

ONR BAA Announcement # ONR-BAA-06-029**BROAD AGENCY ANNOUNCEMENT (BAA)****INTRODUCTION:**

This publication constitutes a Broad Agency Announcement (BAA) as contemplated in DoD Grants and Agreement Regulations (DODGARs) Subpart 22.315(a) and Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) 6.102(d)(2). A formal Request for Proposals (RFP), solicitation, and/or additional information regarding this announcement will not be issued.

The Office of Naval Research (ONR) will not issue paper copies of this announcement. The ONR, on behalf of its partner agencies in the National Oceanographic Partnership Program (NOPP) and the President's Interagency Committee on Ocean Science and Resource Management Integration (ICOSRMI), reserve the right to select for award all, some, or none of the proposals in response to this announcement. ONR provides no funding for direct reimbursement of proposal development costs. Technical and cost proposals (or any other material) submitted in response to this BAA will not be returned. It is the policy of ONR to treat all proposals as sensitive competitive information and to disclose their contents only for the purposes of evaluation.

I. GENERAL INFORMATION**1. Agency Name –**

Office of Naval Research,
One Liberty Center
875 N. Randolph Street
Arlington, VA 22203-1995

2. Research Opportunity Title –

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

3. Program Name - N/A**4. Research Opportunity Number –**

ONR-BAA-06-029

5. Response Date –

Full Proposals: 30 November, 2006, 4:00PM (Washington D.C. Local Time)

6. 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 \$18.0 M 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.

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:

Topic Areas of long-term investment by NOPP and ICOSRMI are predicated on two NOPP strategic niches: (a) the benefits of partnering on common needs, and (b) sharing the responsibility for those items that might otherwise get left undone but which are needed by all.

Topic 1: IOOS

Implement a sustained and integrated ocean observing system (IOOS) for U.S. global and coastal interests. Provide coastal and global ocean data and products for decision-makers, researchers, and for operational/practical purposes, in general support of the four NOPP Strategic Objectives

Topic 2: Education and Outreach

Increase student and public awareness, knowledge, and understanding of the oceans. Raise the consciousness of the general public and governmental decision-makers to the

importance of wise stewardship of the ocean and the coastal zone, through the support of science education and communication.

Topic 3: Infrastructure

Modernize the nation's oceanographic infrastructure (excluding construction). Provide access to state-of-the-art tools, training, and facilities for effective and efficient utilization by national ocean programs, in support of the four NOPP Objectives.

Topic 4: Collaboration *Collaborate to strengthen U.S. interagency initiatives in research and their connections to operations. Ensure multi-agency efforts where such collaboration enhances efficiency or effectiveness, and/or reduces costs, in support of the four NOPP Objectives.*

- **Not all NOPP-ICOSRMI solicitations will seek proposals in all four investment areas.**
- **This FY07 announcement seeks proposals for new and some renewal projects under:**

Topic 4: Collaboration

Topic 4A. Coastal Effects of a Diminished-Ice Arctic Ocean (new awards)

Topic 4B. Marine Mammals (new and renewal awards)

- **Subsequent announcements may call for proposals under any of the NOPP-ICOSRMI topics, including renewals of existing efforts.**

Topic 4A. Coastal Effects of a Diminished-Ice Arctic Ocean

The change in Earth's climate associated with recent global warming is felt particularly strongly in the Arctic. Average temperatures at high latitudes have risen more than the global average with attendant impacts on ice cover of polar seas. Though not yet well understood it is expected that impacts of changing ice cover will be profound and will affect many issues including, among others, sea traffic and shipping in polar seas; access to polar natural resources; the security of polar national borders; and basic polar oceanographic processes such as the physical structure of coastal seas, nearshore current and wave energy and sediment transport, and local and regional biological productivity. Research in a wide range of arenas is needed in order to understand the diverse impacts of changes in ice cover of the Arctic Ocean, especially in coastal waters (<http://www.arcus.org/search/resources/reportsandscienceplans.php>).

