

Q&A Updated 12/20/17

Final Questions due by December 22, 2017.

Final Answers will be posted no later than Dec 27, 2017.

Hatchery Improvements: DEC01-PSHEG-2017

Hatchery Engineering Analysis: DEC01-EASHG-2017

- 1. The Town of Brookhaven operates a shellfish grow-out facility that last year grew over 2.5 million clams and oysters. Do we qualify for this grant? We do not spawn shellfish we purchase small seed and grow them out to a plantable size.**

Response: Yes. The Town of Brookhaven has a valid shellfish hatchery permit issued for 2017 at the Cedar Beach Town Facility. The Town is eligible to apply for a public hatchery improvement grant (maximum award of \$400,000) for this facility.

- 2. Do we need a Town Board resolution to confirm the understanding that 15% of the increased production will be provided to the shellfish restoration sites? Does the seed go to NYSDEC or another organization? I heard the Governor's presentation that indicated that the shellfish sanctuaries will be for the purpose of improving the water quality and will not be sold on the commercial market.**

Response: A Town Board resolution is not required for submission of an application for the Public Shellfish Hatchery Improvement Grant. The Work Plan submitted as part of your completed application provides sufficient confirmation of the town's agreement to provide the appropriate expanded shellfish seed production yield in 2019 – 2024 for planting in one or more sanctuaries in Nassau and Suffolk Counties. The expanded shellfish seed production will be planted in the sanctuary sites as determined by DEC and the involved project partners. The specific details of the dissemination of the seed have not been determined at this time.

- 3. In reference to the RFA, page 6 STEP 2 IV d, during 2020-2024 are entities expected to continue producing 100% as a result of expansion and give 15% to the State or just produce 15% as a result of the expansion and pass that on to the State?**

Response: As stated in the RFA, in 2019 you are required to provide 100% of the shellfish expansion production to one or more of the sanctuary sites. For the next five years after the expansion (2020-2024), the contract recipient would be required to provide at least 15% of their annual expansion production each year. This shellfish

production amount may vary based on your annual production in each year. However, it does assume that you are operating at your maximum production yield as a result of the expansion.

4. How will seed be disseminated to the sanctuary areas? Should we budget for that packing and travel time?

Response: You can include estimated expenditures for travel costs associated with packing and delivery of the seed to one or more of the sanctuary sites. The details on dissemination of shellfish seed to the sanctuary sites have not been determined to date but will be discussed with the project partners once all the awards are finalized.

5. On the application, #9, do you want a narrative of the hatchery facility ONLY or also nursery and field facilities that will be part of the project? If yes to the latter is it possible to increase the character limit, I cannot get all that information in 1,000.

Response: You can include a brief narrative of the nursery and field facilities if they will be a key part of the hatchery improvement project. The grants gateway has a limited character setting. Try to be as concise as possible.

6. Is it possible to extend the period of the total project? As it is, we have only one full growing season in the time period, if it could be extended to the end of 2020 we could have 2 complete growing seasons for the project.

Response: One of the requirements for this funding is that your project timeline shows completion by March 31, 2020. If you cannot finish your project on time, then you fail and will be disqualified from further review.

7. How do we show a match in the expenditure budget?

Response: Match should be shown the same way other budget expenditures are shown. A written description at the least should be entered to describe match and percentage.

8. Could you please clarify the time frame in which all construction must be completed?

Response: As stated in the application Guidelines and Instructions under section 3 (Proposed Project Timeframe) under Grant Opportunity General Information Conditions, all activity must fall between April 1, 2018 and March 31, 2020.

- 9. Is March 31 2020 the date in which all construction must be completed and all expansion work be operational by? This looks like a two-year construction window.**

Response: Yes. As stated in (3.) under 'Grant Opportunity General Information and Conditions', "All projects must have defined objectives, tasks, and deliverables accounted for in performance measures that can be completed and invoiced within a two-year contract period/term" which is April 1, 2018 to March 31, 2020.

- 10. Under Section IV d (project specific requirements) and also on the Grants Gateway application, question 19 states " in 2019 100% of the yield associated with the hatchery expansion will be supplied to the shellfish sanctuaries." The latter implies a one year window allowed for completion of construction and start of operations. Could you please clarify?**

Response: Hatchery/nursery construction/expansion work and associated expenditures can occur throughout the two-year term of the contract (April 1, 2018 to March 31, 2020), however, the expectation is that enough work would be completed in 2018 to allow for some level of increase in 2019 hatchery/nursery shellfish production. 100% of that additional 2019 production capacity realized as a result of the grant funds awarded and construction/expansion work completed up to that point would be directed to one or more of the shellfish sanctuaries established in 2018.

- 11. During the length of the project, Is there any kind of commitment from larger shellfish hatcheries such as Cornell or East Hampton to provide the seed required to fill any additional nurseries we may propose to construct?**

Response: No. Any contracts or agreements made between the municipality you represent and any other commercial or public shellfish hatchery to purchase a given quantity of shellfish seed for stocking additional nursery infrastructure constructed using funds awarded through this Hatchery Improvement grant are beyond the scope of this grant opportunity.

- 12. Regarding question #22, there is no text box, how should this question be answered? There is no question #23, mis-numbered or is there a question missing?**

Response: For question #22, you can upload a document to describe your location if you are an EJ Eligible location. There is a drop down for you to select No or NA if you are not in an EJ location. Question #24 is mis-numbered. It should be numbered as Question #23.

- 13. I am unable to enter data in the "total match funds" window in either the "Personal" or "Equipment" sections of the application. Please advise as to how to enter match funds.**

Response: Upload a document in Program Question #24.

- 14. What exactly are considered objectives that require a list of tasks and performance measures? Aside from the obvious, such as producing clams and oysters, do all of the purchases, construction projects, etc. require objectives, tasks and performance measures?**

Response: This would relate to No. 3, bottom of page 7 regarding the “Work Plan”. Yes, broadly the overall objective is to expand shellfish production, but there may be several project-specific objectives that help to get you to that goal, for instance increasing algal production, or installing enough conicals and outdoor upwellers to increase production to some target level. So, using algal production as an example, what tasks will get you to that objective of increasing algal production? There may be building renovation to accommodate increased algal production, purchase of algal production equipment, etc. Your performance measure in this case would be “realization of the increase in algal production to accommodate the expanded shellfish production”. I’d recommend grouping your individual purchases into several projects that have their own goals and performance measures that will help realize the overall goal of increased shellfish production when taken altogether. There should be a Work Plan “worksheet” available in Grants Gateway to help you organize the project objectives, tasks and performance measures, though you do not submit it.

- 15. Within the Hatchery Engineering Analysis application – Program Specific Questions section, there is both a text box and opportunity to upload a document for all questions which require a narrative response. What is the appropriate way to submit our response? Within the text box (limited to the character limit indicated)? Or narrative in a document to be uploaded?**

Response: If your complete response can be accommodated by the character-limited text box, then there’s no need to upload a separate document with the same information. If it won’t fit into the text box, then you can upload the document with a reference to what part of the application it is in response to.

- 16. I notice that per the Q & A document uploaded to grants gateway there is a deadline to submit questions by 12/22/17. This is a week later than the date listed on the RFP. Has there also been a change to the deadline for application submission?**

Response: The deadline to submit questions was extended by one week from 12/15/17 to 12/22/17. **The deadline for application submission has not been extended** and remains at 2:00 p.m. ET, 12/29/17.