**STATE OF MAINE**

**Department of Environmental Protection**

*Division of Environmental Assessment*

**RFA# 202409172**

**Grants for Lake Restoration using an In-lake Aluminum Treatment**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **RFA Coordinator** | *All communication regarding the RFA must be made through the RFA Coordinator identified below*.**Name:** Linda Bacon **Title:** Lake Assessment Section Leader**Contact Information:** linda.c.bacon@maine.gov  |
| **Submitted Questions Due** | *All questions must be received by the RFA Coordinator identified above by:***Date:** October 23, 2024, no later than 11:59 p.m., local time |
| **ApplicationSubmission Deadline** | *Applications must be received by the Office of State Procurement Services by:***Submission Deadline:** November 6, 2024, no later than 11:59 p.m., local time.*Applications must be submitted electronically to:* Proposals@maine.gov |

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**RFA TERMS/ACRONYMS with DEFINITIONS**

The following terms and acronyms, as referenced in the RFA, have the meanings indicated below:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Term/Acronym** | **Definition** |
| **Department or DEP** | Department of Environmental Protection |
| **NPS** | Nonpoint Source Pollution |
| **RFA** | Request for Application |
| **QAPP** | Quality Assurance Project Plan |
| **SOP** | Standard Operating Procedures |
| **State** | State of Maine |
| **WBP** | Watershed-based Plan |
| **Alum treatment**  | In-lake aluminum treatment  |

**PART I OVERVIEW OF THE GRANT OPPORTUNITY**

## Purpose and Background

As defined in this Request for Applications (RFA) document, the Department of Environmental Protection (Department or DEP) is seeking applications to implement in-lake aluminum treatment projects to restore lakes that have impaired water quality due to internal phosphorus recycling from anoxic sediments. This document provides instructions for submitting applications, the procedure and criteria by which the awarded Applicant(s) will be selected, and the contractual terms which will govern the relationship between the State of Maine (State) and the awarded Applicant(s).

## General Provisions

1. From the time this RFA is issued until award notification is made, all contact with the State regarding this RFA must be made through the RFA Coordinator identified on the cover page of this RFA. No other person/State employee is empowered to make binding statements regarding this RFA. Violation of this provision may lead to disqualification from the application process, at the State’s discretion.
2. Issuance of the RFA does not commit the Department to issue an award or to pay expenses incurred by an Applicant in the preparation of a response to the RFA. This includes attendance at personal interviews or other meetings, where applicable.
3. All applications must adhere to the instructions and format requirements outlined in the RFA and all written supplements and amendments (such as the Summary of Questions and Answers), issued by the Department. Applications are to follow the format and respond to all questions and instructions specified in Part III of the RFA.
4. Applicants will take careful note that in evaluating an application submitted in response to this RFA, the Department will consider materials provided in the application, information obtained through interviews/presentations (if any), and internal Departmental information of previous contract history with the Applicant (if any). The Department also reserves the right to consider other reliable references and publicly available information in evaluating the Applicant’s experience and capabilities.
5. The application must be signed by a person authorized to legally bind the Applicant and must contain a statement that the proposal and the pricing contained therein will remain valid and binding for a period of 180 days from the date and time of the bid opening.
6. The RFA and the awarded Applicant’s proposal, including all appendices or attachments, will be the basis for the final contract, as determined by the Department.
7. Following announcement of an award decision, all submissions in response to this RFA will be public records, available for public inspection pursuant to the State of Maine Freedom of Access Act (FOAA) ([1 M.R.S. § 401](http://www.mainelegislature.org/legis/statutes/1/title1sec401.html) et seq.).
8. The Department, at its sole discretion, reserves the right to recognize and waive minor informalities and irregularities found in applications received in response to the RFA.
9. All applicable laws, whether or not herein contained, shall be included by this reference. It shall be the Applicant’s responsibility to determine the applicability and requirements of any such laws and to abide by them.

