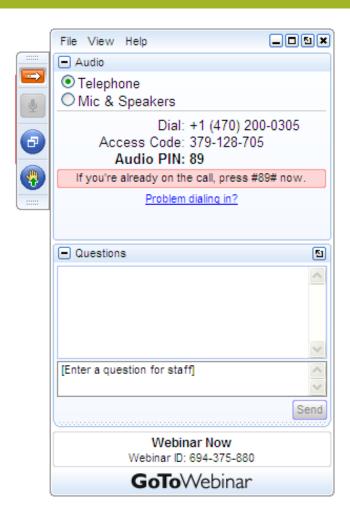
Southeast Aquatics Fund 2023 Applicant Webinar



WEBINAR INSTRUCTIONS

- We may ask you to raise your "hand" in the webinar dialogue box to confirm participants can hear us.
- To improve sound quality, all participants will be muted for the duration of the webinar. If you want to ask a question you have two options:
 - 1. Enter your query where it says "Enter a question for staff" and click send. We will type a response or read your question aloud when we pause for Q&A.
 - 2. Write it down and contact us after the webinar. We have a lot of material to cover, so you may prefer to have a more in-depth discussion later.
- If you experience a technical glitch, please type it into the question box, since we can't hear you. (We may not know about the glitch unless you say something!)

The webinar will be available for download within 48 hours at https://www.nfwf.org/programs/southeast-aquatics



YOUR NFWF CONTACTS



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AGENDA

- 2023 Southeast Aquatics Fund RFP Overview
 - Program Overview
 - Geographic Focus
 - Program Priorities
 - Eligibility
 - Funding Availability and Match
 - Timeline
- How to Apply in Easygrants
- Questions?



Program Overview

What is the SOUTHEAST AQUATICS FUND?

A competitive grant program that...

- Supports watershed-based restoration and management projects
- Improves health of aquatic systems to secure populations of native freshwater aquatic species in the southeastern US

Funded through a public-private partnership between ...















Mussel reintroduction
Photo by Gary Peeples/USFWS



Geographic Focus

In 2023, proposals will be considered from four geographies aligned with NFWF's strategic priorities:

- 1. The Alabama and Mobile-Tombigbee River Basins (specific watersheds)
- 2. The Apalachicola-Chattahoochee-Flint (ACF) River Basin
- 3. Florida River Basins: Improved Grazing Lands Management
- 4. Neuse-Pamlico, Cape Fear and Pee Dee River Basins: Improved Soil Health on Working Lands





https://www.nfwf.org/sites/default/files/longleaf/Documents/longleaf-forests-rivers-business-plan.pdf





Geographic Focus

1) The Alabama and Mobile-Tombigbee River Basins

- Supports NFWF Business Plan outcomes
- Conasauga (priority tributary: Holly Creek)
 - Focal species: Bridled and trispot darter; Villosa mussels (Alabama rainbow, Coosa creekshell)
- Locust Fork
 - o Focal species: Black Warrior waterdog; flattened musk turtle
- Middle Coosa (priority tributary: Big Canoe Creek)
 - Focal species: Trispot darter

2) The Apalachicola-Chattahoochee-Flint (ACF) River Basin

- Support sufficient water flows for native freshwater species
 - Particular interest in projects associated with agricultural lands.



Southeast Aquatics Fund Geographic Focal Areas 1 & 2



Geographic Focus

3) Florida River Basins: Improved Grazing Lands Management

- Outreach and technical assistance to farmers and ranchers
 - Increase access to/implementation of NRCS Farm Bill and other cost-share programs that support implementation of prescribed/rotational grazing and associated practices within cattle-producing counties across Florida
- May include financial cost-share assistance for implementation of prescribed/rotational grazing and associated practices

4) <u>Neuse-Pamlico, Cape Fear and Pee Dee River Basins: Improved Soil Health on Working Lands</u>

- Improved soil health practices and carbon benefits on agricultural lands
 - Technical assistance
 - Financial cost-share assistance for practice implementation



Southeast Aquatics Fund Geographic Focal Area 3



Southeast Aquatics Fund Geographic Focal Area 4



What are the program's funding priorities?

