

**State of Maine**  
**Master Score Sheet**

RFP# 202505068					
Nonpoint Source Grant for Pollution Control Projects Watershed-based Plan Development					
Bidder Name:		Androscoggin Valley SWCD	Kennebec County SWCD	Town of Bar Harbor	
Proposed Cost:		\$7,560	\$28,527	\$70,000	
Scoring Sections	Points Available				
Section I: Applicant Qualifications/Experience	10	3	9	9	
Section II: Relative Value of Waterbody	10	3	8	7	
Section III: Water Quality Problem	10	3	6	4	
Section IV: Nature/Extent/Severity of NPS Problem	10	3	5	4	
Section V: Feasibility of Success	25	4	24	13	
Section VI: Cost Effectiveness	25	2	24	18	
Section VII: Comprehensive Plan	10	0.5	1.6	10	
<b>Total Points</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>18.5</b>	<b>77.6</b>	<b>65</b>	

**Award Justification Statement**  
**RFP# 202505068 Nonpoint Source Grant for Pollution Control Projects**  
**Watershed-based Plan Development**

**I. Summary**

The aforementioned RFA sought applications for projects to help communities develop Watershed-based Plans (WBP) to either restore nonpoint source(NPS) impaired waterbodies or to protect waterbodies threatened by NPS pollution. A watershed-based-plan provides assessment and management information and describes actions needed to restore NPS impaired water bodies or to protect water bodies threatened by NPS pollution. A watershed-based plan accepted by the Department is a prerequisite to be eligible to apply for CWA Section 319 funds to help implement the plan.

Three applications were received, reviewed, and found eligible for funding. However, two applications were awarded funds from a different source and chose not to pursue funding under this RFA. Based on the application, amount of funding requested, and available funding, the team recommended one application. The application was shared with the funding agency, US EPA, and they supported DEP's findings and recommendation to fund the project.

**II. Evaluation Process**

The Evaluation Team (ET) for this RFA included the following people: Alex Wong (NPS Program Coordinator, DEP), Greg Beane (DEP), and Addie Halligan (DEP). Joan Walton (DACF) was invited to participate, but was unable to attend the meeting due to a last minute conflict. She provided her notes for reference, but did not participate in the consensus evaluation. John Maleri (DEP) also attended the meeting as a training opportunity, but did not participate in the consensus evaluation. Notes were taken by Ellie Hatt, Maine Conservation Corps intern with the DEP, Division of Environmental Assessment.

All of the evaluation team members have participated in previous grant reviews and all are familiar with the State's process. Maine DEP staff participating on the evaluation team have extensive experience with these types of projects, including the typical costs and scope of work.

Coordination and orientation of the ET was conducted via email. ET members conducted independent reviews of the 3 applications and took notes on the applications received. Comprehensive Plan Consistency information was provided by Joan Walton (DACF), and scores calculated by Alex Wong. The group held a hybrid meeting on 6/3/25, to score the proposals using a consensus decision-making process. Alex Wong served as the RFP Coordinator/Lead Evaluator.

### III. Qualifications & Experience

Applications that scored highest on the Qualifications and Experience criteria had organizational capacity and/or well-rounded teams that would allow for project success. Key factors included:

- Number of years experience with grants management
- Expertise of the steering committee
- Qualifications of project manager and other contractual team members sufficiently described

### IV. Proposed Services

Each application included a series of tasks designed to help develop the associated watershed-based plan. Some of the factors that reflect differences in scoring are listed below. Projects that scored higher tended to demonstrate:

- The importance and uses of the water body to local residents, the larger public and wildlife;
- An informed understanding of the water quality problem;
- An informed understanding of the additional monitoring needed to answer remaining water quality questions and identify NPS sources;
- Strong local support and a well-rounded team of partners participating in the project; and
- Consistent comprehensive plans in watershed towns;

### V. Cost Proposal

The grant amounts requested, local match amount and total project costs for the applications are listed below.

Project	Applicant	Grant Funds	Match Funds	Total Budget
Sabattus Pond	Androscoggin Valley SWCD	\$7,560	\$8,675	\$16,235
Webber Pond, Threemile Pond, and Threecornered Pond	Kennebec Co. SWCD	\$28,527	\$28,619	\$57,146
Northeast Creek Watershed-based Management Plan	Town of Bar Harbor	\$70,000	\$51,416	\$121,416

### VI. Conclusion

Only the Town of Bar Harbor's application to develop a watershed-based management plan for Northeast Creek was selected for funding. The application demonstrated merit because of the applicant's strong qualifications, local commitment

to the project, and water quality threat. Both the Sabattus Pond and the Webber, Threemile, and Threecornered Pond projects were awarded funding from another source after the evaluation team met, and the applicants chose not to pursue funding under this RFA.



JANET T. MILLS  
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MAINE  
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION



MELANIE LOYZIM  
COMMISSIONER

Emma Lorusso, Executive Director  
Androscoggin Valley Soil & Water Conservation District  
254 Goddard Rd.  
Lewiston, ME 04280

June 18, 2025

RE: Notice of Conditional Contract Awards - RFA#202505068, Watershed-based Plan Development

Dear Emma Lorusso:

This letter is in regard to the Request for Applications (RFA) referenced above, issued by the State of Maine Department of Environmental Protection. The Department has evaluated the applications received using the evaluation criteria identified in the RFA and is hereby announcing its conditional contract awards to the following applicants

Bidder	Application Title
Town of Bar Harbor	Northeast Creek Watershed-based Plan Development Project

The Department will be contacting the aforementioned bidder soon to negotiate a contract. As provided in the RFA, the Notice of Conditional Contract Award is subject to execution of a written contract and, as a result, this Notice does NOT constitute the formation of a contract between the Department and the apparent successful vendor. The vendor shall not acquire any legal or equitable rights relative to the contract services until a contract containing terms and conditions acceptable to the Department is executed. The Department further reserves the right to cancel this Notice of Conditional Contract Award at any time prior to the execution of a written contract.

As stated in the RFA, following announcement of this award decision, all submissions in response to the RFA are considered public records available for public inspection pursuant to the State of Maine Freedom of Access Act (FOAA). 1 M.R.S. §§ 401 et seq.; 5 M.R.S. § 1825-B (6). This award decision is conditioned upon final approval by the State Procurement Review Committee and the successful negotiation of a contract. A Statement of Appeal Rights has been provided with this letter; see below.

Thank you for submitting an application to help improve and protect Maine's waters.

Sincerely,

Alex Wong

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17 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0017  
(207) 287-7688 FAX: (207) 287-7826

BANGOR  
106 HOGAN ROAD, SUITE 6  
BANGOR, MAINE 04401  
(207) 941-4570 FAX: (207) 941-4584

PORTLAND  
312 CANCO ROAD  
PORTLAND, MAINE 04103  
(207) 822-6300 FAX: (207) 822-6303

PRESQUE ISLE  
1235 CENTRAL DRIVE, SKYWAY PARK  
PRESQUE ISLE, MAINE 04769  
(207) 764-0477 FAX: (207) 760-3143

### **STATEMENT OF APPEAL RIGHTS**

Any person aggrieved by an award decision may request an appeal hearing. The request must be made to the Director of the Bureau of General Services, in writing, within 15 days of notification of the contract award as provided in 5 M.R.S. § 1825-E (2) and the Rules of the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Bureau of General Services, Division of Purchases, Chapter 120, § (2) (2).



JANET T. MILLS  
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MAINE  
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION



MELANIE LOYZIM  
COMMISSIONER

Stephanie Taylor, Executive Director  
Kennebec County Soil & Water Conservation District  
2305 N. Belfast Ave  
Augusta, ME 04330

June 18, 2025

RE: Notice of Conditional Contract Awards - RFA#202505068, Watershed-based Plan Development

Dear Stephanie Taylor:

This letter is in regard to the Request for Applications (RFA) referenced above, issued by the State of Maine Department of Environmental Protection. The Department has evaluated the applications received using the evaluation criteria identified in the RFA and is hereby announcing its conditional contract awards to the following applicants

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JANET T. MILLS  
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DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION



MELANIE LOYZIM  
COMMISSIONER

James Smith, Town Manager  
Town of Bar Harbor  
93 Cottage St.  
Bar Harbor, ME 04609

June 18, 2025

RE: Notice of Conditional Contract Awards - RFA#202505068, Watershed-based Plan Development

Dear James Smith:

This letter is in regard to the Request for Applications (RFA) referenced above, issued by the State of Maine Department of Environmental Protection. The Department has evaluated the applications received using the evaluation criteria identified in the RFA and is hereby announcing its conditional contract awards to the following applicants

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Town of Bar Harbor	Northeast Creek Watershed-based Plan Development Project

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Thank you for submitting an application to help improve and protect Maine's waters.

