

9 August 2013

Washington Ocean Acidification Center Call for proposals

The Washington Ocean Acidification Center (WOAC) was established in 2013 by the state legislature to address ocean acidification in Washington waters through implementation of a subset of recommendations made by the Washington State Blue Ribbon Panel on Ocean Acidification (<http://www.ecy.wa.gov/water/marine/oceanacidification.html>).

The specific focus of this Request for Proposals is Action 7.4.1 as specified in the report of the Blue Ribbon Panel (<http://www.ecy.wa.gov/water/marine/oa/2012panel.html>):

"Establish the ability to make short-term forecasts of corrosive conditions for application to shellfish hatcheries, growing areas, and other areas of concern. A real-time online tool will be developed and accessible to shellfish growers and managers to track acidification on a scale of days to weeks, giving them time to change or adjust their hatcheries' operation."

The WOAC invites proposals that address this specific need. Proposal requirements are described below. The funding available for this effort is \$308,750 for the period July 1, 2013 – June 31, 2015. We anticipate that one award will be made following review and ranking of proposals by a panel of qualified experts. Note that the WOAC **does not fund indirect costs** on projects supported by Washington state funds.

Full proposals responding to this request are due by 5:00 pm PDT on Aug 26, 2013. Proposal must be submitted electronically as a single pdf file to woac@uw.edu.

Requirements & Application Process:

Required elements of the forecasting tool:

The domain of the model created to produce forecasts must encompass all of Washington's marine waters, including the offshore coastal waters, the major estuaries (e.g., Willapa Bay, Grays Harbor, and Puget Sound) and the Columbia River plume. The model must include forcing by the atmosphere, rivers, including the Fraser River, and the external ocean as well as upwelling dynamics and freshwater inputs and loads of carbon and nitrogen. To serve the needs of the community, the model must include all carbon variables, pH, and saturation state (Ω) of aragonite and calcite.

Deliverables:

1st year deliverable: System-wide forecasting of physics; coastal forecasting of pH and Ω arg.

2nd year deliverable: Demonstrated progress toward full system forecasting of pH and Ω arg.

Communication Plan:

In addition to the research plan, the WOAC requires that each proposal provide a plan for ensuring that project results are communicated to broader audiences within Washington State. The communication plan should advance the WOAC mission to improve the translation of research and scientific information into knowledge for use in resource management and policy related to ocean acidification issues. Funded projects will be required to produce a non-technical summary of the project and outputs, make one or more presentations to the WOAC Science Advisory Team and the WOAC Advisory Board, and work with WOAC staff and affiliates to support translation of project results into appropriate non-technical and/or applied outreach materials. Investigators are encouraged to consider this requirement when developing a project budget.

Application Process:

Proposals should include the following elements: a research plan explaining the approach that will be taken to achieve the requirements and deliverables specified below, a communication plan, a time-line of activities, evidence of prior relevant accomplishments, and a list of all project team members (10 pages maximum, including figures); a budget and justification (3 pages maximum); and a list of literature cited (no page limit). Funding for this research was appropriated by the Washington state legislature. In recognition of this and the associated need to demonstrate progress to the legislature, the proposal must specify deliverables that will be available for presentation to the Washington state legislature on or before Jan 1, 2015.

Eligibility:

Project Principal Investigators (PIs) must be affiliated with a university, two- or four-year college, state agency, museum, research laboratory or other nonprofit or tribal research institution in Washington State. Project Co-Principal Investigators (Co-PIs) may be affiliated with the above-listed institutions within Washington, research institutions outside of Washington, federal agencies or for-profit organizations.