

Highway, SSMC3, Silver Spring, MD 20910.

*Information Contacts:* If you have any questions regarding this proposal solicitation, please contact Dwayne Meadows at the NMFS Office of Protected Resources F/PR3, Endangered Species Division, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910, by phone at 301-713-1401 x199, or by e-mail at [Dwayne.Meadows@noaa.gov](mailto:Dwayne.Meadows@noaa.gov). You may also contact one of the following people in your region for further guidance: Kim Damon-Randall, Northeast Regional Office [Kimberly.Damon-Randall@noaa.gov](mailto:Kimberly.Damon-Randall@noaa.gov) (978-281-9300 x 6535), Alex Meyer, Southeast Regional Office [Alex.Meyer@noaa.gov](mailto:Alex.Meyer@noaa.gov) (727-824-5312), Krista Graham, Pacific Islands Regional Office [Krista.Graham@noaa.gov](mailto:Krista.Graham@noaa.gov) (808-944-2238), Melissa Neuman, Southwest Regional Office [Melissa.Neuman@noaa.gov](mailto:Melissa.Neuman@noaa.gov) (562-980-4115), Eric Murray, Northwest Regional Office [Eric.Murray@noaa.gov](mailto:Eric.Murray@noaa.gov) (503-872-2791), Brad Smith, Alaska Regional Office [Brad.Smith@noaa.gov](mailto:Brad.Smith@noaa.gov) (907-271-3023).

*Eligibility:* Eligible applicants are U.S. state, territorial, tribal, or local governments that have regulatory or management authority over one or more SOC or activities that affect one or more SOC. A current list of SOC can be found at <http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/pr/species/concern/#list> or obtained from the Office of Protected Resources (see section G, Agency Contacts). Applicants are not eligible to submit a proposal under this program if they are a federal employee; however, federal employees may serve as Cooperators. In addition, NMFS employees are not allowed to actively engage in the preparation of proposals or write letters of support for any application. However, if applicable, NMFS employees can write a letter verifying that they are collaborating with a particular project. NMFS contacts (see section G) are available to provide information regarding programmatic goals and objectives associated with the PSCP, other ongoing ESA programs, regional funding priorities, and, along with other Federal Program Officers, can provide information on application procedures and completion of required forms.

*Cost Sharing Requirements:* There are no cost-sharing or matching requirements under this solicitation.

*Intergovernmental Review:* Applications submitted by state and local governments are subject to the provisions of Executive Order 12372, "Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs." Any applicant submitting an application for funding is required to

complete item 16 on SF-424 regarding clearance by the State Single Point of Contact (SPOC) established as a result of EO 12372. To find out about and comply with a State's process under EO 12372, the names, addresses and phone numbers of participating SPOCs are listed in the Office of Management and Budget's home page at: <http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/grants/spoc.html>.

#### *National Ocean Service (NOS)*

#### 1. Coastal and Estuarine Land Conservation Program (CELCP)—FY 2010 Competition

*Summary Description:* The purpose of this document is to advise eligible coastal states and territories (requirements described below) that OCRM is soliciting coastal and estuarine land conservation project proposals for competitive funding under the CELCP. States and territories must have submitted to NOAA a CELCP plan on or before February 24, 2009, in order to be eligible to participate in the FY2010 funding opportunity (see Final Guidelines for Coastal and Estuarine Land Conservation Program for more information on CELCP plan requirements, available at <http://coastalmanagement.noaa.gov/land/media/CELCPfinal02Guidelines.pdf>). Funding is contingent upon the availability of FY 2010 Federal appropriations. It is anticipated that projects funded under this announcement will have a grant start date between March 1, 2010 and October 1, 2010. The program authority is 16 U.S.C. 1456d.