- 1. Provide Technical Assistance and Outreach
- 2. Agricultural and Forestry Best Management Practices
- 3. Restore and Enhance Riparian and In-stream Habitat
- **4. Improve Stream Crossings**
- 5. Assessment, Prioritization and Planning
- 6. Villosa Mussel Captive Care and Re-establishment
- 7. Monitoring



C. caerul and E. trisella Photo by GA DNR staff



All Geographic Focal Areas:

1. Provide Technical Assistance and Outreach

- > Support capacity to conduct outreach and provide technical assistance to private landowners
 - Increase Farm Bill program participation and conservation practice implementation among agricultural producers
 - > Emphasis on farmers and ranchers in the Historically Underserved and Special Emphasis categories.
 - Projects within the Neuse-Pamlico, Cape Fear and Pee Dee River Basins: Improved Soil Health on Working Lands Focal Area should be focused on providing technical assistance and outreach to increase access to and implementation of Farm Bill and other cost-share programs that support improved soil health practices.
 - Projects within the Florida River Basins: Improved Grazing Lands Management Focal Area should be focused on increasing access to and implementation of Farm Bill and other cost-share programs that support effective grazing lands management.

2. Agricultural and Forestry Best Management Practices

- > Support agricultural and forestry conservation practices that reduce nutrient and sediment runoff from the land and conserve water where assistance is needed in addition to or outside of available Farm Bill and other cost-share programs.
 - Projects within the Neuse-Pamlico, Cape Fear and Pee Dee River Basins: Improved Soil Health on Working Lands Focal Area should be focused on providing additional financial cost-share assistance to implement soil health conservation practices.
 - Ex. practices: increased adoption of conservation cover, cover crops, reduced tillage, diversified crop rotations.
 - ➤ Projects within the Florida River Basins: Improved Grazing Lands Management Focal Area should be focused on providing additional financial cost-share assistance to implement prescribed/rotational grazing and associated practices on grazing lands.
 - Ex. practices: prescribed grazing, fence/pipeline/trough improvements, brush management, herbaceous weed treatment, pasture/range planting, etc.

Alabama, Mobile-Tombigbee and ACF River Basin Focal Areas:

3. Restore and Enhance Riparian and In-stream Habitat

Restore wetland, streambank, and instream habitat in prioritized areas of a watershed otherwise not addressed through agricultural or forestry best management practices.

4. Improve Stream Crossings

➤ Restore connectivity for fish passage and reduce sedimentation by removing or retrofitting stream barriers and stream crossings.

5. Assessment, Prioritization and Planning

Support the assessment of barriers and crossings within a watershed in order to identify which should receive highest priority for removal or retrofitting based on benefits to target species.



Photo by Isaac Szabo



Alabama and Mobile-Tombigbee River Basin Focal Areas:

6. Villosa Mussel Captive Care and Re-establishment

Restore and manage for focal *Villosa* mussel species in areas of the Conasauga River watershed of suitable water quality, including stocking in order to enhance existing populations and restore the ecosystem at a faster rate than through water quality improvements alone. Actions under this strategy are in addition to habitat restoration and management activities described in the other program strategies.

7. Monitoring

Conduct monitoring to understand population status and habitat conditions for bridled and trispot darter, *Villosa* mussels (Alabama rainbow, Coosa creekshell), Black Warrior waterdog and flattened musk turtle within the Conasauga, Locust Fork and Middle Coosa watersheds.



Photo by Matt Winter/NFWF



Eligibility

Eligible and Ineligible Entities

• Eligible applicants include: Non-profit 501(c) organizations, U.S

Non-profit 501(c) organizations, U.S. Federal government agencies, state government agencies, local governments, municipal governments, Tribal Governments and Organizations and educational institutions.

Ineligible applicants include: businesses, unincorp

businesses, unincorporated individuals and international organizations.



