

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS

OPEN SOLICITATION

Environmental Modeling and Modeling-Related Services

July 1, 2026

SAN FRANCISCO ESTUARY INSTITUTE / AQUATIC SCIENCE CENTER



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1 RFQ – OPEN SOLICITATION SUMMARY

1.1 INTRODUCTION

The Aquatic Science Center, a joint powers authority, and San Francisco Estuary Institute, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization (SFEI/ASC), seek to retain the services of one or more qualified vendors to provide modeling and modeling-related monitoring services (Vendors). The Request for Qualifications (RFQ) process will be aimed at generating a list of pre-qualified Vendors to support SFEI/ASC projects.

SFEI/ASC seeks to develop a list of pre-qualified Vendors with proven expertise and extensive experience collecting modeling-relevant data, and developing, applying, and interpreting environmental models to support watershed, estuarine, hydrodynamic, water quality, sediment transport, contaminant fate and transport, habitat, ecological, and related environmental management studies. Vendors may provide expertise in one or more modeling disciplines and modeling platforms.

Inclusion in the Pre-Qualified Vendor List (PQL) does not constitute a contractual agreement. Services will be procured from Vendors included on the PQL, after a competitive qualification and cost evaluation for the project-specific services needed, through project-specific contracts ("Agreements"). An additional evaluation will be conducted each time new modeling services are added, via addenda, to the RFQ. For each addendum, Vendors will be invited to submit their prices/capabilities for the new services. All procurements will be conducted in a manner compliant with 2 CFR 200 and 40 CFR Part 33.

The anticipated total amount and duration of Agreements are as follows:

Estimated Agreement Values: \$5,000 - \$750,000

Because services will be required on an "as needed" basis, this RFQ is structured on a unit cost, task-order basis following execution of Agreement(s). We anticipate that multiple project-specific Agreements will be issued.

Agreement Duration: a few months to three (3) years

The term "Vendor" shall refer to any legal entity(ies) submitting qualifications in response to this RFQ.

1.2 RFQ SCHEDULE

The following dates for issuance of the RFQ, receipt and evaluation of qualifications, as well as award of an Agreement, are tentative, non-binding, and subject to change without prior notice:

Advertisement of RFQ	July 1, 2026
Pre-Submittal Conference	July 15, 2026
Deadline for Vendors to Submit Questions	July 23, 2026
Deadline for Vendors to Submit Qualifications for Initial Qualification Review*	July 31, 2026
Posting of Initial Pre-Qualified Vendor List	August 21, 2026
Updating of Pre-Qualified Vendor List	On an as-needed basis, when SFEI/ASC seeks to establish future contracts for modeling services

*This RFQ is structured as an open solicitation. Following the initial RFQ timeline shown above, Vendors will be permitted to submit their Statements of Qualifications (SOQs) on an ongoing basis. As needs arise, when SFEI/ASC requires modeling services, the Vendors who have submitted SOQs will be evaluated. Additionally, prior to future rounds of evaluation, this RFQ may be amended to add additional modeling services not currently listed in Appendix C in order to meet future programmatic or project needs. When this occurs, all Vendors will be notified and invited to submit supplemental SOQs for the additional services with a minimum of 30 days to respond.

1.3 PRE-SUBMITTAL CONFERENCE

Pre-submittal conference information

Time: 1:30-2:30pm PDT

Date: July 15, 2026

Location: virtual, contact Beth Birmingham (bethb@sfei.org) for meeting login information

SFEI/ASC encourages attendance at the pre-submittal conference. SFEI/ASC will address questions regarding the RFQ at this conference and may provide new information at that time. While SFEI/ASC staff may provide oral clarifications, explanations, or responses to any inquiries, SFEI/ASC will not be bound by any oral representation. If SFEI/ASC provides any new and/or substantive information in response to questions raised at the pre-submittal conference, SFEI/ASC will memorialize it in a written addendum to this RFQ.

1.4 REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION AND ADDENDA/CHANGE NOTICES

All requests for information concerning the RFQ, whether submitted before or after the pre-submittal conference, must be in writing and submitted to Beth Birmingham via email (bethb@sfei.org) by July 23, 2026.

SFEI/ASC will provide any interpretation of, or make any change in, the RFQ by addendum, which will become part of the RFQ and may be part of any Agreement that SFEI/ASC awards. SFEI/ASC will make reasonable efforts to post any modifications to the RFQ in a timely manner on the SFEI/ASC RFQ webpage at <https://www.sfei.org/about/rfps>.

If any new and/or substantive information is provided in response to questions raised at the pre-submittal conference, it will be memorialized in a written addendum to this RFQ and posted on the SFEI/ASC website at: <https://www.sfei.org/about/rfps>.

This RFQ will only be governed by information provided through written addenda. With the exception of Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) or contracting inquiries, no questions or requests for interpretation will be accepted after July 23, 2026.

Vendors that have requests for information concerning the RFQ after the initial review deadline may contact Beth Birmingham at bethb@sfei.org and will receive a response as soon as is practicable. Full SOQs may not be reviewed until additional needs necessitate a new evaluation process for a new scope of work (SOW), as outlined in Section 1.2.

1.5 DIVERSITY IN CONTRACTING

EPA regulations at [40 CFR Part 33, "Participation by Disadvantaged Business Enterprises in U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Programs"](#) set forth requirements to ensure nondiscrimination in the award of contracts under EPA financial assistance agreements. These requirements apply to subrecipients in accordance with [40 CFR 33.102](#) and the definition of "Recipient" in [40 CFR 33.103](#). Pursuant to a class exception issued on March 17, 2025, the EPA is suspending negotiations of fair share objectives with recipients under 40 CFR Part 33, Subpart D; recipient reporting requirements under 40 CFR 33.502; and the compliance and enforcement provisions under 40 CFR 33.105. EPA is also waiving the requirement to collect the final EPA Form 5700-52A, MBE/WBE Utilization Under Federal Grants and Cooperative Agreements as part of the closeout procedures of an EPA award. The class exception was authorized pursuant to the authority in [2 CFR, Section 1500.4\(b\)](#). For additional details see the Recipient/Applicant Information Notice [RAIN-2025- G02](#).

1.6 LIMITATIONS ON COMMUNICATIONS

From the date this RFQ is issued until completion of the competitive process of this RFQ, either by cancellation or by final action of SFEI/ASC, Vendors and/or their representatives or other interested parties may communicate with SFEI/ASC about matters related to this RFQ only as instructed in this RFQ.

Any attempt to communicate with or solicit any SFEI/ASC staff member or representative, except as instructed by this RFQ, is prohibited. Failure to comply with this communications protocol may, at the sole discretion of SFEI/ASC, result in the disqualification of the Vendor from the competitive process. This protocol does not apply to communications with SFEI/ASC regarding business not related to this RFQ.

2 BACKGROUND

The San Francisco Estuary Institute (SFEI) is an environmental research institute and a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. The Aquatic Science Center (ASC) is a joint powers authority staffed entirely by SFEI/ASC employees that was formed to provide scientific support to agencies and organizations working on water quality protection, policy development, and assessment. Since the early 1990s SFEI/ASC has developed programs and focus areas that represent a holistic approach to advancing the health of the San Francisco Bay Estuary.

We are a growing organization that currently employs more than 90 interdisciplinary staff representing numerous scientific and technological fields, including environmental chemistry, fluvial and estuarine modeling, ecology, wildlife biology, landscape planning, historical ecology, geomorphology, geospatial analysis, web development, and science communications. Our independent, objective science informs far-reaching state and federal policies and helps prioritize billion-dollar infrastructure and nature-based investments.

The focus of this RFQ is to support our research modeling water pollutants and ecosystem responses, for which we have recently received several multi-million dollar grants. The respondents to this RFQ will support scientific studies associated with the Regional Monitoring Program for Water Quality in San Francisco Bay (RMP), the San Francisco Bay Nutrient Management Strategy (NMS), and broader Bay management efforts. This RFQ solicits expertise to transform complex monitoring data into actionable insights for water quality managers, regulators, and stakeholders.

Modeling is integral to our mission, providing the predictive capability needed to evaluate ecosystem responses to land use changes, proposed infrastructure investments, and other management actions. We seek partners with demonstrated modeling experience to address high-priority management questions—ranging from the fate of PCBs and mercury in the Bay to nutrient management and nature-based restoration scenarios. A detailed list of desired modeling services is provided in Appendix C.

SFEI/ASC may use monies from various sources to fund the scope of services included in this RFQ. Fund sources could include federal, state, local, private, and non-profit support. The terms of this RFQ are written to expressly comply with requirements of grant agreements with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

3 SCOPE OF SERVICES

3.1 DESCRIPTION OF SERVICES

The primary role of the Vendor will be to perform the following tasks, including but not limited to:

- **Task 1:** Model Selection and Work Plan
- **Task 2:** Data Collection (Including new Field Studies and Compiling Existing Information) and Assessment
- **Task 3:** Model Development and Setup
- **Task 4:** Calibration and Validation
- **Task 5:** Scenario Analysis
- **Task 6:** Results Interpretation and Reporting
- **Task 7:** Documentation and Deliverables
- **Task 8:** Quality Assurance / Quality Control (QA/QC)
- **Task 9:** Coordination and Meetings

Vendors may utilize any widely accepted and technically appropriate modeling platforms, provided the selected approach is justified and consistent with industry standards and seamless compatibility and data interoperability with the existing modeling frameworks detailed in Appendix C.

Selected Vendors will work under the direction of the SFEI/ASC Project Manager (PM), who will be identified during the contracting process.

