

Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Science, Observation, Monitoring and Technology Program


NOAA RESTORE Science Program

Notice of Funding Opportunity – 2025: Long-Term Trends in the Gulf of Mexico Ecosystem

Webinars

Friday, March 29, 2 PM ET/1 PM CT

Thursday, April 11, 11 AM ET/10 AM CT



Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Science, Observation, Monitoring and Technology Program

NOAA RESTORE Science Program

Notice of Funding Opportunity – 2025: Long-Term Trends in the Gulf of Mexico Ecosystem



Webinar

March 2024

Caitlin Young and Hannah Brown



Outline

- Science Program Overview
- Funding Opportunity
 - Overview
 - Eligibility
 - Letter of intent
 - Review process
 - Important dates
- Questions



About the Science Program

What we do

- Fund longer-term applied ecosystem science projects whose findings inform the management of natural resources in the Gulf of Mexico region



Long-term Outcomes

- The Gulf ecosystem is understood and managed in an integrative manner
- A community of researchers and resource managers that work together



Approach

- Emphasize connections within the ecosystem
- Prioritize science application through co-production and relationship building



Funding Opportunity Overview

- **Propose a plan to identify, track, understand, or predict trends and variability in the Gulf of Mexico's natural resources and the abiotic and biotic factors driving those trends**
- Open to teams of researchers, resource managers, and other interested parties
- **About \$17.5 M for ~6 projects**
 - Maximum award of approximately \$4M
 - Minimum award of approximately \$1M
- Five-year awards with an option for a five-year, non-competitive renewal award for high-performing projects



Funding Opportunity Documents

Funding Opportunity Number: NOAA-NOS-RESTORE-2025-26020

CFDA Number: 11.451

URL: <https://grants.gov/search-results-detail/353201>

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NOAA-NOS-RESTORE-2025-26020

NOAA RESTORE Science Program FFO-2025: Long-term Trends

Department of Commerce

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SYNOPSIS

VERSION HISTORY

RELATED DOCUMENTS

PACKAGE

General Information

Document Type: Grants Notice

Funding Opportunity Number: NOAA-NOS-RESTORE-2025-26020

Funding Opportunity Title: NOAA RESTORE Science Program FFO-2025: Long-term Trends

Opportunity Category: Discretionary

Opportunity Category Explanation:

Funding Instrument Type: Cooperative Agreement

Category of Funding Activity: Natural Resources
Science and Technology and other Research and Development

Version: Synopsis 1

Posted Date: Mar 26, 2024

Last Updated Date: Mar 26, 2024

Original Closing Date for Applications: Aug 22, 2024

Current Closing Date for Applications: Aug 22, 2024

Archive Date: Sep 21, 2024

Estimated Total Program Funding: \$ 17,500,000

Award Ceiling: \$4,000,000





Funding Opportunity Documents

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PACKAGE

Click on the following file link(s) to download the related document(s):

File Description	File Name	Last Updated Date/Time	File Size
Folder: Full Announcement - NOAA-NOS-RESTORE-2025-26020	NOAA-NOS-RESTORE-2025-26020-Full Announcement - NOAA-NOS-RESTORE-2025-26020.zip	Mar 26, 2024 09:22:31 AM EDT	158.9 KB

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Funding Opportunity Documents

Opportunity Package(s) Currently Available for this Funding Opportunity:

CFDA	Competition ID	Competition Title	Opportunity Package ID	Opening Date	Closing Date	Actions
11.451			PKG00285579	Mar 26, 2024	Aug 22, 2024	Preview Apply

Opportunity Package Details

Agency Contact Information: Caitlin Young
 Federal Program Officer
 631-415-7095
 caitlin.young@noaa.gov

Who Can Apply: Organization Applicants

PACKAGE FORMS:

[Download Instructions](#)

Mandatory Forms (Click to Preview)	Optional Forms (Click to Preview)
Application for Federal Assistance (SF-424) [V4.0] Budget Information for Non-Construction Programs (SF-424A) [V1.0] Assurances for Non-Construction Programs (SF-424B) [V1.1] CD511 Form [V1.1] Project Narrative Attachment Form [V1.2] Budget Narrative Attachment Form [V1.2]	Disclosure of Lobbying Activities (SF-LLL) [V2.0] Other Attachments Form [V1.2]

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Register Early!!

