

Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation



## **Alaska Clean Water Actions**

# **Request for Proposals**

State Fiscal Years 2025-2027  
(March 2025 – February 2027)

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## *Acronyms*

ACWA	Alaska Clean Water Actions
AIS	American Iron & Steel
AWQMS	Ambient Water Quality Monitoring System
BABA	Build America, Buy America
BEACH	Beaches Environmental Assessment and Coastal Health
BMP	Best Management Practice
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
CWA	Clean Water Act
DBE	Disadvantaged Business Enterprise
DBW	Davis-Bacon Wages
DEC	Department of Environmental Conservation
DF&G	Department of Fish and Game
DNR	Department of Natural Resources
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
FFY	Federal Fiscal Year
FSR	Financial Status Report
GSI	Green Stormwater Infrastructure
LID	Low Impact Development
MBE/WBE	Minority/Women's Business Enterprise
MSG	Municipal Stormwater Grant (also abbreviated "OSG" for Overflow Sewer Grant)
MST	Microbial Source Tracking
NPS	Nonpoint Source
OMB	Office of Management and Budget
ORV	Off-road Vehicle
QAPP	Quality Assurance Project Plan
RFP	Request for Proposals
SFY	State Fiscal Year
TMDL	Total Maximum Daily Load
WQS	Water Quality Standards at 18 AAC 70

## Introduction

This Request for Proposals (RFP) contains the requested Actions for the 2025-2027 Alaska Clean Water Actions (ACWA) grant cycle. The ACWA program, a collaboration between the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) and the Alaska Departments of Fish and Game (DF&G) and Natural Resources (DNR), works to set priorities for water quality, aquatic habitat, and water quantity issues statewide. All ACWA projects must be designed to protect or improve Alaska's water quality from the harmful effects of nonpoint source pollution.

The RFP highlights Alaska's highest priority watersheds and projects that will implement milestones described in Alaska's [2021-2025 Nonpoint Source \(NPS\) Strategy](#). The priority watersheds are broken out by the Action Categories listed below. The RFP document contains descriptions for each Action Category in the following pages. Action Categories note if proposals for other watersheds/waters will be accepted. All proposals must align with one of the Action Categories.

### *RFP Action Categories*

Proposals are requested for projects in the following Action Categories which are described in the following pages. Priority watersheds are listed on each Action Category page and proposals may receive bonus points if the project addresses the requested priority work. Contact the staff person listed on page 6 or next to the action descriptions in order to get specific details on the work requested.

<b>Action Category</b>
1. <a href="#">Best Management Practices to Improve or Protect Water Quality</a>
2. <a href="#">Watershed Planning</a>
3. <a href="#">Public Outreach and Education</a>
4. <a href="#">Monitoring for Nonpoint Source Pollution or BMP Effectiveness</a>
5. <a href="#">Marine BEACH Pathogen Monitoring</a>

### *Project Timing*

This Request for Proposals covers a two-year calendar period which spans three state fiscal years (SFY). Projects may start no earlier than March 1, 2025 and must be completed by February 28, 2027. Projects may end prior to February 28, 2027, but cannot go beyond that date.

<b>State Fiscal Year (SFY)</b>	<b>Calendar Dates</b>	<b>Number of Months</b>
SFY 25	March 1, 2025 - June 30, 2025	4
SFY 26	July 1, 2025 - June 30, 2026	12
SFY 27	July 1, 2026 - February 28, 2027	8

## *Funds Available & Eligibility*

ACWA grants are managed by DEC and include three federal funding sources combined into one application process. Your proposed project topic and type of organization will help DEC determine which funding source is most appropriate. This ACWA grant cycle requires zero matching dollars from applicants.

Appendix E includes information on funds available and eligibility requirements. They are summarized here.

Funding Name	Amount Available per SFY <sup>1, 2</sup>			Eligibility
	SFY25	SFY26	SFY27	
Sewer Overflow and Stormwater Reuse Municipal Grant (MSG)	\$270,000	\$194,880	\$129,920	Only available to municipal and Tribal governments or entities with populations of less than 10,000 people based on the 2020 U.S. Census
Beaches Environmental Assessment and Coastal Health Act (BEACH)	\$63,051	\$110,000	\$73,333	State agencies, local and Tribal governments, non-governmental and Tribal organizations, universities, conservation districts
Nonpoint Source Clean Water Act Section 319 (NPS 319)	\$108,057	\$308,057	\$205,371	State agencies, local and Tribal governments, non-governmental and Tribal organizations, for-profits, universities, conservation districts

1. Funding amounts in SFY 26-27 are contingent on federal appropriation of funds.
2. Total project costs may not exceed \$250,000 over the course of the project.

