

determined. All comments received at the hearing will be considered in the preparation of the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) and Final Management Plan.

The comment period for the DEIS/DMP will end on September 7, 1998. All written comments received by this deadline will be considered in the preparation of the FEIS.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mr. R. Randall Schneider (301) 713-3132, Sanctuaries and Reserves Division, Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management, National Ocean Service, NOAA, 1305 East West Highway, N/ORM2, Silver Spring, MD 20910. Copies of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement/Draft Management Plan are available upon request to the Sanctuaries and Reserves Division.

Federal Domestic Assistance Catalog Number 11.420 (Coastal Zone Management) Research Reserves

Dated: August 12, 1998.

**Evelyn J. Fields,**

*Acting Deputy Assistant Administrator for Ocean Services and Coastal Zone Management.*

[FR Doc. 98-22191 Filed 8-17-98; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[Docket No. 980805207-8210-02]

RIN 0648-ZA47

#### General Grant Administration Terms and Conditions of the Coastal Ocean Program

**AGENCY:** Coastal Ocean Program, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Commerce.

**ACTION:** Notice for Financial Assistance for Project Grants and Cooperative Agreements.

**SUMMARY:** It is the intent of the National Ocean Service (NOS), NOAA's Coastal Ocean Program (COP) to provide direct financial assistance in the form of Grants and Cooperative Agreements under its own program for the management of coastal ecosystems. Prior COP financial assistance was provided to non-profit organizations and educational institutions through joint participation in a Sea Grant omnibus vehicle.

This notice does not solicit proposals; but rather introduces and describes the general grant administration terms and conditions of the COP program. It is the intent of COP to issue supplemental

Announcements of Opportunities (AOs) to request proposals on specific projects throughout the year on an as-needed basis commencing with FY1999. Any Announcements of Funding Opportunities will be issued through the **Federal Register**, the COP Home Page, mass mailings and COP's e-mail list. Those announcements will provide specific program descriptions; criteria for proposal submission; technical evaluation of proposals and other details affecting that Announcement of Opportunity.

Proposals solicited through supplemental notices will be part of a unique federal-academic partnership designed to provide predictive capability for managing coastal ecosystems. COP supports research on critical issues which exist in the Nation's estuaries, coastal waters and the Great Lakes; and translates its findings into accessible information for coastal managers, planners, lawmakers and the public. Historically, COP's projects are multi-disciplinary, large in scale and long in duration (usually three to five years). Multi-year funding will be funded incrementally on an annual basis. Therefore, each annual award shall require a Statement of Work that is clearly severable and can be easily separated into annual increments of meaningful work which represent solid accomplishments if prospective funding is not made available.

**DATES:** Supplemental notices will be issued through the **Federal Register** and will provide critical information and dates specific for that each AO.

**ADDRESSES:** Coastal Ocean Program Office, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 1315 East West Highway, Room 9700, Silver Spring, MD 20910.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Leslie McDonald, COP Grants Office, (301) 713-3338/x137.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

(a) Program Authority(s): 33 U.S.C. 1121; 33 U.S.C. 883a et seq; 33 U.S.C. 1442; 16 U.S.C. 1456c.

(b) Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA): 11.478 Coastal Ocean Program.

(c) Program Description: The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) Coastal Ocean Program (COP) provides predictive capability for managing coastal ecosystems through sponsorship of research. COP seeks to deliver the highest quality science in a timely manner for important coastal decisions. It supports research on critical issues which exist in the Nation's estuaries, coastal waters, and Great Lakes and

translates its findings into accessible information for coastal managers, planners, lawmakers, and the public.

#### Coastal Ecosystem Oceanography

COP supports the conservation and management of marine ecosystems through sponsorship of improved ecological and oceanographic predictions for resource management. Studies focus on: (1) Identifying critical processes that control replenishment of fishery resources; (2) Determining critical habitat process that influence fishery ecosystems, including harmful algal blooms; and (3) Quantifying species interactions so models can be used in management decisions. Current efforts support fisheries studies dealing with Bering Sea pollack, cod and haddock on Georges Bank, and salmon in the Pacific Northwest. COP also leads an interagency research program on the ecology and oceanography of harmful algal blooms which are increasing in intensity and impact in coastal waters.

#### Cumulative Coastal Impacts

COP sponsors improvements to the scientific basis for managing coastal ecosystems through a series of regional watershed projects on the causes and impacts of multiple stresses on coastal land and marine ecosystems. Studies focus on: (1) Developing indicators of physical, chemical, and biological stress; (2) predicting impacts of multiple stresses on living marine resources; (3) valuing natural resources in ecological and economical terms; and (4) predicting the outcomes of management strategies. Current efforts support coastal and natural resource managers dealing with multiple stressors in the Chesapeake Bay, Florida Bay and the Florida Keys, the Great Lakes and southeast coastal ecosystems.

#### Coastal Forecasting/Natural Hazards

COP sponsors research to improve our ability to measure, understand and predict physical coastal ocean phenomena that impact the public, the economy and coastal resources. These forecasts are important to those living along the Nation's coasts, to the businesses and industries located there, and to myriad coastal resources at risk. In recent years, COP has sponsored and delivered new forecast capabilities to the operational parts of NOAA, including the satellite-based Coast/Watch program, a Great Lakes Forecast System, a prototype Coastal Ocean Forecast System and improved storm surge and tsunami inundation predictions.

### Benefits of the COP

Continued population pressures on the Nation's coastal areas and on-going changes in the environment will continue to stress our coastal waters, bays and estuaries, and the Great Lakes. While the need for data and information to address today's problems is pressing, COP has also focused on developing information for longer-range management and policy decisions at larger and more complex scales than are traditional. COP research will help the U.S. respond to the major challenges of the next century and to balance the needs of economic growth with those of conserving the environment by: (1) Developing ecosystem-level scientific projects that are multi-disciplinary, long in duration, and evaluate the impact of multiple stressors on the ecological functions; (2) sponsoring development and transfer of predictive information to resource managers that will help conserve and restore important marine resources; (3) protecting lives and property as well as providing for sound, coastal development by sponsoring improved coastal forecasting capabilities and (4) transitioning successful research to NOAA operations.

(d) Funding Availability—Typically, annual funding for each Announcement of Opportunity is approximately \$1,000,000. Each COP project generally consists of several coordinated investigations with separate awards, ranging from \$5,000 to \$200,000. Actual funding levels will depend upon the final budget appropriations for the fiscal year. Announcements of Opportunity (AO) will be released with specific applicable dollar amounts. Financial History of COP Grants: FY97 \$10.00M; FY98 est. \$8.5M; FY99 est. \$8.5M. Funding for non-U.S. institutions and contractual arrangements for services and products for delivery to NOAA are not available under this notice.

If an application for a financial assistance award is selected for funding, COP has no obligation to provide any additional prospective funding in connection with that award in subsequent years. There are no matching fund requirements. Renewal of an award to increase funding or extend the period of performance is at the total discretion of the Department of Commerce. Publication of this notice does not obligate Commerce to any specific award or to obligate any part of the entire amount of funds available.

(e) Matching Requirements: None.

(f) Type of Funding Instrument: Project Grants and Cooperative Agreements.

(g) Eligibility Criteria: To be detailed in Announcements of Funding Opportunities.

(h) Award Period: Typically, COP's projects are usually long in duration, multi-disciplinary, averaging one to five years and will be stated in Announcements of Funding Opportunities for each specific project. Multi-year funding will be funded incrementally on an annual basis. Therefore, each annual award shall require a Statement of Work that is clearly severable and can be easily separated into annual increments of meaningful work which represent solid accomplishments if prospective funding is not made available.

