



NOAA
FISHERIES

Ruth Gates Coral Restoration Innovation Grants

FY20 Applicant Webinar
February 11, 2020

Presenters:

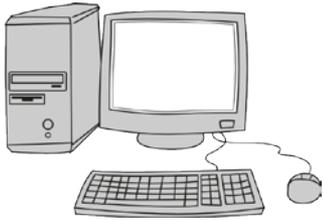
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Funding Opportunity

Grant Executive Summary (pg. 2)

- In the first year, approximately **\$500K will be available**. NOAA anticipates that **up to \$1.5M in additional funds** may be available to support selected innovation projects in FY21 – FY22.
- NOAA anticipates the typical federal award will range from \$100,000 to \$250,000 per year for a total of \$100,000 to \$750,000 over three years.
- **Applications must be** received by www.Grants.gov, postmarked, or provided to a delivery service by 11:59 PM Eastern Time on **March 20, 2020**.



Program Objectives

Section I.A. (pg. 4)

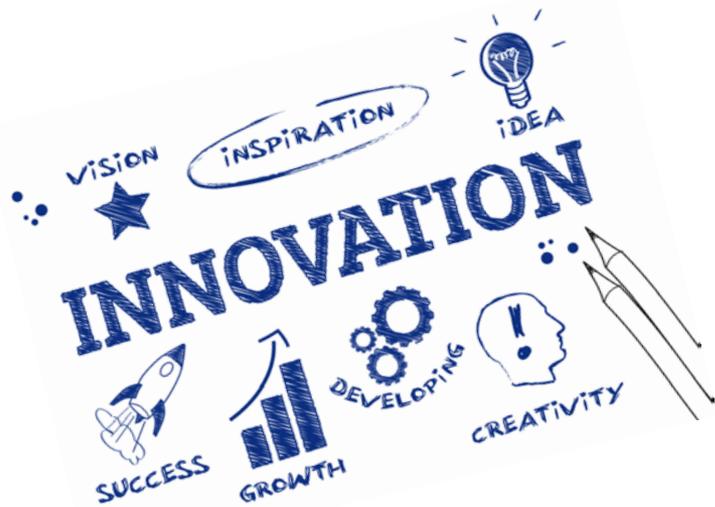
Objectives:

1. Support necessary ***research*** and apply ***innovations*** in restoration and intervention techniques in order to ***promote the persistence of resilient, genetically diverse, and reproductively viable shallow water coral populations***
2. Support the ***development of creative methods to improve shallow water coral outplanting efficiency and build resilient shallow water coral reef ecosystems.***
3. Encourage ***collaboration between research scientists and management entities*** to ensure innovative techniques align with predicted needs of U.S. states and territories in the face of environmental changes.



Program Priorities

Section I.B. (pg. 5)



- Novel research and restoration technologies to increase coral resilience,
- Building on innovative laboratory research efforts to move coral intervention science towards field pilot-testing, and/or
- Explore new approaches to increase the efficiency of in-water coral restoration.

Program Priority 1: *Coral Resilience Interventions*

Section I.B. (pg. 6)



Research and develop *innovative* coral *intervention methods* to *improve coral resilience* to threats to *promote long-term persistence* of reproductively viable coral populations.





Program Priority 2: *Coral Restoration Issues* Section I.B. (pg. 6)

Research and develop innovative coral restoration methods to ***significantly improve*** the ***success*** of ***outplanting corals at various life-stages***, including asexual and sexual propagation strategies.



Program Priority 2: *Coral Restoration Issues* *Section I.B. (pg. 6)*

High priority coral restoration issues for funding opportunity

- Increase the ability to scale up in-situ asexual coral restoration efforts by improving techniques for transporting live corals and/or developing methods to significantly improve efficiency and cost effectiveness of coral outplant deployment;
- Develop and test methods to improve post-settlement survival for sexual propagation techniques; or
- Determine ways to improve coral survival through multi-species restoration such as coplanting seagrass beds and corals as a way to reduce the effects of ocean acidification.



Not Priorities

Section III (pg. 6)

Example activities and expenditures

- Activities solely focused on coral restoration and do not address one of the priorities in Section I.
- Expenditures for:
 - Purchases of real property (e.g. land and buildings)
 - Large equipment (e.g. boats or coral raceways)
 - Capital expenditures (e.g. improvements, lab improvements, and general purpose equipment)
 - Infrastructure



Funding Availability

Section II (pg. 7)

- NOAA will consider **one-year awards** (FY20) or **multi-year awards** for up to three funding years (FY20 – FY22) under this announcement.
- NOAA anticipates **up to \$500K available in FY20**, with an additional \$1.5M over FY21 – FY22 to support selected awards (\$2M total).
- NOAA will not accept proposals with a federal funding request of **less than \$100K or more than \$1M** over a three-year period.



ARE YOU
ELIGIBLE?

Eligibility

Section III (pg. 8)

- Eligible: U.S. institutions of higher education; U.S. non-profit and for-profit organizations; U.S. territories; and state, local, and Native American tribal governments.
- In-water work can only be done in U.S. coral jurisdictions.
- Federal \$ may not exceed 50% of total cost of award.
Matching funds: *statutory requirement* – 16 U.S.C. § 6403(b).
(1:1 federal to contribution of non-federal \$ or approved match waiver)
- Application must be submitted by the due date and contain ALL required forms in IV. B.





Ineligibility

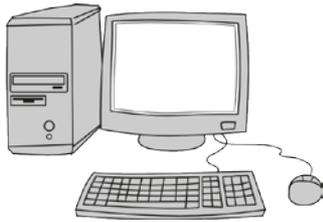
Section III (pg. 10)

Ineligible projects

- Legally required mitigation, compensatory restoration, consent decree, court orders, etc.

Ineligible applicants

- Federal employees or federal agencies



Submission Information

Section IV (pg. 10)

- Application packages, federal forms, and instructions on www.Grants.gov. (support@Grants.gov)
- **Proposal Package (pg. 11-17):**
 - Federal Forms: Standard forms (SF) SF-424, SF-424A, SF424B, Certification Regarding Lobbying (CD-511), and Disclosure of Lobbying Activities (SF-LLL)
 - Cover Sheet and Project Summary (1 pg.)
 - Project Narrative, and Data Management Plan (20 pg.)
 - Budget Justification (6 pg.)
 - Supplemental Information (15 pg.)
- Applicants should be registered in SAM, provide a DUNS number, and maintain active registration.





Application Review

Section V (pg. 20)

Full Application Evaluation Criteria

1. Importance and Applicability (30 pts.)
2. Technical/Scientific Merit (40 pts.)
3. Applicant Qualifications (10 pts.)
4. Project Costs (15 pts.)
5. Outreach and Education (5 pts.)





Application Review

Section V (pg. 23)

Full Application Review and Selection

- Eligible submissions will undergo technical review, ranking, and selection based on program priorities and evaluation criteria.
- Applicants will receive notification regarding funding by **June 30th, 2020**. The earliest anticipated start date for awards will be **October 1st, 2020**.



Reminders and Tips



- **Start registration now**, if you are not yet registered/active! (SAM, DUNS, Grants.gov)
- **Don't wait** until the last minute to submit - Grants.gov can take up to two business days to validate or reject applications.
- If submitting a paper application, be sure to sign forms in ink!
- Read the entire announcement and **verify all requirements are complete.**
- Refer to websites listed in the announcement for more info.



Frequently Asked Questions

Q: How will the innovative aspect of a project be assessed?

A: Based on a brief summary of relevant background information that justifies the need for the proposed task, and clearly states the gap the project will help fill, reviewers will determine if the project is truly developing NEW techniques or methods, as well as how likely the work is to increase coral resilience, improve efficiency of coral restoration, or advance existing methodologies to the level of in-water field testing.



Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Is 1:1 match required?

A: 1:1 match or a waiver of match is required. See pages 8 & 9 of the grant announcement for more details.



Frequently Asked Questions

Q: What funding sources and activities count as non-federal match?

A: Any shared costs or matching funds and all contributions, including cash and third party in-kind contributions of property and services, will be accepted as part of an applicant's cost sharing or matching when the contributions meet the criteria listed in 2 C.F.R. § 200.306(b).

Contributions can come from a variety of public and private sources and be combined to meet the 1:1 match requirement.

Examples include third party in-kind goods and services (e.g. private boats, lab space, lab equipment, volunteers).



Frequently Asked Questions

Q: How do I apply for a match waiver?

A: Provide a detailed justification explaining the need for the waiver should be submitted to the CRCP Program Manager, Jennifer Koss. Justifications should describe attempts to obtain match funding sources, how the benefit of the project outweighs the public interest in providing match, and any other extenuating circumstances preventing the availability of match.

Q: When will I know if it has been approved?

A: Waivers will not be officially approved until after the technical review is complete, and projects have been “recommended for funding,” meaning that NOAA has identified the project ranks well, and is of interest to fund based on the proposals submitted.



Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Is there a limit on the number of proposals from any one applicant, geography, area, or region?

A: No. There is no limit on the number of proposals from any one applicant, geographic area, or region.



Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Will NOAA ensure geographic distribution of selected awards?

A: The NOAA Selecting Official will select proposals in rank order unless a proposal is justified to be selected out of rank order based upon standard selection factors outlined in the funding opportunity, including the availability of funding and balanced distribution of funds according to geography, type of partners, focus areas, and project types.



Frequently Asked Questions

Q: How can I verify the contents of my submitted package?

A: From Grants.gov: After submitting the application package through Workspace, applicants should download a copy of the submitted application for offline record-keeping and to verify the contents of the submission zip file.



Questions?



Contact

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