

*Transportation Corridor Agencies*



# Habitat Conservation Fund Grant Application Workshop

Transportation Corridor Agencies

October 29, 2024



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# Habitat Conservation Fund Agenda

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- Introductions
- Purpose of Workshop
- Workshop Logistics
- HCF Overview
- HCF Eligibility
- HCF Application
- Evaluation of HCF Applications
- Open Discussion

# Introductions

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## **Welcome to HCF Workshop #1**

- Provide your name and agency/organization in the Chat



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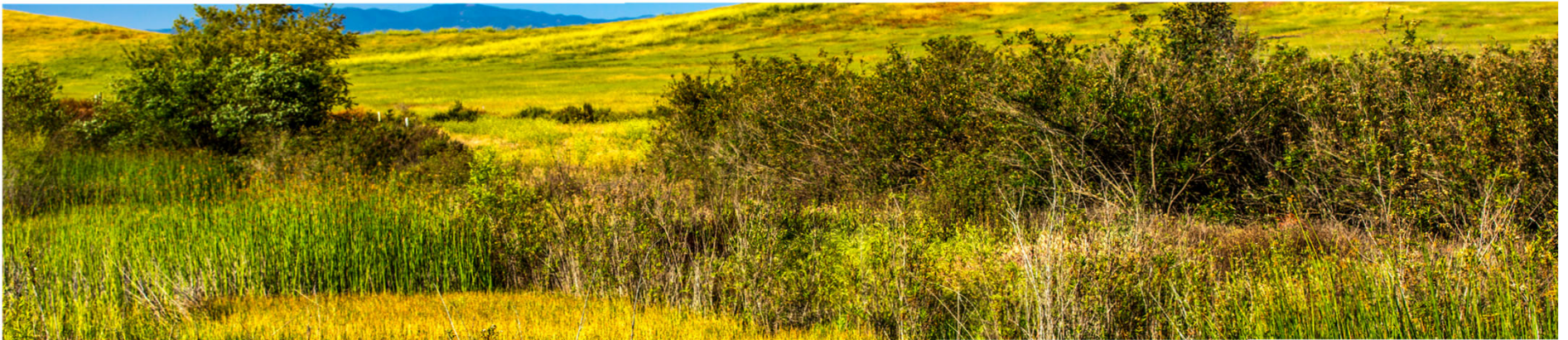
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# Purpose of HCF Workshop

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- Provide HCF overview and timeline
- Discuss HCF eligibility
- Discuss HCF application requirements
- Answer questions



# Workshop Logistics

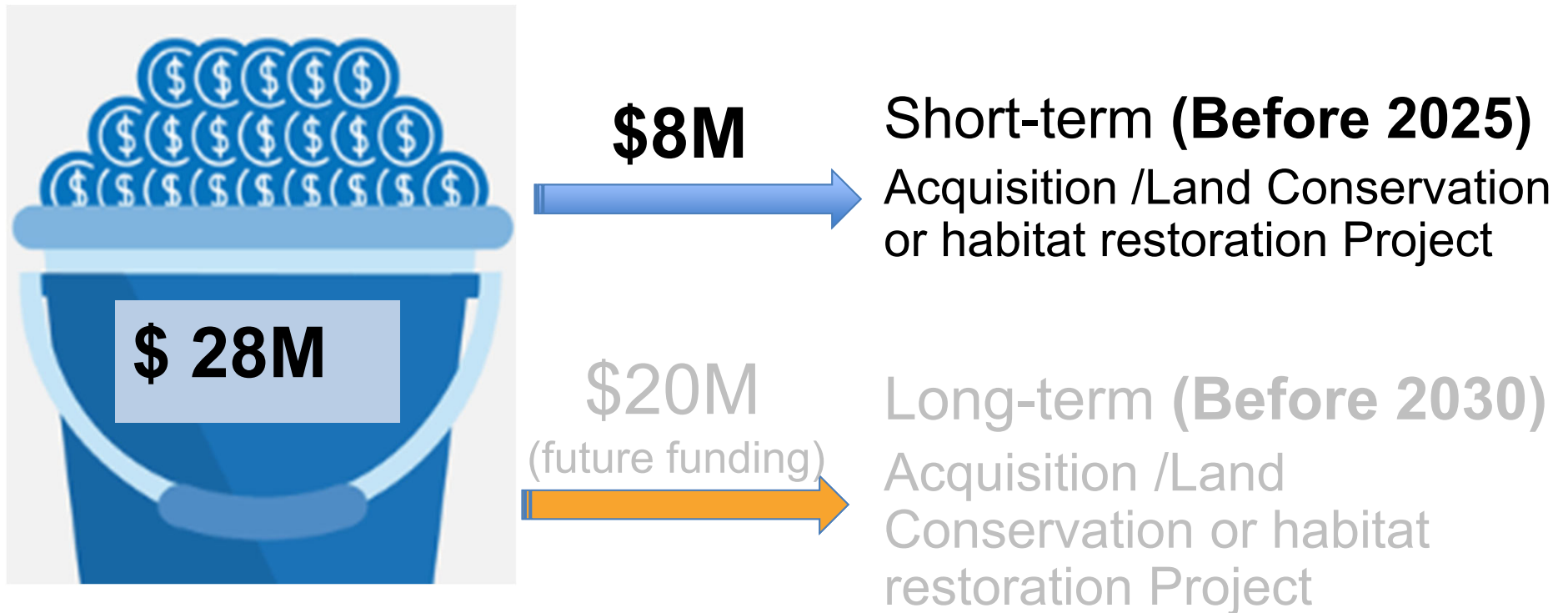
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- Questions during the presentation?
  - Type questions or comments in the chat
  - Respond at the end of the presentation
- Questions and Answers will be posted on the TCA HCF Webpage
- Questions after the HCF Workshop
  - Contact: [EnvPlan@TheTollRoads.com](mailto:EnvPlan@TheTollRoads.com)
- Presentation will be made available at TCA's HCF Webpage:
  - <https://thetollroads.com/about/about-tca/environmental-commitment/habitat-conservation-fund/>