3.2 CONTRACT TERM AND SCHEDULE

Because services will be required on an "as needed" basis, this RFQ is structured on a unit cost, task-order basis following execution of contract(s). We anticipate that multiple Agreements will be issued, with durations ranging from a few months to three (3) years. SFEI/ASC may amend or extend the contract beyond the initial specified period to accommodate the terms and conditions of the funding source within a three (3)-year period provided a market survey conducted by SFEI/ASC indicates that the prices the contractor proposes are reasonable.

SFEI/ASC expects timely completion of modeling tasks and deliverables. Project-specific schedules will be established during contract negotiations and may include milestones for work plan development, field data submittal, model development, calibration, validation, scenario evaluation, technical review, and reporting. Vendors should identify any anticipated scheduling

constraints, data dependencies, computational requirements, or other factors that may affect project timelines.

3.3 DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF TASKS

The following is a detailed description of the tasks that may be required to complete the assignment. Successful candidates will be able to complete one or more tasks identified in this section. The ability to perform all types of modeling services identified in this RFQ (Appendix C) is not required. In your SOQ, clearly state which services from Exhibit C your team is capable of performing.

Task 1. Model Selection and Work Plan

- Evaluate project objectives and available data
- Recommend appropriate modeling approach and platform (open-source or widely used models are preferable to ensure model fidelity, transparency, and reuse)
- Prepare a modeling work plan, including assumptions, methodology, and schedule

Task 2. Data Collection and Assessment

- Compile and review available data
- Assess data quality, completeness, and limitations
- Identify data gaps, state any data limitations that will impact model calibration and validation, and describe their potential impacts on model uncertainty and recommend strategies to address them
- Conduct field studies to generate empirical data to support model development, such as gathering flow, water quality, and sediment quality and properties

Task 3. Model Development and Setup

- Develop model structure consistent with project objectives
- Prepare input datasets and parameters
- Document all assumptions, limitations, and data sources to ensure full transparency and facilitate future model reuse

Task 4. Calibration and Validation

- Calibrate models using observed or available data
- Validate model performance using independent datasets where available across different temporal and spatial ranges
- Report model performance using appropriate figures, tables, and statistical metrics (e.g., NSE, RMSE, or similar)
- Document calibration approach and results and discrepancies

Task 5. Scenario Analysis

- Develop and evaluate scenarios as defined in the contract
- Implement and compare results across scenarios
- Clearly describe assumptions and limitations associated with each scenario

Task 6. Results Interpretation and Reporting

- Summarize and interpret data from field studies
- Summarize model outputs in a clear and technically defensible manner
- Prepare figures, tables, and visualizations as appropriate
- Identify key findings, uncertainties, and limitations

Task 7. Documentation and Deliverables

For each contract, the Contractor shall provide complete, fully transferable, and fully reproducible deliverables, which may include:

- Model files in native format
- Input datasets and configuration files
- Metadata and documentation sufficient for independent use
- Documentation of field study implementation and datasets generated
- Technical reports
- Summary presentations

All model deliverables shall include sufficient documentation, scripts, workflows, assumptions, configuration files, and metadata to allow independent reproduction of model results such that the model can be independently understood, operated, and modified by SFEI/ASC or another qualified party.

It must be ensured that the model is fully reusable and transparent such that all potential deliverables are reproducible and transferable to SFEI/ASC.

All reports must be submitted in a timely fashion. Anticipated delays should be reported to the SFEI/ASC PM before the original reporting deadline, and a revised timeline set.

Task 8. Quality Assurance / Quality Control (QA/QC)

- Implement internal QA/QC procedures for all tasks, adhering to procedures outlined in project-specific quality assurance project plan (QAPP) documentation provided.
- Document QA/QC steps and findings
- Address errors or inconsistencies identified during review

Task 9. Coordination and Meetings

- Participate in project meetings (virtual or in-person, as required)
- Coordinate with SFEI/ASC staff and stakeholders
- Provide periodic progress updates

3.4 SFEI/ASC STAFF RESPONSIBILITIES

The work to be performed and responsibilities to be assumed by SFEI/ASC staff are as follows:

- Upon initiating contract negotiations, SFEI/ASC will provide the scope of work, which will include a list of the planned modeling services and their requirements
- Once reports or other work products are reviewed and deemed complete, SFEI/ASC will review invoices and authorize payments in accordance with the project-specific contract.
- SFEI/ASC will consult with the Vendor on any project procedures and progress (e.g., modeling design and analysis), especially at any required decision points
- Identify management questions the modeling needs to address
- Select priority locations for site-specific modeling
- Provide monitoring data for model calibration and validation
- Oversee the development of the model
- Contribute to components of the modeling work, and/or contribute to analysis/interpretation of results, where needed
- Coordinate internal and external review of draft and final reports

4 MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

The minimum qualifications set forth below are required for a Vendor to be eligible to submit qualifications in response to the RFQ. SOQs must clearly demonstrate compliance with the specified minimum qualifications. SFEI/ASC may reject SOQs that do not clearly meet the minimum qualifications without further consideration. SFEI/ASC reserves the right to request clarification from Vendors that fail to meet any minimum qualification requirements prior to rejecting a SOQ for failure to demonstrate compliance.

4.1 VENDOR QUALIFICATIONS

To qualify for award of the Agreement, the Vendor must demonstrate relevant expertise to successfully perform their role and responsibilities in the scope of services described in this RFQ.

Vendors must possess at a minimum the following qualifications:

- Vendor and Principal Investigator(s) with a strong technical background in estuarine, oceanic, watershed, hydrodynamic, biogeochemical modeling and/or modeling-related field studies;
- Proven ability to conform to the Quality Assurance and Quality Control requirements listed in Appendix F;
- Vendor capacity and ability to provide results in a timely manner;
- Demonstrated experience in environmental modeling applicable to complex oceanic and estuarine systems and watersheds such as San Francisco Bay; and

- Ability to perform customized technical services to meet project-specific needs at SFEI/ASC's request, such as development of study scenarios, numerical model development and implementation, and technical support for environmental modeling projects.

4.2 SUBCONSULTANTS

Any submittal involving a Prime Consultant-Subconsultant relationship or a Joint Venture Partnership will only be considered if it is fully transparent as to which vendor will actually perform the work requested for each specific modeling service in Appendix C. Further, submittals must demonstrate that the specific vendor to perform the service is qualified for that specific service.

All Subconsultants must be approved by the SFEI/ASC Project Manager.

5 STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATION RESPONSE FORMAT

5.1 STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATION SUBMISSION

All SOQs must be submitted online via the Link to Submit Statement of Qualifications for Environmental Modeling Services at <https://www.sfei.org/about/rfps>. For SOQs submitted on or before the July 31, 2026 deadline, confirmation of receipt will be provided via email within two (2) business days.

For technical or procedural questions regarding the online submittal, please contact Beth Birmingham, Project Manager, at bethb@sfei.org.

5.2 STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS AND FORMAT

Detailed SOQ requirements are listed below. The SOQ must include the following:

- ☐ Commitments
- ☐ SOQ Contact and Team Members
- ☐ DBE Statement
- ☐ General Vendor Qualifications and Work Approach
- ☐ Example Projects and Client References
- ☐ Proposed Services (see Appendix C for reference)
- ☐ Pricing

Details on these elements are described in the subsequent subsections.

If the SOQ proposes services to be performed by vendors, each vendor must provide all information below for the specific services that it proposes to perform.

5.2.1 COMMITMENTS

Vendors must agree to the following commitments listed below:

- Vendor has the qualifications, appropriate licensing, if applicable, and experience to perform and complete the work described in this RFQ;
- Vendor's authorized representative certifies that all information submitted to SFEI/ASC is accurate and complete;
- Vendor's authorized representative has read and agrees to comply fully with the terms and conditions of the Sample SFEI/ASC Vendor Agreement Agreement (Appendix A) and EPA Terms and Requirements (Appendix B) (any requested exceptions must be listed in the Vendor's SOQ); and
- Vendor agrees to comply fully with all applicable laws.

5.2.2 SOQ CONTACT AND TEAM MEMBERS

Identify the Vendor's Point of Contact for the SOQ, and if different, Identify the contact for business matters for projects conducted for SFEI/ASC.

Identify and provide a resume or Curriculum Vitae (CV) for the Principal Investigator(s) for each modeling service identified in your SOQ. The Principal Investigator's resume or CV should clearly demonstrate experience, expertise, and capacity to ensure that the Vendor can successfully complete the scope of work for the proposed modeling services.

5.2.3 DBE STATEMENT

Vendors must provide a statement as to whether, according to the USEPA, your entity is considered a Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE). USEPA DBE program requirements are linked and described at

<https://www.epa.gov/grants/frequently-asked-questions-disadvantaged-business-enterprises>

5.2.4 GENERAL VENDOR QUALIFICATIONS AND WORK APPROACH

Each Vendor must provide its company's qualifications, commitment, strength, and technical capabilities to fulfill all services proposed and associated requirements to successfully accomplish the work. This description must clearly demonstrate that the Vendor meets all the minimum qualification requirements outlined in Section 4 of the RFQ.

- Provide evidence of relevant professional qualifications, certifications, software expertise, publications, project experience, or other credentials demonstrating technical competence for the proposed modeling and modeling-related services.

