

California Ocean Protection Council
Proposition 68 Grant Program: Frequently Asked Questions

Updated June 7, 2022



**OCEAN
PROTECTION
COUNCIL**

Category	Question	Answers
Eligibility	Are 100% design projects (no construction component) eligible for funding in this round?	Yes, while we cannot fund any planning portions of projects for this round, design that leads to construction is 100% eligible for funding.
	Is CEQA analysis eligible?	Prop 68 does not allow for the funding of any permitting assessments, including CEQA. Please see our Solicitation under "Environmental Documents and Permitting" for potential alternatives for CEQA analysis.
	For Implementation projects, does the project need to demonstrate CEQA compliance? If so, when does CEQA compliance need to be submitted?	For construction projects (proposals that are ONLY seeking funding for restoration, implementation/construction), the CEQA determination must be complete before the OPC considers the project for funding. OPC staff plans to bring projects from this round before the Council in December 2022. All permits must be in-hand before implementation can start on the project. OPC staff will ask for the status of permits as part of the full proposal. For project proposals seeking funding for research, design, or engineering, CEQA and permitting does not need to be completed by the December 2022 council meeting.
	Are non-US entities eligible for funding?	Non-US entities are not eligible to be primary applicants for Prop 68 Funding.
	Do projects need to be on the coastline/in the coastal zone or can they be located along bayfronts? Are upland riverine/delta resiliency projects also eligible?	Prop 68 projects must benefit the coast or SF Bay areas. The map (linked below) provides guidance on the areas of focus within the SF Bay/Delta region, and will be used to prioritize projects located within this region. https://www.opc.ca.gov/webmaster/_media_library/2022/06/Prop-68_Delta-Region-Map.jpg
Funding	What is the funding timeline for projects selected from this round?	We expect to bring these projects to our December 2022 Council Meeting, with grant agreement write-up and execution occurring in Quarter 1 of 2023. Once an agreement is executed, the project can begin. Projects are expected to be completed by March 2026.
	Is a match in funds required for projects?	The only match requirement is for a project that includes beneficial sediment reuse. Please see the next question for further information on this requirement.
	How does the 50:50 match requirement for beneficial sediment reuse projects work? Does the match apply to the total budget, or just the sediment component?	The match must apply to the sediment reuse task specifically, not just another portion of the project. An example: If OPC is granting \$500K, the applicant must match that exact total amount of \$500K through other funding sources. It is a 100% price match of Prop 68 funds granted, but 50% of the entire project's cost.
	For an otherwise qualifying project, if OPC cannot fund the full project, are they able to award partial grants? (assuming the total project costs are cobbled together with other grants or matching funds).	Yes, we provide a table within the LOI Form that you can provide information on other funding sources in order to get the full scope of the project.
	Can a project include elements of both Research and Implementation?	Yes, projects do not need to be exclusive to one category.
	If we have a project which touches on multiple project priorities, do we need to pick a primary target or can we select multiple boxes in the LOI?	A project may include multiple project priorities, and you may select multiple boxes on the LOI.

Project Priorities	Does there need to be an implementation component for the research-based priority areas?	No, a project does not have to have an Implementation component to be funded. The first three research-based priorities can be stand-alone projects.
	Why is nourishment excluded?	While we understand shorter-term strategies might be part of the equation when part of a longer-term resiliency plan, projects using Prop 68 funds must provide long-term benefits to the state, on the scale of 15-30 years.
	We have an upcoming project with another agency that is funded through Prop 68 that is relevant to our proposal here. To what extent is it appropriate to build on that project?	Building on another project is perfectly appropriate for funding for this round, as long as it focuses on at least one of the four priority areas for this solicitation.
	Do research projects need to look only at SLR, or are modeling efforts looking at several climate change impacts (such as SLR+ water quality+ sediment transport) eligible?	While coastal resilience to sea-level rise is the overarching theme of this solicitation, these topics are related and align with our specific priority areas.
	Can you provide any more background on the updated CARI mapping project mentioned in the "Coastal Habitat Mapping" priority area?	For background on phase 1 of the CARI update, please see our Staff Rec here: https://opc.ca.gov/webmaster/ftp/pdf/agenda_items/20200619/Item5_Wetlands_Inventory_FINAL.pdf For a list of data sources used in the recent CARI update, please refer to the bullet point "The inventory will be used to update CARI..." at: https://www.sfei.org/projects/coastal-inventory For phase 2 of the CARI update, including use of remote sensing technology, please see our Staff Rec here: https://www.opc.ca.gov/webmaster/ftp/pdf/agenda_items/20220614/Item_4c_Coastal_Habitats_Inventory_FINAL.pdf
Community Engagement	Can a project involve several sites along a coastline?	Yes. For many of our priority areas, we encourage projects at a regional or even statewide scale. Please refer to the solicitation Priority Areas for more detail on each of these project scale preferences.
	Are projects benefitting/serving only severely disadvantaged (SDAC) communities prioritized? Not disadvantaged (DAC)?	OPC prioritizes projects that serves both types of communities. While we are required to use a certain percentage of funds each round to projects serving SDAC, there is also a portion of the rubric that scores projects that serve DAC and SDAC higher than projects that do not.
	How should we approach community engagement for projects that span greater than a regional scale?	Community engagement will look different depending on the project. Examples include meetings with local groups, surveys, interviews, workshops or focused groups with community members. Please see our LOI under "Community Engagement and Partnerships and Collaboration" for more resources and ideas.
	Do you encourage/prioritize collaboration between application organizations?	Yes, collaboration is welcome!
Miscellaneous	Where are the informational webinar's slides and recording posted?	All updates for this round of funding, including the webinar's slides and recording are posted at: https://www.opc.ca.gov/prop-68-funding/
	Will this opportunity be available again next year?	It's anticipated that this will be the last round of funding for our Prop 68 Chapter 10 grant program. However, OPC's strategic plan priorities continue to focus on coastal resilience. We recommend interested stakeholders subscribe to OPC's email listserve to be updated whenever OPC announces new grant opportunities: