Galveston Bay Estuary Program

Fiscal 2026 NRU Project Proposal

**Please complete this proposal form and submit to the appropriate Subcommittee Coordinator (end of form) by August 5, 2024. No late submittals will be considered for funding.**

**This Call for Project Proposals complies with 30 Texas Administrative Code (TAC) § 14.7, which lays out requirements for a competitive solicitation by TCEQ for grant awards. For convenience, specific citations to 30 TAC § 14.7 are identified in the text.**

**SECTION ONE: INTRODUCTION**

**Purpose [required by 30 TAC § 14.7(1)]:** The purpose of the proposed grant from the Galveston Bay Estuary Program (GBEP), a program of the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ), is to implement *The Galveston Bay Plan, 2nd Edition* (the Plan), a comprehensive conservation and management plan falling under Section 320, of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. Section 1330), for a designated national estuary in the State of Texas.

**Objective and Allowable Activities [see 30 TAC § 14.7(4)]: T**he objective of this grant is to implement the GBEP stakeholder developed priorities for FY2026 (FY2026 Priority Area Actions) that were developed by GBEP subcommittees for fiscal 2026 at the June 2024 meetings. Any proposal implementing the Plan may be submitted, but proposals implementing the FY2026 Priority Area Actions will be considered above others.

**Authority [see 30 TAC § 14.7(2)]:** Grants issued by GBEP under this solicitation are authorized by: the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (Clean Water Act) § 320 (33 United States Code § 1330), commonly referred to as the National Estuary Program; Tex. Water Code § 5.124; and 30 TAC ch. 14.

**Match Requirement [see 30 TAC § 14.7(10) and 30 TAC § 14.7(11)]:** No matching funds are required. Therefore, there is no need to adjust or waive any matching funds requirement.

**Multiple Awards [see 30 TAC § 14.7(7)]:** GBEP anticipates awarding funds for multiple proposals. GBEP intends to award grants to that combination of proposals which best implements the Plan, factoring in all criteria identified in this Call for Project Proposals, the availability of funds, and the most effective division of funds between awards.

**SECTION TWO: SUBMITTAL – GENERAL INFORMATION**

**Subcommittee**:

[Please input.]

**Project Name**:

Project Previously Funded by GBEP? Yes  No

[Please input.]

**Lead Implementer / Categories of Eligible Recipients [see 30 TAC § 14.7(3)]**:

The lead implementer must be in one of the following categories of eligible recipients. Please indicate which category applies to your entity. If the proposing party is not already paired with a lead implementer in one of the categories listed below, the proposing party will need to partner with an eligible recipient in one of these categories to be selected for funding. Please reach out to GBEP staff with any questions.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Federal, State, or Local Government | Council of Government | Public ISDs or Universities |
| Nonprofit | Other\* |  |

[Please also indicate entity category (state, local, public university, nonprofit, etc.).]

[**Unique Entity ID (UEI) Number**:](https://sam.gov/content/home)  **AND:**

[Please input.]

**VIN or Tax ID**:

[Please input.]

**Contact Information**:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Project Representative Name |  |
| Project Representative Phone |  |
| Project Representative Email |  |

**Amount Requested from GBEP**:

[$]

Federal  State  No Preference

Is the project scalable?

**Amount Requested per year (if applicable)**:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| FY 2026 (09/01/2025-08/31/2026) | $0.00 |
| FY 2027 (09/01/2026-05/31/2027) | $0.00 |
| FY 2028 (09/01/2027-05/31/2028) | $0.00 |
| **Total** | $0.00 |

**Project Dates / Duration (beginning no earlier than September 1, 2025 – ending no later than May 31, 2028) [see 30 TAC § 14.7(5)]**:

[months or years, as applicable.]

**Project Urgency**:

[Please indicate the need for receiving funding during this cycle; such as loss of other funding secured, loss of opportunity to implement project, potential of breach, etc.]

**Total Project Cost (including Leveraging Amounts, if any; provide leveraging information where indicated below)**:

[$]

Is this an estimate?

**Leveraging (in-kind and/or cash)**:

|  |
| --- |
| [Please indicate source, amount, and status (secured, potential, etc.)] |

**Partners\* and Their Roles**:

[Please identify project partners and detail what roles they will play in project implementation.]

**\*If partners are subgrantees completing work reimbursable under GBEP funding, a letter of commitment from the partner must be submitted under the application.**

**SECTION THREE: *GALVESTON BAY PLAN, 2ND EDITION* IMPLEMENTATION**

Grant recipient activities to be funded must implement the Plan, but proposals implementing the FY2026 Priority Area Actions will be considered above others.

The FY2026 Priority Area Actions are found at:

<https://gbep.texas.gov/ensure-safe-human-and-aquatic-life-use/>

<https://gbep.texas.gov/protect-and-sustain-living-resources/>

<https://gbep.texas.gov/engage-communities/>

<https://gbep.texas.gov/inform-science-based-decision-making/>

[Please state how the project implements actions of the Living Resources Action Plans selected. Please cite other specific action items, if applicable.]

