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**From:** Ginn, Allison  
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[FY17 NLCS Grants State Ranking.xlsx](#)

Ed-

In November, BLM released an [IM for the FY17 NLCS Scientific Studies Support Program funding opportunities](#). Applications were submitted to Grants.gov by 2/2. The WO performed an initial screen for eligibility and provided the eligible applications for state review and ranking. Utah received eight eligible proposals - two projects are within Grand Staircase-Escalante NM (one of these also focuses on WSAs), five are in Bears Ears NM and one supports a statewide agreement for WSAs.

The Evaluation committee met this afternoon and reviewed Utah's eligible projects and determined our priorities for consideration under the NLCS Scientific Studies Funding Opportunity. I have also ensured coordination and notification of funding with relevant UTSO program leads and field POCs.

The attached list ranks projects based on the scientific merit of the proposals in light of statewide data needs and NLCS program priorities. The amount to be awarded is \$397K agency-wide. BLM-Utah expects to receive a total of \$40-80K in funding through this FOA (essentially, the top 2-4 projects). We are also able to contribute additional funds from Utah's budget for meritorious projects, as available.

Utah must submit the ranked list of projects, "approved by the State Director", to WO by Friday (2/24). There is no specific or formal mechanism for State Director approval, but I would appreciate a written statement regarding your concurrence (or request for edits) of our suggested list at your earliest convenience.

Please contact me with any questions. Thanks!

Regards,

Allison Ginn  
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BLM Utah State Office  
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