

# NOAA Marine Debris Program

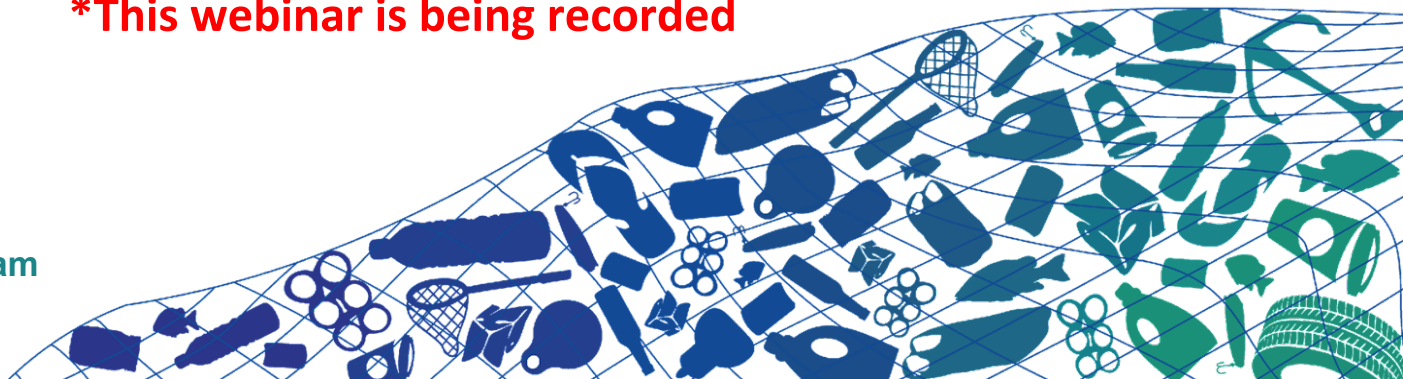
## FY24 Marine Debris Interception Technologies Under the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Grant Applicant Webinar

**\*This webinar is being recorded**

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NOAA Marine Debris Program

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# Agenda

- The NOAA Marine Debris Program
- Funding Availability
- Eligible/Non-eligible Applicants
- Competition Priorities
- Competition Process
- Application Content & Resources
- Evaluation Criteria
- Application Tips & Submission Instructions
- Anticipated Timeline
- Questions & Answers



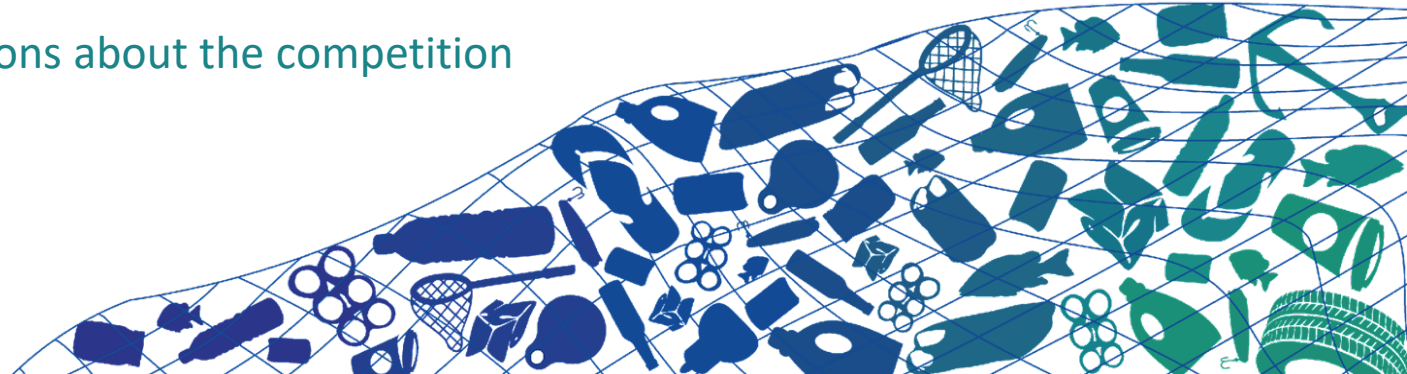
**This webinar is being recorded**

The recording and a PDF of the slides will be made available as soon as possible



# Goals of today's webinar:

- 1) Communicate expectations for proposal submissions
- 2) Provide overview of application submission process
- 3) Share anticipated timeline and overview of award process
- 4) Answer your questions about the competition