As part of the U.S. contribution to the International Polar Year (IPY) proposals are solicited that address one of several topics identified as high priorities for support under NOPP-ICOSRMI auspices:

4A.1. Ocean Observing Systems in the Alaska Beaufort and/or Chukchi Sea

Proposals are encouraged that would develop and test prototype ocean observing systems in the Alaska Beaufort and/or Chukchi Sea capable of withstanding or accommodating intra- and inter-annual variability in local ice-ocean conditions. Of particular interest are observational techniques that would monitor marine mammals or fish populations (e.g., using passive or low-intensity active acoustics); and that would measure physical oceanographic parameters such as the 4-D velocity structure and the thermohaline stratification; waves, currents and sediment transport-related parameters; inherent optical properties; acoustical, sedimentological and geotechnical properties of the seafloor on ice-transitional coasts; and ice-related parameters, including those necessary for interpreting acoustic data.

4A.2. Changes in an Ice-Diminished Arctic

Proposals are encouraged that test for the occurrence of a change in the thermohaline structure, circulation and wave dynamics of the coastal arctic (out to the 200 m isobath), and effects of such changes on coastal primary and secondary production or coastal sediment transport. Of particular interest are proposals that utilize multi-year retrospective analysis of data* and new observations and modeling in order to evaluate existing or potential changes in the ice-diminished coastal arctic circulation and productivity. The proposer should address how historical time-series data from MMS-NOAA, ONR, NSF, and DOE supported sites can be utilized to establish a base-line and which sites lend themselves to new measurements and change detection. Estimates of the significance level and power of the proposed test should be presented and justified. Other methods that could test for and characterize changes in the arctic are of interest. The use of high-resolution models that resolve changes in the land-fast and marginal ice zone in order to establish the relationship between physics, biological productivity or sediment transport and causes of changes are also of interest. Metrics for the skill assessment of models should be provided along with evidence that the required observational data sets will be available when needed.

* Past time series have been obtained by MMS, NOAA, ONR, NSF, DOE-ARM program, DOE-SHEBA program.

4A.3. Measuring and predicting seasonal changes in sea ice cover in the Beaufort and Chukchi Seas.

Proposals are encouraged that would develop and test sensors or other observational methods for measuring the thickness (especially) and horizontal expanse of ice cover over 1000's – 10,000's km² with km-scale resolution at least. These sensors and methods should be able to provide measurements over time scales ranging from months to seasons. The goal should be to test at least a prototype measurement system *in situ* over periods of at least one year. There is interest in both remote and *in situ* methods.

Proposals are also encouraged that would develop numerical physical models capable of forecasting changes in ice cover and thickness over time scales ranging from months to

seasonal with spatial resolution of at least a kilometer. These models should be developed and evaluated in hindcast mode using existing ocean and ice observational data, and a forecast model produced with evaluation using empirical data over a period of at least one year. Emphasis should be on coupling with atmospheric models and/or forcing, sensitivity to snow pack processes, and data assimilation of the observational data from the systems described above. Metrics for the skill assessment of models should be provided along with evidence that the required observational data sets will be available when needed.

Up to \$3.0M per year may be available to support these topics (together, not per topic) for 3 years. Thus a total of \$9.0M may be available to cover three years of research. We anticipate awarding four to six projects total with each averaging approximately \$500K - \$750K per year.

Topic 4B. Marine Mammals

Offerors proposing to this topic are reminded of their possible responsibilities for various permits and permissions. In or near areas within which marine mammal or other wildlife harvest takes place (such as by Alaska Natives), offerors should include coordination of research plans and activities with coastal communities, as appropriate. Offerors are additionally reminded of the data-sharing goals of NOPP, the Census of Marine Life (CoML), and Ocean Biogeographic Information System (OBIS). Proposals should address the data archival and dissemination goals of these programs, and should include plans for active participation in these scientific partnership efforts through attendance of meetings and collaborations with other NOPP, COML, and OBIS partners.

It is recognized that proposals may offer relevant effort under more than one of the following topics. The offeror should select the topic (4B.1-4B.5) that it considers most relevant to the theme of the proposal. Since proposals will be evaluated and ranked together, across all five topics, submission to one topic will not create a competitive advantage or disadvantage within or across topic areas.

4B.1 Investigations of Marine Mammals in Their Ecosystems

Historically, marine mammal investigations and assessments of the effects of human activities on marine mammals have been conducted without reference to the physical and biological environment and their effects on marine mammal population dynamics, habitat use, and behavior (e.g. impacts of noise on prey species). This solicitation encourages proposals for the collection of marine mammal distribution, abundance, diving, foraging, and behavioral data in conjunction with data collection on ocean physical and biological processes, including the distribution and abundance of plankton, nekton, and larger organisms, **and the site-specific acoustic environment**. Multi-disciplinary teaming, and the use of novel data collection tools such as **passive acoustic monitoring technologies**, animal-borne dataloggers, gliders and autonomous underwater vehicles are encouraged.