[**Galveston Bay Plan**](https://gbep.texas.gov/galveston-bay-plan/) **Priority Area Actions Addressed:**

Plan Priority 2: Protect and Sustain Living Resources

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| HC-1 | HC-2 | HC-3 |  |
| SC-1 | SC-2 |  |  |
| FWI-1 | FWI-2 | FWI-3 |  |

**Plan Priority Area Actions Detail:**

|  |
| --- |
| [Please state the action and output addressed and how the project contributes to implementing the output.] |

**Does the** **project implement any other *Galveston Bay Plan 2nd Edition* Priority Area Actions, or the other Subcommittee priorities**?

WSQ (Ensure Safe Human and Aquatic Life Use)

PPE (Engage Communities)

M&R (Inform Science-Based Decision Making)

**Other Subcommittee Detail:**

[Please explain in detail how project addresses other Galveston Bay Plan Priority Area Actions (be specific; NPS-1, SPO-3, etc.) or subcommittee priorities.]

**Other Plans Implemented**:

[Texas Coastal Management Plan, Texas Coastal Resiliency Master Plan, Texas Wetland Conservation Plan, GCJV Conservation Plans, etc.]

**SECTION FOUR: SUBCOMMITTEE PRIORITIES / FACTORS TO BE USED TO SELECT AWARDS [see 30 TAC § 14.7(6)]**

Grant recipient activities must implement the Plan. Additional recipient selection criteria includes whether a project addresses a subcommittee priority. This selection criteria provides for the selection of multiple recipients as needed.

**NRU Subcommittee Identified Priorities**

*Grant recipient activities must implement the Plan. Additional recipient selection criteria includes whether a project addresses a subcommittee priority.*

Habitat acquisition.

Enhancement of existing or ongoing restoration/conservation efforts.

* Special emphasis on adaptive management for previously completed projects.

Benefit to native fish and wildlife, including federal and state listed species, Species of Greatest Conservation Need, or nongame wildlife.

* Special emphasis on projects addressing seagrasses, intertidal reef/shell hash, and benthic mapping.
* Any species monitoring projects should be a collaboration/partnership between subcommittees.

Brings funding, work leverage, or multiple goal benefits to the subcommittee.

Takes into consideration the results of the Estuary Resilience Action Plan.

Project urgency: Project must be completed in next 24 months or opportunity is lost.

**Subcommittee Priority Detail:**

[Please explain in detail how project addresses priorities selected. Attachments may be submitted via email in conjunction with this application.]

**Does the Project work with new, smaller communities/partnerships?**

Yes

No

|  |
| --- |
| [TBD.] |

**SECTION FIVE: PROPOSAL DETAILS**

Grant recipient activities must implement the Plan. Additional recipient selection criteria includes whether a project addresses a subcommittee priority.

**Project Summary**:

[In 1-2 sentences, please describe the objective of your proposal.]

**Full Project Description (1,000 words or less)**:

|  |
| --- |
| [In 1,000 words or less, please provide a summary of the scope of your proposal.] |

**Latitude/Longitude (Optional)**:

[degrees, minutes, and seconds format]

**Location**:

[Description of area(s) of Galveston Bay watershed addressed by proposal]

**Projects Map**

[Insert Map Here or Attach as an Appendix if Applicable]

**Supplemental Photos/Graphics (Optional):**

[Insert Here or Attach as an Appendix]

**SECTION SIX: BUDGET DETAILS**

**Grant Payments [see 30 TAC § 14.7(12)]:** All grant payments will be made on the basis of reimbursement for allowable costs (as defined in 2 CFR Part 200, Subpart E).All payments for awarded proposals will be reimbursements of allowable costs incurred after both parties have entered (signed) a grant agreement for the project.

**Budget**. Authorized budgeted expenditures for work performed are as follows:

| **Budget Category** | **Cost for Work to be Performed** |
| --- | --- |
| Salary / Wages | $0.00 |
| Fringe Benefits **(##%)[[1]](#footnote-2)** | $0.00 |
| Travel | $0.00 |
| Supplies | $0.00 |
| Equipment | $0.00 |
| Contractual | $0.00 |
| Construction | $0.00 |
| Other | $0.00 |
| **Total Direct Cost** | **$0.00** |
| Indirect Costs | **$0.00** |
| **Total** | **$0.00** |

**Indirect Cost Agreement**

Please note: If using a rate different from your entity Indirect Cost Agreement; a letter of exemption from the appropriate authority must be provided with the application, or a statement must be included certifying that the recipient has elected to be reimbursed for an amount less than its total indirect costs, that unreimbursed indirect costs are part of the recipient’s contribution to the success of the project, and that the recipient will pay for all unreimbursed indirect costs using funds available to it for that purpose.