## *How to Apply*

The application is a Microsoft Word document available for download from the [ACWA RFP webpage](#). If you are applying for more than one project, please submit separate applications. The webpage also has workplan templates and additional information on the grant requirements.

DEC will host an informational webinar on September 18, 2024 from 10:00 AM – 11:30 AM. Instructions for joining the webinar are on the ACWA RFP webpage.

## *Deadline*

All applications and workplans must be submitted to [dec.acwa.grants@alaska.gov](mailto:dec.acwa.grants@alaska.gov) by **11:59 PM on October 21, 2024**. Late applications will not be reviewed.

## Application Appendices

Additional information on eligibility, grant conditions, and other important grant information may be found in the following appendices available on the ACWA RFP webpage. Because the grant funds are from federal sources, DEC is required to pass along federal requirements on the funds. Review the appendices and ACWA web page for more information on potential applicability of Davis-Bacon wages, Build America, Buy America, Environmental Review, and American Iron and Steel requirements.

Appendix A. Federal Laws and Authorities

Appendix B. General Conditions

Appendix C. Funding Specific Requirements

Appendix D. Budget Guidance

Appendix E. Estimated Funding Sources & Constraints

Appendix F. Grant Minimum Requirements and Proposal Evaluation Criteria

## Staff Contacts

<b>Department of Environmental Conservation</b>			
Laura Eldred	907-376-1855	<a href="mailto:laura.eldred@alaska.gov">laura.eldred@alaska.gov</a>	ACWA Statewide Program Manager
Jeff Fisher	907-451-2130	<a href="mailto:jeff.fisher@alaska.gov">jeff.fisher@alaska.gov</a>	Fairbanks, Northern, Interior
Mary Inovejas	907-269-7518	<a href="mailto:mary.inovejas@alaska.gov">mary.inovejas@alaska.gov</a>	Kenai Peninsula, Western, Kodiak; and BEACH
Ashley Oleksiak	907-376-1865	<a href="mailto:ashley.oleksiak@alaska.gov">ashley.oleksiak@alaska.gov</a>	Anchorage, Mat-Su, Copper River Basin
Gretchen Augat	907-465-5023	<a href="mailto:gretchen.augat@alaska.gov">gretchen.augat@alaska.gov</a>	Southeast and BEACH
Donna Jones	907-465-5072	<a href="mailto:donna.jones@alaska.gov">donna.jones@alaska.gov</a>	Grants Administration
<b>Department of Fish and Game</b>			
William Krossoi	907-265-9327	<a href="mailto:william.krassoi@alaska.gov">william.krassoi@alaska.gov</a>	Statewide
<b>Department of Natural Resources</b>			
Tom Barrett	907-269-8645	<a href="mailto:tom.barrett@alaska.gov">tom.barrett@alaska.gov</a>	Statewide

# 1. Best Management Practices to Improve or Protect Water Quality

## Workplan Template to use: Best Management Practices

### *Action Description*

This action is focused on Best Management Practices (BMPs) that protect or improve water quality. This may include tasks for planning, design, installation, and maintenance of BMPs including stormwater green infrastructure.

Two of the ACWA grant funding sources include BMP work:

1. The MSG funding is only available to municipal and tribal governments/entities<sup>1</sup> with populations of less than 10,000 people based on the 2020 U.S. Census. Proposals under this funding source may not include outreach/education tasks, interpretive signage, or monitoring. Projects for planning or design are expected to lead to capital projects at some future time.
2. The 319 NPS funding is available to any local government, nongovernmental organizations, universities, and tribal organizations regardless of population. Proposals under this funding source may include tasks on outreach/education related to the project, design and install project interpretive signage, and include minimal BMP effectiveness monitoring for pre/post installation. Projects may not include activities specifically required under an MS4 permit.

Proposals for this action may include one or more of the following:

**A. Planning:** Identify areas within the community that would receive the highest benefit from low impact development (LID) techniques such as green stormwater infrastructure (GSI) projects. This includes those areas where stormwater runoff may pose a risk to local waterways.

**B. On-the-ground projects:**

1. *Design:* Complete a design of a green stormwater infrastructure (or other best management practice) project. Design should include a calculation of the environmental benefit (e.g., amount of reduced stormwater run-off) and estimated cost to construct.
2. *Installation:* Construct one or both of the following:
  - a. Demonstration project that includes an educational component. The project will allow for a permanent opportunity for local citizens, including elected officials, to see first-hand the value of implementing green stormwater infrastructure.