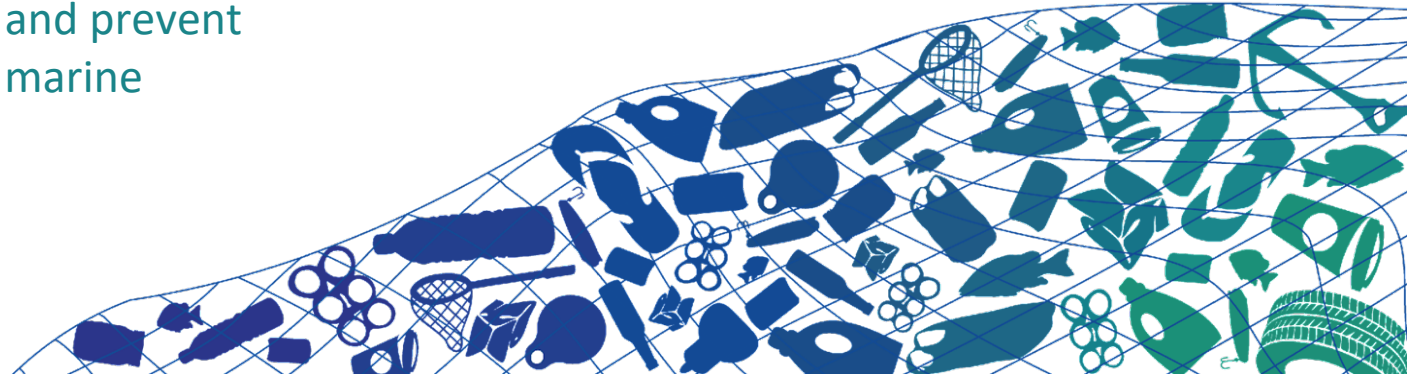


# NOAA Marine Debris Program

Established in **2006** by Congress as the federal lead for marine debris

**Vision:** the global ocean and its coasts free from the impacts of marine debris

**Mission:** to investigate and prevent the adverse impacts of marine debris



# Regional Contacts

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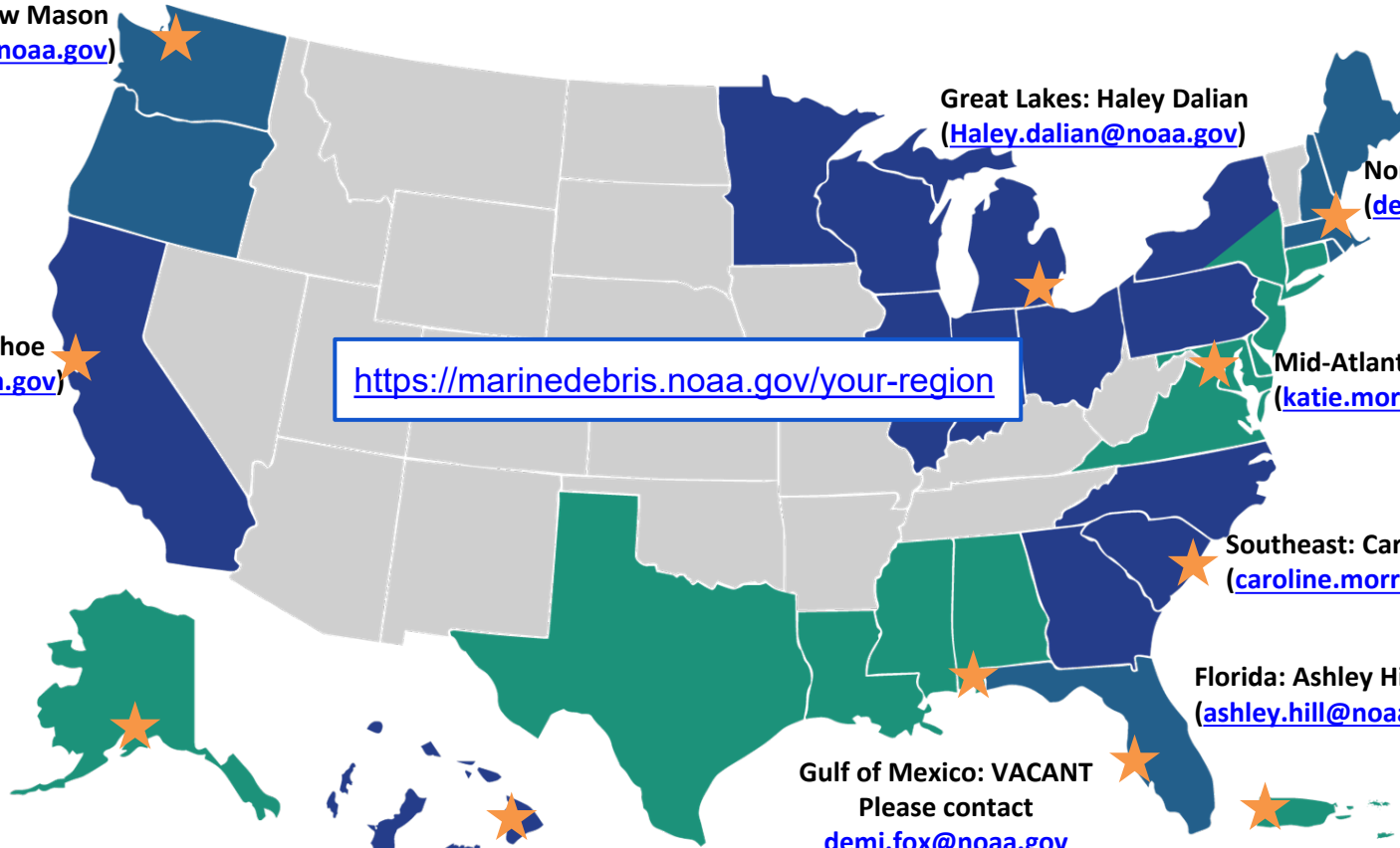
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# Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) Climate Ready Coasts