# Habitat Conservation Fund - Expenditure Overview

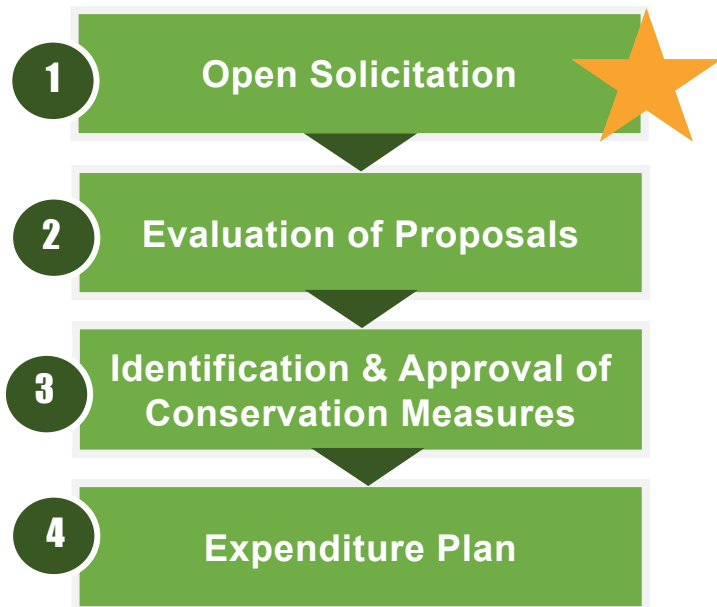
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# Habitat Conservation Fund – Process Overview

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## Habitat Conservation Fund Expenditure Plan Process



- Currently in Open Solicitation

# Habitat Conservation Fund – Timeline

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<b>Milestone</b>	<b>Start</b>	<b>End</b>
Open Solicitation	October 9, 2024	December 15, 2024
HCF Workshop #1	October 29, 2024	October 29, 2024
HCF Workshop #2	November 7, 2024	November 7, 2024
Proposal Evaluation	Winter 2025	Spring 2025
Identification of Priority Projects and Approvals	Summer 2025	Summer 2025
Development of Expenditure Plan	Summer 2025	Fall 2025
Obligate HCF	Fall/Winter 2025	Fall/Winter 2025



# Habitat Conservation Fund - Eligibility

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- **Projects eligible for funding:**
  - Must be located entirely or partially in Orange County
  - Land acquisition for the purpose of conservation and preservation
  - Habitat restoration activities
- **Complete and submit HCF application by December 15<sup>th</sup> via TCA website**



