The Headwaters Regional Technology and Innovation Hub’s ambition is to be the global leader in smart, autonomous, photonic remote sensing technologies. This core technology sits at the intersection of Key Technology Focus Areas 1 and 5 and addresses challenges in national defense, management of critical natural resources (agriculture, forestry, water, and minerals), disaster prevention and mitigation, and industry efficiency and safety.
PARTNERS

UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR Indian Affairs

MISSOULA ECONOMIC PARTNERSHIP

Montana Photonics Industry Alliance

NEXTfrontier CAPITAL

FREESTONE

Salish Kootenai College

MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

BRIDGER PHOTONICS

MITRE

Prospera BUSINESS NETWORK

AMERICA'S FRONTIER FUND

MONTANA UNIVERSITY SYSTEM
247 unique applications:

- 124 applications for **both** Designation and Strategy Development Grants
- 68 applications for a Tech Hubs Designation only
- 55 applications for Strategy Development Grants only
What does designation mean?

Follow-on funding
- Can apply for an initial implementation award of $50-75m (w/ 10% match) to be expended over 2-5 years.
- Congressional authorization for follow-on funding up to $500m per hub over the next decade.
- Competitive preference in Build to Scale and other EDA programs.

Foreign Direct Investment
- Dedicated presence at the SelectUSA Summit
- Technical assistance increasing FDI interest

Intellectual Property Guidance
- US Patent and Trademark Office ambassador
- Additional technical assistance on IP

Export Assistance
- US Export Assistance Centers piloting Tech Hub trade specialists
Implementation Award Application

- Application **due** February 29\(^{th}\), 2024.
- Will include 3-8 “tightly aligned” projects that aim to address the hubs inhibitors to global competitiveness
- Component projects fit into four broad categories: i) workforce development, ii) business and entrepreneur development, iii) technology development and maturation, and iv) infrastructure

### Phase 1: Designation

- Technology-based potential of the region for global competitiveness (15 pts)
- Impact on economic and national security of the entire United States (6 pts)
- Role of the private sector (6 pts)
- Composition & capacity of the regional workforce (6 pts)
- Innovative “lab-to-market” approaches (6 pts)
- Equity & diversity (6 pts)
- Regional coordination & partnerships (6 pts)

### Phase 2: Implementation

- Project quality, ability to execute, and private sector integration (16 pts)
- Impact on economic and national security (16 pts)
- Investment and policy commitments (16 pts)
- Developing, recruiting, and retaining talent and workforce (8 pts)
- Capital formation, deployment, and access (8 pts)
- Equity and diversity (8 pts)
- Governance, leadership, and evaluation (8 pts)
Dr. Joe Shaw | Professor and Director of the Optical Technology Center, MSU

Paul Gladen | Director, Accelerate Montana

Scott Osterman | Director, Montana Department of Commerce