- Three registrations are required to be eligible to apply for or receive an award.

You MUST register in this order:

- 1) SAM.gov
 - 2) Grants.gov
 - 3) eRA Commons
- All must be complete prior to the full application deadline: August 22, 2024
 - The complete registration process for all three systems can take 4 to 6 weeks, so applicants should begin this activity as soon as possible.
 - eRA Commons requires organizations to identify at least one Signing Official (SO) and at least one Program Director/Principal Investigator (PD/PI) account in order to submit an application.

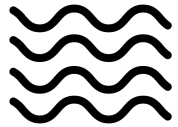
Definitions of Terms

- Resource manager - individuals or groups with authority to make decisions regarding the human use of or interaction with natural resources
- Interested parties - individuals or groups who have some interest in the natural resource being managed
- Abiotic factors - nonliving components of an ecosystem that impact natural resources
- Biotic factors - living components of an ecosystem that impact natural resources
- Long-term trends - changes or shifts in an ecosystem that happen over a long period of time

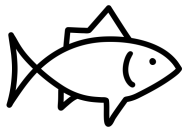
Areas of Emphasis



- Climate change
 - Ex: hurricanes, precipitation events, heat waves, drought



- Water quality and quantity
 - Ex: nutrient status and cycling, saltwater intrusion, harmful algal blooms



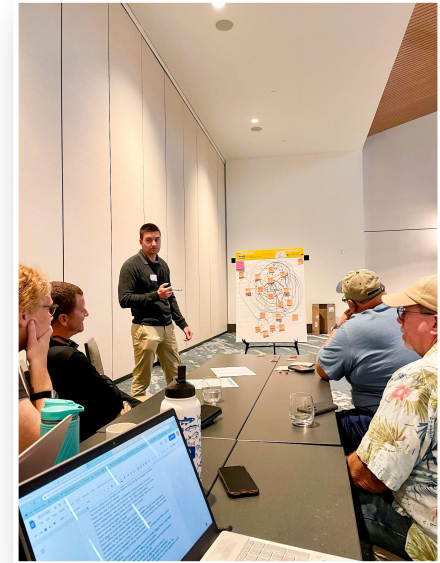
- Fish, fisheries, and fishing communities
 - Ex: endangered species, spawning aggregations, aquaculture

Additional Considerations

- Projects may make connections between areas of emphasis and the **human communities and economic activities** impacted by natural resource management
- Projects can inform restoration science but **these funds will not directly support restoration implementation**
- Projects may use existing datasets, collect data to complement or extend existing datasets, collect new datasets

What is co-production?

- Collaboration of researchers, resource managers, and other interested parties (e.g. resource users) across the four phases of a research project.
 - Scoping
 - Design
 - Research and development
 - Dissemination and application of findings and products



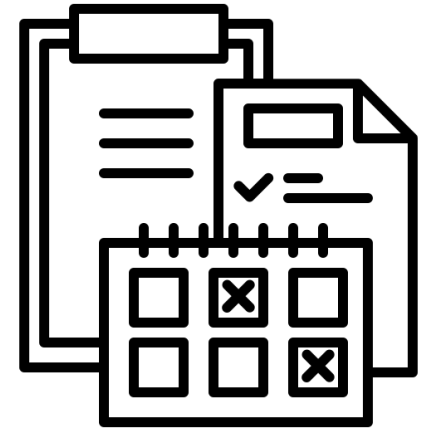
Team Composition

- **Projects are required to include at least one natural resource manager**
- Projects should be co-produced with natural resource managers, end users, and other interested parties
- These awards support long-term relationships between members of project teams
- May include facilitators, co-production experts, and communication experts