## Eligibility to Submit Applications

1. Eligible recipients under this RFA are public organizations such as state agencies, soil and water conservation districts, regional planning commissions, watershed districts, and municipalities, and incorporated nonprofit organizations with federal tax-exempt status [501(c)(3)].
2. The lake must have a current watershed-based management plan (also referred to as WBP or 9-element plan) accepted by the Department that identifies internal recycling of phosphorus from the sediments as a major source and includes proportion estimates of all phosphorus sources. Refer to <http://www.maine.gov/dep/water/grants/319.html> for the list of accepted plans.
3. A Maine Pollution Discharge Elimination System (MEPDES) permit and a Maine Waste Discharge License (WDL) have already been issued by the Maine DEP for the alum treatment.

## Awards

The Department anticipates making one award as a result of this RFA process. Funds for grants will be from the Lake Water Quality Restoration and Protection Fund (38 MRSA 480-N).

Approximately $200,000 will be available for alum treatment, pending State approvals.

1. **Appeal of Contract Awards**

Any person aggrieved by the award decision that results from this Request for Applications may appeal the decision to the Director of the Bureau of General Services in the manner prescribed in 5 MRSA § 1825-E and 18-554 Code of Maine Rules, Chapter 120 (found here: [Chapter 120](https://www.maine.gov/dafs/bbm/procurementservices/policies-procedures/chapter-120)).  The appeal must be in writing and filed with the Director of the Bureau of General Services, 9 State House Station, Augusta, Maine, 04333-0009 within 15 calendar days of receipt of notification of contract award.

1. **Applicable Legislation**

Pursuant to Maine statutes (38 MRS §1841 and [38 MRSA §410](https://www.mainelegislature.org/legis/statutes/38/title38sec410-H.html)), the Department is charged with protecting the water quality of Maine’s lakes and to prevent or reduce nonpoint source (NPS) water pollution. Section 38 MRS §480-N established the Lake Water Quality Restoration and Protection Fund, which authorizes the Department to provide grant funding to achieve these goals, and the 131st Maine Legislature approved the allocation of $200,000 into this non-lapsing account in the 2025 State Fiscal Year.

**PART II ACTIVITIES AND REQUIREMENTS**

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1. **Project Design**

The Department is seeking applications to implement in-lake aluminum treatment projects to restore lakes that have impaired water quality due to internal phosphorus recycling due to anoxia. Projects funded under this RFA must be guided by a Watershed-based Management Plan (WBP) accepted by the Department.

1. This RFA will fund up to 50% of the total cost of the full alum treatment, which could include multiple applications over a one-to-three-year time frame.
2. Proposed projects must follow the requirements of the MEPDES permit.
3. Project monitoring must follow the current State of Maine Lake Assessment Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP) In-Lake Aluminum Treatment Monitoring Standard Operating Procedures (SOP), including certification requirements and any other applicable SOPs.
4. Projects may need to purchase goods or services to complete project activities. Subcontracts should be created with vendors or consultants that specify the costs and terms of the procurement of any goods or services.
5. **Allowable Use of Funds**

Grant funds under this RFA may only be used for alum treatments costs. This will only include alum treatment contractor and chemical costs.

1. **Non-Allowable Use of Funds**

Grant funds under this RFA may not be used for activities ancillary to the alum treatment, including but not limited to, water quality monitoring, permitting, grant administration and reporting, and public outreach.

1. **Match**
	1. Grants funds awarded under this RFA must be matched 1:1. For example, a $200,000 grant would need to provide at least $200,000 in eligible local match.
	2. Eligible match must be related to the actual alum treatment, including the alum treatment contractor, chemical costs and monitoring required under the MEPDES permit (except “advanced monitoring thereafter”).
	3. Ineligible match includes all other costs associated with the alum treatment, including but not limited to, permitting, grant administration and reporting, advanced monitoring following treatment and public outreach.
2. **Contract Term**

The anticipated contract period for awards is defined in the table below. Please note that the dates below are estimated and may be adjusted, as necessary. The term of the anticipated contract, resulting from the RFA, is defined as follows:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Period** | **Start Date** | **End Date** |
| Initial Period of Performance | 1/30/25 | 1/30/26 |
| Optional No-Cost Extension | 1/30/26 | 1/30/27 |

Applicants may schedule work to be conducted for up to one year. The Department recognizes that unforeseen delays or extenuating circumstances sometimes occur that require additional time to complete a project. If this is necessary, the Department may approve a no-cost time extension for up to one year beyond the original project completion date specified in the work plan, but for no later than the two-year grant agreement expiration date.

