

oriented university or institution, the National Climatic Data Center, and the Coastal Services Center to collaborate on cooperative research and applications activities and to enhance the public benefits to be derived from these activities. NOAA envisions a sharing of expertise between the National Climatic Data Center, the Coastal Services Center, and the recipient in the areas of climate system variability impacts on regional scales; advanced observing and modeling of regional coastal ecosystem processes that are influenced by climate and weather; and the response of natural, economic, and social systems to climate variability. The geographic area for impacts is the region bordering the South Atlantic Bight, from the coastal areas to the mountain environment.

Program Priorities

Primary collaboration will be with the National Climatic Data Center located in Asheville, NC, and the Coastal Services Center located in Charleston, SC. Proposals should respond to the following research priorities:

(1) Climate System Variability Impacts on Regional Scales: Including, but not limited to, detecting global climate modes, trends, and variability; understanding downscaling, mechanisms and forcing of regional climate variability, particularly in coastal and near-coastal areas; and predicting protracted and abrupt coastal climate changes and the associated development of extreme events; improving the understanding of climate and weather influences on severe events; and helping to identify the data sets and tools needed for management applications to address these impacts in order to improve the resilience of coastal and in-land communities.

(2) Advanced Observing and Modeling of Regional Coastal Ecosystem Processes Influenced by Climate and Weather: Including, but not limited to, developing new measurement, data assimilation and management, and modeling techniques to characterize the state of the coastal ocean and atmosphere; advancing the understanding of the coastal zone processes that modulate regional climate and weather; and providing input for the prediction of severe events such as hurricanes, land-falling winter storms, and coastal storm surge and inland flooding.

(3) Response of Natural, Economic, and Social Systems to Climate and Weather Variability: Including, but not limited to, developing new tools to accurately measure indicators of change; creating new prognostic models capable of forecasting the response of

ecosystems, such as mountains, piedmont lakes, estuaries, and coastal communities to climate variability and severe weather events; and developing new tools to enhance the resilience of natural, economic, and social systems to perturbations. Identify and design applications and models that improve the use and visualization of spatial and time-series data for the purpose of enhancing the delivery, utility, and content of information needed by emergency managers, coastal resource managers, business interests, and other users.

The cooperative agreement is meant to be an integral component in a coordinated research effort to produce the best possible deterministic and probabilistic information and projections of climate and weather variability and change, and related impacts on the environment and human systems. Research results will provide quality information that is socially and economically useful to decision makers at local, State and regional levels, both private and public. The cooperative agreement will promote and support research efforts designed to understand and apply learning in: (1) Atmospheric weather and climate systems and all associated parameters, *e.g.*, surface air temperature and pressure, precipitation amount and type, relative humidity, wind speed and direction, and cloud cover; (2) coastal oceanic weather and climate systems parameters, *e.g.*, sea surface temperature, ocean satellite altimetry, incident radiation, ocean satellite color (phytoplankton biomass, suspended material and colored dissolved material), scatterometer winds, phytoplankton primary productivity, coastal sea level, living marine resources, and nutrients; (3) terrestrial weather and climate systems parameters, *e.g.*, soils, soil moisture content, distribution of habitat (vegetation type, terrain type, elevation and percent water), hydrology, including lake water levels and river discharge, nutrients, and topography; and (4) socioeconomic impact data, *e.g.*, direct losses to human life, property, agricultural products, cleanup and response costs, disruptions to energy and transportation, and indirect losses due to temporary unemployment and business disruptions resulting from physical damage.

The applicant should identify a primary user base for the activities to be pursued, and the results to be obtained, under the agreement. The applicant should identify how members of this user community will be engaged, as appropriate, in the determination of research priorities, the communication

of results, and the design and use of products.

Application Requirement

Standard Forms—Original Signed Copy SF-424—Application for Federal Assistance

SF-424A—Budget Information—Non-Construction Program

SF-424B—Assurances—Non-Construction Program

CD-511—Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, and Other Responsibility Matters: Drug-Free Workplace Requirements and Lobbying

SF-LLL—Disclosure of Lobbying Activities (submit only if engaged in lobbying activities)

These forms and additional information are available on the NOAA Grants Homepage: <http://www.ofa.noaa.gov/~grants/index.html>.

Proposal Format: The guidelines for proposal preparation provided below are mandatory. Failure to heed these guidelines will result in proposals not being considered.

Proposals, a signed original and two copies, must be received by the National Climatic Data Center at the address identified in the **ADDRESSES** section of this notice no later than the time and date indicated in the **DATES** section of this Notice. Facsimile transmissions and electronic mail submissions will not be accepted. Late applications will not be considered. All proposals must include the sections identified below and total no more than 50 pages, including the title page, detailed budget, investigator(s) curriculum vitae, and all appendices. Appended information may not be used to circumvent the page length limit. Federally mandated forms are not included within the page count. Proposals should be submitted in double-space, 12-point format.

Proposals should provide a concise description of the proposed work. Proposals should provide a detailed description of the resources and capabilities of the host institution, specifically scientific expertise, specialized facilities, ongoing research activities, cost sharing abilities, and educational and training programs. The proposal should include the following elements:

(1) *Signed Title Page*. Cooperative Agreement for Climate and Weather Impacts on Society and the Environment (CWISE) (suggested name), the lead Principal Investigator, Partner names(s) (if any) and their respective affiliations, complete addresses, telephone, FAX, and e-mail information. The title page will also provide the total proposed cost, broken down on an