STATE OF ALABAMA
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES
STATE LANDS DIVISION, COASTAL SECTION
5 Rivers ~ Alabama's Delta Resource Center
31115 – 5 Rivers Boulevard
Spanish Fort, Alabama 36527
(251) 621-1216
(251) 621-1331 Fax

KAY IVEY
GOVERNOR

CHRISTOPHER M. BLANKENSHIP
COMMISSIONER

EDWARD F. POOLOS
DEPUTY COMMISSIONER

PATRICIA POWELL MCCURDY
DIRECTOR
STATE LANDS DIVISION

JAMES DOUGLAS DEATON JR
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR
STATE LANDS DIVISION

WILLIAM V. UNDERWOOD
COASTAL SECTION ADMINISTRATOR
STATE LANDS DIVISION

February 22, 2023

ALABAMA COASTAL AREA MANAGEMENT PROGRAM
ANNUAL REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

NOTICE TO:
ALL ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

FUNDING OPPORTUNITY FOR:
COASTAL NONPOINT POLLUTION CONTROL PLANNING PROJECTS
COASTAL PLANNING PROJECTS
COASTAL EDUCATION AND OUTREACH PROJECTS
COASTAL PUBLIC ACCESS IMPROVEMENTS

The Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (ADCNR), State Lands Division, Coastal Section is accepting proposals for projects to be completed in the Alabama Coastal Area (defined as Mobile County and Baldwin County) for Fiscal Year 2024 (October 1, 2023 – September 30, 2024). This competitive funding opportunity is administered by the Alabama Coastal Area Management Program (ACAMP) utilizing federal funds provided by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) pursuant to the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972. ACAMP is accepting applications through this Request for Proposals for projects that protect, enhance, and improve the management of natural, cultural and historical coastal resources and that increase the sustainability, resiliency and preparedness of coastal communities.

Proposals for planning projects must address coastal management issues related to at least one of the following focus areas:

- Government Coordination and Local Government Planning
- Coastal Hazards and Resilient Communities
- Coastal Habitats, Wetland Protection and Coastal Resource Stewardship
- Coastal Nonpoint Source Pollution Control

Proposals for land acquisition and low-cost construction must be related to the following focus area:

- Public Access to Coastal Resources: Construction or Land Acquisition

Please note that priority consideration will be given to proposals addressing specific areas of the Alabama Coastal Nonpoint Pollution Control Program including planning, engineering and design, data collection/analysis, monitoring, mapping, modeling, and education and outreach related to the following areas:

- **Storm water runoff from new development**

The Department of Conservation and Natural Resources does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, age, sex, national origin, disability, pregnancy, genetic information or veteran status in its hiring or employment practices nor in admission to, access to, or operations of its programs, services, or activities.

- **Comprehensive planning for development to protect sensitive ecological areas, minimize land disturbances and retain natural drainage and vegetation**
- **Watershed planning (must be done using EPA Section 319 elements and guidelines)**
- **Nutrient/pathogen loadings to surface water and groundwater from new and existing onsite disposal systems (OSDS, e.g., septic tanks)**
- **Hydromodification improvement to address existing nonpoint source pollution problems caused by dams, dredge, and eroding streambanks and shorelines**
- **Wetland and riparian area protection and restoration**
- **Engineered vegetated treatment systems**

Funding is geographically limited to Mobile and Baldwin Counties and requires a 1:1 ratio of non-federal matching funds. The preferred minimum funding amount is $20,000 federal funds; the preferred maximum is $50,000 federal funds. If selected, it is anticipated that funds will be available October 1, 2023, for a period not to exceed 12 months.

TO APPLY AND FOR DETAILS OF SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS:

Visit https://www.outdooralabama.com/coastal-programs/alabama-coastal-area-management-program to view the Application Guidance and download the fillable Annual Funding Application form. You can also contact Coastal Section staff at 251-621-1216 for copies of these documents.

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS:

- Coastal units of government including Mobile County, Baldwin County, and municipalities or tribal governments within Mobile and Baldwin counties
- Area-wide agencies, regional planning agencies, conservation districts, and port authorities
- Alabama state agencies whose activities affect or are affected by activities in the coastal area
- Alabama school districts, public colleges, universities and other institutions of higher learning

DEADLINE FOR PROPOSAL SUBMISSION: Friday March 31, 2023 - 5:00 p.m.

