I. PURPOSE OF THE UNIFIED WATER STUDY (UWS)
The Unified Water Study (UWS) is designed to measure human impact on, and the relative environmental health of, Long Island Sound embayments. The findings will further our understanding of the Sound and inform and support our actions to preserve and protect it.

II. APPLICATION PROCEDURE
   A. EMBAYMENTS OF INTEREST – SECTION 2
      It is important the organization is both interested in and capable of sampling the embayments listed. It’s not a requirement to fill in all four embayment fields. If there are more than four embayments of interest, please use General Comments in Section 5 to list additional embayments. Flexibility in embayment choices, while not necessary for participation, does increase strength of application.
   B. BUDGET – SECTION 3
      The attached budget should include expenses related to participating in the UWS. An example of line items for inclusion are staff time, travel expenses, boat fuel or chartering. Monitoring equipment and supplies included in the Equipment Loan Program (ELP) should not be included in the budget (see Section III.C regarding the ELP).
   C. WATER QUALITY MONITORING EXPERIENCE – SECTION 4
      Briefly describe prior monitoring efforts and parameters measured. If there is no prior water quality monitoring experience you may choose to briefly describe other related experiences or reasoning for joining the UWS. Prior participants may choose to skip this section or update with new information.

III. CONDITIONS OF PARTICIPATION IN THE UWS
   A. Participants must read and be able to adhere to the UWS Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP) and follow all Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) in their entirety to qualify for participation.
   B. Pre-season training is mandatory for all new and returning participants.
   C. The UWS has an existing ELP which provides the necessary equipment to carry out the study. Some UWS monitoring teams can borrow all equipment and supplies if selected or provide their own. The only acceptable sondes for the study are the Eureka Manta +35 and the YSI EXO1. If your group is considering using your own equipment, please contact Elena L. Colón to discuss.
   D. Agree to indemnify Connecticut Fund for the Environment/Save the Sound (“CFE/STS”) for any and all liabilities incident to the applicant’s involvement or participation in this project.

IV. SELECTION PROCESS
   A. If the applicant is a prior UWS participant, they must be in good standing with the study and have satisfied all of the program requirements in their participating year(s).
   B. Applications will be ranked based on the following criteria:
      o Related Experience
      o Embayments of Interest and Flexibility
      o Budget
      o Long Term Commitment to the Study
   C. Deadline for application submission is February 21, 2018. Notification of final decisions on applications will be made by early March 2018.

A signed copy of the application can be submitted through email (preferred) or in hard copy to:

Elena L. Colón, Save the Sound | CFE, Environmental Analyst
Address: 545 Tompkins Ave, 3rd Floor, Mamaroneck, NY 10543
E-Mail: ecolon@savethesound.org