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**\$1.467 billion**

Helping coastal communities build the future they want to see. Investing in high-impact natural infrastructure projects that build coastal resilience, create jobs, store carbon, and restore habitat.



# Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) Climate Ready Coasts

10. NERR System

\$77 million

9. CZM

\$207 million

8. Marine Debris - OAR

\$50 million

7. Marine Debris - NOS

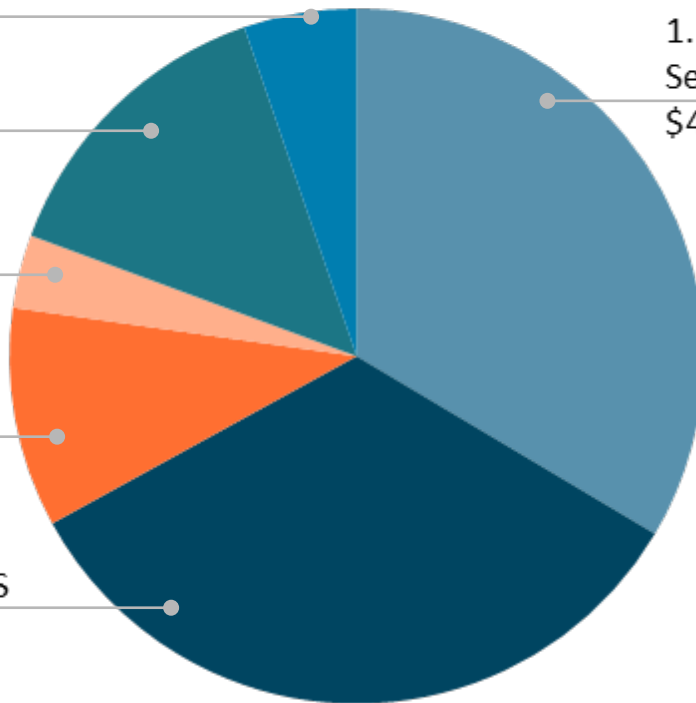
\$150 million

2. Habitat Restoration - NMFS

\$491 million

1. National Oceans and Coastal  
Security Fund Grants

\$492 million



# FY22-23 Projects

\$54.5M BIL

\$12.64M IRA



## Large Marine Debris Removal



**11 Projects**

\$1.4M-\$15M

4 subaward competitions

## Interception Technology



**2 Projects**

\$269k-\$748k





# FY24 Funding Availability

- Up to \$4M available
- Minimum Request: \$100,000
- Maximum Request: \$1M
- Typical Awards: \$250,000 - \$750,000
- Matching funds not required, but strongly encouraged
  - Cost sharing
  - Leveraged funds
  - In-kind support





