

# Better Together Nature Positive Innovation Grant Application 2023

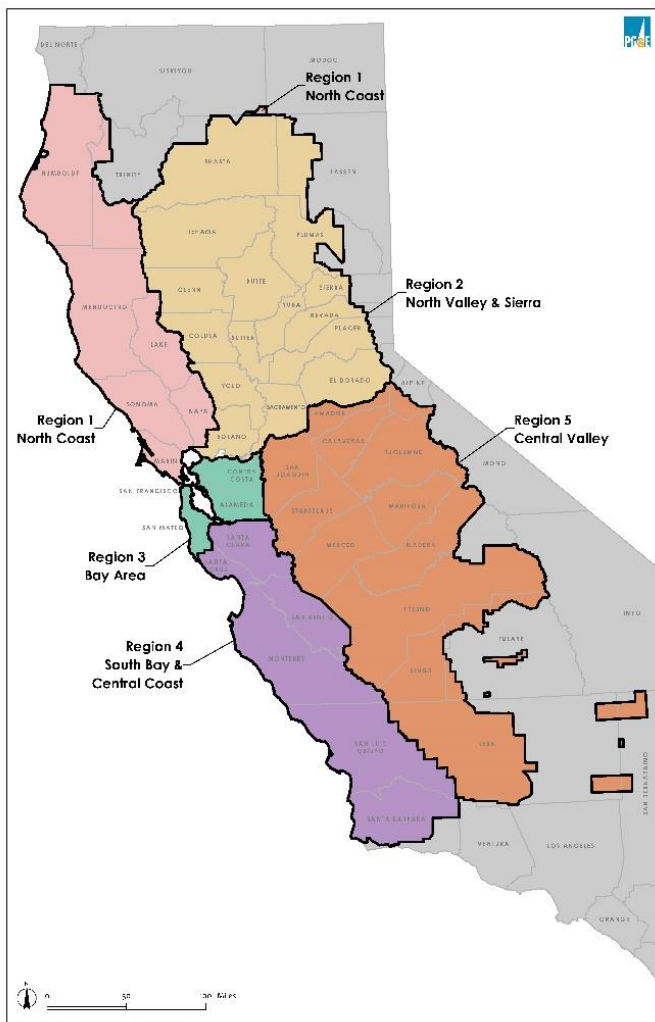
California faces growing risks to its natural environment and unique biodiversity. Today, about 30% of California’s species are threatened with extinction—more than any other state. Climate change is further threatening California’s natural environment—through direct impacts to habitats and species and indirect impacts through climate-induced changes in resources such as food, water, and habitat quality and availability.

As one of the largest landowners in California, Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) has a long history of responsible stewardship of the natural environment. We are renewing our focus on environmental stewardship and are pursuing opportunities to invest in partnerships that will promote protecting and restoring land, water, and air in habitats and communities across our service area.

The Better Together Nature Positive Innovation Grant Program, funded by The PG&E Corporation Foundation (Foundation), is requesting proposals of \$100,000 to fund five projects (one in each region of PG&E’s service area) in 2023 that address a specific environmental stewardship focus area:

- Land Stewardship
- Air Quality
- Water Stewardship

## PG&E Regions



## Eligibility

Eligible applicants will be governmental organizations (including tribal governments), educational institutions, or certified 501(c)3 nonprofit organizations/public charities. Applicants must be prepared to provide documentation to demonstrate they meet the Foundation’s criteria for charitable giving. Applicants must be the grantee and not a fiscal sponsor for another organization.

Priority will be given to projects that address the needs of disadvantaged and/vulnerable communities.

Organizations are invited to submit one application that addresses any of the three focus areas (Land Stewardship, Air Quality, or Water Stewardship) in any of the five regions. One grantee will be selected from each region. Grants can cover any stage of a project, including but not limited to planning, construction, design, education, and coordination.

Organizations that have been awarded a [Better Together Resilient Communities grant](#) in 2021 or a Nature Positive Innovation Grant in 2022 are **ineligible** for this grant program.

## Evaluation Criteria

Proposals must comply with all submission instructions and guidelines to be considered for funding. To inform your proposal, applicants may refer to the glossary of terms and the list of sample resources that are included at the end of this document, after the application questions. The Foundation will evaluate all proposals according to the application questions below.

