



## NATHPO/The Wilderness Society Protecting Native Places Fund Inaugural 2022 Application



### About the Protecting Native Places Fund

Recognizing the interconnectedness of efforts to protect Indigenous culture and the natural world, **NATHPO in partnership with The Wilderness Society (TWS)** has established a fund to support THPOs in these important efforts. NATHPO and TWS recognize that public lands management has traditionally excluded the involvement of Native peoples. Through this fund, we aim to help change that.

Established in partnership with The Wilderness Society through the support of the Wilburforce Foundation, the Protecting Native Places Fund will support efforts to protect and manage Tribal cultural sites, increase the role of Tribes in management and stewardship of culturally significant areas, and address racist and offensive place names. The focus of these efforts is on the management of public lands.\* Specifically, we seek to assist efforts to ensure that cultural sites are well managed and protected and that Tribes have an adequate say in the management of cultural resources and the incorporation of traditional knowledge on public land. This can include on-the-ground restoration and stewardship, or efforts to change local land management plans or policies.

*\*“Public lands” includes lands held by local/state/federal government or held in public trust.*

### The Details

- **Amount:** \$80,000 will be awarded in \$5,000 grants.
- **Eligibility:** NATHPO members in good standing are eligible for the Protecting Native Places Fund. Membership information [is available here](#).
- **Timeline:** Applications will be accepted Feb. 25 – March 31, 2022.
  - NATHPO staff and Chairman will evaluate applications and select awardees.
  - Grants will be disbursed by April 30, 2022.
  - The period of performance will be May 1 – December 31, 2022.

### How to Apply

We understand your time is extremely valuable and we have worked to make applying for this grant, as well as reporting, as easy to manage as possible. To apply, simply answer the following questions in up to 500 words each and email them to NATHPO’s Executive Director, Dr. Valerie J. Grussing at [valerie@nathpo.org](mailto:valerie@nathpo.org).

**Question 1:** Is your THPO office involved in efforts to ensure that cultural resources and places on public land are managed and protected, including the incorporation of traditional knowledge? Examples of this work may include on-the-ground restoration and stewardship, or efforts to influence land management plans or policies. Please briefly list a few of the projects your office is working on.

**PROTECTING NATIVE PLACES**

**Question 2:** If granted \$5,000, how would your THPO office utilize it to help advance one or more of the priority areas of effort on public lands? The NATHPO Board of Directors suggested examples of ways to use the funds and they are in italics below.

- Protect and manage Tribal cultural resources and places;
- Increase the role of Tribes in management and stewardship of cultural resources and places;
- Address racist and offensive place names.

*Suggested ideas from the NATHPO Board of Directors:*

- *Supplement existing staff salaries*
- *Purchase new or updated equipment (computers, etc.)*
- *Staff training*
- *Purchase relevant software (GIS, project management, etc.)*
- *One-time project (digitizing old records, developing strategic plans, documenting sites)*
- *Provide internship opportunities*

## **The Reporting Process**

The reporting process will be accomplished via a short interview with NATHPO and the recipient THPO. This eliminates the need for additional paperwork for recipient THPO offices. It will also be an opportunity to visit and for both parties to identify what worked and what improvements may be made in the future. Here are the details:

- ✓ Final reporting will occur in an interview format via virtual meeting with the recipient THPO offices and NATHPO staff.
- ✓ NATHPO will schedule these meetings during the awarding & disbursement process, based on the THPO's expected timeline.
- ✓ Interview questions will be sent in advance for recipient THPO review.
- ✓ During the interview, NATHPO will record the answers to these questions and that information will be the final reporting.

## **Acknowledgements**

NATHPO would like to thank The Wilderness Society and the Wilburforce Foundation for their efforts in making the Protecting Native Places Fund a reality. Our mission is supporting THPOs and their work in *Protecting Native Places* and it is a dream come true for NATHPO to be able to offer our membership this opportunity.

To our members, our gratitude for your continued support is beyond words. We thank you for the opportunity to serve the THPO community and hope the Protecting Native Places Fund will be helpful in the sacred work you do each day. Our goal is to offer this grant annually and to grow the funding for increased benefit for THPOs like you.

This is just the beginning – the opportunities ahead are many.