$66K / 200 = \$332 each

2. Program budget

3. Budget narrative

- Included. Detailed Scale of 1-10: 4
- MOU needed for Syntiro or Penobscot Culture Pro?
- Huge transportation budget. Where are they going? Are they pickup up at schools?
- \$5520 for intern
- No food or large equipment

STATE OF MAINE

INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES

RFA #: 202302033

RFA TITLE: Summer 2023 Forestry Stewardship & Career Pathways

BIDDER NAME: Maine Audubon

DATE: 04/15/2023

EVALUATOR NAME: Jennifer Page

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Department of Education

Instructions: *The purpose of this form is to record proposal review notes written by individual evaluators for this Request for Proposals (RFP) process. It is required that each individual evaluator make notes for each proposal that he or she reviews. No numerical scoring should take place on these notes, as that is performed only during team consensus evaluation meetings. A separate form is available for team consensus evaluation notes and scoring. Once complete, please submit a copy of this document to your Department’s RFP Coordinator or Lead Evaluator for this RFP.*

Individual Evaluator Comments:

I. *Eligibility and Program Requirements (pass/fail)*

Applicant indicates they meet all eligibility and program requirements

Does this count as a “forest-based setting in the Maine woods”?

II. *Proposal*

1. *Demographic prioritization and recruitment*

- Clear indication of target audience being part of applicant’s normal target audience
- Proposal indicates clear plan for recruitment of target audience in regards to low-income and need for access to environmental/outdoor learning opportunities

2. *Identification of Need*

- Articulation that this funding will help scale existing programs
- Indication of why the target audience they work with would benefit from this program
- Nothing really addressing specific element of Maine woods

STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES

RFA #: 202302033

RFA TITLE: Summer 2023 Forestry Stewardship & Career Pathways

BIDDER NAME: Maine Audubon

DATE: 04/15/2023

EVALUATOR NAME: Jennifer Page

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Department of Education

3. *Program description*

- Full time M-F participation over the summer, two weeks would be forest ecology
- Forests chosen don't connect to the scale and quality of inland/northern/western Maine forests and are managed as community/refuge areas
- High focus on understanding nature, no indication of career focus

III. *Program Outcomes*

- No indication of career/workforce outcomes other than general program delivery with no indication of specific career elements

IV. *Budget*

1. *Amount requested*

- \$51,042 for 48 youth (over three sites) for 10 days = \$106.34/student program day

•

2. *Program budget*

•

•

3. *Budget narrative*

- Seems like educators would only be paid for the forest ecology component of this program
- Not clear if instructional materials and supplies are actually tied to the forest component of the existing program

OTHER – are we allowed to take letters of support into account?

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFA #: 202302033

RFA TITLE: Summer 2023 Forestry Stewardship & Career Pathways

BIDDER NAME: Maine Audubon

DATE: April 17, 2023

EVALUATOR NAME Mary J Herman

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Department of Education

Instructions: *The purpose of this form is to record proposal review notes written by **individual** evaluators for this Request for Proposals (RFP) process. It is **required** that each individual evaluator make notes for each proposal that he or she reviews. No numerical scoring should take place on these notes, as that is performed only during team consensus evaluation meetings. A separate form is available for team consensus evaluation notes and scoring. Once complete, please submit a copy of this document to your Department’s RFP Coordinator or Lead Evaluator for this RFP.*

Individual Evaluator Comments:

I. Eligibility and Program Requirements (pass/fail)

P Proof of N-P attached

II. Proposal

1. Demographic prioritization and recruitment

- MA has focus on Maine’s “nature gap, “—esp prevalent in/for low-income or marginalized families w/o access to [outdoor & outdoor lrng] experiences **that provide insight to environmental topics & concerns** or the positive px and mental effects of x spend in nature
- Above also need skill in resume building, environ ed and hands-on conservation experience
- MA recent focus on being more diverse, equitable and inclusive lead to **Portland Youth Corps and Sprout Lewiston**>pipelines to consern’n science, land stewardship, civic ldrshp ESP FOR URBAN YOUTH (“ops to train, work and lead”)
- Aligns w states Environ Literacy Plan
- RECRUITMENT: School dx, community partner orgs: PPS, Ptld Parks Conservancy, Me Community Integration (Lewiston) and Bangor Publ Schools—all w recent influx of New Mainers
- Coord w PPS ELL Coord, in Bgr w dx admin to recruit, in Lew local ptr is Me Comm Integration
- 48 teams (14-17): Ptld 24, Lew 12, Bgr 12 : Forest Ecology Learning and Svc
- Many already unable to access summer programs and career explore opportunities
- Esp look for students curious about **outdoor & careers in env sci, parks or conservation and** don’t realize these careers are open to them

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

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BIDDER NAME: Maine Audubon

DATE: April 17, 2023

EVALUATOR NAME Mary J Herman

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Department of Education

- Exp marginalized kids.... and MA goal of diversity in next gen env stewards
- Stipends upon successful completion—goal: allow more to participate
-

2. Identification of Need

- MA needs alignment....future of Maine forests scale-up, expand summer st work-study (new/increased focus on forest eco and esp cones b/w cities and Me woods...raise awareness....environ responsibility
- Existing enviro needs:restoring native plants,habitat....birds..."Bringing Nature Home"
- Future staff needs/pipelines (engage govern biologists, forest ecologists, foresters, indigenous knowledge-sharers
- Will continue to evaluate and refine program

3. Program description

- 2021 launch of Ptld Youth Corps, '22 Lewiston....2023/new Bangor
- Full-X M-F; four 10-day units
- \$500 stipend upon completion
- June: planning;
- Vss by experts
- New forestry eco unit to be developed
- Cornerstone programs....
- Me Environ Literacy Plan
- 48 teens; Svc lrng,skills trig & fiueldwork>sense of belonging>stewardship, civic engagement...
- Teaching, imparting knowledge; personal growth/confidence ISEL); new relationships w nature....
- DETAILS/locations in each city
- lunches
- Equitable environ experience
- Strong ptrnrships w PPS, Ptld Parks...
- Portland Youth Corps and "Lewiston Sprout program

III. Program Outcomes

- (OUTCOMES)
- # students
- daily check-in/review
- stipends
- Observation notes (reviewed)

**STATE OF MAINE
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BIDDER NAME: Maine Audubon

DATE: April 17, 2023

EVALUATOR NAME Mary J Herman

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Department of Education

- Student pre and post surveys
- Check in w comm partners; gather all stakeholders after

IV. Budget

1. Amount requested

- \$51,042

2. Program budget

- Personnel \$18,888: Comm-based Prog Mgr oversight; 2 seasonal Forest Ecol Educators to plan, design...=12 weeks full time
- \$15K program supplies....uniforms/protective gear, journals...(“details in budget narrative below”)
- \$6000 contracted advisors/experts
- \$9680 Student stipends, lunches for Bangor (Ptld and Lew collar w schools summer meals

3. Budget narrative

****Excellent details on personnell and supplies (footstools, guidebooks, binoculars, bins*

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFA #: 202302033

RFA TITLE: Summer 2023 Forestry Stewardship & Career Pathways

BIDDER NAME: Maine Audubon Society

DATE: 04/13/2023

EVALUATOR NAME: Natalie Owens

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Department of Education

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Individual Evaluator Comments:

I. Eligibility and Program Requirements (pass/fail)

Passed; proof of nonprofit status provided & specializes in forest ecology, etc.

