Release date: September 26, 2024

Patrick Leahy Lake Champlain Basin Program Announcement

Request for Pre-Proposals: Research for Clean Water and Healthy Ecosystems

The Patrick Leahy Lake Champlain Basin Program (LCBP), in coordination with the New England Interstate Water Pollution Control Commission (NEIWPCC), is pleased to announce a Request for Pre-Proposals for services to further the mission of the LCBP and address the research tasks outlined in our management plan, *Opportunities for Action*. The total request for each project may range from $25,000 to $400,000.

The pre-proposal is a very brief application to introduce a research project. Application questions and character limits are included below, which total roughly two pages of text. After review of the submitted pre-proposals, a subset of applicants will be asked to submit a full proposal for funding consideration for projects to begin in early 2026 (see timeframe table in Section IV below). Pre-proposals not invited for full proposal consideration in this cycle may be revised and submitted for future funding opportunities. All awards are subject to available funding.

LCBP seeks pre-proposals for projects that address any research-oriented strategies and tasks outlined in *Opportunities for Action*. Note that research projects may have an implementation or planning component, including pilot studies or studies on implementation efficacy. For this funding year, the Lake Champlain Steering Committee has identified research tracks that will be considered for funding, listed below. Project proposals will compete with proposals from within the same research track. Research tracks are not listed in order of importance or priority.

Pre-proposals should address one or more specific priorities listed under a research track or apply to Track 1 (General *Opportunities for Action*).

Track 1: General *Opportunities for Action*

- Research projects that address any research-oriented strategies and tasks outlined in *Opportunities for Action* and do not fall within the aims of other tracks listed below.

Track 2: Water quality improvement projects

- Research to evaluate and recommend updates to design and siting standards to maximize the flood resilience and longevity of clean water project benefits.
- Research to better understand characteristics of gullies to identify and evaluate which gullies should be prioritized for water quality improvement projects.
- Research to quantify and maximize the flood resilience co-benefits of clean water projects in the developed lands and agriculture sector, including life cycle cost-benefit analysis of best management practice adoption. Areas of interest include two-tier ditches, grassed waterways, floodplain restoration, stormwater Best Management Practices, and Municipal Road General Permit practices.

Track 3: Monitoring upstream of permitted discharges in New York

- Research to understand the variability of water temperature, pH, dissolved oxygen concentration, and water hardness upstream of permitted discharges in the New York portion of the Lake Champlain Basin.

Track 4: Aquatic invasive species management

- Research to assess and document the recovery of native plant and animal communities associated with invasive water chestnut removal.

Track 5: Native species and habitats

- Research to assess the impacts of cyanobacteria blooms on all biota, including native fish, wildlife, microorganisms, and zooplankton, in the Lake Champlain Basin.
- Research to assess native mussel populations in rivers of the New York portion of the Lake Champlain Basin.
- Research on the interactions between native and non-native aquatic species, trophic level dynamics and factors that influence forage fish abundance, and the impacts of environmental factors linked to climate change (i.e., reduced ice over, increased flooding and turbidity) on native fish populations.

Track 6: Dam removal

- Research to assess impacts and develop a tool to inform management and policy on the following:
    - Water quality and sediment release
        - What factors could help determine how much sediment is appropriate to be released during dam removal projects?
        - How does the potential negative impact of phosphorus and sediment release compare to long-term benefits of downstream nutrient balance, ecological health, riparian function, and river dynamics?
        - What factors could help determine which dams may be most impactful for phosphorus reduction, including and beyond the Vermont Functioning Floodplains Initiative?
    - Flooding and resilience
        - What factors could help determine how a dam removal could change potential flood levels downstream and upstream?
        - Development of a process for assessing flood impact of dams or dam removal and application to all known Lake Champlain Basin dams.
    - Wetlands
        - What factors could help determine when wetlands created by a dam should be protected, and to what degree?
    - Mussels
        - What factors could help determine how each dam removal project impacts freshwater mussels?
        - What factors could help determine when habitat created by a dam should be protected, and to what degree?
- Research to recommend best practices related to the following:
    - Phased breaching of dams (incremental removal) compared to all-at-once removal
    - Engineered pilot channel compared to more natural channel evolution
    - Grade control to maintain floodplain connectivity
    - Role of Process Based Restoration (e.g., beaver dam analogs) in dam removals
    - Reducing terrestrial and aquatic invasive species colonization/recolonization post dam removal
    - Determining the appropriate amount of sediment to remove based on reach- and watershed-scale characteristics

We anticipate these projects will be supported with Federal Fiscal Year 2025 funds awarded to NEIWPCC by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Clean Water Act Section 120 base funding, Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) funding support and the Great Lakes Fishery Commission in support of the Lake Champlain Basin Program. This request for pre-proposals is available at the Lake Champlain Basin Program website.

