# INITIAL ANNOUNCEMENT OF A NOTICE OF REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

**Federal Agency Name(s):**National Sea Grant College Program, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Department of Commerce.

- Funding Opportunity Title: Gulf Oyster Industry Initiative
- Announcement Type: Notice of request for proposals
- Funding Opportunity Number: Gulf Oyster Industry Program 2004-1
- Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance(CFDA)Number(s): 11.417. Sea Grant Support.
- Dates: Applications must be received by 5 p.m. (local time) on December 1, 2003 for pre-proposals and by 5 p.m. (local time) February 3, 2004 for full proposals by a state Sea Grant Program [or by the National Sea Grant Office (NSGO) in the case of an applicant in a non-Sea Grant state]. Applications are to be forwarded to the NSGO by the state Sea Grant Programs by 5 p.m. EST on December 8, 2003 for pre-proposals and by 5 p.m. EST February 10, 2004 for full proposals.
- Funding Opportunity Description: The purpose of this notice is to advise the public that the National Sea Grant College Program (Sea Grant) is entertaining proposals to participate in innovative research, outreach and demonstration to continue the Gulf Oyster Industry Program (GOIP). Approximately \$1 million is available for the Gulf Oyster Program in FY-2004 and a similar amount is expected for FY-2005. Therefore, two year proposals are being accepted. The Gulf Oyster Industry Program focuses on the oyster industry problems of the Gulf Coast.

#### **FULL ANNOUNCEMENT TEXT**

## I. Funding Opportunity Description

A. Program Objective

The Gulf Oyster Industry Program was created as a result of information provided by the Gulf oyster industry leaders, state resource managers, and academic researchers spanning the five-state Gulf of Mexico region. As a result of workshops held in 1997, 2000, and most recently in April 2003, specific industry needs were identified in 10 concise issue statements listed below.

It is the goal of the Gulf Oyster Industry Program to encourage multi-disciplinary research and extension projects that contribute directly to the efficiency and profitability of oyster-related businesses and to the safety of oyster products. It encourages multi-disciplinary approaches to meet the challenges faced by the oyster industry in producing wholesome seafood products. Oyster businesses seek innovative solutions at all producing and processing levels, including: production (landings), oyster disease diagnostics, harvesting, post-harvest treatment, processing, distribution, marketing, consumer education, and food safety.

One way to encourage new and innovative approaches is to seek input from researchers in both the biological and non-biological fields, since many new challenges may require the combined expertise of biologists, engineers, efficiency experts, economists, marketing experts, and food scientists. Funded research projects are expected to provide practical solutions to current industry problems, contribute to developing technologies that can be readily transferred to production and/or processing operations, and produce outputs that can be quantified in terms of increased efficiency, economic benefit, and /or public health protection. Clearly, there is a continuing need for research to provide practical solutions to specific industry challenges.

# B. Program Priorities

This list of research and extension needs provided the basis for research priorities for funding by the Gulf Oyster Industry Program.

## 1. At-Risk Consumer Education and Evaluation

Proposals that will target, develop, implement and/or evaluate a *Vibrio vulnificus* Education Program, including, but not limited to:

- at-risk consumer foundations and associations,
- pharmacies
- alcohol treatment centers
- wound infection issues
- media relations
- public perceptions

## 2. Human Pathogenic Organisms

Raw oysters have the potential to cause human illness due to the presence of naturally occurring opportunistic pathogens (e.g., *Vibrio vulnificus*), naturally occurring pathogens that become a concern only when present at elevated levels (e.g., *Vibrio cholera* or *Vibrio parahaemolyticus*), and pathogens which are related to contaminated growing areas (e.g., Norwalk and Norwalk- like viruses, Salmonella sp. and Shiqella). This potential has created a perception the consumption of raw oysters places a large

number of people at risk of contracting illnesses from opportunistic bacteria, toxins, and viruses. This RFP also seeks proposals that will:

- develop new means of treating shell stock to eliminate human pathogens
- develop or investigate new technology, such as ionized water, for depurating oysters of human pathogens

# 3. Post-Harvest Treatment (PHT) Process Evaluation and Education

Proposals that will develop and evaluate PHT demonstration projects, including, but not limited to:

- providing PHT product in demonstration projects to wholesalers & retailers
- conducting economic analyses regarding the changes to current handling and processing practices.

