

**Request for Proposals**  
**2020 GOA Pacific Cod Disaster Research**



**Issue Date:**  
August 18, 2025

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**Deadline for Pre-Proposal Submissions:**  
September 15, 2025, 5:00 PM (PDT)

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**Deadline for Full Proposal Submissions:**  
October 17, 2025, 5:00 PM (PDT)

## Proposal Schedule

ACTIVITY	DATE	NOTES
Request for Proposal (RFP) issued and distributed	August 18, 2025	
<b>Deadline for Written Questions</b>	September 1, 2025 5:00 PM (PDT)	Email questions to: <a href="mailto:marredondo@psmfc.org">marredondo@psmfc.org</a> with subject line: "2020 GOA Pcod RFP Questions."
Q&A Document with Responses Posted	September 8, 2025	Q&A document with responses posted at <a href="https://www.psmfc.org/procurements">https://www.psmfc.org/procurements</a>
<b>Deadline for Pre-Proposals</b>	September 15, 2025 5:00 PM (PDT)	Email pre-proposals to: <a href="mailto:marredondo@psmfc.org">marredondo@psmfc.org</a> with subject line: "2020 GOA Pcod Pre-Proposals". <b>Hard copy or faxed proposals will not be accepted.</b>
Pre-Proposal Review	September 16-26, 2025	
Full-Proposals Requested from Selected Applicants	October 1, 2025	
<b>Deadline for Full-Proposals</b>	October 17, 2025 5:00 PM (PDT)	Email Full-Proposals to: <a href="mailto:marredondo@psmfc.org">marredondo@psmfc.org</a> with subject line: "2020 GOA Pcod Full-Proposals". <b>Hard copy or faxed proposals will not be accepted.</b>
Full-Proposal Review	October 20-31, 2025	
Applicants Notified of Recommendations	November 5, 2025	
Anticipated Project Period	December 1, 2025 – December 31, 2027	

## **Funding Opportunity Description**

### **Summary**

In 2020, the Gulf of Alaska Pacific Cod fishery experienced a significant disaster, caused in part by warmer-than-average ocean conditions and other environmental factors that were beyond the control of fishery managers. These challenging conditions led to a decline in biomass and reduced access to the fishery, creating serious impacts for those who depend on it.

In response, the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) is directing research funds toward projects that aim to improve the quality of fishery information and help mitigate the long-term effects of the disaster. This effort is being supported through a funding opportunity offered by the Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission (PSMFC), in collaboration with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA Fisheries).

Approximately \$1,398,109 in grant funding is available to support research focused on Gulf of Alaska Pacific Cod. All projects funded through this request for proposals must be completed by December 31, 2027.

### **Research Priority Areas**

Research themes that guided project selection under the 2018 Gulf of Alaska Pacific Cod disaster remain relevant and include:

1. Improving understanding of how warming temperatures affect Pacific cod ecology and population dynamics, focusing on key parameters such as mortality, growth, and maturity to enhance stock assessments.
2. Expanding early life history studies, including spawning, larval, and age-0 stages, with an emphasis on spatial and temporal variation in reproductive output and survival processes in relation to climate variability.
3. Investigating stock spatial structure, migration patterns, and connectivity using genetics and genomics approaches. Research methods may include tagging, acoustic telemetry, modeling, surveys, and maturity studies.

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### **Eligible Applicants**

Eligible applicants include researchers from U.S. academic institutions, research labs, for-profit companies, nonprofits, and state/local agencies. Foreign entities and U.S. federal government agencies (including Regional Fishery Management Councils) are not eligible. Collaborative proposals with multiple investigators are welcome.

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## **Application and Submission Information**

### **Pre-Proposal Requirements**

**Deadline:** September 15, 2025, 5:00 PM (PDT)

**Submission:** Email to [marredondo@psmfc.org](mailto:marredondo@psmfc.org)

**Email Subject:** "2020 GOA Pcod Pre-Proposals"

**Format:** 2-page limit including:

- Applicant name and contact info
- Project title
- Brief summary of topic and approach
- Project proposals must address how the research will mitigate the effects of the disaster on the fishery (limited to 1 paragraph).
- Estimated funding requested

Note: Multiple pre-proposals may be submitted, but only one project may be funded per lead PI.

## **Full Proposal Requirements**

**Deadline:** October 17, 2025, 5:00 PM (PDT)

**Submission:** Email to [marredondo@psmfc.org](mailto:marredondo@psmfc.org)

**Email Subject:** "2020 GOA Pcod Full-Proposals"

Proposals must be clear, concise, and prepared in a minimum 12-point font. Tables and visuals (e.g., charts, maps, graphs, and photographs) are included in the five-page limit for the project description. Sections such as the project summary, budget and justification, data management plans/access agreements, and information on prior, current, or pending support do not count toward this limit. Appendices may include résumés or letters of endorsement. Any additional material beyond what is requested will be disregarded.

### **A. Project Summary (1-page limit)**

Include the following:

- Organization name
- Principal Investigator(s) (PI) name(s) and contact information (address, phone, email)
- Project title
- Project objectives
- Summary of proposed work
- Project proposals must address how the research will mitigate the effects of the disaster on the fishery.
- Budget details:
  - Total funds requested from PSMFC
  - Current and pending support (if applicable)
  - Cost sharing (optional; specify cash or in-kind)
  - Total project cost

### **B. Project Description (5-page limit)**

Provide a complete and accurate description of the proposed research. Include:

- Specific objectives and performance measures
- Expected significance
- Relationship to longer-term project goals
- Relation to other planned or ongoing work

## C. Project Budget

Submit a detailed narrative for each budget category. Justify how funds will be used for each participating organization or agency.

### 1. Salaries and Wages

Include name, job title, role, responsibilities, effort (percent/time), base salary, and total compensation. Salaries must:

- Follow organizational policy and 2 CFR § 200.430
- Be reasonable, allocable, and well documented
- Reflect actual time on the project
- Include incentive pay only when documented, reasonable, and allowable

### 2. Fringe Benefits:

- Type of benefits (e.g., health, retirement, FICA, unemployment, workers' comp, life insurance, paid leave)
- Calculation method (e.g., percent of salary or flat rate) Fringe costs must comply with 2 CFR § 200.431, be allocable to project effort, and be supported by documentation.

### 3. Travel

Travel must directly support project goals. Include:

- Traveler name and role
- Dates and purpose
- Destination(s)
- Itemized costs: lodging, airfare, per-dem, ground transport, other related expenses

Travel must:

- Follow federal and organizational travel policies
- Be booked at lowest reasonable cost
- Be justified with clear links to project outcomes
- Use federal per diem rates unless a higher rate is justified
- Exclude international travel

#### 4. Contractual

For each contract:

- List contractor name, role, and type of contract (e.g., fixed price)
- Summarize scope of work and deliverables
- Provide cost breakdown and justification

Contracts must:

- Follow procurement rules under 2 CFR § 200.318
- Be competitively awarded unless justified
- Avoid conflicts of interest
- Include payment and performance terms
- Be distinguished from subawards if applicable

#### 5. Supplies

Describe tangible items under \$10,000/unit. For each category (e.g., lab supplies, safety gear):

- Group and itemize
- Justify relevance to project objectives

#### 6. Equipment

For items \$10,000 or more:

- List each item with description, quantity, cost, and justification
- Equipment must be essential, special purpose (if applicable), and comply with 2 CFR §§ 200.313 and 200.439
- Maintain proper records and disposition procedures

#### 7. Indirect Costs

Include:

- A copy of the current federally approved NICRA, or
- Use the 15% de minimis MTDC rate (if no NICRA exists), or
- Propose a negotiated rate with justification

Indirect costs must be:

- Consistent, allowable under 2 CFR § 200.414, and applied to the MTDC base

- Limited to necessary admin and facility expenses (e.g., utilities, HR, compliance)

Proposals with high indirect rates may be considered less competitive. Applicants are encouraged to minimize indirect costs to maximize funding for direct project implementation.

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### **Instructions, Conditions & Notices**

- **Submit questions** by **September 1, 2025, 5:00 PM PDT** to Michael Arredondo ([marredondo@psmfc.org](mailto:marredondo@psmfc.org)) Subject: "**2020 GOA Pcod RFP Questions** "
- **Answers** posted by **September 8, 2025** at [www.psmfc.org](http://www.psmfc.org)

### **Proposal Revisions/Withdrawals:**

- Proposals may be revised/withdrawn any time before award.
- Must be submitted in English and U.S. dollars.
- All proposals must be valid for **120 days** from submission.

### **Late Submissions:** Will not be considered unless:

- Received before award
  - Acceptance does not delay acquisition
  - Was under PSMFC control prior to deadline or is the only proposal received
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### **Evaluation Criteria (100-point scale)**

- Qualifications, experience, relevance to priorities: 30 pts
  - Technical approach and work plan: 40 pts
  - Cost and budget: 30 pts
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### **Conflict of Interest**

Reviewers must avoid actual or perceived conflicts of interest. Disclosure is required, and conflicted members must recuse themselves from discussion.