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<sup>1</sup> "The term "municipality" means a city, town, borough, county, parish, district, association, or other public body created by or pursuant to State law and having jurisdiction over disposal of sewage, industrial wastes, or other wastes, or an Indian tribe or an authorized Indian tribal organization..." U.S. Code Title 33 Section § 1362 (4).

- b. Large-scale LID/green stormwater infrastructure project. Applications should include an estimate of the amount of stormwater retained and sediment reduced on-site and a commitment from the landowner to maintain the project.
3. *Maintain*: All constructed projects must have a maintenance agreement as a deliverable.

**C. Other BMPs:** There are many types of BMPs that can help reduce nonpoint source pollution and protect or improve water quality in area waterways. Your proposal must describe how the BMP addresses nonpoint source pollution, which type of pollutant(s) it will address, and which waterbody(ies) the project will benefit.

**D. New ordinances:** Develop draft ordinance(s) to protect water quality (e.g., draft setback or riparian protection ordinance language; LID/GSI inclusion in land use codes, other ordinance designed to protect or improve water quality) for adoption by local governments. To be eligible for funding, the grant proposal must include project partners (including local planners) to help develop the draft ordinance. The applicant must present the completed draft ordinance to local planning board/commission or other city/borough decision-making body even if that body does not take action during the grant period.

### *Priority Watersheds*

<b>Waterbody Name (Location)</b>	<b>Action Description<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>Contact</b>
<b>Statewide (Any)</b>	<b>Proposals will be accepted for any Alaska waterbody in this Action Category.</b> However, only the identified priority waters may receive bonus points.	DEC regional contacts (see page 5)
<b>Any Municipality of Anchorage Impaired Watershed (Anchorage)</b>	Work with Municipality of Anchorage, landowners, and other partners to design and install a green stormwater infrastructure project or other needed BMP. NPS 319 funded projects cannot include activities required under the MS4 stormwater discharge permit requirements. Project must clearly demonstrate how it improves or protects water quality.	<a href="#">Ashley Oleksiak</a> 376-1865
<b>Chena River (Fairbanks)</b>	This project will implement one or more of the actions identified in the Chena River road crossing(s) green stormwater infrastructure prioritization from 2024. NPS 319 funded proposals cannot include activities required under the MS4 stormwater discharge permit.	<a href="#">Jeff Fisher</a> 451-2130

<sup>2</sup> Previously developed watershed plans and/or water quality monitoring reports are located at <https://dec.alaska.gov/water/water-quality/nonpoint-source-control/water-quality-resources/reports>

<b>Chignik area watersheds (Chignik Bay)</b>	Implement actions identified in the 2024 Chignik area watershed plan designed to protect or improve water quality from nonpoint source water pollution.	<a href="#">Mary Inovejas</a> 269-7518
<b>Cottonwood Creek (Wasilla)</b>	Work with the City of Wasilla or Matanuska-Susitna Borough (depending on location and jurisdiction) and other partners to design, install, and maintain one or more green stormwater infrastructure BMPs to reduce polluted stormwater runoff from entering Cottonwood Creek as described in the Cottonwood Creek Stormwater Analysis report. Other appropriate BMP work is also eligible.	<a href="#">Ashley Oleksiak</a> 376-1865
<b>Jordan Creek (Juneau)</b>	Implement Jordan Creek Watershed Management Plan priority action of GSI design for source area treatment on Mallard Street in conjuncture with DOT road reconstruction project (Stormwater System 9 (9.2). Enhance existing GSI features and conduct maintenance at Trout Street, South Alpine Avenue, and Crest Street.	<a href="#">Gretchen Augat</a> 465-5023
<b>Kenai River (Kenai)</b>	<p>The proposed project may include one or more of the following: prioritization of sites for future green infrastructure implementation and/or implementation of a green infrastructure project design and installation with outreach campaign targeted to multiple audiences (e.g., homeowners, municipalities, businesses) explaining the benefits of incorporating green infrastructure elements on their properties.</p> <p>BMP proposals may also include activities designed to reduce fish waste on area shorelines and beaches (see Outreach &amp; Education Action Category).</p>	<a href="#">Mary Inovejas</a> 269-7518
<b>Ketchikan area watersheds (Ketchikan)</b>	Work with City of Ketchikan, Ketchikan Gateway Borough, Ketchikan Indian Community, and other partners to develop and adopt new ordinance for a stream-side setback that would apply to future (re)development with educational outreach. Supporting documents include Ketchikan Area Bacteria Management Plan.	<a href="#">Gretchen Augat</a> 465-5023
<b>Lake Lucile (Wasilla)</b>	Work with the City of Wasilla Public Works and other partners as needed, to design and install one or more of the identified stormwater BMPs as described in the City of Wasilla's Lake Lucile Lake Management Plan.	<a href="#">Ashley Oleksiak</a> 376-1865
<b>North Pole area watersheds (North Pole)</b>	Implement green stormwater infrastructure actions identified in the City of North Pole's 2023 Technical Report. NPS 319 funded projects cannot include activities required under the MS4 permit.	<a href="#">Jeff Fisher</a> 451-2130

