FLORIDA INSTITUTE OF OCEANOGRAPHY
830 First Street South
St. Petersburg, Florida 33701
Telephone (727) 553-1100
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ANNOUNCEMENT

Request for Proposals

June 11, 2014

The Florida Institute of Oceanography (FIO) is seeking proposals from interested faculty and researchers of FIO's full member institutions for state funded shiptime on board the RV Weatherbird II.

This FY2014-2015 Supplemental Request for Proposals (SRFP) is specifically for research and educational cruises on board the RV Weatherbird II. The SRFP is in addition to the standard FIO ship-time RFP covering cruises for FY2014-2015. It was made possible through approval and passage of the FIO Legislative Budget Request during the 14/15 legislative session.

The FIO will fund approximately 10 days of ship-time on board the RV Weatherbird II for the time period covering October 1, 2014 -- June 30, 2015. A 10% match is required from all funded proposals. The match rate will be based on the FY 14/15 daily rate for the R/V Weatherbird II ($10,000). Funded proposals will be subject to all incidental costs related to cruise(s) including but not limited to, port fees and clearance charges for foreign ports etc.

We request that you share this notice with any eligible colleagues who may not receive a direct mailing.

William Hogarth
Director, Florida Institute of Oceanography

FLORIDA INSTITUTE OF OCEANOGRAPHY

SUPPLEMENTAL REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

for

State Funded Shiptime on board RV Weatherbird II

October 1, 2014 - June 30, 2015

Submission Deadline: August 1, 2014

Please submit proposals electronically to Rob Walker at robwalker@usf.edu
cc to Cam Ngo at camngo@usf.edu
Proposals must be in PDF format
Upon receipt of the proposal, a confirmation email will be sent.

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SUPPLEMENTAL REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

for

State Funded SHIPTIME FY 2014 – 2015 on RV Weatherbird II

The Florida Institute of Oceanography (FIO) is accepting proposals from full member institution faculty and researchers for teaching and educational research cruises aboard the FIO RV Weatherbird II for the time period of October 1, 2014 – June 30, 2015. FIO funded shiptime may be awarded as a grant to any eligible faculty or researcher on a competitive basis. All funded shiptime proposals require a 10% match from the member institution receiving the grant. For the year 2014-2015 the daily rate for the R/V Weatherbird II is $10,000. Estimated transit days to and from St. Petersburg must be included in the number of days requested. After the awards have been made, FIO will make every effort to reduce transit days by scheduling multiple cruises consecutively in various geographic regions of the state. Contact Rob Walker at FIO for transit estimates to and from your desired port of departure.

All FIO full member institution faculty and researchers are eligible to submit proposals to FIO no later than August 1, 2014. Please submit proposals electronically in PDF format to Rob Walker robwalker@usf.edu and cc Cam Ngo camngo@usf.edu. The FIO will send an electronic confirmation of the receipt of your proposal.

The FIO will review all proposals through our Shiptime Evaluation Panel. The Panel consists of the FIO Ship Advisory Committee and is chaired by the FIO Director. You are encouraged to give careful attention to the scientific and/or educational justification for the area of operations and timing of the cruise. If you have questions about proposal requirements please contact FIO as early as possible. Contact details are on page 8.

PROPOSAL GUIDELINES

The format for FIO shiptime proposals must include:

I. Summary (example attached)
II. Title Page (example attached, include a single point of contact for awards)
III. Results from prior cruises (if appropriate)
IV. Introduction: background information for the proposed project, geographic area to be worked, and scientific justification or teaching requirements (Teaching cruises must reference course #.)
V. Methods (type of sampling, gear, sampling strategy, etc. Be aware of permit requirements)
VI. Permit Status and Verification
VII. Tentative Cruise Plan (to be updated after award)
VIII. Curriculum Vitae of principal investigator(s)

Each proposal must have a title page that includes an identification of the teaching (indicate course number) or educational research activities, the number of days requested (including transit days), the preferred dates of the cruise, the signature of the PI submitting the proposal, a single contact point for all communications regarding the award and shiptime, and the signature of the appropriate university administrator who is authorized to commit your time and the university's equipment for the proposed cruise. A joint proposal may be submitted by multiple faculty, teaching multiple classes, from a single institution or jointly by faculty from multiple institutions. The title page should include the signature of the PI, with co-PIs named in the proposal objectives. (A blank title page form is included for your convenience).