II. Proposal

1. Overview of program

- 48 total, Age 14-17. 4 Two-week paid day camps.
- 24 go to Portland, 12 to Lewiston, and 12 to Bangor locations
- New program based on existing work

2. Demographic prioritization and recruitment

- Org started a formal youth program in 2020 with great turnout
- Org recommitted to DEI
- Recognizes "nature gap" for low-income
- Discussed the orgs they'll use for Portland, Lewiston, and Bangor recruitment. Mentioned the recent influx of immigrants and refugee families to these areas.

3. Identification of Need

- Made great illustration and connection between the needs of organization staffing, student involvement, and environmental needs.

4. Program description

- 48 students spend full time M-F for 2 weeks at one of the three locations
- Funding will enable staff to create and deliver four 10-day units of full day programs following RFA expectations for curriculum. One staff at each location will be dedicated to ecology program.
- Extensive community connections and experience creating curriculum under appropriate learning standards and goals.

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BIDDER NAME: Maine Audubon Society

DATE: 04/13/2023

EVALUATOR NAME: Natalie Owens

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Department of Education

- Provided great example of a student's curriculum of ash trees.
- 3 letters of orgs that will collaborate: 1 stellar letter from Plod Schools ELO

III. Program Outcomes

- Unacceptable
- Only 1 of 4 had to do with students
- When curriculum is finalized and programs are smoothed out, it will be clearer what the students will be doing and what to use for outcomes.

IV. Budget

1. Amount requested

- $\$51k+ / 48 = \$1,064$. No transportation. Food for Bar, only.

2. Program budget

- Great explanations

3. Budget narrative

- Included. Detailed Scale of 1-10: 10
- Lunches for Bangor students. \$14 each. Fed Per diem is \$15
- \$167 stipend to students.
- No mention of parent transportation.

STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES

RFA #: 202302033

RFA TITLE: Summer 2023 Forestry Stewardship & Career Pathways

BIDDER NAME: Maine TREE

DATE: 04/15/2023

EVALUATOR NAME: Jennifer Page

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Department of Education

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Individual Evaluator Comments:

I. *Eligibility and Program Requirements (pass/fail)*

Applicant indicates they meet all eligibility and program requirements

II. *Proposal*

1. *Demographic prioritization and recruitment*

- Application process in conjunction with the Brewer school department
- Indication of low-income and access to traditional summer programs
- Program intended to be woods immersive
- Helping to provide credits to students for alt ed pathways

2. *Identification of Need*

- Understanding of need of students to understand Maine forests
- Exposure to careers
- Using the work to continue understanding how to keep meeting needs going forwards

3. *Program description*

STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES

RFA #: 202302033

RFA TITLE: Summer 2023 Forestry Stewardship & Career Pathways

BIDDER NAME: Maine TREE

DATE: 04/15/2023

EVALUATOR NAME: Jennifer Page

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Department of Education

- 6 week program, 4 days a week with overnight
- Clear thought into the programming to meet student needs within an immersive environment
- Plan to create sustainability in the program
- Thought into how to meaningfully engage with career/workforce development for the long term through relationships

III. *Program Outcomes*

- Securing funding for future years is included in outcomes – longevity focused
- Focus on the outcomes of the students academic, skills, and career learning
-

IV. *Budget*

1. *Amount requested*

- \$78,225 for 15 students for 24 days = \$217.29/student program day
- Investment for outcomes seems incredible value

2. *Program budget*

-
-

3. *Budget narrative*

- Good thought process into meeting the needs of students, especially from low socio-economic background
-

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFA #: 202302033

RFA TITLE: Summer 2023 Forestry Stewardship & Career Pathways

BIDDER NAME: Maine TREE (“Developing Forest Ecosystem Connection....")+Brewer HS (“Forestry Immersion Program”)

DATE: April 17, 2023

EVALUATOR NAME: Mary J. Herman

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Department of Education

Instructions: *The purpose of this form is to record proposal review notes written by **individual** evaluators for this Request for Proposals (RFP) process. It is **required** that each individual evaluator make notes for each proposal that he or she reviews. No numerical scoring should take place on these notes, as that is performed only during team consensus evaluation meetings. A separate form is available for team consensus evaluation notes and scoring. Once complete, please submit a copy of this document to your Department’s RFP Coordinator or Lead Evaluator for this RFP.*

Individual Evaluator Comments:

I. Eligibility and Program Requirements (pass/fail)

Pass IRS/N-P YES attached

II. Proposal

1. Demographic prioritization and recruitment

- (Application:) Priority to low socio-ecomic stage;
- Brewer School Dept assist recruit above + “significant barriers to accessing trad’l summer educ progs. BSD assist in recruitment to underserved gr 6-12
- (Fully immerse in experiential lrng
- HS credit/credit retrieval [], its needing **alternative educational pathway and at-risk of not graduating**

2. Identification of Need

- Me is 89% forest; MISSION: educate and advocate for SUSTAINABLE USE....
- Thus need to reach out to youth early/engage in mission (too few students still being guided to forestry careers, have little perspective on opportunities
- Proactively prepare students for meaningful F careers, SKILLS and VALUES
- “Developing Forest Ecosystem Connections and Forestry Career Pathways for Students”=technical F education, hands-on learning in **immersive, forest-based setting....tools, values>stewards**
- Exposure to careers/educational pathways/opportunities

3. Program description

- PTNR: Brewer Public Schools

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFA #: 202302033

RFA TITLE: Summer 2023 Forestry Stewardship & Career Pathways

BIDDER NAME: Maine TREE ("Developing Forest Ecosystem Connection....")+Brewer HS ("Forestry Immersion Program")

DATE: April 17, 2023

EVALUATOR NAME: Mary J. Herman

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Department of Education

- Pilot 6 week summer immersion, Gulf Hagas and KIW, PISCATAQUIS, 4 days-week, camping
- Forest Ecol, wildlife habitat protection, assoc careers
- Transportation for all sts Sunday aft
- Camp in KIW-Thrsday, transported home for w/e
- Different theme q week; Curriculum via Maine TREE Fndn
- Tchrs have CHRC, are on site
- Recruit via BSD; APPLICATION (priority to disadvantaged but others may apply)
- Basic F education natural rest, forest based manufac'g
- Workplace and life skills (comms, teamwork, work ethic
- Introd to outdoor rec careers
- guidance on many pathways
- Sample weekly program attached/day schedule, includes cooking/team bldg, academic project-based long, free time, campfire/reflection
- Science activity integration (ecology data...history of Me forests....habitat study
- Meet w F-based businesses >career opportunities (ELO!)
- (Volunteers will also have CHBakground Ck)
- End-of-program Evaluation (see Outcomes), st feedback to improve program
- Sustainability is key in planning for future; **solicit businesses and F orgs to sponsor its in future using student testimonials (evidence of investment leading to sustainability for THEIR business/rg