4B.2 Biological Significance

A recent National Research Council Ocean Studies Board Report (Marine Mammal Populations and Ocean Noise: Determining When Noise Causes Biologically Significant Effects, 2005, ISBN0309094496) reviewed the concept of biological significance and the relationships between a specified human effect (underwater sound) and its biological effects. It presented a conceptual model (PCAD) showing a logical progression from sound characteristics to changes in animal population levels through intermediary steps involving sound-induced behavioral changes in individuals, resulting changes in life functions of individuals, and resulting changes in population vital rates. For this model to become a useful management tool more information is needed to link all the intermediary steps. This topic encourages proposals to develop data that could serve this function. One type of proposal, for example, might measure foraging success of individuals caused by sound exposure, convert these into energy costs, and show how increased energy expenditure affects survival of offspring (a bottom-up approach). Another example might be to determine if it is feasible to start at population level effects and estimate the extent of acoustically-driven changes in survival or reproduction that would be needed to trigger them (top-down approach).

4B.3 Improved Methods to Survey, Locate and Identify Marine Mammals

Currently, most marine mammal surveys are done visually, and thus can only be carried out in the daytime and under good weather conditions. New tools and methods to enable improved survey effectiveness are needed, for both research and effects-mitigation purposes. The proposal should address the probability of detection, precision and accuracy of spatio-temporal localization, the level of categorization (stock or population, species, genus, species guild, etc.), and the potential to express survey results as an effort-based statistical metric, such as individuals per square kilometer. Other information that should be considered in the proposal includes standard measures of sensor performance (probability of detection, Receiver Operating Curve statistics, etc.), potential for collection of additional relevant environmental or behavioral data, and measures of efficiency (coverage rate, cost per unit effort, etc.). Ideas involving novel sensors and platforms such as animal-borne tags, gliders, autonomous aircraft or underwater vehicles, and/or novel sensors such as LIDAR, radar, hyperspectral or infra-red sensing are encouraged, in addition to the relatively more developed applications of passive acoustic methodologies. Modest sea-tests will be considered.

4B.4 Algorithms, Databases and Models

The development and standardization of critical modeling algorithms and databases is needed to enable informed assessment of risks from human activities in the marine environment. Databases of animal distribution and abundance along with associated habitat correlations are clearly important to such risk analyses. Other important databases needing standardization and integration are animal diving and movements data from telemetry tags and other sources, and animal hearing and noise effects data including baseline auditory threshold data, other audiometric data (hearing thresholds, temporary threshold shift data and models, data and models of hearing dynamic range,

masking effects, critical ratios, etc.) and data on behavioral responses to sound. Workshops may be included in the proposed effort, for the purpose of developing community consensus on data formats and accessibility. Proposals should address the NOPP-COML goals for data archives.

4B.5 Audiometric Assessments and Assessments of Physiological Effects of Sound

This topic encourages the development and application of novel technologies and approaches to obtaining information about the hearing ability of marine mammals and their prey. These novel technologies and approaches might include evoked potential audiometric methods, modeling of hearing performance from anatomy, or other methods. In addition, proposals for investigations of non-hearing physiological effects from sound will be considered. Limited data from beaked whale strandings associated with naval sonar suggest that there may be behavioral reactions to sound leading to physiological effects, or direct physiological effects not associated with auditory anatomy, perhaps linked to special adaptations for deep, prolonged diving. Investigations of existing or novel hypotheses about physiological effects of sound are encouraged.

Renewals (Marine Mammals):

Renewal proposals will be considered for projects funded under NOPP Topic M (Marine Mammals) in FY01 and FY04.

Up to \$3M per year are available for support of efforts in this overall topic, including renewals of existing NOPP Topic M awards. Thus a total of \$9.0M may be available to cover three years of research. Assuming an average annual budget of \$400-500K, based on previous awards, the total number of awards is expected to range between 4 and 8, including renewal awards. The period of performance for proposals is anticipated to range between one and three years, but options for renewal for an additional one or two-years may also be proposed if appropriate, and shall include a statement of what would be produced in the base 1-3 year effort to allow a decision on renewal. HOWEVER, in no event will the total period of performance for an award exceed 5 years (60 months).