1. **Reporting Requirements**

The following items are required for project reporting.

* Quarterly progress reports
* Final project report (as required in MEPDES permit)
* Summary and documentation of eligible local match and grant costs

**PART III KEY PROCESS EVENTS**

## Submission of Questions

* 1. **General Instructions:** It is the responsibility of all Applicants and other interested parties to examine the entire RFA and to seek clarification, in writing, if they do not understand any information or instructions.
		1. Applicants and other interested parties should use **Appendix A** (Submitted Questions Form) for submission of questions. The form is to be submitted as a WORD document.
		2. Questions must be submitted, by e-mail, and received by the RFA Coordinator identified on the cover page of the RFA as soon as possible but no later than the date and time specified on the RFA cover page.
		3. Submitted Questions must include the RFA Number and Title in the subject line of the e-mail. The Department assumes no liability for assuring accurate/complete/on time e-mail transmission and receipt.
	2. **Question & Answer Summary:** Responses to all questions will be compiled in writing and posted on the State’s Office of State Procurement Services [Grant RFPs and RFAs](https://www.maine.gov/dafs/bbm/procurementservices/vendors/grants) website. It is the responsibility of all interested parties to go to this website to obtain a copy of the Question & Answer Summary. Only those answers issued in writing on this website will be considered binding.

## Amendments

All amendments released in regard to this RFA will be posted on the Office of State Procurement Services [Grant RFPs and RFAs](https://www.maine.gov/dafs/bbm/procurementservices/vendors/grants) website. It is the responsibility of all interested parties to go to this website to obtain amendments. Only those amendments posted on this website are considered binding.

## Application Submission

* 1. **Applications Due:** Applications must be received no later than 11:59 p.m. local time, on the date listed on the cover page of the RFA.
		1. Any e-mails containing original application submissions or any additional or revised application files, received after the 11:59 p.m. deadline, will be rejected without exception.
1. **Delivery Instructions:** Applications must be submitted electronically to the State of Maine Office of State Procurement Services at proposals@maine.gov.
	1. Only applications received by e-mail will be considered. The Department assumes no liability for assuring accurate/complete e-mail transmission and receipt.

Application submission e-mails that are successfully received by the proposals@maine.gov inbox will receive an automatic reply stating as such.

* 1. E-mails containing links to file sharing sites or online file repositories will not be accepted as submissions. Only e-mail application submissions that have the requested files attached will be accepted.
	2. Encrypted e-mails received which require opening attachments and logging into a proprietary system will not be accepted as submissions. It is the Applicant’s responsibility to check with its organization’s information technology team to ensure that security settings will not encrypt its application submission.
	3. File size limits are 25MB per e-mail. Applicants may submit files across multiple e-mails, as necessary, due to file size concerns. All e-mails and files must be received by the due date and time as described above.
	4. Applicants are to insert the following into the subject line of their e-mail submission: “**RFA# 202409172 Application Submission – [Applicant’s Name]**”.
1. **Submission Contents**
2. The Application Form must be submitted as a single, typed, PDF file and should be limited to a maximum of 16 pages.
3. Applicants are not to provide additional attachments beyond those specified in the RFA or Application Form for the purpose of extending their response. Materials not requested will not be considered part of the application and will not be evaluated.
4. Application submissions must include all required information and attachments as summarized below.
5. **Application Cover Page** (max: 1 page)

Applicants should complete the application cover page that is provided with the application. The application cover page must be the first page of the application package. The application cover page shall be dated and signed by a person authorized to enter into contracts on behalf of the Applicant.

**2. RESPONSIBLE BIDDER Certification Form** (max: 1 page)

Bidders must complete **Appendix B** (Responsible Bidder Certification). The Responsible Bidder Certification must be dated and signed by a person authorized to enter into contracts on behalf of the Bidder.

1. **Applicant Qualifications and Experience** (max: 1 page)

**a. Summary of the Organization’s Qualifications and Experience**

Present a brief summary of applicant’s qualifications to carry out the project and to manage the grant. Summarize relevant experience, especially experience with NPS or alum treatment projects, and financial, administrative and technical qualifications of the organization. Describe qualifications of tasks delegated to sub-grantees, consultants and/or volunteers.

