



**New York Sea Grant’s
Biennial Research Call for 2024-2025**

**INVITING PRE-PROPOSALS FOR RESEARCH
Specifically Addressing Portions of NYSG’s Strategic
Plan for 2024-2027**

***Pre-Proposal Deadline: 4:30 PM Eastern
Tuesday, January 17, 2023***

Anticipated Funds: Approximately \$120,000 per year for 2 years
Supporting about 6-7 projects

The main goal of New York Sea Grant's (NYSG) research program is to generate and provide valid scientific information and tools that will further the sustainable development, use, protection, conservation, and management of our coastal resources. The research must be driven by stakeholder-identified research needs and provide enhanced opportunities for NYSG to ‘make a difference’ and positively impact important coastal issues.

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I. BACKGROUND

[New York Sea Grant](#) (NYSG) is part of the national Sea Grant network that constitutes NOAA's [National Sea Grant College Program](#). NYSG is a cooperative program of the State University of New York (SUNY) and Cornell University, with its main administrative offices located at Stony Brook University and Cornell University, and with extension offices [throughout the state](#). Our vision is *to empower the people of New York, Indigenous Nations, and all guests and visitors to make informed decisions to enhance and sustain healthy coastal ecosystems, communities and economies*. Our mission is *Bringing Science to the Shore through high-quality research, extension, and education that fosters informed collaboration among individuals, communities, businesses, and decision-makers to collectively conserve, utilize, and restore coastal resources to support sustainable and resilient environments, economies, and cultures*.

NYSG's programming serves New York's diverse coastal communities by ensuring they have the science-based information, tools, and resources to understand, plan for, and respond to economic, social, and environmental priorities, challenges, and opportunities.

The New York and National Sea Grant College Programs are committed to a diverse, equitable, inclusive, and just workplace as well as research, education and extension programming that is informed by and serves the diverse populations throughout New York State and Indigenous Nations, regardless of race, citizenship, class, gender, identity, or religion. NYSG integrates diverse perspectives, viewpoints, and knowledge (including traditional and local) in order to pursue its vision and mission, effectively and efficiently.

For this competitive research opportunity, we encourage proposals that include diverse participants and encourage applicants to clearly identify how the research will have broader societal impacts on coastal communities, including underrepresented or underserved communities as well as communities with environmental justice concerns.

II. NYSG RESEARCH AND TOPICS FOR THIS CALL

NYSG supports research on marine, Hudson River estuary, and Great Lakes (and Great Rivers—Niagara and St. Lawrence) topics and issues. Research projects supported by NYSG must address challenges or opportunities important to New York State, as defined in our 2024-2027 Strategic Plan.

Projects can consist of developmental work on new methods, models, tools, techniques, state-of-knowledge synthesis efforts, and hypothesis-driven experimental work. The proposed research must show an understanding of what constitutes necessary and sufficient information for responsible decision-making or for applied use and will be expected to generate actionable results. A successful Sea Grant project will provide information or tools that will assist resource managers, communities, and other constituents in making decisions or plans regarding coastal resources and environments. Additionally, a project must have sufficient intellectual content and scientific rigor to make it appropriate for university research. The need, significance, products, applicability, target audience (beyond other academics), and expected impact of the research must be clearly anticipated and described. ***These will be key factors in the review process.***

Because Sea Grant's mission includes the extension of research results to coastal constituents, discussions with NYSG extension staff (see list in Section VI) should help hone the focus of

proposed research towards particularly useful information. *Researchers are strongly encouraged to contact [NYSG Extension staff](#) with their ideas to improve their understanding of what information and products may be most useful to coastal constituents.* The entity or people who will apply the results for actionable use must be identified in the proposal. Contact with Extension staff before, during, and after the project by the researchers is expected. **Within two months of an executed research contract under this Call, the PI and NYSG staff must develop a project extension and outreach plan to be implemented throughout the duration of the project.**

NYSG encourages multi-disciplinary and multi-investigator research. **Research in and among all disciplines is encouraged-such as in the physical, natural, and/or social sciences.** NYSG is also interested in helping to foster new research talent and encourages submissions from early career investigators and others who have not previously received NYSG funding. The development of future scientists and decision-makers through student education is also important to NYSG. Investigators are encouraged to involve graduate and/or undergraduate students in the conduct of their projects. **Investigators may want to investigate NYSG's Sea Grant Scholar Fellowship program** (see III. K. on page 10) for their projects.

Efforts inappropriate for Sea Grant funding include those directed solely toward monitoring or surveys. Expansion of understanding solely for its own sake without regard to the application or aiding decision-making is also considered inappropriate for Sea Grant research.

In this Call for Pre-proposals, NYSG invites projects that will address the specific topics described below. The selected topic must be addressed in the context of the Focus Area and Goal under which it appears which are based on the [New York Sea Grant's Strategic Plan for 2024-2027](#).

Your proposal concept must meet these criteria:

- Address one or more specific research topics defined below under NYSG's Focus Areas and associated Goals; **AND**
- Assist NYSG in making progress towards fulfilling the Goal under which the research topic appears below.

Focus Area A. Healthy Coastal Ecosystems

NYSG Goal A1: Coastal habitats, ecosystems, and the services they provide are protected, enhanced, and/or restored.

To help achieve this goal, NYSG is specifically soliciting research that:

1. Explores the environmental, ecological, and/or social impacts of renewable energy (e.g., solar, wind, hydroelectric), on food webs, coastal and nearshore habitats, water quality, species movement and migration, and other relevant issues.
2. Develops or uses ecosystem-based models/studies that examine how species/populations have shifted over time and the environmental factors driving those shifts, and how climate changes may impact species/populations in the future.
3. Identifies coastal ecosystems most vulnerable to impacts of climate change using

remote sensing, mapping tools, modeling; Assesses suitability of different management interventions, including input from coastal communities.

4. Explores the capacity of coastal habitats and ecosystems to mitigate climate change impacts (e.g., carbon sequestration, wave attenuation, sea level rise, and other phenomena).
5. Quantifies source and sink relationships for coastal landforms to better understand areas of conservation and recreation need such as the development of beaches, conservation of sediment-producing bluffs, and influence of hard shorelines on sediment movement.

NYSG Goal A2: Diverse communities, agencies, and individuals apply science, tools, and services to manage land, water, and living resources in order to protect, enhance, and restore coastal habitats, ecosystems, and the services they provide.

To help achieve this goal, NYSG is specifically soliciting research that:

1. Uses social science methods and theories to assess public perceptions, behaviors, values, and attitudes towards an array of best management practices and policies that could be used to improve coastal and ocean habitats/ecosystems degraded by human-derived impacts such as introduced Aquatic Invasive Species, harmful algal blooms, pollutants, emerging contaminants, ocean acidification or other sources.
2. Develops a science-based framework that supports planning and decision-making related to habitat restoration that integrates, research, community engagement, local and indigenous knowledge.
3. Evaluates methods and practices for incorporating local and indigenous knowledge into the development of science-based frameworks that support planning and decision-making related to habitat restoration.

Focus Area B. Sustainable Fisheries and Aquaculture

NYSG GOAL B1: Domestic fisheries, aquaculture, and other coastal and freshwater natural resources supply food, jobs, and economic and cultural benefits.

To help achieve this goal, NYSG is specifically soliciting research that:

1. Explores subsistence fishing in New York, using social science research to determine characteristics of subsistence fishing communities and methods for engaging with these communities on crucial topics such as seafood safety.
2. Identifies the barriers to diverse participation in fishing and aquaculture industries and methods to remove barriers and increase the diversity of participation in commercial and recreational fishing and aquaculture in NYS.
3. Estimates the economic impacts of fishing and seafood industries in New York and

tests hypotheses as to how they can change under different policies and/or management approaches.

4. Develops innovative technologies and tools for value-added seaweed and seafood production (e.g., extending shelf-life, novel processing techniques, enhanced packaging), especially focused on novel and underutilized species.
5. Develops tools, techniques, and information that enhances understanding of emerging food safety hazards associated with seaweed and seafood (e.g., microplastics, mislabeled fish, novel hazards etc.)
6. Develops processing methods and technologies to enhance safety practices and maintain quality during seafood/seaweed harvest, processing, and distribution.
7. Develops innovations in gear and pilot testing of new technologies for use in NY (e.g., bycatch reduction, sustainable gear, increasing productivity, and efficiencies in fishing and farming practices.)

NYSG GOAL B2: Natural resources are sustainably managed to support economically viable fishing communities and industries, including commercial, recreational, subsistence fisheries, and aquaculture.

To help achieve this goal, NYSG is specifically soliciting research that:

1. Expands information about the ecology of native fish species including spawning activity, habitat, and life history to better inform restoration and management.
2. Informs development and utilization of new tools and techniques for understanding and managing economically important fish species (e.g., eDNA, genetics, microchemistry, acoustic telemetry, etc.)
3. Measures offshore renewable energy impacts on fisheries and aquaculture production and investment.
4. Estimates potential climate change impacts on future fisheries and aquaculture production.

Focus Area C. Resilient Coastal Communities and Economies

NYSG GOAL C1: The recreation, tourism, water-dependent business, and maritime history industries are resilient to changing environmental conditions, extreme events, coastal hazards, and economic disruptions, while also protective of coastal ecosystems.

To help achieve this goal, NYSG is specifically soliciting research that:

1. Improves understanding of how climate threats/hazards (e.g. flooding, SLR, storm surge, extreme hazards, lake level (high and low)) will impact water-dependent businesses/tourism/coastal economies.

2. Improves the understanding of how different water-dependent businesses/industries understand, perceive, and react to coastal risks and hazards.
3. Identifies the barriers to coastal communities, businesses, and governments that prevent investments in building resilience to coastal hazards and tests or models novel financial mechanisms, based on these barriers, that can be used to incentivize these investments.
4. Investigates opportunities for and barriers to innovative solutions that enhance ecological, economic and social resilience of coastal businesses. (e.g., seaweed farming, emerging recreational fishing opportunities, job opportunities related to renewables, agriculture (including aquaculture)).

NYSG GOAL C2: Coastal communities (e.g., local governments, resource managers (including property owners), and inhabitants) have the capability and research-based resources to prepare for and adapt to extreme and chronic weather and coastal hazards, climate change, economic disruptions, and other challenges to community health and well-being.

To help achieve this goal, NYSG is specifically soliciting research that:

1. Evaluates the advantages and disadvantages, costs/benefits, ecosystem services and/or community acceptance of policy or management actions such as setbacks/retreat, elevate, buyout, and other resilience planning options for improved community resilience to coastal hazards and/or other climate change impacts.
2. Investigates opportunities for and barriers to the use of green infrastructure/nature-based features, smart growth principles, and other sustainable planning/development strategies for increasing community resilience and adaptation to extreme events and/or climate change impacts. This may occur in a small geography if the approach can be scaled up to other New York areas.
3. Models the social or economic impacts of climate change on coastal communities.
4. Models relationships between storms (e.g. hurricanes, seiche, and nor'easters) and erosion processes which may incorporate atmospheric (weather/climate) research to estimate future risk.
5. Models, communicates, and/or forecasts rip currents as well as dangerous currents associated with industrial/developed shores (e.g. piers, boardwalks, vertical walls, groins, jetties, or other shoreline structures, etc.).
6. Models climate-induced human population changes and/or develops research-based practices or tools for communities expecting population shifts.
7. Investigates tools, methods and practices, using participatory action research or co-production research methods, to consider social, cultural and/or financial acceptance of practices to increase resilience in underserved communities and/or communities with environmental justice concerns.

NYSG GOAL C3: Water resources are enhanced, sustained, and protected to meet existing

and emerging needs of the communities and economies that depend on them.

To help achieve this goal, NYSG is specifically soliciting research that:

1. Advances the understanding of climate risks to the quality, quantity, and availability of water resources.
2. Explores the utilization of green infrastructure/nature-based features, low-impact development, and other sustainable development strategies to improve water quality and protect water resources.
3. Evaluates the best methods for communicating best management practices to protect water quality and quantity.

Focus Area D. Environmental Literacy & Workforce Development

NYSG GOAL D1: A diverse, environmentally literate public participates in a continuum of lifelong formal and non-formal learning opportunities.

To help achieve this goal, NYSG is specifically soliciting research that

1. Measures the baseline level of environmental literacy (ie: Great Lakes, Ocean, Climate literacy) in our schools, communities, and decision-makers, and develops and tests methods that increase environmental literacy across diverse audiences.
2. Measures the impact of environmental literacy on individual or community economic and social quality of life.
3. Investigates the attitudes, and perceptions and how the people of New York connect and relate to their local watersheds and environments.
4. Investigates how to increase the integration of traditional and indigenous knowledge into environmental literacy materials.

NYSG GOAL D2: A resilient, diverse, and skilled workforce is engaged and enabled to address critical local, regional, and national needs through traditional and innovative careers.

To help achieve this goal, NYSG is specifically soliciting research that:

1. Models and forecasts critical labor needs for the local, regional, and national coastal sectors.
2. Analyzes the gaps related to coastal workforce career opportunity awareness and educational training materials available in New York school curricula

III. GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT PRE-PROPOSAL SUBMISSION

A. Who is Eligible to Submit:

Faculty at New York academic institutions are the main targets and recipients of NYSG's

research funds. Nevertheless, proposals from other groups may be accepted and approved for funding. Eligible groups are listed below in order of preference for funding under this Call:

1. Researchers at universities and colleges.
2. Researchers at other not-for-profit research institutions.
3. Researchers who are personnel of state or local agencies, or of not-for-profit organizations.
4. Researchers at for-profit institutions or companies.

Important Notes: All proposals submitted under this Research Call for 2024-2025 must be **led** by an eligible researcher with their primary professional base in New York State. Federal employees may participate in projects as collaborators, but they may not be included in the budget. Federal employees and institutions are not eligible for compensation or budget items of any sort, and their contributions to the proposed research cannot be used as a source of cost-share. Graduate students cannot be included as PIs.

New for this year: Lead PIs who have received funding from the previous two consecutive Biennial Calls are not eligible to submit until the next Biennial Call (2026-2027).

B. Duration of Proposed Work:

Funding made available under this Call will cover two years (2/1/2024 - 1/31/2026). While NYSG is accepting proposals for up to two years of work, only one year of support is awarded at a time. Continued support for the second year of a project will be contingent on demonstrated progress and annual Federal appropriations. Proposals for one-year projects are also welcome.

C. Budget Size (total of indirect plus direct costs):

The total budget request (direct + indirect costs) for a project may not exceed \$120,000 per year, including funds for the Sea Grant Scholar Fellow (see below). Note that the budget estimates in pre-proposal submissions are expected to be realistic. A substantial budget change (greater than 10%) in the full proposal compared to the pre-proposal will be viewed negatively and may result in either the proposal not being reviewed or budget cuts without changes in the scope of work. Awards under this Call are administered as a Cost Reimbursable Award (CRA) and successful applicants must submit invoices to NYSG for reimbursement.

D. Cost-Share Requirement:

Sea Grant requires non-federal cost-share (a.k.a. matching funds) support in the amount of at least 50 percent of the Sea Grant funds requested. For example, if \$100K is requested from Sea Grant, the proposal's budget page must demonstrate an additional \$50K of non-federal cost-share. The match at the end of each year of the grant should not fall below 50 percent of the federal request up to that point. In-kind contributions directly supporting the application may count towards this matching requirement.

Match may be in the form of selected "in kind" services, unrecovered indirect, or additional

funds from a specified institution, agency, industry, or non-federal program. No funds from federal entities can be used as match. Letters certifying match commitment will be required in the full proposal.

E. Limit on Salary Requests:

Principal and associate investigators with appointments providing nine (9) or more months of support annually are generally not allowed to receive more than two (2) months' total salary from NYSG per year. Other eligible principal and associate investigators will generally be allowed to receive up to six (6) months' salary from NYSG per year. These limits may be relaxed under exceptional circumstances, with prior approval from NYSG. Under all circumstances, the amount of salary support requested or provided as cost-share must be warranted by the effort needed to conduct the project.

F. Regional or Multi-state Proposals:

All Sea Grant programs are on the same funding cycle, which facilitates collaborative projects between states. If you are interested in submitting a regional or multi-state proposal that is not part of a special Regional Call, you must contact NYSG's Director and Research Coordinator and your co-PIs must contact their state Sea Grant director(s) and research coordinators prior to submission. It is critical that submitters be familiar with, and comply with, the due dates and processes as specified by their state's Sea Grant program.

G. Duplicate Submissions:

NYSG should be immediately informed by the Principal Investigator if a proposal submitted under this Call will also be submitted elsewhere, e.g., in response to a call released by the National Sea Grant College Program, another state Sea Grant program, or any other funding agency or source. It is NYSG's policy to consider only proposals submitted specifically in response to, and within the due dates for, this Call. Full proposals will not be considered unless they were in this Call's pool from the start as a pre-proposal.

H. Data Management/Sharing Plan:

NOAA regulations require that data and information collected and/or created under NOAA (including Sea Grant) grants must be made visible, accessible, and independently understandable to general users, free of charge or at minimal cost, in a timely manner (typically no later than two years after the data are collected or created), except where limited by law, regulation, policy or by security requirements.

The requirement has two basic parts: (1) environmental and socio-economic data generated by a grant project must be made available after a reasonable period of exclusive use (typically no more than 2 years), and (2) the grant proposal must describe the plan to make the data available.

To comply with this requirement, in NYSG's full proposal stage the principal investigator must include a data management plan that describes how the project's data and metadata will be made available to others. Deposition of data in standard data archives (e.g., by discipline) or in available university archives is encouraged. This requirement for data archiving is in addition to the expected publication of research results in peer-reviewed journals. The proposed plan will be reviewed for compliance with NOAA requirements. If funds are needed for this task, they may be included in the project pre-proposal and full proposal

budgets. Further details are provided with the full proposal submission guidance.

I. Extension and Outreach Plan:

All research proposals will be evaluated with regard to clear linkages between the objectives to be conducted and the public benefits that will result, in terms of improving the understanding, assessment, use, management, conservation, or restoration of marine and coastal resources. Proposals will be evaluated based on the usefulness of the final products for NYSG constituencies. It is strongly suggested to identify specific target audiences. If you need assistance with identifying appropriate target audiences, NYSG extension staff should be able to help. See the staff list in section VI. Publication of results in academic journals alone is insufficient evidence of a successful outreach, education, or communication strategy.

Principal investigators of research projects funded under this award must develop, in collaboration with NYSG staff, an extension and outreach plan within two months of the start of the project. The extension and outreach plan is to be implemented throughout the duration of the project. The plan should be customized for the specific funded project and use tools and methods and target the audiences most appropriate to maximize the potential impact and use of the project results. Outreach plans can include a variety of tools and activities in any combination, including workshops, talks, social media, websites, articles, videos, or other ideas developed in the plan. An extension and outreach plan template is provided with the instructions for full proposals sent to PIs encouraged to submit full proposals. Principal investigators of funded research projects will be contacted by NYSG staff after the start of their project to coordinate the development of the outreach plan. Please ensure the inclusion of estimated expenses needed to support project-related extension and outreach activities in both the project pre- and full proposal budgets. For help with estimating an amount to include in the budget estimate, NYSG extension staff should be able to help. See the staff list in section VI. Further details are provided with the full proposal submission guidance.

J. Abbreviated Environmental Compliance Questionnaire:

Principal investigators of research projects funded under this award must provide a filled-out Abbreviated Environmental Compliance Questionnaire (NEPA form) and copies of associated permits, and permission of access before data collection can begin. The questionnaire is a fillable pdf form that will be provided with the full proposal instructions along with guidance for filling out the form along with filled-out examples. Further details are provided with the full proposal submission guidance.

K. Sea Grant Scholar Fellowships:

The Sea Grant Scholar Fellowship awards are a mechanism through which NYSG stimulates study and provides support, in the form of a stipend, to graduate students who carry out research relevant to projects funded through its program. In this case, Sea Grant Scholars are fellows rather than employees which saves some costs on the project's budget.

Sea Grant Scholar Fellowship stipends are pre-determined by the principal investigator(s) of the project, and are based on the prevailing rates of the student's department at the time the project's budget was submitted to NYSG for funding consideration. ***When the project award is made, the investigator's account will not include funds proposed for Sea Grant Scholar***

Fellowship stipends. Those funds are “withheld” and Sea Grant Scholar payroll distribution is managed directly by NYSG. Any funds for Scholars are specified on a separate line in the 90-4 budget form and on the project’s Award Acceptance Form.

Full Sea Grant Scholar Fellowship details are sent with the full proposal instructions for PIs encouraged to submit full proposals. For questions, please contact New York Sea Grant’s fiscal officer - JeanAnn Johnston at 631-632-6908 or jean.johnston@stonybrook.edu.

Project PIs are encouraged to include Sea Grant Scholars as part of their projects.

L. What and When to Submit:

NYSG uses a pre-proposal process. A complete, PC-readable Pre-proposal Submission Form (see Section VII) ***must be received by the deadline of 4:30 pm EST on Tuesday, January 17, 2023***, through NYSG’s electronic submission website: www.NYSGProposal.org. Click on “New York Sea Grant’s Biennial Research Call for 2024-2025” under “Current Funding Opportunities” and follow all directions for electronic submission. *At the pre-proposal stage, the signatures of principal investigators or campus officials are not required.*

Use all-around margins of at least 1” and a font size of #12 Times New Roman. Convert your document to pdf before submission. *Your project description, parts 6a – 6c is to be a maximum of two pages.*

Do not include information or materials supplemental to the Pre-proposal Submission Form (e.g., full budget, appendices, letters of support, etc.). Such materials will be discarded without review.

Important notes about pre-proposal submission:

Submissions that do not include the required information will not be considered (see Section VII for Instructions).

- Double-check your Pre-proposal Submission Form PDF file before uploading it to the submission website to make sure it is readable and that it is the final version. *The submission must be in the form of a single pdf file.* You will receive an auto-receipt from the website confirming your submission. If you do not receive an auto-receipt in your email after 10 minutes, check your spam folder and if not there then contact Lane Smith at 631-632-9780).
- We recommend submission via a PC at your university office, with a current version of Edge, Firefox, or Chrome web browser installed. If you are working from home, you are responsible for making sure you have an adequate stable internet connection that will allow for your submission. Early submission will provide a buffer to deal with any unexpected connectivity issues.
- If you have trouble with submission through www.NYSGProposal.org, call NYSG (631- 632-9780) to explain the problem. We will try to help, but cannot guarantee that we can solve your problem. In any case, unless the website becomes inoperable, it is *your* responsibility to plan accordingly and use equipment that will allow you to meet the deadline (*Tip: Just enter the first few words of your project title in the title field of the submission form. The entire project title is not necessary.*).
- A pre-proposal emailed after the deadline of 4:30 pm EST on January 17, 2023, will not be accepted and its lead investigator will be notified. Please be sure to watch the

website's clock (not your computer's clock)! Even if you are on the website before the deadline, if your file is not submitted by 4:30 PM, it will be too late to be accepted. The official time stamp on the submission is provided by the website's server.

- All pre-proposals submitted will be checked for compliance with the format, page limits, and completeness of the pre-proposal sections. Any pre-proposals that fail the compliance check will be disqualified.

NYSG will not make exceptions to these conditions, so *early submission is very strongly advised.*

IV. THE REVIEW PROCESS

Pre-proposals submitted to NYSG in response to this Call will be reviewed by NYSG's senior program managers, extension specialists, and Program Advisory Council. The following criteria will be used in this evaluation:

- How well the project responds to one or more of the research priorities contained in Section II (0 to +5)
- Likelihood that the proposed approach will be successful (0 to +2)
- Expected actionable products and outcomes for use by NYSG constituencies, anticipated societal benefits from the results (0 to +5)
- Other programmatic considerations such as geographic, institutional, and topic balance, may result in out-of-rank order selection

Only authors of the most highly-rated pre-proposals will be encouraged to submit full proposals. In this cycle, NYSG will invite about twice as many full proposals as it expects to be able to fund. Any PI who submits a pre-proposal is permitted to submit a full proposal. However, though non-encouraged proposal submissions are accepted they historically have had a low chance of success. During full proposal development, investigators will be expected to facilitate coordination with, or input from, industry, agency, or private groups as appropriate to ensure actionable research results and outcomes with a user group. If you need assistance with identifying appropriate target audiences, NYSG extension staff should be able to help if PIs reach out proactively. See the staff list in section VI.

Full proposals will be subject to external peer review and a Technical Review Panel (TRP). Each full proposal will receive written peer reviews from three non-conflicted, external peer reviewers. Proposal PIs will be given masked copies of the written peer reviews and given the opportunity to write responses to the reviews. The TRP will consist of external academic peers. Peer reviewers and TRP members will be instructed to evaluate and score proposals based on the following criteria:

- 1) The fit and responsiveness to the NYSG goals and research topics listed in Section II of the *Biennial Research Call for 2024-2025* – how well the proposed work plan addresses the Goal and research topic of the *Call* (0 to +25);

- 2) the scientific or technical merit of the project – the degree to which the research activity uses appropriate hypotheses and/or methods; the degree to which it will advance the state of the science or discipline through development, use, application, or extension of methods (0 to +25);
- 3) the expected actionable products, outcomes and anticipated societal benefits of the project results – significance and importance of the products (models, methods, and scientific information) and impacts (change in behavior/policies, economic and/ or social benefits, and environmental benefits) that are expected to result from this project and can be used by NYSG constituencies; accessibility of the products and documentable impacts (0 to +25);
- 4) the appropriateness of the budget request and match – the degree to which the requested funding and matching costs levels are appropriate and reflect reasonable costs for the proposed research (0 to +15);
- 5) the professional qualifications of investigators – the degree to which investigators are qualified by education, training, and/or experience to execute the proposed activity; record of achievement with previous funding (0 to +10).

Peer reviewers and TRP members are asked to provide comments under each criterion and provide an overall summary score as follows:

A = 4 = Excellent: Probably will fall among the top 10% of proposals in the area of research; highest priority for support.

B = 3 = Very Good: Probably will fall among the top third of proposals in the area of research; should be supported.

C = 2 = Good: Probably will fall among the middle third of proposals in the area of research; worthy of support.

D = 1 = Fair: Probably will fall among the lowest third of proposals in the area of research.

F = 0 = Poor: Proposal has serious deficiencies; should not be supported.

Final proposal scores and ranking will be based on peer reviews and TRP scoring based on peer reviews, PI responses, and Panel discussions. Final funding decisions are made by the NYSG senior leadership team and incorporate all peer and panel reviews and rankings, relevancy input from the New York Sea Grant Program Advisory Council, as well as the availability of funding, prior award performance of applicants, and balance across the portfolio such as institutions, geography, focus areas, and applicant diversity, which may result in out of rank order proposals selected for funding. Selected applicants can expect notification in July 2023.

V. CALL TIMELINE

December 5, 2022	Call for pre-proposals released
December 12	RFP informational webinar
January 17, 2023, 4:30 pm	Deadline for pre-proposals (via the NYSG submission website)
February 23	Pre-proposal Review Panel Meets*
February 28	NYSG notifies PIs of pre-proposal review panel results
March 3	Full proposal informational webinar
May 8, 4:30 pm	Deadline for full proposals including the Subrecipient Form,

	University Officials Contact Form (via NYSG submission website)
June 21	Full proposal PI's receive masked peer reviews for response
July 5	Deadline for PI responses to reviews
July 17	Technical Review Panel Meets*
July 20	NYSG notifies all investigators of funding decisions
August 21	Deadline for revisions, final budgets (90-4 excel), NEPA questionnaire of successful proposals
Sep 15, 2022	Permits, permissions, and IRB approvals for funded proposals due
January 1, 2024	Signed Award Acceptance Form, and Permits/Permissions due back from PIs
February 1	Anticipated funding begins for new projects
By April 1	Outreach plan due
February 1, 2025	Anticipated funding continues for 2-year projects with satisfactory progress

*Dates are approximate and tentative depending upon scheduling with panel members and NYSG's Program Officer at the National Sea Grant Office.

VI. NEW YORK SEA GRANT STAFF

Research Administration (at Stony Brook University)

Rebecca L. Shuford, Director (631-632-6905, rebecca.shuford@stonybrook.edu)

JeanAnn Johnston, Fiscal Officer (631-632-6908, jean.johnston@stonybrook.edu)

Lane Smith, Research Program Coordinator (631-632-9780, lane.smith@stonybrook.edu)

Extension Specialists (locations throughout New York State)

Katherine Bunting-Howarth, Associate Director (607-255-2832 at Cornell University, keb264@cornell.edu) – coastal policy and decision-making; public participation; human dimensions of coastal management; climate-induced human migration.

Mary Austerman (315-314-3042 at Wayne County Cooperative Extension, mp357@cornell.edu) – Great Lakes Coastal Community Development Specialist.

Michael Ciaramella (631-632-8730 at Stony Brook University, mc2544@cornell.edu) – Seafood Specialist.

Antoinette Clemetson (631-632-8730 at Stony Brook University, aoc5@cornell.edu) – Marine Fisheries Specialist.

Nate Drag (716-645-3610 at University at Buffalo, nwd4@cornell.edu) - Coastal Literacy Specialist; Associate Director of University at Buffalo's Great Lakes Program.

Vacant (631-632-8730 at Stony Brook University) - Aquaculture Specialist.

Kathleen Fallon (631-632-8730 at Stony Brook University, kmf228@cornell.edu) – Coastal Processes & Hazards Specialist.

Stacy Furgal (315-312-3042 at SUNY Oswego, Slf85@cornell.edu) - Great Lakes fisheries and

ecosystem health specialist.

Gwen Gallagher (631-632-8730 at Stony Brook University, geg59@cornell.edu) - Coastal Climate Specialist.

Lillit (Lilli) Genovesi (718-595-3954 at New York City Department of Environmental Protection, Flushing, NY, lg543@cornell.edu) - Long Island Sound Outreach Coordinator, NYC.

Katie Graziano (718-951-5415 at Science and Resilience Institute at Jamaica Bay, Brooklyn College, kag247@cornell.edu) - Coastal Resilience Specialist.

Elizabeth Hornstein (631-632-8730 at Stony Brook University, eeh78@cornell.edu) - Sustainable and Resilient Communities (SRC) Specialist, Suffolk County.

Megan Kocher (716-645-3610 at University at Buffalo, mk2236@cornell.edu) - Great Lakes Outreach Coordinator.

Jessica Kuonen (845-340-3983 at Kingston, NY, jak546@cornell.edu) - Hudson Estuary Resilience Specialist.

Jimena Perez-Viscasillas (631-632-8730 at Stony Brook University, jbp255@cornell.edu) - Outreach Coordinator, Long Island Sound Study.

Sara Powell (914-285-4620 at Westchester County Cooperative Extension, slp285@cornell.edu) - Sustainable and Resilient Communities (SRC) Specialist, Westchester County.

Sarah Schaefer-Brown (516-832-2591 at Cornell Cooperative Extension of Nassau County, scs292@cornell.edu) - Sustainable and Resilient Communities (SRC) Specialist, Nassau County.

Vacant (315-312-3042 at SUNY College Oswego,) – Recreation and Tourism Specialist

Roy Widrig (315-312-3042 at SUNY College Oswego, rlw294@cornell.edu) – Great Lakes Coastal Processes and Hazards Specialist.

Communications Staff (at Stony Brook University)

Paul Focazio (631-632-6910, paul.focazio@stonybrook.edu) – communications manager, web developer.

VII. PRE-PROPOSAL SUBMISSION FORM

Be sure to use the format and provide the information as described below. **Every Section (1-9) and all of the information specified within it is required.** Submissions that do not include all of this information will NOT be reviewed or encouraged to submit a full proposal. Any PI that submits a pre-proposal before the deadline can submit a full proposal. Though non-encouraged proposal submissions are accepted, they historically have had a low chance of success. Use all-around margins of 1” and a font size and type #12 Times New Roman. Convert your document to pdf before submission.

Pre-proposal Submission to the NYSG Biennial Research Call for 2024-2025

Date: _____

1. LAST NAMES OF PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATORS: (e.g., Smith / Doe / Jones)

2. BRIEF PROJECT TITLE:

3. INVESTIGATOR(S): List **all** principal (PI), co-principal (co-PI), and associate (AI) investigators, including name, mailing address, telephone, and email for each. *Also* indicate eligibility category (#1, 2, 3, or 4) from the Call’s Section III.A for each. The primary institutional affiliation of the lead investigator must be an institution located in New York State. Students and NYSG staff cannot have PI, co-PI, or AI status.

4. PROJECT DETAILS:

A. Addressing Which Research Topic: Indicate or list the Research Goal, and Number, from Section II of this Call that will be addressed by this submission (e.g., *Goal A1, Number 2 Develops or use ecosystem-based models/studies that examine how species/populations have shifted over time and the environmental factors driving those shifts, and how climate changes may impact species/populations in the future*).

B. Regional or multi-program submission? Indicate yes or no, whether the pre-proposal is part of a regional or multi-program submission being considered by other state Sea Grant programs. If yes, indicate which Sea Grant programs. Proposals in response to Special Regional Sea Grant RFPs should not be submitted with this form. Yes___ No___

C. Data Management Plan: Indicate your acknowledgment that proposals recommended for funding must provide an acceptable data management/sharing plan to be added to the proposal and that compliance with the plan will be required, and that the preproposal’s budget estimate provides for this. Yes___

D. Extension and Outreach Plan: Indicate your acknowledgment that an acceptable extension and outreach plan developed with NYSG extension staff will be required by two months after the start of a project if it is funded and that the preproposal’s budget estimate provides for this. Yes___

E. Abbreviated Environmental Compliance Questionnaire: Indicate your acknowledgment that an Abbreviated Environmental Compliance Questionnaire and copies of any required permits and permissions will be required for proposals recommended for funding and that data

collection cannot begin before these items are reviewed and approved by the National Sea Grant Office and NOAA. Yes___

5. BUDGET: Total of direct plus indirect costs.

A. Estimated Request for Federal Funds from New York Sea Grant

Year One \$ _____ Year Two \$ _____ Total Request \$ _____

B. Estimated Non-Federal Cost-Share to be Provided to New York Sea Grant

Year One \$ _____ Year Two \$ _____ Total Match \$ _____

C. Expected Source(s) of Cost Share:

D. Sea Grant Scholar Requested?: Yes ___ No ___

6. BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT: Starting on a new page, use no more than two pages with the following a-c headings to describe your proposed project.

- a) **STATEMENT OF THE ISSUE AND OBJECTIVES:** Explain how the research you propose will address the topic(s) you have chosen from Section II's list. Present the overall objectives of your proposed study. Alternatively, if the proposal involves model and/or decision-making tool development, clearly state the intent and intended end-users.
- b) **APPROACH:** Very briefly describe the general approach to be used in accomplishing the objectives.
- c) **EXPECTED ACTIONABLE PRODUCTS, OUTCOMES AND ANTICIPATED SOCIETAL BENEFIT(S):** Explain what products (techniques, tools, models, and scientific information) are expected to result from this project, who will use them, how will they be engaged, and what the anticipated societal benefit(s) will be within New York and beyond.

7. LITERATURE CITED: Present the full citations for any work referenced in Section 6, where they may be labeled as (1), (2, 3), etc. The space required for Section 7 is not counted under the 2-page maximum for Section 6. If no references are used in Section 6, state "none".

8. CVs: Provide a Curriculum Vita for each listed investigator (Principal Investigator, Co-Principal Investigator, Associate Investigator) with a 2-page maximum per person. Contact NYSG if you need more information.

9. POSSIBLE PEER REVIEWERS: Starting on a new page, list the names and affiliations of up to four out-of-state individuals of national standing and pertinent expertise who we might ask to provide peer reviews of your submission. Do *not* include individuals with whom you have worked or collaborated within the last 4 years or who would be considered to have a professional or personal conflict of interest. We may or may not use these individuals, so do not contact them yourself. You may also request that certain individuals not be asked to review your proposal.

The information for Section 9 is for internal NYSG use only. Like Sections 1 through 8, omitting this section will cause your submission to NOT be reviewed or encouraged to submit a full proposal.

*** Per US Department of Commerce Requirements Sea Grant is required to ask the below VOLUNTARY demographic question. Responses, or non-responses, have no relation to or bearing on the proposal review process or evaluation.**

Please provide the following information for all named collaborators on your proposal. (2022, OMB approved for PRA under DOC generic clearance information collections, 0690-0030 and 0690-0035)

If you choose to respond, please use this [optional form](#) for collecting the information and do not include as part of your application package.

Do you or your organization identify with any of the following groups that the federal government, in Executive Order 13985, has identified as underserved? Check all that apply.

- a) Black
- b) Latino
- c) Indigenous and/or Native American
- d) Asian American
- e) Pacific Islander
- f) Other person of color
- g) Members of religious minorities
- h) Lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer (LGBTQ+) persons
- i) Persons with disabilities
- j) Persons who live in rural areas
- k) Persons otherwise adversely affected by persistent poverty or inequality
- l) No, I do not identify with any of these groups