<b>Noyes Slough (Fairbanks)</b>	Review, synthesize, and develop a report (table) of all the previous projects and actions implemented in the Noyes Slough watershed that were designed to improve water quality. Develop a gaps analysis and identify what additional actions or recommendations may be needed for Noyes Slough to meet Water Quality Criteria.	<a href="#">Jeff Fisher</a> 451-2130
<b>Pullen Creek (Juneau)</b>	Use 2025 Skagway Area Watershed Plan and the screening level monitoring data results (being completed in ACWA Grant 23-07) to address water quality issues in Pullen Creek and Skagway area, include outreach campaign and educational signage.	<a href="#">Gretchen Augat</a> 465-5023
<b>Seldovia Watersheds (Seldovia)</b>	Implement one or more actions identified in the recent Seldovia Stormwater Plan to address stormwater runoff and protect area waterways.	<a href="#">Mary Inovejas</a> 269-7518
<b>Vanderbilt Creek (Juneau)</b>	Enhance Vanderbilt Hill Road check dam trench (north of Vanderbilt Creek) with GSI stormwater capture and cleanup features. Evaluate and develop a prioritization for upstream Lemon Creek Trail culverts for function and sediment transmittal into Vanderbilt Creek. Design and/or implement culvert improvements. Project must include appropriate partners and BMP design work. Include outreach signage if appropriate.	<a href="#">Gretchen Augat</a> 465-5023
<b>Wasilla Creek (Wasilla)</b>	Work with the Matanuska-Susitna Borough and other partners to design, install, and maintain one or more green infrastructure BMPs to reduce polluted stormwater runoff from entering Wasilla Creek as described in Wasilla Creek Stormwater Analysis report. Other appropriate BMP work is also eligible.	<a href="#">Ashley Oleksiak</a> 376-1865

## 2. Watershed Planning

### Workplan Template to use: Watershed Planning

#### *Action Description*

Watershed planning uses a holistic community planning process to determine steps to take for water quality protection or improvement and can take many forms. See [DEC's Watershed Planning Guidance](#) for more information on the different types of plans and their minimum requirements.

All watershed plans should include:

- Community partners and stakeholders;
- A description of the watershed, current water quality, and any water quality concerns;
- Activities and options for reducing water pollution;
- An implementation timeline;
- Description of partners for implementation;
- Estimated costs for implementing identified activities and potential funding sources, and;
- Description on how the watershed plan's implementation progress will be evaluated and adapted over time.

Watershed planning proposals must include a final watershed plan and sharing out the final watershed plan as project deliverables.

If the watershed includes a surface water used by a public water system (PWS), the surface water source should be described and actions that protect the source water should be included. To review PWS source locations, please visit the [Interactive Public Map](#). For more information on drinking water protection plans, please visit DEC's [Drinking Water Endorsed Plans](#).

#### *Priority Watersheds*

Waterbody Name	Action Description	Contact
Statewide (Any)	<b>Proposals will be accepted for any Alaska waterbody in this Action Category.</b> However, only the identified priority waters may receive bonus points.	DEC regional contacts (see page 5)