## Grant Requirements

Funded applications will be expected to complete the following actions:

- Respond to a questionnaire about the project.
- Sign, date and submit the certification document which appears on page 6.
- Participate in quarterly update calls with representatives and agents of The Foundation.
- Provide a report to the Foundation detailing project actions, stakeholders engaged, additional resources leveraged, and other outcomes, including an executive summary.

There is no deadline for completing grant projects, but we suggest grantees set a timeline to complete their work no longer than 18 months after receiving the grant.

## Applying

The deadline for applications is **June 30, 2023**. Applications should be submitted to [NaturePositiveInnovationGrant@pge.com](mailto:NaturePositiveInnovationGrant@pge.com) with the subject line “NPIG- Organization Name- Region #”. Applicants are encouraged to transfer questions beginning on page 3 of this PDF to a Word document or contact the Foundation at the email address above to request a digital Word version of this application. For your application, please submit a single Word or PDF document with all of the requested information.

## BEGIN APPLICATION

### Registration

1. Organization Legal Name:
2. Tax ID Number:
3. Organization Official Address:
4. Organization Main Phone:
5. Organization Mission Statement:
6. How did you hear about the Better Together Nature Positive Innovation grant program? (Optional)
7. Have you previously applied for Better Together Resilient Communities grant program? If yes, what was the title and the year of the application? (Optional)

### Primary Contacts

8. Name of Organization's Highest-Level Employee:
9. Associated Title (e.g., "Executive Director"):
10. Associated Email Address:
11. Name of Grant Manager:
12. Grant Manager Main Phone:
13. Grant Manager Email:

### Application Part 1 – Project Overview and Goals

*(Please limit responses in each subsection to 150 words or less.)*

1a. Provide a title for your proposed project.

1b. Identify which county/jurisdiction and region the grant funds will primarily be used.

*(Choose one of the five regions: North Coast – Region 1, North Valley and Sierra – Region 2, Bay Area - Region 3, South Bay and Central Coast - Region 4, Central Valley - Region 5)*

1c. Briefly describe the proposed project and project goals.

1d. Provide the project duration, including anticipated start and end dates.

*Note:*

- *Funds will be provided by Q4 2023.*
- *Part 4 of the application provides more room for providing a detailed timeline.*

**Application Part 2 – Statement of Demonstrated Need and Project Effectiveness**

*(Please limit responses to each subsection to 200 words or less.)*

2a. State the environmental stewardship focus area of this application and describe the demonstrated need of the community or habitat your project will support. Provide any background and context necessary to understand the project's purpose.

*(Choose one of the focus areas: Land Stewardship, Air Quality, or Water Stewardship)*

2b. Describe how the proposed project will help address the demonstrated need.

2c. Describe the community that this project will serve and how your project will help address the identified needs of disadvantaged and/or vulnerable communities.

**Application Part 3 – Project Approach, Outcomes, and Potential Impact**

*(Please limit responses to each subsection to 300-400 words.)*

3a. Provide a detailed description of your project approach, including the specific activities that will help achieve the project goals. Describe your approach and rationale for planned community outreach in the project.

3b. Describe which organization(s) you will partner with and why and the role of these partners in your project.

3c. Describe the anticipated outcomes your project will have and how you will measure success.

3d. Describe how your project will enhance environmental stewardship beyond the life of the grant. How will others be able to learn from the project?

**Application Part 4 – Timeline and Budget**  
***(Does not count against word limit.)***

*Please detail the specifics of how the grant funding will be spent below.*

4a. Include a timeline for your project, including specific tasks, schedule, and outcomes for the project. Timeline can be in a table or outline form.

4b. Provide a budget table and corresponding description of the table. If match funding is required for the full scope of the project, consider describing your intent for and status of match funding.

**Application Part 5 – Letters of Support (optional)**

*To supplement your grant proposal, please consider attaching letters of support from your project partners, community members, or other stakeholders. Letters of support are optional, but recommended to demonstrate community support for your proposal.*

**Certification**

*Please read this section thoroughly and confirm that your organization is in compliance with the following terms and conditions. Please note that disagreeing to any statement will disqualify you for a charitable donation.*

The applicant is, and shall remain, in compliance with all federal, state, and local laws, rules, and regulations, including if applicable the California Nonprofit Integrity Act of 2004.

The applicant does not and shall not, in its by-laws, policies, or practices, discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, age sex, national origin, ancestry, physical or mental disability, medical condition, veteran status, marital status, pregnancy, sexual orientation, gender identity, or any basis prohibited by applicable law.

The applicant agrees that any donation from the Foundation will be used only for charitable purposes and will not be used to promote or oppose any candidate or ballot measure, to advocate any legislative or administrative action, or to personally benefit or compensate any elected official.

The applicant must be a 501c3 non-profit public charity, a state or local agency or federally recognized tribe. The applicant must be the grantee and not a fiscal sponsor for another organization.

The applicant and each of its grantees, if any, is in full compliance with all statutes, Executive Orders, and regulations restricting or prohibiting U.S. persons from engaging in transactions and dealings with countries, entities, or individuals subject to economic sanctions administered by the U.S. Department of the Treasury’s Office of Foreign Assets Control, the applicant is aware that a list of countries subject to such sanctions, a list of Specially Designated Nationals and Blocked Persons subject to such sanctions, and overview and guidelines for each such sanctions program can be found at <http://www.treas.gov/ofac>, and the applicant does not and shall not promote or engage in violence, terrorism, bigotry, or the destruction of any state, or make grants or otherwise furnish support of any kind to any individual or entity that engages in such activities. Should any change in circumstances pertaining to this certification occur at any time, the applicant will notify the Community Relations Department of Pacific Gas and Electric Company immediately.

I am the duly appointed representative of my organization. I am authorized to certify and affirm all the statements above, and to submit the application on behalf of my organization.

I have read all of the statements and responses in this application and certify that each is accurate.

I agree that electronic submission of this application will be deemed to be the equivalent of my written signature for purposes of this certification and application.

By accepting any funds or in-kind donations from the Foundation, my organization agrees to all terms, conditions, and certifications specified within the application and the transmittal letter.

**Compliance Certification**

My name is:

My position title with this organization is:

Signed by (initial):

Signed on this date:

## Glossary of Terms

- **Nature Positive**<sup>1</sup>: enhancing the resilience of our planet and societies to halt and reverse nature loss.
- **Air Quality**: Examples include but are not limited to: Projects or implementation of processes that reduce particulates due to human caused pollution, remove solid, liquid or gaseous contaminants from the air, improve air quality due to the planting of vegetation or promote adoption of technology or practices that are beneficial to local air quality.
- **Environmental Stewardship**<sup>2</sup>: The responsible use and protection of the natural environment through conservation and sustainable practices to enhance ecosystem resilience and human well-being
- **Land Stewardship**: Activities that enhance or improve damaged or blighted conditions. Examples include but are not limited to: Streambank stabilization projects, community gardens, creation or rehabilitation of local parks or outdoor green spaces.
- **Partner**: Individual(s) or organization(s) that will be involved in the design and implementation of the proposed work.
- **Stakeholder**: Individual(s) or organization(s) impacted by the environmental challenge that the project is working to address, who occupy the area where the project will be implemented, and/or are otherwise affected by the design and implementation of the project.
- **Water Stewardship**: Examples include but are not limited to: Projects that enable the protection of the aquifer, stream or river restoration projects that provide an ecological functional lift, community water quality improvement programs.

<sup>1</sup> Source: [World Economic Forum](#)

<sup>2</sup>Source: Chapin, F. S., Stephen R. Carpenter, Gary P. Kofinas, et al. 2010. Ecosystem Stewardship: Sustainability Strategies for a Rapidly Changing Planet." Trends in Ecology & Evolution. 25 (4):241-249.

## Resources

The resources listed below are meant to help understand and identify potential environmental stewardship options. This is not a comprehensive list of possible resources, and applicants are not required to include them in the application or be limited to this list.

[California Wildlife Conservation Board](#)

[California Natural Resource Agency](#)

[California Transportation Commission Environmental Enhancement and Mitigation Program](#)

[California Climate Adaptation Strategy](#)