Planning Time

- **Dedicate planning time in year 1 and throughout project award period**
- Planning time can be used to:
 - Build connections with team, end users, and others
 - Design the research plan
 - Design and gain support for products
 - Plan how products will be shared
- Time should also be reserved at the end of the project to share findings



Eligibility

- Eligible entities
 - Academic institutions
 - Non-profit organizations
 - For-profit companies
 - Local, state, and Tribal governments
 - U.S. territorial and federal agencies

- Investigators are not required to be Gulf-based, but collaboration with Gulf-based eligible entities is strongly encouraged

- No limit on the number of letters of intent or full proposals per investigator



Letter of Intent (three-page limit)

1. Project title
2. Names, institutions, and roles of all investigators, including the resource manager(s), co-investigators, and unfunded collaborators
3. The targeted natural resource for which you propose to identify, track, understand, or predict trends and variability as well as areas of emphasis
4. A brief description of the resource management entities, the resource management issue, and how the research would influence management
5. A brief summary of research methods, including approach for developing and disseminating project findings

Required

Letter of Intent (three-page limit)

6. A brief overview of how the research will leverage existing or generate new datasets
7. A brief summary of how the project will incorporate principles of diversity, equity, and inclusion
8. The approximate cost of the project
9. An abbreviated decadal plan
 - Describe plan for impact in first five years
 - Overview plan for next five years

Required

Review Process

- Letters of Intent (LOI)
 - Program-led review for alignment with the announcement
 - LOIs will be encouraged, encouraged with minor/major revisions, or discouraged by end of June
 - All applicants are welcome to submit a full proposal
- Full Proposals
 - Step 1: Administrative Review
 - Completeness, eligibility, etc.
 - Step 2: Independent Peer Mail Review
 - Each proposal will be reviewed by three or more experts
 - Step 3: Independent Panel Review



Important Dates

Mar 26, 2024: FFO released on

www.grants.gov

May 23, 2024: Letters of intent due to noaarestorescience@noaa.gov

Aug 22, 2024: Full proposals due to www.grants.gov

Jun 2025: Applicants notified of outcome

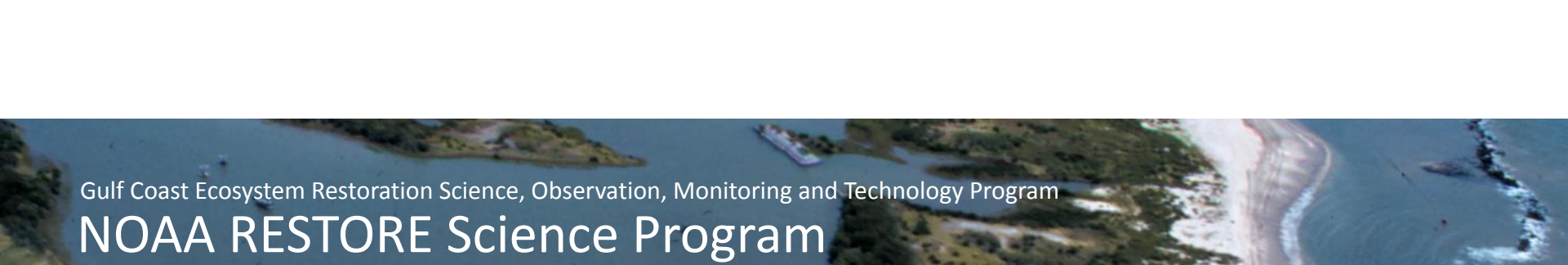
Oct 1, 2025 - Project start date

[Apply Now](#)



Additional Information

- **Visit www.restoreactscienceprogram.noaa.gov**
 - Frequently asked questions
 - Guidelines and best practices for co-production
 - Link to full announcement on Grants.gov
- **Webinars**
 - Funding Announcement
 - March 29 & April 11
 - Recording, slides, and summary of chat Q&As will be posted
 - Full Proposal (TBD)
- **If you have questions, do not hesitate to reach out.**



Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Science, Observation, Monitoring and Technology Program

NOAA RESTORE Science Program

Contact Information

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