<b>Eyak Lake (Cordova)</b>	Eyak Lake is adjacent to the Copper River Delta and partially within the City of Cordova. The lake has several studies completed over the years including water quality. Developing a watershed plan will help clarify potential water quality issues and prevent future pollution. The plan must meet the minimum elements outlined in DEC's Watershed Planning Guidance.	<a href="#">Ashley Oleksiak</a> 376-1865
<b>Hoonah area watersheds (Hoonah)</b>	Previous water quality sampling in Hoonah demonstrated a need to develop a Watershed Management Plan for the Hoonah area; supporting documents include 2022/23 Hoonah Beach field reports. The plan must meet the minimum elements outlined in DEC's Watershed Planning Guidance.	<a href="#">Gretchen Augat</a> 465-5023
<b>Lemon &amp; Switzer Creeks (Juneau)</b>	Create a GIS stormwater map using 2014 Juneau Stormwater Hydrography report for the Lemon, Vanderbilt, and Switzer Creek watersheds, and update stormwater management options. Supporting documents include 2007 Lemon Creek Watershed Recovery and Management Plan.	<a href="#">Gretchen Augat</a> 465-5023
<b>Nome watersheds including Anvil, Dry, and Glacier Creeks, and Nome and Snake Rivers</b>	This action completes the watershed protection plan that was initiated in a previous ACWA grant. Work to complete includes continuing to work with stakeholders to identify actions that address water quality, project partners for implementation, establish an implementation timeline, estimated costs, and determine long-term oversight and maintenance of the watershed plan.	<a href="#">Jeff Fisher</a> 451-2130
<b>Salcha River (Fairbanks area)</b>	The Salcha River watershed is a popular area near Fairbanks with cabins, mining, multiple recreation opportunities, and an important salmon fishery. Past watershed planning efforts were initiated but not completed. This project will complete a watershed protection plan and involve multiple stakeholders. The plan must meet the minimum elements outlined in DEC's Watershed Planning Guidance.	<a href="#">Jeff Fisher</a> 451-2130
<b>Soldotna Creek (Soldotna)</b>	Soldotna Creek is lowland tributary of the Kenai River that historically supported a large native fish population before invasive Northern Pike were discovered and eradicated. Today Soldotna Creek faces increased anthropogenic pressures from development within the City of Soldotna and surrounding areas. The grantee will work with partner organizations to develop a Soldotna Creek watershed protection plan to address current and future water quality pressures. The plan must meet the minimum elements outlined in DEC's Watershed Planning Guidance.	<a href="#">Mary Inovejas</a> 269-7518

<b>Wasilla Creek (Wasilla)</b>	<p>The Wasilla Creek watershed is one of the rapidly developing areas of the Matanuska-Susitna Borough. Headwaters are within the Moose Range and are experiencing degraded water quality from ORV trail crossings. Downstream urban and suburban development is threatening water quality with polluted runoff. Developing a watershed plan for Wasilla Creek now may help protect it from further pollution and habitat degradation. The plan must meet the minimum elements outlined in DEC's Watershed Planning Guidance.</p>	<a href="#">Ashley Oleksiak</a> 376-1865
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### 3. Public education and outreach

#### Workplan Template to use: Outreach and Education

#### *Action Description*

Public education and outreach on ways to protect or improve water quality from nonpoint source pollution is a vital aspect of the ACWA grant program. Proposals in this Action Category are fully focused on public outreach and education on a variety of topics.

The proposed campaign must promote using practices to reduce nonpoint source water pollution, use several outreach mechanisms, and be designed to reach as many users as possible in the target audience. Outreach proposals should include some type of evaluation to measure success.

#### *Priority Watersheds*

<b>Waterbody Name</b>	<b>Action Description</b>	<b>Contact</b>
<b>Statewide (Any)</b>	<b>Proposals will be accepted for outreach projects located in any watershed or near shore marine area in the state.</b> However, outreach that addresses a priority topic may receive bonus points.	DEC regional contacts (see page 5)
<b>Alaska Clean Harbors (coastal communities)</b>	Proposals will build off of previous Alaska Clean Harbors (ACH) work to provide harbor certification or recertification to Dutch Harbor, Unalaska, Kodiak, Homer, Whittier, others as identified through ACH; coordinate ACH outreach to various audiences and website updates; develop outreach messages and materials for engaging city or borough managers to support harbor pollution prevention activities; coordinate ACH quarterly harbormaster meetings; present at Alaska Harbormasters annual conference. Proposals will also include outreach to promote the use of pump-outs to reduce sewage pollution in harbors by engaging recreational and commercial boaters, harbor staff, and harbormasters.	<a href="#">Mary Inovejas</a> 269-7518
<b>Kenai River Fish Waste Disposal (Soldotna)</b>	Work with community partners to implement outreach activities designed to reduce gull attractants such as fish waste and trash and improve water quality in the Kenai River. Water quality data, available on DEC's website, shows increased bacteria in the lower Kenai River likely due to gulls. Improving fish waste practices may reduce the gull bacteria load in the river. The outreach campaign should have some type of evaluation to measure success at getting the word out and changing behavior.	<a href="#">Mary Inovejas</a> 269-7518

