

NATIONAL SYSTEM OF MARINE PROTECTED AREAS

MARINE PROTECTED AREAS FUND

www.mpa.gov

The national system of marine protected areas was established in April 2009 to enhance protection of the nation's natural and cultural heritage resources by improving marine protected areas (MPA) stewardship and coordination and working with MPA managers and stakeholders to identify conservation gaps and future priorities.

THE NATIONAL SYSTEM OF MARINE PROTECTED AREAS includes existing MPAs across all levels of government that meet eligibility criteria and nominate themselves through a public process. In April 2009, 225 MPAs from 16 federal, state and territorial programs joined the national system. A second round of nominations is being held from August 6-November 6, 2009. To support coordination and stewardship for these national system MPAs, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and the Department of the Interior have formed a partnership with the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation to establish an MPA Fund. Non-federal MPA agencies can apply for funds for:

Stewardship Projects as Part of a Regional/Sub-Regional MPA Plan: For MPAs and MPA programs that have already established regional or sub-regional coordination mechanisms, MPA plans and/or implementation priorities (e.g. through the Seamless Network initiative, Regional Ocean Councils, or other mechanisms), funds may be directed toward specific stewardship projects that have already been identified as a regional priority.

Development of a Regional/Sub-Regional MPA Plan: For MPAs and MPA programs that have not yet established regional or sub-regional coordination mechanisms, MPA plans and/or implementation priorities, funds may be directed toward a workshop or meeting to establish such plans and priorities.

Meeting National System Eligibility Criteria: For MPAs and MPA programs that do not meet the eligibility criteria for the national system of MPAs, funds may be directed toward a partnership with an existing national system partner to conduct activities to meet eligibility criteria (e.g. development of MPA management plans).

ELIGIBILITY

All persons, organizations, and agencies (excluding U.S. Federal Government) working on projects to enhance MPA stewardship among members of the national system of MPAs are eligible. Applicants may include non-governmental organizations, but must include at least two agencies responsible for MPA management. Federal agencies may not receive funds, but may be listed as partners on an application.

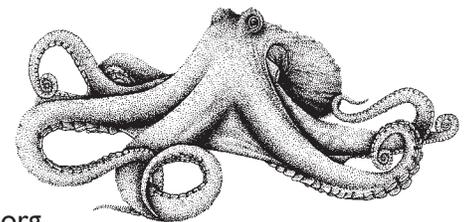
DEADLINE

Pre-proposals are due November 20, 2009

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Grant guidelines and format: visit www.nfwf.org or contact Anthony.chatwin@nfwf.org

National System of MPAs: visit www.mpa.gov, or contact Lauren.wenzel@noaa.gov



NOAA's National Marine Protected Areas (MPA) Center's mission is to facilitate the effective use of science, technology, training, and information in the planning, management, and evaluation of the nation's system of marine protected areas.



The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) is an independent 501(c)3 charity established by the United States Congress in 1984 to restore and enhance the nation's fish, wildlife, plants and habitats.