Fiscal Year 2025 NOAA Marine Debris Removal under the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOAA-NOS-ORR-2025-25974)

Project Narrative Template Please reach out to the NOAA Marine Debris Program grants team (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 FY25 NOAA Marine Debris Removal 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 <u>notice of funding opportunity</u>), 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 additional detail of what to include and examples of information to include within the sections described below:

- **A.** Introduction & Outcomes: Provide a summary of your proposed project including the debris issue and targeted debris type for removal, geographic reach, project activities, goals, and objectives, expected outcomes and benefits (including metrics), and if/how those will meaningfully engage with Tribes and/or communities facing environmental/climate and socioeconomic burdens.
- **B.** Project Location(s): Describe the geographic area (e.g., national or specific region(s)) in which the proposed removals will take place. Provide maps (if needed) of expected on-the-ground work and the time of year that those activities will take place in each location, if possible. If exact locations are unknown at the time of application, describe project locations in as much detail as possible and when/how locations will be determined. Please reference CEJST to identify any project areas with work taking place in or benefits flowing to Tribes and/or communities facing environmental/climate and socioeconomic burdens.

- **C. Detailed Description -** A clear description should be provided for the following components: Identification/selection and description of removal targets, removal methods, disposal approach, prevention activities, monitoring activities
- **D. Permitting and Compliance:** Describe how all necessary environmental permits will be secured and how necessary project information will be provided to NOAA staff to ensure compliance with all federal regulatory requirements including details about site locations, species and habitat(s) to be affected, on-the-ground project activities and processes proposed, time of year removals will take place, and any environmental concerns that may exist
- **E. Community Involvement:** Describe how proposed activities will promote community involvement and stewardship. Priority will be given to removal projects that fully meet the other priorities of this competition and describe meaningful engagement with communities.
- F. Summary of Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, Justice, and Accessibility Activities: Briefly summarize all of the efforts related to diversity, equity, inclusion, justice, and accessibility in the planning and creation of this proposal and/or proposed implementation for project activities described throughout the proposal. Applicants should also indicate any experience they or their project partners have in promoting diversity, equity, inclusion, justice, and accessibility in their past work. Proposals should describe how any proposed project activities will have benefits flow to and/or meaningfully engage Tribes and/or communities facing environmental/climate and socioeconomic burdens and how those benefits will be measured. Applicants should use the Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool (CEJST (https://screeningtool.geoplatform.gov) to determine if communities are facing environmental/climate and socioeconomic burdens.
- **G. Project Implementation Timeline and Milestones:** *Indicate when the project is expected to begin and end. Include timeline for key project activities and benchmarks*
- H. Roles and Responsibilities, Project Staff, and Letters of Commitment: Describe project staff's capacity to execute the project. Project team members or subawardees/contractors who will be working with a Tribe or community facing environmental/climate and socioeconomic burdens should describe their role and relevant experience in relation to the proposed project activities with the selected community(ies).

Letters of support should be provided from any other organizations involved to document their commitment to the proposal's goals and objectives, and to show support for long-term goals extending beyond the project's period of performance.

I. References Cited: *Include all references to source materials cited within the proposal, if applicable*