<p><b>Dog Feces Pickup &amp; Disposal (statewide/any community)</b></p>	<p>Alaskans love hiking with their dogs but aren't always good about picking up the feces piles (or bags filled with feces) left behind. This outreach campaign gets the word out about picking up after your dog and properly disposing of the waste materials so that local waterways do not become polluted with fecal material. The outreach campaign should have some type of evaluation to measure success at getting the word out and changing behavior.</p>	<p><a href="#">Mary Inovejas</a> 269-7518</p>
<p><b>Healthy Riparian Areas &amp; Links to Improved Water Quality (any community)</b></p>	<p>The proposed project will develop an outreach campaign to support keeping intact riparian areas to protect and improve water quality and fish habitat. Riparian areas capture and filter runoff pollution before it causes water pollution in area waterways. They also provide shade for moderating water temperatures and provide cover and food sources for aquatic life. The proposal will include target audience information and outreach designed to reach that audience. The outreach campaign should have some type of evaluation to measure success at getting the word out and changing behavior.</p>	<p><a href="#">Jeff Fisher</a> 451-2130</p>
<p><b>Onsite Wastewater Disposal System Graphic Design</b></p>	<p>Onsite wastewater disposal systems, also called septic systems, are widely used in Alaska. Proper design, installation, and maintenance of these onsite wastewater systems is essential to protect human health and the environment from the harmful effects of nonpoint source pollution. The proposed project will update graphics and outreach materials for DEC's <a href="#">Engineering Support &amp; Plan Review</a> program.</p> <p>The project will create graphic images and diagrams of soil profiles and other septic site conditions to be included in the Onsite Wastewater System Installation Manual (OSWIM) and Approved Homeowner Installation course. Develop easily interpreted drawings that show the minimum details for onsite wastewater systems suitable for soil conditions encountered. Further develop other drawings or diagrams for standard details including lift stations, septic tanks, pressurized distribution, etc. Images created need to be technically accurate and easily consumed by homeowners or contractors who install onsite wastewater systems.</p> <p>If awarded, ESPR staff will work closely with the grantee to explain technical aspects that need to be captured in each image. No more than 20 images will be created. See section 2.9.4 in the OSWIM as one example of an image that needs to update. The image on website</p>	<p><a href="#">Laura Eldred</a> 376-1855</p>

	<p><a href="https://dec.alaska.gov/water/wastewater/engineering/">https://dec.alaska.gov/water/wastewater/engineering/</a> is another example.</p> <p>Use the <b>Generic Workplan Template</b> for the application.</p>	
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## 4. Monitoring for nonpoint source pollution and/or BMP effectiveness

**Workplan Template to use:** Water Monitoring

### *Action Description*

Monitoring projects are waterbody specific and must be designed to meet DEC's data objectives<sup>3</sup>. Applicants are encouraged to work with DEC on the sampling design, schedule, and parameters. DEC may be requesting monitoring to better understand if nonpoint source pollution is affecting water quality in a specific waterway or if implementation activities such as best management practices (BMPs) are being effective at reducing water pollution.

Proposals for this Action should include the following:

**A. Planning:** Develop a Sample Plan and Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP) for approval by DEC (contact for examples).

**B. Monitoring and Sampling:** Conduct ambient water quality monitoring and sampling to evaluate NPS pollution or BMP effectiveness. The following parameters may be required as part of a project but see the Action Description column in table below for project specific requested parameters and contact the listed DEC staff person for additional information. This will assist you in developing a cost-effective project budget in your proposal.

<b>Water Column (Basic Field) using grab samples or meters</b>	<b>Water Column (Laboratory) and DEC requested analysis method</b>		<b>Sediment (Laboratory)</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Turbidity (EPA 180.1/SM2130B)</li> <li>• Specific conductance (SM 2510)</li> <li>• Temperature (EPA 170.1)</li> <li>• Dissolved oxygen (1003-8-2009/ASTM)</li> </ul>	<p><b>Basic Chemistry</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dissolved organic carbon (SM 5310B)</li> <li>• Nutrients (ammonia USEPA 350.1, total nitrate-nitrite USEPA 353.2, dissolved phosphorus APHA)</li> </ul>	<p><b>Bacteria</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fecal coliform (SM 9222-D by membrane filtration) freshwater and marine water</li> <li>• <i>E. coli</i> (SM 9223B) freshwater</li> <li>• Enterococci (ASTM D6503-99) marine water</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons (PAH) (EPA 8270-SIM)</li> </ul>

<sup>3</sup> See the [Water Quality Standards](#) at 18 AAC 70 and minimum data requirements on the [Integrated Report](#) webpage.