III. Program Outcomes

- Basic F understanding/Curric Assess/ written work, performance WEEKLY
- F-based and outdoor rec pathway exposure , ELO CREDIT/Must log in at least 100 hours in career explain
- Communication/workplace skills/cooperative challenges/observation and written
- Sustainability of program itself/students participating, funds for future year(s)

IV. Budget

1. Amount requested

- \$78,225

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFA #: 202302033

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BIDDER NAME: Maine TREE (“Developing Forest Ecosystem Connection....)+Brewer HS (“Forestry Immersion Program”)

DATE: April 17, 2023

EVALUATOR NAME: Mary J. Herman

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Department of Education

2. *Program budget*

- \$10K personell (admin plng for Maine TREE Fndn)
- 5K instr materials
- **\$20 K “non-instr”** = Room and Board, 15 stem meals, tents (platforms....i think they will build platforms)
- 38K contracted=(10 hours/day+guest speakers receive \$1000 stipends
- Indirect noted

3. *Budget narrative*

***15 sts, pilot immersion, 4 certified tchrs (\$30/hr 10 hrs/day) only paid for the 10 hrs (benefits incl)....science kits....BSD vehicles to keep costs down. **Biggest expense is room and board**.....build for platforms, tents, camping gear, cots or air mattresses....guest speakers [mjh hopes they will donate....] Maine TREE developing supporting materials, communication, outreach...*

******NOTED THAT LETTERS OF INTENT/COLLABORATION MAINE TREE And graduates**

SAMPLE “PRELIMINARY CONTENT/SCHEDULE INCLUDED/DETAILED WHAT LEARNING/EXPOSED TO IN FORSTRY (STUD MILL, HAND CREW,CUT-TO-LENGTH OPERATION, ETC ETC; AND OUTDOOR EDUC DETAILS AND SAMPLE SCHEDULE

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFA #: 202302033

RFA TITLE: Summer 2023 Forestry Stewardship & Career Pathways

BIDDER NAME: Maine TREE

DATE: 04/14/2023

EVALUATOR NAME: Natalie Owens

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Department of Education

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Individual Evaluator Comments:

I. Eligibility and Program Requirements (pass/fail)

Passed; proof of nonprofit status provided & specializes in forest ecology, etc

II. Proposal

1. Overview of program

- The same 15 kids from Brewer, grades 6-12, camping for 4 nights in woods
- Geared toward ELO/career development
- 6 week program

2. Demographic prioritization and recruitment

- Application process will prioritize low socio-economic status
- Collaboration with Brewer Sch Dept to recruit this population and/or students with other significant barriers to summer education
- Brewer HS will offer 1-2 credits to recruit students at risk of not graduating

3. Identification of Need

- 89% of ME is covered in forests, high-need for people to have skills and values to sustain both the ecosystem and industry
- Org has developed this program is to reach youth to fill this need
- Pre and post survey will asses student skills and interest. Org is key participant in state industry network. The survey feedback and Org's lessons learned will be utilized and reassessed in larger state career-development conversations.

4. Program description

- Innovative curriculum supports the need discussed and fully aligns with the RFA's objectives
- Sample itinerary provided a clear idea of the student's experience and camp daily structure

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFA #: 202302033

RFA TITLE: Summer 2023 Forestry Stewardship & Career Pathways

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DATE: 04/14/2023

EVALUATOR NAME: Natalie Owens

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Department of Education

- Assurance that all people involved will clear background check
- Org will use this curriculum, connections, and lessons learned to collaborate with other schools and businesses to replicate program in future.

III. Program Outcomes

- Thoughtful and reflective of the student's experience
- ELO outcome of 100hrs included

IV. Budget

1. Amount requested

- \$78K / 15 = 5200 each, "full package"

2. Program budget

- Thorough and thoughtful. Excellent use of existing School resources.

3. Budget narrative

- Included. Detailed Scale of 1-10: 8
- \$1000 each for guest speakers visiting for 1 day?
- 5% indirect cost will need to be reviewed if awarded
- Pay the teachers for 10 hrs a day if they are working 24hrs a day?
- No large ticket items mentioned.
- The Org intends to use pilot program to launch ongoing efforts. Materials are either one time use or will be used in future, similar, programs.

STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES

RFA #: 202302033

RFA TITLE: Summer 2023 Forestry Stewardship & Career Pathways

BIDDER NAME: Portland Parks Conservancy

DATE: 04/15/2023

EVALUATOR NAME: Jennifer Page

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Department of Education

Instructions: *The purpose of this form is to record proposal review notes written by individual evaluators for this Request for Proposals (RFP) process. It is required that each individual evaluator make notes for each proposal that he or she reviews. No numerical scoring should take place on these notes, as that is performed only during team consensus evaluation meetings. A separate form is available for team consensus evaluation notes and scoring. Once complete, please submit a copy of this document to your Department's RFP Coordinator or Lead Evaluator for this RFP.*

Individual Evaluator Comments:

I. *Eligibility and Program Requirements (pass/fail)*

Applicant indicates they have met all eligibility and program requirements

Does this count as a "forest-based setting in the Maine woods"?

II. *Proposal*

1. *Demographic prioritization and recruitment*

- Experience with the target population in regards to socio economic status
- Indication that they have looked at other factors in regards to choosing their students based on who would benefit most
-

2. *Identification of Need*

- Awareness of the need within the population they are working with based on the existing data
- Also need for the ongoing need to provide career pipelines for local youth
-

STATE OF MAINE

INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES

RFA #: 202302033

RFA TITLE: Summer 2023 Forestry Stewardship & Career Pathways

BIDDER NAME: Portland Parks Conservancy

DATE: 04/15/2023

EVALUATOR NAME: Jennifer Page

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Department of Education

3. *Program description*

- Forested areas are within nature preserves in southern Maine
- Not clear how this is forest centric
-

III. *Program Outcomes*

- Outcomes are focused on conservation and environment, nothing about forests specifically
- Stewardship outcome is being decided by surveys. Not sure how I am feeling about this
- Not clear how much would actually be considered relevant to this proposal other than work with Ecology school – and not sure what that program looks like

IV. *Budget*

1. *Amount requested*

- \$50,000 for 26 student participants for 4 weeks = \$96.15/student program day (doesn't account for the worker stipends)
-

2. *Program budget*

-
-

3. *Budget narrative*

- No real question about the costs other than they aren't really connected to the forestry outcomes
-

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFA #: 202302033

RFA TITLE: Summer 2023 Forestry Stewardship & Career Pathways

BIDDER NAME: Portland Parks Conservancy

DATE: April 17, 2023

EVALUATOR NAME: Mary J Herman

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Department of Education

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Individual Evaluator Comments:

I. Eligibility and Program Requirements (pass/fail)

P - IRS included

II. Proposal

1. Demographic prioritization and recruitment

1.PPC Bd of Tx values :”...to foster equity, inclusion and education...
support BIPOC and low-income, underserved neighborhoods.

