



OCEAN PROTECTION COUNCIL

PROPOSITION 1 - ROUND 3

Grant Program Funded by the Water Quality,
Supply, and Infrastructure Improvement Act of 2014

Grant Proposal Solicitation and Application Instructions

Applications due March 18, 2019



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I. GRANT APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

A. Essential background and information

The California Ocean Protection Council (OPC) was created by law in 2004 via the California Ocean Protection Act. OPC is an innovative leader on ocean and coastal protection in the state and globally. OPC's vision is to ensure healthy, resilient and productive ocean and coastal ecosystems in California for the benefit of current and future generations. OPC is committed to ensuring that policy and management decisions affecting California's ocean and coastal resources are based on the best available science.

The Water Quality, Supply, and Infrastructure Improvement Act of 2014 (Proposition 1 or "Prop 1") was approved by voters in November 2014. Prop 1 is codified as Division 26.7 of the Water Code. Prop 1 funding is intended to fund projects that meet the goals of the state Water Action Plan. More information about Prop 1 can be found at the bond accountability website: <http://bondaccountability.resources.ca.gov/p1.aspx>

Chapter 6 of Prop 1 allocates \$30 million to OPC for a competitive grant program for multi-benefit ecosystem and watershed protection and restoration projects in accordance with statewide priorities. It sets forth specific purposes of the allocation of funds to OPC, and OPC Prop 1 grants must achieve at least one of these purposes.

OPC approved the updated Prop 1 Grant Guidelines on November 1, 2017 which are available on the OPC Prop 1 webpage: <http://www.opc.ca.gov/2015/05/prop1/>. This current grant proposal solicitation - Round 3 - represents OPC's third and last round of Prop 1 funding based on its anticipated last Prop 1 appropriation, expected in July 2019. Grant Guidelines include:

- OPC's Priority Issue Areas for Prop 1 grant funding;
- Eligible project purposes and eligible grantee types;
- Grant application review and evaluation processes;
- Additional grant requirements; and
- Important appendices, including Prop 1 Chapter 6 text and Prop 1 term definitions.

Please review the OPC Prop 1 Grant Guidelines and this Grant Proposal Solicitation and Application Instructions document very carefully and thoroughly before proceeding with the grant application process.

Applicants should review OPC's four Priority Issue Areas for funding described on page 4 of the Grant Guidelines as well as the corresponding Scoring Criteria on page 11 of the Grant Guidelines.

OPC encourages applications for wetland and other habitat restoration projects such as those typically funded through Prop 1, however projects should be clear in articulating their multi-benefits, in particular how a project would provide benefits in at least one of the Priority Issue Areas. Projects must also provide a clearly-articulated, **long-term benefit** to the public.

B. Application process

Applications must be completed online via the state Natural Resources Agency's System for Online Application Review (SOAR). The SOAR web address is: <https://soar.resources.ca.gov>.

No hard copy proposal applications are required for this Round 3 grant proposal solicitation.

When using SOAR, please be sure to note the following important technical considerations:

- SOAR is an internet-based system, and is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.
- It is strongly recommended that you use a PC and Internet Explorer (6.0 or higher) as **SOAR is not compatible with any non-PC products such as Mac or any browsers except Internet Explorer (do not use Chrome or Firefox browsers).**
- Disable any pop-up blocking software while using SOAR.
- Save your work often in SOAR – the system will time out after 60 minutes of activity.

Applicants should review the SOAR [User Manual](#)¹ and [SOAR FAQ](#)² before beginning an online application in SOAR. Links to these SOAR resources and others are provided in Appendix A.

Applications must be completed through the following steps:

1. Carefully review the OPC Prop 1 Grant Guidelines and entire Grant Proposal Solicitation.
2. Respond to questions online in SOAR. It is strongly recommended that applicants draft and save their responses in a Word document, in advance of entering responses online.
3. Download relevant forms and templates from [OPC's Prop 1 webpage](#) and either complete the forms and/or use the provided templates to create your own documents (aka "Attachments" in SOAR).
4. Upload relevant files as Attachments in the SOAR online system, using the electronic file naming conventions provided in the Applicant Checklist.³
5. Use the Application Checklist to ensure completion of all required grant application components, then sign and upload the Checklist as an Attachment:
 - a. Download, print in hard copy, complete and sign the Checklist
 - b. Scan the signed Checklist document into a PDF or JPG format
 - c. Upload Checklist as an Attachment in SOAR, being sure to name file correctly using file naming convention

Section III of this document (starting on page 8) provides the text of all proposal application questions that the SOAR online application system will ask of applicants.