Funding Availability and Match

• Funding Availability: Approx. \$2.6 million

• **Typical Grant Award Range**: \$150,000 - \$450,000

• **Grant Period:** 24 – 36 months

• Matching Contributions Requirement: At least 1:1 match ratio of non-federal cash

or in-kind services (contact NFWF if less

than 1:1)



Timeline

Dates of activities are subject to change. Please check the program page of the NFWF website for the most current dates and information.

Full Proposal Due DateTuesday, July 18, 2023, 11:59 pm ET

Review Period July- October 2023

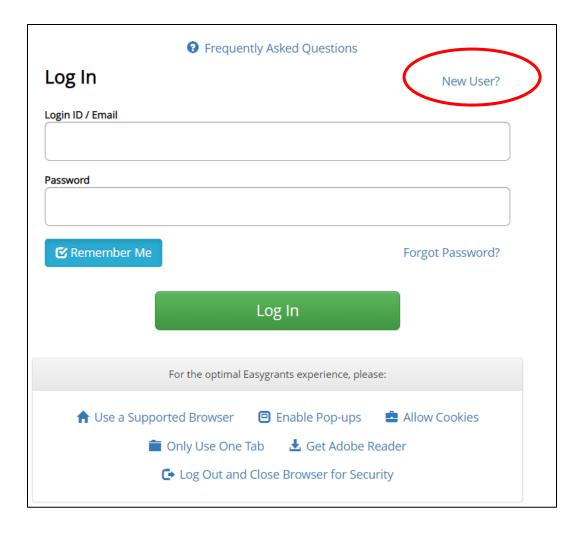
Awards Announced November 2023

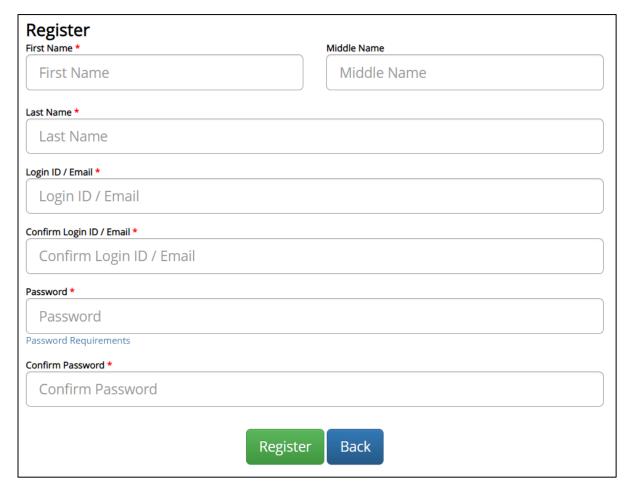
Request for Proposals:

http://www.nfwf.org/programs/southeast-aquatics











Click here to respond to an RFP or to a solicited request

Listed below are the current funding opportunities accepting applications. To view more details on the Funding Opportunity, click Guidelines next to the opportunity.

- . To apply to a Funding Opportunity, select the opportunity and click Continue.
- . To return to the Home page, click Cancel.

If you have been provided an RFP code please click the link at the top, then enter your code. Please note that the code is case sensitive.