PRE-PROPOSAL DEADLINE NOTICE: Applicants must submit proposals via the Foundant online application system no later than 12pm (noon) EST on November 8, 2024.

Late or incomplete pre-proposals will not be considered.

Lake Champlain Basin Program

Request for Pre-Proposals: Research for Clean Water and Healthy Ecosystems

Overview of Lake Champlain Basin Program and NEIWPCC

The Lake Champlain Special Designation Act of 1990 designated the Lake Champlain Basin as a special project area under the Agricultural Conservation Program and established the Lake Champlain Management Conference to publish a pollution prevention, control, and restoration plan for Lake Champlain. Following EPA's approval of the LCBP plan entitled, *Opportunities for Action: An Evolving Plan for the Future of the Lake Champlain Basin*, the Daniel Patrick Moynihan Lake Champlain Basin Program Act of 2002 established the Lake Champlain Basin Program and authorized EPA to provide support to New York, Vermont, and NEIWPCC for implementation of the Plan. The Act was reauthorized in 2022, formally renaming the LCBP to the Patrick Leahy Lake Champlain Basin Program and authorizing the Program through 2027.

NEIWPCC was established by an act of the United States Congress which ratified the New England Interstate Water Pollution Control Compact in 1947. NEIWPCC is a regional commission that helps the states of the Northeast preserve and advance water quality. NEIWPCC engages and convenes water quality professionals and other interested parties from New England and New York to collaborate on drinking water, wastewater, and environmental science challenges across shared regions and ecosystems. NEIWPCC has served as the primary program administrator of LCBP at the request of the EPA and administers the program's personnel, finances, and contracts.

In accordance with the Act, LCBP and NEIWPCC work in partnership with EPA, government agencies from New York, Vermont, and Québec, private organizations, local communities, and individuals to coordinate and fund efforts that benefit the Lake Champlain Basin's water quality, fisheries, wetlands, wildlife, recreation, and cultural resources.

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion: The Lake Champlain Basin Program is committed to advancing diversity, equity, and inclusion across our work. Proposals demonstrating benefits to communities with disadvantages will be given additional weight during the proposal evaluation process. Please review LCBP's communities with disadvantages definition and guidance for more information. Questions relating to LCBP's definition, or this portion of the proposal evaluation process can be directed to Mae Kate Campbell, Associate Scientist (mkcampbell@lcbp.org).

Grant award process

LCBP seeks two-page pre-proposals for research projects that address any research-oriented strategy identified in *Opportunities for Action* and that contribute toward the LCBP mission. Pre-proposals will be evaluated through a competitive process; a subset of pre-proposal applicants will be asked to submit an eight-page full proposal, with a fully developed budget and anticipated project outputs and outcomes. Grant award recipients will be selected from the pool of full proposals and successful projects will begin in early 2026. The aim of this process is to invite a wide range of innovative and effective research projects that will address the complex challenges facing the Lake Champlain Basin.

Applicants may choose the most appropriate total request amount for their project. Requests ranging from $25,000 to $400,000 will be accepted. Please note that if an applicant is asked to submit a full proposal, the total request amount in the full proposal must be equal to or less than the total request in the pre-proposal unless written consent is obtained from LCBP. If your project concept is focused on planning or direct implementation, please respond to our RFP for Clean Water and Healthy Ecosystems Planning and Implementation Projects. Please visit http://lcbp.org/grants or contact LCBP for information on other grant opportunities.

Questions and answers regarding this request will be hosted on the LCBP Grants webpage.

Please feel free to contact Dr. Matthew Vaughan, LCBP Chief Scientist (mvaughan@lcbp.org) with any questions.

Priorities for funding

LCBP seeks pre-proposals for projects that address any research-oriented strategies and tasks outlined in *Opportunities for Action*. Note that research projects may have an implementation or planning component, including pilot studies or studies on implementation efficacy. For this funding year, the Lake Champlain Steering Committee has identified research tracks and associated priorities that will be considered for funding, listed below. Project proposals will compete with proposals from within the same research track. Research tracks are not listed in order of importance or priority.