- Summarize the Vendor's approach for coordinating/managing all modeling and modeling-related activities to meet required timelines and provide reproducible and precise results of the highest quality. Specifically, describe the firm's capacity to handle multiple concurrent task orders, the typical 'bench depth' (number of qualified staff) available for backstopping key roles like the Principal Investigator, and the internal protocols used to monitor project milestones and prevent schedule slippage.
- Specify the location where modeling services will be performed.
- Specify any exceptions requested from the Sample SFEI/ASC Vendor Agreement (Appendix A), EPA Terms and Requirements (Appendix B), and Tracking Bay Health QAPP (Appendix F).
- Provide the following:
 - A list of all other Doing Business As (DBAs) used by company officers for the last three years.
 - A list of affiliations with other environmental consulting or modeling firms that may present a possible conflict of interest. Vendors must disclose any current or anticipated financial interests that could create an actual or perceived conflict regarding study outcomes, management recommendations, or project decisions supported by the modeling work.

5.2.5 EXAMPLE PROJECTS AND CLIENT REFERENCES

Vendor must provide a description of at least three similar projects previously managed by the Vendor and the proposed Principal Investigator within the last two years, which must be of the type specified in this RFQ and include the Vendor's proposed modeling and modeling-related disciplines, applications, and modeling platforms. The example projects must demonstrate relevant experience using models or applications to achieve results within QA/QC practices similar to those required by SFEI/ASC.

The descriptions shall include:

- Dates when the project was performed
- Vendor performance and how any challenges were addressed
- Vendor's performance on delivering the results on schedule, and an explanation of the circumstances behind any shifts in milestones
- Principal Investigator

Example scientific publications, technical reports, and model datasets and results from prior work (redacted if needed) may be used to fulfill this. The provided datasets should include clear metadata and documentation to demonstrate transparency and reproducibility. If the vendor has not previously generated standard, accessible data formats (e.g., NetCDF, CSVs), output or transformation of previous results into such formats can be used to demonstrate capability.

Additional information that may be helpful from clients willing to be listed as references:

- Client name, organization, and contact information

- Project name (if redaction is necessary, please provide a generic name)
- General project scope

Timeliness of model development, execution, and reporting will be considered, as will the ability to provide model files and datasets promptly in well-documented, accessible formats. Additional considerations include the ability to meet project deadlines and milestones, computational accuracy and efficiency, and evidence of customized or modified modeling procedures to address complex environmental scenarios.

5.2.6 PROPOSED SERVICES

Please identify the services for which you seek pre-qualification, referencing the category numbers and names in Appendix C. SFEI/ASC encourages innovative and technically sound approaches to modeling. For each service, please:

- 1) Provide examples of field studies involving collection of empirical data in support of development of fate models in receiving water bodies like San Francisco Bay.
- 2) Provide a list of modeling platforms to be used.
- 3) Describe the proposed modeling approach and rationale.
- 4) Identify any assumptions or limitations associated with the proposed approach.
- 5) Describe experience with these approaches (i.e., how many years has the Vendor performed this type of analysis? Approximately many models has it developed?).
- 6) Provide an example of technical reports, model outputs, and datasets from a prior project demonstrating the Vendor's capacity to successfully execute the proposed modeling study and meet the required QA/QC standards. Examples may be redacted to omit client-specific information, if needed.
- 7) Describe procedures used to ensure model reproducibility, transparency, version control, documentation, and long-term maintainability.

5.2.7 PRICING

Price will be evaluated as part of each project-specific contract award. SFEI/ASC intends to award contract(s) to the vendors that best meet SFEI/ASC's needs for individual projects and offer the best overall value considering quality and total cost to SFEI/ASC. SFEI/ASC reserves the right to contract with vendors other than the lowest priced offer. The pricing and costs should be fully transparent to ensure that there are no unexpected costs in future.

Please provide a fee schedule that includes the following:

- Fully loaded hourly staff rates;
- Any additional costs required to complete the modeling service(s). These must be specified in the fee schedule or they will not be allowable in contracting. These may include special fees for computational resources (e.g., HPC/Cloud computing), data acquisition costs, software licensing costs, subconsultant costs; and
- Standard turnaround times for work included in the Vendor's suite of services.

The Vendor should supply prices good through December 31, 2026. Vendors may submit revised price quotes annually to incorporate a mutually agreeable adjustment for inflation or conditions.

It is within sole discretion of SFEI/ASC to reject any SOQ that does not provide all fees or otherwise does not comply with the above fee schedule requirements.

6 EVALUATION AND SELECTION CRITERIA

This section describes the process for analyzing and evaluating SOQs.

6.1 INITIAL REVIEW - QUALIFICATIONS

SFEI/ASC staff will first perform an initial review process concerning responsiveness and qualifications. Vendors that pass the initial review process will be placed on SFEI/ASC's PQL of modeling vendors. Qualifications review will involve a scientific examination of the qualifications information provided, potentially contacting references, and documentation of Vendor's prior experience to determine its qualification to provide the types of modeling services proposed by the Vendor.

SFEI/ASC will not score SOQs during the initial review. This review will provide a pass/fail determination as to whether:

- (1) The SOQ is complete (i.e., includes all elements in Section 5). SFEI/ASC will deem non-responsive any incomplete SOQ.
- (2) The SOQ includes the commitments in Section 5.2.1.
- (3) The Vendor meets the threshold qualification requirements described above in Section 4.1.
- (4) The Vendor has demonstrated experience performing the selected modeling services listed in Appendix C.
- (5) Any exceptions the Vendor has requested from the Sample SFEI/ASC Vendor Agreement (Appendix A), EPA Terms and Requirements (Appendix B), Tracking Bay Health QAPP (Appendix F) are acceptable to SFEI.

Vendors that fail to meet these requirements will not be placed on SFEI/ASC's PQL.

SFEI/ASC reserves the right to request clarification from Vendors prior to rejecting a SOQ for failure to meet the initial review requirements. SFEI/ASC will limit clarifications to exchanges between SFEI/ASC and Vendors for the purpose of clarifying certain aspects of the SOQ, and will not provide a Vendor the opportunity to revise or modify its SOQ.

Vendors that pass the initial review will be placed on SFEI/ASC's PQL for the specific modeling services for which they meet the minimum qualification requirements.

There is no set minimum or maximum number of desired Vendors to be included on the PQL.

6.2 PROJECT-SPECIFIC EVALUATION AND COST ANALYSIS

Vendor selections for project-specific contracts shall be informed by project-specific requirements, quality, schedule, and cost. Cost evaluation will include the vendor's pricing considering all fees as well as other costs borne by SFEI/ASC in association with each Vendor (e.g., staff time). Vendors on the PQL for the specific modeling services needed for the project will be included in this step.

An initial legal screen will be conducted to ensure that all Vendors evaluated in this step are eligible to participate in the project based on their integrity records, and compliance with public policies and laws (e.g., for EPA-funded projects, the Vendor must not be debarred or suspended or otherwise excluded from or ineligible for participation in Federal assistance programs).

Quality

- SFEI/ASC's modeling leads / PIs will review information in the SOQ considering project-specific data quality needs, including model documentation, calibration procedures, validation results, uncertainty characterization, reproducibility, and QA/QC practices.
- Extent of the Vendor's and Principal Investigator's experience with and successfully addressing any challenges with the project-specific modeling and modeling-related services.

Experience

- Principal investigator expertise with regard to the modeling and modeling-related services.
- Prior project performance (whether successful or unsuccessful), which may include performance on prior and ongoing projects for clients listed by the Vendor as references.
- Experience providing model outputs, metadata, technical documentation, and datasets in formats suitable for regulatory, scientific, and public data repositories.
- Demonstrated proficiency with widely accepted and transparent modeling platforms and tools.
- For projects involving novel or emerging modeling approaches, preference may be given to Vendors demonstrating:
 - Experience adapting or extending existing modeling frameworks to address unique project objectives.
 - Ability to incorporate new datasets, methodologies, or scenario analyses.
 - Experience conducting uncertainty analyses and sensitivity assessments.
 - Willingness to collaborate with SFEI/ASC staff in developing customized modeling solutions.

- Evidence of peer-reviewed publications, technical reports, or other products demonstrating leadership in the applicable modeling discipline.

Vendor Capacity and Timeliness

- Overall timeliness of model development, execution, and reporting.
- Ability to complete project related tasks on the necessary schedule.
- Standard turnaround times for work included in the Vendor's suite of services.
- Ability to provide model files and datasets promptly in well-documented, accessible formats.

Cost

- Hourly staff rates.
- Additional costs required to complete the modeling service(s).

6.2.1 PROJECT-SPECIFIC EVALUATION RUBRIC

The Selection Panel will be comprised of individuals who are knowledgeable on the subject matter, and may include staff from SFEI/ASC, and other agencies or organizations. The evaluation process will consist of the below criteria with the following allocation of points:

EVALUATION CRITERIA	RFQ SECTION(S)	POINTS
Quality	6.2	30
Experience	6.2	30
Capacity and Timeliness	6.2	15
Cost	6.2	25
TOTAL POINTS		100

The maximum total score for the evaluation process will be one hundred (100) points.

For each project where SFEI/ASC seeks modeling services, SFEI/ASC will tabulate scores and then rank Vendors. SFEI/ASC will identify the Vendor with the highest total score as the highest-ranked Vendor for that project, and lower-scored Vendors will be ranked in descending order.

6.2.2 OPEN SOLICITATION OPPORTUNITIES

After the first round of evaluations and ranking, the RFQ will stay open to additional Vendors' SOQs. When needs arise, any additional SOQs that have been received after the initial

deadline stated in [Section 1.2](#) will be reviewed, added to the PQL as applicable and ranked during future project-specific evaluations.

Vendors may also update and resubmit their SOQs at will (e.g., after additional clients agree to serve as references, new modeling projects are completed, or modifications in modeling methods impact performance). A Vendor's most recently submitted SOQ will be considered in the awarding of contracts for new projects that are developed under the RFQ's terms and requirements.

7 AWARD OF AN AGREEMENT

7.1 AGREEMENT PREPARATION

After review and selection by the SFEI/ASC Selection Panel, the selected Vendor will be notified and the SFEI/ASC Director of Contracts and Finance or their designee will prepare an agreement for review and execution. SFEI/ASC, at its discretion, may discontinue efforts to execute the agreement and may initiate an agreement with a different Vendor due to failure to respond in a timely manner.

7.2 STANDARD AGREEMENT LANGUAGE

By submitting a SOQ, Vendors acknowledge that they have read, understand, and agree, if selected, to enter into an agreement with SFEI/ASC as set forth in Appendix A and Appendix B. Any requested exceptions to the Standard Agreement Language must be listed in the Vendor's SOQ. Final contractual language may vary depending on funding source.

7.3 AGREEMENT ADMINISTRATION

SFEI/ASC may choose to enter into a long-term contract for a period of up to three (3) years that includes options for periodic renewals for services identified in this RFQ, or other modeling services needs that may arise from additional projects undertaken by SFEI/ASC.

SFEI/ASC will not be liable for payment of any work performed by the Vendor prior to the start date of the agreement.

8 TERMS AND CONDITIONS

8.1 ERRORS AND OMISSIONS IN RFQ

Vendors are responsible for reviewing all portions of this RFQ, including all appendices. Vendors are to promptly notify SFEI/ASC, in writing, upon discovery of any ambiguity,

discrepancy, omission, or other error in the RFQ. Modifications and clarifications will be made by addenda as specified in Section 8.2 of this RFQ. SFEI/ASC is not obligated to issue addenda in response to any request submitted after July 23, 2026.

8.2 INTERPRETATION AND ADDENDA/CHANGE NOTICES

Any interpretation of, or change in, the RFQ will be made by addendum and shall become a part of the RFQ and of any Agreement awarded. Change Notices in the form of Addenda will be posted on the SFEI/ASC website at: <https://www.sfei.org/about/rfps>.

SFEI/ASC will make reasonable efforts to post in a timely manner any modifications to the RFQ on the SFEI/ASC website. Notwithstanding this provision, the Vendor shall be responsible for ensuring that its SOQ reflects any and all addenda posted by SFEI/ASC prior to the SOQ due date regardless of when the SOQ is submitted. Therefore, SFEI/ASC recommends that the Vendor check the SFEI/ASC website before submitting its SOQ to determine if the Vendor has read all addenda. SFEI/ASC will not be responsible for any other explanation or interpretation.

8.3 TERM OF STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATION

By submitting a SOQ for consideration, the Vendor agrees that: 1) the proposed services and prices constitute an offer that is irrevocable; and 2) the quoted prices are genuine and not the result of collusion or any other anti-competitive activity.

8.4 REVISION OF STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATION

Notwithstanding the foregoing, a Vendor may withdraw or revise a SOQ on the Vendor's own initiative at any time. A Vendor may withdraw its SOQ prior to the SOQ due date by emailing Beth Birmingham at bethb@sfei.org. Once withdrawn, a Vendor may submit a revised SOQ in the same manner as the original SOQ.

In no case will a statement of intent to submit a revised SOQ or the commencement of a revision process extend the SOQ due date.

At any time during the SOQ evaluation process, SFEI/ASC may require a Vendor to provide oral or written clarification of its SOQ. SFEI/ASC reserves the right to make an award without receiving or accepting any clarifications of SOQs received.

8.5 ERRORS AND OMISSIONS IN STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATION

Failure by SFEI/ASC to object to an error, omission or deviation in the SOQ will in no way modify the RFQ or excuse the Vendor from full compliance with the specifications of the RFQ or any Agreement awarded pursuant to the RFQ.

8.6 FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

SFEI/ASC accepts no financial responsibility for any costs incurred by a Vendor in responding to this RFQ, participating in oral presentations, or negotiating an Agreement with SFEI/ASC. The SOQs in response to this RFQ will become property of SFEI/ASC and may be used by SFEI/ASC in any way it deems appropriate, but will not be published on the Internet.

8.7 RESERVATIONS AND RIGHTS BY SFEI/ASC

The issuance of this RFQ does not constitute an agreement by SFEI/ASC that any contract will actually be entered into by SFEI/ASC. SFEI/ASC expressly reserves the right at any time to:

1. Waive or correct any defect or informality in any response, statement, or statement procedure;
2. Reject any or all SOQs;
3. Reissue an RFQ;
4. Prior to submission deadline for SOQs, modify all or any portion of the selection procedures, including deadlines for accepting responses, the specifications or requirements for any materials, equipment, or services to be provided under this RFQ, or the requirements for contents or format of the SOQs;
5. Procure any materials, equipment, or services specified in this RFQ by any other means; or
6. Determine that no project will be pursued.

8.8 NO WAIVER

No waiver by SFEI/ASC of any provision of this RFQ shall be implied from any failure by SFEI/ASC to recognize or take action on account of any failure by a Vendor to observe any provision of this RFQ.

9 PROTEST PROCEDURES

9.1 PROTEST PROCEDURES

Failure of a Vendor to comply with the protest procedures set forth in this Section may render a protest inadequate and non-responsive, and may result in rejection of the protest. After distribution of the PQL:

1. A Vendor submitting an SOQ may protest their exclusion from the PQL based on allegations of improprieties occurring during the initial SOQ review or award period if it meets all of the following conditions:

- a. The protesting Vendor has timely submitted an SOQ that is responsive to the RFQ, and the Vendor is responsible and otherwise eligible for qualification;
 - b. The protesting Vendor has an objective, good faith basis for believing that SFEI/ASC has incorrectly disqualified their SOQ or qualified other vendor(s) submitting an SOQ based on one or more of the following grounds: (a) SFEI/ASC failed to perform an initial review of SOQs in accordance with this RFQ, (b) there is no rational basis for concluding that the protesting Vendor's SOQ is not eligible to be qualified under the RFQ, and (c) qualified Vendor(s) are not responsible or otherwise ineligible for qualification; and
 - c. The protesting Vendor has an objective, good faith basis for believing that, but for SFEI/ASC's errors, there is a reasonable chance that the protesting Vendor would have been selected for qualification alongside any other proposers that submitted SOQs qualified by SFEI/ASC.
2. Protests must be received no later than five (5) business days after the PQL is either sent by email to the protesting Vendor's designated single point of contact or posted on SFEI/ASC's website, whichever is earlier.

9.2 FORM OF PROTEST

A vendor who is qualified to protest must submit the protest to the attention of the point of contact at the Protest Submittal Address listed below.

1. The protest must be in writing, signed by a duly authorized officer of the protesting party, and sent by email or certified, or registered mail, or overnight delivery service (with proof of delivery), or delivered personally to the address noted above. If the protest is hand delivered, a receipt must be requested.
2. The protest shall include the name, address, telephone and facsimile numbers, and email address of the party protesting or their representative.
3. The title of the RFQ under which the protest is submitted shall be included.
4. A detailed description of the specific legal and factual grounds of protest and any supporting documentation shall be included.
5. The specific ruling or relief requested must be stated.

Protest Submittal Address:

Beth Birmingham
4911 Central Avenue
Richmond, CA 94804
bethb@sfei.org

9.3 PROTEST DETERMINATIONS

Upon receipt of a timely and proper protest, SFEI/ASC will investigate the protest and will provide a written response to the Vendor within a reasonable time. If SFEI/ASC requires additional time to review the protest and is not able to provide a response within ten (10) business days, SFEI/ASC will notify the Vendor. SFEI/ASC, at its sole discretion, may elect to withhold a contract award until the protest is resolved or denied or proceed with the award and implementation of the agreement.

SFEI/ASC, at its discretion, may make a decision regarding the protest without requesting further information or documents from the protestor. Therefore, the initial protest submittal must include all grounds for the protest and all evidence available at the time the protest is submitted. If the protestor later raises new grounds or evidence that was not included in the initial protest but which could have been raised at that time, SFEI/ASC will not consider such new grounds or new evidence. SFEI/ASC may, in its sole discretion, solicit, receive and consider in deciding the protest, submissions from any other Vendors qualified by the Selection Panel or otherwise potentially affected by the protest.

If the protest is upheld, SFEI/ASC will consider all circumstances surrounding the qualification in its decision for a fair and reasonable remedy, including the seriousness of the qualification deficiency, the degree of prejudice to the protesting party or to the integrity of the competitive system, the good faith efforts of the parties, the extent of performance, the cost to SFEI/ASC, the urgency of the qualification, and the impact of the recommendation(s) on SFEI/ASC. SFEI/ASC may recommend any combination of the following remedies:

- A. Re-solicit the requirement;
- B. Revise the RFQ and/or allow the proposers to submit revised proposals;
- C. Issue a new solicitation;
- D. Award a qualification consistent with statute or regulation; or
- E. Other such remedies as may be required to promote compliance.

10 LIST OF APPENDICES

Appendix A - Sample SFEI/ASC Agreement
Appendix B - EPA Terms and Requirements
Appendix C - Lists of Modeling and Modeling-Related Work Desired
Appendix D - Watershed Modeling Workplan for 2027
Appendix E - Acronyms and Abbreviations
Appendix F - Tracking Bay Health QAPP

Appendix A - Sample SFEI/ASC Agreement

THIS AGREEMENT is made and entered into by and between San Francisco Estuary Institute / Aquatic Science Center, 4911 Central Ave., Richmond, CA 94804 (hereinafter referred to as "SFEI/ASC") and **ENTITY, ADDRESS** (hereinafter referred to as "SUBCONTRACTOR").

WHEREAS, SFEI/ASC has the need of assistance in **brief description of the type of work in this contract**; and

WHEREAS, SUBCONTRACTOR has demonstrated experience and expertise in the performance of such service and has agreed to assist SFEI/ASC,

NOW, THEREFORE, the parties agree as follows:

ARTICLE I. STATEMENT OF THE WORK

SUBCONTRACTOR shall perform services in accordance with its proposal entitled SCOPE OF WORK, which is attached hereto and incorporated herein as Exhibit A. SUBCONTRACTOR, as to the performance of this agreement, is bound to SFEI by the terms and requirements of this agreement and any applicable requirements of the Prime Agreement, attached herein as Exhibit C[b1] .

ARTICLE II. PERIOD OF PERFORMANCE

The period of performance of this agreement will be from **START DATE** through **END DATE** unless extended by mutual agreement or terminated in accordance with ARTICLE X. TERMINATION.

ARTICLE III. COST AND PAYMENT

- A. SFEI agrees to pay for the direct and indirect cost of work of the agreement to a maximum amount of **\$XX,XXX.XX** in accordance with the budget attached hereto as Exhibit B.

Please email invoices to contracts@sfei.org; invoices may also be mailed to the Business Contact referenced in Exhibit A. Invoices must include the following: contract number, project name, time period of work performed, detailed labor, unit and/or extended price, and a description of work performed that correlates with the contract budget (Exhibit B). Operating expenses (samples analyses excluded) over \$5.00 shall be accompanied by copies of receipts, supporting invoices, or other source documents from vendors that the SUBCONTRACTOR engaged to complete any portion of the work funded under this agreement. Alcohol is not allowed. Expenses \$500.00 and above (unless documented in Exhibit A: Scope of work or Exhibit B: Budget) must be pre-approved by SFEI Principal Investigator and/or Business Contact. Any reimbursement for necessary travel and per diem shall be at rates not to exceed those

set by the U.S. General Services Administration. These rates may be found at <https://www.gsa.gov/travel>. Reimbursement will be at the Federal travel and per diem amounts that are current as of the date costs are incurred by the SUBCONTRACTOR. No travel outside the State of California shall be reimbursed unless prior authorization is obtained from SFEI's Principal Investigator or Project Manager. All invoices must be approved by the SFEI Principal Investigator or Project Manager and will be paid within 5 days upon SFEI's reimbursement from CLIENT. Timely invoicing is required and SFEI shall have no obligation to pay for costs incurred more than 90 days prior to the delivery of the subject invoice to SFEI for payment.

No more than 90% of the full cost of the SUBCONTRACT will be paid by SFEI prior to its receipt of all final deliverable products. The SUBCONTRACT balance shall be paid after a quality review, as defined in the scope of work, of the final product by the SFEI Principal Investigator and receipt of a final invoice from the SUBCONTRACTOR.

The final invoice for this project must be received within **30 days** of the SUBCONTRACT expiration date and will be marked "FINAL".

If CLIENT or other responsible party delays making payment to SFEI from which payment to SUBCONTRACTOR is to be made, SFEI shall have a reasonable time to make payment to SUBCONTRACTOR. "Reasonable time" shall be determined according to relevant circumstances, but in no event shall be less than the time SFEI is required to pursue to conclusion its legal remedies against CLIENT or other responsible party to obtain payment.

- B. If, at any time, SUBCONTRACTOR has reason to believe that the cost of the work will exceed the amount set forth in Paragraph A above, SUBCONTRACTOR will notify SFEI in writing, including a revised budget for completion of the work. SFEI will not be obligated to reimburse SUBCONTRACTOR for any cost in excess of the amount set forth in Paragraph A unless and until this agreement is amended to increase the maximum amount.
- C. Within 60 days of the expiration or termination of this agreement SUBCONTRACTOR shall provide a final report of expenditures to SFEI and return any unexpended or uncommitted funds.

ARTICLE IV. INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

- A. SUBCONTRACTOR shall not, during or following the term of this agreement, disclose or make use of, directly or indirectly, any Confidential Information. "Confidential Information" shall mean the trade secrets and all other information of SFEI or CLIENT, whether obtained from SFEI in any manner or created by SUBCONTRACTOR, which relates to past, present or future product or service development, business activities, financial information, principal, client, customer and supplier lists, and all other matters of a technical or business nature not publicly known. SUBCONTRACTOR further agrees to deliver promptly to SFEI upon termination of this agreement, or at any time SFEI may so

request, all memoranda, notes, records, reports and any other documents or materials of a confidential nature belonging to SFEI.

- B. As to any and all Works of Authorship developed or written as an independent contractor for SFEI, SUBCONTRACTOR agrees to and does hereby assign any and all copyrights therein and all other rights, title and interest in and to the same to SFEI, its successors and assigns. SUBCONTRACTOR acknowledges that all such Works of Authorship constitute Inventions and are subject to the provisions of Section (d).
- C. SUBCONTRACTOR agrees to assign and does hereby assign to SFEI, its successors and assigns, all rights, title and interest in and to any and all ideas, discoveries, innovations, inventions, proprietary information and other proprietary things which SUBCONTRACTOR may make, conceive, develop or reduce to practice, whether patentable or not, in connection with providing Services. Such assignments shall include, without limitation, any and all patent rights, copyrights, trade secret rights and other proprietary rights in any and all such Inventions.
- D. In the event of a breach or threatened breach by SUBCONTRACTOR of the provisions of this Article IV, because of the uncertainty of damages resulting therefrom, SFEI shall be entitled to an injunction restraining SUBCONTRACTOR from any such breach or threatened breach. Nothing herein shall be construed as prohibiting SFEI from pursuing any other remedies available to it for such breach or threatened breach, including the recovery of damages from SUBCONTRACTOR.

ARTICLE V. PUBLICATION AND RELEASE OF DATA

- A. The term “data” as used herein means recorded information, whether or not copyrighted, that is delivered or specified to be delivered under this contract including but not limited to raw data, preliminary data, draft data, or final data found in any report. The term includes field measurements and observations; laboratory results; graphic or pictorial delineations in media such as charts, drawings, or photographs; text in specifications or related performance or design-type documents; and machine forms such as punched cards, magnetic tape, or computer memory in its draft or final form. The term does not include financial reports, cost analyses, and similar information incidental to contract administration.
- B. Except as required by law as determined by SUBCONTRACTOR, SUBCONTRACTOR shall not publish or reproduce such data in whole or in part, or in any manner or form, (on any media now existing or as may be developed in the future), nor authorize others to do so, without the prior written consent of SFEI or until such time as SFEI has released such data to the public.
- C. SUBCONTRACTOR agrees that all publications that result from work under this agreement will acknowledge that the project was supported by SFEI and CLIENT.

- D. SUBCONTRACTOR agrees that it will not use the name and logo of SFEI or the names of SFEI employees in any advertisement, press release or publicity with reference to this agreement or any product or service resulting from this agreement, without prior written approval by SFEI.

ARTICLE VI. AUDIT

SFEI will have the right to audit SUBCONTRACTOR's invoices and all supporting documents for purposes of compliance with this agreement during the term of this agreement and for a period of three years after final payment under this agreement. To the extent any such audit reveals an overcharge or over payment by SFEI of more than five percent (5%), any overpayment shall be immediately refunded and the costs of such audit shall be borne by SUBCONTRACTOR.

ARTICLE VII. INDEMNIFICATION

SUBCONTRACTOR shall defend, indemnify and hold SFEI, its officers, directors, employees and agents harmless from and against any and all liability, loss, expense (including reasonable attorneys' fees), demands, actions, costs, or claims for injury or damages of any kind or nature arising out of the breach of this agreement by SUBCONTRACTOR or the goods provided or services provided by SUBCONTRACTOR or otherwise arising out of this agreement except such loss or damage which was caused by the sole negligence or willful misconduct of SFEI.

ARTICLE VIII. TIME OF THE ESSENCE

- A. Time is of the essence with respect to all obligations under this agreement. If for any reason SUBCONTRACTOR cannot deliver any interim or final deliverable by the date specified in the Scope of Work, SUBCONTRACTOR shall immediately notify the SFEI Principal Investigator. If the SFEI Principal Investigator believes that SUBCONTRACTOR has taken all reasonable steps necessary to submit deliverables by the due date, the SFEI Principal Investigator may grant an extension of time. No extension will be deemed to have been granted unless made in writing or electronically corresponded.
- B. Any substantial delay in submission of deliverables may result in termination by default as spelled out in ARTICLE X. TERMINATION.

ARTICLE IX. FORCE MAJEURE

If lack of performance by SUBCONTRACTOR is caused by fire, flood, earthquake, catastrophic storm, act of war, epidemic, quarantine, or strike involving significant damage to SUBCONTRACTOR's facilities or fatality or serious illness of key personnel, no penalties shall be assessed. In the event of such occurrence, SUBCONTRACTOR shall notify SFEI Principal Investigator at the earliest practicable time and shall indicate whether and when deliverables can be submitted. If deliverables will be delayed more than 90 days beyond the due date, SFEI may terminate the contract for convenience, and shall make a fair adjustment as specified in ARTICLE X. TERMINATION.

ARTICLE X. TERMINATION

This agreement will be suspended or terminated immediately upon notice to SUBCONTRACTOR if the Prime Agreement is suspended or terminated. SFEI may suspend or terminate this agreement upon fourteen (14) days advance electronic or written notice to SUBCONTRACTOR. Either party may terminate this agreement for cause, being breach of this agreement, on thirty (30) days' notice to the other party if such breach remains uncured during such period. If this agreement is suspended or terminated not due to the fault of SUBCONTRACTOR, SUBCONTRACTOR will be paid for services it satisfactorily performed to the date of suspension or termination, conditional upon delivery of all products to SFEI, their approval by SFEI and CLIENT, and the receipt of payment for such services from CLIENT. In no event will SUBCONTRACTOR be entitled to the recovery of damages arising out of or related to the suspension or termination of this agreement.

ARTICLE XI. DISPUTES

Any dispute arising under this contract which is not settled by agreement of the parties shall be settled, first by attempted mediation, and then by arbitration, or other appropriate legal proceedings before JAMS in San Francisco, California. Pending any decision, appeal or judgment in such proceedings or the settlement of any dispute arising under this agreement, SUBCONTRACTOR shall proceed diligently with the performance of this agreement.

ARTICLE XII. INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR

SUBCONTRACTOR and its employees, consultants, agents, or independent subcontractors will perform all services under this agreement as independent contractors. Nothing in this agreement will be deemed to create an employer-employee or principal-agent relationship between SFEI and SUBCONTRACTOR or its employees, consultants, agents and lower tier subawardees. SUBCONTRACTOR will not by virtue of any services provided under this agreement, be entitled to participate, as an employee or otherwise, in or under any employee benefit plan of SFEI or any other employment right or benefit available to or enjoyed by SFEI.

ARTICLE XIII. SUBCONTRACTING

SUBCONTRACTOR shall not subcontract all or any portion of the work covered by this agreement to any subcontractor other than those identified in the Scope of Work (Exhibit A), without prior written agreement by the SFEI Principal Investigator. SFEI shall not approve any invoices submitted for payment that include work by any subcontractor, unless such prior written agreement has been obtained. SUBCONTRACTOR shall require each of its subcontractors to adhere to the terms of this agreement.

ARTICLE XIV. INSURANCE

SUBCONTRACTOR will obtain and maintain the following types and amounts of insurance for the duration of the agreement: 1. **General Liability**: \$1,000,000 per occurrence / \$2,000,000 aggregate including coverage for bodily injury, property damage, personal and advertising injury, and Products/Completed Operations coverage, 2. **Automobile Liability**: \$1,000,000 combined single limit for bodily injury and property damage, 3. **Workers' Compensation**: as required by law, 4. **Longshore and Harbor Workers' Insurance**: as required by law if applicable, and 5. **Professional Liability** (Errors & Omissions): \$1,000,000 per claim/ \$2,000,000 aggregate.

SUBCONTRACTOR will obtain and provide Certificate of Insurance naming SFEI as an additional insured on the general liability and automobile liability policies. Insurance must be maintained for at least three (3) years after completion of the agreement. All required evidence of insurance shall be emailed (preferred) or mailed to the SFEI business contact prior to the execution of this agreement.

ARTICLE XV. DEBARMENT

Neither SUBCONTRACTOR, nor any officer or controlling interest-holder of said SUBCONTRACTOR, or any subcontractor under this agreement is currently, or has been previously, on any debarred bidder's list maintained by the United States Government.

ARTICLE XVI. CONFLICT OF INTEREST

SUBCONTRACTOR shall maintain written standards of conduct governing the performance of its employees engaged in the agreement and administration of contracts. No employee, officer, or agent shall participate in the selection, award, or administration of a contract if a real or apparent conflict of interest would be involved. Such a conflict would arise when the employee, officer, or agent, any member of his or her immediate family, his or her partner, or an organization which employs or is about to employ any of the parties indicated herein, has a financial or other interest in the firm selected for an award. The officers, employees, and agents of SUBCONTRACTOR shall neither solicit nor accept gratuities, favors, or anything of monetary value from contractors, or parties to subagreements. However, SUBCONTRACTOR may set standards for situations in which the financial interest is not substantial or the gift is an unsolicited item of nominal value. The standards of conduct shall provide for disciplinary actions to be applied for violations of such standards by officers, employees, or agents of the SUBCONTRACTOR.

ARTICLE XVII. GOVERNING LAW

This agreement will be governed and construed by the laws of the State of California.

ARTICLE XVIII. SPECIAL PROVISIONS

Additional provisions set forth in the attached Exhibits, if applicable, are incorporated herein by reference. The provisions of the Prime Agreement that are applicable to this agreement are appended hereto as Exhibit C and are incorporated herein by this reference.

ARTICLE XIX. NONDISCRIMINATION

- A. During the performance of this agreement, SUBCONTRACTOR and its subcontractors shall not unlawfully discriminate, harass or allow harassment, against any employee or applicant for employment because of that person's sex, sexual orientation, race, color, religious creed, marital status, ancestry, national origin, medical condition (cancer/genetic characteristics), age (40 and above), disability (mental and physical), denial of a protected leave or reasonable accommodation, or any other status protected by law.

SUBCONTRACTOR and its subcontractors shall ensure that the evaluation and treatment of their employees and applicants for employment are free from such discrimination and harassment.

SUBCONTRACTOR and its subcontractors shall comply with the provisions of the Fair Employment and Housing Act (Gov. Code, §12900 et seq.) and the applicable regulations promulgated thereunder (Cal. Code Regs, tit. 2, §7285.0 et seq.). The applicable regulations of the Fair Employment and Housing Commission implementing Government Code, §12990 (a)–(f), are incorporated into this contract by reference and made a part hereof as if set forth in full (Cal. Code Regs, tit. 2, §7285.0 et seq.).

SUBCONTRACTOR and its subcontractors shall give written notice of their obligations under this clause to labor organizations with which they have a collective bargaining or other agreement.

B. Equal Opportunity Employer Provisions

SUBCONTRACTOR shall comply with the provisions of [41 C.F.R § 60-741.5](#) & [41 C.F.R. § 60-300.5](#), which are herein incorporated by reference.

SUBCONTRACTOR shall include the nondiscrimination and compliance provisions of this article in all subcontracts to perform work under contract.

ARTICLE XX. SEVERABILITY

All provisions of this agreement are separate and divisible, and if any part is held invalid, the remaining provisions shall continue in full force and effect.

ARTICLE XXI. ORDER OF PRECEDENCE

Any inconsistency or conflict between any of the terms and conditions of this agreement shall be resolved by giving precedence in the following order:

1. Incorporated Agreement (Exhibit C), if applicable.
2. This Agreement (excluding all Attachments and items listed directly below).
3. Scope of Work (Exhibit A)
4. SUBCONTRACTOR's final proposal including representations and certifications.

ARTICLE XXII. SCOPE OF THIS AGREEMENT

This agreement states the entire contract between the parties as of the date of final signature below in respect to the subject matter of the agreement and supersedes any previous electronic, written or oral representations, statements, negotiations, or agreements. This agreement may be modified only by written amendment executed by the authorized representatives of both parties with the exception of no-cost time extensions, in which case electronic correspondence is made acceptable.

EXHIBIT A: SCOPE OF WORK

PROJECT MANAGEMENT

The work will be under the direction of SUBCONTRACTOR's Principal Investigator as shown below.

Questions regarding technical matters relating to this SUBCONTRACT should be addressed to:

Agency		SFEI/ASC
Name		
Role	Principal Investigator	Principal Investigator
Address		4911 Central Ave.
		Richmond, CA 94804
Phone		
Email		

No substitution may be made for SUBCONTRACTOR's principal investigator or technical matter contact without the prior written concurrence of SFEI/ASC.

The contacts for business matters relating to the work performed hereunder are:

Agency		SFEI/ASC
Name		
Role		Contracts Associate
Address		4911 Central Ave.
		Richmond, CA 94804
Phone		
Email		

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

SUBCONTRACTOR's WORK TASKS

Deliverables Schedule

Description	Date*
Deliverable 1	XX/XX/XXXX
Deliverable 2	XX/XX/XXXX
Deliverable 3	XX/XX/XXXX

*deliverable schedule can be modified with SFEI/ASC and contractor review and communicated approval by SFEI/ASC.

EXHIBIT B: BUDGET

All invoices shall be accompanied by a progress report that includes a brief description of activities conducted during the invoice period.

Project Codes for Invoicing: [to be provided by SFEI]

Budget Table

Task	Budget
Task 1	\$XXXX.XX
Task 2	\$XXXX.XX
Task 3	\$XXXX.XX
Total	\$XXXX.XX

Rate Table

Staff / Job Category	Billing Rate
Category 1	\$XXX.XX
Category 2	\$XX.XX
Category 3	\$XX.XX

EXHIBIT C: PRIME AGREEMENT

Prime Agreement [applicable project-specific prime agreement will be attached]

Appendix B - EPA Terms and Requirements

The following terms and requirements will specifically apply to contracts funded by EPA.

Limitations on consultant compensation

EPA participation in the salary rate (excluding overhead) paid to individual consultants retained by recipients or by a recipient's contractors or subcontractors shall be limited to the maximum daily rate for a Level IV of the Executive Schedule, available at:

<https://www.opm.gov/policy-data/oversight/pay-leave/salaries-wages/>, to be adjusted annually.

This limit applies to consultation services of designated individuals with specialized skills who are paid at a daily or hourly rate. This rate does not include transportation and subsistence costs for travel performed (the recipient will pay these in accordance with their normal travel reimbursement practices).

Information on how to calculate the maximum daily rate and the daily pay limitation is available at the Office Of Personnel Management's [Fact Sheet: How to Compute Rates of Pay](#) and [Fact Sheet: Expert and Consultant Pay](#). Specifically, to determine the maximum daily rate, follow these steps:

(1) Divide the Level IV salary by 2087 to determine the hourly rate. Rates must be rounded to the nearest cent, counting one-half cent and over as the next higher cent (e.g., round \$18.845 to \$18.85).

(2) Multiply the hourly rate by eight (8) hours. The product is the maximum daily rate.

Contracts and subcontracts with firms for services that are awarded using the procurement requirements in Subpart D of 2 CFR Part 200 are not affected by this limitation unless the terms of the contract provide the recipient with responsibility for the selection, direction and control of the individuals who will be providing services under the contract at an hourly or daily rate of compensation. See [2 CFR 1500.10](#).

Nondiscrimination

The contractor shall not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin or sex in the performance of this contract. The contractor shall carry out applicable requirements of [40 CFR part 33](#) in the award and administration of contracts awarded under EPA financial assistance agreements. Failure by the contractor to carry out these requirements is a material breach of this contract which may result in the termination of this contract or other legally available remedies.

Software and other intellectual property

You may copyright any software or written material that is subject to copyright and was developed, or for which ownership was purchased, under an award. EPA reserves a

royalty-free, nonexclusive and irrevocable right to reproduce, publish, or otherwise use the work for Federal purposes, and to authorize others to do so as provided at [2 CFR 200.315](#).

[Appendix II to Part 200 - Contract Provisions for Non-Federal Entity Contracts Under Federal Awards](#)

In addition to other provisions required by the Federal agency or non-Federal entity, all contracts made by the non-Federal entity under the Federal award must contain provisions covering the following, as applicable.

(A) Contracts for more than the simplified acquisition threshold, which is the inflation adjusted amount determined by the Civilian Agency Acquisition Council and the Defense Acquisition Regulations Council (Councils) as authorized by [41 U.S.C. 1908](#), must address administrative, contractual, or legal remedies in instances where contractors violate or breach contract terms, and provide for such sanctions and penalties as appropriate.

(B) All contracts in excess of \$10,000 must address termination for cause and for convenience by the non-Federal entity including the manner by which it will be effected and the basis for settlement.

(C) Equal Employment Opportunity. Except as otherwise provided under [41 CFR Part 60](#), all contracts that meet the definition of “federally assisted construction contract” in [41 CFR Part 60-1.3](#) must include the equal opportunity clause provided under [41 CFR 60-1.4\(b\)](#), in accordance with [Executive Order 11246](#), “Equal Employment Opportunity” ([30 FR 12319](#), [12935](#), [3 CFR Part. 1964-1965](#) Comp., p. 339), as amended by [Executive Order 11375](#), “Amending [Executive Order 11246](#) Relating to Equal Employment Opportunity,” and implementing regulations at [41 CFR part 60](#), “Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs, Equal Employment Opportunity, Department of Labor.”

(D) Davis-Bacon Act, as amended ([40 U.S.C. 3141-3148](#)). When required by Federal program legislation, all prime construction contracts in excess of \$2,000 awarded by non-Federal entities must include a provision for compliance with the Davis-Bacon Act ([40 U.S.C. 3141-3144](#), and [3146-3148](#)) as supplemented by Department of Labor regulations ([29 CFR Part 5](#), “Labor Standards Provisions Applicable to Contracts Covering Federally Financed and Assisted Construction”). In accordance with the statute, contractors must be required to pay wages to laborers and mechanics at a rate not less than the prevailing wages specified in a wage determination made by the Secretary of Labor. In addition, contractors must be required to pay wages not less than once a week. The non-Federal entity must place a copy of the current prevailing wage determination issued by the Department of Labor in each solicitation. The decision to award a contract or subcontract must be conditioned upon the acceptance of the wage determination. The non-Federal entity must report all suspected or reported violations to the Federal awarding agency. The contracts must also include a provision for compliance with the Copeland “Anti-Kickback” Act ([40 U.S.C. 3145](#)), as supplemented by Department of Labor regulations ([29 CFR Part 3](#), “Contractors and Subcontractors on Public Building or Public Work Financed in Whole or in Part by Loans or Grants from the United

States”). The Act provides that each contractor or subrecipient must be prohibited from inducing, by any means, any person employed in the construction, completion, or repair of public work, to give up any part of the compensation to which he or she is otherwise entitled. The non-Federal entity must report all suspected or reported violations to the Federal awarding agency.

(E) Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act ([40 U.S.C. 3701-3708](#)). Where applicable, all contracts awarded by the non-Federal entity in excess of \$100,000 that involve the employment of mechanics or laborers must include a provision for compliance with [40 U.S.C. 3702](#) and [3704](#), as supplemented by Department of Labor regulations ([29 CFR Part 5](#)). Under [40 U.S.C. 3702](#) of the Act, each contractor must be required to compute the wages of every mechanic and laborer on the basis of a standard work week of 40 hours. Work in excess of the standard work week is permissible provided that the worker is compensated at a rate of not less than one and a half times the basic rate of pay for all hours worked in excess of 40 hours in the work week. The requirements of [40 U.S.C. 3704](#) are applicable to construction work and provide that no laborer or mechanic must be required to work in surroundings or under working conditions which are unsanitary, hazardous or dangerous. These requirements do not apply to the purchases of supplies or materials or articles ordinarily available on the open market, or contracts for transportation or transmission of intelligence.

(F) Rights to Inventions Made Under a Contract or Agreement. If the Federal award meets the definition of “funding agreement” under [37 CFR § 401.2 \(a\)](#) and the recipient or subrecipient wishes to enter into a contract with a small business firm or nonprofit organization regarding the substitution of parties, assignment or performance of experimental, developmental, or research work under that “funding agreement,” the recipient or subrecipient must comply with the requirements of [37 CFR Part 401](#), “Rights to Inventions Made by Nonprofit Organizations and Small Business Firms Under Government Grants, Contracts and Cooperative Agreements,” and any implementing regulations issued by the awarding agency.

(G) Clean Air Act ([42 U.S.C. 7401-7671q](#).) and the Federal Water Pollution Control Act ([33 U.S.C. 1251-1387](#)), as amended—Contracts and subgrants of amounts in excess of \$150,000 must contain a provision that requires the non-Federal award to agree to comply with all applicable standards, orders or regulations issued pursuant to the Clean Air Act ([42 U.S.C. 7401-7671q](#)) and the Federal Water Pollution Control Act as amended ([33 U.S.C. 1251-1387](#)). Violations must be reported to the Federal awarding agency and the Regional Office of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

(H) Debarment and Suspension (Executive Orders 12549 and 12689)—A contract award (see [2 CFR 180.220](#)) must not be made to parties listed on the governmentwide exclusions in the System for Award Management (SAM), in accordance with the OMB guidelines at [2 CFR 180](#) that implement Executive Orders 12549 (3 CFR part 1986 Comp., p. 189) and 12689 (3 CFR part 1989 Comp., p. 235), “Debarment and Suspension.” SAM Exclusions contains the names of parties debarred, suspended, or otherwise excluded by agencies, as well as parties declared ineligible under statutory or regulatory authority other than [Executive Order 12549](#).

(I) Byrd Anti-Lobbying Amendment ([31 U.S.C. 1352](#))—Contractors that apply or bid for an award exceeding \$100,000 must file the required certification. Each tier certifies to the tier above that it will not and has not used Federal appropriated funds to pay any person or organization for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a member of Congress, officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a member of Congress in connection with obtaining any Federal contract, grant or any other award covered by [31 U.S.C. 1352](#). Each tier must also disclose any lobbying with non-Federal funds that takes place in connection with obtaining any Federal award. Such disclosures are forwarded from tier to tier up to the non-Federal award.

(J) See [§ 200.323 Procurement of recovered materials](#).

(K) See [§ 200.216 § 200.216 Prohibition on certain telecommunications and video surveillance services or equipment](#).

(L) See [§ 200.322 Domestic preferences for procurements](#).

Appendix C - Modeling and Modeling-Related Services Desired

This Appendix provides the lists of services, suggested methods, and results of interest to the various SFEI/ASC projects and programs requiring modeling and modeling-related services in the categories listed below. Ability to perform all services in all categories described in this Appendix is not required. In your SOQ, please identify the service(s) for which you seek pre-qualification, using the category numbers and names in this Appendix.

Category 1 - Watershed Modeling

Category 2 - Model Review and Technical Support

Category 3 - Hydrodynamic and Biogeochemical Modeling

Category 4 - Bay Modeling

Category 5 - Bay Modeling-Related Field Studies

Modified and alternative modeling methods providing similar results may be suggested by the Vendor and used after consultation with and approval by the SFEI/ASC Program Manager and QA Officer. Please describe modified or alternative methods in your SOQ.

Category 1 - Watershed Modeling

SFEI is developing and improving models for sediment, mercury, PCBs, and contaminants of emerging concern (CECs) that address high priority water quality management questions and identify priority monitoring locations. Watershed models based on Loading Simulation Program in C++ (LSPC) are being developed to characterize response of the ecosystem under various scenarios such as changes in environmental conditions, land use, and contaminant loads. Model outputs are serving as inputs to models of Bay processes. The Bay model is based on the hydrodynamic model also used for the regional Nutrient Management Strategy. The primary project tasks include parameterizing, calibrating, and applying these models using available local monitoring data, and using these tools to simulate the short- and long-term fate of contaminants in water, sediment, and biota.

The models are helping assess potential impacts, spatial and temporal variation, long-term recovery forecasts, and effects of management actions. PCB modeling is providing a strong foundation for the potential revision of the TMDL scheduled for 2030. Various peer-reviewed reports, publications, and presentations are being produced throughout the duration of the project and posted to the SFEI website.

SFEI's watershed modeling strategy is described in a recent publication, the *Integrated Watershed-Bay Modeling Strategy*.¹ This document includes a multi-year workplan for watershed modeling through 2030. This is not set in stone, and we have an agile project management approach that lets us adapt to changing needs and priorities. The Watershed Modeling Workplan for 2027 can be found in Appendix D (<https://www.sfei.org/sites/default/files/WDM%202027%20Workplan%20for%20SPLWG.pdf>)

We anticipate assigning one or more of the planned tasks described in the workplan to a contractor, and/or partnering with the contractor to complete the work. One area where it is likely we will require contractor assistance is in evaluating the impacts specific regulatory and restoration strategies (Task 2B in the 2027 watershed modeling workplan). The contractor will use tools such as SWMM or SUSTAIN to explore how large-scale management actions—including Green Stormwater Infrastructure (GSI) implementation, urban redevelopment, and land use changes—impact Bay water quality. These models will forecast daily and annual load reductions under various environmental conditions and development futures that can be used as experimental “possible future scenario” boundary conditions for the in-Bay model to explore the likelihood of recovery.

For example, the contractor may use models to simulate the pacing and scale of various control measures (e.g., source area soil removal, enhanced street sweeping) as boundary conditions

¹ Heberger, M., & McKee, L. (2026). *Integrated Watershed-Bay Modeling Strategy* (Contribution No. 1224). San Francisco Estuary Institute. <https://www.sfei.org/documents/integrated-watershed-bay-modeling-strategy>

for in-Bay model simulations to determine their impact on PCB recovery trajectories in sediment and fish tissue.

Category 2 - Model Review and Technical Support

Technical input on LSPC modeling

- A firm with experience and expertise in using Loading Simulation Program in C++ (LSPC) and/or Hydrological Simulation Program—FORTRAN (HSPF) who can work directly with our modeling staff to give input, advice, and troubleshooting. This would involve meeting with us to discuss the model and any issues we encounter, reviewing model data and files, and performing small jobs on an ad-hoc basis. Estimated 20-30 hours per quarter.

Support for using SUSTAIN to model the effects of Green Stormwater Infrastructure

- Project work to perform one or more of the tasks in the Watershed Modeling Workplan for 2027 (Appendix D). The final scope will depend on the interests and expertise of the firm we choose. An example candidate project is Task 2B in the workplan: "PMU Control Measure Feasibility."

Category 3 - Hydrodynamic and Biogeochemical Modeling

SFEI has developed coupled hydrodynamic and biogeochemical models of San Francisco Bay to better understand nutrient-related processes. SFEI's current models are built on open source modeling software. The coupled model's grid extends from the lower reaches of the Sacramento and San Joaquin Rivers in the east to the Lower South Bay in the south and the coastal ocean to the west. The biogeochemical model predicts a suite of biogeochemical parameters and processes. Vendors must demonstrate capability to either work within SFEI's modeling framework or use modeling tools that can seamlessly integrate and provide comparable, transparent results. SFEI may seek assistance in a variety of projects related to advancing hydrodynamic and biogeochemical modeling. Example tasks and projects include:

- Assisting with development and validation of hydrodynamic and biogeochemical models as prioritized by SFEI.
- Assisting with developing and validating source apportionment techniques to estimate how individual dissolved inorganic nitrogen sources contribute to ambient DIN concentrations.
- Assisting in developing and evaluating models simulating harmful algal blooms, applying the models, and interpreting results.
- Assisting in developing and evaluating models to investigate the impacts (e.g. high phytoplankton biomass, low dissolved oxygen levels, harmful algae toxin productions, etc.) of various potential future scenarios, such as planned or potential improvements to POTWs in the region, changes in environmental forcings, or planned or potential infrastructure change.

- Refining primary production-grazing parameterizations and incorporating improved sediment diagenesis modules.
- Extending models to recent years, using high-resolution data (moorings, mapping, remote-sensing) for tuning, calibration and validation.
- Assisting with preparing technical reports and manuscripts for peer-reviewed publication.
- Analyzing transport and transformation mass budgets of dissolved inorganic nitrogen to advance the understanding of nitrogen cycling.
- Developing high-resolution models for different sub-embayments (e.g., lower south bay) to simulate various biogeochemical scenarios and tracer runs.

Category 4 - Bay Modeling

SFEI develops models for sediment, mercury, PCBs, and contaminants of emerging concern (CECs) that address high priority water quality management questions and identify priority monitoring locations. Watershed models to simulate transport of water, sediment, and contaminants from regional watersheds are being developed to characterize response of the ecosystem under various scenarios such as changes in environmental conditions, land use, and contaminant loads. The watershed model outputs are serving as inputs to models of Bay processes. The Bay model is based on the hydrodynamic model also used for the regional Nutrient Management Strategy. The primary project tasks include parameterizing, calibrating, and applying these models using available local monitoring data, and using these tools to simulate the short- and long-term fate of contaminants in water, sediment, and biota.

The models are primarily helping assess long-term recovery forecasts and effects of management actions. PCB modeling is providing a strong foundation for the potential revision of the TMDL scheduled for 2030. Various peer-reviewed reports, publications, and presentations are being produced throughout the duration of the project and posted to the SFEI website.

Modeling of Bay and watershed processes, including contaminant loading and fate is being conducted to simulate the response of the system under different scenarios. Models are being calibrated and validated in a retrospective application, using available past monitoring data, with the goal of reproducing general patterns of contaminant distribution and trends over time. Model sensitivity to various parameters and overall model uncertainty are being explored, to identify model elements most in need of additional refinement or data collection.

Once developed, the models are being used to make predictive explorations of the system response under different management scenarios, e.g., increases or decreases in various sources and loading pathways, redistribution within the Bay or watersheds, environmental transformations, and accumulation and impacts on resident biota. Predictive application of the models is allowing regional managers to assess our ability to maintain or improve water quality under various planned action alternatives.

The evaluation of sediment and contaminant fate and transport is building upon a strong foundation of hydrodynamic and watershed modeling by the San Francisco Estuary Institute (SFEI) and other Bay-wide studies.

The in-Bay fate model is being developed to evaluate sediment and contaminant transport and is leveraging the well-verified San Francisco Open Bay hydrodynamic model (SFEI 2023) using open source modeling software. The model grid is being refined as necessary for the open Bay and specific margin areas of particular interest. Sediment transport processes are being added to simulate sediment fate and the fate of sediment-associated contaminants like PCBs.

For modeling watershed processes, hydrologic processes are being calibrated using available flow data from well-monitored watersheds, with a portion of the data (e.g., specific watersheds or time periods) excluded and used instead to validate model performance for data outside of the model training (calibration) set. Pollutant loading models are being validated using available contaminant monitoring data from sample watersheds, and validated using data withheld from the calibration. Similarly, Bay processes are being calibrated using available monitoring data, with a portion withheld for use in model validation. Model sensitivity to individual parameters or combinations of input parameters is being explored by testing model outcomes using different plausible input parameter values.

Category 5 - Bay Modeling-Related Field Studies

Performing field studies to generate empirical data to support Bay modeling is another potential primary project task. This may include data collection in the Bay on hydrodynamics, water quality parameters, and sediment quality and properties.

As an example of this type of work, in early 2025 the RMP conducted a study that collected model-related field data in San Leandro Bay (SLB). The goal was to support refinement of an in-Bay model to evaluate recovery trajectories for PCBs in this priority margin unit ([Scheu et al. 2025](#)). The study deployed seven monitoring platforms for approximately four months. These locations captured the major tidal exchange pathways, primary tributary inputs, and internal SLB water-column conditions. Sensors measured currents, water depth, water-quality, and optical properties. These measurements were combined with discrete surface-water samples to estimate high-frequency PCB and suspended solids concentration (SSC) time series. Current measurements and ADCP transects were used to estimate flow rates, which were then combined with estimated concentrations to calculate sediment and PCB fluxes into and out of SLB. The analysis produced near continuous estimates of SSC and PCB concentrations at the seven monitoring locations. The concentrations were integrated with hydrodynamic measurements to produce flux estimates to quantify transport in the system.

Further studies like this may be conducted in other priority margin areas of the Bay.

Appendix D - Watershed Modeling Workplan for 2027

<https://www.sfei.org/sites/default/files/WDM%202027%20Workplan%20for%20SPLWG.pdf>

Appendix E - Acronyms and Abbreviations

SFEI/ASC - San Francisco Estuary Institute/Aquatic Science Center
ADCP - Acoustic Doppler Current Profiler
CEC - contaminants of emerging concern
CPI - consumer price index
CV - curriculum vitae
DBE - Disadvantaged Business Enterprise
EPA - Environmental Protection Agency
LSPC - Loading Simulation Program in C++
ODC - other direct costs
PCB - Polychlorinated Biphenyls
PI - principal investigator
PM - project manager
PQL - pre-qualified vendor list
QAO - Quality Assurance Officer
QAPP - quality assurance project plan
QA/QC - quality assurance/quality control
RFQ - Request for Qualifications
RMP - Regional Monitoring Program for Water Quality in San Francisco Bay
SLB - San Leandro Bay
SOP - standard operating procedure
SOQ - Statement of Qualifications
SOW - scope of work
SSC - suspended solids concentration
TAT - turnaround time
USEPA - United States Environmental Protection Agency

Appendix F - Tracking Bay Health QAPP

https://www.sfei.org/sites/default/files/WTR_SFEI_Bay%20Health_QAPP_FINAL_04292025_FE.pdf