# Eligible Applicants

- State, local, tribal, territory, and freely associated states governments whose activities affect research or regulation of marine debris
- Institutions of higher education
- Nonprofits
- Commercial (for-profit) organizations with expertise in a field related to marine debris





# Non-Eligible Applicants

- Federal agencies or employees of federal agencies
  - Interested federal agencies may collaborate with eligible applicants but may not receive funds through this competition
- Foreign public entities, individuals, and organizations from outside of U.S. and Freely Associated States are not eligible to apply





# Competition Priorities

## ***1. Support the installation, monitoring, and maintenance of proven marine debris interception technologies***

- Clearly demonstrate the beneficial impacts the project will have on marine and coastal NOAA trust resources, coastal communities, and/or local economies.
- Focused on the deployment of marine debris interception technologies in riverine, shoreline, estuarine, and urban environments where trash, plastics, and other persistent, reaccumulating macro-debris can be captured and removed.



# Interception Technologies

- **Marine debris interception technologies** = devices (such as litter traps, shoreline removal technologies, booms, skimmers, conveyors with receptacles, floating collection devices, etc.) that capture trash, plastics, and other macro-debris.
- **Proven interception technologies** = not prototype devices and do not require additional research and development prior to deployment, and have been used successfully in the environment type in which they are being proposed.
- These interception technologies may be utilized alone or together as part of a wider interception strategy.





# Competition Priorities

## 2. *Project proposals must provide a monitoring and maintenance plan*

- Describes how the chosen technology/technologies will be monitored and maintained both throughout the award (if made), but also in the long-term with the absence of federal funding following any award.
- NOAA encourages projects to collect data on the types of debris captured and characterize the waste collected.
- Priority will be given to those applications that have a long-term monitoring and maintenance plan in place which does not require additional future federal funding.



# Competition Priorities

## 3. **NOAA will prioritize applications that demonstrate clear removal and disposal outcomes**

- Clear target removal metrics (pounds removed)
- Removals should be conducted with a focus on **alternative disposal methods** when possible
  - Examples may include:
    - Reuse
    - Waste-to-energy
    - Recycling
    - Or other innovative disposal methods



Photo: NOAA



# Competition Priorities

4. *Should be paired with a prevention strategy or plan, such as behavior change and/or awareness efforts through an education and outreach plan or other source reduction efforts*
  - These strategies should incorporate efforts to raise awareness of the issue of marine debris and involve local stakeholders with the goals of preventing everyday problems, as well as to ensure the long-term maintenance of any deployed equipment.
  - Strategies developed should reflect the debris types that are being collected by the interception technology, as well as the appropriate audience to prevent future accumulation of that debris.
  - Prevention activities should prioritize collaboration with diverse entities and groups.





# Competition Priorities

## 5. *Incorporate diversity, equity, inclusion, justice, and accessibility*

- Applicants should describe any project activities that will take place within, have a portion of the benefits flow to, and/or meaningfully engage Tribal or underserved communities.
  - Meaningful engagement refers to an intentional exchange between the applicant and the underserved community where both have multiple opportunities to ensure the other is correctly understanding each other's perspectives and ideas
- Greater consideration will be given to projects that propose to work in areas with underserved communities that have been historically marginalized and overburdened by pollution.





# Competition Process

## Letter of Intent (LOI)

The Letter of Intent (LOI) submission is a critical step to determine if proposed projects are well-suited for this specific competition.

Applicants must submit a LOI **[via email]** and receive an invitation from the NOAA MDP before submitting a full proposal.

## Review & Invite Only

NOAA MDP Reviews LOIs and provides feedback and guidance on invited application ideas.

Those applicants invited to submit a full proposal will receive an email notification containing feedback and full proposal submission instructions from NOAA MDP.

## Full Proposal

Applicants may only submit a full proposal if invited to do so by the NOAA MDP.

Applicants are required to apply through the Grants.gov website.

## Projects Recommended for Funding

NOAA may select all, some, or none of the applications, or part of any application, ask applicants to work together or combine projects.

The exact amount of funds to be awarded, and other changes will be determined in pre-award negotiations.