Pre-proposals should address one or more specific priorities listed under a research track or apply to Track 1 (General *Opportunities for Action*).

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    - Grade control to maintain floodplain connectivity
    - Role of Process Based Restoration (e.g., beaver dam analogs) in dam removals
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Eligibility

Eligible organizations include colleges, universities, nonprofit organizations, for-profit

companies, and municipalities in the U.S. and Canada. State, provincial, and federal government entities are not eligible to apply. Successful applicants will be responsible for the completion of all project tasks, though subcontracted work may be permitted by the LCBP Project Officer upon written request. All work must be geographically focused within the Lake Champlain Basin. Applicants may submit more than one pre-proposal, and more than one grant may be awarded to a single applicant.

Individuals and representatives from organizations that participated in the development or review of this RFP and its contents are not eligible to apply.

Timeframe for projects

The successful applicants will complete the project according to the following schedule. Please note that this schedule is subject to change.

Pre-proposals due to LCBP	By 12pm (noon) EST on November 8, 2024
Subset of applicants invited to submit full proposals	December 2024
Full proposals due to LCBP	February 2025 (date TBD – approx. seven weeks after notice)
Applicants notified of funding decisions	June 2025
Detailed project workplan due	August 2025
Project start date	January 2026**
Project deliverables and final report due	Up to 3 years after start date

**Please note that work may not begin on the funded tasks of the project until a signed, executed agreement is in place with NEIWPCC.

Summary of other requirements for selected projects

Upon selection of full proposals for funding, successful applicants should be aware of these additional requirements for all LCBP-funded projects:

Workplan: Within thirty days of LCBP grant award notification, applicants must submit a detailed project workplan that will be subject to the LCBP approval process before a contractual agreement will be issued. The workplan describes the project methods, tasks, timeline, outputs, and task-based budget that will be supported with these grant funds, if awarded. As you develop the task-based budget, keep in mind that payments will only be made for fully completed tasks. Payments for partially completed tasks will not be processed. If a project is selected for funding, LCBP staff will provide the grant recipient with workplan guidance. We strongly encourage all applicants to visit the LCBP website for more information on the LCBP grant process and reporting templates: **http://www.lcbp.org/about-us/grants-rfps/grant-toolkit/**.

Quality Assurance Project Plans (QAPPs) are required for all activities involving the collection, generation, compilation, management, analysis, evaluation, and/or use of environmental data. When necessary, the successful applicant will prepare a QAPP as part of the project workplan. It is possible that some grants might not require a QAPP. Please contact LCBP staff if you are unsure about the QAPP requirement. The QAPP must be fully approved before any environmental data collection or analysis activities can begin on a project. For

projects requiring a QAPP, NEIWPCC/LCBP will not pay for any data collection or analysis activities started prior to development and receipt of a fully approved QAPP. The QAPP development and approval process can be quite lengthy (up to 90 days, depending on the size of the project), so please make sure that an appropriate amount of time has been allocated to this step in the project budget and timeline. More information about the LCBP QAPP process can be found at this link: **http://www.lcbp.org/about-us/grants-rfps/grant-toolkit/qapp/**.

Reporting: The successful applicant will prepare and submit brief quarterly reports documenting progress on each objective and task in the project (see attached Proposal Format Requirements). A final report fully documenting the project results will be required at project completion. When approved, the final report will be edited for content and style in consultation with the successful respondent and may be published as part of the Lake Champlain Basin Program's Technical Report Series, located here: **http://www.lcbp.org/media-center/publications-library/technical-reports/**. Some content of this report may also be used for future LCBP public outreach materials.

Reporting Metrics: Effective after the release of the **2022 Opportunities for Action Lake Champlain Watershed Management Plan** *(OFA*), all LCBP-funded grants must provide standardized reporting metrics within the project workplan and final report. Reporting metrics will be considered preliminary at the application and workplan stages and final at the final report stage of your grant. Reporting metrics will be based on the applicable OFA strategy(ies), grant category, and project type. Personnel time used for reporting metrics is an eligible grant expense. The most up-to-date version of this guidance can be found on the LCBP website: **http://www.lcbp.org/about-us/grants-rfps/grant-toolkit/**.