7. 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: eckmanj@onr.navy.mil

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

Business Point of Contact:

Ms. Ellen Simonoff
Contracting Officer
Placement Two Branch
ONR 252
Office of Naval Research
One Liberty Center, Room W1272
875 N. Randolph St.
Arlington, VA 22203-1995
Tel: (703) 696-0157
Fax: (703) 696-0066, ATTN: NOPP BAA
Email: simonoe@onr.navy.mil

8. 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 who 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.

9. Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) Numbers -

[12.300](#)

10. Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) Titles –

DOD Basic and Applied Scientific Research

11. Other Information -

N/A

II. AWARD INFORMATION

1. Total Amount of Funding Available: Up to \$18.0 M over three years, subject to appropriation and final approval by the Interagency Working Group on Ocean Partnerships (IWG-OP) of the ICOSRMI.
2. Anticipated Number of Awards: Up to 14
3. Anticipated Award Types: Grants are anticipated.
4. Anticipated Range of Individual Award Amounts: approximately \$500K-\$750K annually (Topic 4A) or \$400K-\$500K annually (Topic 4B)
5. Anticipated Period of Performance for Awards: 3 years (Topic 4A) or 1-3 years (Topic 4B)

III. ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION

This solicitation is open to all responsible sources.

Historically Black Colleges and Universities and Minority Institutions, as determined by the Secretary of Education to meet requirements of 34 CFR Section 608.2 and 10 U.S.C. Paragraph 2323(a)(1)(C), are particularly encouraged to participate.

IV. APPLICATION AND SUBMISSION INFORMATION

1. Application and Submission Process – Proposals must be submitted electronically by 4:00 p.m. Washington Local Time on 30 November 2006, via one of two mechanisms (see Section IV.5, below). One institution should act as the lead institution for each project and submit the proposal covering all participants.

2. Content and Format of Full Proposals -- Regardless of the means used for delivering the proposal to ONR, the Grants.Gov forms must be downloaded and used to generate the proposal. A specific application package template for NOPP has been set up in Grants.Gov to facilitate this process. The Proposals submitted under this BAA should be unclassified. The Proposal submissions will be protected from unauthorized disclosure in accordance with FAR 15.207, applicable law, and DoD/DoN regulations. Offerors are expected to appropriately mark each page of their submission that contains proprietary information.

Full Proposal Format – Volume 1 - Technical and Volume 2 - Cost Proposal

- Paper Size – 8.5 x 11 inch paper
- Margins – 1” inch
- Spacing – single or double-spaced
- Font – Times New Roman, 12 point

- **Number of Pages** – The Technical Proposal (Volume 1) is limited to no more than 15 pages. The cover page, table of contents, severable statements of work for proposed Federal entities (if applicable), list of references and resumes are excluded from the page limitations. Full Proposals exceeding the page limit specified for Volume 1 may not be evaluated. The Cost Proposal (Volume 2) has no page limitation.
- **Copies** –one electronic copy in .PDF format, submitted by the primary offeror/lead institution (including all supporting documents from all partners and subcontractors), as described below.

Full Proposal Content

The Technical and Cost Proposals must be prepared as a single combined PDF file to allow submission as described in Section IV.

VOLUME 1: TECHNICAL PROPOSAL should include efforts proposed by all participants on the project.

- **Cover Page**: This should include the information requested by Form SF424 (R&R) found in grants.gov relating to this opportunity.

- **Table of Contents**

- **Project Summary/Abstract**

- **Statement of Work**: A Statement of Work (SOW) clearly detailing the scope and objectives of the effort and the technical approach. It is anticipated that the proposed SOW will be incorporated as an attachment to the resultant award instrument. Proposals must include a severable self-standing SOW without any proprietary restrictions, which can be attached to the contract or agreement award. Include a detailed listing of the technical tasks/subtasks organized by year. Should a particular project include a funding request for the participation of a Federal entity, the proposal should include a separate SOW describing only that work which is to be performed by the Federal entity. A separate SOW should be included for each Federal entity requesting funding. SOWs related to the participation of Federal entities, if any, should be included as an appendix to the Technical Proposal. These appendices will not count against the page limitations set forth above.

- **Project Schedule and Milestones**: A summary of the schedule of events and milestones.