# 4. Consumer Attitudes and Preferences

The oyster industry and regulators lack knowledge concerning the attitudes, preferences, and other characteristics of potential oyster consumers. Learning about consumers' attitudes and preferences will help increase demand for new PHT and traditional oyster products. This RFP seeks proposals that will:

- determine oyster consumer demographics, consumption patterns, attitudes and preferences
- develop media relations protocol for the oyster industry
- conduct media relations workshops for the Gulf oyster industry to improve communication skills
- develop media relations protocol or decision tree for researchers and state regulatory personnel
- determine the characteristics of the market for Gulf oysters, including sales (region, size of establishment, average sales, etc.), distribution, and product forms

## 5.Harmful Algal Blooms (HAB)- Red Tide

HAB cause lengthy public health closures of shellfish growing waters, halting production for weeks and causing severe economic hardship in the impacted area. This RFP seeks proposals to:

- develop rapid detection methods for toxic marine algae, especially *G. breve*
- conduct HAB research advisory and outreach activities in the Gulf states
- conduct workshops for state and Federal shellfish managers. sanitation personnel and researchers to include new monitoring, diagnostic, and management protocols for use in reopening shellfish growing waters closed by HAB.

# 6. Economic and Legal Impacts of Regulatory Action

The regulation of molluscan shellfish is unique from all other foods. Regulatory action either by state or Federal public health agencies, and subsequent news media responses can have severe economic and legal impacts on the harvesting, processing and marketing of shellfish, such as Gulf oysters. This RFP seeks proposals that:

- analyze the effects of inaccurate media reports on sales
- the delisting of a processor or state from the Interstate Certified Shellfish Shippers List
- the ramifications from product disparagement, and/or, the impact of the oyster and support industries on demand for labor and the coastal economies of the Gulf region.

#### 7. Coastal Restoration/Freshwater Diversion

Coastal land loss, deterioration of estuarine habitat, and coastal restoration programs, e.g., freshwater diversions and sedimentation projects, are causing widespread dislocations and conflicts with established oyster-producing operations. This RFP seeks proposals that:

- educate oyster men, public officials, and citizens regarding the economic and environmental role of the oyster industry and the economic costs of displacing and relocation oyster bedding operations
- conduct demonstration projects for oyster farmers to show them the best strategy to relocate their oyster farms that are damaged by coastal restoration projects.

## 8. <u>Labor and Mechanization</u>

The traditional labor base that supports oyster growing, harvesting, and processing is shrinking rapidly, with consequently declining production and increased costs. This RFP seeks proposals that:

- investigate and develop cost-effective mechanized approaches to oyster harvesting and processing, including, but not limited to:
- developing new means to package and handle oyster shellstock and shucked oysters, including large re-usable, low-cost containerization of shellstock for vessels to trucks
- handling equipment to move large containers of shellstock
- cheaper containers for shucked oysters.

## 9. Oyster Diseases

Oyster diseases are having a major impact on Gulf Coast oyster stocks and for the most part this topic will be covered under the Oyster Disease topic in this solicitation.

However, oyster disease research specific to the Gulf Coast will be considered in this solicitation.

# 10. Genetics and Oyster Hatchery Technology

These technologies are needed to develop cost-effective hatchery/nursery operations to augment wild oyster production with specialized strains or help create oyster aquaculture operations. This RFP seeks proposals that:

- develop polyploid broodstock for the Gulf Coast
- disease resistant transgenic oysters
- address practical problems which may be common to oyster production in general, but especially acute in a farming situation, e.g., biofouling, predation, disease, etc.

# C. Program Authority.

Authority for the Gulf Oyster Program is provided by 33 U.S.C. 1121-1131.

## **II. Award Information**

# A. Funding Availability

Approximately \$1 million is available for the Gulf Oyster Industry competition in 2004 and a similar amount is expected but not assured for FY-2005, therefore, two-year projects will be considered. Proposals are limited to a total of \$200,000 for each year and approximately 7 full proposals will be funded.

# B. Project/Award Period

Funding will be on an annual basis, with renewal depending upon satisfactory demonstration of progress and availability of funds. Starting date for grant should be June 1, 2004.