Proposals can be submitted by email, overnight courier, hand delivery or regular mail (however, due to recently experienced delays with regular mail, the listed alternative delivery methods are strongly suggested) to the following address:

State Lands Division Coastal Section
c/o Will Underwood
31115 Five Rivers Boulevard
Spanish Fort, AL 36527

Electronic submissions should be e-mailed in Portable Document Format (.pdf) to DCNR.Coastal@dcnr.alabama.gov with ACAMP Funding Application in the subject line.

It shall be the sole responsibility of the submitting entity to ensure actual receipt by the State Lands Division, Coastal Section prior to this deadline. ADCNR makes no guarantee that a project proposal will be implemented.

The Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources promotes wise stewardship, management, and enjoyment of Alabama's natural resources through four divisions: Marine Resources, State Lands, State Parks, and Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries. To learn more about ADCNR, visit www.outdooralabama.com.

###

The Department of Conservation and Natural Resources does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, age, sex, national origin, disability, pregnancy, genetic information or veteran status in its hiring or employment practices nor in admission to, access to, or operations of its programs, services, or activities.

ALABAMA COASTAL AREA MANAGEMENT
PROGRAM Proposal Application
Use one application per project.

Indicate Focus Area (select all that apply):

_____ A. Government Coordination and Local Government Planning
_____B. Coastal Hazards and Resilient Communities
_____C. Coastal Habitats, Wetland Protection and Coastal Resource Stewardship
_____D. Coastal Nonpoint Source Pollution Control
_____E. Public Access to Coastal Resources: Construction and Land Acquisition

Title of Project: _____

Location of Project (Include physical address and GPS coordinates in decimal degrees, if applicable):

_____

Applicant (Organization Name): _____

Applicant Federal Identification Number: _____

Applicant UEID Number: _____

Federal Funding Request:$ _____ **Non-Federal Match: $** _____

Total Project Cost:$ _____

Project Contact (within Organization): _____

Title: _____

Phone: _____ **E-Mail Address:** _____

Mailing Address: _____

Authorized Representative (within Organization) to execute subaward agreement: _____

Title: _____

Phone: _____ **E-Mail Address:** _____

Mailing Address: _____

Title of Project: _____

I. PROJECT DESCRIPTION: Provide a brief abstract of the project below (400 words or less)

1) Purpose and Scope of Work:

2) Focus Area Connection:

3) **Public Benefit:**

4) **Outreach**

5) **Partnerships and Support**

6) Schedule

7) Measuring Success and Next Steps

8) PROPOSED BUDGET

Please provide a categorized budget summary in the table below. Round to the nearest dollar. The total value of non-federal match must equal or be greater than the federal funds requested. Project costs will be evaluated to ensure that they are reasonable and sufficient to successfully achieve project completion. Highest scoring projects will pose a high overall public benefit relative to its cost.

Category	Federal Funds Requested	Value of Non-Federal Match CASH	Value of Non-Federal Match IN-KIND	Category Total
Salary	$	$	$	$
Fringe Benefits	$	$	$	$
Travel	$	$	$	$
Equipment *Non-expendable item that costs over $5,000 per unit*	$	$	$	$
Supplies/Materials *Item less than $5,000 per unit. (e.g. office supplies)*	$	$	$	$
Sub-Contractual[1] *Services to be completed by a third-party*	$	$	$	$
Other	$	$	$	$
Indirect	$	$	$	$
Total	$	$	$	$

[1]*Applicants may choose to utilize a subcontractor or third-party to complete some or all of the proposed work. If any portion of the proposed project will be completed through a sub-contract, NOAA requires a separate budget for that subcontract to be completed for transparency purposes. See the Sub-Contract Budget Supplement below.*

In the following table, provide a brief justification for the expenditures in each category above.

