



BRISTOL BAY

Regional Seafood Development Association

FY26 EXPANDING RSW SERVICE CAPACITY IN BRISTOL BAY

Request for Proposal

Published Date: 1/22/2026

To: RSW Businesses, Processors, Entities, and Organizations

From: BBRSDA

Contact: Mariah Clemens | mariah@bbrsda.com | 907-677-2371

Application Due Date: **Friday, 3/13/2026**

PROGRAM SUMMARY

The Bristol Bay Regional Seafood Development Association (BBRSDA) has allocated \$18,000 in the 2026 budget to help fund the additional employment and training of RSW technicians in Bristol Bay. Funding will be distributed as grants of up to a maximum of \$9,000.

This program, called "Expanding RSW Service Capacity in Bristol Bay," is designed to support existing RSW technicians to hire and train apprentices to help perform more maintenance and repairs to RSW systems of Bristol Bay drift boats. The ultimate goal of the program is to produce more chilled salmon and a higher quality Bristol Bay sockeye salmon product. It is designed to help existing RSW technicians increase their capacity to efficiently serve more boats in the short term and involve and train more technicians in Bristol Bay in the long term. This program is seeking all reasonable proposals that achieve the program's intent.

This request for proposals (RFP) is open to any established RSW business, processor, entity, or organization, and is not limited to those that receive this announcement directly. **Those seeking priority consideration should reply prior to the review date of Friday, March 13th, 2026.**

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

This program provides funding to RSW companies for the employment and training of RSW technician apprentices. Funds can be applied to apprentice wages, room and board, necessary insurance and other reasonable costs of employing an additional worker. The program is intended to *increase* the ability of an RSW business or other entity to serve the

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RSW needs of drift boats over that of 2025.

Understanding it is a short season, and the trade takes time to learn, an apprentice may be eligible to be supported through this program for up to three years.

In this document the RSW business or other entity applying for BBRSDA funding will be referred to as the 'employer' and the apprentice to be hired will be referred to as the 'apprentice.'

REQUIREMENTS

- The employment of an apprentice with the sole responsibility of servicing the RSW systems on Bristol Bay drift boats.
- While training is one purpose of this program, apprentices hired must be able to increase the capacity of your business, not detract from it if training needs are acute.
- During the fishing season, both the employer's business and the person hired must be based in Bristol Bay and be able to travel within Bristol Bay (specific dates to be determined by the employer).

PROPOSALS

PROPOSALS MUST INCLUDE:

- ☐ Project Title.
- ☐ Project start date, end date, and a project timeline if applicable.
- ☐ Project Principal(s) and Contractor (if not the principal) contact information: Name, postal mailing address, email address, and phone number.
- ☐ Qualifications to Perform: Documentation or explanation that demonstrates relevant experience working with RSW systems in Bristol Bay for employer (program applicant).
- ☐ Qualifications to Perform: Contact information and relevant experience of the apprentice.
- ☐ Summary: A one-paragraph summary of the proposed project and it's intended outcome or objective.
- ☐ Project Cost & Requested Funding: Provide a detailed accounting of total expected project costs, including identification of all sources of project funding, and the

amount of funding being requested from BBRSDA.

- ☐ Indicate matching funds provided by the employer, if any.
- ☐ Project Description: Provide an explanation of how BBRSDA support will increase your business's capacity to service the RSW systems in more boats in 2026. Be specific about how much additional capacity you expect to add with an apprentice.
- ☐ Provide solid means for evaluating project results after project conclusion.
- ☐ Project Goals: Estimation of number of vessels that will benefit from additional capacity of your RSW business during the fishing season and anticipated districts to be served.

EVALUATION CRITERIA

Proposals will be judged based on the demonstrated ability to provide increased RSW services and the amount of expected additional service capacity to the Bristol Bay drift fleet, compared to project cost.

Please submit proposals by email to Mariah Clemens. If you are interested in submitting a proposal and have any questions about the program, please contact Mariah.

Mariah Clemens
907-677-2371
mariah@bbrsda.com

TIMELINE

Submit your proposal by March 13, 2026. Proposals received after March 13, 2026 may still be eligible, if an applicant has not been selected and/or program funds remain available.

BBRSDA will notify applicants of award levels as soon as reasonably possible, but no later than 5 business days after a selection is made. Applicants will have 2 weeks after being notified of award levels to decide whether to accept or reject the terms. BBRSDA may require a background and/or credit check from the applicant prior to signing a service agreement.

Use the included Proposal Template on the next page to apply ↓

Bristol Bay Regional Seafood Development Association
Project Proposal for: EXPANDING RSW SERVICE CAPACITY IN BRISTOL BAY

This proposal is specific to the project: EXPANDING RSW SERVICE CAPACITY IN BRISTOL BAY. See the RFP for deadlines and details. Proposals should be submitted electronically to mariah@bbrsda.com as a PDF or Word document, using this document as a template. Please delete or replace this intro text and any text enclosed with <brackets> prior to submitting your proposal. Full proposals should include, at a minimum, the information requested below.

Proposal Submission Date:

Project Title: EXPANDING RSW SERVICE CAPACITY IN BRISTOL BAY

Project Principals & Contact Info: <Name, phone, email and mailing address>

Project Timeline: <Project start date & end date, and a project timeline if applicable>

Summary of Project Activities & Benefits: <A one-paragraph summary of the proposed project and it's intended outcome or objective>

Project Cost & Requested Funding: <1.) Provide a detailed accounting of total expected project costs, including identification of all sources of project funding, and the amount of funding being requested from BBRSDA>

<2.) Provide matching funds provided by the employer, if any>

Detailed Project Description: <Provide an explanation of how BBRSDA support will increase the capacity of your business to service the RSW systems in more boats in 2026. Be specific about how much additional capacity you expect to add with an apprentice>

Evaluation: < Provide solid means for evaluating project results after project conclusion, for example the number of systems serviced and proportion the apprentice assisted with>

Qualifications to Perform: < 1.) Documentation or explanation that demonstrates relevant experience working with RSW systems in Bristol Bay for employer (program applicant)>

< 2.) Name, contact information and relevant experience of the apprentice>

Project Goals: < Estimation of number of vessels that will benefit from additional capacity of your RSW business during the fishing season and anticipated areas to be served>

Acknowledgement:

The undersigned project principals hereby attest that they have read BBRSDA's Bylaws & Strategic Plan, available at <https://www.bbrsda.com/governance>.

<Principal name>: _____