- **Assertion of Data Rights**: Include here a summary of any proprietary rights to pre-existing results, prototypes, or systems supporting and/or necessary for the use of the research, results, and/or prototype. Any data rights asserted in other parts of the proposal that would impact the rights in this section must be cross-referenced. If there are proprietary rights, the Offeror must explain how these affect its ability to deliver research data. Additionally, Offerors must explain how the program goals are achievable in light of these proprietary limitations. If there are no claims of proprietary rights in pre-existing data, this section shall consist of a statement to that effect.

If the requirement is for a contract, in accordance with DFARS 227.7103-3(c) Offerors shall provide with their proposal submissions any additional assertions of use, release, or disclosure restrictions as prescribed in DFARS 252.227-7013 and/or its alternate. The full text of this clause may be accessed electronically at the following web address:

http://farsite.hill.af.mil/farsite_script.html

NOTE: The default data policy in NOPP is full, open, and immediate disclosure of all data taken under NOPP sponsorship. Waivers and exceptions should be requested in the proposal and may be granted by the cognizant Program Officer.

- **Deliverables**: A detailed description of the results and reports to be delivered inclusive of the timeframe in which it will be delivered.

- **Management Approach**: A discussion of the overall approach to the management of this effort, including brief discussions of the total organization, use of personnel; project/function/subcontractor/subrecipient relationships; government research interfaces; and planning, scheduling and control practice. Identify which personnel and subcontractors/subrecipient (if any) will be involved. Include a description of the facilities that are required for the proposed effort with a description of any Government Furnished Equipment, Hardware, Software, Information required, by version and/or configuration.

- **List of References**: Provide source of each reference cited in the proposal. No specific format required.

- **Curriculum Vitae**: Resumes or CV's of no more than two pages should be included for the Principal Investigator and each major co-investigator.

- **Ship Use**: Requirements for ship time must be specifically included in the proposal, which should clearly specify the size and type of vessels proposed for use. Ships of opportunity are encouraged. Offeror should include ship time requests on either the former NSF Form 831 (Ship time Request Form) or preferably the University / National Oceanographic Laboratory System (UNOLS) on-line request form available at: <http://www.gso.uri.edu/unols/ship/shiptime.html>.

VOLUME 2: COST PROPOSAL (including a summary budget for the entire project and individual budgets for all participants)

The Cost Proposal shall consist of a cover page, table listing partners and funds requested by partner and year, and certification pages. Cost information should be organized into two parts. Part 1 will provide a detailed cost breakdown of all costs by cost category by calendar or Gov't fiscal year and Part 2 will provide a cost breakdown by task/sub-task corresponding to the task numbers in the proposed Statement of Work.

Projects which include participation by a Federal entity should include a separate budget detailing the Federal entity’s proposed costs in the full partnership proposal. Federal entities will be funded separately via an Economy Act Order.

• **Cover Page:** The use of the SF 1411 is optional. The words “Cost Proposal” should appear on the cover page in addition to the following information:

- BAA number
- Title of Proposal
- Identity of prime Offeror and complete list of subcontractors, if applicable
- Technical contact (name, address, phone/fax, electronic mail address)
- Administrative/business contact (name, address, phone/fax, electronic mail address)
- Duration of effort (separately identify basic effort and any proposed options)
- Signatures of Principal Investigator and required institutional officials

• **Ship Use:** Costs for use of non-UNOLS ships must be included in the proposal budget.

• **Table of Partners and Costs:** The cost proposal should lead with a table summarizing by fiscal year and for each academic institution, business, not-for-profit agency, and government agency requesting funds: the Principal Investigator(s), the name of the institution and its nature, and funds requested for each fiscal year of the proposed effort. Information is required in the following example format:

TABLE OF PARTNERSHIPS:

Principal Investigator(s)*	Institution*	FY07 funds Requested	FY08 funds Requested	FY09 funds Requested	<i>... Additional years as required</i>
R. Johnson (lead PI)	Random University (Academic)	\$125,314	\$127,216	\$131,614	
J. Jones & S. Smith	Vandaley Industries (Business)	\$110,615	\$37,212	\$64,312	
L. Simmons	The Ocean Mammal Conservancy (Non-profit)	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$0	
T. Ritter	DEQ of Texas (State Gov)	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	
OTHER THAN FEDERAL GOVERNMENT	_____	\$260,929	\$189,428	\$195,926	

SUBTOTAL:					
T. Wilson	NOAA Laboratory for Oceans (Government)	\$57,612	\$61,214	\$50,000	
FEDERAL GOVERNMENT PARTICIPANT TOTAL:	_____	\$57,612	\$61,214	\$50,000	
PROJECT TOTAL:	_____	\$318,541	\$250,642	\$245,926	

*Participant names are fictitious and were used simply for illustrative purposes.