Category	Budget Justification
Salary	
Fringe Benefits	
Travel	
Equipment *Non-expendable item that costs over $5,000 per unit*	
Supplies *Item less than $5,000 per unit. (e.g. office supplies, construction materials)*	The Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (ADCNR), State Lands Division, Coastal Section is accepting proposals for projects to be completed in the Alabama Coastal Area (defined as Mobile County and Baldwin County) for Fiscal Year 2024 (October 1, 2023 – September 30, 2024). This competitive funding opportunity is administered by the Alabama Coastal Area Management Program (ACAMP) utilizing federal funds provided by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) pursuant to the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972. ACAMP is accepting applications through this Request for Proposals for projects that protect, enhance, and improve the management of natural, cultural and historical coastal resources and that increase the sustainability, resiliency and preparedness of coastal communities. Proposals for planning projects must address coastal management issues related to at least one of the following focus areas:
Sub-Contractual	***For this section, complete the Sub-Contract Budget Supplement below.***
Other	
Indirect *A copy of the applicant's current NICRA must be attached to the completed application.*	

Sub-Contract Budget Supplement

Budget Justification*: Provide a description of work to be performed by a third-party and identify the sub-contractor, if known. The sub-contractor must be selected in accordance with 2 CFR §200.320.*

The Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (ADCNR), State Lands Division, Coastal Section is accepting proposals for projects to be completed in the Alabama Coastal Area (defined as Mobile County and Baldwin County) for Fiscal Year 2024 (October 1, 2023 – September 30, 2024). This competitive funding opportunity is administered by the Alabama Coastal Area Management Program (ACAMP) utilizing federal funds provided by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) pursuant to the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972. ACAMP is accepting applications through this Request for Proposals for projects that protect, enhance, and improve the management of natural, cultural and historical coastal resources and that increase the sustainability, resiliency and preparedness of coastal communities.

Proposals for planning projects must address coastal management issues related to at least one of the following focus areas:

Budget Category: *The total value in this table must match the "Category Total" listed in the Sub-Contractual category above. If a sub-contractor will not be selected until the grant is awarded, please indicate this in the budget justification above and estimate sub-contractual budget amounts to the best of your ability.*

Sub-Contract Category	Total Value
Salary	$
Fringe Benefits	$
Travel	$
Equipment	$
Supplies/Materials	$
Sub-Contractual[1]	$
Other	$
Total	$

[1]*If a sub-contractor will sub-contract additional work, please include a separate budget and budget justification for that subcontract with the application package.*

9) DATA MANAGEMENT PLAN

If geospatial data will be collected and/or created as a part of the proposed project, NOAA requires that applicants complete a Data Management Plan. The purpose of this policy is to ensure that data produced with federal funds are easily available and discoverable for public benefit and to provide notice of your intent to collect geospatial data to facilitate collaboration and avoid duplication of effort. The guidelines for development of the plan are listed below. Please contact Coastal Section staff at 251-621-1216 if you have any questions related to this requirement.

1) Environmental data and information collected or created under NOAA grants or cooperative agreements must be made discoverable by and accessible to the general public, in a timely fashion (typically within two years), free of charge or at no more than the cost of reproduction, unless an exemption is granted by the NOAA Program. Data should be available in at least one machine-readable format, preferably a widely used or open-standard format, and should also be accompanied by machine-readable documentation (metadata), preferably based on widely used or international standards.

2) Proposals submitted in response to this announcement must include a Data Management Plan of up to two pages describing how these requirements will be satisfied. The contents of the Data Management Plan (or absence thereof), and past performance regarding such plans, will be considered as part of proposal review. A typical plan should include descriptions of the types of environmental data and information expected to be created during the course of the project; the tentative date by which data will be shared; the standards to be used for data/metadata format and content; methods for providing data access; approximate total volume of data to be collected; and prior experience in making such data accessible. The costs of data preparation, accessibility, or archiving may be included in the proposal budget unless otherwise stated in the Guidance. Accepted submission of data to the NOAA National Centers for Environmental Information (NCEI) is one way to satisfy data sharing requirements; however, NCEI is not obligated to accept all submissions and may charge a fee, particularly for large or unusual datasets.

3) NOAA may, at its own discretion, make publicly visible the Data Management Plan from funded proposals, or use information from the Data Management Plan to produce a formal metadata record and include that metadata in a catalog to indicate the pending availability of new data.

4) Proposal submitters are hereby advised that the final pre-publication manuscripts of scholarly articles produced entirely or primarily with NOAA funding will be required to be submitted to NOAA Institutional Repository after acceptance, and no later than upon publication. Such manuscripts shall be made publicly available by NOAA one year after publication by the journal.