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**STATE OF MAINE  
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

**RFP #:** 202505068

**RFP TITLE:** Nonpoint Source Grant for Pollution Contril Projects Watershed based Plan Development

**BIDDER:** Androscoggin Valley SWCD – Pathway to Protection: Sabattus Pond Watershed Pre-Planning & Assessment

**DATE:** 6/3/2025

**Note:** The applicant is no longer pursuing funds made available under this RFA. The evaluation team learned of the possibility during the scoring meeting, and verified with a subsequent conversation between the RFA Coordinator and the applicant.

**SUMMARY PAGE**

**Department Name:** Environmental Protection

**Name of RFP Coordinator:** Alex Wong

**Names of Evaluators:** Addie Halligan, Greg Beane, Alex Wong

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<u>Pass/Fail Criteria</u>	<u>Pass</u>	<u>Fail</u>
• Match at least 25%	X	
• Eligible Recipient	X	
• NPS Priority Watershed	X	
<u>Scoring Sections</u>	<u>Points Available</u>	<u>Points Awarded</u>
Section I. Applicant Qualifications and Experience	10	3
Section II. Relative Value of Waterbody	10	3
Section III. Water Quality Problem	10	3
Section IV. Nature, Extent and Severity of NPS Problems	10	3
Section V. Feasibility for Success	25	4
Section VI. Cost Effectiveness	25	2
Section VII. Comprehensive Plan	10	0.5
<u>Total Points</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>18.5</u>

**STATE OF MAINE  
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

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**DATE:** 6/3/2025

**OVERVIEW OF SECTION I  
Applicant Qualifications and Experience**

	<u>Points Available</u>	<u>Points Awarded</u>
Section I. Applicant Qualifications and Experience	<b>10</b>	<b>3</b>

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**Evaluation Team Comments:**

Description of qualifications and experience was lacking. Resume of projects from AVSWCD was missing, resume of AVSWCD staff was missing, description/resume of SPWP was missing, other necessary partners such as municipalities was missing.

On the positive side, staff knowledge of AVSWCD staff is positive. Though relatively new, both staff have been performing well through current grants.

This section required much more detail to provide an understanding of the applicant's relevant experience, financial, administrative & technical qualifications, personnel and facilities.

**STATE OF MAINE  
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

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**DATE:** 6/3/2025

**EVALUATION OF SECTION II  
Relative Value of Waterbody**

	<u>Points Available</u>	<u>Points Awarded</u>
Section II. Relative Value of Waterbody	<b>10</b>	<b>3</b>

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**Evaluation Team Comments:**

Much of this section consisted of generic unsubstantiated statements. While public access was mentioned, data are required to support the statement that the pond attracts residents and visitors, contributes to local tourism, property values and quality of life.

No data on tax base/property values; economic value of tourism/recreation; or ecological value were provided. A very quick web search would have supported some of these statements.

This section required much more detail to provide an understanding of the relative value of the waterbody.

**STATE OF MAINE  
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

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**DATE:** 6/3/2025

**EVALUATION OF SECTION III  
Water Quality Problem**

	<u>Points Available</u>	<u>Points Awarded</u>
Section III. Water Quality Problem	<b>10</b>	<b>3</b>

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**Evaluation Team Comments:**

The lake continues to be classified as impaired on the state's Integrated Water Quality Report, and is listed as impaired on the NPS Priority list.

Statements about water quality needed more detail and context. While averages for phosphorus and chlorophyll-a concentration, and water clarity were provided the time frame for these averages was not specified. Sabattus Pond has one of the largest data collections in the state, all of which can be easily accessed from the Lakes of Maine website. At the very least a trend analysis of water clarity should have been included to provide a better sense of the magnitude of the water quality problem.

Internal loading was mentioned but wasn't clearly connected to the average P and DO concentrations.

This section required more detail to convey the water quality problems and to demonstrate an informed understanding of the water quality conditions.

**STATE OF MAINE  
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

**RFP #:** 202505068

**RFP TITLE:** Nonpoint Source Grant for Pollution Contril Projects Watershed based Plan Development

**BIDDER:** Androscoggin Valley SWCD – Pathway to Protection: Sabattus Pond Watershed Pre-Planning & Assessment

**DATE:** 6/3/2025

**EVALUATION OF SECTION IV  
Nature, Extent, and Severity of NPS Problem**

	<u>Points Available</u>	<u>Points Awarded</u>
Section IV. Nature, Extent, and Severity of NPS Problem	<b>10</b>	<b>3</b>

**Evaluation Team Comments:**

Past 319 projects were mentioned, but load reductions were not reported. Agriculture and upstream inflows were mentioned as sources of external nutrient load, but no details were provided. Internal loading was mentioned, but no details were provided. This and Section III go hand-in-hand. Without a good understanding of the water quality problems, there can't be a good understanding of the NPS source of the problems. Historic and current land use, roads, development, water quality improvement projects – these are all examples of information that is needed in order to demonstrate an understanding of NPS issues. An understanding of NPS issues is needed in order to develop a plan to address the issues, which informs Sections V and VI of this evaluation.

**STATE OF MAINE  
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

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**DATE:** 6/3/2025

**EVALUATION OF SECTION V  
Feasibility for Success**

	<u>Points Available</u>	<u>Points Awarded</u>
Section V. Feasibility for Success	<b>25</b>	<b>4</b>

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**Evaluation Team Comments:**

The proposed project of a watershed survey lacks sufficient detail for success. The application did not provide details on the type and extent of the survey – i.e. shoreline only, extended watershed survey, erosion sites only, agriculture, septic vulnerability, etc. This reflects the lack of understanding demonstrated in Section IV.

This project does not involve relevant stakeholders such as watershed municipalities and other associations affiliated with the pond.

The costs of the survey is not clear.

This is not a feasible proposal, as written.



**STATE OF MAINE  
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

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**DATE:** 6/3/2025

**EVALUATION OF SECTION VI  
Cost Effectiveness**

	<u>Points Available</u>	<u>Points Awarded</u>
Section VI. Cost Effectiveness	<b>25</b>	<b>2</b>

**Evaluation Team Comments:**

This budget does not make sense. The total grant amount summed across Tasks 1-4 is \$15,120, yet the grant amount requested is \$7,560. It appears that only the cost for Task 1 was requested, but the actions listed in Task 1 are not sufficient to complete the project.

In addition, the tasks do not support the stated purpose of the grant.

This budget and task list are not well conceived, and need further alignment and review.

**STATE OF MAINE  
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

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**DATE:** 6/3/2025

**EVALUATION OF SECTION VII  
Comprehensive Plan**

	<u>Points Available</u>	<u>Points Awarded</u>
Section VII. Comprehensive Plan	<b>10</b>	<b>0.5</b>

**Evaluation Team Comments:**

$$\frac{\text{Area of the watershed with a Consistent Comprehensive Plan}}{\text{Total area of the watershed}} \times 10$$

Greene – Not Consistent with Growth Management Law

Leeds - Not Consistent with Growth Management Law (consistency expired on 2/26/2025)

Monmouth – Not Consistent with Growth Management Law

Sabattus – Consistent with the Growth Management Law (expires on 8/30/2025)

Wales – Not Consistent with the Growth Management Law

Town	Watershed Area m^2
Monmouth	5915343.64
Greene	38867668.8
Leeds	15341015.2
Wales	17622842.4
Sabattus	4192123.49
total	81938993.5

$$\frac{4192123.49}{81938993.5} \times 10 = 0.5116152$$

**STATE OF MAINE  
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

**RFP #:** 20250568

**RFP TITLE:** Nonpoint Source Grant for Pollution Control Projects Watershed-based Plan Development

**BIDDER:** Kennebec County SWCD- Webber, Threemile, & Threecornered Ponds Tri-Watershed Based Management Plan Completion

**DATE:** 6/3/2025

**Note:** The applicant is no longer pursuing funds made available under this RFA. The evaluation team learned of the possibility during the scoring meeting, and verified with a subsequent conversation between the RFA Coordinator and the applicant.

**SUMMARY PAGE**

**Department Name:** Environmental Protection

**Name of RFP Coordinator:** Alex Wong

**Names of Evaluators:** Addie Halligan, Greg Beane, Alex Wong

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<b><u>Pass/Fail Criteria</u></b>	<b><u>Pass</u></b>	<b><u>Fail</u></b>
• Match at least 25%	<b>X</b>	
• Eligible Recipient	<b>X</b>	
• NPS Priority Watershed	<b>X</b>	
<b><u>Scoring Sections</u></b>	<b><u>Points Available</u></b>	<b><u>Points Awarded</u></b>
Section I. Applicant Qualifications and Experience	<b>10</b>	<b>9</b>
Section II. Relative Value of Waterbody	<b>10</b>	<b>8</b>
Section III. Water Quality Problem	<b>10</b>	<b>6</b>
Section IV. Nature, Extent and Severity of NPS Problems	<b>10</b>	<b>5</b>
Section V. Feasibility for Success	<b>25</b>	<b>24</b>
Section VI. Cost Effectiveness	<b>25</b>	<b>24</b>
Section VII. Comprehensive Plan	<b>10</b>	<b>1.6</b>
<b><u>Total Points</u></b>	<b><u>100</u></b>	<b><u>77.6</u></b>

**STATE OF MAINE  
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

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**DATE:** 6/3/2025

**OVERVIEW OF SECTION I  
Applicant Qualifications and Experience**

	<u>Points Available</u>	<u>Points Awarded</u>
Section I. Applicant Qualifications and Experience	<b>10</b>	<b>9</b>

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**Evaluation Team Comments:**

KCSWCD has been managing grants since 2000. Partners include a chemist, a biologist, and a financial professional. Will contract with a consultant (qualifications are listed).

One negative is that KCSWCD's Executive Director's experience wasn't included.

Good info included in application, good track record.

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**DATE:** 6/3/2025

**EVALUATION OF SECTION II  
Relative Value of Waterbody**

	<u>Points Available</u>	<u>Points Awarded</u>
Section II. Relative Value of Waterbody	<b>10</b>	<b>8</b>

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**Evaluation Team Comments:**

Public access on Threemile and Threecornered, with a park on Threecornered. Alewife run contributes to economic benefit, though no data were provided to substantiate this assertion. Did not elaborate on ecological values.

**STATE OF MAINE  
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

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**EVALUATION OF SECTION III  
Water Quality Problem**

	<u>Points Available</u>	<u>Points Awarded</u>
Section III. Water Quality Problem	<b>10</b>	<b>6</b>

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**Evaluation Team Comments:**

Webber and Threemile Ponds are NPS Impaired, due to algal blooms. Threecornered Pond is NPS Threatened. WQ data for 2024 was referenced in another section, but did not provide data from previous years. Overall, this section lacked detail, and did not provide water quality data or trend analysis.

**STATE OF MAINE  
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

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**DATE:** 6/3/2025

**EVALUATION OF SECTION IV  
Nature, Extent, and Severity of NPS Problem**

	<u>Points Available</u>	<u>Points Awarded</u>
Section IV. Nature, Extent, and Severity of NPS Problem	<b>10</b>	<b>5</b>

**Evaluation Team Comments:**

Provided detailed history of activities, only briefly described the recent watershed surveys, should have expanded more on the “mini” drawdowns on Webber Pond. Due to lack of adequate information in Section III, the extent of the NPS issues was not well developed.

**STATE OF MAINE  
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

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**EVALUATION OF SECTION V  
Feasibility for Success**

	<u>Points Available</u>	<u>Points Awarded</u>
Section V. Feasibility for Success	<b>25</b>	<b>24</b>

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**Evaluation Team Comments:**

Good stakeholder support, all towns are known to be active as are the 3 individual lake associations. The final step in compiling all their data will be filling in all the data gaps through this project.



**STATE OF MAINE  
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

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**EVALUATION OF SECTION VI  
Cost Effectiveness**

	<u>Points Available</u>	<u>Points Awarded</u>
Section VI. Cost Effectiveness	<b>25</b>	<b>24</b>

**Evaluation Team Comments:**

50% high quality match. Though the cost to develop the plan seems low, that might be due to the amount of work already accomplished in the current phase. Other costs are reasonable.

ET questions match from CRLA. It's our understanding that this organization no longer has an executive director and is relatively inactive.

**STATE OF MAINE  
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

**RFP #:** 20250568

**RFP TITLE:** Nonpoint Source Grant for Pollution Control Projects Watershed-based Plan Development

**BIDDER:** Kennebec County SWCD- Webber, Threemile, & Threecornered Ponds Tri-Watershed Based Management Plan Completion

**DATE:** 6/3/2025

**EVALUATION OF SECTION VII  
Comprehensive Plan**

	<u>Points Available</u>	<u>Points Awarded</u>
Section VII. Comprehensive Plan	<b>10</b>	<b>1.6</b>

**Evaluation Team Comments:**

$$\frac{\text{Area of the watershed with a Consistent Comprehensive Plan}}{\text{Total area of the watershed}} \times 10$$

	Area in m <sup>2</sup> webber and threemile	Area in m <sup>2</sup> threecornere	Area in m <sup>2</sup> total watershed/town	consistent comp plan
Vassalboro	31795493	6676194	38471687.6	no
China	11273117	0	11273116.8	yes
Augusta	560567.7	6489998	7050565.24	no
Windsor	12333351	498218.8	12831569.7	no
		total	69626939.4	

$$\frac{11273116.8}{69626939.4} \times 10 = 1.61907401$$

**STATE OF MAINE  
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

**RFP #:** 202505068

**RFP TITLE:** Nonpoint Source Grant Pollution Control Projects Watershed-based Plan

**BIDDER:** Town of Bar Harbor – Northeast Creek Watershed-Based Plan Development Project

**DATE:** 6/3/25

**SUMMARY PAGE**

**Department Name:** Environmental Protection

**Name of RFP Coordinator:** Alex Wong

**Names of Evaluators:** Addie Halligan, Greg Beane, Alex Wong

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<u>Pass/Fail Criteria</u>	<u>Pass</u>	<u>Fail</u>
• Match at least 25%	<b>X</b>	
• Eligible Recipient	<b>X</b>	
• NPS Priority Watershed	<b>X</b>	
<u>Scoring Sections</u>	<u>Points Available</u>	<u>Points Awarded</u>
Section I. Applicant Qualifications and Experience	<b>10</b>	<b>9</b>
Section II. Relative Value of Waterbody	<b>10</b>	<b>7</b>
Section III. Water Quality Problem	<b>10</b>	<b>4</b>
Section IV. Nature, Extent and Severity of NPS Problems	<b>10</b>	<b>4</b>
Section V. Feasibility for Success	<b>25</b>	<b>13</b>
Section VI. Cost Effectiveness	<b>25</b>	<b>18</b>
Section VII. Comprehensive Plan	<b>10</b>	<b>10</b>
<b><u>Total Points</u></b>	<b><u>100</u></b>	<b><u>65</u></b>

**STATE OF MAINE  
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

**RFP #:** 202505068

**RFP TITLE:** Nonpoint Source Grant Pollution Control Projects Watershed-based Plan

**BIDDER:** Town of Bar Harbor – Northeast Creek Watershed-Based Plan Development Project

**DATE:** 6/3/25

**OVERVIEW OF SECTION I  
Applicant Qualifications and Experience**

	<u>Points Available</u>	<u>Points Awarded</u>
Section I. Applicant Qualifications and Experience	<b>10</b>	<b>9</b>

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**Evaluation Team Comments:**

Highly qualified town staff, though not necessarily familiar with 604b grants, they relatable experience – Town Manager has a master’s in land use planning & experience in related projects, Finance Director has 2 decades of experience in finance, Staff Planner has a background in education and environmental engineer with grant experience.

Application mentions that a consultant with NPS grant experience will be retained, listed relevant qualifications of consultant. - all partners are committing resources to help with project

Didn’t describe a few town personnel description or volunteer training/background, but not major issue.

**STATE OF MAINE  
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

**RFP #:** 202505068

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**BIDDER:** Town of Bar Harbor – Northeast Creek Watershed-Based Plan Development Project

**DATE:** 6/3/25

**EVALUATION OF SECTION II  
Relative Value of Waterbody**

	<u>Points Available</u>	<u>Points Awarded</u>
Section II. Relative Value of Waterbody	<b>10</b>	<b>7</b>

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**Evaluation Team Comments:**

Waterbody is on the NPS priority list, though not on the IR, and shell fishing is open. Lists recreational value - kayaking, birding, hiking, 22% within Acadia, commercial value - \$49M, shellfish harvesting, mentions ecologic value - aquatic & terrestrial vernal pools, many waterfowl habitats, value of aquatic and terrestrial species is highlighted well. Access is available in the parking lot off the road 2-mile hiking trails.

ET questions whether or not NE Creek should have been removed from the list during the last round.

**STATE OF MAINE  
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

**RFP #:** 202505068

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**DATE:** 6/3/25

**EVALUATION OF SECTION III  
Water Quality Problem**

	<u>Points Available</u>	<u>Points Awarded</u>
Section III. Water Quality Problem	<b>10</b>	<b>4</b>

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**Evaluation Team Comments:**

Listed as an Impaired Marine body on the NPS Priority List.

Eelgrass mapping not done in this area

Seems to have a lack of current data to support a current picture of the water quality problems. Nitrogen info is over 10 yrs old, and is primarily a modeling effort. Also unclear if freshwater or estuarine/marine system is of most concern, or if both will be examined equally.

If bacteria is of concern in the marine system, then P90 scores (easily obtained on DMR website) should be referenced.

ET questions

- 1) if bacteria is a problem in the estuarine/marine system, should tidal currents/estuarine flushing be examined? There is a shellfish bed just around the corner to the southwest that is closed during the summer due to bacteria.
- 2) Is nitrogen an issue now? Are there algal blooms that might indicate N-loading in the estuary? Are there impacts to eelgrass beds?
- 3) Are there other signs of nutrient loading in the freshwater portion of the creek, like periphyton?
- 4) Are declines in shellfish due to invasive green crabs and not Water Quality related?
- 5) Without current data to indicate a problem, is this application premature? Are a couple of years worth of VRMP data needed to better identify what the problems are?

Overall there didn't seem to be enough current data to make an informed statement about the water quality.

**STATE OF MAINE  
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

**RFP #:** 202505068

**RFP TITLE:** Nonpoint Source Grant Pollution Control Projects Watershed-based Plan

**BIDDER:** Town of Bar Harbor – Northeast Creek Watershed-Based Plan Development Project

**DATE:** 6/3/25

**EVALUATION OF SECTION IV  
Nature, Extent, and Severity of NPS Problem**

	<u>Points Available</u>	<u>Points Awarded</u>
Section IV. Nature, Extent, and Severity of NPS Problem	<b>10</b>	<b>4</b>

**Evaluation Team Comments:**

Because there was a lack of current water quality data, demonstration of understanding the nature, extent, and severity of the NPS problem was lacking.

ET questioned:

- 1) Should tidal currents or estuarine flushing be examined?
- 2) Should tidal/estuarine bacteria be examined?
- 3) Should the linkage between land use/septic systems and nutrient loading be examined?
- 4) Is one season of nitrogen data adequate to understand the severity and impact of septic system/build out analysis?

**STATE OF MAINE  
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

**RFP #:** 202505068

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**DATE:** 6/3/25

**EVALUATION OF SECTION V  
Feasibility for Success**

	<u>Points Available</u>	<u>Points Awarded</u>
Section VI. Feasibility for Success	<b>25</b>	<b>13</b>

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**Evaluation Team Comments:**

There was strong community identification of the connection between the current and future land uses and impacts on the estuary and watershed during the recent comprehensive planning processes. This can result in a greater likelihood of public support for land use changes as well as approval of funding for future grant and infrastructure projects. Strong community support also evident in the match and letters of commitment. Obtaining a qualified consultant will aid in writing a plan.

However, because of the lack of current data to support an understanding of NPS issues, will the contents of the plan be adequate to guide protection?



**STATE OF MAINE  
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

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**DATE:** 6/3/25

**EVALUATION OF SECTION VI  
Cost Effectiveness**

	<u>Points Available</u>	<u>Points Awarded</u>
Section V. Cost Effectiveness	<b>25</b>	<b>18</b>

**Evaluation Team Comments:**

Very good, high quality match. High cash and in-kind match from the town, letters committing match from partners, and even consultant match. 42% overall match far exceeds the required 25%.

**STATE OF MAINE  
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

**RFP #:** 202505068

**RFP TITLE:** Nonpoint Source Grant Pollution Control Projects Watershed-based Plan

**BIDDER:** Town of Bar Harbor – Northeast Creek Watershed-Based Plan Development Project

**DATE:** 6/3/25

**EVALUATION OF SECTION VII  
Comprehensive Plan**

	<u>Points Available</u>	<u>Points Awarded</u>
Section VII. Comprehensive Plan	<b>10</b>	<b>10</b>

**Evaluation Team Comments:**

The watershed of NE Creek is entirely within the municipal boundary of Bar Harbor. Bar Harbor has a consistent comprehensive plan, therefore they score 10 points.

Town	Watershed Area m^2
Bar Harbor	28206096.9182
total	28206096.9182

$$\frac{28206096.9182}{28206096.9182} \times 10 = 10$$

**STATE OF MAINE  
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

**RFP #:** 202505068

**RFP TITLE:** Nonpoint Source Grant for Pollution Control Projects Watershed-based Plan Development

**BIDDER NAME:** Androscoggin Valley SWCD – Pathway to Protection: Sabattus Pond Watershed Pre-Planning & Assessment

**DATE:** 6/3/25

**EVALUATOR NAME:** Addie Halligan

**EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT:** Environmental Protection

\*\*\*\*\*

**Individual Evaluator Comments:**

***Type or write down notes under the scoring criteria below:***

*P= positive; N = Negative; Q= Question, I= Interesting*

**Applicant Qualifications and Experience (relevant experience, financial, admin, technical quals. Past performance, quals of consultants or project partners)**

**N:** Does not describe the applicants relevant experience, financial capacity, administrative capacity or technical quals, nor does it describe the knowledge or experience of the Sabattus Pond non-profit.

**Relative Value of the Waterbody (use, access, values, drinking water, public recreation, scenic and aesthetic, aquatic and terrestrial, commercial)**

**P:** Use – year-round activities include boating, kayaking, fishing, ice fishing and regionally known for.

**N:** Generic statements on public attraction, ecological function

Overall lacking depth and description and no mention of public access except in table.

**Water Quality Problem (informed understanding of water quality conditions, severity)**

**P:** Impaired and chronic severe bloomer driven by high P levels, P concentrations in summer exceed 35ppb, chl-a avg 25ppb, water clarity drops below 2m. DO is moderate

**Q:** where is that value for P coming from (surface, epilimnion, bottom grab, etc?).

More details on DO needed

**P:** Internal loading concern

**N:** doesn't specify why it's a concern – is there data on bottom grabs, or sediment chemistry?

Overall mentions severity, doesn't mention trends or provide additional details about where this data comes from (is it an average, single sample, etc).

**Nature, Extent and Severity of NPS Problems (workplans understanding of what actions are needed to address NPS sources)**

**P:** Understanding – eroding private roads, inadequate shoreline buffers, aging septics,. Tributaries rich in nutrients, development pressure

**STATE OF MAINE  
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

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**DATE:** 6/3/25

**EVALUATOR NAME:** Addie Halligan

**EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT:** Environmental Protection

**N:** Mentions a 2024 Resilience Assessment that took stock on past efforts, but doesn't describe what those past efforts were to determine if there is an understanding

Generic understanding of potential issues, but lot of information on past efforts that should have been included here.

Feasibility for Success (successfully completed as proposed, waterbody can be restored/protected, info and capacity to determine actions needed, task to address wq stressors/pollutants of concern, stakeholder participation, community support)

**N:** Stakeholders include AVSWCD, DEP and SPWP – no inclusion of Town participation

**N:** Task 1 does not include the key deliverables needed as part of project administration

Overall very little information included in any task description, this project is just to conduct a watershed survey, therefore will not lead to the waterbody being restored, additional tasks are needed to develop an understanding of actions needed to restore the waterbody.

Cost Effectiveness (grant funds – good return for investment, reasonable estimates, amount and quality of match)

**N:** the match and grant totals do not, task 1 is total of \$16,235 along and the total project cost is also \$16,235.

**P:** Over 50% match

Comprehensive Plan – score to be calculated by DEP

Misc:

Says it's only a one year project, but these are two year projects.

**STATE OF MAINE  
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

**RFP #:** 202505068

**RFP TITLE:** Nonpoint Source Grant for Pollution Control Projects Watershed-based Plan Development

**BIDDER NAME:** Androscoggin Valley SWCD – Pathway to Protection: Sabattus Pond Watershed Pre-Planning & Assessment

**DATE:** 6/1/2025

**EVALUATOR NAME:** Greg Beane

**EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT:** Environmental Protection

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**Individual Evaluator Comments:**

*Type or write down notes under the scoring criteria below:*

*P= positive; N = Negative; Q= Question, I= Interesting*

Applicant Qualifications and Experience; I believe that AVSWCD is qualified but they did not list their qualifications/relevant experience in their application. Good topic of conversation for co-workers who have direct experience with the org. **Q**

Relative Value of the Waterbody; Fair, has public boat launch, popular for fishing for Northern Pike and is located adjacent to Maine's second largest metropolitan area. Overall, I found the application lacking in substance regarding waterbody functions & values. **Q**

Water Quality Problem; Severe, the pond blooms annually and it appears that it's elevated phosphorous levels (more than double the limit for blooms) come from both watershed runoff and internal recycling. **P**

Nature, Extent and Severity of NPS Problems; Suffers from an annual cyanobacteria bloom, SDT readings often less than 2M during summer, elevated P levels, has a TMDL and phosphorous control plan (from 2004). NPS pollution appears to be coming from a wide array of sources, heavy residential development, septic systems and tributaries which contribute high levels of pollutants. **P**

Feasibility for Success; Very low, the application is poorly written with little detail and depth of understanding how project tasks will be completed. The applicant seems to define lines regarding the extent of their commitment to the project and rely on others (DEP for instance regarding coordination the watershed survey) to do the rest. **N**

Cost Effectiveness; I can't rate this as the budgetary aspect of this application is completely wrong, for instance, the grant amount listed is only equal to the estimated grant money needed for project administration yet the sum total of all project tasks is twice that amount (\$15K), same for the match estimate. **N**

Comprehensive Plan – score to be calculated by DEP

**STATE OF MAINE  
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

**RFP #:** 202505068

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**BIDDER NAME:** Androscoggin Valley SWCD – Pathway to Protection: Sabattus Pond Watershed Pre-Planning & Assessment

**DATE:** 6/1/25

**EVALUATOR NAME:** Alex Wong

**EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT:** Environmental Protection

\*\*\*\*\*

**Individual Evaluator Comments:**

*Type or write down notes under the scoring criteria below:*

*P= positive; N = Negative; Q= Question, I= Interesting*

**Applicant Qualifications and Experience**

P – AVSWCD has been slowly building a project resume. Staff is still relatively new, but are gaining experience through other active projects. Performance on those projects is satisfactory.

**Relative Value of the Waterbody**

P – public access

N – no data provided for wildlife habitat value – IWWH and Least Bittern at northern part of the lake.

N – no data provided for property tax base

N – no data provided for usage - # of visitors/economic impact – is there a CBI?

N – quick Google search finds that Sabattus Pond hosts the largest ice fishing derby in Maine.

There is an obvious lack of data here. Not thorough.

**Water Quality Problem**

P - impaired

N – no WQ data provided, only averages over an unidentified time period. Lacking in detail, no trend analysis. Not even a screen shot from Lakes of Maine. There is plenty of data to be found there.

N – 2004 TMDL/PCAP is out dated. Even so, this section mentions developed land, agriculture, sediment release, upstream inflows – ag, sediments, upstream inflows are not part of this project.

Again, obvious lack of data here. Not thorough.

**Nature, Extent and Severity of NPS Problems**

N – no accounting of past projects, extent of work

N – incomplete summary of historic assessment work

N – incomplete summary of recent SPWP work

**STATE OF MAINE  
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

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**EVALUATOR NAME:** Alex Wong

**EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT:** Environmental Protection

Again, obvious lack of data here. Not thorough.

**Feasibility for Success**

N – the project, as proposed, does not make sense on several levels. 1) could definitely complete a watershed survey, it is not enough to characterize NPS issues for the pond. It would not “lay the groundwork” for a WBMP, but would only be a small part. 2) the project budget does not make sense. Tasks do not reflect the stated purpose. It seems like this project should have stopped at Task 1.

Not well conceived, not well planned.

**Cost Effectiveness**

N – the project budget does not make sense – see comments above.

**Comprehensive Plan**

**STATE OF MAINE  
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

**RFP #:** 202505068

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**BIDDER NAME:** Kennebec County SWCD – Webber, Threemile, & Threecornered Ponds Tri-Watershed Based Management Plan Completion

**DATE:** 6/3/25

**EVALUATOR NAME:** Addie Halligan

**EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT:** Environmental Protection

\*\*\*\*\*

**Individual Evaluator Comments:**

*Type or write down notes under the scoring criteria below:*

*P= positive; N = Negative; Q= Question, I= Interesting*

**Applicant Qualifications and Experience (relevant experience, financial, admin, technical quals. Past performance, quals of consultants or project partners)**

**P:** KCSWCD has been managing grants since 2000

**P:** Qualified consultant – experience in 604b grants and developing WBMP, experience with large data sets, watershed modeling, preparing GIS and technical writing.

**P:** Lake Associations – biologist, chemist, finance – collectively will raise funds, collect water samples, maintain data and records

**N:** Application lacks description of qualifications of individual who will be overseeing the project at the District

**Relative Value of the Waterbody (use, access, values, drinking water, public recreation, scenic and aesthetic, aquatic and terrestrial, commercial)**

**P:** Recreation – in/on the waterbody. Boating, swimming, fishing, hunting, camping, golfing, skiing, snowmobiling...

**P:** Access: Webber has public boat launch, public campground, access for hiking trails. Threemile has public boat launch with fishing and swimming access. Threecorner has Bicentennial Nature Park – residents of Augusta and access for swimming, fishing, etc.

**P:** aquatic habitat/commercial- alewives, including harvesting for bait fish

**N:** Commercial – mentions that all three ponds provide significant economic benefits through consumer spending and taxes, but doesn't provide specifics to back it up.

Overall – while not mentioned these waterbodies are in close proximity to the state capital and therefore provide, and could have elaborated on additional aquatic and terrestrial values.

**Water Quality Problem (informed understanding of water quality conditions, severity)**

**P:** Webber and threemile are impaired, threecorner is threatened.



## STATE OF MAINE INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES

**RFP #:** 202505068

**RFP TITLE:** Nonpoint Source Grant for Pollution Control Projects Watershed-based Plan Development

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**DATE:** 6/3/25

**EVALUATOR NAME:** Addie Halligan

**EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT:** Environmental Protection

**P:** Severity – webber and threemile have experienced HABs with cyanobacteria

Q/N: How many times has it bloomed? Is it recent, persistent?

**P:** Plan demonstrates an understanding of how weather patterns increase likelihood of algal blooms.

**P:** 2024 water and plankton sampling – low SDT, high TP and Chl-a

N: Would have been stronger to back these statements up with numbers

**N:** No data was included about water quality trends, averages (are they above or below state mean, what's the severity), timing and frequency of the blooms.