Available Funding Opportunities

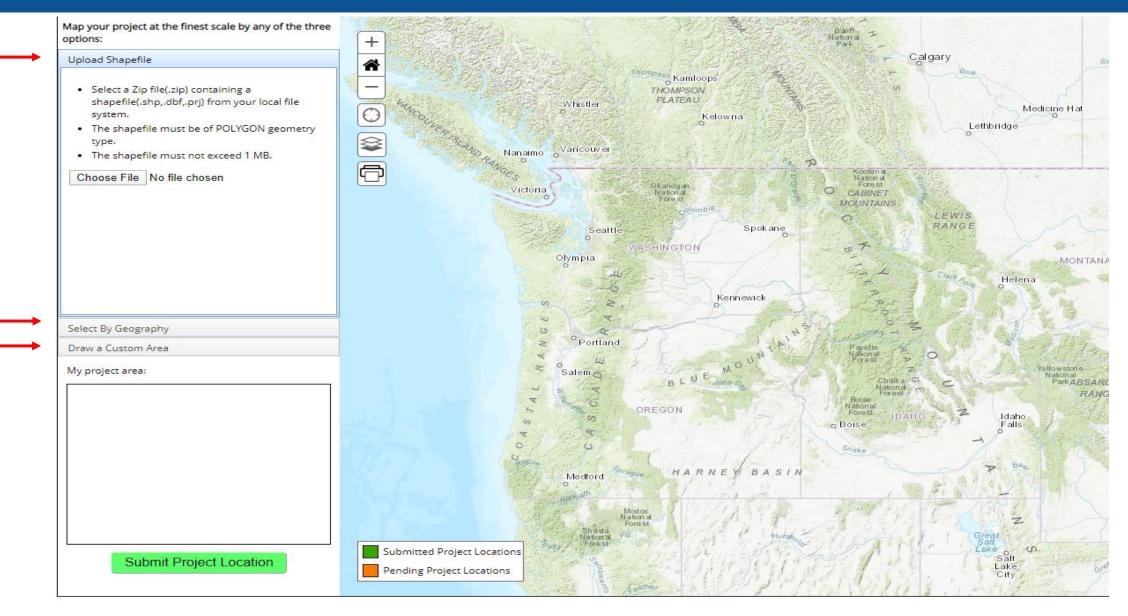
Once you are on your Easygrants homepage, click on "Apply for Funding"

Choose the Funding Opportunity you're applying to.



Home **Project Information** Due: 12/16/2021 11:59 PM ET Easygrants ID: 74112 Bernstein, Zack rants | Lower MS Alluvial Valley Fund | Lower MS Alluvial Valley Restoration Fund 2022 Instructions Contact Information Click the page links on the left navigation bar, or in the summary below to view the pages where you will enter the information required for this submission. Click as needed until you submit. Once you submit, you will no longer be able to make changes. Click here to view Foundation Guidelines for this Funding Opportunity. Organization Other useful links that will appear in the navigation bar at left include: Information · Home brings you back to your Home page and out of this submission task. **Project Information** FAQ provides answers to common questions about the Foundation's proposal elements. · Help provides guidance on both content and technical aspects related to completing many of the pages in the system. · Log Out logs you out of the system. **Project Location Validation Summary** Map Page Name Status Contact Information ✓ Complete Uploads Organization Information X Incomplete Project Information Incomplete X Incomplete Project Location Metrics Мар X Incomplete Uploads X Incomplete Metrics Incomplete Budget Budget X Incomplete ✓ Complete Matching Contributions Matching ✓ Complete Permits and Approvals Contributions Permits and Approvals **Review and Submit**

Map





I confirm that this project has been mapped as accurately as possible

Save and Continue

Uploads

Upload Checklist		
Upload Type	Required	Template
Full Proposal Narrative (DEI)	Yes	Full Proposal Narrative Template (DEI)
Project Map	No	
Letters of Support	No	
Conceptual Plans	No	
Engineered Plans	No	
Photos - Jpeg	No	
Resumes	No	
Statement of Litigation	Yes	Statement of Litigation
Board of Trustees, Directors, or equivalent	Yes	
Applicant Controls Questionnaire (Pre 5.24.23)	Yes	Applicant Controls Questionnaire (Pre 5.24.23)
Applicant Demographic Information Form	Yes	Applicant Demographic Information Form
GAAP audited financial statements	Yes	
IRS Form 990	Yes	
Single Audit (Formerly A-133 Audit)	Yes	
Indirect Rate Agreement	No	
Other Documents	No	

The full list of required uploads for your organization type is available on the NFWF website here: https://www.nfwf.org/apply-grant/application-information/required-financial-documents

Uploads - Applicant Demographic Information Form

- The information you provide will <u>not</u> be shared with proposal reviewers and will <u>not</u> be considered when making grant decisions.
- The Foundation will <u>not</u> share identifying information about any particular entity or project.
- While the form is a required upload, applicants can opt out of providing the information within the form itself
 - If your organization does not collect this information or if you have provided NFWF with this information in the last 12 months, you can opt out.
- The information provided on this excel form will be kept confidential, the Foundation may share its anonymized aggregate findings as appropriate with its staff, Board of Directors, funding partners, and publicly on its website or through other media.

APPLICANT DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION				
As part of NFWF's goal to encourage and support diversity across the conservation projects we fund, we would like to better understand the existing diversity in our grantmaking community and in the local commun				
The information provided on this excel form will be kept confidential, alt	though the Foundation may share its	nunities where the projects take place and who in those communities might benefit from them. We ask for th aggregate findings as appropriate with its staff, Board of Directors, funding partners, and publicly on its web iill be used by NFWF to better understand the demographic profiles of the organizations that we fund.		
The information you provide will <u>not</u> be shared with	proposal reviewers and will	not be considered when making grant decisions.		
Instructions: Complete all pertinent fields shaded in green. Your Human Resources Department may have some of the information requested readily available. Please be sure to complete the General Information suffyou do not know on answer, use the "don't know/not sure" option instead of guessing, if a section does not apply to your organization you may skip it. Do not make any other changes to this form. You may opt out of providing this information to NFWF; however, you still must upload this form to Easyarants with your application and complete the first section of the form.				
All applicants must complete this section, even if you	have provided this data to	NFWF in the past 12 months or are opting out for another reason.		
	•	still complete this top section of the form and submit it with your proposal.		
Easygrants project #from your grant application:				
Grant program name shown on the RFP:				
If you are opting out, select a reason from	n the dropdown list in the green box:			
General Information				
Date Completed:				
Project Title:				
Organization Full Name:				
Organization EIN:				
Organization Type:		Click on the green box to select from the dropdown list		
Organization Size (number of employees)		Click on the green box to select from the dropdown list		
PART 1: APPLICANT ORGANIZATION - ALL EMPLOYEES (if applicable)				
Please provide the following demographic information about all of you	r organization's employees, including	senior leaders		
<u></u> ->//				
1. How many people currently work for your organization? (Include temp	oorary and part-time employees in yo	ır response but <u>do not include contractors</u>)		
Total Number:				
2. How many of your employees identify as each gender?				
Female				
Male				
Non-binary:				
Unknown/Not sure:				



Narrative

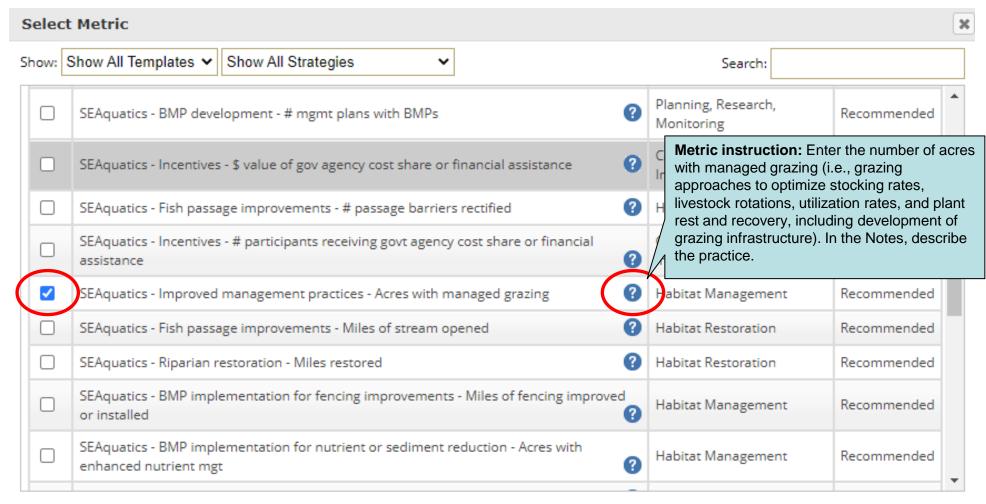
- 1. Activities: Elaborate on the primary activities that will be employed through the grant. Explain how these activities are expected to lead to the outcome(s). Describe how these activities relate to established plans (management, conservation, recovery, etc.) and priority conservation needs in the specific project location.
- **2. Outcome(s):** Elaborate on the outcome(s) summarized previously in the application; discuss what makes this outcome(s) achievable and important.
- **3. Tracking Metrics:** Indicate how the project will monitor/assess progress on the metrics selected previously in the application. Please note any challenges or limitations anticipated with tracking the metrics.
- **4. Community Impact:** Describe the community(ies) where the project will take place, who will benefit from the project, and how they were or will be engaged in project development and implementation. Provide demographic information on the community(ies), including but not limited to age, race and ethnicity, poverty rates.
- **5. Project Team:** List key individuals and describe their qualifications relevant for project implementation.
- **6. Other (Optional):** Provide any further information important for the review of this proposal.

