

# NC Water Resources Research Institute

For follow-up and additional questions:

Kaitlin Tucker, Coordinator for Research and Engagement

[ktucker@ncsu.edu](mailto:ktucker@ncsu.edu)

John Fear, Deputy Director

[jmfear@ncsu.edu](mailto:jmfear@ncsu.edu)

# Who We Are

- One of 54 national institutes for water resources (NIWR) based at land-grant institutions
- Established by the WRRRA in 1964, as a joint federal-state partnership program. Federal partner is the USGS.
- Based at NCSU, serving UNC System and all public & private universities in NC
- Common Goals:
  - Plan, conduct, or facilitate applied and peer reviewed research on water supply and water-related issues
  - Support early career research scientists, engineers, and technicians in the water field
  - Disseminate research to water managers and the public
  - Collaborate with other colleges and universities to solve state and regional water problems



# Our Mission

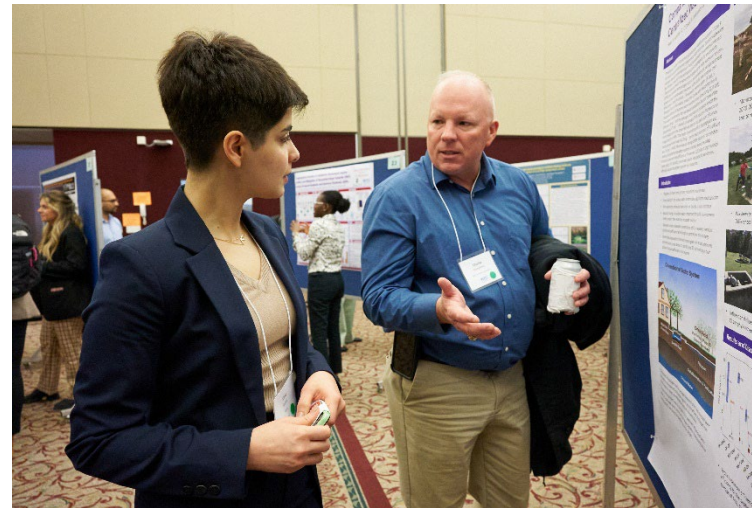
Through integrated research and outreach efforts, the North Carolina Water Resources Research Institute promotes understanding of critical water issues and supports the sustainable use and conservation of water resources to benefit communities, ecosystems, and economies.





# What We Do – Research and Extension

- Fund Research
- Facilitate Partnerships
- Host Annual Conference – March 22 & 23, 2023
- Provide professional training and k-12 education opportunities



# Our Research

- Research priorities informed by, but not limited to:
  - WRRI Advisory committee
  - State and federal resource management agencies
  - Industry partners
  - Non-governmental entities
  - Local governments
- Multi/Interdisciplinary
- Do not fund projects focused on ocean only, monitoring only, or health effects involving human subjects

# FY2023-2024 Competitive Grants Program


- Seeking proposals that include research, engagement, and/or information transfer projects
- Interested in research that
  - Aims to address water problems or expand the understanding of water and water-related phenomena
  - Focus on applied research to improve water supply reliability and helps solve water issues
  - Infuses the results to water managers and the public
- Research Priority Areas
  - Non-point source pollution
  - Drinking water, wastewater, and water infrastructure
  - Groundwater and surface water
  - Ecosystem management

# FY2023-2024 Competitive Grants Program

- Target focus areas:
  - Emerging contaminants
  - Microplastic pollution
  - HABs
  - Flooding & sediment control
  - Water supply and water quantity
  - Water affordability
  - Quantifying impacts of impervious cover on water quality
  - Impacts of changing precipitation on flooding and stormwater infrastructure
  - Aquatic invasive species

# Project and Application Information

## Faculty

- Eligibility: Faculty and University Affiliates of any accredited college or university in NC.
  - Projects should be planned for 1 or 2 years with an anticipated start date of **9/1/2023**
  - Budget: \$60,000/year; max. \$120,000 for two year project
  - **Pre-Proposals** will include:
    - Abstract
    - Objectives and technical approach
    - Significance to NC water resources
    - References
    - CVs
-  **3 pages max.**



# Important Notes about Timelines & Budgets

- 2-year projects funded on an annual basis (consider when planning objectives and budget)
- Year 1 and Year 2 budgets, objectives and milestones should be distinct
- All funds are contingent on federal appropriation of funds
- Year 2 funds are contingent on satisfactory performance of Year 1, and are not guaranteed. Year 1 must be able to stand on its own
- No cost extensions are increasingly difficult to justify unless there are extreme circumstances

# Project and Application Information

## Students

- Eligibility: full time graduate students
- Projects should be planned for 1 year with an anticipated start date of **1/3/2023**
- Budget: \$10,000/year
- Full proposals will include:
  - Cover page
  - Project Proposal (4 pages max.)
  - References
  - Letters of support from faculty sponsor
  - CVs
  - Data management plan

# Important Notes about Student Projects

- Must have faculty mentor
- Only one proposal per student
- Proposal must be written by the student
- Should not be a back up, duplicate, supplement or pared down version of a faculty submission
- Letters of support from sponsoring faculty member (vs additional letters of support)

# WRRI-USGS 104(b) Application Timeline

- **Faculty**

- Pre-proposals due 9/16 @ 5pm
- Notification of status – early Nov.
- Full proposals due 12/19
- Announcement of winners – early April 2023
- Project anticipated start date 9/1/23

- **Students**

- Student full proposals due 10/3 @ 5pm
- Winners announced in November
- Project anticipated start date 1/3/23

- **eWater – [go.ncsu.edu/ncewrri](https://go.ncsu.edu/ncewrri)**



# Our Review Process

## Faculty – pre-proposal stage

- Reviewed by advisory committee and other in-state subject experts
- Approximately 50% are invited to submit full proposal
- Full proposals reviewed by experts in national/international peer-review process and a technical advisory panel.
- Objectives and technical approach
- Significance of the project and its results for real-world water issues or opportunities in NC
- Qualifications of the investigators

# Our Review Process

## Students

- Reviewed by a technical review panel
- Approximately 5 student proposals will be funded
- Relevance to NC and strategic priorities of WRRI
- Quality of proposed science
- Clearly stated research questions and objectives
- Appropriate timeline to complete the project
- Quality of LOS
- Outreach strategies

# What's Else is Important in a Proposal

- Student engagement and support
- DEIJA
- Engagement of end-users
- Thoughtful approaches to distribute research results (final reports required for all WRRI funded projects)
- Letters of Support

# How to get more info

- **WRRI website**

- [wrri.ncsu.edu](http://wrri.ncsu.edu)
- Click on “Funding”; Click on “Projects”

- **Listservs**

- WRRI News – open to anyone interested in water resources info, including research opportunities (medium traffic, cyclical)
- NC Sponsored Research – for administrative staff in university offices of contracts/grants, or departmental admin staff, those who help distribute funding announcements (low traffic)
- Water Research – for faculty interested in funding announcements (low traffic)
- Email Anna Martin, [aeanol2@ncsu.edu](mailto:aeanol2@ncsu.edu)



# Questions?

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