- Portland Youth Corps (PYC) is partnership w city of P *specifically to further **equity** in the np-, conservation and municipal spheres by giving young teens from teens from **marginalized communities** an educational experience that would support their future **careers (mjh bolds)***
- High unemployment rates for Latin and Black residents are DOUBLE white peers.....
- Need for Outdoor Ed experiences incl training, mentoring, job experience...
- New Mainer recruiting esp tech recs for at-risk
- \$500 stipend (many contribute to family income and restricted work options mean that incentive needed....(and can work regardless of status/work permit
- Boots, rain gear=equity of opportunity/access
- Last year/first 26 slots, 70 applications; 7 Ptld schools, homeschooled, DD kids, >Safe space for all
- Four (4) Student Crew Leader positions created empower to return/ leadership, mgmt team

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFA #: 202302033

RFA TITLE: Summer 2023 Forestry Stewardship & Career Pathways

BIDDER NAME: Portland Parks Conservancy

DATE: April 17, 2023

EVALUATOR NAME: Mary J Herman

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Department of Education

2. Identification of Need

- City has low # BIPOC applicants (full -time), need to create pipeline for diverse wkfc, mirroring Ptld emerging demographics
- National “Green Ceiling” (lack of diversity in ldrshp positions)
- Pandemic impact on City municipal budget > worker shortage
- Shortage of Park Rangers, horticultural staff, recreation programmers....train young ppl now, and young leaders
- SEL quotes

3. Program description

- 26 teens, Ptle, x Lewiston, x Bangor=crews; 4 week sessions
- Portland Youth Corp year three
- Job training, personal guidance
- k-off at TES, River Bend, Saco, 3 night o/n hands on immersive for connections b/w ecosystems....
- UNE American Chestnut farm
- Workforce readiness/job - training
 - —trail maintenance
 - —habitat restoration
 - —bridge and boardwalk construction, invasive species control
- ALL above w career explore focus, “job shadowing, “
- Rainy day resume-writing and interview practice
- \$500 stipend

III. Program Outcomes

- BIPOC, etc students become active stewards of Me Env/4 week sessions; detailed end-of-term surveys
- Above consider CAREERS/alumni program/surveys
- Lewiston and Bangor....numbers align?

IV. Budget

1. Amount requested

- \$50K

2. Program budget

- \$18K Personnel crew stipends for 26 students; 5K Project Mgmt
- \$500 tools
- \$9,300 Food, uniforms, boots, water....

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFA #: 202302033

RFA TITLE: Summer 2023 Forestry Stewardship & Career Pathways

BIDDER NAME: Portland Parks Conservancy

DATE: April 17, 2023

EVALUATOR NAME: Mary J Herman

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Department of Education

- Contracted \$16,700 The Ecol School, 3 night o/n
- (Transportation in-kind, City of Ptld)
- (Americorps, MCC....thinking already applied for?)

3. Budget narrative

*....stipends, some travel/van....contracted: partnerships other n-ps, possibly
Rippleffect, SailMaine*

*\$11 Environmental Steward from MCC is Asst Crew Ldr (=two adult lars for
13 teens) grant covers half, city pays remainder for "other projects"*

Gear > equity....lunches and snacks (\$4.80 day!)

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFA #: 202302033

RFA TITLE: Summer 2023 Forestry Stewardship & Career Pathways

BIDDER NAME: Portland Parks Conservancy

DATE: 04/14/2023

EVALUATOR NAME: Natalie Owens

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Department of Education

Instructions: *The purpose of this form is to record proposal review notes written by individual evaluators for this Request for Proposals (RFP) process. It is required that each individual evaluator make notes for each proposal that he or she reviews. No numerical scoring should take place on these notes, as that is performed only during team consensus evaluation meetings. A separate form is available for team consensus evaluation notes and scoring. Once complete, please submit a copy of this document to your Department's RFP Coordinator or Lead Evaluator for this RFP.*

Individual Evaluator Comments:

I. Eligibility and Program Requirements (pass/fail)

Passed; proof of nonprofit status provided & specializes in forest ecology, etc.

II. Proposal

1. Overview of program

- 26 kids from Portland make up 2 crews, 4 weeks. Aged 14-17.
- 3-4 days in Saco/UNE

2. Demographic prioritization and recruitment

- Program already prioritizes Portland area economically disadvantaged households and New Mainers (BIPOC)
- Program started in 2021. 11 of 24 kids returned for 2022. 4 of those became Crew Leaders for 2022, gaining leadership skills, peer & management respect.

3. Identification of Need

- Portland's diverse population is not represented in Parks & Rec. Additionally, huge muni budget cuts leave basic seasonal responsibilities like mowing and trash removal unfulfilled.
- Applicant explained youth didn't replace City staff but "made tremendous contribution....allowed City staff to do their jobs more efficiently."
- Students complete written evaluations at end of summer. Feedback from students and parents has been very positive. Increase in self-confidence mentioned most often.
- A few of the 2021 and 2022 students are already paid employees on muni payroll!

4. Program description

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFA #: 202302033

RFA TITLE: Summer 2023 Forestry Stewardship & Career Pathways

BIDDER NAME: Portland Parks Conservancy

DATE: 04/14/2023

EVALUATOR NAME: Natalie Owens

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Department of Education

- The location and basic tasks of the students are not ideal for the RFA. However, the student testimonials demonstrate that they gain quality SEL growth and career experience.
- Lots of collaboration with area organizations to diversify the student's work. 3-4 days to forestry and coastal exposure, each.
- Well thought out. Students will have meaningful experience.

III. Program Outcomes

- The outcomes provided are insufficient, especially given the success of the 2021 and 2022 program. If awarded, DOE will work with PPC to add outcomes surrounding the student's contributions and skills gained.

IV. Budget

1. Amount requested

- $50,000/26 = \$2k$ each. One week in Saco. 3 weeks M-F days.

2. Program budget

- Explanations sufficient

3. Budget narrative

- Included. Detailed Scale of 1-10: 5
- Student stipends should not be in "personnel" budget. If they are essentially doing City staff work, are stipends appropriate?
- Will require more detail about the \$2500 food for crew = \$4.80 per student per day.
- They have other funding for transportation.

STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES

RFA #: 202302033

RFA TITLE: Summer 2023 Forestry Stewardship & Career Pathways

BIDDER NAME: Schoodic Institute

DATE: 04/15/2023

EVALUATOR NAME: Jennifer Page

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Department of Education

Instructions: *The purpose of this form is to record proposal review notes written by individual evaluators for this Request for Proposals (RFP) process. It is required that each individual evaluator make notes for each proposal that he or she reviews. No numerical scoring should take place on these notes, as that is performed only during team consensus evaluation meetings. A separate form is available for team consensus evaluation notes and scoring. Once complete, please submit a copy of this document to your Department's RFP Coordinator or Lead Evaluator for this RFP.*

Individual Evaluator Comments:

I. *Eligibility and Program Requirements (pass/fail)*

Applicant indicates that they meet all eligibility and program requirements

Does this count as a "forest-based setting in the Maine woods"?