<p>D888-18/SM4500-O)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>pH (SM 4500-H+)</li> </ul>	<p>4500PE, total phosphorus APHA 4500PF)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minerals (alkalinity (as CaCO<sub>3</sub>) APHA 2320B, chloride USEPA 300, sulfate USEPA 300, and hardness (CaCO<sub>3</sub>), and calcium, magnesium, sodium USEPA 200.7)</li> <li>Conventionals (settleable solids EPA 160.5, total solids APHA 2540-B, sulfide APHA 4500-S2(D))</li> <li>Dissolved metals (EPA 200.8/6020D)</li> <li>Total metals (EPA 200.7/6010D)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Microbial Source Tracking (qPCR)</li> </ul> <p><b>Petroleum Products</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Total Aromatic Hydrocarbons (TAH)(EPA Method 624)</li> <li>Total Aqueous Hydrocarbons (TAqH) (EPA Method 625)</li> <li>Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons (PAH) (EPA Method 625)</li> </ul>	
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**C. Reporting:** The grantee will analyze all samples, evaluate results, and prepare a draft and final report of findings and conclusions.

**D. Data submission:** The grantee is responsible for ensuring data collected is provided in a format that can be easily transferred to DEC's water quality database (AWQMS). DEC will provide the grantee with the needed data template for AWQMS and guidance on how to use the template. The grantee should budget time to complete data QA, data entry, and address data questions as DEC imports the completed data template to AWQMS.

### Priority Watersheds

Waterbody Name	Action Description	Contact
<b>Statewide (NONE)</b>	Proposals for nonpoint source monitoring <u>will not</u> be accepted for additional waterbodies or regions in this Action Category. Only proposals for BMP effectiveness monitoring may occur on watersheds not identified below.	Contact Laura Eldred if questions
<b>30-Mile Slough (North Pole)</b>	30-Mile Slough is a small urban stream in the North Pole area that has resident fish species. The slough is also a receiving waterbody for stormwater runoff. This sampling project will include analysis for all Field parameters (grab or in-situ measurements), Bacteria (including MST), and Basic Chemistry. Bacteria sample frequency will meet DEC's requirements of a minimum of 6 samples per 30-day period plus replicate samples and additional samples for QA/QC purposes. Sample schedule should include spring break up,	<a href="#">Jeff Fisher</a> 451-2130

	<p>summer baseflow, storm flows, and fall time periods. All sampling must follow a DEC approved QAPP and standard operating procedures. Grantee will enter and submit data to DEC in approved format and complete a project report on the study results.</p> <p>Work with DEC project manager in developing the project proposal to ensure it meets DEC's minimum data requirements.</p>	
<b>Wasilla Creek (Wasilla)</b>	<p>In 2020-2021 DEC conducted pathogen sampling in Wasilla Creek. The results of the study indicated elevated pathogen levels in the creek but additional data are needed to determine pollution frequency, magnitude, and duration. This project will conduct water quality sampling at a minimum of three sampling locations on Wasilla Creek focused on Bacteria and Basic Field parameters. Bacteria sample frequency will meet DEC's requirements of a minimum of 6 samples per 30-day period plus replicate samples and additional samples for QA/QC purposes. Monitoring will also include Basic Field parameters. Sample schedule should include spring break up, summer baseflow, storm flows, and fall time periods. All sampling must follow a DEC approved QAPP and standard operating procedures. Sample locations will include locations sampled by DEC in 2020-2021 as well as additional locations to determine longitudinal extent of bacteria pollution. Grantee will enter and submit data to DEC in approved format and complete a project report on the study results.</p> <p>Work with DEC project manager in developing the project proposal to ensure it meets DEC's minimum data requirements.</p>	<a href="#">Ashley Oleksiak</a> 376-1865
<b>Gartina Creek (Hoonah)</b>	<p>2022 BEACH program pathogen sampling at the near shore beach outlet of Gartina Creek demonstrated periodic elevated pathogen results and possible human-caused water pollution. This project will collect additional information to determine magnitude, frequency, and duration of pathogens in Gartina Creek. Bacteria sample frequency will meet DEC's requirements of a minimum of 6 samples per 30-day period plus replicate samples and additional samples for QA/QC purposes. Monitoring will also include Basic Field parameters. Sample schedule should include spring break up, summer baseflow, storm flows, and fall time periods. All sampling must follow a DEC approved</p>	<a href="#">Gretchen Augat</a> 465-5023