Direct and indirect costs: Applicants should budget costs that are associated with the project as direct expenses, including personnel costs, travel, project supplies (mailings, phone costs, office supplies) etc. Necessary indirect costs that are not directly attributable to funded activities are subject to the following policy:
Applicants that do not have a Negotiated Indirect Cost Rate Agreement (NICRA) may charge a maximum indirect rate of 10 percent of direct costs (de minimis rate) o Applicants (including academic institutions) with a valid NICRA with their cognizant federal agency can charge indirect costs to projects based on their negotiated indirect cost rate and must enclose a current copy with their proposed work plan.
A valid NICRA is one in which the effective period has not expired. Applicants must provide a copy of their valid NICRA with their application in order for indirect cost reimbursement to be considered. If the effective period of the NICRA has expired but the grantee has documented evidence (via an indirect cost rate proposal) that they have reapplied for a new rate, the expired rate may be accepted.

Procurement of supplies, equipment, and services: Grant applicants are required to follow the small purchase method which is a relatively simple and informal method (procurement procedure) for purchasing supplies, equipment, and services that cost more than $10,000 and less than $250,000. This procurement procedure is applicable to proposals submitted in response to this RFP if the primary applicant is not a for-profit organization. The purpose is to ensure fair and open competition for purchases supported by LCBP/federal funding. If the applicant plans to use LCBP funding to obtain supplies, equipment, or contractual services to complete its proposed workplan, then it must follow federal procurement regulations:
Procurement of supplies, equipment, and services that do not exceed $10,000 may be made without soliciting competitive quotes if the price is considered reasonable.

Procurement of supplies, equipment and services that are greater than $10,000 and do not cost more than $250,000 require that the recipient obtain multiple price quotes through a documented competitive process. Good faith efforts to obtain services from disadvantaged business enterprises should also be made, including contacting the small business administration and minority business development agency to inform them about the opportunity for businesses to submit price quotes as part of the competitive process. At least three price quotes for professional services or subcontracted work must be secured. The selected item or service does not need to be the lowest cost if it does not meet your requirements, or you can otherwise demonstrate that the higher price offers the "best value." Justification must be provided for the outcome of the bid process. This process may take place prior to the submission of a proposal for LCBP funds.
Procurement of supplies, equipment, and services that cost more than $250,000 are required to follow formal procurement methods described in the US Code of Federal Regulations 2 CFR 200.320 Methods of procurement to be followed, available at this link: https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-2/section-200.320
"Equipment" is defined as tangible, non-expendable, personal property having a useful life of more than one year and an acquisition cost of $5,000 or more per unit. Equipment purchases may require additional information at the time of purchase, an LCBP staff person taking inventory on an annual basis, and disposition instructions from funding source following the completion of the project. For further information, see 2 CFR 200.1 "Equipment".

Work Product Accessibility. All materials and work products, regardless of physical form or characteristics, produced as a result of this project shall be made available to LCBP, NEIWPCC, and EPA in a suitable file format. LCBP, NEIWPCC, and EPA shall have an unrestricted right to use any materials, software, maps, studies, reports, and other products or data generated using assistance funds or specified to be delivered. The contractor shall not obtain, attempt to obtain, or file for a patent, copyright, trademark or any other interest in any such materials, or work products without the expressed, written consent of LCBP and NEIWPCC, and subject to any other approvals required by state or federal law. Reports and other deliverables will credit LCBP, NEIWPCC, and EPA as funding partners for any work completed under the project contract.

Geospatial Data. GIS data produced under this project must adhere to the requirements of EPA's National Geospatial Data Policy (see https://www.epa.gov/sites/default/files/2014-08/documents/national_geospatial_data_policy_0.pdf Specifically, the selected contractor must provide documentation for all produced data, including source information for each digital data layer (i.e., scale and accuracy, map projection, coordinate system, etc.), and specific information about the data layer itself (i.e., method used, geographic extent of data layer, file format, date of creation, staff contact, description and definition of data fields and their contents, related files, if any, and description of data quality and quality assurance methods used). The EPA Metadata Editor (EME) was developed to simplify and standardize metadata development and is a recommended tool for streamlining production of required metadata. The EME and related training materials can be downloaded from https://edg.epa.gov/EME/. Specific technical guidance on geospatial deliverables and acceptable formats can be found at https://www.epa.gov/geospatial/epa-region-2-gis-deliverables-guidance. GIS data produced under this project will be submitted to LCBP as a deliverable.

Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) Signage Requirement: IIJA funding requires a sign be installed at the site of each IIJA-funded implementation project. The sign will state "Project Funded by President Joe Biden's Bipartisan Infrastructure Law" and include the logos of only LCBP, NEIWPCC, the grantee, EPA, and any other federal partners. The sign will be

designed and fabricated by LCBP. The LCBP project officer will work with the grantee to determine if a project may be eligible for a waiver from this signage requirement. The grantee is responsible for obtaining local landowner permission for installation, collecting the materials in the LCBP office in Grand Isle, and installation of signage. In the Task Table for your application, please include sign installation as an output and a photograph and date of installation as a deliverable. Please include any associated expenses in the Budget Table. EPA Investing in America Signage Guidance can be found at https://www.epa.gov/invest/investing-america-signage.

Insurance Requirements: NEIWPCC requires its contractors to maintain workers compensation and liability insurance. Contractors must submit proof of adequate insurance coverage on an annual basis for the duration of the project. The Contractor shall, at its sole expense, obtain and maintain in force, and shall require any subcontractor or assignee to obtain and maintain in force, both for the benefit of the Commission, the following kinds and amounts of insurance:
Workers' Compensation Insurance. The policy shall cover the obligations of the Contractor in accordance with the Workers' Compensations Law and Disability Benefits Law covering all operations under the Contract, whether performed by it, or by its subcontractor.
Liability and Property Damage Insurance. Unless otherwise specified, each policy shall have limits not less than: $2,000,000 combined (Bodily Injury & Property Damage); $3,000,000 aggregate, single limit per occurrence.
Subaward Requirements. Subawardees must comply with all requirements and responsibilities of this subaward and with all U.S. EPA General Terms and Conditions under the prime agreement as outlined http://www2.epa.gov/grants/grant-terms-and-conditions#General%20Terms%20and%20Conditions. Subawardees are required to submit a Subrecipient Risk Assessment Form with their proposal (see LCBP Grant Toolkit). This form includes a requirement to attach an audit in some cases. If a Subawardee fails to submit or complete this form their proposal may be eliminated from consideration.

UEI Number: The official entity identifier for doing business with the U.S. Government and NEIWPCC has changed from a DUNS number to a SAM.gov created Unique Entity Identifier ("UEI") number. The DUNS number is no longer acceptable. Instead, Contractors must register for a UEI through the System for Award Management (SAM) at https://sam.gov/content/home . This SAM-generated number is required for all NEIWPCC Contractors as part of the agreement process. Existing NEIWPCC Contractors that have already registered in SAM.gov will be automatically assigned a UEI which will be displayed in Sam.gov. No further action is required.

Build America, Buy America requirements (not applicable to Quebec-based projects): Subawards or contracts awarded more than $250,000 are subject to the Build America Buy America Act. (BABA) requirements. Under the BABA Act. No funds made available by Federal financial assistance programs for infrastructure shall be obligated to a project unless all of the iron, steel, manufactured products, and construction materials used in the project are produced in the United States." (Build America, Buy America Act), P.L. 117-58, Secs 70911 - 70917.

Pre-proposal evaluation and selection criteria

Submitted pre-proposals will be evaluated according to the following criteria:

Impact: Extent to which project outputs will:
(20 points) Advance the goals of *Opportunities for Action* and the mission of LCBP;

(10 points) Result in benefits to communities with disadvantages per LCBP's definition. Projects that benefit a community with disadvantages that meet multiple criteria included in LCBP's definition and demonstrate meaningful involvement from the selected community will receive 10 points for this criterion. Projects that benefit a community meeting only one criterion or do not demonstrate meaningful involvement with communities with disadvantages will receive between 2.5-7.5 points proportional to the degree of benefit or engagement with the identified communities. Additional information on LCBP's communities with disadvantages definition is provided in section I.

2. **Technical feasibility**: Extent to which the project can be executed, and the appropriateness of the methods (up to 10 points).

3. **Budget**: Efficiency of proposed request and budget for the scope and outputs of the project. Proposed funding match (if any) will increase score in this criterion (up to 10 points).

4. **Likelihood of success**: Assessment of risk versus benefit for the project (up to 10 points).