[Insert Indirect Cost Agreement or Attach as an Appendix if Applicable]

**Indirect Cost Reimbursable Rate**. The reimbursable rate for this Contract is ##% of (check one):

**Salary and fringe benefits**

**Modified total direct costs**

**Other direct costs base**

**If other direct cost base, identify:**

**This rate is less than or equal to (check one):**

**Predetermined Rate**— an indirect rate that is negotiated between the Performing Party and its federal cognizant agency and supported by a current Negotiated Indirect Cost Rate Agreement (NICRA) letter. A Predetermined Rate is not subject to adjustment except as provided by 2 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) § 200.411.

**De Minimis Rate**— if Performing Party does not have a current negotiated indirect rate, Performing Party may use a standard rate of ten percent of Modified Total Direct Costs (MTDC) in lieu of determining the actual indirect costs of the service. Costs must be consistently charged as either indirect or direct costs.

**Provisional Rate**— an experienced-based rate agreed to by Performing Party and TCEQ in the absence of a NICRA rate negotiated with the applicable federal cognizant agency.

**Partial Reimbursement Rate**— a reimbursement rate agreed to between TCEQ and Performing Party that is less than the rate authorized under TxGMS or, where applicable, 2 CFR Part 200. Performing Party contributes all of its unreimbursed indirect costs to the successful performance of the project or projects funded under this Contract, in accordance with Article 9 of this section.

**Other:**

**Other**. If Budget Category “Other” is greater than $25,000 or more than 10% of total Contract budget, identify the main constituents:

[Description of costs associated with “Other” budget category.]

**SECTION SEVEN: CONTRACT REQUIREMENT [see 30 TAC § 14.7(15)]:**

* By submitting this Project Proposal, you acknowledge that, if you become a successful grant recipient selected for a grant award, you must enter into a signed grant agreement or contract with TCEQ following the announcement of that award.

**SECTION EIGHT: ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

**Please read and understand the following:**

* By submitting this Project Proposal, you acknowledge that information on how grant payments will be made is contained in the Budget Details section describing direct and possibly indirect costs. You further acknowledge that grant payments will be reimbursements on the basis of allowable costs incurred and that selected recipients will receive contract documents addressing allowable costs, unallowable costs, and reimbursement.
* By submitting this Project Proposal, you acknowledge your understanding that Project Proposals do not require matching funds and that a TCEQ director does not need to adjust or waive any matching funds requirement.
* By submitting this Project Proposal, you acknowledge that, if GBEP elects to hold a pre-submittal meeting relating to this Project Proposal, GBEP will notify you of the meeting’s time and location indicating whether attendance is mandatory.

**SECTION NINE: QUESTIONS AND PRE-SUBMITTAL MEETINGS [see 30 TAC § 14.7(13) and 30 TAC § 14.7(14)]:**

* There are no pre-submittal meetings scheduled.
* For requests for additional, pre-submittal information **[see 30 TAC § 14.7(13)]**, please contact the corresponding Subcommittee Coordinator listed on this page.

**SECTION TEN: ADDITIONAL INSTRUCTIONS**

In submitting your Project Proposal, please refer and adhere to the following instructions and guidelines concerning materials and information required to be submitted by potential grant recipients:

* GBEP intends to accept only complete Projected Proposals in a layout and format constituting a filled version of this proposal document with all applicable sections therein addressed; however, GBEP may, in its sole discretion, consider and accept nonconforming Project Proposals in the best interest of the state.
* Unless otherwise specified by GBEP, formal signatures are not required on Project Proposals.
* Unless otherwise communicated or implied, GBEP requires 1 (one) completed copy of your Project Proposal per corresponding Subcommittee Coordinator.
* Project Proposals must be received electronically, through the email address of the relevant Subcommittee Coordinator listed on this page, by the deadline listed on both this page and the first page of this Project Proposal document.

**Submittal Process and Deadline [see 30 TAC § 14.7(8) and 30 TAC § 14.7(9)]:**

**Please Submit Project Proposals (Microsoft Word Only – No PDFs) by**

**August 5, 2024 to the relevant Subcommittee Coordinators below:**

WSQ Subcommittee

[Christian.Rines@tceq.texas.gov](mailto:Christian.Rines@tceq.texas.gov)

NRU Subcommittee

[Lindsey.Lippert@tceq.texas.gov](mailto:Lindsey.Lippert@tceq.texas.gov)

PPE Subcommittee

[Lisa.Marshall@tceq.texas.gov and Matthew.Abernathy@tceq.texas.gov](mailto:Lisa.Marshall@tceq.texas.gov;%20Matthew.Abernathy@tceq.texas.gov)

M&R Subcommittee

[Jenelle.Estrada@tceq.texas.gov](mailto:Jenelle.Estrada@tceq.texas.gov)

1. If fringe is not a single rate, please attach calculation or explanation as an appendix. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)