ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: Projects must pass these eight criteria for further consideration:
The project occurs within the planning area.
The project restores, replaces, and/or acquires the equivalent of natural resources or associated services that were injured by the release of hazardous substances?
The project does not expend settlement funds on physical structures and infrastructure improvements such as buildings or traditional public works projects, except for those physical structures that are a necessary part of the restoration project (such as road work, sediment reduction, water control structures,erosion control, or drainage features).
The project will not result in additional injury to natural resources or services, including, un-mitigated short-term, long-term, and indirect impacts, or impede further restoration.
Restoration will complement and not replicate cleanup, will not be undone, negatively impact future cleanup or interfere with current cleanup, and not cause negative effects to cleanup already completed.
Funds do not replace other obligated funds. The proposed project is not part of an independent, prior obligation resulting from a legal requirement such as a regulation, consent decree, or court order. Proposals that extend restoration benefits beyond legal obligations may be considered if the Trustee investment will substantially enhance injured natural resources.
The project avoids or mitigates human health risks in contaminated environments.
The project is consistent with applicable laws, regulations, and policy.
Ecological Benefits:
1) The project will contribute to accomplishing one or more major actions identified in the restoration plan.

2) The project occurs in or targets a geographic priority area identified in the restoration plan.
3) Provides measurable and significant benefits to injured resources, especially when projects benefit more than one habitat type or multiple injured resources.
4) Protects unique, rare, or significant habitats and/or native species, especially when the project area is under imminent threats that would degrade or preclude future restoration.
5) Restores long-term processes that create and maintain habitat and are implemented at the appropriate scale and setting.
6) Project provides benefits to injured resources within a strategic context on the landscape.
7) Project integrates strategically with cleanup actions to provide additional benefits to injured resources.
8) Reduces fish and wildlife exposure to contaminants.
9) Potential adverse effects of the project on natural resources are minimized or mitigated.
10) Rate at which project restores ecological function.
Technical Feasibility:
1) Uses proven, accepted strategies and techniques with a high likelihood of achieving objectives.
2) Have clearly identified achievable needs for design, permits, and administrative approvals, if applicable.
3) Have operations and maintenance plans clearly identified and developed and are appropriate for the project.
4) Have protection through conservation easements, public ownership or other mechanisms to ensure long-term success.
5) Have low or controllable risks from metals contamination or recontamination.
6) Have technical merit. (see Technical Merit tab for details on scoring)

Cost-Effectiveness:
1) Utilizes cost-effective means including minimizing overhead rates, indirect rates, costs associated with environmental compliance, and equipment costs.
2) The expected costs of the project are reasonable and proportional to the expected benefits.
3) Long-term operation and maintenance costs are minimized
4) Additional cost-share funds are provided by the project proponent and leverage Partnership funds.
Local Economies and Social Values:
1) Projects provide for human uses derived from natural resource restoration.
2) Project provides local economic benefits.
3) Project has broad community support.
4) Include education and outreach components that are effective, appropriate, and encourage long-term community support and stewardship of natural resources.
Human Use projects that connect people with the injured natural resources once restored:
1) Project has a strong link to injured natural resources.
2) The project will contribute to accomplishing one or more major actions identified in the restoration plan.
3) Project reaches diverse groups.
4) Project is highly accessible.
5) Project meets needs identified by community.

6)	**Does the project have a measurable impact (e.g., intensity/frequency of use)?**
7)	**Is the proposed project appropriate for the setting?**