5. **Prior performance of project team**: Extent to which the project team has successfully completed LCBP projects in the past with high quality outputs delivered on time with planned schedules and within planned budgets. New applicants and those with a record of success with delivering high quality outputs on time and within budgets for LCBP projects will receive a full score (up to 10 points) in this category.

6. **Climate change:** Additional points will be given to research projects that address climate change in the Lake Champlain Basin, including its effects and potential adaptation measures (up to 10 points).

Available funds and match requirements

This request for pre-proposals is in anticipation of LCBP fund appropriations for the U.S. Federal fiscal year beginning October 1, 2025. All awards are subject to available funding and LCBP is not obligated to issue any funds under this request.

Applicants may budget costs that are associated with the project as direct expenses, including personnel costs, travel, project supplies, meeting expenses, and subcontracts. Some allocation of project funds for indirect costs is also acceptable (see below). No in-kind or cash match is required, though match will be considered favorably during budget review and may make proposals more competitive.

Appropriate use of funds

Funding. Partial funding of total application requests may be awarded if agreeable to the applicant. LCBP anticipates granting multiple awards from this RFP. All awards are subject to funding availability.

Matching Funds. No in-kind or cash match is required, though match will be considered favorably during budget review and may make proposals more competitive.

Non-Permissible Grant Funding Uses. LCBP grant funds from this RFP cannot be used:
to produce for-profit products or to cover costs associated with regulatory compliance or direct fundraising efforts
for land purchases
for endowment funds or legislative advocacy of any kind

for the purchase of food or beverage.

Period of performance
Work is expected to begin no earlier than **January 2026** and, in most cases, should be completed within 3 years after the start date. Funding may be available for longer-term projects if justified for project outputs and outcomes.

New proposal submission platform

The Lake Champlain Basin Program is now using Foundant, a web-based grant management software platform, to accept responses to Requests for Proposals, to manage the proposal review and award decision process, and to manage awarded projects to conclusion with award recipients.

New applicants must create an account to log in to the Foundant system. Each user will create their own account, and the system allows for multiple user accounts per organization. When creating an account, Foundant will also ask for information about the organization. Once the user account is created, the applicant's account will automatically be connected to other accounts from the same organization using the Federal Tax ID (EIN) number. Once this information is collected and the account is created, the user may identify the applicable grant category and begin the proposal submission process. They may also invite partners to assist with the application within Foundant. Proposal questions and format requirements for this request for proposals are provided below for reference and to help applicants prepare their proposals.

Proposals must be submitted to Foundant at this link. Email submissions will not be accepted.
Please visit the Foundant Applicant Tutorial webpage for assistance in creating your individual account, or contact Kerry Crowningshield, LCBP Office Manager, at kcrowningshield@lcbp.org or call 802-372-3213.

Pre-proposal questions to be entered via Foundant application:

Pre-proposal application

Please Read and Confirm
Grant details for this opportunity and the full RFPP are available at the ***LCBP RFPs webpage.***

I certify that I have read all of the grant details for this opportunity, including the timeframe for successful projects, additional information and requirements for applicants, and proposal evaluation and selection criteria

Choices
Yes

Please Read and Confirm

I certify that I have read and understand the NEIWPCC contractual terms and conditions (***Environmental Protection Agency***, Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA), and ***Great Lakes Fishery Commission funding***) that will be included as part of my award package, should my proposal be awarded for funding. I understand that NEIWPCC generally does not negotiate the agreement or contract templates, except for the work plan and task-based budget.

Choices

Yes

Point of Contact Name

Individual who will be implementing the grant and be the main point of contact.

Character Limit: 100

Point of Contact Title

Character Limit: 50

Point of Contact Email Address

Email address for the point of contact.

Character Limit: 254

Point of Contact Telephone Number

Phone number for the point of contact.

Character Limit: 20

Address of Organization

Character Limit: 250

Federal Tax Identification Number

Also known as FID. Example: 00-0000000

Character Limit: 20

Research Track*

Please identify the track to which this pre-proposal applies.

Choices

Track 1: General Opportunities for Action
Track 2: Water quality improvement
Track 3: Monitoring upstream of permitted discharges in New York
Track 4: Aquatic invasive species management
Track 5: Native species and habitats
Track 6: Dam removal

Project Title*

Provide a concise and descriptive title for your project, no more than 10 words.

