

days after the date of publication of this notice, or the first working day thereafter. Interested parties may submit case briefs and/or written comments not later than 30 days after the date of publication of this notice. Rebuttal briefs, which must be limited to issues raised in such briefs or comments, may be filed not later than 37 days after the date of publication of this notice. Parties who submit arguments are requested to submit with the argument (1) a statement of the issue, (2) a brief summary of the argument, and (3) a table of authorities.

Due to the fact that the petitioner has not agreed to the outcome of this proceeding, the Department will conduct this review in accordance with section 351.216(e) of its regulations. Thus, consistent with section 351.216(e) of the Department's regulations, we will issue the final results of this changed circumstances review no later than 270 days after the date on which this review was initiated.

This notice is in accordance with sections 751(b)(1) and 777(I)(1) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.216, 351.221(b), and 351.222(g)(3)(I).

Dated: July 21, 2003.

**Joseph A. Spetrini,**

*Acting Assistant Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 03-19023 Filed 7-24-03; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-DS-S**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[Docket No. 021028257-3178-02]

#### NOAA Office of Ocean Exploration Announcement of Funding Opportunity, Fiscal Year 2004

**AGENCY:** Office of Ocean Exploration, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** NOAA's Office of Ocean Exploration (OE) is seeking pre-proposals and full proposals for grants, cooperative agreements, and other financial collaborations to implement OE's mission to expand our knowledge of the ocean's physical, chemical, biological and archaeological characteristics, processes, and resources. OE's mission objectives also include conveying the experience and knowledge gained in all of OE's missions through a structured program of public education and outreach. Many of OE's missions will be accomplished by projects, experiments, and expeditions

to unknown, or poorly known, ocean and Great Lakes regions. Consistent with OE's intent to explore and discover, successful OE proposals will be relatively broad-based in terms of their objectives and they may be relatively high-risk. Prospective applicants are encouraged to visit the Ocean Explorer Web site: <http://oceanexplorer.noaa.gov> in order to familiarize themselves with past and present OE activities.

**DATES:** Pre-proposals are required and must be postmarked or received by September 3, 2003. Full proposals must be postmarked or received by October 28, 2003. In the event that these dates fall on a weekend or holiday, the effective date shall be the first working day after the date specified. Email and/or facsimile pre-proposals and/or proposals submissions will not be accepted.

**ADDRESSES:** Send pre-proposals and proposals to NOAA, Office of Ocean Exploration, ATTN: OE Science Program Coordinator, Bldg. SSMC3, Rm. 10221, 1315 East West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910. Email and/or facsimile pre-proposals and/or proposals submissions will not be accepted.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Margot Bohan, OE Science Program Coordinator, or Randi Neff, OE Program Grants Coordinator, NOAA Office of Ocean Exploration, 301-713-9444, facsimile 301-713-4252 or submit inquiries via email to the Frequently Asked Questions address: [oar.oefaq@noaa.gov](mailto:oar.oefaq@noaa.gov). Email inquiries should include the Principal Investigator's name in the subject heading. A copy of this notice, as well as ancillary information, will be posted on the OE Web site <http://www.explore.noaa.gov>.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### I. Program Authority

**Authority:** 33 U.S.C. 883d.

Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number: 11.460.

##### II. Program Description

###### A. Background

In June 2000, a panel of leading ocean explorers, scientists, and educators developed a national strategy for exploring the oceans, and presented its recommendations in a report entitled, *Discovering Earth's Final Frontier: A U.S. Strategy for Ocean Exploration* (<http://oceanpanel.nos.noaa.gov>). NOAA was selected as the lead Federal agency to guide a national program in

ocean exploration and the Office of Ocean Exploration was established in 2001.

###### B. Program Mission

The mission of OE is to search, investigate, and document unknown and poorly known areas of the ocean and Great Lakes through interdisciplinary exploration, and to advance and disseminate knowledge of the ocean environment and its physical, chemical, biological, and historical resources.

##### III. Program Notice

###### A. Notice Objectives

The purpose of this announcement is to invite the submission of pre-proposals and full proposals for grants, cooperative agreements, and other financial collaborations whose objectives are to explore the ocean and map its resources, to gain new insights about its physical, chemical, biological, and archaeological characteristics, and its living and non-living resources.

###### B. Program Guidance

**Themes.** Persons submitting proposals may elect to address these preferred themes, developed in part from eight regional workshops of ocean scientists, explorers, and educators from public, private and commercial organizations. Applicants with non-OE-funded shiptime, projects, or other resources may wish to propose supplementing them by the addition of tasks or objectives that are consistent with (and are, therefore, eligible for funding by) the OE program mission. The themes are (in no order of priority):

1. Mapping ocean characteristics and bathymetry;
2. Marine life inventories: vertebrate, invertebrate, macro-organisms and micro-organisms;
3. Marine archaeology;
4. Characterization of benthic and pelagic habitats and ecosystems;
5. Locating and mapping corals (including deep corals);
6. New ocean resources;
7. Passive ocean acoustics;
8. Technology: innovative applications and leveraged development;
9. Outreach: communicating exploration efforts in new and innovative ways to broad audiences.

Workshop reports can be viewed online at <http://explore.noaa.gov/workshops/welcome.html>.

###### C. Program Priorities

The following are requirements for proposals successfully funded by OE.