# Letter of Intent Content

- A. **Applicant Organization**
- B. **Project Title**
- C. **Principal Investigator(s)** Contact Info; PI/Organizational experience or expertise; Primary project partners and their roles and/or contributions
- D. **Project Location:** List the geographic area(s) in which the project will be implemented. Include geographic coordinates of installation sites if known.
- E. **Project Description:**
  - a. Purpose and list of tasks to be completed.
  - b. Describe the proposed interception technology, where it has been used successfully in the type of environment in which it is being proposed, and describe the need/severity of the debris problem related to the proposed project site.
  - c. Include a summary of the complementary prevention strategy to address reaccumulation
  - d. Short description of the long- term monitoring and maintenance plan (both during and postaward) which includes information on the chosen disposal strategy.
- F. **Technology installation date** (not the proposed award start date)
- G. **Funding:** Approximate federal funds being requested and approximate non-federal match or informal leverage anticipated.
- H. **Project Outcomes & Metrics:** Project benefits to NOAA trust resources, coastal communities, and/or local economies; Describe project metrics expected to be tracked
- I. **Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, Justice, & Accessibility:** Indicate how the project demonstrates principles of DEIJA through proactive, meaningful, and equitable community engagement in the identification, design, and/or implementation of proposed projects; Identify if project activities will take place within, have a portion of the benefits flow to, and/or meaningfully engage Tribal or underserved communities and how those benefits will be measured.






# Application Resources

## [NOAA MDP Guidance for Applicants](#)

- [LOI Templates](#)
- [NOFO Guidance Document](#)
- [Evaluation Criteria Table](#)
- [Budget Narrative and SF-424A guidance documents](#)
- [Applicant Cost-sharing Guidance](#)
- [Data Management Plan Guidance](#)
- [Letter of Support/Commitment Guidance](#)

U.S. Department of Commerce | National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration | National Ocean Service

 **Marine Debris Program** OFFICE OF RESPONSE AND RESTORATION

[WHO WE ARE](#) | [DISCOVER MARINE DEBRIS](#) | [OUR WORK](#) | [IN YOUR REGION](#) | [RESOURCES](#) | [MULTIMEDIA](#) | [BLOG](#)

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### FY24 NOAA Marine Debris Interception Technologies under the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Applicant Resources

The NOAA Marine Debris Program will award up to \$4 million through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law to support the installation of proven marine debris interception technologies, throughout the coastal United States, Great Lakes, territories, and Freely Associated States. Projects will focus on the installation, monitoring, and maintenance of proven marine debris interception technologies that will capture marine debris at or close to known marine debris sources or pathways.


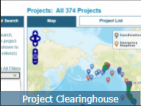

**Application Deadlines:**

**Required Letter of Intent Deadline:** Wednesday, November 15, 2023  
**Full Proposal Deadline:** Friday, March 15, 2024\*

*\*Full proposals will only be accepted from applicants that received an invitation to submit a full proposal following review of the letters of intent*

The information below is intended to assist applicants in applying for funding through the Fiscal Year 2024 NOAA Marine Debris Interception Technologies under the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law. The NOAA Marine Debris Program recognizes applying for federal funding can be complex and has provided resources to support applicants in preparing to submit a strong proposal and understanding the requirements needed if an award is granted. Many of these documents are referenced in our Notice of Funding Opportunity.