Avoid using your organization's name.
Your project should be identifiable using the **first three words**.

Character Limit: 100

One-Sentence Abstract*

This very brief description of your project should be understandable to a general audience.

Character Limit: 250

Summary of research team qualifications.*

Provide a brief summary of your research team's qualifications.

Character Limit: 600

Description of project background, motivation, scope, and applicability to Opportunities for Action*

Use this space as you see fit to briefly describe your research project and explain how it will contribute toward LCBP's mission and goals outlined in ***Opportunities for Action***. Please also list any anticipated partnerships. Letters of support and for landowner permission may be provided with the pre-proposal (upload attachment in Supplemental Documentation section of this application) or later at the full proposal stage.

Character Limit: 6000

Project Output*

List all anticipated outputs for the project. An output is an activity or product (i.e. deliverable) generated as a result of a task, e.g., treatment of six acres of run-off area, holding four public meetings, or generating an educational document.

Character Limit: 400

Anticipated Outcomes*

List all anticipated outcomes for the project. Outcomes are the results or effects of all activities, e.g., reduced phosphorus loading to Lake Champlain through the Winooski River, or the public is better informed on aquatic invasive species.

Character Limit: 400

Project methods*

Please briefly describe the project methods that will be used in your research project so they can be understood by a general scientific audience.

Character Limit: 1750

Project timeframe*

Please describe the anticipated project schedule, including the completion of major outputs and project completion.

Character Limit: 250

Diversity, equity, and inclusion

Describe, if applicable, any benefits for or engagement with communities with disadvantages that your project will include, drawing on LCBP's definition and accompanying mapping tool as needed.

Character Limit: 1250

Total Request Amount*

List in U.S. dollars. Please note that if your pre-proposal is selected for a full proposal, the total funding request in the full proposal cannot be greater than the total request in the pre-proposal without written permission from LCBP.

Character Limit: 20

Brief budget explanation*

Briefly explain the major components of the budget. List the percentage of the budget that may be spent on the following elements: field work, modeling, analysis, reporting, indirect costs, and any other major category (specify). More details and a full budget explanation will be required at the full proposal stage. Relative percentages of budget components may change in the full proposal as necessary.

Character Limit: 400

OFA Strategies (select all that apply)*

Check the *Opportunities for Action* strategies your proposed project will address. Descriptions for each strategy can be found **at this link**.

Please note that for each strategy you choose, you must provide a deliverable, outcome,output, or other metric to LCBP, should your project be funded.

More detailed information can be found on pages 34-65 of ***Opportunities for Action***.

Choices

I.A.1	II.B.2	III.B.3
I.A.2	II.C.1	III.B.4
I.A.3	II.D.1	III.B.5
I.A.4	II.D.2	III.C.1
I.B.1	II.E.1	III.C.2
I.C.1	II.E.2	III.D.1
I.C.2	II.E.3	IV.A.1
I.C.3	II.E.4	IV.A.2
I.C.4	III.A.1	IV.A.3
I.C.5	III.A.2	IV.A.4
I.D.1	III.A.3	IV.B.1
I.D.2	III.A.4	IV.C.1
II.A.1	III.A.5	IV.C.2
II.A.2	III.B.1	IV.C.3
II.B.1	III.B.2	

Supporting documentation

Technical references cited

List all technical references used for this pre-proposal.

Your response may be typed below or be uploaded as a PDF/Word document.

Character Limit: 10000 | File Size Limit: 4 MB

Image #1

Attach up to three images that could be used to represent the proposed research project to a general scientific audience. Images are optional. Additional and/or different images may be submitted at the full proposal stage.

File Size Limit: 3 MB

Image #2

File Size Limit: 3 MB

Image #3

File Size Limit: 3 MB

Letter of support #1

If applicable, up to 3 letters of support may be provided with the pre-proposal or later at the full proposal stage

File Size Limit: 3 MB

Letter of support #2
File Size Limit: 3 MB

Letter of support #3
File Size Limit: 3 MB

Landowner permission letter
If applicable, letters demonstrating landowner permission may be provided with the pre-proposal or later at the full proposal stage.

Please combine any letters and submit as one PDF/Word document should you choose to provide multiple letters at this time.

File Size Limit: 4 MB

Before you submit your application

Please ensure that your application is complete before submitting. Once you hit submit, you will not be able to edit your application.