**Massachusetts Division of Ecological Restoration**

**Regional Restoration Partnerships Program**

RFR ID: DER 2021-03

**Questions & Answers**

*Question & Answer period runs from June 28, 2021 to July 9, 2021 at 4pm*

**Question:** Can the match requirement for the partnership grant be a federal grant?

**Answer:** Yes. See section I(g) of the RFR for match requirement information.

**Question:** Will an applicant that is able to capitalize upon a federal grant receive a higher score in the evaluation criteria?

**Answer:** One factor that the Proposed Budget section of the Evaluation Criteria considers is the applicant's vision to leverage DER funds with existing or anticipated resources (plans, opportunities, strategic alliances) to advance Partnership goals and priorities. The Proposed Budget section accounts for approximately 15% of the total possible points. See RFR section III(c) for more information about the Evaluation Criteria.

**Question:** Who is eligible to receive a sub-award of Implementation funding from the Lead Organization? Is a town eligible to receive a sub-award?

**Answer:** The term “sub-award” refers to Implementation funding awarded by the Lead Organization to eligible Stakeholders to provide services that help the Lead Organization coordinate the Partnership and carry out Partnership planning and other needs under an umbrella Partnership model or similar. Eligible sub-award recipients are limited to Massachusetts Regional Planning Agencies and Massachusetts-based 501(c)(3) organizations. Refer to Attachment 1 of the Regional Restoration Partnerships Program RFR for more details regarding sub-awards and Partnership models.

The Lead Organization may also contract with any public or private entity (with DER prior approval) to advance specific restoration projects and activities, such as design or construction. Such entities could include consultants, municipalities, NGOs, or other organizations. Depending on the purpose and nature of the work, the contractor could provide the services directly and/or sub-contract the work.