**On Our Radar**

-  Garbage Patches
-  Project Clearinghouse
-  Education





# LOI Evaluation Criteria

- 1) How likely is it that the project will have **impactful benefits to NOAA trust resources, and the surrounding coastal environment or community** (as described in Section I.B)? Are project metrics described and estimates provided? Is the project proposing a proven technology? Does the LOI clearly describe the long-term monitoring and maintenance plan? (30%)
- 1) Does the LOI **clearly identify the project's overall goals and objectives and lay out a realistic and cost-effective approach**? How well developed are the proposal ideas at this stage? Does it clearly state the purpose of the project and specific tasks to be accomplished with requested funds and clearly describe proposed technologies that will be used? (20%)
- 1) Does the organization demonstrate the **capabilities, experience, or expertise that would lead to a successful effort**? Organizations demonstrating high levels of technical and administrative expertise or capability are likely to score higher on this criterion. (15%)
- 1) Does the LOI include a **prevention strategy/plan** focused on the prevention of marine debris that is being collected by the proposed interception technology? Is there an appropriate and effective level of education and outreach or other source reduction strategies to be conducted about the identified marine debris issue? (20%)
- 1) Does the project demonstrate how **diversity, equity, inclusion, justice, and accessibility** will be promoted in the proposed work? Does the proposal describe proposed activities taking place in Tribal and/or underserved communities and whether a portion of the benefits will flow to those communities and how those benefits will be measured? Does the project include meaningful engagement with Tribal or underserved communities? Projects that indicate a high likelihood of a realized benefit and meaningful engagement (see Section I.B) with the community in developing the proposal and executing the project activities will score higher on this criterion. Applicants that reference CEJST (<https://screeningtool.geoplatform.gov>) will score higher in this criterion. If CEJST does not have adequate data to identify a community as disadvantaged, applicants should outline other identifying burdens that define that community as underserved. (15%)



# Application tips

- Adobe PDF is the preferred file format for all application attachments
  - Please minimize the number of files uploaded by combining relevant files when possible
- Please carefully read through the NOFO for important details for creating and submitting your application that were not covered today

## NOTICE OF FUNDING OPPORTUNITY

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Federal Agency Name(s): National Ocean Service (NOS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Department of Commerce

Funding Opportunity Title: FY24 NOAA Marine Debris Interception Technologies under the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law

Announcement Type: Initial

Funding Opportunity Number: NOAA-NOS-ORR-2024-2007991

Federal Assistance Listings Number: 11.999, Marine Debris Program

Dates: ATTENTION: This competition will have a pre-proposal requirement (hereafter described as Letter of Intent; LOI). Please note the competition's early submission deadline for this requirement.





# Submission Instructions

- Applicants must submit a LOI and receive an invitation from the NOAA MDP before submitting a full proposal!
- LOIs must be submitted as an *email attachment* to [grants.marinedebris@noaa.gov](mailto:grants.marinedebris@noaa.gov) by 11:59 pm Eastern time on November 15, 2023.
  - Please put “*FY24 NOAA Marine Debris Interception Technologies Letter of Intent (LOI)*” in the email subject heading.
- An email confirmation will be sent indicating successful submission of the LOI. If no confirmation email is received, that is an indication that the LOI submission was not successful and will not be reviewed. In such cases please contact the NOAA MDP to resolve the issue prior to the deadline.
- For this reason, it is highly recommended that LOIs are submitted early!



# Anticipated Timeline

\*some steps of this process are outside of NOAA MDP control so timeframe may change

Step	Timeframe
1. <b>Letters of Intent (LOIs) due to <a href="mailto:grants.marinedebris@noaa.gov">grants.marinedebris@noaa.gov</a></b>	<b>11:59 PM ET Nov 15, 2023</b>
2. LOI review by NOAA to select LOIs to recommend for full proposals	Dec 2023
3. Applicants selected are invited to submit full proposals	January 2024
4. NOAA MDP Webinar for Full Proposal Applications	January 2024
5. Full Proposals for invited applicants are due to <a href="https://www.grants.gov">grants.gov</a>	11:59 PM ET Mar 15, 2024
6. Full proposal review by NOAA to select projects to recommend for funding	Mar - Apr 2024
7. Projects recommended for funding are notified and negotiation calls are conducted to address any modifications to the proposal or budget; Unsuccessful applicant letters are distributed; Environmental Compliance begins	May 2024
8. NOAA Grants Management provides official approval of awards, NOAA MDP has kick off call with grantees proposed project activities can begin	late summer/early fall 2024







# Other Marine Debris Funding through BIL

- **NOAA-NOS-ORR-2024-2007993: *FY24 NOAA Marine Debris Removal under the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law***
  - Support impactful, large marine debris removal projects
- **National Sea Grant College Program:**
  - \$19M in FY24 to address the prevention and removal of marine debris through two funding opportunities
    - **Marine Debris Challenge Competition:** Approximately \$16,000,000 will be available to support innovative research to application projects that will address the prevention and removal of marine debris.
    - **Marine Debris Community Action Coalitions:** Approximately \$3,000,000 will be available to support the creation of coalitions and partnerships to address marine debris prevention and removal.
  - More information here: <https://seagrant.noaa.gov/marine-debris/>



