

Alaska Clean Water Actions (ACWA) Grant



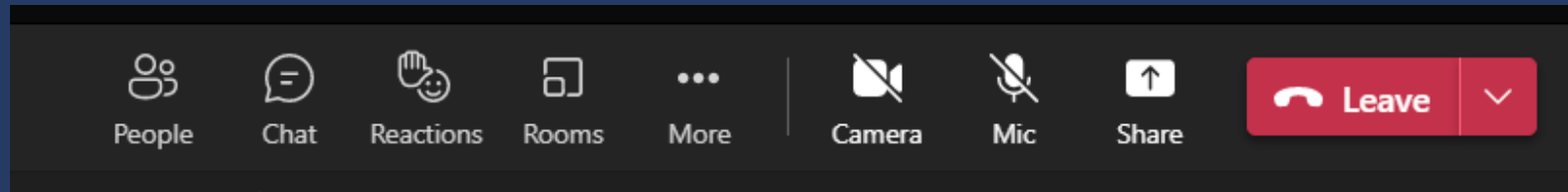
2025-2027 Request for Proposals

Laura Eldred, Section Manager

Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation

Nonpoint Source Water Quality Section

Teams Features



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Outline

- Summary info
- Types of projects
- Funding
- Grant period
- Eligibility
- ACWA RFP webpage
- Filling out the application
- Timeline
- Contacts
- Q & A



Quick Information

- Full **Request For Proposals** (RFP) contains information on project Action Categories and priority watersheds
 - Contact the staff person listed for details
- Must use the **Application** form available for download on the webpage
- Proposal package must include a completed **Workplan** associated with the Action Category and the completed **Application** along with any supporting information
- Applications are due **October 21** by 11:59 PM
 - Submit to dec.acwa.grants@alaska.gov
 - Don't wait until the last minute to apply
- Award announcements will be made around the new year for projects to start no earlier than March 2025.



Nonpoint Source Pollution

- ACWA grant program focuses on protecting or improving water quality in creeks, streams, rivers, lakes, nearshore coastal areas from runoff pollution.
- Some of the requested work may implement water quality restoration plans.
- Other work may be aimed toward water pollution prevention, outreach, or monitoring.



Types of Projects Requested – Action Categories

1. Best Management Practices to Improve or Protect Water Quality
 - Projects that address stormwater runoff through designing and installing green stormwater infrastructure are highly encouraged.
2. Watershed planning
3. Public outreach and education
4. Monitoring for nonpoint source pollution or Best Management Practice effectiveness
5. Marine BEACH pathogen monitoring



Priority Watersheds



RFP highlights highest priority watersheds and projects being requested for each Action Category



Action Categories note if proposals for other watersheds will be accepted



RFP provides brief description



DEC contact person for more information



Proposals that address a requested high priority project may receive bonus points



Best Management Practices Ideas

- Living shorelines
- Bioretention/bioswales (e.g. rain gardens, tree boxes)
- Filter strips
- Re-establishing riparian vegetation
- Permeable pavement
- Wetland/riparian/shoreline creation, protection, and restoration
- Infiltration basins
- Wetlands restoration or development
- Green streets, green roofs, and green walls
- Replacement of gray infrastructure with green infrastructure
- Planning and design activity related to an eligible capital project



Watershed Planning

DEC encourages watershed planning

Holistic community planning process for water quality protection or improvement

Sets watershed goals and identifies activities that can be implemented over time

DEC watershed planning guidance available on RFP webpage

Grant period

- Projects must be completed between March 2025 and February 28, 2027.
- Projects do not have to last that entire period.
- There are financial and progress reporting requirements due every 6 months.
 - DEC provides the reporting templates



Funding



ACWA grants are managed by DEC and include three federal funding sources combined into one application process.



Your proposed project topic and type of organization will help DEC determine which funding source is most appropriate.



ACWA RFP webpage includes information on grant conditions, funding specific requirements, and other helpful information.



Funding

DEC is waiving ALL MATCH requirements!

Funding Name	Amount Available per State Fiscal Year		
	SFY25 (4 months)	SFY26 (12 months)	SFY27 (8 months)
Sewer Overflow and Stormwater Reuse Municipal Grant (MSG)	\$270,000	\$194,880	\$129,920
Beaches Environmental Assessment and Coastal Health Act (BEACH)	\$63,051	\$110,000	\$73,333
Nonpoint Source Clean Water Act Section 319 (NPS 319)	\$108,057	\$308,057	\$205,371

*Funding amounts in SFY26-27 are contingent on federal appropriation of funds to DEC.

**Total project costs may not exceed \$250,000 over the course of the project.



Who can apply?

NPS 319 and BEACH:

- State agencies
- Local and Tribal governments
- Non-governmental and Tribal organizations
- Universities
- Conservation districts
- *No population restriction*

MSG:

- Municipal and Tribal governments or entities for communities with **fewer than 10,000 people** using 2020 U.S. Census data



ACWA RFP Webpage

<http://dec.alaska.gov/water/water-quality/nonpoint-source-control/alaska-clean-water-actions/acwa-application/>

- The full Request for Proposals
- Download application
- Download workplan template
- Read the appendices
- Other resources

Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation
DIVISION OF WATER

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ALASKA CLEAN WATER ACTIONS GRANT REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

DEC is accepting proposals for water quality projects under the Alaska Clean Water Actions (ACWA) grant program. Projects in the following Action Categories are being requested:

1. Best Management Practices to Improve or Protect Water Quality
2. Watershed Planning
3. Public Outreach and Education
4. Monitoring for Nonpoint Source Pollution or BMP Effectiveness
5. Marine Beach Pathogen Monitoring

Review the [Request for Proposals \(add link once finalized\)](#) for additional details, descriptions, and high priority watersheds.

Submittal Deadline

Proposals are due by 11:59 PM on October 21, 2024.

Project Timing

Projects may start no earlier than March 1, 2025 and must be completed by February 28, 2027.

How to Apply

1. Download the Application template from the box on the right. Fill it out completely.
2. Download and complete the Workplan Template most representative of your...

APPLICATION & WORKPLAN TEMPLATES

- APPLICATION DOWNLOAD (WORD)
- WATERSHED PLANNING WORKPLAN TEMPLATE
- PUBLIC OUTREACH AND EDUCATION WORKPLAN TEMPLATE
- MONITORING FOR NONPOINT SOURCE POLLUTION OR BMP EFFECTIVENESS WORKPLAN TEMPLATE
- BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES WORKPLAN TEMPLATE
- MARINE BEACH PATHOGEN MONITORING WORKPLAN

RFP APPENDICES

- A. [Grant Requirements](#)
- B. [Administrative Guidelines and Grant Conditions](#)
- C. [Budget Guidance](#)
- D. [Estimated Funding Sources & Eligibility](#)



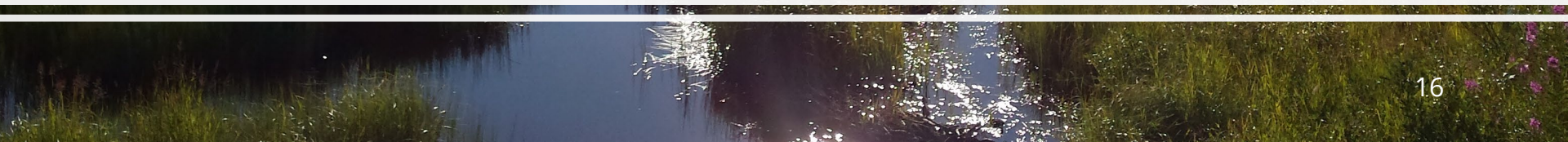
Submitting

- Due by October 21, 2024 at 11:59 PM
- Submit via email
dec.acwa.grants@alaska.gov
- Include completed application, workplan, any supporting information like letters of support, maps, photos, etc.





Questions on information covered so far



Application Preview

- ☐ Download the Microsoft Word application template
- ☐ Fill out the application on your computer at your own pace
- ☐ Read the evaluation criteria at the end of scored sections to make sure your application addresses the needed information.
- ☐ Complete all sections of the application before submitting.



Section 1:

Organization & General Information

- Fill out all fields
- Unique Entity Identification
- Alaska Vendor Identification

1. Organization & General Information

Organization Name:	
Contact Person and Title:	
Phone:	
Email Address:	
Mailing Address:	

ACWA Grant Application

SFY 2025-2027

Unique Entity Identification Number (UEI): Go to www.SAM.gov to look up an existing or get assigned a UEI. A UEI is required to receive Federal grant dollars through ACWA.

Alaska Vendor Identification: This allows DEC to pay you. If you are currently registered, please list your vendor identification. If you are not currently registered, be aware you will need to register if your application is awarded funding: <https://iris-vss.alaska.gov/PRDVSS1X1/Advantage4>

Section 1: Organization & General Information

a. Will your organization be requesting grant funds as:

☐ Expense Reimbursements every 6 months

☐ Funding advances every 6 months

b. Will acceptance of grant funds need to be approved by a board, council, assembly, or other entity?

☐ Yes - Approximately how much time does that process take?

☐ No

1.1 Action Category - Please check the box that most closely represents the type of project you are applying for. See the RFP document for more information on the Categories and priority watersheds.

☐ Watershed Planning

☐ Best Management Practices to Improve or Protect Water Quality

☐ Public Education & Outreach

☐ Monitoring for Best Management Practice Effectiveness or Nonpoint Source Pollution

☐ Marine BEACH Pathogen Monitoring



Section 2: Budget

- Fill in the budget for each state fiscal year the project will be occurring
- Unspent funds in one fiscal year are forfeited and do not automatically roll over
- We do not need details in the application
- No matching funds required

2. BUDGET

2.1 Budget Summary - Provide a summary of the requested grant funds per state fiscal year in the box below. Unspent dollars in one fiscal year are forfeited and do not get added to next fiscal year. There are no matching fund requirements being passed on to applicants.

State Fiscal Year 2026 (12 months) (July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2026)	Requested Grant Funds
Personal Services (including benefits)	\$
Travel (including project mileage at 0.67 cents/mile)	\$
Contractual (for work carried out by another party (individual or organization) other than the grant recipient or its employees)	\$
Supplies	\$
Equipment (include here if more than \$10,000)	\$
Other (printing costs, rental spaces, rental/lease equipment, insurance costs)	\$
Subtotal of Direct Costs	\$
Indirect/Administrative (Administrative fees cannot exceed 15% of Direct Costs without a federally approved Negotiated Indirect Cost Rate Agreement)	\$
Grant Total FY26	\$

Section 3: Project Information

- 3.1 Provide a brief summary of your project (1 -2 paragraphs)
- Be concise - note word limits
- 3.2 Describe project purpose
- Evaluation Criteria

3. Project Information

3.1 Project Summary - Provide a summary (abstract) of the project and expected outcomes. [200 word limit]

3.2 Project Purpose – Why is this project needed? How will this project address nonpoint source pollution? Describe how this project protects or restores water quality. [300 word limit]


Evaluation criteria for Section 3 (15 points maximum): 1) Is the project need clearly stated? 2) Does the proposed project address nonpoint source pollution? 3) Does the proposed project describe how it protects or restores water quality?

Section 4: Workplan

- This step has a critical attachment that applicants must download from the ACWA RFP webpage
- Choose the appropriate workplan template for your project.
- Fill out the template
- Submit with your application
- Review the evaluation criteria.

4. Project Workplan — Select the appropriate workplan template from the [ACWA RFP webpage](#) that corresponds to the Action Category selected in Section 1.1. Follow the instructions in the workplan template. Attach the completed workplan with the application to the submittal email listed below.

***Evaluation criteria for Section 4 (40 points maximum):** 1) Project design demonstrates sound technical merit? 2) Describes clear obtainable means to achieve project objective including logical project implementation steps, tasks, and proposed timelines? 3) Workplan identifies the appropriate task deliverables (including deliverables specifically requested in the RFP workplan template)? 4) Workplan shows appropriate planning to successfully accomplish tasks? (Examples may include site design, partner/community involvement, laboratory analysis, access to transportation (e.g. boats) and similar to complete the project.)*



The screenshot displays the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) website. The header includes the DEC logo, the text "Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation DIVISION OF WATER", and a search bar. The main content area is titled "ALASKA CLEAN WATER ACTIONS GRANT REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS" and includes a breadcrumb trail: "You are here: DEC / Water / Water Quality / Nonpoint Source Control / Alaska Clean Water Actions / ACWA Application". The text states that DEC is accepting proposals for water quality projects under the Alaska Clean Water Actions (ACWA) grant program. A list of five action categories is provided: 1. Best Management Practices to Improve or Protect Water Quality, 2. Watershed Planning, 3. Public Outreach and Education, 4. Monitoring for Nonpoint Source Pollution or BMP Effectiveness, and 5. Marine Beach Pathogen Monitoring. A link to the "Request for Proposals" is provided for additional details. A "Submittal Deadline" section indicates that proposals are due by 11:59 PM on October 21, 2024. On the right side, a sidebar titled "APPLICATION & WORKPLAN TEMPLATES" lists six downloadable templates: APPLICATION DOWNLOAD (WORD), WATERSHED PLANNING WORKPLAN TEMPLATE, PUBLIC OUTREACH AND EDUCATION WORKPLAN TEMPLATE, MONITORING FOR NONPOINT SOURCE POLLUTION OR BMP EFFECTIVENESS WORKPLAN TEMPLATE, BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES WORKPLAN TEMPLATE, and MARINE BEACH PATHOGEN MONITORING WORKPLAN.

Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation
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ALASKA CLEAN WATER ACTIONS GRANT REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

DEC is accepting proposals for water quality projects under the Alaska Clean Water Actions (ACWA) grant program. Projects in the following Action Categories are being requested:

1. Best Management Practices to Improve or Protect Water Quality
2. Watershed Planning
3. Public Outreach and Education
4. Monitoring for Nonpoint Source Pollution or BMP Effectiveness
5. Marine Beach Pathogen Monitoring

Review the [Request for Proposals \(add link once finalized\)](#) for additional details, descriptions, and high priority watersheds.

Submittal Deadline

Proposals are due by 11:59 PM on October 21, 2024.

APPLICATION & WORKPLAN TEMPLATES

- APPLICATION DOWNLOAD (WORD)
- WATERSHED PLANNING WORKPLAN TEMPLATE
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Add or delete tasks as needed for your project proposal. Minimum recommended tasks are below. Delete the blue text.

Project Title: Provide brief descriptive project title

Proposed Project Duration: Provide project start and end dates

TASK 1: Planning – outreach plan development for (insert outreach topic)

Description: Develop an outreach plan that includes the following components:

- Goal(s) and Objective(s) of the outreach
- Audience and Key messages
- Communication activities and tools
- Timeline for implementation
- Measures of success (such as pre and post target audience surveys to gauge whether the outreach has impacted their actions or other method of measuring whether the outreach messaging has impacted their actions)

A draft outreach plan will be submitted to the DEC Project Manager for review and comments to be incorporated into the final version. The outreach plan must be approved by the DEC Project Manager prior to implementation. DEC has examples available.

Deliverable(s) and Permits:

	Deliverable	Due Date:
1a	Draft Outreach Plan for DEC review (Word)	
1b	Final Outreach Plan (Word and PDF)	
1c	additional deliverables as needed	

TASK 2: Implement outreach plan (Option: you may divide this task into several tasks to describe specific outreach activities)

Description:

Describe the outreach mechanisms to reach the target audience(s) and how you will measure messaging success.

Deliverable(s) and Permits:

	Deliverable	Due Date:
2a	Description of the proposed outreach activities and target audience(s) (Word)	
2b	Analysis and evaluation of measurable results (Word or Excel)	

2c	Copies of outreach materials, presentations, social media posts (Word, PDF, or other format)	
2d	Photos of outreach activities (jpeg)	
2e	additional deliverables as needed	

TASK 3: Final report

Description: Include a final project report that describes the outreach activities that took place, public response, and an evaluation of success of the messaging in reaching the target audience(s) and examples of how it affected a desired behavior change if any (e.g. not dumping marine sewage near shore). The report should also include recommendations for future effective outreach activities. The report should include photos and be a stand-alone document that could be posted to the DEC web page.

A draft report will be submitted to the DEC Project Manager for review and comments to incorporate into the final version.

Deliverable(s) and Permits:

	Deliverable	Due Date:
3a	Draft Report for DEC review (Word)	
3b	Final Report (Word, PDF)	
3c	additional deliverables as needed	

TASK 4: Additional tasks as needed

Description: (Description of the task)

Deliverable(s) and Permits:

	Deliverable	Due Date:
4a	Add deliverables and due dates	
4b		
4c		

You may add or delete tasks as needed, following the format above, to complete your workplan.



Section 5: Applicant Qualifications & Funds Management

- Fill in information about your experience and about how your organization manages funds.
- Review the evaluation criteria.

5. Applicant Qualifications & Funds Management

5.1 Project Staff Experience – Identify and briefly describe the qualifications of key members of the team (within the same organization and/or in partner organizations) who will complete the project. Consider their experience, knowledge, and skills in managing and completing similar projects. Please **do not** attach resumes. [300 word limit]

5.2 Grant Funds Management – Describe the organization's fiscal controls for managing grant funds. How does the organization track expenditures? Who will be responsible for tracking expenditures and grant funds? What previous experience does the organization have in managing grant funds? Will the organization be able to submit an accounting general ledger¹ report and any other requested documentation for the grant expenditures every 6 months? [300 word limit]

Evaluation criteria for Section 5 (20 points maximum): 1) Applicant identifies key project personnel, their qualifications, and experience with similar projects? 2) Applicant demonstrates organization has prior experience in grant management and provides examples of experience? If no prior experience, did the organization include compelling information on how they will successfully manage the project? 3) Applicant describes their accounting procedures for tracking grant expenses and managing the grant budget?



Section 6: Partners & Supporting Information

- Who are the project partners?
- Add any additional attachments
 - Letters of support
 - Maps
 - Planning documents or designs
 - Photographs

6. Partners and Supporting Information

6.1 Project Partners -Who are the project partners? Describe how they are supporting the project. If the project has no partners, please explain. (Letters of Support from project or community partners are encouraged and, in some projects, required.) [200 word limit]

Evaluation criteria for Section 6 and General Application (10 points maximum): 1) If the project requires project partners, are project-specific letters of support included? 2) Is the application complete?

Submit

- Due by 11:59 PM on Monday, October 21
 - Late proposals will not scored
- Send **one** email with the completed application, workplan and any attachments (letters of support, photos, maps, etc.) to:

dec.acwa.grants@alaska.gov



Review Process and Timeline

Activity	Timeframe
DEC will screen proposals for eligibility & completeness	October 22
Agency staff will conduct technical reviews	October – early November
Scoring committee will score proposals & award decisions will be made	Early - mid December
DEC project managers will contact applicants – successful and unsuccessful	January
DEC project managers will work with grantees to develop workplans and grant agreements	February
When final grant paperwork is signed, grantees will begin project work	March 1 or soon after

Good Luck! Any questions?

Department of Environmental Conservation

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Jeff Fisher	907-451-2130	jeff.fisher@alaska.gov	Fairbanks, Northern, Interior
Mary Inovejas	907-269-7518	mary.inovejas@alaska.gov	Kenai Peninsula, Western, Kodiak; and BEACH
Ashley Oleksiak	907-376-1865	ashley.oleksiak@alaska.gov	Anchorage, Mat-Su, Copper River Basin
Gretchen Augat	907-465-5023	gretchen.augat@alaska.gov	Southeast and BEACH
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William Krossoi	907-265-9327	william.krassoi@alaska.gov	Statewide
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