**b.** **Litigation** (does not count toward page limit)

Attach a list of all current litigation in which the applicant is named and a list of all closed cases that have closed within the past five (5) years in which applicant paid the claimant either as part of a settlement or by decree. For each, list the entity bringing suit, the complaint, the accusation, amount, and outcome. If no litigation will be included, write “none” on submitted attachment.

1. **Project Application and Work Plan** (max: 7 pages)

Prepare the application and work plan in a direct, concise style and use the format provided, including the numbering and section and sub-section headings.

1. **Lake Alum Treatment Map** (max: 1 page)

Provide a map of the lake on one page (8.5" by 11"), clearly showing the lake and alum treatment application area; when dosing varies across the area, sub-areas need to be indicated. The map must include dosing concentration(s).

1. **Attachments** (max: 5 pages)

An attachment is any document included with the application that is not required by the RFA. The total maximum page count includes the attachments.

* Use attachments if you want to provide additional information.
* If you want to provide letters of commitment from project partners, the letters should clearly describe the services or funds that will be committed for the project. General letters of support for a project are discouraged.

**PART IV APPLICATION EVALUATION AND SELECTION**

1. **Evaluation Process – General Information**
	1. An evaluation team, composed of qualified reviewers, will judge the merits of the proposals received in accordance with the criteria defined in the RFA.
	2. Officials responsible for making decisions on the award selection will ensure that the selection process accords equal opportunity and appropriate consideration to all who are capable of meeting the specifications. The goals of the evaluation process are to ensure fairness and objectivity in review of the applications and to ensure that all contracts are awarded to the Applicants that provide the best value to the State of Maine.
	3. The Department reserves the right to communicate and/or schedule interviews/presentations with Applicants, if needed, to obtain clarification of information contained in the applications received. The Department may revise the scores assigned in the initial evaluation to reflect those communications and/or interviews/presentations. Changes to applications, including updating or adding information, will not be permitted during any interview/presentation process and, therefore, Applicants must submit proposals that present their rates and other requested information as clearly and completely as possible.
	4. Failure to respond to all questions and instructions throughout the RFA may result in the application being disqualified as non-responsive or receiving a reduced score. The Department, and its evaluation team, has sole discretion to determine whether a variance from the RFA specifications will result either in disqualification or reduction in scoring of a proposal.
2. **Scoring Process:** The evaluation team will use a consensus approach to evaluate and score all sections listed below. Members of the review team will not score those sections individually but, instead, will arrive at a consensus as to assignment of points for each of those sections.
3. **Scoring Weights:** The score will be based on a 100-point scale and will measure the degree to which each application meets the following criteria.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Scoring Criteria** | **Points Available** |
| Eligibility | Pass/Fail |
| Applicant Qualifications and Experience | 10 points |
| Relative Value of the Waterbody | 10 points |
| Water Quality Problem | 25 points |
| Feasibility of Success | 25 points |
| Cost Effectiveness | 25 points |
| Disadvantaged Communities | 5 points |
| **Total Points**  | **100 points** |

* 1. **Applicant Qualifications and Experience (10 points)**

Consider the adequacyof applicant qualifications (relevant experience, financial, administrative & technical qualifications, personnel and facilities) to carry out the project within the proposed timeframe, along with any known past performance on relevant projects. If the project includes acquisition of alum treatment contractor services, consider the adequacy of the qualifications and experience that will be requested in the project’s solicitation for services. If the project includes alum treatment contractor costs and the contractor has already been selected, consider the adequacy of this contractor’s qualifications and relevant past performance. If the project plans to involve volunteer partners to accomplish significant portions of the project, consider the adequacy of the qualifications and experience of the partners to achieve the necessary outcome.

* 1. **Relative Value of the Waterbody (10 points)**

Evaluate the degree to which the public currently uses and values the waterbody. Consider the availability (access), and extent of use. Consider uses including, but not limited to, drinking water supply; public recreational opportunities; scenic and aesthetic benefits; aquatic habitat benefits; commercial benefits; and potential for increased public use and improved habitat.