(i) Indirect Costs: If Indirect costs are proposed, the following statement applies: The total dollar amount of the indirect costs proposed in an application under any Announcement of Opportunity must not exceed the indirect cost rate negotiated and approved by a cognizant Federal agency prior to the proposed effective date of the award or 100 percent of the total proposed direct costs dollar amount in the application, whichever is less.

(j) Application Forms and Kit: As stated in supplemental notices. When applying for financial assistance under a published Announcement of Opportunity, applicants will be able to obtain a NOAA/COP application kit from the COP office listed under the heading ADDRESSES section of this notice, or directly from the NOAA/COP web site. The web site is: <http://www.cop.noaa.gov/cop-home.html>. At time of submission, the applicant shall follow the guidelines presented in the funding announcement. Applications not adhering to those stated guidelines may be returned to the applicant without further review.

(k) Project Funding Priorities: To be detailed in COP Announcements of Funding Opportunities. However, priority consideration will be given to proposals that promote balanced coverage of the science goals and avoid duplication of completed or ongoing work and geographic areas.

(l) Evaluation Criteria: To be detailed in COP Announcements of Funding. Criterion will provide an adequate basis for review of an applicant's capabilities and performance under the award.

(m) Selection Procedures: To be detailed in COP Announcements of Funding Opportunities. All proposals submitted will be evaluated and ranked in accordance with the assigned weights of evaluation criteria stated for that AO. Any additional factors considered by the selecting official in making a selection will be published in that AO.

COP project grants and cooperative agreements will be awarded on a competitive basis.

(n) Other Requirements:

(1) Federal Policies and Procedures: Recipients and subrecipients are subject to all Federal laws and Federal and DOC policies, regulations and procedures applicable to Federal financial assistance awards.

(2) Past Performance: Unsatisfactory performance by a recipient under prior Federal awards may result in an application not being considered for funding.

(3) Preaward Activities: If applicants incur any costs prior to an award being made, they do so solely at their own risk of not being reimbursed by the Government. Notwithstanding any verbal assurance that they may have received, there is no obligation on the part of Department of Commerce to cover pre-award costs unless approved by the Grants Officer as part of the terms when the award is made.

(4) No Obligation for Future Funding: If an application is selected for funding, DOC/NOAA has no obligation to provide any additional future funding in connection with that award.

Amendment of an award to increase funding or, unless the award specifically provides to the contrary, to extend the period of performance is at the total discretion of DOC/NOAA.

(5) Delinquent Federal Debts: No award of Federal funds shall be made to an applicant who has an outstanding delinquent Federal debt until:

(i) The delinquent account is paid in full,

(ii) A negotiated repayment schedule is established and at least one payment is received, or

(iii) Other arrangements satisfactory to the Department of Commerce are made.

(6) Name Check Review: All non-profit and for-profit applicants are subject to a name check review process. Name checks are intended to reveal if any key individuals associated with the applicant have been convicted of, or are presently facing criminal charges such as fraud, theft, perjury, or other matters which significantly reflect on the applicant's management honesty or financial integrity.

(7) Debarment, Suspension, Drug-Free Workplace, and Lobbying Provisions: All applicants must comply with the requirements of 15 CFR part 26, "Government-wide Debarment and Suspension (nonprocurement) and Government-wide Requirements for Drug-Free Workplace (Grants)" and 15 CFR part 28, "New Restrictions on Lobbying," including the submission of required forms and obtaining

certifications from lower tier applicants/bidders.

(8) False Statements: A false statement on an application is grounds for denial or termination of funds and grounds for possible punishment by a fine or imprisonment as provided in 18 U.S.C. 1001.

(9) Intergovernmental Review: Applications under this program are not subject to Executive Order 12372, "Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs."

(10) This notice was determined to be not significant for purposes of Executive Order 12866.

Dated: August 12, 1998.