II. *Proposal*

1. *Demographic prioritization and recruitment*

- Indication of the overall demographic likely meeting the socioeconomic needs
- Understanding of the need to provide access. Not totally clear how identification of students with those needs will be identified.
-

2. *Identification of Need*

- Programming happening at schools doesn't meet Maine woods requirements
- Gets into non 'need' based elements in this section
-

STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES

RFA #: 202302033

RFA TITLE: Summer 2023 Forestry Stewardship & Career Pathways

BIDDER NAME: Schoodic Institute

DATE: 04/15/2023

EVALUATOR NAME: Jennifer Page

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Department of Education

3. *Program description*

- Focus on number of people connected rather than quality of connections to Maine's forests and careers/workforce development
- Variety doesn't necessarily indicate understanding of the RFP

III. *Program Outcomes*

- Quantity of types of programs is hard to judge the quality of the outcome evaluation
-
-

IV. *Budget*

1. *Amount requested*

- \$84,227 for 3000 students in one day = \$28.08 per student program day
-

2. *Program budget*

-
-

3. *Budget narrative*

- Just not clear how much of this would actually go towards forestry experiences
-

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFA #: 202302033

RFA TITLE: Summer 2023 Forestry Stewardship & Career Pathways

BIDDER NAME: Schoodic Ed Adventure/Summer Fest and Wildlife Ecology

DATE: April 17, 2023

EVALUATOR NAME: Mary J Herman

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Department of Education

Instructions: *The purpose of this form is to record proposal review notes written by **individual** evaluators for this Request for Proposals (RFP) process. It is **required** that each individual evaluator make notes for each proposal that he or she reviews. No numerical scoring should take place on these notes, as that is performed only during team consensus evaluation meetings. A separate form is available for team consensus evaluation notes and scoring. Once complete, please submit a copy of this document to your Department's RFP Coordinator or Lead Evaluator for this RFP.*

Individual Evaluator Comments:

I. Eligibility and Program Requirements (pass/fail)

Pass, N-P status attached

II. Proposal

1. Demographic prioritization and recruitment

- Focus rural schools, esp Hancock and Wash Cty, Avg 85-94% FRL
- Minimal access to *affordable* summer day camp. These are FREE to the public (draw 6000 total, "typically [?est] 50% school aged Maine
- **Advertise/mkt** thru educ network of schools, teachers, comm groups, social media, Web site, and SI print ads working w 7 SAUS+Brewer, Ells, MDI YMCA
- Provide **busing** fr summer schools & comm org summer pros or mileage **reimburse**, waive **entrance fees**; may "take show on the road"
- Exposure for "next generation outdoor and science educators/workforce development
- Employing **classroom teachers** to support their school year teaching confidence

2. Identification of Need

- (travel, above)
- Inadequate "distribution" of hands-on learning statewide & stewardship understanding for next generation
- ?attendance barriers (?entrance fees? travel?)
- Hope to **extend** SI normal educ program season, triple #Maine its (1000>3000)
- Reaching out to 8 summer schools

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFA #: 202302033

RFA TITLE: Summer 2023 Forestry Stewardship & Career Pathways

BIDDER NAME: Schoodic Ed Adventure/Summer Fest and Wildlife Ecology

DATE: April 17, 2023

EVALUATOR NAME: Mary J Herman

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Department of Education

- Wish to “refine and build 6+ summer education programs (forest, wildlife and climate change themes

3. Program description

- Acadia NP and local school forests for place-based learning....Students and families....Propose to EXPAND opportunities
- 1-2 hour and day-long field trips
- *Review regional hx and pre-hx, ecology basics, earth sci ppl, basic map, compass use, resource issues (native wildlife, invasive and endangered species, forest products, climate change
- Programs listed

(mjh concern—“copy and paste, “ i.e “Join us for a....host us....Join staff, Become a....teach you....Join a....”Try your hand...”You will meet, “ NB—application does say, “We will adapt the above programs....

*Grant would support two living wage internships....springboard for bight careers in env ed....all will pass background ck

III. Program Outcomes

- Sts will have safe positive experience, connect w nature, learn...hands..../ able to **name** 3 forest species...interrelationship.../share discoveries
- Undated natural resource **careers**/learn about/share new insights and career aspirations
- learn about forest animal and plant adaptations....list..../describe/discuss, DRAW
- Learn to use a “Dichotomous key an Citizen Science data app/use/ demonstrate
- Spot and id birds by beak+food/“Bird/beak match game
- LNT/learn principals explain or draw....presentations

IV. Budget

1. Amount requested

- \$84,227

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFA #: 202302033

RFA TITLE: Summer 2023 Forestry Stewardship & Career Pathways

BIDDER NAME: Schoodic Ed Adventure/Summer Fest and Wildlife Ecology

DATE: April 17, 2023

EVALUATOR NAME: Mary J Herman

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Department of Education

2. *Program budget*

- \$50,586: Personnel: Lead and assist seasonal educator; Summer teacher salaries, housing for 6 (detailed on p 8
- \$5600 Instr materials, Binoculars (6x\$300, 20 compasses, meas tapes, art supplies, hand lenses....
- \$1000 Non-instr: uniforms+miscell supplies
- \$13,522 Transportation: busing & mileage rims...150 sts,; staff travel to community cars and schools
- \$13, 519 Indirect (19.12%)

3. *Budget narrative*

3000 Me sts, 6-12 gr hands-on day

Two early-career educators @ \$16/hr+6 classroom tchrs+ 6 full-time volunteers

Short term housing for employees & tchrs

("to retain local talent and build a more skilled and diverse next gen of evaluators in Maine, we must shift away from unpaid and underpaid internships)

Instructional supplies....and kids take home hand lens bug box, notebook....

Transportation....

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFA #: 202302033

RFA TITLE: Summer 2023 Forestry Stewardship & Career Pathways

BIDDER NAME: Schoodic Institute

DATE: 04/14/2023

EVALUATOR NAME: Natalie Owens

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Department of Education

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Individual Evaluator Comments:

I. Eligibility and Program Requirements (pass/fail)

Passed; proof of nonprofit status provided & specializes in forest ecology, etc.

II. Proposal

1. Overview of program

- 6 summer teachers, 2 volunteers, 2 FTE early-career educators plus housing
- Creates curriculum and covers transportation to bring students to Park plus they go to communities to teach
- Open to public with clear local recruitment plan; all summer

2. Demographic prioritization and recruitment

- Mentions Hancock & Washington Counties and the rate of low-income families. Has clear plan of local schools to recruit.
- IDs transportation as the largest obstacle. Has 4 strategies to address this.
- Industry standard of underpaying or free labor from early-career educators is only realistic for more privileged folks. By providing living-wages to the 2 FTE, would reduce one barrier for local early-career educators.

3. Identification of Need

- ME is 89% trees but equal access to high-quality outdoor education is not available. Lack of funding to create and deliver curriculum. Committed to local community outreach.
- Forests are core component to society in myriad of ways. Stewardship cultivates next generation.
- Their programs are primarily during school year. Summer program challenges are funding for curriculum and staffing. Grant would extend program from 1 to 3 months.

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFA #: 202302033

RFA TITLE: Summer 2023 Forestry Stewardship & Career Pathways

BIDDER NAME: Schoodic Institute

DATE: 04/14/2023

EVALUATOR NAME: Natalie Owens

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Department of Education

- Budget Narrative states – “to retain local talent and build a more skilled and diverse next generation of educators in Maine, we must shift away from the unpaid and underpaid internship model.”

