

Some high-level thoughts on ROAR proposals:

- Focus on a high level priority for the Region, states, tribes, and/or communities, and for ORD.
- Well articulated applied, near-term (1-2 years) research that will fill a “gap” and support Program decision-making – so think about “strategic” and/or “innovative” research.
- Have multiple Divisions, states, tribes, communities supportive of proposal and actively engaged in the project. Collaboration is key.
- Things to consider:
  - There are 3 “tracks” that projects may be funded through.
    - Sustainable and Healthy Communities (SHC) Track: Proposals submitted to the SHC Track must align with at least one of the three Topics of the ORD SHC Research Program portfolio: 1. advancing remediation and restoration of contaminated sites 2. materials management and beneficial reuse of waste 3. integrated-systems approach to building healthy and resilient communities.
    - Office of Science Advisor, Policy, and Engagement (OSAPE) Track: Nominated proposals must address one or more of the OSAPE Track topics identified in the annual ROAR solicitation memo. For the FY23 solicitation, the OSAPE Track topics include innovative research that addresses environmental justice and/or climate change issues and their impacts to states, tribes, or communities.
    - Regional Track: Proposals submitted under this track support applied, near-term regional research needs. Proposals should be relevant and responsive to Regional needs and be considered high-priority for the Region. Regions make selections based on Regional technical and feasibility review processes and provide selections to OSAPE.
  - Track scoring criteria:
    - Regional Track: Regions make selections based on Regional technical and feasibility review processes. Contact your RSL for Region specific criteria.
    - OSAPE Track: Alignment with OSAPE strategic funding key topic area(s) in annual solicitation and scientific feasibility - 25%. Potential benefit to states, tribes, and/or communities - 25%. Incorporation of innovative research approaches - 25%. Potential for cross-regional or translation application of research results - 20 %. Demonstrated alignment with one or more National Research Programs - 5%.
    - SHC Track - Scientific merit- 30%. Unambiguous alignment with at least one of the three SHC Research Topics- 20%. Potential benefit to states, tribes, and/or communities - 25%. Potential transferability to other locales and Regions - 15 %. Feasibility of completion considering requested funding and team expertise - 10%.