

# Coastal Monitoring

## Request for Proposals

### Project Overview

Building and maintaining a robust coastal monitoring network is crucial for enhancing coastal resilience. Coastal communities face increasingly heightened risks from flooding, erosion, and habitat degradation. By deploying and integrating a network of observational assets—such as water level stations, nearshore buoys, and web cameras—real-time data can be acquired to improve our understanding of various coastal processes. This information is vital for forecasting storm impacts and understanding trends in coastal change, as well as informing critical decision-making related to infrastructure planning, recreational safety, emergency management, and environmental protection. Ultimately, a proactive and comprehensive monitoring system provides the foundational knowledge necessary to develop effective adaptation strategies, ensuring the safety and sustainability of our coastal communities and ecosystems. To that end, GLOS is beginning to focus efforts around these needs by soliciting proposals to support the expansion of coastal hazard monitoring.

GLOS will oversee the execution of the successful projects, with data being shared through Seagull for service delivery to benefit the broader community. GLOS will explore opportunities to share future maintenance and operations costs of deployed assets with participant communities, and consider including future support for sites in subsequent IOOS core funding requests.

A coastal change monitoring network of learning will be established with meetings held virtually to maintain relationships, share updates, and inform pan-regional efforts. GLOS will host a coastal monitoring in-person meeting at the end of the second year.

### Project Goals

- Identification of coastal hazards monitoring and/or informational data products needs with community partners
- Provide observations to support Great Lakes coastal hazard monitoring needs
- Support monitoring equipment procurement and installation or information product adaptation and/or training
- Monitor and communicate the combined impact of water levels and waves on coasts to inform and engage coastal property owners, managers, and communities.
- Foster dialogue between various communities being impacted by coastal hazards to strengthen collective community knowledge and be able to communicate these impacts to relevant decision makers (e.g. state and local coastal management agencies).

### Topics of Interest

GLOS is soliciting proposals that address one or more of the following areas of interest:

- Increase the spatial and/or temporal coverage of observing assets for coastal hazards, such as water levels and waves
- Improve product development and dissemination to better inform and engage coastal property owners, managers, and communities

For proposals aimed at establishing new monitoring capabilities (e.g. nearshore buoys, water level stations), community ownership and/or cost-sharing should be described in narrative. Lower cost or easy to maintain monitoring equipment is preferable. Proposals with a water level monitoring focus should clearly describe how existing geodetic infrastructure will be leveraged and/or new infrastructure (e.g. benchmarks) will be established to support future use.

### **Eligibility and Additional Considerations**

GLOS can support funding of governmental agencies, non-profit organizations, academic institutions, and for-profit organizations based in the United States. Applicants must certify that the project proposed is not receiving, nor has received, funding from any other source for the same scope of work.

Proposals can be submitted by one or more applicants, but at least one of the applicants must be a permanent employee of the organization that will receive the award.

Successful applicants will:

- Collaborate with GLOS team members to ensure adequate data transfer to GLOS of any outcomes, data, tools, and/or other pertinent information produced with the support of the award,
- Allow access throughout the project to pertinent information and data, and
- Disclose in writing equipment purchases of more than \$10,000.

GLOS will consider projects up to two years in length.

Cost-sharing and/or in-kind contributions are highly encouraged but not required. GLOS reserves the right to request additional information from applicants prior to making an award. GLOS reserves the right to negotiate the budget of successful projects. Proposals should not exceed \$75,000 and should adhere to U.S. Government Cost Principles outlined in [2 CFR Part 200](#).

### **Proposal Evaluation Criteria**

Proposals will be reviewed by GLOS staff based on the following review criteria:

- Feasibility, clarity, and scientific soundness of the proposed plan, including long-term sustainability of projects where applicable.
- Meeting strategic objectives in improving coastal monitoring capacity in the region.
- Project teams' engagement of adequate organizations, stakeholders, and resources to accomplish the proposed outcomes.
- Budget appropriateness and cost efficiency.

## Proposal Format

Proposals must include the following sections, and they should adhere to the page limits indicated below for each section. Use a 12-point font, and 1" margins throughout.

### Project Statement of Work and Budget document (Maximum 6 pages total)

- Project Description
  - Summary (<200 words; it will be included on the GLOS website)
  - Project Background, Purpose, and Objectives
  - Project Approach, Methods, Deliverables, and Outcomes
  - Timeframe
- Personnel
  - Include a brief description of the role of each applicant
  - In multi-organizational proposal include an explanation of the nature of the collaboration
- Budget ([budget template](#); will automatically download)
- Budget justification
  - Justify clearly and in detail applicants' requests for salaries, fees, travel, and any equipment procurement.
  - Explain any cost-sharing, and detail any in-kind contributions.

### Supporting materials

- Personnel CV(s)
  - Include up to two-page CV(s) for each applicant
- Letter(s) of support
  - Required only if applicant(s) proposes to make use of facilities, personnel, or other resources external to their organizations.

## Proposal Submission

Proposal submittal should be sent electronically as a single PDF attachment to [proposals@glos.org](mailto:proposals@glos.org). Proposals are due on November 21, 2025 at 5 pm ET.

## Reporting Requirements

Successful applicants will be required to submit progress reports at six months intervals after the start of the project, and a final report at the end of the project. Selected award recipients will also be asked to present their findings in one or more GLOS-led webinar(s), as well as at a workshop to be held at the conclusion of the project.

## Contact Information

Great Lakes Observing System  
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