* 1. **Water Quality Problem and Phosphorus Source Evaluation (25 points)**

Consider the severity of the water quality impairment. Consider the relative magnitude of internal and external phosphorus loading on the lake’s impairment, whether internal loading is a significant contributor of phosphorus, and the supporting analysis. Consider the effectiveness of any past alum treatments on the lake. Evaluate the nature, extent, and severity of NPS problems in the watershed. Evaluate the work plan’s understanding of what actions are needed to address the NPS sources and problems.

* 1. **Feasibility for Success (25 points)**

Likelihood that the project will be successfully completed as proposed, that the waterbody will meet water quality standards following the alum treatment, and that other key WBP actions have been and will be carried out to ensure long-term success of the alum treatment. Considerations: adequate information and capacity to implement actions needed restore the waterbody; project addresses a significant source of the water quality impairment; degree to which external phosphorus sources have been addressed; feasibility and likelihood of addressing the remaining external load; contribution or participation by appropriate stakeholders and municipal government; degree of leverage with other previous or concurrent efforts; extent of community support to restore or protect the waterbody.

* 1. **Cost Effectiveness (25 points)**

Regarding the grant funds requested and the proposed work, consider the degree to which the project represents a good return for the investment (money, time, estimated longevity). Consider whether project work and cost estimates (tasks & budget) are reasonable for the expected outcomes, along with the amount of proposed or received matching funds, and ability to raise any necessary remaining funds.

* 1. **Disadvantaged Community (5 points)**

Consider how much of the lake and watershed falls within census tracts identified as “disadvantaged” using the Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool (CEJST)[[1]](#footnote-2) Consider use of the lake resource by nearby CEJST communities and benefit of the project to downstream CEJST communities. (<https://screeningtool.geoplatform.gov/en/#9.14/44.2895/-69.6528>).

1. **Selection and Award**
	1. Notification of conditional award selection or non-selection will be made in writing by the Department.
	2. Issuance of this RFA in no way constitutes a commitment by the State to award a contract, to pay costs incurred in the preparation of a response to the RFA, or to pay costs incurred in procuring or contracting for services, supplies, physical space, personnel, or any other costs incurred by the Applicant.
	3. The Department reserves the right to reject any and all applications or to make multiple awards.
2. **Contract Administration and Conditions**
	1. The awarded Applicants will be required to execute a State of Maine Service Contract with the appropriate riders as determined by the issuing Department.
	2. Allocation of funds is final upon successful negotiation and execution of the contract, subject to the review and approval of the State Procurement Review Committee. Contracts are not considered fully executed and valid until approved by the State Procurement Review Committee and funds are encumbered. No contract will be approved based on an RFP which has an effective date less than fourteen (14) calendar days after award notification to Applicants. (Referenced in the regulations of the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, [Chapter 110, § 3(B)(i)](https://www.maine.gov/dafs/bbm/procurementservices/policies-procedures/chapter-110)). This provision means that a contract cannot be effective until at least 14 calendar days after award notification.
	3. Following the award, a Contract Administrator from the Department will be appointed to assist with the development and administration of the contract and to act as administrator during the entire contract period. Department staff will be available after the award to consult with the awarded Applicants in the finalization of the contract.
	4. In providing services and performing under the contract, the awarded Applicant must act as an independent contractor and not as an agent of the State of Maine.

**PART V APPLICATION FORM**

## Applicants must complete and include the following pages when submitting their application in response to this RFA, as defined in Part III, C, 3 of the RFA.

**State of Maine**

**Department of Environmental Protection**

**APPLICATION COVER PAGE**

**RFA# 202409172**

**Grants for Lake Restoration using an In-lake Aluminum Treatment**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Applicant’s Organization Name:** |  |
| **Authorized Representative - Name/Title:** |  |
| **Tel:** |  | **E-mail:** |  |
| **Organization Street Address:** |  |
| **Organization City/State/Zip:** |  |
| ***(Provide information requested below if different from above)*** |
| **Lead Point of Contact for Application - Name/Title:** |  |
| **Tel:** |  | **E-mail:** |  |
| **Street Address:** |  |
| **City/State/Zip:** |  |

* This Application and the pricing structure contained herein will remain firm for a period of 180 days from the date and time of the bid opening.
* No personnel currently employed by the Department or any other State agency participated, either directly or indirectly, in any activities relating to the preparation of the Applicant’s Application.
* No attempt has been made, or will be made, by the Applicant to induce any other person or firm to submit or not to submit an Application.
* The above-named organization is the legal entity entering into the resulting contract with the Department should they be awarded the contract.
* The undersigned is authorized to enter contractual obligations on behalf of the above-named organization.