Most Competitive Narrative Elements:

- Program Goals and Priorities
- Technical Merit
- Partnership
- Transferability
- Communication
- Funding Need
- Conservation Plan and Context
- Monitoring
- Long-termSustainability
- Past Success
- Key Personnel



Metrics

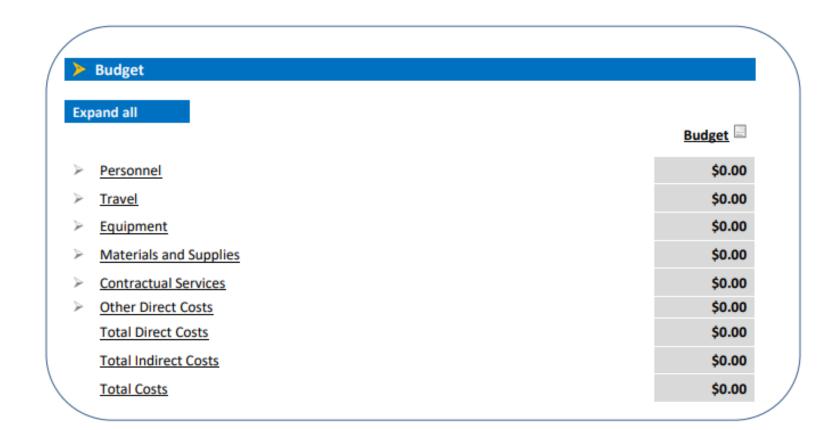




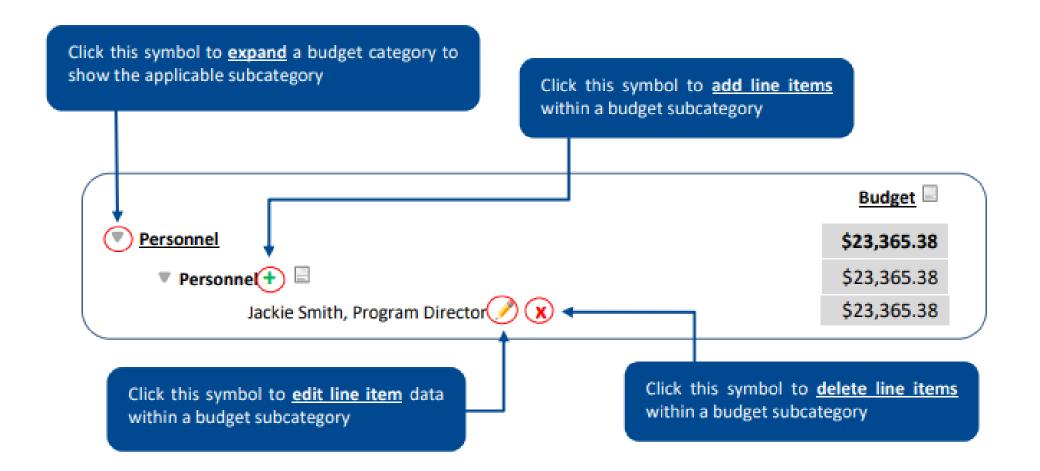
^{*} If none of the available metrics apply to your project, please contact NFWF to discuss

Budget

- In order to complete a budget for your proposal, you must expand the appropriate categories and provide the information requested.
- If you do not anticipate an expense for a particular category, skip that category- it is not necessary to enter a "0" value in the cost fields.
- Try to anticipate factors that may affect the budget when developing projections and provide an explanation of those factors.
- Matching contributions should not be included in the budget.



Budget



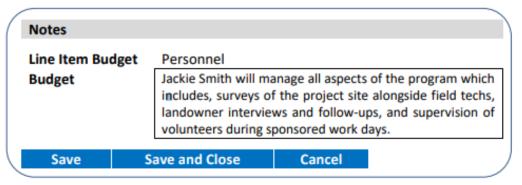
Detailed Budget Instructions: Adding/Editing Narratives

- Narratives are required for all budgeted categories.
 - Explain/justify the estimated costs including the unit cost and quantity requested
 - Explain how the costs associated with each line item supports the implementation of the project as outlined in the proposal
- Narratives should be written in such a way that someone not familiar with the project can conceptually understand the <u>rationale</u>, <u>purpose</u> and <u>calculation</u> of the anticipated costs identified by line item.
- Narratives should be concise and describe line items in 1-3 sentences.

Figures without narrative descriptions will be returned to the applicant for further details and clarification.



Next, complete the narrative box as shown below:



Detailed Budget Instructions

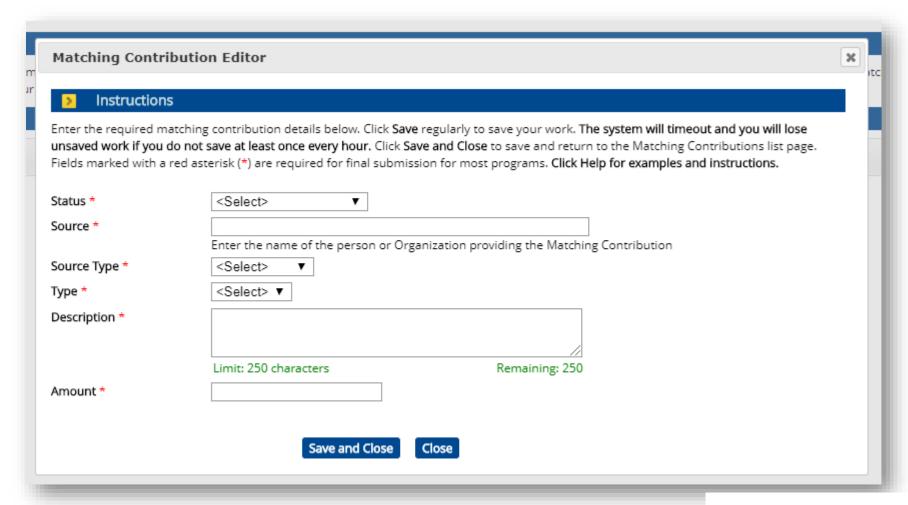
- The final expanded budget will appear as follows, showing the budget details.
- For further questions, contact Program Staff listed on the RFP.

	iget

Collapse al

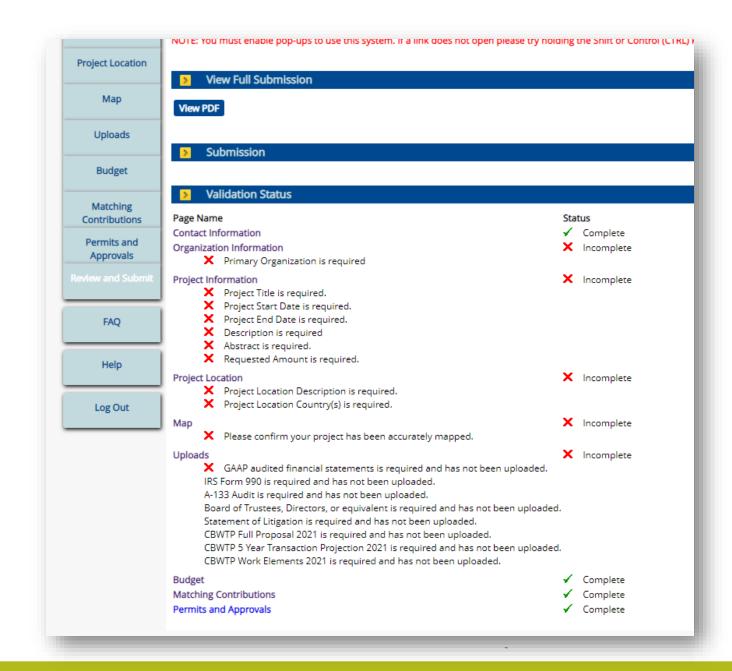
	Budget
> Personnel	\$23,365.38
Personnel	\$23,365.38
Jackie Smith, Program Manager	\$23,365.38
> Travel	\$512.00
Domestic Airfare	\$0.00
International Airfare	\$0.00
Train- Per Ticket	\$150.00
Two Round Trip Tickets to Project Site	\$150.00
Rental Car- Per Day	\$0.00
Taxis – Per Trip	\$0.00
Mileage – Per Mile	\$0.00
Gasoline – Per Gallon	\$0.00
Per Diem (M&IE)	\$0.00
Lodging – Per Night	\$362.00
Washington, DC hotel for Kick Off & site visit	\$375.00
Meals (No M&IE) – Per Meal	\$0.00
> Equipment	\$20,500.00
Equipment	\$20,500.00
Excavation Machine	\$20,500.00
Materials and Supplies	\$525.00
Materials and Supplies	\$525.00
Native Grass Seed	\$525.00
Contractual Services	\$60,042.00
Contract – Per Agreement	\$27,542.00
M.A.P. Consulting	\$27,542.00
Subaward – Per Agreement	\$32,500.00
ACME International, River Cleanup	\$32,500.00
> Other Direct Costs	\$17.00
Other Direct Costs	\$17.00
River cleanup event parking.	\$17.00
> Indirect Costs	\$5,841.34
Indirect Costs	\$5,841.34
Salaries & Benefits, 9/30/20, Provisional	\$5,841.34
Total Direct Costs	\$104,961.38
Total Indirect Costs	
Total Costs	\$110,802.72

Matching Contributions



Review and Submit

- Make sure to click the blue "Submit" button to submit your proposal.
- If correctly submitted, you will receive a confirmation e-mail and the task will disappear from your homepage.



Resources

Easygrants Instructions

https://nfwf.sharefile.com/share/view/sc4058d789a834aea9f6a7444579d480d

Tip Sheet

https://www.nfwf.org/sites/default/files/2023-05/southeast aquatics 2023 tip sheet 0.pdf

Required Financial Documents

http://www.nfwf.org/whatwedo/grants/applicants/Pages/required-financial-docs.aspx

Budget Instructions

http://www.nfwf.org/whatwedo/grants/applicants/Pages/budget-instructions.aspx

Detailed Budget and Narrative Guide

https://www.nfwf.org/sites/default/files/2020-07/nfwf-detailed-budget-narrative-guide.pdf

NFWF Indirect Policy

http://www.nfwf.org/whatwedo/grants/applicants/Pages/indirect-policy.aspx

Mapping Tutorial

http://www.nfwf.org/whatwedo/grants/applicants/Pages/mapping-tool.aspx

Longleaf Forests and Rivers Business Plan

https://www.nfwf.org/sites/default/files/longleaf/Documents/longleaf-forests-rivers-business-plan.pdf

WRAP UP



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Full Proposal Due Date Review Period Awards Announced Tuesday, July 18th, 2023 Eastern Time July - October 2023 November 2023