¹ https://resources.ca.gov/grants/wp-content/uploads/2017/01/SOAR_UserManual.pdf

² <http://resources.ca.gov/grants/wp-content/uploads/2017/01/SOARFAQs.pdf>

³ Available on the [OPC Prop 1 webpage](#)

A completed online application⁴ in SOAR will consist of the following documents or files that have been uploaded as Attachments, in addition to applicant responses to Questions in SOAR See Section III, page 8 for the list of Questions. All items are required unless otherwise noted:

- Application Checklist Form.** This form should be downloaded from the Prop 1 webpage, then it should be completed, signed, scanned and uploaded as an Attachment.
- Project Workplan, Task Chart, Budget and Schedule.** Applicants are asked to provide a brief workplan description in SOAR. Applicants must also submit the proposed project workplan as a stand-alone document using the template provided on the Prop 1 webpage. Using the template, provide details on amounts and sources of potential as well as confirmed project Matching Funding (which can include in-kind matching funding).
- Nonprofit Organization Questionnaire.** Nonprofit organizations only
- CEQA and Environmental Compliance Form.** In addition to submitting this completed form, applicants must upload proof of CEQA compliance, if relevant.
- Permit Approval Status Form.** In addition to form, upload proof of permit compliance.
- Governing Body Resolution or Certification Letter** Resolution template provided; see Certification Letter Requirements/Guidance on Prop 1 webpage if no Governing Body.
- Land Tenure/Property Data/Site Control Form** for acquisition/restoration projects only
- Willing Seller Letter template** or executed purchase option agreement; required only if relevant, i.e. for a project involving an easement or an acquisition
- Project Site Maps, Plans and/or Graphics.** Combined into a single PDF file, 10 MB maximum size if possible, but if needed upload JPG files separately from PDF files.
 - Regional Map Clearly identify the project's location in relation to prominent area features and significant natural and recreational resources, including trails, protected lands, MPAs, bodies of water, etc.
 - Site-scale Map Show the location of project elements in relation to natural and man-made features on-site or nearby. Any key features discussed in the project description should be shown.
 - Design Plan Construction projects should include one or more design drawings or graphics indicating the intended site improvements.
 - Site photos Include at least one or more clear photos of the project site.
- Letters of Support.** Optional; upload letters as PDF Attachment(s) in SOAR.
- Conservation Corps Consultation review form(s) from State and Local Corps.** Proposition 1 requires that grantees use state and local conservation corps services, if feasible, for restoration and ecosystem protection projects. Applicants proposing such projects must submit completed Corps Consultation Review forms with responses from both State (CCC) and Local Corps (CALCC). Use the form provided on [OPC's Prop 1 webpage](#). Completed form or forms would preferably be uploaded as a PDF in SOAR as a single Attachment.

All relevant Prop 1 documents, including forms required for the online grant application process, can be found online at the Prop 1 webpage: <http://www.opc.ca.gov/2015/prop1>

⁴ The starting page of the SOAR application requires the latitude and longitude of the project. This is easily obtained by opening Google Maps and right clicking on the project location.

OPC Prop 1 Round 3 schedule

OPC's schedule for this next grant round of Prop 1 (Round 3) funding is as follows:

Grant Proposal Solicitation Released	January 22, 2019
Grant Proposals Due	March 18, 2019
Proposal Review and Evaluation	April – July 2019
Select proposals invited to host Site Visits	May – June 2019
Staff recommend selected projects to OPC for approval	August 14, 2019 ⁵
Approved projects finalize workplans and grant agreements	Fall/Winter 2019

Proposition 1 grants must be approved at an Ocean Protection Council meeting. The specific meeting when a grant will be considered depends on project readiness and staff capacity.

CEQA must be complete before a project can be brought by staff to the OPC for consideration.

