

**NOAA's Undersea Research Program
HAWAI'I UNDERSEA RESEARCH LABORATORY
and
NOAA's Coral Reef Conservation Program**

**REQUEST FOR PRE-PROPOSALS
FY 2009 and 2010
for**

Coral Reef Research in U.S. Pacific waters

The Hawai'i Undersea Research Laboratory (HURL), a National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Undersea Research Program Center, in partnership with the NOAA Coral Reef Conservation Program (CRCP) is soliciting research pre-proposals for coral reef research for fiscal years 2009 and 2010. Proposals should contain an in situ field component, which may include standard SCUBA or advanced diving practices (e.g., saturation, mixed gases, and rebreathers).

THE OPPORTUNITY

This funding opportunity is for one to two year targeted research projects that address one or more of the following threats facing U.S. coral reefs: fishing, pollution, coastal uses (including invasive species), climate change, and extreme events. Specific research needs for this funding opportunity are detailed in the *NOAA Coral Reef Ecosystem Research Plan for FY 2007 to FY 2011* www.coris.noaa.gov/activities/coral_research_plan/. Proposals must identify the specific research need for the Pacific Ocean that their project is addressing from one of the following:

- Jurisdiction-wide Research Needs
www.coris.noaa.gov/activities/coral_research_plan/pdfs/jurisdiction_w_research.pdf
- Jurisdiction-specific Research Needs
www.coris.noaa.gov/activities/coral_research_plan/pdfs/jurisdiction_sp_pacific.pdf

Proposals should be geared towards management-oriented research to 1) develop a better understanding of the role of these threats in coral reef ecosystem decline; 2) predict the impacts from and responses of reef communities to these anthropogenic and natural stressors; and 3) design, test and evaluate the effectiveness of specific reef management measures, including marine protected areas and habitat restoration techniques. Proposals should clearly demonstrate how the scientific information, tools, or other products from the project would enable resource managers to address threats to reefs and advance conservation of coral reef ecosystems.

Geographic Regions of Interest. The waters of the Main and Northwestern Hawaiian Islands, America Samoa, Guam, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, the U.S. Pacific Remote Insular Areas, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, and the Republic of Palau.

PROPOSAL GUIDELINES

Pre-proposals are required.

Eligible Applicants. Eligible applicants are U.S. institutions of higher education, not-for-profit institutions, and state, territory, and local governments. Proposals may include federal researchers as collaborators with a

researcher who is affiliated with a U.S. institution, non-federal agency, or any other non-profit organization. Federal organizations may not charge federal salary, travel, or overhead, but other categories are appropriate.

Required Non-Federal Match. CRCP funds have a requirement of a **100% non-federal match**. Non-federal matching funds may be comprised of a variety of public and private sources and may include in-kind contributions and other non-cash support. In accordance with 48 USC 1469a(d), this match requirement is waived for governments of Insular Areas (i.e., jurisdictions of Guam, American Samoa, and the Commonwealth of the Mariana Islands).

Proposal Budgets. Proposal budgets for funded projects should range from \$50-70K for direct scientific support. All proposals must include necessary equipment costs (i.e., diving gear, boat rentals) in their budget.

Funding of proposals is contingent upon HURL receiving adequate funds from NOAA. Multi-year funding will be awarded on an annual basis. Continuation of out-year funding will be contingent upon funding availability and the determination by the awarding agency that the selected proposal is on course to provide both interim and final products.

Pre-Proposal Submission Guidelines. Pre-proposals may be up to two single-sided and numbered standard letter-size pages in length, using one-inch margins, single-spacing, and font no smaller than 12 pt Times New Roman. The first page must list the Project Title and Principle Investigator(s) names and affiliations. The primary contact person should be identified with telephone number and email address. Any figures used must be referenced in the text. Citations may use a 10 pt font. All items must be included within the two-page limit. CVs are NOT required at this time. Pre-proposals should contain a summary of the proposed research including: hypotheses to be tested; a brief description of the experiments and methods to be employed; any relevant time constraints; the area of operations including latitude, longitude, and depth; and an estimate of the level of support required, including equipment costs to conduct the proposed research. This will ensure that appropriate research guidelines are addressed, and will permit operations staff to evaluate feasibility.

Pre-proposals are due to HURL on January 18, 2008. These must be submitted electronically to hurl@hawaii.edu as a standard PDF, word processor, or text attachment file, or via surface mail on a CD/DVD to the address listed below. Submissions will be acknowledged. **Pre-proposals exceeding the guidelines stated above will be rejected.**

Final Proposals. Requests for final proposals will be issued on the basis of the pre-proposals. **Invitation for submission of full proposals will be issued on or about March 7, 2008. Final proposals are due to HURL by May 2, 2008.**

Inquiries should be directed to Dr. John R. Smith, (808) 956-9669, jrsmith@hawaii.edu.

ADDRESS PROPOSALS TO:

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