	<p>QAPP and standard operating procedures. Grantee will enter and submit data to DEC in approved format and complete a project report on the study results.</p> <p>Work with DEC project manager in developing the project proposal to ensure it meets DEC's minimum data requirements.</p>	
<b>Kasilof River (Kenai)</b>	<p>DEC studied pathogens water quality in the lower Kasilof River in 2014. Since that time, activities have increased in the watershed. This sampling project will include analysis for all Field parameters (grab or in-situ measurements), Bacteria (including MST), and Basic Chemistry. Bacteria sample frequency will meet DEC's requirements of a minimum of 6 samples per 30-day period plus replicate samples and additional samples for QA/QC purposes. Sample schedule should include spring break up, summer baseflow, storm flows, and fall time periods. All sampling must follow a DEC approved QAPP and standard operating procedures. Grantee will enter and submit data to DEC in approved format and complete a project report on the study results.</p> <p>Work with DEC project manager in developing the project proposal to ensure it meets DEC's minimum data requirements.</p>	<p><a href="#">Mary Inovejas</a> 269-7518</p>
<b>Previously installed BMP effectiveness monitoring</b>	<p>Many BMPs have been installed through the ACWA grant program with little effectiveness monitoring completed to determine if the BMPs are working to improve receiving water quality. This action seeks proposals to examine the effectiveness of previously installed BMPs. Work could include BMP inlet/outlet monitoring or monitoring at the point the BMP discharges to a surface waterbody.</p> <p>Work with DEC project manager in developing the project proposal to ensure it meets DEC's minimum data requirements.</p>	<p><a href="#">Gretchen Augat</a> 465-5023</p>

## 5. Marine BEACH pathogen monitoring

The [Alaska Beach Monitoring program](#) is part of a nationwide effort to decrease the incidence of water-borne illness at public beaches under the federal Beaches Environmental Assessment and Coastal Health (BEACH) Act. This program collects water quality samples at coastal recreation beaches, analyzes for fecal coliform and enterococci bacteria that indicate the presence of fecal contamination, and notifies the public if results exceed allowable levels. The BEACH funds cannot be used for required monitoring as part of a discharge permit.

**To be considered for BEACH program funding, proposals must demonstrate local government support and involvement. This can be shown by submitting a Letter of Support with the application.**

**Workplan Template to use:** Marine Beach Sampling

### *Action Description*

The proposal for this Action should include the following tasks and deliverables which are outlined in the provided workplan template:

- A. **Planning:** Develop a project specific Beach Survey, Beach Monitoring Handbook, and Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP) for DEC review and approval. Templates are available from DEC.
- B. **Monitoring:** Conduct near-shore marine water quality monitoring during recreational use season for bacteria at recreational public beaches.
  - 1. Timing typically mid-May through mid-September.
  - 2. Coordinate with the project laboratory for sample bottles and analysis.
  - 3. Collect near-shore marine water samples and ship to laboratory for fecal coliform (SM 9222-D by membrane filtration) bacteria and enterococci (ASTM D6503-99) analysis within the required **6 hour sample holding time**.
  - 4. While conducting sampling, also complete a marine beach sanitary survey (provided by DEC) at each location and sampling event including observations and site photos.
  - 5. Conduct sampling for Microbial Source Tracking (MST) qPCR analysis one time per beach during each recreational beach monitoring season. DNA markers must include human, dog, bird, and if appropriate for the beach, horse.
- B. **Notify:** If there is a confirmed water quality criteria exceedance, assist DEC with beach advisory notifications.
- C. **Outreach:** Prior to the beach sampling season, communicate to the community about the project. This may use whatever format is best for your community (flyers, announcement at a community event, informational open house, etc.) At the end of each recreational sampling season, conduct an educational outreach event to communicate the beach results and findings. This should be a community presentation.
- D. **Reporting:**
  - 1. Following each sampling event, submit deliverables including analytical data, sanitary surveys, chain-of-custody forms, and site photos.

2. Analyze all samples, evaluate results, and prepare a draft and final report of findings and conclusions. DEC can provide a reporting template for use.
- E. **Data Submission:** Insert all monitoring data into DEC-provided template for submission into DEC's water quality database (AWQMS).

### *Priority Community Recreation Beaches*

Community Name	Contacts
<p><b>Proposals will be accepted for any coastal community with recreational beaches in this Action Category.</b> However, the identified community recreation beaches in this table will receive priority consideration and may receive bonus points.</p>	
<b>Anchor Point</b>	<p>DEC BEACH project contacts are:</p> <p><a href="#">Mary Inovejas</a> 269-7518 and</p> <p><a href="#">Gretchen Augat</a> 465-5023</p>
<b>Angoon</b>	
<b>Bethel</b>	
<b>Chignik</b>	
<b>Dutch Harbor &amp; Unalaska</b>	
<b>Haines</b>	
<b>Juneau area beaches</b> including Auke State Recreational beach, Lena beach, and Sandy Beach	
<b>Kake</b>	
<b>Kasilof River beach area</b>	
<b>Kodiak</b> (beaches not sampled previously)	
<b>Kotzebue</b>	
<b>Naknek</b>	
<b>Nome</b>	
<b>Port Graham</b>	
<b>Sand Point</b>	
<b>Seward</b>	
<b>Togiak</b>	