

Synopsis of ONR BAA -07-040

Research Opportunity Title: National Oceanographic Partnership Program (NOPP) and Interagency Committee on Ocean Science and Resource Management Integration (ICOSRMI)

Response Date: Full Proposals 11 December 2007, 4:00 pm (Washington DC local time)

Research Opportunity Description –

On behalf of the National Oceanographic Partnership Program (NOPP) and The President's Interagency Committee on Ocean Science and Resource Management Integration (ICOSRMI), the Office of Naval Research (ONR) solicits research proposals meeting the goal and purpose of the Partnership Program outlined in Title II, subtitle E, of Public Law 104-201. Any NOPP member agency may fund research in response to this solicitation.

Up to \$24.75 Million over three years may be available for this solicitation, subject to appropriation and final approval by the Interagency Working Group on Ocean Partnerships (IWG-OP) of the ICOSRMI. Breakout of topic investments may not equal total amount listed here due to the uncertainty associated with receiving funding.

Team efforts are required among at least two of the following three sectors:

- academia,
- industry (including Non-Governmental Organizations - NGOs), and
- government (including State and Local)

Background:

In January 2007 the National Science & Technology Council's Joint Subcommittee on Ocean Science & Technology (NSTC-JSOST) issued a federal *Ocean Research Priorities Plan* (ORPP) for the next decade (http://ocean.ceq.gov/about/sup_jsost_prioritiesplan.html). Twenty broad research priorities are identified in this document, and from these four near-term priorities are identified within which rapid progress can be expected and is desired

This FY08 announcement seeks proposals for new projects under three of these four near-term priorities:

Priority 1. Forecasting the Response of Coastal Ecosystems to Persistent Forcing and Extreme Events

Topic 1. Forecasting the Response of Coastal Ecosystems to Persistent Forcing and Extreme Events

It is critical to improve our ability to forecast and mitigate impacts on coastal ecosystems from persistent and extreme events because of the rapidly escalating economic and environmental costs associated with such events across spatial and temporal scales. Additionally, the opportunity exists now to leverage other emerging capabilities such as the maturing plans for implementing ocean observatory systems such as the IOOS (e.g., <http://www.ocean.us/>) and the Ocean Observatories Initiative (OOI(ORION) (<http://www.orionprogram.org>), community efforts to understand and predict the erosion, transport, and deposition of sediment and biogenic particulates in fluvial, deltaic, and coastal environments (e.g., CSDMS, <http://instaar.colorado.edu/deltaforce/workshop/csdms.html>; NCED, <http://www.nced.umn.edu>), and hydrologic models to predict the impacts on subsurface water quality and surface flooding. Further, there are growing regional interests and capabilities that arise out of Regional Ocean Governance activities. As such, this effort will support priorities identified by state, regional and interagency alliances and working groups (e.g., Gulf of Mexico Alliance, Northeast Regional Ocean Council, West Coast Governors Ocean Initiative, National Science and Technology Council's Group on Earth Observations, Joint Subcommittee on Ocean Science and Technology, Subcommittee on Integrated Management of Ocean Resources, and NSTC Subcommittee on Disaster Reduction). This effort will **focus on evaluation**

of community developed models in an effort to spur translation of such capabilities to application. The initial focus herein is on coastal inundation (via ocean or fluvial sourcing) modeling as a critical tool contributing to ecosystem response forecasting and mitigation, and supporting emergency management planning and response.

Given that there are a variety of coastal inundation models within the public, private and academic sectors, the sponsoring agencies feel that an essential next step would be the development and conduct of one or more invitational *community* workshops that focus on elucidating inter-comparisons of the various coastal inundation models, and that identify observational requirements for integration of observations within modeling frameworks for validation and application development. The workshops addressing these issues should be followed by a synthetic effort to produce an 'operational performance and potential manual' to be made available to the broader community. This manual should include comparative evaluations of model performance and limitations; technical requirements for translation to operational status; protocols for model validation/calibration including required and desirable observational inputs; and evaluation of requirements for integration of distinct model components within a comprehensive modeling framework. The manual should further identify existing and required tools for integration and visualization of model outputs with relevant geospatial and other data to support application. The manual should be provided as a digital user's product including access to relevant and publicly available test cases for future development and testing and those data used in comparative evaluations. Proposals are solicited that seek to accomplish these tasks. Proposals should provide detailed plans for organizing and carrying out the workshop, and conducting required follow-on synthetic efforts, including preparation and publication of the 'manual'.

Total Investment Under Topic 1 – It is expected that up to \$750K total will be available to support efforts under this topic. The government anticipates supporting one award of 1 – 2 years duration.

Point(s) of Contact –

Questions of a technical nature shall be directed to the cognizant Technical Point of Contact, as specified below:

Science and Technology Point of Contact:

Dr. James E. Eckman
National Oceanographic Partnership Program
ONR 322
Office of Naval Research
One Liberty Center, Room 1073
875 N. Randolph St.
Arlington, VA 22203-1995
Tel: 703-696-4590
Fax: 703-696-3390, ATTN: NOPP BAA
Email: jim.eckman@navy.mil

Questions of a business nature shall be directed to the cognizant Contract Specialist, as specified below:

Business Point of Contact:

Tracy Marcinowski (CACI)
Contract Specialist, ONR 252
Office of Naval Research
One Liberty Center, Room W1247C
875 N. Randolph St.
Arlington, VA 22203-1995
Tel: (703) 696-6804
Fax: (703) 696-0066, ATTN: NOPP BAA
Email: tracy.marcinowski@navy.mil

Instrument Type(s) –

It is anticipated that awards will be in the form of grants. However, the Government reserves the right to award cooperative agreements, contracts, or other transaction agreements to appropriate parties, should the situation warrant use of an instrument other than a grant. It is strongly preferred that one institution act as the lead institution for each project and that a single award be issued to the lead institution which would then issue sub-awards to the other non-Federal participants. Should a project include a request for funding to a Federal entity, funds to that entity will be provided through a separate Economy Act Order.

Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) Numbers - [12.300](#)

Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) Titles – DoD Basic and Applied Scientific Research

III. ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION

All responsible sources from academia and industry may submit proposals under this BAA. Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) and Minority Institutions (MIs) are encouraged to submit proposals and join others in submitting proposals. However, no portion of this BAA will be set aside for HBCU and MI participation. Federally Funded Research & Development Centers (FFRDCs), including Department of Energy National Laboratories, are not eligible to bid on this BAA. However, teaming arrangements between FFRDCs and eligible principal bidders are allowed so long as they are permitted under the sponsoring agreement between the Government and the specific FFRDC. Navy laboratories and warfare centers as well as other Department of Defense and civilian agency laboratories are also not eligible to bid on the BAA and should not directly submit proposals in response to this BAA. If any such organization is interested in one or more of the topics described herein, the organization should contact the ONR Science & Technology POC as identified in this BAA to discuss its area of interest. As with FFRDCs, these types of organizations may team with other responsible sources from academia and industry that are submitting proposals under this BAA.