# Habitat Conservation Fund - Application

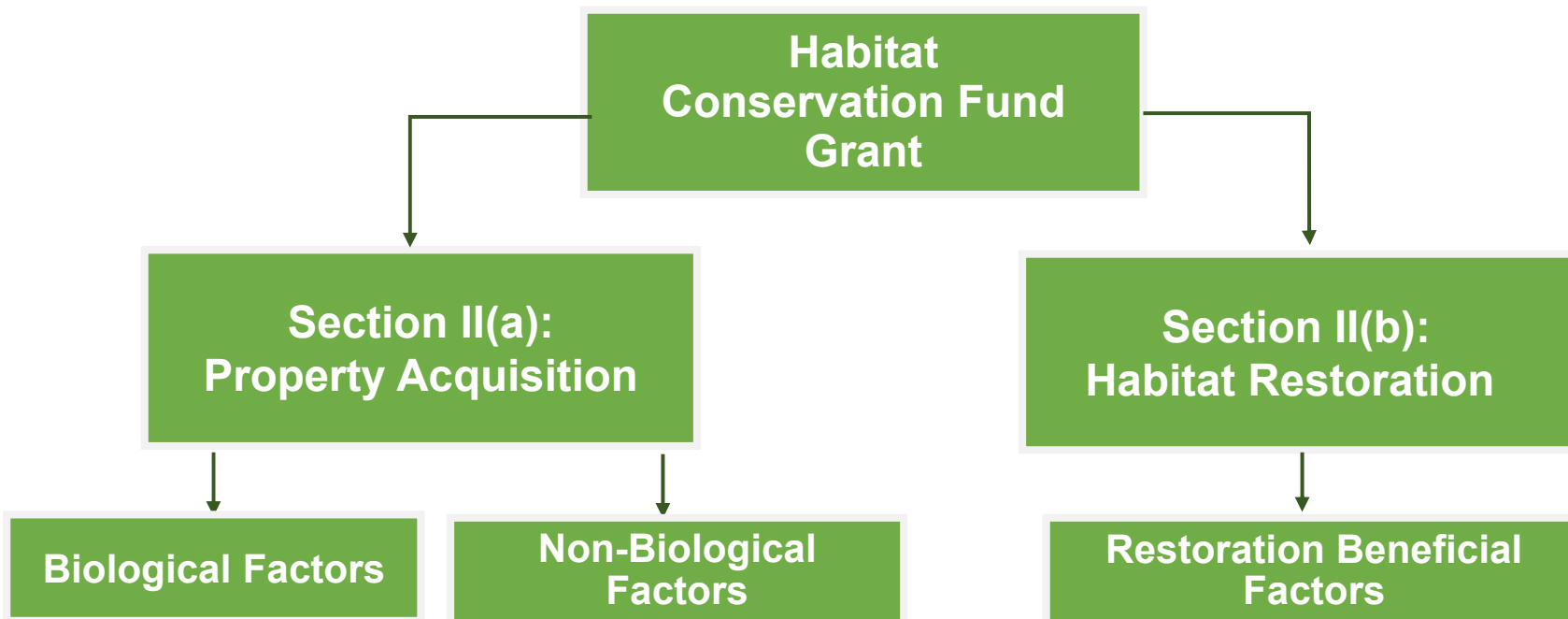
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- HCF Application Main Components:
  - Section I: General Project Information
    - Primary Applicant Information
    - Project Information
  - Section II(a): Project Information for Land/Property Acquisitions
  - Section II(b): Project Information for Habitat Restoration
  - Section III: Additional Project Details
- Must complete at least one of the two Section II project information requirement(s)

# Habitat Conservation Fund – Section II(a) and (b)

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# HCF Application Section II(a) - Land/Property Acquisition

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## **Property Acquisition (Biological Factors):**

- Habitat inventory
- Conserves sensitive habitats
- Contains habitat for special status species
- Enhances natural lands connectivity
- Considers property acreage
- Natural lands contiguity
- Habitat diversity
- Habitat quality (existing or potential)
- Habitat isolation or fragmentation

# HCF Application Section II(a) - Land/Property Acquisition

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- **Property Acquisition (Non-Biological Factors) Management/Cost Constraints**
  - Conflicting easements or in-holdings
  - Neighboring land uses
  - Encroachments/unauthorized uses
  - Hazardous material conditions
  - Other complications (vector controls, vandalism, etc.)
  - Co-benefits (cultural, watershed protections, public access)
  - Support from local and state governments

# HCF Application Section II(a) - Land/Property Acquisition

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- **Property Acquisition (Non-Biological Factors)**
  - Climate resilience
  - Timing and cooperation
    - Immediate/long-term threats
    - Potential development
    - Cooperative landowner
  - Future property owner
  - Future property management
  - Funding
    - Total cost
    - Partnerships and leveraging opportunities

# HCF Application Section II(b) – Habitat Restoration

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- **Habitat Restoration Beneficial Factors**
  - Priority area/identified in habitat conservation plan (entirely or partially in Orange County)
  - Important habitats
  - Improve ecosystem function
  - Shovel ready projects
  - Climate adaptation and resilience

# HCF Application Section III – Additional Project Details

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- **Measure of Effectiveness**
  - Provide criteria for success for the land/property acquisition and/or habitat restoration
  - Describe monitoring and reporting process
- **Additional Comments**
  - Provide additional information about the project not previously covered in Section II



# Evaluation of HCF Applications

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- Evaluate proposal or restoration project based on Selection Criteria merits
  - Applications will be ranked from highest to lowest
- Award of HCF will be offered in order of ranking until the \$8 million HCF has been expended

# Open Discussion

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- Open Discussion – Questions/Comments?