



**North Pacific Coast Marine Resources Committee  
(NPC MRC)**

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS  
2021-2023 Funding Round**

**Project Template**

- 1. Name of the project:** Remote cleanups on Olympic National Park beaches
- 2. Lead organization and Contact:**

Lee First, Twin Harbors Waterkeeper  
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Cosmopolis WA 98537  
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- 3. Start and end dates for your project:**

4/1/2022 - 10/1/2022

- 4. Deliverables:**

- a) Conduct 2 remote beach cleanups on Olympic National Park beaches in 2022.  
First cleanup: April 2022  
Second cleanup: September 2022
- b) Provide 5 high quality project photos, an MRC newsletter article, and a presentation to the MRC.  
Due Date: June 1, 2023

**Project staff:**

Alexa Brown, Education Coordinator, is a graduate of Western Washington University. Alexa has a Bachelor of Science in Environmental Science and a Bachelor of Arts in Environmental Policy. She has been worked with Twin Harbors Waterkeeper and as the Grays Harbor Stream Team Coordinator since June 2020. Alexa's expertise includes extensive work with volunteers (invasive weed removal, native plant restoration, beach, stream and river cleanups, single use plastic and microplastic outreach, and salmon life cycle lessons). Alexa will develop and implement all project activities outlined in this proposal.

Lee First, Twin Harbors Waterkeeper, is a graduate of Western Washington University and the University of Washington. She has a Bachelor of Science in Environmental Science and a

Professional Certificate in Wetland Science and Management. Lee has worked in the water quality field for 30 years, and in the Waterkeeper movement for 15 years. She has inspired volunteers to cleanup beaches and rivers from the Nooksack and Skagit Rivers to Puget Sound and on SW WA beaches. Lee will participate in all aspects of this project.

- c) technical support **Partners:** Nicole Harris, Education Specialist, Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary, will offer
- d) **Geographic Area:** Our project will focus on the geographic area between Scotts Bluff and Cape Alava
- e) **Permits:** If necessary, we will secure permits from ONP
- f) **Project Summary/Narrative**

Washington's outer coast includes the longest protected and roadless ocean beach in the continental United States. People from all over the world visit Olympic National Park (ONP) to hike the 18 mile stretch from Rialto Beach (La Push) to Cape Alava (Ozette Indian Reservation). Yet the amazing beauty of this area is juxtaposed with a huge problem – a massive build-up of marine debris. Unlike other sections of coastline in SW Washington that are regularly cleaned up by volunteers, this area is not easily accessed by roads, and has not been the focus of cleanup in recent years. Plastic trash has accumulated in areas where ocean currents deposit it from eddies, and amongst rocky areas. Some hikers, trying to help, have collected the debris and piled it in caches in the nearby forest. There, at least it isn't subject to wind and waves, which slowly degrade plastic into smaller pieces and microplastic.

We will notify outdoor groups and other networks in advance of these events to recruit volunteers. We will harness their power to hike 3 miles along a trail to the ocean, collect small marine debris (floats, ropes, and accumulated plastic), strap it to frame packs, and return. We will document these events with photos, total weight of collected trash, press releases and social media posts. These cleanup events will be held in May and September 2022.

We will leverage the data collected (number of volunteers, amount of trash collected) to inspire the ONP to conduct regular cleanups of this area.

We will work closely with the ONP to gain approval for this project. With the funds from the NPC MRC, we will make arrangements with ONP to secure camping for volunteers, arrange for trash collection, and provide snacks and other supplies (netting, bags, straps) for volunteers.

We will also work with partners to inspire ONP to plan and carry out a series of helicopter cleanups in the future.

We have applied for grant funds from the Clif Family Foundation to use as match for this project.

**Background and Context:**

Twin Harbors Waterkeeper (THW) was created to become an advocate for clean water in the Chehalis River, Grays Harbor, and the Willapa Bay watersheds. On ocean issues, we also work on the North Coast. THW works to address the intersection of public health, water and air quality to vulnerable

populations who experience high environmental health disparities. We regularly work with the public and school districts on the SW Coast, from Taholah to South Bend. We hope to continue and expand our work along the North Coast with funding for this proposal.

**North Coast MRC stated goal:** The Marine Resources Committee (MRC) is an advisory group to the Board of County Commissioners and part of the regional Northwest Straits Marine Conservation Initiative. MRC members are citizen volunteers committed to protecting and restoring marine habitats in our ecologically rich corner of the world.

Our project is appropriate for MRC funding because it will inspire volunteers to protect our marine environments and aquatic life.

Our goal is to involve at least 25 volunteers at each of the two cleanup events, with a goal of removing at least 1,500 pounds of debris at each event.

Twin Harbors Waterkeeper plans to continue this project into the future.

**APPENDIX C**

**Estimated Budget Template and Instructions**

<b>Category</b>	<b>Detail</b>	<b>MRC Request</b>	<b>Matching Contribution (not required)</b>	<b>Total</b>
Salaries and Benefits or hourly wages	Lee First @ 10 hours @43/hour	\$430	We have applied for funds from the Clif Family Foundation	\$430
Supplies/Equipment	Recycled collection bags, snacks, straps, small tools	\$400		\$400
Travel	2 trips to Ozette (322 miles round trip x 2) @ .57/mile	\$367		\$367
Contracted services	Alexa Brown @ 16 hours @ 30/hour	\$960		\$960
Indirect expenses <i>(All such expenses should be itemized.)</i>				
Other	Dumpster rental and hauling (contingency)	\$500		\$500
Totals		\$2,657		\$2,657