*To the best of my knowledge, all information provided in the enclosed proposal, both programmatic and financial, is complete and accurate at the time of submission.*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Name (Print):** | **Title:** |
| **Authorized Signature:** | **Date:** |

**State of Maine**

**Department of Environmental Protection**

**DEBARMENT, PERFORMANCE, and NON-COLLUSION CERTIFICATION**

**RFA# 202409172**

**Grants for Lake Restoration using In-lake Aluminum Treatment**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Applicant’s Organization Name:** |  |

*By signing this document, I certify to the best of my knowledge and belief that the aforementioned organization, its principals and any subcontractors named in this proposal:*

1. *Are not presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, and declared ineligible or voluntarily excluded from bidding or working on contracts issued by any governmental agency.*
2. *Have not within three years of submitting the proposal for this contract been convicted of or had a civil judgment rendered against them for:*
	1. *Fraud or a criminal offense in connection with obtaining, attempting to obtain, or performing a federal, state, or local government transaction or contract.*
	2. *Violating Federal or State antitrust statutes or committing embezzlement, theft, forgery, bribery, falsification or destruction of records, making false statements, or receiving stolen property.*
3. *Are not presently indicted for or otherwise criminally or civilly charged by a governmental entity (Federal, State or Local) with commission of any of the offenses enumerated in paragraph (b) of this certification.*
4. *Have not within a three (3) year period preceding this proposal had one or more federal, state, or local government transactions terminated for cause or default*.
5. *Have not entered into a prior understanding, agreement, or connection with any corporation, firm, or person submitting a response for the same materials, supplies, equipment, or services and this proposal is in all respects fair and without collusion or fraud. The above-mentioned entities understand and agree that collusive bidding is a violation of state and federal law and can result in fines, prison sentences, and civil damage awards.*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Name (Print):** | **Title:** |
| **Authorized Signature:** | **Date:** |

**State of Maine**

**Department of Environmental Protection**

**Applicant Qualifications and Experience**

**RFA# 202409172**

**Grants for Lake Restoration using In-lake Aluminum Treatment**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Applicant’s Organization Name:** |  |

|  |
| --- |
| Present a brief summary of applicant’s qualifications to carry out the project and to manage the grant. Summarize relevant experience, especially experience with NPS and alum treatment projects, and financial, administrative and technical qualifications of the organization. Summarize relevant experience of the person to be assigned to manage the project. Describe qualifications of tasks delegated to sub-grantees, consultants and/or volunteers. |
|  |
| Attach a list of all current litigation in which the applicant is named and a list of all closed cases that have closed within the past five (5) years in which applicant paid the claimant either as part of a settlement or by decree. For each, list the entity bringing suit, the complaint, the accusation, amount, and outcome. If no litigation will be included, write “none” on submitted attachment. (Does not count toward page limit). |

**State of Maine**

**Department of Environmental Protection**

**PROJECT APPLICATION AND WORK PLAN**

**RFA# 202409172**

**Grants for Lake Restoration using In-lake Aluminum Treatment**

***Instructions:*** *Complete work plan using the instructions and format below and in RFA Part IV, B, 4.* ***Delete italicized instructions prior to submittal.*** *(Maximum length: 6 pages)*

**I. Eligibility**

|  |
| --- |
| **a. Eligible Applicant** |
| Eligible organizations includesoil and water conservation districts, regional planning commissions, watershed districts, municipalities, and incorporated nonprofit organizations with federal tax-exempt status [501(c)(3)]. | Check one* Soil and Water Conservation District
* Regional Planning Commission
* Watershed District
* Municipality
* 501(c)(3) nonprofit
 |
| **b. DEP-Approved Watershed-based Plan (WBP)***DEP maintains a list of active plans at* [*https://www.maine.gov/dep/water/grants/319.html*](https://www.maine.gov/dep/water/grants/319.html) |
| Name and Date of WBP |  |
| Page number(s) in WBP that identifies internal recycling of phosphorus from the sediments as a major source and includes proportion estimates of all phosphorus sources.   |  |
| **c. DEP Permits**  |
| Maine Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (MEPDES) Permit number  |  |
| Maine Waste Discharge License (WDL) numbers |  |
| Approval Date |  |