4. Program description

- Using Park and 8 local schools to refine and build 6+ programs (1-2 hr. and day long field trips)
- Assured that all adults will pass background check
- How frequently will these programs be offered? Are the one-hour walks daily? Are the day programs scheduled weekly?

III. Program Outcomes

- Variety of objective deliverables based on length of program
- I.E., name forest species and interrelation, ID career ops, list plants or animal adaptation, demonstrate how to use tools, correlate bird beak shapes to their food, Leave No Trace principles

IV. Budget

1. Amount requested

- \$84K/public participants ~3K students, ideally local

2. Program budget

- Sufficient but the explanations were used in the narrative.

3. Budget narrative

- Included. Detailed Scale of 1-10: 8
- 2 volunteers no stipend but yes housing
- Why do 6 teachers do 2 days a week instead of a couple teacher full time? But then housing full time for 4 of the 6 for 56 weeks?
- Transportation costs in full, including parents. Per diem correctly cited. No mention of policy for parents.
- 19.12% Federal indirect rate

STATE OF MAINE

INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES

RFA #: 202302033

RFA TITLE: Summer 2023 Forestry Stewardship & Career Pathways

BIDDER NAME: South Portland Fruit Tree Map

DATE: 04/15/2023

EVALUATOR NAME: Jennifer Page

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Department of Education

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Individual Evaluator Comments:

I. *Eligibility and Program Requirements (pass/fail)*

The program indicates that they meet all eligibility and program requirements

Not clear that this is actually in a forest-based setting in the Maine woods

II. *Proposal*

1. *Demographic prioritization and recruitment*

- Mentions coast but not forests
- Plans to work with folks to identify appropriate students
- Not sure what the lack of access to forests would be

2. *Identification of Need*

- Generic identification of need for community/workforce-based experiences but not specifically for this community and program

3. *Program description*

- Not really clear how the program will be run, how will students get there?
Where will students be engaged?

STATE OF MAINE

INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES

RFA #: 202302033

RFA TITLE: Summer 2023 Forestry Stewardship & Career Pathways

BIDDER NAME: South Portland Fruit Tree Map

DATE: 04/15/2023

EVALUATOR NAME: Jennifer Page

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Department of Education

- Urban forest focused
- Conservation focused

III. *Program Outcomes*

- All outcomes are understandings other than feeling connected to nature
-
-

IV. *Budget*

1. *Amount requested*

- \$100,000... no indication of how many students would be connected in this program... possibly ~25 and 12 program days = \$333.33 per student program day
-

2. *Program budget*

- 2 and a half weeks of programming
- Materials don't have clear connection to forestry
- Contracted services are broken up across multiple disciplines, not just forestry.
- Not clear where lodging would be

3. *Budget narrative*

- Are only meals for mid day for ~12 days? If a meal is \$15 then that would indicate ~25-30 people (including collaborators/instructors)
-

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFA #: 202302033

RFA TITLE: Summer 2023 Forestry Stewardship & Career Pathways

BIDDER NAME: South Portland Tree Map 501c3

DATE: April 17, 2023

EVALUATOR NAME: Mary J Herman

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Department of Education

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Individual Evaluator Comments:

I. Eligibility and Program Requirements (pass/fail)

Pass, proof attached

II. Proposal

1. Demographic prioritization and recruitment

- Work w local educators to id....e.g FRL, also social wars, tchrs and staff who know low-inc families w less frequent access [**“to the coast”**]
- **Informational mtg, individual mtgs** for its and families, groups mtgs, outreach to individuals and orgs that support low-inc its locally

2. Identification of Need

- Ability to “offer these sorts of experiences....low-income and high - need as they are most likely to **remain in Maine**....ensure skills...imps that youth understand impacts of our decisions on natural world....climate change

3. Program description

- SoPo Trees plants fruit-bearing trees....food insecurity, air quality **entirely run by M and HS** students in So Po...A French...”The Penn Program, “
- Learn Urban forestry, relish to Cl change, clean air, food systems, community well-being
- GOAL: Sts undsatt how forests are a critical factor in Me climate resilience....protecting and stewarding....
- Sts will collaborate w land trusts, forestry professionals, conservationists....properties in So Po, Ptlid and Cape E
- Relation to Climate Change

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFA #: 202302033

RFA TITLE: Summer 2023 Forestry Stewardship & Career Pathways

BIDDER NAME: South Portland Tree Map 501c3

DATE: April 17, 2023

EVALUATOR NAME: Mary J Herman

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Department of Education

- Policy and Legal issues
- Train work, tree-planting, educational walks....
- **Culmination=live event/presentations; creative storytelling (work w local artists, musicians, cooks and have 1-1 work w them**

III. Program Outcomes

- **Empowerment to protect and conserve urban forests...generations....**
- **And pathways for working in positions....**
- Undated ecology and environs of Ptd metro area/research presentations/formative & sharing
- Undstd human impacts/sts share, rich, present/formative & public sharing
- Undstd occupations/id at least a dozen/formative &
- Feel a deeper conned to natural world, esp Maine/qualitative data, journalig/

IV. Budget

1. Amount requested

- **\$100K**

2. Program budget

\$35,000; Full-time teacher leader (curricula creation, plng, organizing+3/4 additional employees for 2 1/2 weeks (not broken down

\$25,000 Instr materials/supplies: Field guides, books, art materials, instruments, tools....large collaborative greenhouse and mini greenhouse kits; rain garden supplies

\$5000 meals, organic, locally grown

\$25,000 Contracted secs“STEM experts+artists “fairly evenly broken down [not named/listed or detailed—mjh

\$5000 transportation sts and staff to and f rom various properties and travel for experts

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFA #: 202302033

RFA TITLE: Summer 2023 Forestry Stewardship & Career Pathways

BIDDER NAME: South Portland Tree Map 501c3

DATE: April 17, 2023

EVALUATOR NAME: Mary J Herman

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Department of Education

3. Budget narrative

Planning and preparation, 3/4 full-time staff

Instr materials and supplies (field guides, greenhouse materials, rain garden, trail work, books, art supplies and music instruments

Locally-grown food and preparation (and teaching this)

Contracted experts "largest part of budget....Experts in forestry, ecology,

***oceanography ,Marine biology**, cartography and more, local artists, musicians, writers....*

*Transportation =buses primarily (**?whose?**); "experts" travel and lodging*

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFA #: 202302033

RFA TITLE: Summer 2023 Forestry Stewardship & Career Pathways

BIDDER NAME: South Portland Fruit Tree Map

DATE: 04/14/2023

EVALUATOR NAME: Natalie Owens

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Department of Education

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Individual Evaluator Comments:

I. Eligibility and Program Requirements (pass/fail)

Passed; proof of nonprofit status provided & specializes in forest ecology, etc

II. Proposal

1. Overview of program

- Org established in 2022 now entirely run by So Po students
- 2.5 weeks camp for 20 So Po? students
- Urban Forests

2. Demographic prioritization and recruitment

- Assume only for So Po students but it isn't clear.
- Low income students will be ID'd by teachers and LCSWs. Is there a strong existing relationship with Program Director?
- A (public?) informational meeting will be coordinated ASAP
- One-on-one with parents to explain opportunity

3. Identification of Need

- Real-world, hands-on experiential learning is rare but critical to workforce development
- Low income and high needs students are most likely to stay in Maine, hence their education is critical to Maine's future economic standing
- As a brand new program, reevaluating the success isn't realistic.