*Funding Availability:* NOAA anticipates that approximately 20-60 projects may be included on a competitively-ranked list of projects that are ready and eligible for funding in FY 2010. Funding for projects selected for the prioritized list is contingent upon availability of Federal appropriations for FY 2010. Applicants are hereby given notice that funds have not yet been appropriated for this program. The FY 2010 President's Request for the program is \$15 million. Annual appropriated funding levels for the CELCP ranged from \$8-\$50 million from FY 2002-2008. Eligible coastal states and territories may select and submit up to three projects for this competition, including subsequent phases of projects previously funded by CELCP. Applicants may include multiple parcels in a project proposal; however, please note that NOAA will evaluate project readiness and feasibility for completion within the required 18 month timeframe. For such

projects, NOAA recommends that applicants limit the scope to acquiring no more than 5 separate parcels (including parcels that would be acquired directly with CELCP funds as well as those that would be counted an in-kind match). See section III.C. for additional details. The maximum amount that may be requested for the Federal share of each project is \$3,000,000. The amount of funding per award in previous years has ranged from \$380,000 to \$3,000,000 for competitively selected projects, depending on the amount requested, size, and type of project. There is no guarantee that sufficient funds will be available to make awards for all qualified projects. Publication of this notice and the list of projects deemed ready and eligible does not obligate NOAA to award any specific project or to obligate any available funds. If a state or territory incurs any costs prior to receiving an award agreement signed by an authorized NOAA official, they do so solely at their own risk of these costs not being included under the award. In no event will NOAA or the Department of Commerce be responsible for proposal preparation or other project costs if this program fails to receive funding or is cancelled because of other agency priorities. Recipients and sub-recipients are subject to all Federal laws and agency policies, regulations, and procedures applicable to Federal financial assistance awards. NOAA is committed to continual improvement of the grants process and accelerating the award of financial assistance to qualified recipients in accordance with the recommendations of the NOAA Program Review Team. If funding is appropriated in FY 2010 for projects recommended through this competition, NOAA will request final grant applications from successful applicants as soon as feasible in order to expedite the grant process (see VI. Award Administration Information). Applicants must be in good standing with all existing NOAA grants in order to receive funds.

*Statutory Authority:* Authority for the CELCP is 16 U.S.C. 1456d.

*Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) Number:* 11.419, Coastal Zone Management Administration Awards.

*Application Deadline:* Applications must be received and validated by Grants.gov on or before 6 p.m. EST on March 31, 2009. Applications submitted through Grants.gov will have a date and time indication on them.

**Please Note:** It may take Grants.gov up to two (2) business days to validate or reject the

application. Please keep this in mind in developing your submission timeline. Hard copy applications must be received at the OCRM Office at the address listed in this announcement.

*Address for Submitting Proposals:*

The proposal may be submitted electronically through Grants.gov online at: <http://www.grants.gov> or by mailing an original and four copies of each proposal to Attn: Elaine Vaudreuil, NOAA, Ocean and Coastal Resource Management, National Policy and Evaluation Division (N/ORM7), 1305 East-West Highway, SSMC4, Station 10657, Silver Spring, MD 20910.

*Information Contacts:* CELCP Program Manager: Elaine Vaudreuil Phone: (301) 713-3155 ext 103 E-mail:

*Elaine.Vaudreuil@noaa.gov* or Elisabeth Morgan Phone: (301) 713-3155 ext 166 E-mail: *Elisabeth.Morgan@noaa.gov*.

*Eligibility:* Only coastal states and territories with Coastal Zone Management Programs or National Estuarine Research Reserves approved under the CZMA that have submitted a draft CELCP plan to NOAA on or before February 24, 2009, are eligible to participate in the FY 2010 CELCP competition. A list of the status of each state and territory's CELCP plan including the states and territories eligible for this competition, is available at [http://coastalmanagement.noaa.gov/land/media/CELCPplans\\_web.pdf](http://coastalmanagement.noaa.gov/land/media/CELCPplans_web.pdf), and will be updated as of as of February 24, 2009. The designated lead agency for implementing CELCP in each state or territory ("lead agency") is eligible to submit projects for funding under this competition. The lead agency is presumed to be the agency designated as lead for implementing the state or territory's coastal management program, as approved under the CZMA, unless otherwise designated by the Governor. A list of lead contacts for each state and territory is available on the CELCP Web site at <http://coastalmanagement.noaa.gov/land/media/celcpstateleadcontacts.pdf>. The designated lead agency may solicit, and include in their application, project proposals from additional eligible state or territorial agencies, local governments as defined at 15 CFR 24.3, or entities eligible for assistance under section 306A(e) of the CZMA (16 U.S.C. 1455a(e)), provided that each has the authority to acquire and manage land for conservation purposes. As defined at 15 CFR 24.3, local government means a county, municipality, city, town, township, local public authority (including any public and Indian housing agency under the United States Housing Act of 1937), school district, special district, intrastate district,