# Submitted Questions



# Please reach out with any questions

- For questions about this competition please email the MDP Grants Team ([grants.marinedebris@noaa.gov](mailto:grants.marinedebris@noaa.gov))
- For project-based questions related to the particular region of your proposed work please contact the appropriate NOAA MDP Regional Coordinator (see next slide for contact info)



# Regional Contacts

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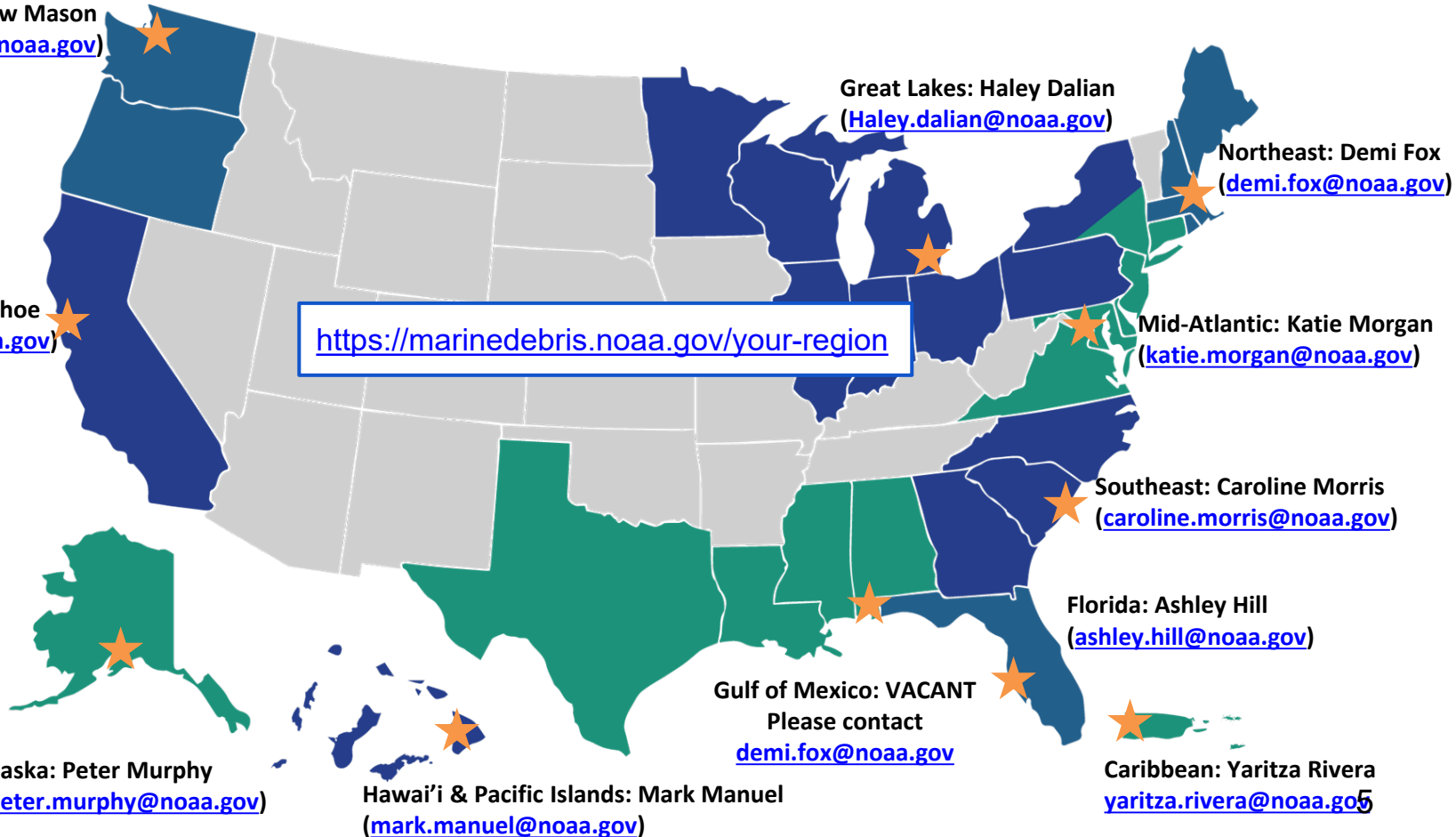
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**Thank you for joining!**