**II. Project and Waterbody Information**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Project Title |  |
| Applicant’s Organization |  |
| Lake Name and Location *(town or towns)* |  |
| Project Start Date *(month and year)* |  |
| Project Completion Date *(month and year)* |  |

**a. Description of Waterbody Uses and Value**

*Summarize the extent of uses of the waterbody by the public. Consider uses including, but not limited to: public drinking water supply* (if applicable please provide the size of population served)*; public recreational opportunities; scenic and aesthetic benefits; aquatic and terrestrial habitat benefits, and commercial benefits; and potential for increased public use and improved wildlife habitat. Describe public access to the waterbody.*

**b. Water Quality Information**

*Summarize available water quality information for the waterbody and provide details on important water quality parameters and past algal blooms. For an impaired waterbody, describe the extent and severity of the impairment. For a threatened waterbody, describe the water quality parameter(s) that is (are) threatened and any indications that water quality is under stress. Water quality information available at:* [*https://www.lakesofmaine.org/*](https://www.lakesofmaine.org/)

**III. NPS Sources and Mitigation Activities**

**a. Summary of NPS Assessments and Priority Nonpoint Pollution Sources**

*Summarize the findings of any past assessments or surveys to identify the nature, extent and severity of NPS sources to the lake (e.g., provide the number of sites, impact rating, land use etc. of sites identified in most recent watershed survey). Describe the magnitude and relative contributions of internal and external sources of phosphorus to the lake.*

**b. Description of Activities to Address NPS Pollution**

*Include a brief description of any past and ongoing activities to address NPS sources in the lake and watershed. Briefly summarize any Section 604(b) or 319 grant-funded projects in the watershed. Describe work planned in the future and systems in place to ensure key remaining NPS sources will be addressed and that watershed BMPs will be maintained in the future. Describe any past alum treatments, including the dates of treatment, treatment area, longevity and any lessons learned.*

**IV. Alum Treatment Project Overview**

**a. Alum Treatment Design**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Number of applications planned |  |
| Total planned treatment area (acres) |  |
| Depth below which alum will be applied (feet)  |  |
| Estimated application start date and duration |  |
| Dosing rate(s) and acreage |  |

**b. Purpose and Environmental Outcome of the Project**

*In four (4) sentences or less, state: a) the overall purpose of the project and the anticipated major project accomplishments or outputs and b) the expected environmental result, outcome, or end-state that this proposed work would likely achieve.*

**c. Alum Treatment Planning**

*Describe work done to date and remaining work needed prior to alum treatment, including contractor selection, staging area selection and any local/landowner approvals, and public outreach. If multiple treatments are planned, describe timeline and plan for each.*

*Describe funding plan for the project, including sources and amounts of funds raised to date and detailed plans to raise additional needed funds beyond amount requested in this RFA. If this is the second of two planned treatments, provide amount of funds spent on the previous treatment.*

**d. Alum Treatment and Water Quality Monitoring Schedule, Overview and Costs**

*Provide anticipated start and end dates, grant cost and match cost. (See Part II for eligible grant and match costs.) Describe the work in quantifiable terms, including how estimates were derived.*

**Task 1 – Alum Treatment Implementation**

Task Description:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Start and Completion Dates |  |
| Grant Cost | $ |
| Breakdown of Grant Cost |  |
| Match Cost | $ |
| Breakdown of Match: |  |

**Task 2 – Water Quality Monitoring Required by MEPDES Permit**

Task Description:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Start and Completion Dates  |  |
| Match Cost | $ |
| Breakdown of Match |  |

**d.****Partner Coordination, Roles and Responsibility**

*Briefly list the participation and commitment expected from key project partners for the alum treatment project (e.g., municipalities, watershed associations). You may (optional) provide letters of commitment from entities as project attachments (RFA Part IV. B. 6. Attachments) that indicate a commitment to provide those specific services. Examples:*