council of governments (whether or not incorporated as a nonprofit corporation under State law), any other regional or interstate government entity, or any agency or instrumentality of a local government. Under section 306A(e) of the CZMA, an eligible entity may be a local government, an area-wide agency designated under Chapter 41, Subchapter II, section 3334 of Title 42, a regional agency, or an interstate agency. The public agencies/entities, or types of entities, considered to be eligible within each state or territory may be identified within the state or territory's CELCP plan. A link to a list of Web sites for state or territory CELCP plans is available on the CELCP Web site at [http://coastalmanagement.noaa.gov/land/media/CELCPplans\\_web.pdf](http://coastalmanagement.noaa.gov/land/media/CELCPplans_web.pdf). The lead agency will be responsible for: Ensuring that projects are consistent with land conservation priorities outlined in the state or territory's draft or approved CELCP plan; reviewing proposals for completeness; prioritizing proposals according to CELCP plan criteria; and nominating up to three proposals to the national selection process at a requested funding level not to exceed \$3 million per proposal. For selected projects, NOAA may make financial assistance awards to the lead agency, which will be responsible for ensuring that allocated funds are used for the purposes of and in a manner consistent with this program, including any funds awarded to an eligible sub-applicant. NOAA may, with concurrence of the state or territory's CELCP lead agency, make a grant directly to the identified sub-applicant in order to expedite completion of an approved project. In such cases, the sub-applicant (as the grant recipient) will be responsible for ensuring that allocated funds are used for the approved purposes and in a manner consistent with this program. Interested parties should contact the appropriate CELCP lead in each state or territory for additional information on their project solicitation process.

*Cost Sharing Requirements:* Federal funds awarded under this program must be matched with non-Federal funds at a ratio of 1:1, with the following exception. In accordance with 48 U.S.C. 1469a(d), the 1:1 matching requirement is waived for any project under \$200,000 for Insular Areas, defined as the jurisdictions of the U.S. Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. For any project equal to or greater than \$200,000, the matching requirement would be waived for the portion under \$200,000. The 1:1

match requirement would apply to the portion equal to or above \$200,000.

**Please note:** Eligible applicants choosing to apply 48 U.S.C. 1469a(d) should note the use of the waiver and the total amount of funds requested to be waived in the matching funds section of the project proposal. Non-Federal matching funds may be derived from state, local, non-governmental or private sources in the form of cash or in-kind contributions. Cost-sharing requirements for the CELCP are specified in Section 2.7 of the CELCP Guidelines. Sources of matching funds must meet the eligibility criteria and ownership and stewardship conditions of the Federal share, unless specified otherwise. (Eligibility criteria, ownership and stewardship conditions are further described below in section "III.C. Other Criteria that Affect Eligibility.") The following costs may not be counted toward the non-Federal matching share:—Costs expended prior to the grant award, unless specifically allowed as "banked match" (see C.2, below), or qualified "pre-award" costs that were incurred within 90 days before the start of a grant award.—Lands or services previously used as non-Federal match. Any funds or in-kind contributions, including the value of donated lands or services, that have been previously used to satisfy the matching requirements of this program or that that have been or will be used to satisfy another Federal grant, may not be counted toward the non-Federal matching share.—Lands or services acquired with Federal funds. Unless otherwise provided by Federal law, the value of property, interests in property or services acquired with Federal funding may not be used as non-Federal match.—Cash contribution of Federal funds. Unless otherwise provided by Federal law, funding that originated from Federal sources may not be used as non-Federal match.

*Intergovernmental Review:*

Applications under this program are subject to Executive Order 12372, "Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs." If the state participates in this process, a list of participating states and the clearinghouse point of contacts can be found at <http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/grants/spoc.html>.

2. Coral Reef NGO Partnership

*Summary Description:* The purpose of this notice is to invite Non-Governmental Organizations with non-profit 501(c)(3) status, with expertise and experience in supporting coral reef management in U.S. and associated waters to submit a multi-year proposal for establishing a partnership for up to four years with the NOAA CRCP at both a national and international level to further the conservation of coral reefs. This document describes the coral reef conservation partnership that the CRCP envisions, identifies the qualities that NOAA desires in a partner, and describes criteria under which