• **Certification package** : Proposals should be accompanied by a completed certification package which can be accessed on the ONR Home Page at Contracts & Grants (http://www.onr.navy.mil/02/how_to.asp). For grant proposals and proposals for cooperative agreements or other transaction agreements (other than for prototypes), the certification package is entitled "Certifications for Grants and Agreements." For contract proposals, the certification package is entitled, "Representations and Certifications for Contracts."

Certification Packages from the primary offeror must be signed by an authorized institutional official and included in the single .PDF file containing the Technical and Cost Proposals.

For contracts, in accordance with FAR 4.1201, prospective contractors shall complete electronic annual representations and certifications at <http://orca.bpn.gov>. The Online Representations and Certifications Application (ORCA) will be supplemented by DFARS and contract specific representations and certifications found at the link above. This requirement is also applicable for other transaction proposals involving prototypes (Section 845 agreements).

• **CCR** - Successful Offerors not already registered in the Central Contractor Registry (CCR) will be required to register in CCR prior to award of any grant, contract, cooperative agreement, or other transaction agreement. Information on CCR registration is available at <http://www.ccr.gov/>.

Part 1: Detailed breakdown of all costs by cost category by calendar or Gov't fiscal year:

- Direct Labor – Individual labor category or person, with associated labor hours and unburdened direct labor rates
- Indirect Costs – Fringe Benefits, Overhead, G&A, COM, etc. (Must show base amount and rate)
- Travel – Number of trips, destination, duration, etc

- Subcontract – A cost proposal as detailed as the Offeror’s cost proposal will be required to be submitted by the subcontractor/subrecipient. The subcontractor’s or subrecipient’s cost proposal can be provided in a sealed envelope with the Offeror’s cost proposal or will be requested from the subcontractor at a later date
- Consultant – Provide consultant agreement or other document which verifies the proposed loaded daily/hourly rate
- Materials should be specifically itemized with costs or estimated costs. An explanation of any estimating factors, including their derivation and application, shall be provided. Include a brief description of the Offeror's procurement method to be used (Competition, engineering estimate, market survey, etc.)
- Other Directs Costs, particularly any proposed items of equipment or facilities. Equipment and facilities generally must be furnished by the contractor/recipient. (Justifications must be provided when Government funding for such items is sought). Include a brief description of the Offeror's procurement method to be used (Competition, engineering estimate, market survey, etc.).
- Proposed fee/profit. (All offerors are reminded that DoD policy is substantial participants do not receive fee on grants).

Part 2 : Cost breakdown by task/sub-task using the same task numbers in the Statement of Work.

3. Significant Dates and Times -

Anticipated Schedule of Events		
Event	Date (MM/DD/YEAR)	Time (Washington DC Local Time)
Full Proposals Due Date	11/30/2006	4:00 p.m.
Notification of Selection for Award	04/01/2007 *	
Award (start date)	05/01/2007 *	

* - These dates are estimates as of the date of this announcement.

4. Submission of Late Proposals –

Electronic submission of proposals is required, as described below. Any proposal, modification, or revision, that is received at the designated Government office after the exact time specified for receipt of proposals is “late” and will not be considered unless ALL of the following criteria are met: (1) it is received before selection of awards is made, (2) the contracting officer determines that accepting the late proposal would not unduly delay the acquisition, and (3) the electronic submission was received at the initial point of entry to the Government infrastructure no later than 5:00 p.m. one working day prior to the date specified for receipt of proposals. Offeror should note the above carefully. The rule for declining "late" proposals (even a proposal submitted one (1) minute late) must, by law, be strictly enforced.

However, a late modification of an otherwise timely and successful proposal that makes its terms more favorable to the Government will be considered at any time it is received and may be accepted.

If an emergency or unanticipated event interrupts normal Government processes so that electronic versions of proposals cannot be received at the Government office designated for receipt of proposals by the exact time specified in the announcement, and urgent Government requirements preclude amendment of the announcement closing date, the time specified for receipt of proposals will be deemed to extend to the same time of day specified in the announcement on the first work day on which normal Government processes resume.

The contracting officer must promptly notify any offeror if its proposal, modifications, or revision was received late and must inform the offeror whether its proposal will be considered.

5. Address for the Submission of Full Proposals –

Because of potential delays and/or damage in mailing or shipment of hard copy submissions, electronic submissions of Full Proposals are required. One of two mechanisms may be used, at the discretion of the offeror: a) ONR's secure, web-based file transfer system (used in previous NOPP announcements) OR b) Grants.gov (federal government-wide proposal application system)

Regardless of the means used for delivering the proposal to ONR, the Grants.Gov forms must be downloaded and used to generate the proposal. A specific application package template for NOPP has been set up in Grants.Gov to facilitate this process.

a) ONR's secure, web-based file transfer system (used in previous NOPP announcements)

For electronic submission via this mechanism proposals must be in PDF format. A single combined PDF file (Technical and Cost Proposal documents, containing all information described above) can be submitted as part of any single partnership proposal. Offerors are strongly encouraged to name the file in a manner that identifies it by lead PI, PI's institution, and Topic to which proposal is submitted. An example file name is:

Johnson.RandomUniversity.NOPP-Topic-4A proposal.pdf

Electronic proposal submissions must be directed to the National Oceanographic Partnership Program no later than 4:00 pm Washington D.C. Local Time on 30 November 2006 via secure web-based file transfer at:

<http://onroutside.onr.navy.mil/aspprocessor/nopp322>

Successful submission of a file will be followed by transmission by ONR of a text e-mail acknowledging receipt, sent to an e-mail address of the offeror's specification. Offerors

are strongly urged to keep this text message as additional proof of date and time of receipt.

b) Grants.gov (federal government-wide proposal application system)

There are several one-time actions you must complete in order to submit an application through Grants.gov (e.g., obtain a Dun and Bradstreet Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number, register with the Central Contract Registry (CCR), register with the credential provider, and register with Grants.gov). See <http://grants.gov/GetStarted>. Use the Grants.gov Organization Registration Checklist at:

http://www.grants.gov/applicants/register_your_organization.jsp to guide you through the process. Designating an E-Business Point of Contact (EBiz POC) and obtaining a special password called an MPIN are important steps in the CCR registration process. Applicants, who are not registered with CCR and Grants.gov, should allow at least 21 days to complete these requirements in advance of the proposal application deadline.

IMPORTANT NOTICE TO POTENTIAL APPLICANTS: When you have completed the process, you should call the Grants.gov Helpdesk at 1-800-518-4726 to verify that you have completed the final step.

Questions

Questions relating to the registration process, system requirements, how an application form works, or the submittal process must be directed to Grants.gov at 1-800-518-4726 or support@grants.gov.

Questions of a technical nature should be forwarded to the cognizant ONR Program Manager identified within the BAA. Questions pertaining to cost or an administrative nature should be forwarded to the cognizant ONR Contract Specialist identified within the BAA.

Application Receipt Notices

The Authorized Organization Representative (AOR) submits the application to Grants.Gov. For application instructions, go to http://www.grants.gov/applicants/apply_for_grants.jsp. Remember that you must open and complete the Application for Federal Assistance (Research and Related) (SF 424 (R&R)) first, as this form will automatically populate data fields in other forms. If you encounter any problems, contact customer support at 1-800-518-4726 or at support@grants.gov. If you forget your user name or password, follow the instructions provided in the Credential Provider tutorial.

After an application is submitted, your AOR will receive a series of four e-mails. It is extremely important that the AOR watch for and save each of the emails. It may take up to two (2) business days from application submission to receipt of Email Number 2. You will know that your application has reached ONR when the AOR receives Email Number

4. You will need the Submission Receipt Number (Email Number 1) to track a submission. The titles of the four (4) E-Mails are as follows:

Email Number 1 – Grants.gov Submission Receipt Number
 Email Number 2 – Grants.gov Submission Validation Receipt for Application Number
 Email Number 3 – Grants.gov Grantor Agency Retrieval Receipt for Application Number
 Email Number 4 – Grants.gov Agency Tracking Number Assignment for Application Number

Electronic proposal submissions must be received no later than 4:00 pm Washington D.C. Local Time on 30 November 2006.

