

## **Coral Reef Ecosystem Research Grants (Caribbean) 2006**

### **SUMMARY:**

In FY 2006, the NOAA Coral Reef Conservation Program (NCRCP) is providing funding to NOAA's Undersea Research Program (NURP) to administer a coral reef research grants programs for the U.S. Caribbean. As one of six NURP Centers, the Caribbean Marine Research Center (CMRC) ([www.perryinstitute.org](http://www.perryinstitute.org)) is presently soliciting proposals for coral reef research addressing overfishing, pollution, coral disease and bleaching, and invasive species, and the impact of these stressors on coral reef ecosystems; and the evaluation of management effectiveness in the U.S. Caribbean region for FY 2006.

### **PROGRAM PRIORITIES:**

NCRCP funds one to two year projects (with one year preferred) that address priority information needs as identified by coral reef ecosystem managers and scientists. FY 2006, broad coral reef research priorities include research on overfishing, pollution, coral disease and bleaching, and invasive species, and the impact of these stressors on coral reef ecosystems. The evaluation of management effectiveness is also encouraged.

### **DUE DATE FOR APPLICATIONS:**

Deadline for Pre-proposals is **May 15, 2005**

Deadline for Full Proposals is **August 1, 2005**

Pre-proposals are required and must be submitted by email to [pims@perryinstitute.org](mailto:pims@perryinstitute.org) by May 15, 2005. Pre-proposals will help ensure that appropriate research guidelines are addressed and permit Operations Staff to evaluate feasibility. Pre-proposal Requirements: All pre-proposals should be <3 pages and give a summary of the proposed research, describe research goals, address the methodological approach, estimate the level of support required, and include full contact information for the principal investigator. Additionally, pre-proposals should also describe facilities/equipment requirements, outline time or logistic constraints, and give area of operations including depths.

On the basis of the pre-proposals, requests for final proposals will be issued together with final submission guidelines. Final proposals are due at CMRC by August 1, 2005. Following peer review of the proposals, projects will be ranked by technical review panels on the basis of scientific merit, contribution to NOAA and NCRCP programmatic goals, contribution to research theme, management relevance, and logistical considerations.

The request for proposals for the next funding cycle (FY08) is expected to be announced in early Spring 2007 with pre-proposals due in late spring 2007 and final proposals in summer 2007.

### **ELIGIBILITY:**

Eligible applicants are U.S. institutions of higher education, not-for-profit institutions, and state, local and Indian tribal governments. Proposals may include federal researchers as collaborators with a researcher who is affiliated with a U.S. academic 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. For proposals with a federal partner, the federal partner will receive funds through an inter-agency transfer (or intra-agency in the case of a NOAA partner) from the national NURP office.

**TYPICAL AWARDS:**

NCRCF funds for one to two year projects (with one year preferred). Proposal budgets for NCRCF funded projects generally range from \$10-70K for direct scientific support. Proposals that have co-funding for data analysis and investigator salaries have the greatest rate of approval. Funding of the second year of proposals will be contingent upon progress and funding availability.

**COST SHARING OR MATCH REQUIREMENTS:**

Proposals submitted for NCRCF funds require a minimum non-federal match of 100% of total project costs. 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.

As per section 6403(b)(2) of the Coral Reef Conservation Act of 2000, all or part of this matching requirement may be waived if the Administrator determines that (1) no reasonable means are available through which an applicant can meet the matching requirement, and (2) the probable benefit of the project outweighs the public interest in the matching requirement. In the case of a waiver request, the applicant must provide a detailed justification explaining the need for the waiver. In accordance with 48 U.S.C 1469a (d), this match requirement is waived for governments of Insular Areas (jurisdictions of the US Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands).

**FULL FUNDING ANNOUNCEMENT:**

The Request for Proposals, guidelines and application forms, can be accessed at: [http://www.perryinstitute.org/funding\\_opportunities.htm](http://www.perryinstitute.org/funding_opportunities.htm). If you are interested in submitting a proposal that addresses any of these funding opportunities and you require further information please contact CMRC at [pims@perryinstitute.org](mailto:pims@perryinstitute.org) or 561- 741-0192. Website information includes:

- Full Funding Announcement or Request for Proposals
- Proposal Guidelines
- Proposal Forms
- Biographical Sketch Form
- Current and Pending Support Form

**AGENCY POINT OF CONTACT:**

Kimberly Puglise  
Research Coordinator  
NOAA Research  
NOAA's Undersea Research Program  
1315 East-West Hwy. R/NURP  
Silver Spring, MD 20910  
301-713-2427 x199  
[kimberly.puglise@noaa.gov](mailto:kimberly.puglise@noaa.gov)

**CENTER POINT OF CONTACT:**

Dr. John Marr  
Director  
NURP Center for the Caribbean  
Caribbean Marine Research Center  
100 North U.S. Highway 1  
Jupiter, FL 33477  
561-741-0192  
[pims@perryinstitute.org](mailto:pims@perryinstitute.org)