A. Describe the types of geospatial data and/or information to be created during the course of the project.

B. Describe the type of data collection method(s) (e.g. consumer GPS, survey grade GPS, aircraft, ship, etc.).

C. Provide the tentative date by which data/metadata will be shared/stored.

D. Describe the standards to be used for data/metadata format and content.

E. Describe your program's policies addressing data stewardship and preservation.

F. Outline the procedures for providing access to data and prior experience in publishing such data.

Alabama Coastal Area Management Program Annual Request for Proposals Application Guidance

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I. INTRODUCTION

The purpose of the Alabama Coastal Area Management Program (ACAMP), or Coastal Program, is to balance economic growth with the need for conservation of Alabama's coastal resources for future generations. The program promotes wise management of the cultural and natural resources of the state's coastal areas and fosters efforts to ensure the long-term ecological and economic productivity of coastal Alabama.

One specific function of the Coastal Program is to provide coastal management grant funds to Alabama's coastal communities and partners for planning and implementation of projects that address environmental issues affecting the coastal area and that promote sustainable economic development. Funding is provided by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and administered by Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (ADCNR), State Lands Division, Coastal Section on a competitive basis. These grant funds are available pursuant to the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972.

The Coastal Program is accepting applications through this Request for Proposals (RFP) for projects that protect, enhance, and improve the management of natural, cultural, and historical coastal resources and that increase the sustainability, resiliency and preparedness of coastal communities. Applications must meet the purpose of at least one of the following focus areas:

- Government Coordination and Local Government Planning
- Coastal Hazards and Resilient Communities
- Coastal Habitats, Wetland Protection and Coastal Resource Stewardship
- Coastal Nonpoint Source Pollution Control, specifically including the following priority management measures:
  - -Tracking and Maintenance of On-Site Disposal Systems (e.g., septic tanks)
  - -Watershed Protection Related to Existing Development / New Development
  - -Wetlands, Riparian Areas, and Vegetated Treatment Systems
- Public Access to Coastal Resources

Details regarding application focus areas are included in Section II. This complete RFP Application Package can be found at https://www.outdooralabama.com/coastal-programs/alabama-coastal-area-management-program. **Proposals addressing specific areas of the Alabama Coastal Nonpoint Pollution Control Program will be given priority consideration. (See Page 5, Section D)**

A. Eligible Applicants

- Coastal units of government including Mobile County, Baldwin County, and municipalities or tribal governments within Mobile and Baldwin counties
- Area-wide agencies, regional planning agencies, conservation districts, and port authorities
- Alabama state agencies whose activities affect or are affected by activities in the coastal area
- Alabama school districts, public colleges, universities and other institutions of higher learning

B. Funding Amount

The preferred minimum funding amount is $20,000 federal funds; the preferred maximum is $50,000 federal funds. Applications for funding less than the minimum will be accepted, but the applicant must provide justification and the proposal must meet a unique or critical need. Project expenditures will be paid on a reimbursement basis.

C. Match Requirement

All applications require a 1:1 ratio of non-federal matching funds. Match may consist of cash or in-kind services that support the project. Federal funds received directly or passed-through by a state agency cannot be used as match. If volunteer services will be used as non-cash match, applicants may calculate the hourly match value of volunteer time by visiting the following website:

http://www.independentsector.org/volunteer_time. While evidence of matching funds availability is not required at time of application submission, such evidence must be presented prior to execution of an agreement with ADCNR. Failure to provide such satisfactory documentation of match requirements will nullify the initial selection of a proposal by ADCNR. (See 2 CFR 200.306: Cost Sharing or Matching.)

D. Agreement Period

The anticipated project start date is October 1, 2023 for a period not to exceed 12 months, although subaward agreements may be executed prior to the start date. Projects will be evaluated on project readiness and feasibility for completion within this project time frame.

E. Project Location

Funding is geographically limited to Mobile and Baldwin Counties.

F. Application Timeline

March 31, 2023	Proposals must be received by Coastal Section office by 5:00 PM.
June 30, 2023	Applicants will be notified of their selection status.
October 1, 2023	If approved by NOAA, funding is anticipated to become available on this date. Grant subaward agreements may be executed prior to this date so that projects commence on October 1, 2023.
September 30, 2024	Projects must be completed.

G. Application Submittal

Proposal application forms along with any supporting documentation must be submitted **by 5:00 PM on March 31, 2023.**

Proposals should be submitted by email, mail, or in person to the following address:

State Lands Division Coastal Section
c/o Will Underwood
31115 Five Rivers Boulevard
Spanish Fort, AL 36527

Electronic submissions should be e-mailed in Portable Document Format (.pdf) to DCNR.Coastal@dcnr.alabama.gov with ACAMP Funding Application in the subject line.

It shall be the sole responsibility of the submitting entity to ensure actual receipt by the State Lands Division, Coastal Section prior to this deadline.

H. Questions

Applicants are strongly encouraged to contact Coastal Section staff early in the application development process with any questions.

ADCNR, State Lands Division, Coastal Section, Phone: (251) 621-1216

Staff Contacts:	Amy King	Amy.King@dcnr.alabama.gov
	Will Underwood	Will.Underwood@dcnr.alabama.gov
	Aubrey Bianco	Aubrey.Bianco@dcnr.alabama.gov

I. Additional Information for Applicants

Proposal information will not be kept confidential. All materials submitted in response to this request for proposals are considered public information.

Successful applicants will be required to enter into a grant subaward agreement with ADCNR which includes terms and conditions which are not subject to modification. Prior to execution of a grant subaward agreement, recipients will be required to satisfactorily complete a subrecipient risk assessment. In addition, as applicable, satisfactory evidence of the subrecipient's compliance with Federal Indirect Cost Rate Agreement (NICRA) requirements will be required. Failure of a successful applicant to fulfill these obligations or provide sufficient evidence of required match amounts will nullify the initial selection of a proposal by ADCNR and will result in cancellation of the grant subaward agreement as applicable.

Grant subaward agreements and subsequent funding will be subject to receipt of funds from NOAA.

II. PROPOSAL FOCUS AREAS

The Coastal Program is accepting applications through this RFP for projects that conserve, enhance, and improve the management of natural, cultural, and historical coastal resources and that increase the sustainability, resiliency, and preparedness of coastal communities. Proposals must meet the purpose of at least one of the following focus areas. If you have questions as to potential eligibility of project activities, you can contact Coastal Program staff. However, no determination as to eligibility will be made prior to submission and review of proposals.

A. Government Coordination and Local Government Planning

The purpose of this focus area is to increase local government capacity to plan and implement projects that address environmental problems affecting the coastal area and that promote sustainable economic development. Projects should demonstrate a balance of economic development and resource protection.

Project examples include but are not limited to:

- Comprehensive and community planning
- Smart growth planning
- Zoning and ordinance development for resource protection
- GIS applications for coastal management
- Spatial data collection for coastal management
- Working waterfront revitalization planning
- Planning for sustainable tourism to ensure long-term economic and environmental benefits
- Community education and outreach related to government coordination and planning

B. Coastal Hazards and Resilient Communities

The purpose of this focus area is to reduce vulnerability to natural hazards in Coastal Alabama. Projects within this focus area should help coastal communities prepare for and respond to the effects of natural hazard events, disasters and sea level rise.

Project examples include but are not limited to:

- Hazard mitigation planning
- Floodplain management planning
- Post-disaster recovery and redevelopment planning
- Conducting vulnerability analyses and risk assessments

- ❖ Developing policies, guidance and best management practices to increase resilience and reduce vulnerability to natural hazards
- ❖ Development of policies and practices that support community participation in the National Flood Insurance Program's (NFIP) Community Rating System (CRS)
- ❖ Development of flood damage prevention ordinances and supplemental building codes to account for storm surge, flooding, erosion and scour
- ❖ Development of sea level rise and/or climate change adaptation strategies for incorporation into local comprehensive plans or ordinances
- ❖ Community education and outreach related to coastal hazards and resilient communities

C. Coastal Habitats, Wetland Protection and Coastal Resource Stewardship

The purpose of this priority area is to promote conservation, restoration and stewardship of Alabama's coastal resources through an ecosystem approach to management.

Project examples include but are not limited to:

- ❖ Developing policies, guidance and best management practices to restore and preserve coastal wetlands and shorelines
- ❖ Developing long-term conservation and/or restoration strategies for sensitive natural areas
- ❖ Shoreline and wetland restoration planning to mitigate the effects of natural hazards (also fulfills the Coastal Hazards and Resilient Communities focus area)
- ❖ GIS applications for natural resource management
- ❖ Spatial data collection for coastal habitats
- ❖ Measuring land use changes and developing long-term protection strategies
- ❖ Community education and outreach related to coastal habits, wetland protection and coastal resource stewardship

D. Coastal Nonpoint Source Pollution Control

The Coastal Nonpoint Pollution Control Program was established by Congress in 1990 to encourage better coordination between state coastal zone managers and water quality experts to reduce polluted runoff in the coastal zone. The Program establishes management measures for states to use in controlling polluted runoff. **Priority consideration will be given to proposals that most effectively further efforts to achieve approval of the Alabama Coastal Nonpoint Pollution Control Program.** More information on the Coastal Nonpoint Pollution Control Program can be found at https://coast.noaa.gov/czm/pollutioncontrol/.

Potential projects include but are not limited to planning, engineering and design, data collection/analysis, monitoring, mapping, modeling, and education and outreach related to the following areas:

- ❖ Storm water runoff from new development
- ❖ Comprehensive planning for development to protect sensitive ecological areas, minimize land disturbances and retain natural drainage and vegetation
- ❖ Watershed planning (must be done using EPA Section 319 elements and guidelines)
- ❖ Nutrient/pathogen loadings to surface water and groundwater from new and operating onsite disposal systems (OSDS, e.g., septic tanks)
- ❖ Hydromodification improvement to address existing nonpoint source pollution problems caused by dams, dredge and eroding streambanks and shorelines
- ❖ Wetland and riparian area protection and restoration
- ❖ Engineered vegetated treatment systems

E. Public Access to Coastal Resources: Construction and Land Acquisition

The Public Access focus area is designed to help Alabama's coastal communities identify and improve public access to cultural, historical, and natural areas while protecting resources from

overuse and damage. Projects may protect, restore, or enhance public access opportunities through **small-scale construction or land acquisition**.

Project examples include but are not limited to:

- Engineering design and construction of fishing piers, kiosks, dune crossovers, boardwalks, observation decks, kayak launches
- Design and installation of educational and interpretive signage
- Fee simple acquisition of land to minimize development in high hazard areas while increasing public access to coastal resources
- Natural shoreline restoration for habitat enhancement (primary goal cannot be erosion control)

The use of public access grant funds is limited to:

1. Low-cost construction projects that provide for public access including but not limited to paths, walkways, dune walkovers, boardwalks, public piers, fences, parks and the rehabilitation of historic buildings and structures;
2. Educational, interpretive and other management;
3. Engineering designs, specifications and other appropriate reports related to the above; and
4. Land Acquisition

NOTE: Funds shall not be used to finance large-scale erosion-prevention structures, such as beach nourishment or hard structure erosion control projects.

Public access grant funds are for public benefit and may not be used to improve private property. Sites must be open to the general public and comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). In general, user fees should not be charged to access sites. See Project Location section above for additional information on geographic areas eligible for funding in this focus area.

III. REVIEW PROCEDURE AND EVALUATION CRITERIA

Applications that meet the minimum requirements listed below will be reviewed by Coastal Section staff using the numeric criteria outlined in this section. Staff may seek assistance as to the review of the applications from other state agency staff and/or other entities, as appropriate, and will recommend the highest scoring projects to the ADCNR Commissioner. Projects ultimately approved by the ADCNR Commissioner will be submitted to NOAA for final review and approval.

Applications must meet the following minimum requirements in order to be reviewed by the evaluation committee:

- Application must be submitted using the provided application form
- Application must be complete and received by the application deadline
- Applying organization must be an eligible applicant
- Project must be in an eligible project location

Applications meeting the above minimum qualifications will be scored using the evaluation criteria detailed below (with all criteria being equally weighted). Applications that best address these criteria will be most competitive.

