

The scoping meeting for Alaska will be held at the Swan Lake Senior Center, 402 Lake Street, Sitka, AK 99835.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Joseph R. Blum (301) 713-1401.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

Background and rationale for this action were provided in the notice of intent (62 FR 3873, January 27, 1997) and are not repeated here.

Special Accommodations

Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Tamra Faris (907) 586-7228 at least 3 days before the meeting date.

Authority: 16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.*; 42 U.S.C. *et seq.*

Dated: February 26, 1997.

Gary C. Matlock,

*Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries,
National Marine Fisheries Service.*

[FR Doc. 97-5263 Filed 3-3-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-F

[Docket No. 970121009-7009-01]

RIN 0648-ZA27

Coastal Services Center Coastal Management Fellowship

AGENCY: National Ocean Service (NOS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of availability of Federal assistance.

SUMMARY: The Coastal Services Center is issuing this notice to solicit applications for the Coastal Services Center Coastal Management Fellowship program. The Fellowship program was established to provide professional on-the-job education and training opportunities for post-graduate students in coastal resource management and policy and to provide specific technical assistance for state coastal resource management programs. For two years the Fellows will work on substantive state-level coastal resource management issues that pertain to Federal management policies and regulations. The grants will be provided to the Sea Grant Programs of the States hosting the Fellows. These Sea Grant Programs will administer the grants.

DATES: Applications for Fellowship positions will be available from all Sea Grant Program offices and the Coastal Services Center beginning on 21 February 1997. Applications will be due to State Sea Grant Directors no later than 28 March 1997. Each Sea Grant

Directors may nominate up to two qualified candidates. These nominations from the Sea Grant Directors are due to the Coastal Services Center no later than 11 April 1997. Those candidates selected to be finalists will be notified by 30 April 1997. Fellowships and selected projects will begin 1 October 1997.

ADDRESSES: Send requests for the Fellowship Selection Application packages as well as completed nomination packages to CSC Coastal Management Fellowships, Attn: Mr. Michael Pentony, NOAA Coastal Services Center, 2234 South Hobson Avenue, Charleston, South Carolina, 29405-2413.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Michael Pentony, Coastal Management Services, at (803) 974-6257.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Authority

Statutory authority for these awards is provided under 16 USC 1456.c [Technical Assistance]; 15 USC Sec. 1540 [Cooperative Agreements]; and, 33 USC 1442 [Research program respecting possible long-range effects of pollution, overfishing, and man-induced changes of ocean ecosystems].

Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA)

The CSC Program is listed in the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance under Number 11.473.

Program Description

The goal of the Coastal Services Center is to build capabilities around the nation which simultaneously address pressing issues of coastal health and change by conserving coastal environments including coastal wetlands, riparian forested wetlands, maritime forests, fisheries/shell fisheries, and other living marine resources and by promoting efficient and sustainable industry, farming, commercial and residential development, urban redevelopment, and tourism.

Seven competitive post-graduate fellowships will be awarded for meritorious recent Masters, professional, and Ph.D. degree recipients to spend two years working with coastal resource management agencies on state-level needs and federal management issues. State coastal zone programs provided project proposals in a competition for placement of one of the CSC Coastal Management Fellows (see section on Application Requirements).

The project selection process was completed before the fellow selection process in order to give the Sea Grant Directors and prospective Fellows better guidance as to the nature of the projects for which they will be competing. Given that the projects are being selected independently of the fellow selection and the desire to broaden the educational experience of selected fellows, they will most likely be serving outside of their Sea Grant home state.

Funding Availability

Coastal Service Center funding for each twenty-four month fellowship is expected to be \$64,000, for a total of \$448,000 for the seven fellowships over the fellowship period. Publication of this announcement does not require NOAA CSC to make any specific award or to obligate any amount of the funds available. The two year grant of \$64,000 with an additional \$12,000 State match made for each Fellow to the receiving state's Sea Grant program includes \$30,000 per year for the Fellow divided into a \$20,000 stipend and \$10,000 for per diem. The remaining \$8,000 per year will be roughly divided as follows: \$5,000 for benefits, including health insurance; \$1,000 for moving expenses; \$1,500 for travel associated with the fellowship experience; and, \$500 for any administrative costs incurred by the administering Sea Grant program. Required travel for the Fellows includes attending either the Coastal Zone Conference or the bi-annual meeting of The Coastal Society, depending on the year. NOAA will provide funding directly to the Sea Grant Programs that will administer the grants.

Matching Requirements

Cost sharing of a portion of the fellow cost for the second year of the fellowship is required by each state in which a Fellow is placed, in the amount of \$12,000. Additionally, the coastal zone program is expected to provide in-kind support (office space, phone service, computer equipment, etc.) for the entire term of the fellowship.