**Captain Evelyn J. Fields,**

*Acting Deputy Assistant Administrator for Ocean Services and Coastal Zone Management.*

[FR Doc. 98-22188 Filed 8-17-98; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

### GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

#### NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION

[OMB Control No. 9000-0023]

#### Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request Entitled Balance of Payments Program Certificate

**AGENCIES:** Department of Defense (DOD), General Services Administration (GSA), and National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA).

**ACTION:** Notice of request for an extension to an existing OMB clearance.

**SUMMARY:** Under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35), the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) Secretariat has submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) a request to review and approve an extension of a currently approved information collection requirement concerning Balance of Payments Program Certificate. A request for public comments was published at 63 FR 29976, June 2, 1998. No comments were received.

**DATES:** Comments may be submitted on or before September 17, 1998.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Paul Linfield, Federal Acquisition Policy Division, GSA (202) 501-1757.

**ADDRESSES:** Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this

burden, to: FAR Desk Officer, OMB, Room 10102, NEOB, Washington, DC 20503, and a copy to the General Services Administration, FAR Secretariat (MVRS), 1800 F Street, NW, Room 4035, Washington, DC 20405.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### A. Purpose

Under the Balance of Payments Program, unless specifically exempted by statute or regulation, the Government gives preferences to the acquisition of domestic end products or services, provided that the cost of the domestic items is reasonable. The Balance of Payments Program differs from the Buy American Act in that it applies to acquisitions for use outside the United States.

The contracting officer uses the information to identify which end products or services are domestic, and which are of foreign origin. In order to be considered domestic, the cost of its components mined, produced, or manufactured in the United States must exceed 50 percent of the cost of all its components. Services are considered domestic if 25 percent or less of their total cost are attributable to performance occurring outside the United States. The contracting officer determines reasonableness of cost by applying an evaluation factor of 50 percent. If this procedure results in a tie, the domestic offer shall be considered successful.

##### B. Annual Reporting Burden

Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average .167 hours per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information.

The annual reporting burden is estimated as follows: Respondents, 1,243; responses per respondent, 5; total annual responses, 6,215; preparation hours per response, .167; and total response burden hours, 1,038.

**Obtaining Copies of Proposals:** Requester may obtain a copy of the justification from the General Services Administration, FAR Secretariat (MVRS), 1800 F Street, NW, Room 4035, Washington, DC 20405, telephone (202) 501-4755. Please cite OMB Control No. 9000-0023, Balance of Payments Program Certificate, in all correspondence.

Dated: August 11, 1998.

**Edward C. Loeb,**

*Director, Federal Acquisition Policy Division.*

[FR Doc. 98-22066 Filed 8-17-98; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

### GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

#### NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION

[OMB Control No. 9000-0021]

#### Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request Entitled Clean Air and Water Certification

**AGENCIES:** Department of Defense (DOD), General Services Administration (GSA), and National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA).

**ACTION:** Notice of request for an extension to an existing OMB clearance.

**SUMMARY:** Under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35), the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) Secretariat has submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) a request to review and approve an extension of a currently approved information collection requirement concerning Clean Air and Water Certification. A request for public comments was published at 63 FR 31449, June 9, 1998. No comments were received.

**DATES:** Comments may be submitted on or before September 17, 1998.

**ADDRESSES:** Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to: FAR Desk Officer, OMB, Room 10102, NEOB, Washington, DC 20503, and a copy to the General Services Administration, FAR Secretariat, 1800 F Street, NW, Room 4035, Washington, DC 20405.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Paul Linfield, Federal Acquisition Policy Division, GSA (202) 501-1757.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### A. Purpose

It is the Government's policy to improve environmental quality. Accordingly, Executive agencies must conduct their acquisition activities in a manner that will result in effective enforcement of the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7401, *et seq.*) and the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1251, *et seq.*). The information required by the Clean Air and Water Certification is used to determine a contractor's compliance with these laws. A determination of noncompliance by the contracting officer requires notifying the agency head or designee who, in turn, notifies the Environmental Protection Agency's