NOAA RESTORE Science Program

Federal Funding Opportunity – 2021 (FFO-2021): Planning for Actionable Science

Webinars

Thursday, August 20, 11 AM ET, 10 AM CT Friday, August 21 1 PM ET, 12 PM CT Tuesday, August 25, 4 PM ET, 3 PM CT

NOAA RESTORE Science Program

Federal Funding Opportunity – 2021 (FFO-2021): Planning for Actionable Science

Webinar
August 2020
Julien Lartigue



- Science Program Overview
- **Funding Opportunity**
 - Concept
 - Overview
 - Eligibility
 - Letter of intent
 - **Funding**
 - Important dates
 - **Review process**
 - **Evaluation** criteria
 - Additional information













Program Overview

Mission: To carry out research, observation, and monitoring to support the long-term sustainability of the ecosystem



Long-term Outcomes

- Integrated understanding of the Gulf of Mexico ecosystem
- Management of, and restoration activities within, the Gulf of Mexico ecosystem is guided by this ecosystem understanding.







Funding Opportunity Concept

- This is a PLANNING competition.
 - Driven by a specific natural resource management decision



- Applicants should have begun building relationships and understanding and now need funding and time to plan.
- Why focus on planning?
 - It increases the likelihood that research findings and products are used by resource managers.



What will happen after the plans are made?





Natural Resource (Management)

- What is a natural resource?
 - Abiotic (e.g., sand, water), biotic (e.g., animals, plants), or energy (e.g., solar and wind) component of the Earth that is useful to humans and not built by humans





- What is natural resource management?
 - Any management decision regarding the human use of or interaction with a natural resource



Resource Management Decisions

- Examples of <u>specific</u> natural resource management decisions
 - Setting catch limits in a fishery
 - Purchasing land for conservation
 - Opening and closing beaches
 - Siting of restoration projects
 - Setting nutrient reduction targets for water bodies and siting monitoring stations
 - Deciding on use/disposal of dredged sediment



Funding Opportunity Overview

- <u>Collaboratively</u> scope and design a research project that informs a specific Gulf of Mexico natural resource management decision
 - Proposal will describe your planning activities and steps
 - No new environmental data collection
- A resource manager must be the lead investigator or an equal partner on the project team
 - Letter of support from it

on



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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





- About \$2.5M for approximately 20 projects
 - Minimum award of \$25K
 - Maximum award of \$125K
- 12 month awards



Letter of Intent (one page limit)

- Project title
- Names, institutions, and roles of all investigators, including the resource manager
- Description of the natural resource management decision
- Approximate timeline
- Description of the activities and steps to scope and design the research project
- Approximate cost





Review Process

- Letters of Intent
 - Program led review for alignment with the announcement
- 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 (~50 proposals)



Full Proposal Evaluation Criteria



Understanding of the specific natural resource management decision

Feasibility of the budget

20%

10%

20%

25%

25%

The efficacy of the proposed activities and steps

Capability and composition of the project team





Important Dates

Aug 11, 2020: FFO released on

www.grants.gov

Sep 29, 2020: Letters of intent due

to noaarestorescience@noaa.gov

Dec 15, 2020: Full proposals due to

www.Grants.gov

Jun 2021: Applicants notified of

outcome

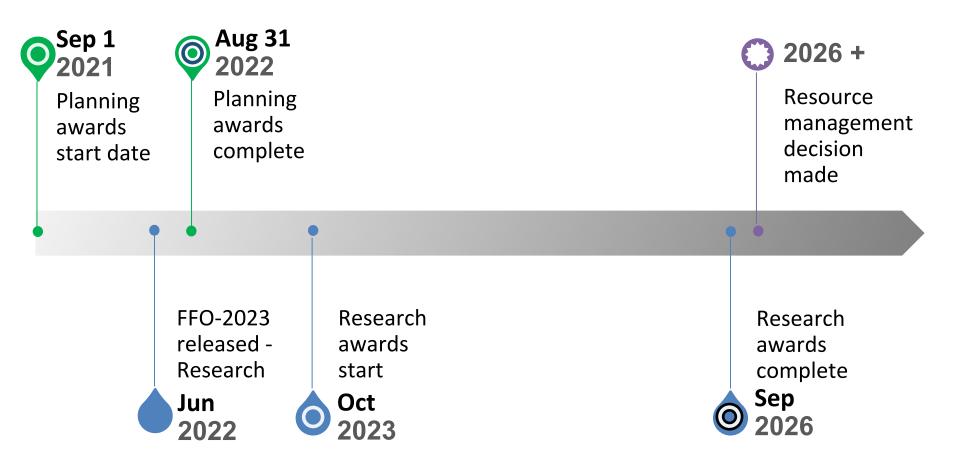
Sep 1, 2021 - Project start date

Apply Now





Timeline of Important Dates





Additional Information

- https://restoreactscienceprogram.noaa.gov/
 - Frequently asked questions
 - Guidelines and best practices for co-production
 - Link to full announcement on Grants.gov
- Webinars
 - August 20, 21, and 25
 - Recording, slides, and summary of chat Q&As will be posted to website by Sep 1

NOAA RESTORE Science Program

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