Applications must be received by 5 p.m. (local time) on December 1, 2003 for preproposals and by 5 p.m. (local time) on February 3, 2004 for full proposals by a state Sea Grant Program [or by the National Sea Grant Office (NSGO) in the case of an applicant in a non-Sea Grant state]. Applications are to be forwarded to the NSGO by the state Sea Grant Programs by 5 p.m.EST on December 8, 2003 for preproposals and by 5 p.m. EST February 10, 2004 for full proposals

#### C. Type of funding instrument

Grants or Cooperative Agreements will be awarded depending upon the degree of government involvement. A Cooperative Agreement would be issued if the NOAA Program Manager plays a significant part is setting project priorities and assisting in

meeting project goals.

#### III. Eligibility Information

#### A. Eligible Applicants

Individuals, institutions of higher education, nonprofit organizations, commercial organizations, State, local and Indian tribal governments, are eligible. Only those who submit preliminary proposals by the preliminary proposal deadline are eligible to submit full proposals. Those submitting preliminary proposals by the preliminary proposal deadline that are not recommended by the pre-proposal review process still are eligible to submit full proposals.

#### B. Cost Sharing or Matching Requirement

The applicant must provide one dollar of match for every two dollars of federal money received.

## IV. Application and Submission Information

#### A. ADDRESS TO REQUEST APPLICATION PACKAGE.

Application packages may be obtained from Sea Grant College Program Directors. The addresses of the Sea Grant College Program directors may be found at (http://www.nsgo.seagrant.org/SGDirectors.html) or may also be obtained by contacting Mr. Joseph Brown at the NSGO (mail address: National Sea Grant College Program, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910; phone: 301-713-2438 x135; or e-mail: joe.brown@noaa.gov). Applications packages may also be obtained directly from the NSGO by contacting Mr. Brown.

## B. CONTENT AND FORM OF APPLICATION SUBMISSION

Preliminary Proposal Guidelines.

To prevent the expenditure of effort that may not be successful, proposers must first submit preliminary proposals. Preliminary proposals must be single-or double-spaced, typewritten in at least a 10 point font, and printed on metric A4(210mm x297mm) or 8 ½"x 11" paper. The following information should be included:

1) Signed title page: The title page should be signed by the Principal Investigator and should clearly identify the program area being addressed by starting the project title with the Gulf Oyster Industry Initiative." Principal Investigators and collaborators should be identified by affiliation and contact information. The total amount of Federal funds and matching funds being requested or provided should be listed for each budget period, as well as the source

of the matching funds. Preliminary proposals must include matching fund equivalent to at least 50% of the Federal funds requested.

- 2) A concise (2-page limit) description of the project, its experimental design, its expected output or products, the anticipated users of the information, and its anticipated impact. Proposers should use the Evaluation Criteria for additional guidance in preparing the preliminary proposals.
- 3) Resumes (1-page limit) of the Principal Investigators.
- 4) Proposers are encouraged (but not required) to include a separate page suggesting reviewers that the proposers believe are especially well qualified to review the proposal. Proposers may also designate persons they would prefer not review the proposal, indicating why. These suggestions will be considered during the review process.

Three copies of the preliminary proposals must be submitted to the state Sea Grant Program Director or, for investigators in non-Sea Grant states, directly to the National Sea Grant Office(NSGO) by the times and dates listed under the "Dates" section of this announcement. Preliminary proposals submitted to state Sea Grant Programs will be forwarded, along with a cover letter, to the NSGO by the dates indicated in this announcement.

#### **Full Proposal Guidelines**

Each full proposal should include the items listed below. All pages should be single- or double-spaced, typewritten in at least a 10-point font, and printed on metric A4 (210 mm x 297 mm) or 8 ½" x 11" paper. Brevity will assist reviewers and program staff in dealing effectively with proposals. Therefore, the Project Description may not exceed 15 pages. Tables and visual materials, including charts, graphs, maps, photographs and other pictorial presentations are included in the 15-page limitation. Conformance to the 15-page limitation will be strictly enforced. All information needed for review of the proposal should be included in the main text; no appendices are permitted.

#### **Required Elements**

- 1) <u>Signed title page</u>: The title page should be signed by the Principal Investigator and the institutional representative and should clearly identify the program area being addressed by starting the project title with Gulf Oyster Industry Initiative, as appropriate. The Principal Investigator and institutional representative should be identified by full name, title, organization, telephone number, e-mail address, and mailing address. The total amount of Federal funds and matching funds being requested should be listed for each budget period.
- 2) <u>Project Summary</u>: This information is very important. It is critical that the project summary accurately describe the research being proposed and convey all essential elements of the research. The project summary should include: 1. Title: Use the exact title as it appears in the rest of the application. 2. Investigators: List the names and affiliations of each investigator who will significantly contribute to the project. Start with the Principal Investigator. 3. Funding request for each year of the project, including matching funds if appropriate. 4. Project Period: Start and completion dates. Proposals should request a start date of June 1, 2004. This section should include the rationale for the project, the scientific or technical objectives and/or hypotheses to be tested, and a brief summary of work to be completed.

## 3) Project Description (15-page limit):

<u>Introduction/Background/Justification</u>: Subjects that the investigator(s) may wish to include in this section are: a) current state of knowledge; b) contributions that the study will make to the particular discipline or subject area; and c) contributions the study will make toward addressing the problems of Gulf oyster industry issues.

Research or Technical Plan: a) Objectives to be achieved, hypotheses to be tested; b) Experimental design and statistical analysis to be used; c) Plan of work – discuss how stated project objectives will be achieved; and d) Role of project personnel.

<u>Output</u>: Describe the project outputs that will enhance the Nation's ability to improve the status of oysters and the oyster industry.

Coordination with other Program Elements: Describe any coordination with other agency programs or ongoing research efforts. Describe any other proposals that are essential to the success of this proposal.

<u>References and Literature Citations</u>: Should be included but will not be counted in the 15 page project description limit.

- 4) <u>Budget and Budget Justification</u>: There should be a separate budget for each year of the project as well as a cumulative annual budget for the entire project. Subcontracts should have a separate budget page. Matching funds must be indicated; failure to provide adequate matching funds will result in the proposal being rejected without review. Each annual budget should include a separate budget justification page that itemizes all budget items in sufficient detail to enable reviewers to evaluate the appropriateness of the funding requested. Please pay special attention to any travel, supply or equipment budgets and provide details. For proposals to either of the competition categories the total dollar amount of indirect costs must not exceed the indirect cost rate negotiated and approved by the 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.
- 5) <u>Current and Pending Support</u>: Applicants must provide information on all current and pending Federal support for ongoing projects and proposals, including subsequent funding in the case of continuing grants. The number of person-months per year to be devoted to the projects must be stated, regardless of source of support. Similar information must be provided for all proposals already submitted or submitted concurrently to other possible Federal sponsors, including those within NOAA.
- 6) Vitae (2 pages maximum per investigator)
- 7) <u>Standard Application Forms</u>: See Address section for web address for forms. Forms can also be obtained from state Sea Grant programs or the National Sea Grant Office. The following forms must be included:
- (a) Standard Forms 424, Application for Federal Assistance, 424A, Budget Information Non-Construction Programs; and 424B, Assurances Non-Construction Programs, (Rev 4-88). Applications should clearly identify the program area being addressed by starting the project title Gulf Oyster Industry Program, as appropriate. Please note that both the Principal Investigator and an administrative contact should be identified in

Section 5 of the SF424. For Section 10, applicants for Gulf Oyster Industry Initiative program areas should enter "11.417" for the CFDA Number and "Sea Grant Support" for the title. The form must contain the original signature of an authorized representative of the applying institution.

- (b) Primary Applicant Certifications. All primary applicants must submit a completed Form CD-511, "Certifications Regarding Debarment, Suspension and Other Responsibility Matters; Drug-Free Workplace Requirements and Lobbying," and the following explanations are hereby provided:
- (i) Nonprocurement Debarment and Suspension. Prospective participants (as defined at 15 CFR Part 26, Section 105) are subject to 15 CFR Part 26, "Nonprocurement Debarment and Suspension" and the related section of the certification form prescribed above applies;
- (ii) Drug-Free Workplace. Grantees (as defined at 15 CFR Part 26, Section 605) are subject to 15 CFR Part 26, Subpart F, "Government wide Requirements for Drug-Free Workplace (Grants)" and the related section of the certification form prescribed above applies;
- (iii) Anti-Lobbying. Persons (as defined at 15 CFR Part 28, Section 105) are subject to the lobbying provisions of 31 U.S.C. 1352, "Limitation on use of appropriated funds to influence certain Federal contracting and financial transactions," and the lobbying section of the certification form prescribed above applies to applications/bids for grants, cooperative agreements, and contracts for more than \$100,000, and loans and loan guarantees for more than \$150,000, or the single family maximum mortgage limit for affected programs, whichever is greater; and
- (iv) Anti-Lobbying Disclosures. Any applicant that has paid or will pay for lobbying using any funds must submit an SF-LLL, "Disclosure of Lobbying Activities," as required under 15 CFR Part 28, Appendix B.
- (c) Lower Tier Certifications. Recipients shall require applicants/bidders for subgrants, contracts, subcontracts, or other lower tier covered transactions at any tier under the award to submit, if applicable, a completed Form CD-512, "Certifications Regarding Debarment, Suspension, Ineligibility and Voluntary Exclusion-Lower Tier Covered Transactions and Lobbying" and disclosure form, SF-LLL, "Disclosure of Lobbying Activities." Form CD-512 is intended for the use of recipients and should not be transmitted to the Department of Commerce (DOC). SF-LLL submitted by any tier recipient or subrecipient should be submitted to DOC in accordance with the instructions contained in the award document.

