

# Fiscal Year 2024 NOAA Marine Debris Interception Technologies under the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOAA-NOS-ORR-2024-2007991)

## Project Narrative Template

Please reach out to the NOAA Marine Debris Program grants team ([grants.marinedebris@noaa.gov](mailto:grants.marinedebris@noaa.gov)) with any questions

Applicants must follow the application requirements stated in the Notice of Funding Opportunity, or they may not be considered. Section IV.B. of the Notice of Funding Opportunity describes the submission and content requirements which includes several other components in addition to the narrative. Please visit the [FY24 NOAA Marine Debris Interception Technologies under the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Applicant Resources](#) webpage to view additional guidance resources available to assist your application submission.

The narrative is limited to 15 pages and should give a clear presentation of the proposed work. Applicants must use 11- or 12-pt font on an 8.5" x 11" page size and have page margins no smaller than 1" on each edge. There is no required font type.

When writing the narrative, applicants should understand the components of the evaluation criteria (see Section V.A "Evaluation Criteria" in the [notice of funding opportunity](#) on page 29), as they explain how proposals will be scored for the application to be competitive. The narrative should include the information in the template outlined below. The notice of funding opportunity provides some additional detail and examples of information to include within the sections described below:

*Please note: This template includes bulleted items to easily provide an overview of content within each section, but narratives should be written in paragraph form.*

### A. Introduction & Outcomes

- *Summary of*
  - *The problem the proposed interception project is addressing*
  - *The geographic location*
  - *The anticipated benefits to specific NOAA trust resources and the expected ecological, social, and economic benefits*
  - *Describe the severity of the debris problem in the chosen location*
  - *Describe the appropriateness of the chosen technology/technologies) according to need and characteristics of the chosen location(s)*

- *Describe past proven success of the chosen technology/technologies in removing marine debris from the environment in which it is being proposed*
- *Describe how the project aligns with existing regional or national publicly vetted programs, priorities, or strategic plans (see notice of funding opportunity for examples)*
- *Describe how the project activities will be impactful on NOAA trust resources, communities, and/or local economies and how the project benefits will be sustained beyond the life of the project*
- *Describe the metrics expected to be tracked, including an estimate of how many pounds of debris will be removed, the debris typed collected, and appropriate prevention metrics*

## **B. Project Location(s)**

- *State and describe the geographic area in which the interception project will take place*
  - *Include the time of year project activities will take place at specific locations if possible*
- *Include maps (if needed) with expected locations of on-the-ground work*
- *If exact locations are unknown at the time of application, describe project locations in as much detail as possible and when/how specific locations will be determined*

## **C. Detailed Methodology: Clearly describe the following components in detail:**

- *Project Implementation Plan*
  - *Describe how the project will be carried out*
  - *Describe the project's short and long term goals and how project objectives align with the goals of this notice of funding opportunity*
  - *Provide an overview of each proposed activity (technology procurement, deployment, monitoring and maintenance, disposal, and prevention strategies)*
  - *Describe how project results will be shared broadly*
- *Procurement and Deployment Methods*
  - *Describe how the proposed interception technology or technologies will be procured*
  - *Describe in detail how the technology will be physically installed and deployed*
- *Monitoring and Maintenance Plan - Describe methods for the monitoring and maintenance of the interception technology during and post-award including:*
  - *Who will be monitoring the technology*
  - *Frequency of monitoring and debris collection*

- *Types of debris collected*
- *How the debris will be collected and disposed of, including plans for alternative disposal if applicable (see Section I.B.)*
- *How operations will be sustained over time, including any support from local stakeholders*
- *How chosen technology/technologies will be monitored and maintained throughout the award and in the long-term with the absence of federal funding following an award*
- *Prevention Strategies/Plan: (see Section I.B)*
  - *Describe the prevention strategy or plan and how it reflects the debris types collected by the interception technology*
  - *Describe the appropriate audience to prevent future accumulation of debris*

#### **D. Permitting and Compliance**

- *Describe how all necessary environmental permits will be secured prior to the use of federal funds*
- *Describe how necessary project information will be provided to NOAA staff to ensure compliance with all federal regulatory requirements*
  - *Describe a process to provide as much detailed information as is reasonable on project activities, including details about site locations, species and habitat(s) to be affected, on-the-ground project activities and processes proposed, time of year work takes place, environmental concerns that may exist*

#### **E. Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, Justice, and Accessibility**

- *Describe how proposed activities will promote diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility*
- *Describe any experience in promoting diversity, equity, inclusion, justice, and accessibility in past work*
- *If applicable, describe how benefits from proposed work will flow to Tribal and/or underserved communities and how those benefits will be measured*
- *Use the Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool (CEJST) (<https://screeningtool.geoplatform.gov>) to identify if any known project locations take place in disadvantaged communities*
  - *If a community is not considered disadvantaged by CEJST, the applicant may provide an alternative reference or description*
- *If applicable, describe how project activities demonstrate meaningful engagement (see Section I.A & I.B) with Tribal and/or underserved communities*

#### **F. Project Implementation Timeline and Milestones**

- *Indicate when the interception project is expected to begin and end*
- *Include timeline for key project activities and benchmarks*
  - *\*\*There is no required format for timelines but if creating your own table/graphic please make sure it is clear what months of the year specific activities will be occurring*

#### **G. Roles and Responsibilities, Project Staff, and Letters of Commitment:**

- *Describe your understanding of the marine debris issue and demonstrate capacity to:*
  - *Procure and deploy selected interception technologies*
  - *Navigate any regulatory requirements*
  - *Secure permits for the selected interception technology/technologies*
  - *Maintain equipment in the long-term*
  - *Lead effective prevention strategies*
  - *Partner with municipalities and/or other public or private partners*
- *Describe detailed information on project staff roles and responsibilities*
- *Describe organizational structure and qualifications of project staff*
  - *Include level of staff experience and qualifications in managing grants and implementing projects*
- *Describe how the geographic scope of proposed project fits with project staff's expertise, capabilities, and mission*
- *Describe experiences and qualifications of relevant subcontractors*
- *If applicable, describe previous NOAA involvement in and/or support for the project and names of relevant NOAA staff*
- *Letters of commitment should be attached to the submitted application*

#### **H. References Cited**

- *If applicable, include all references to source materials cited within the proposal (this is not included in 15-page limit and can be included as a separate attachment or part of the narrative)*
  - *Include bibliographic references only (i.e., no parenthetical information).*
  - *Follow any accepted scholarly format for citations.*