



ANNOUNCEMENT

NH WATER RESOURCES RESEARCH CENTER FY 2024 SECTION 104 RESEARCH PROGRAM

The New Hampshire Water Resources Research Center (NH WRRC) is accepting applications for the FY 2024 State Water Resources Research Institute Program grant (Section 104 of the Water Resources Act).

The NH WRRC invites research, information transfer and education proposals from investigators at any college or university in New Hampshire for consideration in the Center's FY 2024 research program. Research proposed must be directed at priorities of New Hampshire, New England, or the northeastern United States and align with the program objectives of the [USGS RFP](#) (section A2, pages 2-3). The NH WRRC has developed a list of priority areas (see below). The NH WRRC encourages proposals from investigators who are from underrepresented or underserved groups in STEM, and from institutions that serve majority minority populations. Proposals are encouraged that increase diversity, equity, inclusion, and justice, which intersect with water research and resources, and that address issues in historically marginalized or underserved communities. Proposals involving students or seeking seed funding are also encouraged. **To be considered for funding, proposals must be submitted by email to nh.wrrec@unh.edu no later than Friday, March 22, 2024 at 5:00 p.m.** If you plan to submit a proposal, **please send a courtesy message to nh.wrrec@unh.edu by March 15, 2024** so that we can arrange for reviewers. Please include the provisional title, principal investigator(s) and if possible, please suggest two or more potential technical reviewers with whom you have no conflicts of interest.

Detailed instructions for proposal preparation are included in section D2 (K3 Project Proposals) of the [2023 USGS RFP](#) (pages 10-12). We anticipate that the final 2024 USGS RFP will be released in March 2024 and that no substantive changes to the proposal format will be made. Proposal items 1 through 21 can be combined in a single PDF and items 15 through 19 should not exceed 10 pages (including references). Please submit the budget breakdown and budget justification (item 21) using the separate [2023 USGS budget templates](#). Please also include a supplementary document describing your data management plan. Other sections of the application instructions describe how the NH WRRC must format the proposal package for submission to the USGS. Only one-year projects will be considered, but funding for subsequent years may be requested on an annual basis. The anticipated budget year begins 30 September 2024. The overall research budget is anticipated to be approximately \$92,000, but funds have not yet been appropriated for FY 2024. The federal budget cap for each project (total direct costs) is \$30,000. Indirect costs are not an allowable charge to the federal budget. The federal budget requested must be matched by one non-federal dollar for each federal dollar requested. Match can be supplied by working with NGOs such as watershed organizations who supply time or monetary support for the project, a portion of academic year faculty salary, support of graduate students by non-federal funds, volunteer labor and unrecovered indirect costs. Federal and non-federal budgets must be approved by your institution's grants and agreements office. USNH investigators, please do not route proposals through Cayuse at this stage.

Proposals submitted to the NH WRRC will be reviewed by an external panel. Criteria for proposal evaluation include 1) relevance to the goals of the NH WRRC; 2) scientific quality of the work being

proposed; 3) qualifications of the investigator to conduct the proposed research; 4) likelihood of success, and 5) past record of the investigator in publication and dissemination of research results. The highest-ranked proposals will be selected and applicants will be notified by April 17, 2024. Modifications to the proposal and its budget may be required based on reviewer feedback. Any revisions will be due by May 3, 2024. The NH WRRC, not individual investigators, will submit the final proposal package (including SF-424 forms) to the USGS via grants.gov.

Questions relating to submission of proposals or matching funds can be directed to the NH WRRC Associate Director Michelle Shattuck (michelle.shattuck@unh.edu).

NH WRRC RESEARCH PRIORITY AREAS AND EXAMPLE ISSUES

Water Quality

- Non-point source pollution (e.g., septic systems, stormwater, development and agricultural runoff)
- Legacy and emerging contaminants (e.g., plastics, PFAS, pharmaceuticals etc.)
- Point source pollution (e.g., wastewater treatment facilities)
- Effectiveness of buffer zones and best management practices (BMPs)
- Linking water quality data and biological communities
- Pathogens and harmful algal blooms (e.g. cyanobacteria)
- Bacterial indicators for human health protection
- Invasive species

Water Quantity and Availability

- Quantifying water needs, uses, opportunities and efficiencies
- Aquifer delineation, mapping, and protection
- Groundwater availability and artificial recharge
- Water supply reliability and resilience

Climate Change and Climate Variability

- Impacts of climate change on water quality and quantity
- Preparedness for extreme events (e.g., floods and droughts)
- Watershed resilience

Management, Policy, Planning and Socioeconomics

- Systems approach on a watershed scale to management: economic factors and quality of life
- Social science and the human dimensions of water resources
- Ecosystem services and valuing water
- Low impact development
- Planning and conservation
- Management, regulation, and allocation
- Coupled human-hydrologic system models
- Infrastructure improvement and cost-benefit analysis

Education, Outreach and Technology Transfer

- Translating and sharing research with various audiences (e.g., public, managers, policy makers)
- Water resources conferences, seminars, and webinars
- Water quality and water use education
- Education opportunities for students