

Partners in Conservation (PIC) Grant Guidelines

ABOUT PIC GRANTS

The Partners in Conservation (PIC) grant program provides funding to support natural resource conservation projects. The PIC grant program replaced the Technical Assistance Cost Share (TAC) grant program in December 2019. PIC projects must show a benefit to the environment and/or the community in one or more of the following Teton Conservation District (TCD) grant categories:

- Land/Agriculture: TCD cooperates with public land managers and private landowners to support local agriculture, including vegetation monitoring on public land grazing allotments and small-scale crop production. Other areas of interest include soil testing, irrigation infrastructure improvements, community and school garden projects, and more.
- Water: TCD prioritizes preserving water resources by dedicating staff time and funding to monitor and address water quality issues, waterbody health, aquatic habitat, flooding, and erosion. Current areas of focus include stormwater and wastewater management, nutrient pollution, and drinking water.
- **Vegetation:** We prioritize maintaining and restoring native vegetation through education, on-the-ground actions, and partnerships. We support landowners and partners in decreasing the presence of invasive species on the landscape, promoting native plant education and use, and reducing the risk of wildfire on private land.
- **Wildlife:** Through a combination of staff expertise and grants, TCD works to support healthy populations of native species, protect habitat, limit human-wildlife conflict, foster wildlife permeability, and quantify and mitigate the impacts of development on wildlife and natural resources.
- Geographic Information Systems (GIS): TCD staff specialize in geospatial data creation, analysis and cartography, and provide technical expertise and recommendations to decision makers to assist with natural resource conservation.
- **Sustainability:** TCD supports and leads initiatives to conserve natural resources, including recycling, composting, hazardous waste disposal, and alternative energy efforts.
- **Education:** TCD supports conservation education efforts, such as school projects and lessons, symposiums and events, publications, and more.

GUIDELINES & ELIGIBILITY

- Applicants may apply for funding for up to 50% of the total project budget. Matching funds may come from direct dollar and/or in-kind funding.
- There is no minimum or limit on how much funding you can request in a PIC grant application. Typical requests range from \$2,000 to \$10,000.

- PIC projects must be located within the district area or serve the district's residents and/or environment. The district area includes all of Teton County, Wyoming and Wyoming's portion of Yellowstone National Park,
- Nonprofits, businesses, agencies, individuals/landowners, and other types of entities are welcome to apply for PIC grants.

HOW TO APPLY

STEP 1: If you have further questions regarding PIC grants or seek guidance on your application, email info@tetonconservation.org or call (307) 733-2110 to work with a program expert on your application. If you seek guidance on the content of your application, get in touch with us *at least* two weeks before the project deadline to allow us time to assist you.

STEP 2: Complete the <u>Grant Application Narrative</u> and the <u>Project Budget Worksheet.</u> You can download these documents on our website at <u>www.tetonconservation.org/pic-grant-application</u>.

STEP 3: Upload and submit your Grant Application Narrative and the Project Budget Worksheet using our new <u>online application system</u> (go to <u>www.tetonconservation.org/pic-grant-application</u>) by 5:00 p.m. on January 29, 2021.

STEP 4: Final applicants will have the opportunity for a 5-minute presentation and 10-minute question and answer session with the Teton Conservation District board. The board will have reviewed your application prior to your presentation.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

How much can I ask for? There is no minimum or limit on how much funding you can request in a PIC grant application. The TCD board determines how much total funding is available per grant cycle annually. Typical requests range from \$2,000 to \$10,000. TCD staff can assist you in deciding how much to ask for.

What types of projects have been funded in the past? TCD has funded a variety of small and large projects that complement our program areas. TCD does not typically fund grant administration overhead, staff time, indirect costs, and capital equipment purchases with a lifetime beyond the project time frame. Capital expenses for the project duration are acceptable. TCD may provide partial funding or select the most appropriate parts of your application for funding.

When will I get the funding if I'm successful? TCD prefers to distribute grant funds as a reimbursement after your project is complete. You will receive your check upon submission of your Final Grant Report, which requires documentation of spent funds. TCD acknowledges that certain projects require funding in advance of your project start date. In these cases, TCD can provide funding to the grant recipient before the project begins. If this applies to your project, you will signify on your application that you require funding in advance of your project start date. If TCD determines that we can accommodate your request, a check will be cut within two weeks of when you return your signed award letter/grant contract to TCD.