4. Program description

- Assume it's a day camp since local kids but it isn't clear
- The student run org plant fruit-bearing trees in order to address food insecurity and air quality in collaboration with an educator

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFA #: 202302033

RFA TITLE: Summer 2023 Forestry Stewardship & Career Pathways

BIDDER NAME: South Portland Fruit Tree Map

DATE: 04/14/2023

EVALUATOR NAME: Natalie Owens

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Department of Education

- Trail work, planting, educational walks with forestry professionals and conservationists
- Field trips to So Po, Portland, Cape
- Great balance of STEM vs arts

III. Program Outcomes

- three out of four different ways to demonstrate understanding

IV. Budget

1. Amount requested

- 100,000K/20 kids \$5K each

2. Program budget

- Sufficient explanations

3. Budget narrative

- Included. Detailed Scale of 1-10: 4
- Appreciated the justifications but all costs are estimates. If awarded, we will need a better idea of expected costs.
- Out of State travel for guests
- Greenhouse and kits
- No mention of van rental but they'll be traveling locally to sites
- \$5K food budget for everyone will far exceed per diem.

STATE OF MAINE

INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES

RFA #: 202302033

RFA TITLE: Summer 2023 Forestry Stewardship & Career Pathways

BIDDER NAME: The Ecology School

DATE: 04/15/2023

EVALUATOR NAME: Jennifer Page

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Department of Education

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Individual Evaluator Comments:

I. *Eligibility and Program Requirements (pass/fail)*

The applicant indicates they meet all eligibility and program requirements

II. *Proposal*

1. *Demographic prioritization and recruitment*

- Indication of having access to means to determine the socio-economic level of students
- No direct indication of how they will evaluate access to forest environment
-

2. *Identification of Need*

- Current need for students based on interest and lack of financial capacity
-
-

3. *Program description*

STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES

RFA #: 202302033

RFA TITLE: Summer 2023 Forestry Stewardship & Career Pathways

BIDDER NAME: The Ecology School

DATE: 04/15/2023

EVALUATOR NAME: Jennifer Page

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Department of Education

- Focus on articulating why their location counts as a forest and forest management as a career element
- Specific identification of individuals/groups that will provide the workforce connections/components
- Integrated forestry within broader embedded curriculum

III. *Program Outcomes*

- Embedded formative and summative assessments to assess understanding of forest ecology and careers
- Elements that address whole student approach with social emotional
-

IV. *Budget*

1. *Amount requested*

- \$54,904.55 for 55 students for ~6 days = \$166.38/student program day
-

2. *Program budget*

-
-

3. *Budget narrative*

- Clear indication of how forestry elements are being asked to be subsidized without needing new materials
- Note about cost of overnight programs that plays out as I calculated – low rate for impact

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFA #: 202302033

RFA TITLE: Summer 2023 Forestry Stewardship & Career Pathways

BIDDER NAME: The Ecology School/Governor's Academy for Forest Ecology
Scholarship Fund

DATE: April 17, 2023

EVALUATOR NAME: Mary J Herman

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Department of Education

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Individual Evaluator Comments:

I. Eligibility and Program Requirements (pass/fail)

Pass, IRS proof included

II. Proposal

1. Demographic prioritization and recruitment

- Prioritize Me sts w limited access o wildlife and forest eco educ experiences...geographic, financial or other barriers
- "Capitalize on 25-year hx of relationships w schools and partner orgs who specialize in Forest Ecol and work w diverse pop of Maine families
- Noted MeDOE stat that 37% of Maine students face economic disadvantage
- No cost scholarship
- Market to existing school partners+ statewide networks
- Overnight summer camp experience

2. Identification of Need

- Citizenry neds to know about Forest ecology....dependence on strong timber industry, trades economy and eco-tourism
- Scholarship \$ for 55 Maine kids, 6-9 gr "living and learning" in Field ecology
- SEL needs(empathy, agency, teamwork, ldrshp
- "Battle of the Biotic" theme (how organisms interact/compete....learn about producers, consumers, decomposers...
- Immersive outdoor experience
- TES needs funding to provide scholarships for low-inc families
- Aware of GREAT NEED for affordable, accessible and educational summer camp experiences.
- WAITLIST OF OVER 100 NOW

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFA #: 202302033

RFA TITLE: Summer 2023 Forestry Stewardship & Career Pathways

BIDDER NAME: The Ecology School/Governor's Academy for Forest Ecology
Scholarship Fund

DATE: April 17, 2023

EVALUATOR NAME: Mary J Herman

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Department of Education

3. *Program description*

- "Battle of the Biotic"
- 55 campers, 6-day immersive....Live and learn, explore'
- Academically-focussed: science, sustainable forests, forest based economy, conservation, sustainabilityobservation, hands-on stup, field ecology, recreation, rest, reflection
- Framework of the 10 year *Forest Mgmt Plan (H Burnett, attached)...*
ecologically mindful agriculture and forestry...five (5) distinct woodland "stands"....observe differences, changes over time
- *Career-development opportunities through Sustainable lumber industry experts (listed)[researcher, businesses, architects, Maine ACF staff and others*
- *Sustainability, energy usage, history, human ecology....Modeling env stewardship, inclusive hospitality...*
- *Residential, and learn about the buildings history, sustainability...."Livig Building"*
- *Career Pathway*
- *Sustainable food/agroecology*
- *Live and learn together*
- *Pedagogy inspires creativity, alight w state and national educ stud & targetted outcomes*
- If rain: yurts!

III. *Program Outcomes*

- Sts gain knowledge of diverse forested ecosystems/undstdg producers/ consumers/decomposers and how forest shaped/CAPSTONE ("Science Action Project); skit
- incr SEL skills/Undstdg self-mgmt, empowerment, agency/measured throughout week as they unplug from technology, become part of community....learn to respect space, devel relationships, make meaningful contributions [**how measure?**]
- Undstd forest careers, thinking systems skills /connections human and natural systems>sustainable, resilient behavior/embedded assessments, concept maps/written postcards/"things they would like to see changed in future

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFA #: 202302033

RFA TITLE: Summer 2023 Forestry Stewardship & Career Pathways

BIDDER NAME: The Ecology School/Governor's Academy for Forest Ecology
Scholarship Fund

DATE: April 17, 2023

EVALUATOR NAME: Mary J Herman

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Department of Education

- Overnight camp experience/develop skills to become self-directed learners/ responsibility, decision-making, how to share spaces and solve day-to-day problems