How to Submit

Although investigators are not required to submit more than 3 copies of the proposal, the normal review process requires 10 copies. Investigators are encouraged to submit sufficient proposal copies for the full review process if they wish all reviewers to receive color, unusually sized (not 8.5 x 11"), or otherwise unusual materials submitted as part of the proposal. Only three copies of the Federally required forms are needed.

#### C. Submission Dates and Times

Preliminary proposals are due by 5 p.m. (local time) on December 1, 2003 and full proposals are due by 5 p.m. (local time) on February 3, 2004 at a state Sea Grant Program [or by the National Sea Grant Office (NSGO) in the case of an applicant from a non-sea Grant state]. Applications are to be forwarded to the NSGO by the state Sea Grant Programs by 5 p.m.

EST on December 8, 2003 for pre-proposals and by 5 p.m. EST on February 10, 2004 for full proposals.

Applications will be stamped with the date received at the state Sea Grant Program or the NSGO. Applications arriving after the above deadlines will be accepted for review only if the applicant can document that the application was provided to a delivery service that guaranteed delivery prior to the specified closing date and time. In any event, applications received by the NSGO or the state Sea Grant Programs later than two business days following the closing date will not be accepted.

#### D. Intergovernmental Review

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

# E. Funding Restrictions

No special restrictions apply.

#### F. Other Submission Requirements

Prospective applicants living in Sea Grant States should submit their preliminary and full proposals to the their state's Sea Grant program. Addresses for state Sea Grant programs are available at <a href="https://www.mdsg.umd.edu/ngo/research">www.mdsg.umd.edu/ngo/research</a> or by contacting NOAA at National Sea Grant College Program, R/SG, Attn: Gulf Oyster Industry Competition, Room 11838, NOAA, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910, Phone: 301-713-2451. Applicants from non-Sea Grant states should send preliminary and full proposals to the above address.

All applicants are to submit hard copy proposals only. Facsimile transmissions and electronic mail submission of proposals will not be accepted. The hard copies may be submitted by postal mail, commercial delivery service, or hand-delivery.

#### V. Application Review Information

#### A. Evaluation Criteria

The evaluation criteria for both pre-proposals and full proposals submitted for support under the Gulf Oyster Industry Program are as follows:

Importance and/or relevance and applicability of proposed project to the program goals (maximum 40 points): This ascertains whether there is intrinsic value in the proposed work and or relevance to NOAA, federal, regional, state, or local activities. For the Gulf Oyster industry competition, this includes: the degree to which the activity, if successful, will advance the state of the science, industry, or state-of-the-art methods for the Gulf Oyster Industry.

Technical/scientific Merit (maximum 40 points). This assesses whether the approach is technically sound and/or innovative, if the methods are appropriate, and whether there are clear project goals and objectives.

Overall Qualifications of Investigators (maximum 5 points). This criterion ascertains whether the applicant possesses the necessary education, experience, training, facilities, and administrative resources to accomplish the project.

Project Costs(Maximum 5 points): This criterion evaluates the budget to determine if it is realistic and commensurate with the project needs and time-frame. For the Gulf Oyster industry competition, this includes: Degree to which inter-institutional and multi-disciplinary programs have been developed in order to leverage funds and resources.