The FIO has established a policy requiring certification with each proposal that the FIO will not be providing state-funded shiptime for federal, state or private granting agencies. It is not the intention to penalize funded researchers, but limited state allocated ship days cannot be used to accommodate grant funded programs requiring shiptime. Therefore each proposal must include a statement signed by the principal investigator certifying that the shiptime being requested will not be used for a funded grant/contract. Failure to include such a statement, as shown on the sample title page, will result in rejection.

The results of prior cruises should include, where appropriate, the university course number, number of students, outcomes such as theses, dissertations or publications, and any grants or other funding resulting from seed data collection aboard the FIO vessels.

A tentative cruise plan is essential to a shiptime proposal. The enclosed package contains a description of the ships' specifications, FIO pool equipment available, and a brief example of a standard cruise plan. This information should be used to design a program within the capabilities of the vessel. It is important to demonstrate realistic expectations of the ship facilities and available equipment including ship cruising speed, passenger capacity, gear capabilities, and permitting restrictions. If you have any questions concerning the development or design of a cruise plan, please contact Rob Walker.

PROPOSAL EVALUATION

Priority will be given to proposals that clearly support the teaching and educational research mission of the FIO and the Florida Department of Education. Proposals involving participation of undergraduates, data collection for class work, course demonstration cruises, and research in support of M.S./Ph.D. programs will have priority consideration on the basis of educational and scientific merit. Education/training proposals should include a brief outline of the targeted courses and how the proposed shiptime is integrated and important to the curriculum.

Requests for state shiptime to support grant or contract programs, which are already funded but require shiptime, will not be considered.

Faculty research programs for seed data collection for use in preparing grant/contract proposals will also be considered, but have lower priority. Ideally, such proposals will include training for students. Research shiptime proposals should include a clear explanation of the significance of the proposed work. The Review Panel does not include expertise in all eligible disciplines, and although every effort will be made to obtain a peer review for specific disciplines, the proposal should explain the project in terms and in adequate detail to be readily understandable to a colleague outside the disciplinary field.

Previous review panels have concluded that 3-4 days are adequate for general demonstrations of oceanographic equipment, procedures, and instruction at sea. Under no circumstances can more than 13 member scientific parties be accommodated on overnight cruises on the on the R/V Weatherbird II. The R/V Weatherbid II is not generally used for continuous underway programs of more than 10 days.

Costs associated with facilitating cruises in foreign water have risen dramatically. Cruises in foreign waters require clearances from the country concerned and require the FIO to hire an agent to process clearances in and out of the U.S. and foreign ports. All agent fees, port charges and incidental costs are the responsibility of the funded institution.

APPEALS

Applicants may appeal the denial of a funding request within 5 days of the official letter of rejection. Appeals should be addressed to the Chair of the FIO Advisory Council, who may accept or deny the appeal. If the appeal is accepted, the Chair will appoint three members of the FIO Council to determine if the appeal has merit. If a finding of “merit” is found, the Chair in consultation with the Director of the FIO will determine if action should be taken to fund the denied proposal.

PERMITS

IMPORTANT

PERMITTING NOTE

The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission and the National Marine Fisheries Service have issued permits to the FIO vessels allowing trawling and other gear deployment under very limited conditions. PLEASE REVIEW THE PERMIT LIMITATIONS UNDER WHICH THE VESSEL MUST OPERATE. IF YOU CAN NOT WORK WITHIN THESE GUIDELINES YOU MUST HAVE YOUR OWN PERMIT. THE VESSEL AND CREW SHOULD BE LISTED AS ADDITIONAL PERMITEES.

Permit verification and status should be included in your proposal.

PERMITS FOR RESTRICTED GEAR

The Florida Institute of Oceanography currently holds a Special Activities License for authorization to deploy otter trawls from the R/V Weatherbird II. This license, issued by the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, allows the deployment of a single 30' otter trawl for a time period not to exceed 20 minutes in state waters. The license authorizes temporary possession of marine organisms with waiver of seasonal, fishery and area closures, size and bag limits. Organisms must be released alive and unharmed once they have been identified, measured, weighed, catalogued or photographed. All Prohibited Species incidentally harvested must be returned to the water immediately.

National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) will no longer issue exemptions for operating otter trawls without a Turtle Excluder Devices (TED) to the FIO. Researchers wishing to deploy otter trawls without TEDs must request an exemption from the NMFS. The FIO has obtained nets with TEDs installed that will be available for science groups not able to obtain the exemptions. Additional permits are not required to retain non-prohibited species harvested in federal waters.

