

governments of Insular Areas, defined as the jurisdictions of the U.S. Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

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

### 3. State and Territory Coral Reef Ecosystem Monitoring

**Summary Description:** National Ocean Service, National Centers for Coastal and Ocean Science (NCCOS) funds support a nationally coordinated, comprehensive, long term monitoring program to assess the condition of U.S. coral reef ecosystems and evaluate the efficacy of coral reef ecosystem management. This program is part of the Coral Reef Conservation Act of 2000 which provides matching grants of financial assistance for coral reef conservation projects. NOS will accept preapplications for peer review. Selected applicants may be asked to revise award objectives, work plans or budgets prior to submittal of a final application, including required Federal financial assistance forms, to NOS.

**Funding Availability:** NCCOS will provide approximately \$840,000 in funding for FY 04 to support coral reef monitoring activities under this program. FY 2004 awards to Puerto Rico, Florida, U.S. Virgin Islands, Hawaii, American Samoa, Guam, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands are expected to range from \$50,000 to \$250,000. FY 2004 awards to the Federated States of Micronesia, Republic of Palau, and the Republic of the Marshall Islands are expected to range from \$10,000 to \$20,000 per year. Funding will be subject to the availability of federal appropriations.

**Statutory Authority:** 16 U.S.C. 6403. **CFDA:** 11.426, Financial Assistance for National Centers for Coastal Ocean Science.

**Preapplication/Application Deadline:** Preapplications are due to NOAA before midnight, EDT, on March 12, 2004. Final applications are due to NOAA before midnight, EDT on June 4, 2004.

**Address for submitting Proposals:** David Kennedy, NOAA Coral Reef Conservation Program, Office of Response and Restoration, N/ORR, Room 10102, NOAA National Ocean Service, 1305 East West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910.

**Information Contact(s):** John Christensen, 1305 East West Highway, 9th Floor, N/SCI1, Silver Spring, MD 20910, phone 301-713-3028

extension153, e-mail at [john.christensen@noaa.gov](mailto:john.christensen@noaa.gov).

**Eligibility:** Eligible applicants are limited to the natural resource management agency in each U.S. State, Territory, or Freely Associated State, with jurisdiction over coral reefs, as designated by the respective governors or other applicable senior jurisdictional official. NOAA is requesting proposals from Puerto Rico, Florida, U.S. Virgin Islands, Hawaii, American Samoa, Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia, Republic of Palau, and Republic of the Marshall Islands.

**Cost Sharing Requirements:** Any coral conservation project funded under this program requires a 1:1 match. Matching funds must be from non-Federal sources and can include in-kind contributions and other non-cash support. The NOAA Administrator may waive all or part of the matching requirement if the Administrator determines that the project meets the following two requirements: (1) No reasonable means are available through which an applicant can meet the matching requirement, and (2) The probable benefit of such project outweighs the public interest in such matching requirement. The Program shall waive any requirement for local matching funds for any project under \$200,000 (including in-kind contribution) to the governments of Insular Areas, defined as the jurisdictions of the U.S. Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

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

### 4. International Coral Reef Conservation

**Summary Description:** This program supports four project categories; promoting of watershed management in the Wider Caribbean small island communities excluding the Mesoamerican coral reef corridor, enhancing management effectiveness of Marine Protected Areas, encouraging regional approaches to further no-take marine reserves in the Wider Caribbean and Southeast Asia, and promoting socio-economic monitoring in coral reef management. This program is part of the Coral Reef Conservation Act of 2000 which provides matching grants of financial assistance for coral reef conservation projects. NOS will accept preapplications for peer review. Selected applicants may be asked to revise award objectives, work plans or budgets prior to submittal of a final

application, including required Federal financial assistance forms, to NOS.

**Funding Availability:** Approximately \$400,000 will be available in FY 2004 to support grants and cooperative agreements under this program. Approximately \$75,000-\$100,000 will be allocated to each of the four project categories listed below, with the following award ranges: a. Watershed Management: up to \$75,000, b. Management Effectiveness: (1) single site projects: \$20,000-\$40,000, (2) Regional capacity building projects: \$100,000 c. Marine Reserves: \$25,000-\$40,000, d. Socio-economic monitoring: \$15,000-\$25,000. Funding will be subject to the availability of federal appropriations.

**Statutory Authority:** 16 U.S.C. 6403.

**CFDA:** 11.463 Habitat Conservation.

**Preapplication/Application Deadline:** Preapplications are due to NOAA before midnight, EDT, on March 12, 2004. Final applications are due to NOAA before midnight, EDT on June 4, 2004.

**Address for submitting Proposals:** David Kennedy, NOAA Coral Reef Conservation Program, Office of Response and Restoration, N/ORR, Room 10102, NOAA National Ocean Service, 1305 East West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910.

**Information Contact(s):** Arthur Paterson, 1315 East West Highway, 5th Floor, Room 5627, Silver Spring, MD 20910, phone 301-713-3078 extension 217, e-mail at [Arthur.E.Paterson@noaa.gov](mailto:Arthur.E.Paterson@noaa.gov).

**Eligibility:** Eligible applicants include all international, governmental, and non-governmental organizations, including the Federated States of Micronesia, Republic of Palau, and the Republic of the Marshall Islands. Eligibility is also contingent upon whether activities undertaken with respect the application would be consistent with applicable conditions or restrictions imposed by the U.S. government.

**Cost Sharing Requirements:** Any coral conservation project funded under this program requires a 1:1 match. Matching funds must be from non-Federal sources and can include in-kind contributions and other non-cash support. The NOAA Administrator may waive all or part of the matching requirement if the Administrator determines that the project meets the following two requirements: (1) No reasonable means are available through which an applicant can meet the matching requirement, and (2) The probable benefit of such project outweighs the public interest in such matching requirement. The Program shall waive any requirement for local matching