C. Pre-proposal consultation

Applicants may consult with OPC Proposition 1 Grant Program Manager during the project solicitation period prior to submitting their applications. Consultation will be available to any potential applicant but is not required. OPC staff will be available to discuss projects and proposal related questions, but they will not be able to review full proposals before they are submitted. To request a consultation, please contact: OPC_Prop1grants@resources.ca.gov.

II. Other Considerations

A. Minimum and maximum award amounts

Page 7 of the [Grant Guidelines](#) describes OPC's grant award minimum (\$250,000) for projects not seeking consideration under the Small Grants Category. This solicitation has an available amount of \$10 million in funding. For this Round 3 grant proposal solicitation, **the maximum award amount that will be considered is \$2 million.**

B. Small grants category

OPC continues to accept "Small Grants" Proposition 1 applications for projects with a lower minimum grant amount, i.e. a \$50,000 minimum and capped at \$250,000 for this special Small Grants category. See page 7 of the Grant Guidelines for details. Pre-proposal consultation with OPC staff is particularly encouraged from disadvantaged communities, and technical assistance for applicants is available via email or phone.

⁵ Or subsequent meeting – the next OPC meeting after the August meeting is scheduled for November 13, 2019.

C. Planning projects vs. implementation projects

OPC will consider funding planning projects that would lead directly to specific “shovel-ready” implementation projects. However, during this last grant round of Proposition 1 funding (Round 3), OPC will give special preference for implementation projects over planning projects.

D. Environmental documents and permits

OPC is required to comply with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). Applicants should consider whether their proposed project will trigger the need for an environmental impact report or negative declaration or whether a CEQA exemption applies. How CEQA applies and the status of CEQA compliance must be addressed in the grant application, and applicants must complete a CEQA and Environmental Review form (available on OPC’s Prop 1 webpage) and include it as an Attachment in their online application in the SOAR system. The applicant is responsible for receiving and fulfilling all permitting requirements. The applicant is solely responsible for project compliance. OPC cannot serve as CEQA lead. No project will be approved until necessary environmental permitting is complete, and OPC reserves the right to require modification in the design, to require additional mitigation, and to ultimately find the project inconsistent with the grant program, and therefore remove it from the list of potentially eligible proposals for funding.

E. Projects that benefit Disadvantaged Communities

Proposition 1 defines a DAC as “a community with an annual median household income that is less than 80% of the statewide annual median household income.”⁶ Review pages 7 (Section 2.6) and 11 (Scoring Criteria) of the Grant Guidelines for a detailed discussion of how OPC gives preference with up to 10 extra points to projects benefitting disadvantaged communities (“DACs”). The SOAR application requires detailed explanation of how to determine whether the project is located inside or very near a DAC. In addition to a detailed explanation of a project’s potential benefits to a DAC, projects claiming to provide such benefits must use the [Parks for California](#) viewer to create a screenshot of the project location in relation to a DAC, and then upload it as an Attachment in SOAR. Applications failing to fully and adequately describe potential benefits to DACs in detail and/or submit a viewer screenshot will not earn preference.

The current preferred online viewer to determine the location of disadvantaged communities can be found here: <http://www.parksforcalifornia.org/communities>

F. Rights to submitted materials

All information that you submit is subject to the unqualified and unconditional right of OPC to use, reproduce, publish, or display, free of charge. Please indicate if crediting is requested for any of the submitted photos and/or maps.

⁶ CA Water Code Section 79505.5

III. – OPC PROP 1 APPLICATION QUESTIONS IN SOAR

IMPORTANT: For each question that requests a text answer, note that each text box has a character limit for responses. The SOAR screen will show how many characters are allowed for each answer field. However, even for the more complex questions, there is a 4000-character (not word) limit for responses. For this reason, and to avoid losing your work, please prepare your responses in advance in a word processing program, then cut and paste responses into the relevant response boxes. In addition, SOAR cannot accept bullets or other formatting. **Applicants should hit SAVE regularly to save work on the application.**

SCREENING QUESTIONS

1. **Timeframe.** Can project be completed in the timeframe described in Section 2.3 of the OPC Prop 1 Grant Guidelines? If yes, please briefly describe the project timeframe. In general, projects must be ready to start work immediately and the work must be completed within a maximum of five years.