Type of Funding Instrument

The projects will be awarded as a Grant, distributed by the Coastal Services Center. NOAA anticipates that there be no substantial involvement of the Coastal Services Center in the performance of activities under this assistance program.

Eligibility Criteria

Any student who has completed a master's, doctoral, or professional degree program in coastal, marine, or Great Lakes related studies at any

accredited United States institution of higher education in 1996 or by 30 September 1997, is eligible to apply through the state Sea Grant Program nearest their residence or graduate institution. Knauss Marine Policy Fellows from the previous year, who have finished their degree requirements, may also apply.

All states with federally approved coastal zone management programs, and states developing such programs for approval, were eligible to submit one application for this program through the NOAA Coastal Services Center. All eligible agencies were notified for the project proposal application process by mail in December 1996, and projects were selected in February 1997. The seven selected project agencies will serve as hosts to the CSC Coastal Management Fellows.

Once the seven Fellows have been selected and matched to the state host agencies, the Sea Grant Programs in those states will be asked to prepare a grant application package in order to receive the grant from NOAA. Those grant application packages will be due to NOAA no later than 30 June 1997.

Award Period

The twenty-four month fellowship commences 1 October 1997.

Indirect Costs

Funds to support the Coastal management Fellowship program will be given directly to the state Sea Grant programs, and the maximum allowable Administrative or Indirect Costs are five hundred dollars per year.

Application Requirements

The Coastal Services Center, in cooperation with the Coastal States Organization, National Sea Grant College Program Office, and the National Ocean Service's Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management (OCRM), is seeking applications from qualified individuals to complete for Fellowship projects. These projects will directly involve the Fellow in such activities as natural coastal hazards planning, mitigation and recovery; habitat evaluation or restoration; and mitigation of habitat impacts caused by a major project or type of projects.

All fellowship applications must include:

A. A personal and academic resume or curriculum vitae.

B. An educational and career goal statement from the applicant with emphasis on what the prospective Fellow expects from the experience. Placement preference in terms of

geographical placement or topic of focus may be stated by the applicant, and will be honored to the extent practical. Prospective fellows should keep in mind that limited descriptions of placement or topic will make final placement more difficult.

C. Two letters of recommendation, including one from the student's major professor.

D. A detailed letter of endorsement from the sponsoring state Sea Grant Director, as a result of a face to face interview, addressing such important topics as communication skills, philosophical approach toward work, and ability to work with people.

E. Copies of all undergraduate and graduate student transcripts.

F. Standard Form 424, "Application for Federal Assistance."

All Fellow applicants will be evaluated and chosen only on their qualifications, therefore letters of endorsements from individuals such as members of Congress, friends, and/or relatives should not be submitted.

Sea Grant Programs submitting grant applications will be required to submit the following:

A. SF-424, "Application for Federal Assistance;"

B. SF-424A, "Budget Information—Non-Construction Programs;"

C. SF-42B, "Assurances—Non-Construction Programs;"

D. Budget with necessary supporting detail, Budget Narrative;

E. Audit Information; and,

F. CD-511, "Certifications Regarding Lobbying; Debarment, Suspension and Other Responsibility Matters; and Drug-Free Workplace requirements and Lobbying;"

Project Funding Priorities

Funds will be awarded for the support of the Fellow, as delineated in Section 7.f. of this notice. Funds for the fellowship will be given to the Sea Grant programs in the states receiving Fellows and not to the state coastal programs that submitted project proposals.

Evaluation Criteria

Fellow applications will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

- (a) Support of Sea Grant Director (25%);
- (b) Support of major professor (15%);
- (c) Strength of academic performance (15%);
- (d) Diversity of academic background (15%);
- (e) Experience working in coastal management or marine affairs (10%);
- (f) Written and verbal communications skills (10%); and

(g) Ability to work with people (10%).

All qualified applicants will be considered regardless of age, race, color, sex, creed, marital status, national origin, lawful political affiliation, religious preference or non-disqualifying physical handicap. Academic discipline, geographic representation, and individual state coastal program needs will be considered in balancing the class.

Selection Procedures

Applications will be received at the Sea Grant program office nearest the applicant's graduate institution. All applications will be reviewed by the Sea Grant Director, or a designee.

Applications which do not conform to the requirements may not be considered for further evaluation. Each Sea Grant Director may nominate up to two applicants for further consideration. The complete application package, with a letter of endorsement by the nominating Sea Grant Director, will be submitted to the Coastal Services Center at the address listed above under the **ADDRESSES** section of this notice.

A finalist selection panel will be convened, by 28 April 1997, to review and recommend selection of the top fourteen Fellow applicants using the criteria outlined above. This selection panel will present its recommendations to the CSC Coastal Management Fellowship Program Director. The panel will consist of the Coastal States Organization Executive Director and representatives from the Coastal Services Center, a Sea Grant Director representative from the Sea Grant Directors' Association, a representative from the NOAA Office of Ocean and Coastal Resources Management, and a current Fellow. Representatives from these groups will be chosen according to availability, timing, and other exigencies. Final decision will be made by 28 April 1997, and all Fellow applicants will be notified of the selection decision.

Although the fourteen selected Fellow applicants will be considered finalists, only seven of the finalists will become Fellows and be placed with state coastal management program hosts. Each of the selected host states will send a representative, preferably the Fellow mentor, to the final placement workshop in Charleston, SC, 28-30 May 1997. The fourteen Fellow finalists will be brought by CSC to the workshops for final interviews and placement. The placement workshops will serve as the final selection and placement point and will consist of: 1. Orientation to the program; 2. Host office project proposal presentations; 3. Finalist presentations;

4. Finalist-Host interviews; and 5. Fellow Matching.

By 7 May 1997, CSC will send each finalist a packet of information detailing the interview process during the placement workshop in Charleston. This packet will include information on each of the final seven coastal resource management projects, the host agencies, and background on the area of assignment. No contact between prospective hosts and finalists should be made prior to the placement workshop.

Other Requirements

Federal Policies and Procedures

Recipients and sub-recipients are subject to all Federal laws and Federal and DOC policies, regulations, and procedures applicable to Federal financial assistance awards.

Past Performance

Unsatisfactory performance under prior Federal awards may result in an application not being considered for funding.

Pre-Award Activities

If applicants incur any costs prior to an award being made, they do so solely at their own risk of not being reimbursed by the Government. Notwithstanding any verbal or written assurance that may have been received, there is no objection on the part of DOC to cover pre-award costs.

No Obligation for Future Funding

If an application is selected for funding, DOC has no obligation to provide any additional future funding in connection with that award. Renewal of an award to increase funding or extend the period of performance is at the total discretion of DOC.

Delinquent Federal Debts

No award of Federal Funds shall be made to an applicant who has an outstanding delinquent Federal debt until either:

- (i) The delinquent account is paid in full,
- (ii) A negotiated repayment schedule is established and at least one payment is received, or
- (iii) Other arrangements satisfactory to DOC are made.

Primary Applicant Certifications

All Sea Grant Programs preparing grant applications must submit a completed Form CD-511, "Certifications Regarding Debarment, Suspension, and Other Responsibility Matters; Drug-Free Workplace

Requirements and Lobbying," and explanations are hereby provided:

Non-procurement 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;

Drug-Free Workplace. Grantees (as defined at 15 CFR Part 26, Section 605) are subject to 15 CFR Part 26, Subpart F, "Government side Requirements for Drug-Free Workplace (Grants)" and the related section of the certification form prescribed above applies;

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 application/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

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.

Lower-Tier Certifications

Recipients shall require applicants/bidders for sub-grants, 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 DOC. SF-LLL submitted by any tier recipient or sub-recipient should be submitted to DOC in accordance with the instructions contained in the award document.

False Statements

A false statement on an application is grounds for denial or termination of funds and grounds for possible punishment by a fine or imprisonment as provided in 18 U.S.C. 1001.

Intergovernmental Review

Applications under this program are subject to Executive Order 12372,

"Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs."

Buy American-Made Equipment or Products

Applicants are hereby notified that they will be encouraged, to the greatest extent practicable, to purchase American-made equipment and products with funding provided under this program in accordance with Congressional intent.

Classification

This action has been determined to be not significant for purposes of Executive Order 12866.

This notice contains a collection-of-information requirement subject to the Paperwork Reduction Act. The collection-of-information has been approved by OMB, OMB Control Numbers 0348-0043, 0348-0044, 0348-0040 and 0348-0046.

Dated: February 20, 1997.

David L. Evans,

Acting Deputy Assistant Administrator for Ocean Services and Coastal Zone Management.

[FR Doc. 97-5265 Filed 3-3-97; 8:45 am]

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CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

February 25, 1997

The Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) has submitted the following public information collection requests (ICRs) to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Pub. L. 104-13, 44 U.S.C. Chapter 35). Copies of these individual ICRs, with applicable supporting documentation, may be obtained by calling the Corporation for National and Community Service Deputy Director, AmeriCorps Leaders Program, Julie Catlett, (202) 606-5000, Extension 164.

Comments should be sent to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Attn: OMB Desk Officer for the Corporation for National and Community Service, Office of Management and Budget, Room 10235, Washington, D.C. 20503. (202) 395-7316, within 30 days from the date of this publication in the Federal Register.

The OMB is particularly interested in comments which:

- * Evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary