Fiscal Year 2022 NOAA Marine Debris Removal under the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act Notice of Funding Opportunity

Grant Applicant Cost-sharing Guidance

Please reach out to the NOAA MDP grants team (grants.marinedebris@noaa.gov) with any questions.

There is no non-federal matching requirement for this funding. However, cost sharing, leveraged funds, and in-kind support will make projects more competitive and is an element in the evaluation criteria. This is an important aspect of our grant programs, and is a valuable tool in leveraging federal dollars, and therefore every effort should be taken to include cost-share or match.

For this competition, the evaluation criteria for cost-share/match will consider if the proposal incorporates formal and/or informal match.

- **Formal** cost-share or match is considered any non-federal cost-sharing, match, or in-kind contributions.
  - "Cost share" or "match" is defined by 2 C.F.R. 200.1 as "the portion of project costs not paid by federal funds (unless otherwise authorized by federal statute)."
  - These formal contributions must be clearly described in both the official budget narrative and the budget tables. Please note that funded applications will be legally bound to provide the full amount of non-federal match funds proposed in the budget.

- **Informal** match contributions would be leveraged funds that don’t qualify as non-federal cost-sharing or match but demonstrate meaningful contributions to the award.
  - These should be clearly described at the end of the budget narrative, but should not be included in official budget tables. This would include any federal contributions or if the project is part of a larger-related effort.

The goal of incorporating match contributions is to encourage the involvement of different groups in meaningful ways, and there are a variety of ways to do this including but not limited to:

- Public or Private partnerships
  - Funding for project activities provided by a private organization
  - Funding received from non-federal agency grants

(Please note proposals documenting funding that is already secured/awarded will be more competitive than proposals awaiting funding results from other grant competitions)

- Volunteer time
○ Calculate the expected volunteer hours to be spent on project activities and multiply by your state’s volunteer rate (suggestion to find your state’s rate at https://independentsector.org/value-of-volunteer-time-2022/)

(Please note if fewer volunteer hours are worked than expected, you may be expected to find additional sources of non-federal match funding)

● Project Team not supported by federal funding
  ○ Calculate the percentage of time personnel will spend planning, coordinating, participating, etc. in proposed project activities and calculate that percentage of their salary and fringe benefits costs

● Vendor providing free alternative disposal services
  ○ Document standard cost of transportation/fees

● Travel
  ○ Report cost of travel to/from proposed sites covered by applicant/project partner

● Use of existing equipment/facilities; equipment is considered any item that has a per-unit value of $5,000 or greater
  ○ e.g. A boat is provided by a project partner at no cost
    ■ Document local cost of renting a boat and fuel costs for the boat time donated
  ○ e.g. A State Park provides lodging at the proposed project site at no cost to project team members
    ■ Document standard lodging rate per room/per night