



**Instructions for requesting a Letter of Acknowledgement
from The San Francisco Estuary Partnership
for submission to
**Restore America's Estuaries
2023 NEP Watersheds Grant Program RFP****

The National Estuary Program (NEP) was established in 1987 by Congress to restore and protect estuaries of national significance. To date, 28 estuaries have been designated of national significance and are part of the NEP. Under the Clean Water Act, each NEP develops a comprehensive plan to advance the health and resilience of their Estuary, known as Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plans (CCMP). NEP's leverage funding and resources and work with myriad partners to advance the actions in their CCMPs.

The [NEP Watersheds Grant Program](#) is a nationally competitive grants program administered by Restore America's Estuaries to support projects that address urgent, emerging, and challenging issues within the 28 NEP location boundary areas. Projects must occur in their entirety within one or more of the 28 NEP areas. Proposed projects must demonstrate how they relate to and carry out the priority actions in one of the 28 NEP Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan's (CCMPs). In addition, all proposed projects must include a letter of acknowledgement from the NEP within the identified geographic boundary.

The San Francisco Estuary Partnership (SFEP) (sfestuary.org) was established in 1988 as the NEP for the San Francisco Estuary, which includes the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta, Suisun Bay, San Pablo Bay, and San Francisco Bay. SFEP builds partnerships and leverage federal funding with millions of dollars in state and local funds for regional-scale restoration, water quality improvement, and resilience-building projects. The Partnership's work is guided by the development and implementation our CCMP, or "Estuary Blueprint," a comprehensive, collective vision for the Estuary's future. The 2022 Estuary Blueprint is available at: <https://www.sfestuary.org/estuary-blueprint/>.

To help us make informed acknowledgement of your application, please provide the following to SFEP Director, **Caitlin Sweeney** (caitlin.sweeney@sfestuary.org) by **January 18, 2024**. We will respond with a letter of acknowledgement by January 25, 2023 which you can include with your submitted letter of intent (LOI).

1. Applicant Information

- a. Organization
- b. Contact name, title
- c. Contact email address

2. Project Description

- a. Title
- b. Location
- c. Objective

3. How Project Implements the Estuary Blueprint

- a. Indicate how the proposed project will advance the Estuary Blueprint - be as specific as possible including referencing Estuary Blueprint goals, objectives and/or priority actions.

Please note that a letter of acknowledgement is not a recommendation from SFEP.

Thank you for your interest in working with us toward improving the health of our Estuary.