1) **Purpose and Scope of Work:** Purpose of the proposed project is clear and concise. Description of activity or work to be conducted is logical and technically sound. Highest scoring projects will provide a clear overview of the project and work to be undertaken. (0-5 points)

2) **Focus Area Connection:** Applicant has clearly explained how the proposed project addresses issues related to at least one focus area. Highest scoring projects will demonstrate the degree to which the project will result in improved management of coastal resources and uses. Preference

will be given to projects that address outstanding conditions of the Alabama Coastal Nonpoint Pollution Control Program. (0-5 points)

3) **Public Benefit:** Applicant has clearly explained how the proposed project fulfills an existing public need or benefit. Applicant describes the geographic area to be served by the project. Highest scoring projects will have the potential to benefit citizens outside of the immediate local government jurisdiction and will have a high degree of public benefit. (0-5 points)

4) **Outreach:** A significant and proactive public education and/or community outreach component has been incorporated into the project. The applicant describes components of the outreach effort and lists the tasks to be performed. Highest scoring projects will make the target audience aware of the project and/or coastal resources and will encourage community participation in the project where appropriate. Outreach materials should be transferable to the entire Alabama Coastal Area. (0-5 points)

5) **Partnerships and Support:** Applicant has identified project partners and clearly defined roles and responsibilities. Highest scoring projects will include partnerships across departments, organizations and jurisdictions and will be supported by the local community. (Note that letters of support and/or commitment serve to evidence an applicant's assertion of support but are not required. Therefore, points will not be deducted for failure to include letters of support.) (0-5 points)

6) **Schedule:** A project schedule has been completed and includes key project tasks by quarter (Oct. 1-Dec. 31, Jan. 1-March 31, April 1-June 30, and July 1-Sept. 30) with associated outcomes and deliverables. Method to achieve each deliverable is appropriate. Schedule is feasible and demonstrates that all tasks will be completed within the agreement period. Highest scoring projects will include well-defined tasks with deliverables listed in chronological order and planned within a reasonable timeframe. (0-5 points)

7) **Measuring Success and Next Steps:** Applicant has clearly described how success of the project will be measured and includes specific performance measures, if applicable. Applicant has described next steps for the project after funding expires including how the product or outcome will be used. Highest scoring projects will include performance measures and will demonstrate a long-term commitment through ongoing actions after project completion. (0-5 points)

8) **Budget:** The budget appears reasonable, appropriate and accurate. The budget justification details all funds requested with reasonable justifications, and budgeted items are consistent with the project description and tasks for the project. If applicable, the Negotiated Indirect Cost Rate Agreement (NICRA) is attached to the application. Highest scoring projects will pose a high overall public benefit relative to its cost. (0-5 points)

IV. APPLICATION CHECKLIST

Ensure your completed application package includes the following information:

_____ (1) Completed application

_____ (2) Data Management Plan (to be completed only if geospatial data will be collected and/or created as a part of the proposed project). A sample simple data management plan is included in Section V. Example of a Simple Data Management Plan Document.

_____ (3) Optional letters of support from the public and letters of commitment from project partners (for online applications, letters should be included as PDF files).

_____ (4) Completed Public Access Improvement Project Questionnaire

V. EXAMPLE OF A SIMPLE DATA MANANGEMENT PLAN DOCUMENT

1. **Describe the types of geospatial data and/or information to be created during the course of the project.**

   LiDAR data will be collected over Asateague Island to provide highly accurate and current elevation points that will enable the creation of a digital elevation model. This digital elevation model will be compared to previous models to determine changes and then used to develop safer and more resilient park facilities.

2. **Describe the type of data collection method(s) (e.g. consumer GPS, survey grade GPS, aircraft, ship, etc.).**

   We plan to contract with a private sector photogrammetric firm for airborne data acquisition over study area.

3. **Provide the tentative date by which data/metadata will be shared/stored.**

   The 'raw' point cloud LAS file will be shared with NOAA, CSC immediately and the final DEM file will be posted to the State's public-facing web mapping service within two months of the final acceptance of the data. FGDC/CSDGM compliant metadata will be posted with the data.

4. **Describe the standards to be used for data/metadata format and content.**

   The contractor will be responsible for meeting or exceeding the latest version of the USGS/NDEP LiDAR Standard.

5. **Describe your program's policies addressing data stewardship and preservation.**

   We will leave the data on the (insert name) web site for at least three years. During that time period, we will ask NOAA if they have interest/resources for archiving the data and work with them, as needed. If they do not have interest in archiving the data to provide for national access, we will arrange for data preservation at our State Archives.

6. **Outline the procedures for providing access to data and prior experience in publishing such data.**

   We have not had experience sharing data in the past. We will host our data at the following address: