



SNEP Watershed Implementation Grants

Request for Reviewers

Please Respond by March 30, 2023

SWIG Seeks Reviewers to Advise Funding Awards

[SNEP Watershed Implementation Grants \(SWIG\)](#) is seeking to add members to its Application Review Committee (ARC). This year, the ARC will guide the award of \$3 million in grants to restore clean water, healthy ecosystems and sustainable communities throughout Southeast New England. New ARC members will join current committee members in reading SWIG applications and participating in two on-line review meetings. Participation in the ARC is a great way to stay up-to-date with ecological restoration work going on throughout Southeast New England, while making a significant contribution to improving our regional environment and the quality of life in our communities.

SNEP Watershed Implementation Grants (SWIG)

Southeast New England Program (SNEP) Watershed Implementation Grants (SWIG) is an annual competitive grants program funded by the [U.S. Environmental Protection Agency \(EPA\), Region 1](#), and managed by [Restore America's Estuaries \(RAE\)](#). The purpose of SWIG is to implement the vision and goals of EPA's [SNEP Strategic Plan](#):

- A resilient ecosystem of safe and healthy coastal waters;
- Thriving watersheds and natural lands; and
- Sustainable communities.

Since 2018, SWIG has provided more than \$12 million in funding for nearly 60 grass-roots projects and partnerships working on river and wetland restoration, green streets and urban stormwater management, environmental justice and job training, coastal resilience and flood mitigation, innovative technologies, watershed planning, environmental conferences, and more. In February, SWIG released its [2023 Request for Proposals \(RFP\)](#), seeking new project funding requests up to \$500,000. SWIG utilizes a two-step application process: a brief on-line Letter of Intent (LOI) that's open to any eligible organization, followed by a limited number of invited Full Proposals from which SWIG selects its awards. Each fall, we announce the year's awards at public events in Rhode Island and Massachusetts, bringing together grant recipients, stakeholders, elected officials and ARC members to celebrate the work of SWIG grantees in improving Southeast New England's environment.

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Application Review Committee (ARC)

The SWIG Application Review Committee (ARC) is essential to SWIG's grantmaking process. New ARC members will be joining the 15 or so individuals already serving on this interdisciplinary, independent committee. The ARC reviews LOIs, selects those which will be considered as Full Proposals, and then reviews the Full Proposals to advise RAE and EPA on award decisions. In addition to reading the applications, ARC members are asked to participate in two decision meetings each year, which are held virtually and typically require about three hours each. ARC members are also encouraged to attend one or both of the annual grant award announcement events.

To date, SWIG has generally received 50-75 LOIs each year, from which the ARC has selected 15-25 for consideration as full proposals. As LOIs are very brief, it has been manageable for all reviewers to read all applications. In the event that we receive significantly more applications, we will split them among reviewers in order to reduce the time commitment for each member. RAE greatly values ARC members' time contributions and makes every effort to streamline the review process, for the ARC as well as for applicants. RAE facilitates the ARC, which has achieved full consensus on SWIG funding decisions each year since its inception in 2018.

Conflict of Interest Policy

ARC members recuse themselves from decision-making on individual SWIG applications with the potential to financially benefit their own organization or personal interests. Recusal does not prevent members from reviewing other applications.

Qualifications & Selection

RAE is seeking to add new ARC members who can bring extra insight and expertise to the reviews. This may include knowledge of a particular geographical area or cultural group within the region; expertise in the science, policy, or practice of ecological restoration, or in a particular area of restoration; experience in community organizing and environmental justice; representation of an institutional sector or stakeholder interest; etc. In addition, candidates should have a general knowledge of Southeast New England and a commitment to environmental action in the region. While most ARC members are environmental professionals, this is not a requirement to participate. Responses to this request will be reviewed, and new members selected, by the current ARC.

For More Information or to Apply

Interested individuals are encouraged to review the [SWIG webpage](#), which provides an overview of SWIG, program impact reports, and links to past funded projects as well as to the current (SWIG23) RFP. You can also [contact Tom Ardito](#), SWIG Director, to discuss this role.

To apply to join the committee, just send an email to Tom, providing your interest in participating in SWIG and briefly describing your background and experience. Please respond by March 30, 2023, and thanks for your interest!

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