The FIO tries to anticipate the permitting needs of its member institutions and their researchers, but agencies will not grant FIO general permits for sampling and retaining specimens. Therefore, if you plan on retaining any specimens, you are requested to obtain Special Activities Licenses and gear exemptions directly from the respective agencies. Please contact the FIO for additional information.

Cruises in foreign waters, including the Bahamas, require clearances from the country concerned and may require liaison with the U.S. Department of State. The vessels do not hold permits to conduct scientific operations in foreign waters. Individual scientists must secure their own permits for these operations. Clearances for cruises in foreign waters generally require six months lead-time. The Panel reviews foreign cruise requests very carefully. Such requests should have a very strong geographical justification. All permitting costs associated with research cruises in foreign waters will be the responsibility of the funded institution.

Operations in the Florida Keys will be subject to restrictions imposed by the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary or the National Park Service (Dry Tortugas) and may also require special permitting for individual scientists. Please verify permit requirements for specific science operations prior to submitting your proposal.

CONTACT INFORMATION

If you have any questions about submission of your proposal, or if you require more information or clarification of procedures, please do not hesitate to contact the FIO.

Schedules, Permitting and Technical Support	Rob Walker robwalker@usf.edu	727-553-3363
General Administration and Awards	Rob Walker robwalker@usf.edu or Cam Ngo camngo@usf.edu	727-553-3363 727-553-3942
Keys Marine Laboratory	Nancy Thompson nancy.thompson@noaa.org	305-664-9101

Contacts for cognizant agencies are:

National Marine Fisheries Service
Eric Hawk
9721 Executive Center Dr. N.
St Petersburg, FL. 33702
727-570-5312

Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Committee
Division of Marine Fisheries
Lisa Gregg
Mail Box MF-MFM
620 South Meridian St.
Tallahassee, FL. 32399-1600
850-488-6058

Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary
Science Coordinator

P.O. Box 500368
Marathon, FL. 33050
305-743-2437

Florida Institute of Oceanography
Mr. Robert Walker
830 1st St. S.
St. Petersburg, FL. 33701
727-553-3363

Keys Marine Laboratory
Dr. Nancy Thompson
68486 Overseas Hwy
Layton/Long Key, FL 33001
Phone: (305) 664-9101

Sampling Gear Available at FIO

Although all gear listed below is available for use on FIO funded cruises, use of the CTD or CTD/Carousel systems requires a short training session in its operation and maintenance. Training can be completed at the FIO facilities on the day of departure.

Users requesting SCUBA compressors must have the appropriate training, including Hazardous Material Training for Fill-Station Operators and/or Compressor Operators. This **training is available from your institution's Dive Safety Officer.**

Electronics

SeaBird SBE 25 CTD (operates at up to 8 scans/sec.)
SeaBird 32 Carousel w/Seabird 33 deck unit
12 bottle
12-liter max. bottle size

The R/V Weatherbird II CTD winch has a capacity of 2800 meters. If deeper casts are required, conducting cable must be loaded onto the main winch. Please contact Rob Walker with questions on operational capabilities.

Bathysystems XBT Launching System
Cable Payout Indicators for CTD, Hydro and Trawl blocks
YSI Dissolved Oxygen Sensor
Furuno Differential GPS (RS232, NMEA 0183 Data available in lab)
Laboratory Computer System

Niskin Bottles

Size	Qty
5 liter	12
8 liter	12
12 liter	12

Plankton Nets

(various mesh sizes available from (80, 100, 202, 500, 1000μ)

50 cm	2
60 cm	2
1 m	1
Bongo Nets	2
Nueston Net	1
Flow Meters	4
Double Trips	6
Messengers	20
Wire Stops	6

Trawling Gear

Otter Trawls*		
Nets	5	(3 with TED installed)
Doors	4	
Tucker Trawls	1	

* Deployment of Otter Trawls may require individual permits.

Bottom Samplers

Shipek Grab	2
Capetown Dredge	3
Orange Peel Grab	1
Van Veen Grab	1
Underway	
Sediment Samplers	2
Gravity Corer (no liners)	2
Smith MacIntyre Grab	1

Miscellaneous

Secchi Disk	2
Refractometer	2
Bucket Thermometers	2
Wire Angle Indicators	2
Aquaria with air pumps	4
Microscopes	1 Compound
Scuba Compressors	2

* Use of Longline Requires individual permit.