Outreach, and Education(maximum 10 points). This criterion assesses whether the project provides a focused and effective education and outreach strategy regarding NOAA's mission to protect the Nation's natural resources. For the Gulf Oyster industry competition, this includes: Degree to which the potential users of the results, i.e., industry, have been involved in the planning of the activity, will be involved in the execution of the activity and/or are providing funds and whether there is a plan to disseminate the results to user groups and the public.

#### **B. Review and Selection Process**

An initial administrative review is conducted at both the pre-proposal and full proposal stages to determine compliance with requirements and completeness of the application. A pre-proposal review panel, to be organized by Sea Grant, Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research, will be convened at the NOAA offices in Silver Spring, MD and will review all preliminary proposals. The pre-proposal review panel will consist of government, academic, industry and non-government organization (NG0) representatives. This panel will assign points on an individual basis to each pre-proposal based on the evaluation criteria and priorities contained in this request for proposals. Those receiving an average score of the individual ratings of 81 points and above will be asked to submit full proposals. No consensus advice will be provided by the review panel to Sea Grant Program Managers.

Full proposals submitted to the state Sea Grant Programs or the Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research will be sent to peer reviewers for written reviews. Reviewers will be asked to evaluate the proposals using the evaluation criteria listed in this announcement. Complete full proposals and accompanying written reviews will be evaluated by a peer review panel comprised of government, academic, industry and NGO experts organized by OAR. The members of the panel will provide individual point scores for each proposal using the evaluation criteria listed in this announcement and the input provided by the written reviews, but there will be no consensus advice. Their evaluations will be considered by the Sea Grant Program Managers for final project selection.

For proposals rated 81 points and above in average score, the Sea Grant Program Managers will make the final project selection. They will award in rank order of the merit review rating unless the proposal is justified to be selected out of rank order based upon 1,2.a, 2.c, 2.d, 2.e, 4,5, or 6 of the following factors:

- 1. Availability of funding
- 2. Balance/distribution of funds
  - a. Geographically
  - b. By type of institutions
  - c. By type of partners
  - d. By Research areas
  - e. By project types
- 3. Duplication of other projects funded or considered for funding by NOAA/federal agencies.
- 4. Program Priorities and policy factors
- 5. Applicant's prior award performance
- 6. Partnerships with/Participation of targeted groups.

For selection factor 4 see Paragraph 1.B., above.

Investigators may be asked to modify objectives, work plans, or budgets prior to approval of the award. Subsequent administrative processing will be in accordance with current NOAA grants procedures. A summary statement of the scientific review by the peer panel will be provided to each applicant.

Applications must reflect the total budget necessary to accomplish the project. The appropriateness of all cost-sharing will be determined on the basis of guidance provided in applicable Federal cost principles. The applicants will be bound by the percentage of cost sharing reflected in the grant award.

#### C. Anticipated Announcement and Award Dates

Recommendations on pre-proposals will be made by December 20, 2003 and full proposals by March 1, 2004. Grant start dates should be June 1, 2004.

#### **VI. Award Administration Information**

#### A. Award Notices

The notice of award is signed by the NOAA Grants Officer and is the authorizing document. It is provided by postal mail to the appropriate business office of the recipient organization.

The National Sea Grant Office will notify unsuccessful applicants, in writing, by postal mail. Those proposals that are not ultimately selected for funding will be destroyed.

## B. Administrative and National Policy Requirements

Administrative and national policy requirements for all Department of Commerce awards are contained in the Department of Commerce Pre-Award Notification Requirements

for Grants and Cooperative Agreements published in the Federal Register on October 1, 2001 (66 FR 49917), as amended by the Federal Register notice published on October 30, 2002 (67 FR 66109). You may obtain a copy of these by notices by contacting the agency contact(s) under Section VII, or by going to the website at: http://www.gpoaccess.gov/topics/grants.html.

Applicants whose proposed projects may have an environmental impact should furnish sufficient information to assist proposal reviewers in assessing the potential environmental consequences of supporting the project.

# C. Reporting

All financial and progress reports shall be submitted in triplicate (one original and two copies). Financial reports are to be submitted to the NOAA Grants Officer and Performance (technical) reports are to be submitted to the NOAA program officer. Financial reports are semi-annual and Performance reports are annual.

#### VII. Agency Contact(s)

James P. McVey, Program Director for Aquaculture, or Mary Robinson, Secretary, National Sea Grant Office, 301 713 2451, facsimile 301-713-0799,e-mail-Jim.McVey@NOAA.gov.