IV. Budget

1. Amount requested

- \$54,904

2. Program budget

- \$6, 519 Personnel (Director, Director of Advcmt & Community Ptnrshps; Acad Asst Director; 2 Forest Ecol Educators
- \$2000 "Two Trees Forestry, Local Woodworks, Me., Hancock Lumber, Simons Architects =Partnership Stipends
- \$46,385 Meals and Lodging, River Bend Campus, Saco (15 campers, details broken down, meals, snacks, lodging

3. Budget narrative

***Named staff, budget and role*

Plus hiring professional educators/classroom teachers (r.t traditional summer camp counselors, hs students...) plus 14 Academy Educators on staff to supervise the 55 kids, 5-1 ratio, in two teams Field Educator Team and Campus Educator Team. All 13 supervise meals (TES will come the non-Forest Ecol Educator position

***Instr materials: supplies, field exploration, soil cores, magnifying lens, elective (gardening, arts and crafts) materials covered by TES Annual Fund*

***Contracted Svcs=stipends for named professionals*

***Transportation- \$0 (checking how kids get TO River Bend)*

***Lodging and meals broken down*

***\$998 / wk (\$166.300/day /) camper for room and bd and staffing*

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFA #: 202302033

RFA TITLE: Summer 2023 Forestry Stewardship & Career Pathways

BIDDER NAME: The Ecology School

DATE: 04/14/2023

EVALUATOR NAME: Natalie Owens

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Department of Education

Instructions: *The purpose of this form is to record proposal review notes written by individual evaluators for this Request for Proposals (RFP) process. It is required that each individual evaluator make notes for each proposal that he or she reviews. No numerical scoring should take place on these notes, as that is performed only during team consensus evaluation meetings. A separate form is available for team consensus evaluation notes and scoring. Once complete, please submit a copy of this document to your Department's RFP Coordinator or Lead Evaluator for this RFP.*

Individual Evaluator Comments:

I. Eligibility and Program Requirements (pass/fail)

Passed; proof of nonprofit status provided & specializes in forest ecology, etc

II. Proposal

1. Overview of program

- 55 students, 6 day overnight, "full package", grades 6-9

2. Demographic prioritization and recruitment

- Described the org's mission statement and strong social commitment to prioritize youth from low-income families with less access to quality summer education.
- Says will market opp with school partners but details of outreach plan were not provided

3. Identification of Need

- "Understanding of forest ecology is paramount for citizenry in a state like Maine that depends on strong timber industry, a trades economy, and eco-tourism."
- Outdoor learning develops empathy, agency, and teamwork; "all critical skills needed to continue navigating the post-pandemic world."

4. Program description

- "Theme is Battle of the Biotic to highlight how organisms in the forest interact and compete for resources."
- Explore fields, forests, and onsite farm; community-style mealtimes, and elective time
- Elaborate, STEM focused, age-appropriate curriculum

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFA #: 202302033

RFA TITLE: Summer 2023 Forestry Stewardship & Career Pathways

BIDDER NAME: The Ecology School

DATE: 04/14/2023

EVALUATOR NAME: Natalie Owens

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Department of Education

III. Program Outcomes

- Thorough explanation of how and when the given objectives will be measured
- I.E capstone, skit, independent & community living skills, concept maps to support student-directed learning, day to day problem solving

IV. Budget

1. Amount requested

- \$55K/55 students = \$1K each

2. Program budget

- Provided, included great breakdown of expenses

3. Budget narrative

- Included. Detailed Scale of 1-10: 8
- 5:1 student:teacher ratio
- If awarded, need to ensure the per diem rate is followed for food.



**STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

**Janet T. Mills
Governor**

**Pender Makin
Commissioner**

**AGREEMENT AND DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
RFA #: 202302033**

RFA TITLE: Summer 2023 Forestry Stewardship & Career Pathways RFA

I, Mary Herman, accept the offer to become a member of the Request for Proposals (RFA) Evaluation Team for the State of Maine Department of Education. I do hereby accept the terms set forth in this agreement AND hereby disclose any affiliation or relationship I may have in connection with a bidder who has submitted a proposal to this RFA.

Neither I nor any member of my immediate family have a personal or financial interest, direct or indirect, in the bidders whose proposals I will be reviewing. "Interest" may include, but is not limited to: current or former ownership in the bidder's company; current or former Board membership; current or former employment with the bidder; current or former personal contractual relationship with the bidder (example: paid consultant); and/or current or former relationship to a bidder's official which could reasonably be construed to constitute a conflict of interest (personal relationships may be perceived by the public as a potential conflict of interest).

I have not advised, consulted with or assisted any bidder in the preparation of any proposal submitted in response to this RFA nor have I submitted a letter of support or similar endorsement.

I understand and agree that the evaluation process is to be conducted in an impartial manner without bias or prejudice. In this regard, I hereby certify that, to the best of my knowledge, there are no circumstances that would reasonably support a good faith charge of bias. I further understand that in the event a good faith charge of bias is made, it will rest with me to decide whether I should be disqualified from participation in the evaluation process.

I agree to hold confidential all information related to the contents of Requests for Proposals presented during the review process until such time as the Department formally releases the award decision notices for public distribution.

DocuSigned by:
Mary Herman
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Signature

4/13/2023

Date



STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Janet T. Mills
Governor

Pender Makin
Commissioner

AGREEMENT AND DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
RFA #: 202302033

RFA TITLE: Summer 2023 Forestry Stewardship & Career Pathways RFA

I, Natalie Owens, accept the offer to become a member of the Request for Proposals (RFA) Evaluation Team for the State of Maine Department of Education. I do hereby accept the terms set forth in this agreement AND hereby disclose any affiliation or relationship I may have in connection with a bidder who has submitted a proposal to this RFA.

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DocuSigned by:

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Signature

4/12/2023

Date



STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Janet T. Mills
Governor

Pender Makin
Commissioner

AGREEMENT AND DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
RFA #: 202302033

RFA TITLE: Summer 2023 Forestry Stewardship & Career Pathways RFA

I, Jennifer Page, accept the offer to become a member of the Request for Proposals (RFA) Evaluation Team for the State of Maine Department of Education. I do hereby accept the terms set forth in this agreement AND hereby disclose any affiliation or relationship I may have in connection with a bidder who has submitted a proposal to this RFA.

Neither I nor any member of my immediate family have a personal or financial interest, direct or indirect, in the bidders whose proposals I will be reviewing. "Interest" may include, but is not limited to: current or former ownership in the bidder's company; current or former Board membership; current or former employment with the bidder; current or former personal contractual relationship with the bidder (example: paid consultant); and/or current or former relationship to a bidder's official which could reasonably be construed to constitute a conflict of interest (personal relationships may be perceived by the public as a potential conflict of interest).

I have not advised, consulted with or assisted any bidder in the preparation of any proposal submitted in response to this RFA nor have I submitted a letter of support or similar endorsement.

I understand and agree that the evaluation process is to be conducted in an impartial manner without bias or prejudice. In this regard, I hereby certify that, to the best of my knowledge, there are no circumstances that would reasonably support a good faith charge of bias. I further understand that in the event a good faith charge of bias is made, it will rest with me to decide whether I should be disqualified from participation in the evaluation process.

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DocuSigned by:
Jennifer Page
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Signature

4/10/2023
Date