

Evaluation Criteria for Partnership Grants

The Albemarle-Pamlico National Estuary Partnership (APNEP) has developed a process for evaluating partnership grants that list APNEP as a partner on local, federal, state, and nonprofit grant applications. Proposals will be screened to determine whether they met the following requirements:

- Project must be located within or impact the areas within watershed boundary of the Albemarle-Pamlico system; and
- Projects must assist in implementing at least one of the priority action areas stated in the [APNEP Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan \(CCMP\)](#).

Grant applications determined to meet the initial screening requirements will then be assessed based on the scoring criteria below:

Strength of Proposal	20
Inclusion of APNEP Priority Areas	20
Environmental Improvement	15
APNEP Consultation	15
Partner Inclusion within Proposal	10
Project Type	10
<u>Budget and Funding Commitments</u>	<u>10</u>
Total	100

Strength of Proposal (20)

Points will be determined based on the extent to which the proposal includes the following elements.

- Geographic location of the proposed project and boundaries
 - Scope – entire region or local effort
- Aligned with one or more current 2012-2022 CCMP Actions
- Explicitly state the project’s management and policy implications
- Includes project goal, including intended audience, outcome(s), and expected improvement within the APNEP region
 - Potential for successful outcome

Inclusion of APNEP Priority Areas (20)

Points will be determined based on how many APNEP Priority Areas are addressed by the proposal (1 = 5 points, 2 = 10 points, 3 = 15 points, 4+ = 20 points).

- SAV
- Water Quality improvement or protection
- Coastal Ecological Flows
- Oyster Habitat restoration
- Living Shorelines
- Local government and communities



Environmental Improvement (15)

Points will be determined based on the extent to which the proposal includes the following elements.

- Restoring environmental conditions (i.e., wetland restoration)
- Enhancing environmental conditions (i.e., stormwater BMPs)
- Documenting environmental change and/or project monitoring

APNEP Consultation (15)

Points will be assigned based on the extent to which APNEP has been engaged during the proposal planning process. Examples include:

- APNEP consulted about proposed project
 - Included in the planning process
 - Requested to be a partner on the project
 - Resources asked of APNEP Staff

Partner Inclusion in Proposal (10)

Points will be assigned for meeting each of the below criteria:

- Both VA and NC are included within the project partnership (5 points)
- State, Local, and nonprofit partnerships are included (2.5 points)
- Underrepresented minority stakeholders are included (2.5 points)

Project Type (10)

For each project focus addressed the proposal will receive 5 points, up to a maximum of 10 points.

- Restoration
 - Targeting impaired waterbodies
 - Addressing oyster habitat or living shoreline restoration
 - Targeting flooding mitigation
 - SAV restoration
- Protection
 - Sensitive species protection
 - Targeting high quality resource water or outstanding resource water
- Environmental Justice
 - Focusing on underserved populations or areas
- Resilience and climate issues addressed
- Watershed planning efforts
 - Involves creation of a watershed-based plan
 - Includes education and outreach

Budget and Funding Commitments (10)

The proposal will receive points based on the extent to which it addresses the requirements below.

- Matching funds required and secured
- APNEP funds requested
 - Including APNEP staff resource needs
- Leverage of funds to be awarded and matched
 - Number of partners and mutual benefit of partners

Albemarle - Pamlico

National Estuary Partnership



- Funds to be applied to project
 - Salary vs implementation vs outreach