Winches

Description	Capacity (Weatherbird II)
Hydrographic Winch	1500 meters
CTD Winch	2800 meters
Main Winch	4000 meters

PROPOSAL SUMMARY

(Electronic Search Information)

PI Name:

Home Institution:

Address:

Other participants:

Preferred Dates for Cruise:

Secondary Dates:

Preferred Location of Cruise:

Primary Research/Education Goal(s) [2 sentence maximum]

Contributes to sponsored research program (Y/N):

Gear Required:

Special Permits Required:

Estimated Days of Shiptime:

INSTITUTION:

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR:

DEPARTMENT:

ADDRESS:

TELEPHONE: OFFICE:

MOBILE:

FAX:

E-MAIL:

POINT OF CONTACT:

DEPARTMENT:

ADDRESS:

TELEPHONE: OFFICE:

MOBILE:

FAX:

E-MAIL:

A SHIPTIME PROPOSAL

to

FLORIDA INSTITUTE OF OCEANOGRAPHY

TITLE:

TYPE/DISCIPLINE:

NUMBER OF DAYS:

PREFERRED DATES: 1.

2.

3.

_____	_____
Principal Investigator	Accountable Officer
_____	_____
Typed Name	Title

NOTE: By the above signatures, it is certified that this requested shiptime will not be used for a grant or contract funded by another agency without prior notification to FIO.

EXAMPLE

Florida Institute of Oceanography
University of North Florida
R/V Weatherbird II
Cruise #:_____
(To be filled in by FIO)
Dates:

CRUISE PLAN

I. OBJECTIVES:

A. Obtain neuston and water samples to provide baseline data on the incidence of oil residues in the coastal waters of the Panhandle of Florida and to investigate the sources and fates of residual tar entering Florida waters and circulating through the Gulf of Mexico.

B. Conduct a series of samples in the Panhandle area where current patterns may transport residual tar out of the eastern Gulf of Mexico along the southern Florida peninsula.

C. Identify and quantify oil residues for comparison and identification of point source oil pollution that may impinge on Florida's coastline or shelf waters.

II. STATION POSITIONS:

Station No.	Latitude No.	Longitude W.
1A	27 30	82 50
N1	28 24	83 24
N2	29 03	83 49
N3	29 46	84 32
N4	29 33	85 18
N5	30 10	86 23
N6	30 10	87 09

III. PROPOSED SCHEDULE:

	Date	TimeActivity	
January	28	0800	Depart Bayboro Harbor
		1100	ArriveStation 1A; 2 neuston tows

28	1300	Depart Station 1A
28	2100	Arrive Station N1; 2 neuston tows
28	2300	Depart Station N1
29	0500	Arrive Station N2; 2 neuston tows
29	0700	Depart Station N2
29	1400	Arrive Station N3; 2 neuston tows
29	1600	Depart Station N3;
29	2200	Arrive Station N4 2 neuston tows
30	0000	Depart Station N4;
30	0830	Arrive Station N5; 2 neuston tows
30	1030	Depart Station N5
30	1530	Arrive Station N6; 2 neuston tows
30	1730	Depart Station N6
30	1930	Arrive Pensacola

IV. PERSONNEL:

B. Baumeister, Captain	FIO
R. Healy, Asst. Capt/Mate	FIO
G. Guthro, Engineer	FIO
A. Savor, Asst. Engineer	FIO
C. Baily, Deckhand	FIO
T. Lee, Cook/Steward	FIO
A. Warren, Marine Tech	FIO
P. O'Brien, Chief Scientist	Institution
H. Melville	Institution
R.H. Dana	Institution
J. Aubrey (Grad Student)	Institution

V. DESCRIPTION OF OPERATIONS:

All sampling will consist of 2 30-minute neuston tows with a 1.4 x 0.5 m 253m mesh net. One or two General Oceanics flow meters will be suspended in the mouth of the net. No XBT casts will be made during this cruise, as water depths are too shallow. Stations may be adjusted during the cruise at the discretion of the CSOB and Captain depending on water depth and accessibility. Any major changes in cruise plan to station location will be reported immediately to the FIO office.

VI. EQUIPMENT:

To be furnished by FIO:

Quantity	Item
2	1.5 x 0.5m neuston nets w/cod and adapters, 253m mesh; with frames
4	GO digital flow meters

To be furnished by proposer:

2	Wide mouth quart jars

Submitted by:

_____