Proposals will be reviewed and evaluated by a panel of professionals from government agencies familiar with Alaska Native and rural partnerships, capacity building, and the Federal Subsistence Program. The panel will provide evaluation, technical oversight, and strategic direction to the Partners Program. The panel will make a funding recommendation for each proposal based on the criteria listed within the Merit Review section of this notice.

Criteria: To be considered for funding, applications will be evaluated on how the proposal addresses the seven following criteria:

Proposed Work – Evaluate the adequacy of the proposal, including the goals, objectives, timelines, milestones, and deliverables.

Strategic Priority – Evaluate how the proposed work addresses significant Federal subsistence management issues.

Capacity to Complete Work – Evaluate administrative and technical capacity of the applicant to successfully accomplish the objectives.

Collaboration – Evaluate how the proposed work strengthens existing or develops new collaborative management relationships between stakeholders. Making collaborative management more effective by developing a greater understanding of different approaches to conservation principles.

Youth Mentoring – Evaluate how the proposed work provides and promotes opportunities for youth awareness and engagement in monitoring, conservation, and management of Federal subsistence resources.

Sustainability – Evaluate how the proposed work develops capacity and sustainability for long-term meaningful participation in Federal Subsistence Management beyond the scope of this cooperative agreement.

Past Performance - An additional consideration will be given for each returning applicant. Performance on current or past cooperative agreements with the Office of Subsistence Management will be evaluated for completing objectives and meeting deliverable deadlines.