2. **Environmental Review.** Projects funded by OPC must be reviewed in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (“CEQA”). CEQA does not apply to projects that will not have either a direct or indirect effect on the environment. For all other projects, if the project is statutorily or categorically exempt under CEQA, no further review is necessary. If the project is not exempt, it must be evaluated by a public agency that is issuing a permit, providing funding, or approving the project, to determine whether the activities may have a significant effect on the environment. The evaluation will result in a Negative Declaration, Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND), or Environmental Impact Report (EIR). Please select whether the proposed project:
 - a. Is not a project under CEQA. Briefly specify why.
 - b. Is exempt under CEQA. Provide the CEQA exemption number and specify how the project meets the terms of the exemption.
 - c. Requires Neg Dec, MND, or EIR. Specify the lead CEQA agency (the agency preparing the document) and the expected completion date.

IMPORTANT: You must also download the CEQA & Environmental Compliance form from the OPC Prop 1 webpage, fill it out, and submit it as an attachment in SOAR. In addition, if CEQA document is required, upload proof of completion as Attachment.

- 3a. **Applicant Eligibility.** Is the applicant an eligible applicant type? Choose one below.

(a) Public agency	(e) Federally-recognized Indian Tribe
(b) Public university	(f) Indian tribe listed on the Native American Heritage Commission's California Tribal Consultation List
(c) Nonprofit organization	(g) Mutual water company
(d) Public utility	

Projects proposed by mutual water companies must have a clear and definite public purpose and must benefit the customers of the water system and not the investors. Additional eligibility requirements apply to any eligible grantee that is also an Urban water supplier or an Agricultural water supplier, as set forth in Proposition 1, Water Code Section 79712(b). See the Grant Guidelines, Section 2.2 for more details.

3b. If you chose a. Public agency above, please indicate if you are a:

(a) State agency	(e) City
(b) State department	(f) County
(c) Special district	(g) City and County
(d) Joint Powers Authority	(h) Other political subdivision of the state

- 4a. **Bond fund eligibility.** Does the project consist of work that is eligible for bond funds under State General Obligation Bond Law? See Government Code, Section 16727. In general, this means projects must entail the construction or acquisition of capital assets and/or activities that are incidentally but directly related to construction or acquisition, such as planning, design or engineering. Other examples of eligible projects are restoration and enhancement projects, or new or enhanced facilities. See the Grant Guidelines, Section 2.3 for more details.
- 4b. **Will the project deliver sustainable outcomes in the long-term?** Projects with bond funding are generally expected to have benefits for at least 15 to 30 years.
- 4c. **If you answered Yes above, please indicate the number of years that your project will provide benefits.** Do not use comma (.). Enter a number between 0 and 100.
5. **Does this project meet at least one of the purposes of Chapter 6 of Prop 1?** This language can be found in the Grant Guidelines in Appendix B. If yes, which purposes does this project fulfill? Explain.
- 6a. **Does the project address at least one of the OPC's 4 Priority Issue Areas for Prop 1 Funding?** If yes, explain. See Section 1.5 of the Grant Guidelines for Priority Issue Areas.
- 6b. **Multi-benefits.** Does the project provide multi-benefits consistent with Prop 1 and OPC's mission? If yes, please explain.
7. **Does the project fulfill a specific articulated mitigation required for a specific project?** Prop 1 funds cannot be used to fund mitigation that is already required for a project.
- 8a. **Is the project located in an area potentially vulnerable to flooding, inundation and/or erosion from sea-level rise, storms and shoreline change within the expected lifespan of the project?**

- 8b. **If Yes**, describe how the project incorporates guidance such as Executive Order B-30-15, SB 379, and the current versions of the [Safeguarding California Plan](#) and the state's [Sea-level Rise Guidance](#) document.
- 9a. **Is the project located in California state waters?** If yes, please describe exact offshore location and/or provide latitude and longitude (Please clarify if different from the latitude and longitude provided at the beginning of your SOAR application).
- 9b. **Is the project located in a county that abuts the California coast or San Francisco Bay, and/or provides direct and measurable environmental benefits to the Coastal Zone (CA PRC §30103)?** If yes, please provide exact location of the project, including latitude and longitude. This is easily obtained by opening Google Maps and right clicking on the correct location.

PROJECT QUESTIONS

10. **Project Description.** Provide a clear, detailed description of the project proposed for OPC funding. The project description should include the following sections:
- The need and purpose of the project. Describe the specific problems, threats, issues, questions or unserved needs the project would address, and how it will do so at the appropriate scale. Put another way, why is the project necessary?
 - Project goals and objectives. They should clearly define the project's expected outcomes and benefits. When feasible, the objectives should be measurable and quantifiable. Provide analysis and documentation to demonstrate the significance of the expected benefits and the likelihood that they will be realized.
 - How does the project address one or more of the Funding Priority Issue Areas identified in the OPC Grant Guidelines (Section 1.5)? Which parts of the California Water Action Plan will the project promote?
 - Description of relevant studies or other information documenting the problem(s), threat(s), or unknowns and describes the way the problem has been addressed locally and elsewhere; Description of the regional significance of the project
11. **Project History and Need for Funds.** Describe the following:
- The history of the project, including all phases completed to date, including funding sources. Is the project related to any previous or proposed OPC projects? If so, which ones and how are they related?
 - For planning projects or other projects where future phases are critical to project success, explain the strategy for funding and also implementing the future phase(s).
 - Need for OPC Prop 1 Funds – What would happen to the project if no funds were available from OPC? If the project is not implemented in the near term, what project opportunities or benefits could be lost and why?
12. **Site Description.** Describe the project's physical setting, including site characteristics that are tied to your project objectives.

13. **Work Products.** List the specific work products or other deliverables that the project will result in, ideally in relation to each Task in the Project Workplan. This information can be included in the Project Workplan/Task/Budget/Schedule Template that is available on the Prop 1 webpage: <http://www.opc.ca.gov/2015/05/prop1> and this document must be uploaded to SOAR as an Attachment.
14. **Measuring Success.** For projects involving restoration, enhancement, construction or land acquisition, describe the plan for monitoring, evaluating and reporting project effectiveness, and implementing adaptive management strategies as necessary. Who will be responsible for funding and implementing ongoing project management and monitoring?
15. **Scientific Background and Information.** Please add any relevant scientific information not covered in previous sections. Please describe how the project is based on the best available scientific information.
 - Planning, implementation, and scientific projects. Include a conceptual model that clearly explains the underlying basis of the knowledge that will support the proposed work. Present the conceptual models either graphically or as narrative. Reference pertinent scientific literature. Describe how the conceptual model informed the project design. The conceptual model must be revisited in the project's final report.
 - Acquisition projects. Explain the scientific rationale underlying the proposed acquisition (e.g., status/significance of resources to be conserved, contribution to wildland connectivity and corridors, juxtaposition and relationship to other conservation lands, etc.).
 - Other. Explain the relevant scientific background and data relevant to the project.
16. **Climate Change and Adaptation.** If relevant, describe how the proposed project will decrease the climate change vulnerability of ecosystems and/or species. Describe how the proposed project results in decreased exposure or sensitivity or increased adaptive capacity of ecosystems and/or species to climate change.
17. **Community collaboration.** Briefly describe if the project has public and institutional support at the local, regional, or larger scale and evidence of that support. For example, some project stakeholders have provided funds, partnerships, or in-kind contributions (such as administrative or technical services, labor, materials, equipment, etc.). Briefly describe efforts to include stakeholders in project planning, design, outreach, education, implementation, monitoring, maintenance, etc.
18. **Capacity and feasibility.** Describe how your proposed project approach is both feasible and appropriate for the proposed work. Describe the project team's capacity (e.g., staff resources, facilities, equipment) to perform the proposed tasks. If you are a Nonprofit applicant only, you are required to complete a Nonprofit Organization Pre-Award Questionnaire which is posted on the OPC Prop 1 webpage. Please demonstrate how the work you have outlined in your proposal can be completed within no more than three years given reasonably foreseeable constraints (e.g., weather conditions or permitting). Thoroughly address any contingencies or requirements such as dependence upon the

outcome or timing of other projects or programs, upon natural, financial, or operational conditions, and upon environmental compliance or permitting processes.

19. **Data Management and Access.** Describe how data and other information generated by the project will be handled, stored, and shared, i.e., disseminated to the public, participants, stakeholders, and the State.
20. **References.** Include a list of references for all documents cited within this application, including: scientific reports; project reports; restoration, management or recovery plans; books, or other supporting information.
21. **Green and nature-based infrastructure.** As described in the Grant Guidelines, OPC prioritizes projects that use green infrastructure, natural systems, or systems that mimic natural systems. If relevant, please explain how your project uses such design elements and approaches.
22. **Innovation.** How does your project employ new, innovative, or proven technologies or practices to improve the way the state manages ocean and coastal resources? Explain how the proposed technologies and practices are innovative in comparison to similar projects and the current practices and technologies.
23. **Disadvantaged Communities.** Does the proposed project benefit Disadvantaged Communities (“DACs”)? If so, how? Review Section II.E of this Solicitation carefully as well as page 7 (Section 2.6) and page 11 (Scoring Criteria) of the Grant Guidelines.
Viewer screenshot. To determine whether a project is located within or near a disadvantaged community, please use the Community Factfinder 2018 viewer available at <http://www.parksforcalifornia.org/communities>. If you determine that your project is either inside or would benefit a disadvantaged community, please upload a .JPG or PDF screenshot of the proposed project area inside this viewer as an Attachment in SOAR. This screenshot is required if you wish to score points for benefit to DACs.
Detailed explanation in SOAR. In addition to the Attachment screenshot, describe here with specificity the proposed project’s geographical proximity to the relevant disadvantaged community or communities. Please indicate if the project is located in or near a disadvantaged community - whether or not the project is in a disadvantaged community, it may provide benefits to one. If the project benefits a disadvantaged community, please explain how.
24. **Matching Funding.** Does the project leverage private, federal or local funding sources? Choose the percentage that applies and ensure that amounts and percentages are consistent with the combined workplan and budget that you submit as an Attachment. Describe the status of all matching funding (e.g. requested, confirmed, or unconfirmed) and discuss project matching funding sources as consistent with the Workplan budget.
 - 0% - 24% matching
 - 25% - 50% matching
 - 51% - 99% matching
 - 100% matching

APPENDIX A – SOAR RESOURCES

SOAR Login Page

<http://soar.resources.ca.gov>

SOAR User Manual

http://resources.ca.gov/grants/wp-content/uploads/2017/01/SOAR_UserManual.pdf

SOAR FAQs

<http://resources.ca.gov/grants/wp-content/uploads/2017/01/SOARFAQs.pdf>

SOAR Help Desk

Applicants needing assistance with SOAR may contact the SOAR Help Desk, which is staffed Monday - Friday (9:00 AM - 4:00 PM Pacific Time).

Direct your questions to: 916-653-6138 or SOAR.ADMINS@resources.ca.gov and if you are experiencing problems with SOAR, please be ready to provide the following information:

- Name of the funding program you are applying to;
- A short description of the problem, including where in the application the problem is occurring;
- Proposal Identification Number (PIN) assigned to the application; and
- A screen shot of the error received, if applicable

APPENDIX B – OPC Proposition 1 Priority Issue Areas

This chart is taken from Page 4 of the OPC Proposition 1 Grant Guidelines.

These are the OPC’s current priority areas for grant support using Proposition 1 funding.

Issue Areas	Priority Issue Area
Marine Managed Areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ MMAs: Projects that protect marine managed areas (MMAs)³ - including the MPA Network - and help them to meet statutory goals⁴. ➤ ASBSs: Projects that protect Areas of Special Biological Significance⁵ (ASBSs) and help them to meet their statutory goals.
Coastal and Ocean Water Quality Impacts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Reduce pollution and contaminants, including nutrients, toxics, and contaminants of emerging concern from sources including stormwater, non-point source discharges, agricultural runoff, etc. Project is higher priority if discharges have historically and measurably impacted designated MMAs and/or ASBSs. ➤ Prevent land-based litter from reaching the ocean and becoming marine debris. ➤ Remove marine debris, including but not limited to derelict vessels and fishing gear, abandoned aquaculture materials, disused creosote pilings, and illegal artificial reefs, where liable owners or responsible parties cannot be identified. ➤ Remove microplastics and microfibers from sources including, but not limited to, wastewater effluent, agricultural runoff, and stormwater. ➤ Improve ability to detect and respond to Harmful Algal Blooms (HABs), including ability to assess conditions that may lead to toxin production or blooms of toxin-producing algae⁶: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Improve understanding of offshore bloom dynamics and bloom timelines; ○ Advance predictive modeling tools and better link models and model outputs to monitoring and management; ○ Improve scientific understanding of the ecophysiology of marine HAB species (i.e., the study of the interrelationship between the normal physical function of HAB species and their environment), and improving understanding of how bio-toxins move through food webs; and ○ Advancing research on the relationship between HABs and human health.
Fisheries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Fisheries infrastructure that protects or enhances marine and estuarine ecosystems. ➤ Restore habitat for marine, estuarine, and diadromous (anadromous and catadromous) fish.
Climate Change	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Sea-level Rise: Promote risk reduction and resiliency of the built and natural environment in the face of sea-level rise, including innovative design elements and approaches such as living shorelines and nature-based infrastructure. ➤ Sea-level Rise and Toxics: Support projects that address needs of communities at risk of exposure to toxic or hazardous sites due to sea-level rise and flooding. ➤ Ocean Acidification and Hypoxia: Reduce impacts of these stressors to marine and estuarine ecosystems, natural resources and fisheries.

APPENDIX C – OPC Proposition 1 and Scoring Criteria

This chart is taken from Page 11 of the OPC Proposition 1 Grant Guidelines.

3.6 Evaluation Criteria and Scoring for Proposals

SCORING CRITERIA FOR PROPOSALS	
The extent to which the project proposal:	Points
Includes complete, reasonable and well thought out proposal elements, including proposed scope of work (3 points), budget (3 points), and schedule (3 points).	9
Applicant demonstrates capacity to execute project, including <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Applicant has experience successfully implementing similar projects or demonstrates appropriate and necessary partnerships to complete the project. When applicable, the applicant shows that it can hire or contract with experienced scientific staff in an area of specialty that would improve the potential success of the underlying proposal. (4 points) Applicant has existing infrastructure or administrative capacity to develop, manage and implement the project successfully. (2 points) 	6
Applicant clearly articulates how the project promotes and implements the goals and actions of the California Water Action Plan ¹⁵ (CWAP)	10
Provides multiple benefits in OPC Key Priority Areas described in Section 1.5. OPC seeks projects that remove or reduce multiple stressors from the ocean and near coastal environment. Proposals receive 5 points for the project’s direct relevance to each of the four OPC Priority Issues (Marine Managed Areas; Coastal and Ocean Water Quality Impacts; Fisheries; and Climate Change)	20
Utilizes green infrastructure (2 points), natural systems (2 points), or systems that mimic natural systems (2 points).	6
Employs new, innovative, or proven technologies or practices to improve the manner in which the state manages ocean and coastal resources. Applicant demonstrates how the proposed technologies and practices are innovative in comparison to similar projects and the current practices and technologies.	5
Is consistent with best available science. Applicant demonstrates how relevant science used is up to date and appropriate for projects for the specific topic, as well as the feasibility of proposed work. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contains technical/scientific merit (5 points) Determining project effectiveness is very feasible (5 points) Project has a high likelihood to fulfill its stated goals and objectives (5 points) 	15
Has a clear and reasonable method for measuring and reporting project effectiveness. (Section 4.5)	10
Has both local community support and greater than local interest. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project has local community support, as demonstrated by the submittal of correspondence demonstrating local support of the project (2 points) Project also has support from outside of the project area, as demonstrated by the submittal of correspondence from outside the project area. Prefer projects that demonstrate solutions that could be implemented regionally and/or statewide (2 points) 	4
Project benefits disadvantaged communities as described in Section 2.6	10
Project leverages private, federal or local funding sources: projects with at least 25% matching funds (1 point); more than 50% matching funds (2 points); or 100% matching funds (5 points). ¹⁶	5
Total possible points	100