***Maine Department of Environmental Protection*** *will administer project funding, serve as the project advisor, and provide project and technical support.*

***\_\_\_\_\_\_*** *will manage project funds, hire the alum treatment contractor, oversee the alum treatment and ensure that the MEPDES permit, and monitoring plan are followed.*

***\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*** *will provide $\_\_\_\_\_ in alum treatment match.*

**VI. Project Coordinator**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Name |  |
| Organization  |  |
| Mailing Address |  |
| Telephone Number |  |
| Email Address |  |

**VII. Overall Project Budget**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Grant Funds**  | **$** |
| **Local Match** | **$** |
| **Total Cost** | **$**  |

**Budget Estimates by Cost Category**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Cost Category** | **Grant Funds** | **Local Match** | **Total Cost** |
| Alum treatment contractor  |  |  |  |
| Alum chemicals (if not included above) |  |  |  |
| Monitoring required by MEPDES permit |  |  |  |
| **Totals** |  |  |  |

**APPENDIX A SUBMITTED QUESTIONS FORM**

This form should be used by Applicants when submitting written questions to the RFA Coordinator.

If a question is not related to any section of the RFA, enter “N/A” under the RFA Section & Page Number. Add additional rows as necessary. Submit this document in WORD format, not PDF.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Organization Name** |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **RFA Section & Page Number** | **Question** |
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**APPENDIX B** **RESPONSIBLE BIDDER CERTIFICATION**

**State of Maine**

**Department of Environmental Protection**

**RESPONSIBLE BIDDER CERTIFICATION**

**RFA# 202409172**

**Grants for Lake Restoration using In-lake Aluminum Treatment**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Bidder’s Organization Name:** |  |

*By signing this document, I certify to the best of my knowledge and belief that the aforementioned organization, its principals and any subcontractors named in this proposal:*

1. *Are not presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, and declared ineligible or voluntarily excluded from bidding or working on contracts issued by any governmental agency.*
2. *Have not within three years of submitting the proposal for this contract been convicted of or had a civil judgment rendered against them for:*
	1. *Fraud or a criminal offense in connection with obtaining, attempting to obtain, or performing a federal, state, or local government transaction or contract.*
	2. *Violating Federal or State antitrust statutes or committing embezzlement, theft, forgery, bribery, falsification or destruction of records, making false statements, or receiving stolen property.*
3. *Are not presently indicted for or otherwise criminally or civilly charged by a governmental entity (Federal, State or Local) with commission of any of the offenses enumerated in paragraph (b) of this certification.*
4. *Have not within a three (3) year period preceding this proposal had one or more federal, state, or local government transactions terminated for cause or default*.
5. *Have not entered into a prior understanding, agreement, or connection with any corporation, firm, or person submitting a response for the same materials, supplies, equipment, or services and this proposal is in all respects fair and without collusion or fraud. The above-mentioned entities understand and agree that collusive bidding is a violation of state and federal law and can result in fines, prison sentences, and civil damage awards.*
6. *Is not a foreign adversary business entity (*[*https://www.maine.gov/oit/prohibited-technologies*](https://www.maine.gov/oit/prohibited-technologies)*).*
7. *Is not on the list of prohibited companies (*[*https://www.maine.gov/oit/prohibited-technologies*](https://www.maine.gov/oit/prohibited-technologies)*) or does not obtain or purchase any information or communications technology or services included on the list of prohibited information and communications technology and services* [*https://www.maine.gov/oit/prohibited-technologies*](https://www.maine.gov/oit/prohibited-technologies) *(Title 5 §2030-B).*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Name (Print):** | **Title:** |
| **Authorized Signature:** | **Date:** |

1. In January of 2020, President Biden issued Executive Order 14008. The order directed the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) to develop a new tool. This tool is called the Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool. The tool has an interactive map and uses datasets that are indicators of burdens in eight categories: climate change, energy, health, housing, legacy pollution, transportation, water and wastewater, and workforce development. The tool uses this information to identify communities that are experiencing these burdens. These are the communities that are disadvantaged because they are overburdened and underserved. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)