### Nature, Extent and Severity of NPS Problems (workplans understanding of what actions are needed to address NPS sources)

**P:** Includes all past published assessments – but old 2002-2007.

**P:** Generally plan demonstrates an understanding that P is the limiting nutrient and explains in depth it's impact on water quality.

**N:** Mentions LakeSmart Training – but doesn't mention how many evaluations to date, how many trained, extent of the program.

**N:** Briefly mentions the planned/anticipated assessment for the watershed survey and ag survey but could have included a description to help demonstrate that the findings will be used to update the understanding.

**I:** 2022 the WPA began mini-flushes prior to the annual fall drawdown – would love to know more about how this has helped

### Feasibility for Success (successfully completed as proposed, waterbody can be restored/protected. Info and capacity to determine actions needed, task to address wq stressors/pollutants of concern, stakeholder participation, community support)

**P:** Stakeholders – Towns all involved and providing funds, CRLA providing funding, three lake associations all have representatives on SC and involved in different elements of the tasks

**P:** This is the final step in compiling all the data – this workplan will supplement prior data and assessment work with additional water quality monitoring, watershed modeling to develop P loading budget, analyze internal loading

**P:** education task – emails to members, posts on Facebook, town websites, three presentations, final public meeting

**Q:** Water Resource Service? Can't mention a specific consultant

**Q:** Task 3 mentions that its through October 2025, is this additional monitoring or is this just mentioning work from previous efforts?

**STATE OF MAINE  
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

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**EVALUATOR NAME:** Addie Halligan

**EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT:** Environmental Protection

Don't need to include Task 4,5 and 6- not part of this workplan.

Cost Effectiveness (grant funds – good return for investment, reasonable estimates, amount and quality of match)

**P:** 50% quality match

**P:** Good return for investment to compile this substantial amount of data into a plan for implementation.

**Q:** The development of the Plan under Task 8 seems low but assume consultant has provided accurate estimate.

Comprehensive Plan – score to be calculated by DEP

**STATE OF MAINE  
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

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**DATE:** 6/1/2025

**EVALUATOR NAME:** Greg Beane

**EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT:** Environmental Protection

\*\*\*\*\*

**Individual Evaluator Comments:**

*Type or write down notes under the scoring criteria below:*

*P= positive; N = Negative; Q= Question, I= Interesting*

Applicant Qualifications and Experience; KVSWCD has a lengthy history managing grant projects with the DEP, however, their longtime director recently retired. I'm not familiar with the new director and I believe this would be her first DEP grant project. I do understand that if this application is funded the District will hire a consultant to coordinate the project. **Q**

Relative Value of the Waterbody; High, the three ponds in the proposed project provide a lot of recreational opportunity for the greater Augusta area as well as economic benefits associated with privately owned camps and commercial development (golf course). **P**

Water Quality Problem; Pretty severe, two of the three ponds in the watershed are impaired (high phosphorous) and suffer annual cyanobacteria blooms while the third pond (Three - Cornered) is threatened and on our watch list regarding sediment chemistry. Data indicates that the two impaired ponds (Webber & Three Mile) are internally recycling phosphorous. There are public health risks associated with cyanobacteria blooms. **P**

Nature, Extent and Severity of NPS Problems; NPS problems appear severe and widespread largely due to the density of development and wide range of land uses within the combined watershed of the three ponds. The issues are caused by excessive phosphorous from runoff and internal recycling. **P**

Feasibility for Success; Good considering the grantee will hire a qualified consultant to coordinate the project and will build off the work recently completed under an existing 604b grant project. I am confused why the applicant listed Tasks 4,5&6 in the proposal which are Tasks already being completed under last year's project. I need clarification of how last year's project and this year's proposal dovetail. **P**

Cost Effectiveness; Pretty good, all estimates appear reasonable and in order, are match estimates too high for professional volunteer work? (I don't think so but will ask group). **P**

**STATE OF MAINE  
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

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**BIDDER NAME:** Kennebec County SWCD – Webber, Threemile, & Threecornered Ponds Tri-Watershed Based Management Plan Completion

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**EVALUATOR NAME:** Greg Beane

**EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT:** Environmental Protection

Comprehensive Plan – score to be calculated by DEP

**STATE OF MAINE  
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

**RFP #:** 202505068

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**BIDDER NAME:** Kennebec County SWCD – Webber, Threemile, & Threecornered Ponds Tri-Watershed Based Management Plan Completion

**DATE:** 6/1/25

**EVALUATOR NAME:** Alex Wong

**EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT:** Environmental Protection

\*\*\*\*\*

**Individual Evaluator Comments:**

*Type or write down notes under the scoring criteria below:*

*P= positive; N = Negative; Q= Question, I= Interesting*

**Applicant Qualifications and Experience**

Q/P – new Exec Director, gaining experience. Has 2 other active projects, and there is some concern about juggling the projects. This proposal doesn't have a lot of her time – reliance on consultant and SC. Both are strong, and have done well managing the previous project.

**Relative Value of the Waterbody**

P – use/access – Webber – boat launch, public campground, Threemile – public boat launch; Threecornered – Nature Park

P – alewife run/DMR stocking/fishway project

N – Didn't mention Habitat – Webber -deer wintering area, Threemile and Threecornered– deer wintering and wintering and IWWH

Lacking in sufficient info

**Water Quality Problem**

P – Webber, 3MP impaired; 3CP threatened

N – completely lacks any WQ data. They had a good section in the previous application, and now the benefit of including last year's monitoring data.

Lacking in sufficient info

**Nature, Extent and Severity of NPS Problems**

P- good summary of assessment work – found something additional that wasn't included in last project application

N – description of activities to address NPS is lacking the detail of the previous application. It needs all of the previous info plus what was provided.

Lacking in sufficient info

**Feasibility for Success**

**STATE OF MAINE  
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

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**EVALUATOR NAME:** Alex Wong

**EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT:** Environmental Protection

P – this group has a good history, is motivated, has a good TC. The plan will be completed.

N – the project purpose is too broad and is not supported by the tasks. It speaks to implementation to prevent HABs, while the tasks are to write a plan.

Project purpose is too broad for success

**Cost Effectiveness**

P – cost of tasks seem reasonable

N – not aligned with project purpose

Project purpose is too broad to be cost effective for this project.

**Comprehensive Plan**

**STATE OF MAINE  
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

**RFP #:** 202505068

**RFP TITLE:** Nonpoint Source Grant for Pollution Control Projects Watershed-based Plan Development

**BIDDER NAME:** Town of Bar Harbor - Northeast Creek Watershed-Based Plan Development Project

**DATE:** 6/2/2025

**EVALUATOR NAME:** Addie Halligan

**EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT:** Environmental Protection

\*\*\*\*\*

**Individual Evaluator Comments:**

*Type or write down notes under the scoring criteria below:*

*P= positive; N = Negative; Q= Question, I= Interesting*

**Applicant Qualifications and Experience (relevant experience, financial, admin, technical quals. Past performance, quals of consultants or project partners)**

**P:** Town personal have experience in financial, administrative and technical qualities (finance director, planner experience in similar projects (Branch and Sebasticook), and planner with technical expertise in sampling and grant mgmt.

**P:** Consultant qualifications are detailed and relevant for all tasks included in this workplan – 9 element plan experience, monitoring, surveying, NPS, GIS, septic's, estuarine sampling.

**P:** volunteers and their roles described

**N (minor):** volunteer relevant experience not included, just MDI with experience with MHB.

**N (minor):** Qualifications not described for Tony and Bethany (total of 28 hrs so not very significant compared to consultants time.

Overall, strong applicant quals and experience.

**Notes:**

- Sarah Gilbert (10): Finance director/Treasurer for Town of Bar Harbor will provide financial and general admin oversight. Experience - oversees \$50million, two decades of experience in municipal finance, top-tier ranking
- Michele Gagnon (48hrs ) – unclear what role will be. Experience – Masters in Land Use Planning... Planning Director for Town. Relevant experience – Sebasticook Lake and Branch Pond projects -
- Hiley Bondy (114 hours)– Staff Planner. Experience – Bachelors in Environmental Engineering – water quality sampling & enviro remediation. Superfund site work. Grant mgmt. experience
- Subcontractor – Environmental consultant w/ experience nine-element WMP, monitoring, watershed surveys, NPS identification and planning, GIS mapping, Septic surveys, estuarine watershed planning.
- Volunteers:
  - MDI – run e.coli, has experience with entero.
  - Maine Coast Hertiage Trust
  - Acadia National Park
  - Friends of Acadia

**Relative Value of the Waterbody (use, access, values, drinking water, public recreation, scenic and aesthetic, aquatic and terrestrial, commercial)**

## STATE OF MAINE INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES

**RFP #:** 202505068

**RFP TITLE:** Nonpoint Source Grant for Pollution Control Projects Watershed-based Plan Development

**BIDDER NAME:** Town of Bar Harbor - Northeast Creek Watershed-Based Plan Development Project

**DATE:** 6/2/2025

**EVALUATOR NAME:** Addie Halligan

**EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT:** Environmental Protection

**P:** Some recreational value – kayaking, birdwatching, hiking trails (22% is within Acadia National Park) and shellfish harvesting – not in but on.

**P:** Aquatic & terrestrial – 2 State Rare/Exemplary Ecosystems/Natural Communities, Significant Vernal Pools, a large Inland Waterfowl/Wading Bird Habitat, and Shellfish Beds and Tidal Waterfowl/Wading Bird Habitat, Undeveloped habitat block

**P/N:** Access- yes there is access from a pull-off, from a preserve and 2 miles of hiking trails.

**Q:** Included that the town generates \$49million for commercial harvested marine resources, but only specifies that NE creek is used for worm fishery

Overall applications mentions all key values (recreation, aquatic, aesthetic, commercial, aquatic and terrestrial and access), the waterbody has potential greater use is shellfishing returns however unclear due to green crabs, since the closures have been lifted, but the waterbody is certainly enjoyed/used

### Notes:

Recreation – kayaking, birdwatching and shellfish harvesting.

Aquatic – fisheries hed and shellfisheries – nursery habitats

Recreation Use/Aesthetic/Commercial – 22% of this estuary is within Acadia National Park

Commercial – Town generates \$49million for commercial harvested marine resources. Worm fishery

N: This is for the whole town, doesn't specify what is being harvested in the cove that NE Creek drains to.

Aquatic & terrestrial – 2 State Rare/Exemplary Ecosystems/Natural Communities, Significant Vernal Pools, a large Inland Waterfowl/Wading Bird Habitat, and Shellfish Beds and Tidal Waterfowl/Wading Bird Habitat, Undeveloped habitat block

Access – pull off for parking, preserve – hiking trails, 2 mile trail

- Shellfishing was threatened due to bacterial closures that have been lifted
- Abundance of green crab

### **Water Quality Problem** (informed understanding of water quality conditions, severity)

#### **Severity –**

**P:** listed as impaired on the NPS

**N:** P90 scores have remained below the threshold and the shellfish harvesting restrictions have been lifted

**N:** Nitrogen data is based on modeling, no narrative was included about any noticed impacts, for example increased algal blooms



**STATE OF MAINE  
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

**RFP #:** 202505068

**RFP TITLE:** Nonpoint Source Grant for Pollution Control Projects Watershed-based Plan Development

**BIDDER NAME:** Town of Bar Harbor - Northeast Creek Watershed-Based Plan Development Project

**DATE:** 6/2/2025

**EVALUATOR NAME:** Addie Halligan

**EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT:** Environmental Protection

**Understanding –**

**N:** Limited data provided for both bacteria and nitrogen. Bacteria is based on p90 scores, but not measurements taken throughout the watershed, and nitrogen is based on modeling and application doesn't mention any visual/observed concerns like algal blooms

**Notes:**

- Listed as impaired on NPS Priority List, but not on the IR
- What's the current listing on the IR? 2014 and 2016 was 5b1a
- Nitrogen – based on 1998 and 2010 USGS survey due to rapid land use change. 2010 there

**Nature, Extent and Severity of NPS Problems (workplans understanding of what actions are needed to address NPS sources)**

**N:** Similar to the water quality sections, the previous assessment work to understand the nature, extent is based on modeling.

**N:** No sense in the severity of NPS problem

**N:** Overall there has been no efforts conducted to date to help understand where potential nitrogen and bacteria sources are in the watershed, therefore hard to assess the severity and extent, especially if conditions have improved for bacteria, would have been helpful to know if there were any changes that occurred to help with that lift.

**N:** It is also not mentioned how flushing rates in this estuary may play a role.

**Notes:**

- Town in planning stage to replace undersized culverts to improve flushing rates, eelgrass restoration in 2008

**Feasibility for Success (successfully completed as proposed, waterbody can be restored/protected. Info and capacity to determine actions needed, task to address wq stressors/pollutants of concern, stakeholder participation, community support)**

**P: Stakeholder participation –** Town, Acadia National Park, Friends of Acadia, MDI, Maine Coast Heritage Trust and Downeast Audubon all supporting the efforts

**N:** Very limited data collection planned- 6 grab samples during one season will make it hard to identify areas for remediation.

**N:** Limited education and outreach planned that would get community informed and therefore their support.

**STATE OF MAINE  
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

**RFP #:** 202505068

**RFP TITLE:** Nonpoint Source Grant for Pollution Control Projects Watershed-based Plan Development

**BIDDER NAME:** Town of Bar Harbor - Northeast Creek Watershed-Based Plan Development Project

**DATE:** 6/2/2025

**EVALUATOR NAME:** Addie Halligan

**EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT:** Environmental Protection

**N:** A lot of the pollutant source identification will be based on modeling, therefore unclear if it'll be feasible to develop an understanding of where the sources are for influencing the action plan.

**Q:** The septic system task sounds like it will be compiling information on septic – age, number of bedrooms, design flow, etc. but doesn't say that a analysis will be done to determine which systems may be posing a risk?

Overall – one year of data gathering, especially for nitrogen and bacteria may not get the full picture depending on unique weather patterns year to year.

**Notes:**

- Task 3: WQM – VRMP monitoring will begin in 2025 – 8 sites within the watershed for DO, SpC, temp, salinity. Investigative monitoring – focused on septic systems. Six grab samples – four dry and 2 wet for e.coli, fecal coliform, nitrogen suite, TP, chloride and orthophosphate.
- Task 4 – Pollutant Source Identification – GIS maps for land use, watershed survey for stormwater, erosion, IC, culvert restrictions, lack of buffer, Septic System database – inventory to characterize nitrogen risks from existing development. Building-out Analysis – future development impacts, and pollutant load modeling.
- Task 5- Outreach and edu – post updates, print and display deliverables, factsheet, present at public information session.
- Task 6- WBMP

**Cost Effectiveness** (grant funds – good return for investment, reasonable estimates, amount and quality of match)

**P:** 42% match for this project, far exceeding the required 25%

**P:** Consultant providing ~30k of match – quality match

**P:** Donated services is quality match from participating stakeholders

Wary that the cost for a plan that doesn't have a lot of

Comprehensive Plan – score to be calculated by DEP

**STATE OF MAINE  
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

**RFP #:** 202505068

**RFP TITLE:** Nonpoint Source Grant for Pollution Control Projects Watershed-based Plan Development

**BIDDER NAME:** Town of Bar Harbor - Northeast Creek Watershed-Based Plan Development Project

**DATE:** 5/31/2025

**EVALUATOR NAME:** Greg Beane

**EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT:** Environmental Protection

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**Individual Evaluator Comments:**

*Type or write down notes under the scoring criteria below:*

*P= positive; N = Negative; Q= Question, I= Interesting*

Applicant Qualifications and Experience; Applicant appears to be well qualified to administer a planning grant project and have lined up strong local partners, however, they do lack experience managing this type of grant project which will be offset by hiring a consultant to coordinate the project. **P**

Relative Value of the Waterbody; Relatively low for general recreational use, the Creek's main value is related to its impact on clamming, worming and significant habitat for waterfowl & wading birds (which is substantial & important). **I**

Water Quality Problem; Not well documented and water quality data all seems to be 10 - 15+ years old. The creek is listed on Maine DEP's list of NPS Priority Watersheds list (marine) but marine listings are not as dependent on data as freshwater resources and are largely based on anecdotal evidence. **N**