VERY IMPORTANT – Download PureEdge Viewer

In order to download the application package, you will need to install PureEdge Viewer. This small, free program will allow you to access, complete and submit applications electronically and securely. For a free version of the software, visit the following website: <http://www.grants.gov/DownloadViewer> .

Training Tutorials

NOTE: The training demonstration at <http://www.grants.gov/CompleteApplication> will assist AORs in the application process. Tutorials may be printed by right-clicking on the tutorial and selecting “Print”. The User Guide is found at: http://www.grants.gov/applicants/applicant_help.jsp

V. EVALUATION INFORMATION

1. Evaluation Criteria –

Evaluations of the proposals will be performed using the following selection criteria listed in descending order of importance:

- Relevance of the proposed research to NOPP objectives;
- Overall scientific and technical merits of the proposal;
- Level of support of critical research objectives or operational goals such as data accessibility, education and communication;
- Quality of proposed partnerships including the degree of broad participation within the oceanographic community and demonstration of significant partnering among at least two of the following parties: (i) academia, (ii) industry (or not-for-profit organization), and (iii) government (federal, state, local) and extent resources are shared among partners;

- The offeror's capabilities, related experience, and facilities or unique combinations of these that are critical to the proposal objectives;
- The partnership members' long-term commitment to the proposed objectives;
- The qualifications and experience of the proposed principal investigator and key personnel;

2. Evaluation Panel -

All proposals will be subject to mail and/or panel review by peers, which may include non-governmental reviewers under non-disclosure agreements. All reviewers will adhere to confidentiality and conflict of interest standards. A synopsis of the NOPP review process can be found at <http://www.nopp.org/>.

The final distribution of awards will depend on quality of proposals, programmatic balance, NOPP priorities and availability of funds.

VI. AWARD ADMINISTRATION INFORMATION

1. Administrative Requirements –

- CCR - Successful Offerors not already registered in the Central Contractor Registry (CCR) will be required to register in CCR prior to award of any grant, contract, cooperative agreement, or other transaction agreement. Information on CCR registration is available at <http://www.ccr.gov/>
- Certifications – Proposals should be accompanied by a completed certification package as described in Section IV.2

2. Annual Reporting -

All funded NOPP efforts must submit an Annual Report for use in the mandatory annual Spring NOPP Report to Congress. The NOPP Program Office will call for these each winter.

VII. OTHER INFORMATION

1. Government Property/Government Furnished Equipment (GFE) and Facilities

Offerors should provide all necessary facilities required to complete the proposed project. However, should an offeror request that the government furnish property the offeror must provide a very specific description of any equipment/hardware that it needs to acquire to perform the work. Also, this description should identify the component, nomenclature, and configuration of the equipment/hardware that it proposes to purchase for this effort. The purchase on a direct reimbursement basis of special test equipment or other equipment will be evaluated for allowability on a case-by-case basis. Maximum use of

Government integration, test, and experiment facilities is encouraged in each of the Offeror's proposals.

2. Use of Animals and Human Subjects in Research

If animals are to be utilized in the research effort proposed, the Offeror must complete a DoD Animal Use Protocol with supporting documentation (copies of AAALAC accreditation and /or NIH assurance, IACUC approval, research literature database searches, and the two most recent USDA inspection reports) prior to award. Similarly, for any proposal that involves the experimental use of human subjects, the Offeror must obtain approval from the Offeror's committee for protection of human subjects (normally referred to as an Institutional Review Board, (IRB)). The Offeror must also provide NIH (OHRP/DHHS) documentation of a Federal Wide Assurance that covers the proposed human subjects study. If the Offeror does not have a Federal Wide Assurance, a DoD Single Project Assurance for that work must be completed prior to award. Please see http://www.onr.navy.mil/02/proposal_procedure.asp +for further information.

3. Department of Defense High Performance Computing Program

The DoD High Performance Computing Program (HPCMP) furnishes the DoD S & T and DT & E communities with use-access to very powerful high performance computing systems. Awardees of ONR contracts, grants, and assistance instruments may be eligible to use HPCMP assets in support of their funded activities if ONR Program Officer approval is obtained and if security/screening requirements are favorably completed. Additional information and an application may be found at <http://www.hpcmo.hpc.mil/>