

Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP) Proposal Review Process

The following is the workflow of the Review and Selection Process:

1. **Initial Proposal Vetting** – RCPP Coordinators must review each proposal for three eligibility items (lead partner eligibility, land eligibility and ensuring that each CCA proposal addresses one of the identified priority resource concerns) prior to initiation of technical reviews. RCPP Coordinator for Florida is [Nina Bhattacharyya](#), Assistant State Conservationist – Partnerships & Initiatives.
2. **State Technical Reviews** - The State technical review will need to consist of NRCS Staff with programmatic and technical expertise. The composition of a State's review team should include a variety of technical disciplines that are applicable to the State/Region and the projects that are being reviewed. The team should be led by the State Conservationist or designee and should have an odd number of members, with a minimum of 3 members.
3. **Leadership Review** - The RCPP leadership review team consists of members of NRCS senior leadership, specifically the Associate Chief for Conservation, Deputy Chief for Programs (Chair), the Deputy Chief for Soil Science and Resource Assessment, the Deputy Chief for Science & Technology, the Deputy Chief for Management and Strategy, and the Regional Conservationists. The leadership review evaluates the state technical review recommendations and ensures that the evaluations are consistent with program objectives. In addition to the technical review rankings, the leadership review team may consider available funding, funding pools, geographic diversity, applicant diversity, and other factors. The leadership review team then makes recommendations for funding to the NRCS Chief.
4. **Final Decision** - The NRCS Chief makes the final RCPP award decisions.