Nature, Extent and Severity of NPS Problems; Not well documented but DMR feels that NPS issues have had, and will have, negative impacts on (primarily) clam harvesting. Ironically, it appears that as this application is being made, a large development is happening on Blunt's Point (Hotel?) 100' adjacent to the estuary. **N**

Feasibility for Success; Good, I feel the Town's personnel paired with strong partners and coordinated by a qualified environmental consultant will lead to a successful project. **P**

Cost Effectiveness; Poor I think, I'm not sure why the applicant proposes 200 hours of project staff time while spending \$57K on a consultant to coordinate the project. I also question \$17K for supplies even though it includes sampling/analysis costs. **Q**

Comprehensive Plan – score to be calculated by DEP

**STATE OF MAINE  
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

**RFP #:** 202505068

**RFP TITLE:** Nonpoint Source Grant for Pollution Control Projects Watershed-based Plan Development

**BIDDER NAME:** Town of Bar Harbor - Northeast Creek Watershed-Based Plan Development Project

**DATE:** 6/1/25

**EVALUATOR NAME:** Alex Wong

**EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT:** Environmental Protection

**Individual Evaluator Comments:**

*Type or write down notes under the scoring criteria below:*

*P= positive; N = Negative; Q= Question, I= Interesting*

**Applicant Qualifications and Experience**

P – Finance Director, Planning Director, and Staff Planner have strong resume

P – Letters of support from project partners all commit resources to the project

N – No NPS Grant experience

P – Planning on hiring a tech consultant with NPS Grant experience

Seems like a strong team, FBE assisted with the application, most probably will be the successful consultant.

**Relative Value of the Waterbody**

P – public access to estuary

P - \$49M in shell fishing from 2012-2020; marine worms – important resource; tied water quality in estuary to marine habitat

P - State Rare/Exemplary Ecosystems/Natural Communities present; Significant Vernal Pools; IWWH

Seems like a pretty valuable resource to people and animals

**Water Quality Problem**

P – NPS Impaired

N – Not on IR now, was once in the past, but changes bacteria levels seem to have gotten better since 2014 and 2016

P – mentions N loading, and old and recent research highlights holes and identifies need for N sampling. (“These findings suggest that land use change models alone may not fully account for observed nitrogen loading trends in the watershed, as climate factors, including increased rainfall and streamflow, likely contributed to the rise in nitrogen loading during the study period.”)

Seems like N is a concern, but doesn’t mention if there are signs of excess N in marine or estuarine systems.

**Nature, Extent and Severity of NPS Problems**

P – some assessment has been done, still needs something to tie it together

**STATE OF MAINE  
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

**RFP #:** 202505068

**RFP TITLE:** Nonpoint Source Grant for Pollution Control Projects Watershed-based Plan Development

**BIDDER NAME:** Town of Bar Harbor - Northeast Creek Watershed-Based Plan Development Project

**DATE:** 6/1/25

**EVALUATOR NAME:** Alex Wong

**EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT:** Environmental Protection

N – some speculation as to why N increase is greater than expected for increase in developed land. Definitely a GW influence – perhaps a septic issue?

P – mentions some eelgrass impacts, but does not specifically tie this to N. (Need to check with Angie on why eelgrass is declining)

**Feasibility for Success**

P – addresses septic question in WQ monitoring section – good they are covering this

Q – wet weather monitoring – will they be trying to get peak flow for surface, or a day or so after for GW influence? Need to flesh out locations, timing of sampling

Q – should also include sensitive soils analysis for septic

Q – build out analysis -does this take into account stormwater surface flows (channel impacts) and nutrient or contaminant inputs? Like increased traffic increasing 6PPD-q? Does it take groundwater water impacts from new septic design rules? How detailed is this modeling?

Q – should a stream walk be required?

I'm pretty sure they will be able to write a plan, but I'm not sure if the contents will be adequate. I have questions that need to be answered.

**Cost Effectiveness**

P - The town is providing \$43k in match;

P - Much of the cost is going to the consultant, which makes sense

**Comprehensive Plan –**



STATE OF MAINE  
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL  
PROTECTION

Janet T. Mills  
Governor

Melanie Loyzim  
Commissioner

AGREEMENT AND DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
RFA #: 202505068

**RFA TITLE: Nonpoint Source Grant for Pollution Control Projects Watershed-based Plan Development**

I, Addie Halligan, accept the offer to become a member of the Request for Applications (RFA) Evaluation Team for the State of Maine Department of Environmental Protection. I do hereby accept the terms set forth in this agreement AND hereby disclose any affiliation or relationship I may have in connection with a bidder who has submitted a proposal to this RFA.

Neither I nor any member of my immediate family have a personal or financial interest, direct or indirect, in the applicants whose applications I will be reviewing. "Interest" may include, but is not limited to: current or former ownership in the applicant's company; current or former Board membership; current or former employment with the applicant; current or former personal contractual relationship with the applicant (example: paid consultant); and/or current or former relationship to an applicant's official which could reasonably be construed to constitute a conflict of interest (personal relationships may be perceived by the public as a potential conflict of interest).

I have not advised, consulted with or assisted any applicant in the preparation of any proposal submitted in response to this RFA nor have I submitted a letter of support or similar endorsement.

I understand and agree that the evaluation process is to be conducted in an impartial manner without bias or prejudice. In this regard, I hereby certify that, to the best of my knowledge, there are no circumstances that would reasonably support a good faith charge of bias. I further understand that in the event a good faith charge of bias is made, it will rest with me to decide whether I should be disqualified from participation in the evaluation process.

**I agree to hold confidential all information related to the contents of Requests for Applications presented during the review process until such time as the Department formally releases the award decision notices for public distribution.**

*Addie P. Halligan*

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Signature

6/2/2025  
Date



STATE OF MAINE  
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL  
PROTECTION

Janet T. Mills  
Governor

Melanie Loyzim  
Commissioner

AGREEMENT AND DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
RFA #: 202505068

**RFA TITLE: Nonpoint Source Grant for Pollution Control Projects Watershed-based Plan Development**

I, Greg Beane, accept the offer to become a member of the Request for Applications (RFA) Evaluation Team for the State of Maine Department of Environmental Protection. I do hereby accept the terms set forth in this agreement AND hereby disclose any affiliation or relationship I may have in connection with a bidder who has submitted a proposal to this RFA.

Neither I nor any member of my immediate family have a personal or financial interest, direct or indirect, in the applicants whose applications I will be reviewing. "Interest" may include, but is not limited to: current or former ownership in the applicant's company; current or former Board membership; current or former employment with the applicant; current or former personal contractual relationship with the applicant (example: paid consultant); and/or current or former relationship to an applicant's official which could reasonably be construed to constitute a conflict of interest (personal relationships may be perceived by the public as a potential conflict of interest).

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*Gregory E. Beane*

5/29/25

Signature

Date



**STATE OF MAINE  
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL  
PROTECTION**

**Janet T. Mills**  
Governor

**Melanie Loyzim**  
Commissioner

**AGREEMENT AND DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
RFA #: 202505068**

**RFA TITLE: Nonpoint Source Grant for Pollution Control Projects Watershed-based Plan Development**


I, Alex Wong, accept the offer to become a member of the Request for Applications (RFA) Evaluation Team for the State of Maine Department of Environmental Protection. I do hereby accept the terms set forth in this agreement AND hereby disclose any affiliation or relationship I may have in connection with a bidder who has submitted a proposal to this RFA.

Neither I nor any member of my immediate family have a personal or financial interest, direct or indirect, in the applicants whose applications I will be reviewing. "Interest" may include, but is not limited to: current or former ownership in the applicant's company; current or former Board membership; current or former employment with the applicant; current or former personal contractual relationship with the applicant (example: paid consultant); and/or current or former relationship to an applicant's official which could reasonably be construed to constitute a conflict of interest (personal relationships may be perceived by the public as a potential conflict of interest).

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**I agree to hold confidential all information related to the contents of Requests for Applications presented during the review process until such time as the Department formally releases the award decision notices for public distribution.**

  
Signature

6/3/25  
Date