

# Ohio Sea Grant College Program

*Call for Research Preproposals 1 February 2012 – 31 January 2014*

The Ohio Sea Grant College Program is requesting preproposals for one- to three-year research projects on Great Lakes and marine problems with particular significance to Ohio, Lake Erie, the Great Lakes region, and the nation. Approximately \$100,000 is available for projects beginning 1 February 2012, and \$300,000 is available for projects beginning 1 February 2013. Our preference is to support a greater diversity of smaller projects rather than a few larger projects. Projects should not exceed \$60,000 per year, including indirect costs, and projects of up to three years in duration are acceptable. However, we will also consider inter- or multidisciplinary research projects requesting up to \$100,000 per year. Because of additional funding from the National Office, projects in social-science disciplines can request up to \$75,000 per year. The application and use, as well as the sociological and economic impact of research results, are important considerations for Sea Grant funding.

**PREPROPOSAL DEADLINE:** Ohio Sea Grant must receive a PDF version on its web page [ohioseagrant.osu.edu/research/submit](http://ohioseagrant.osu.edu/research/submit) by 5:00 p.m. **Thursday, 19 May 2011.**

**PROPOSAL DEADLINE:** Ohio Sea Grant must receive a PDF version by 5:00 p.m. **Thursday, 21 July 2011**

This announcement will be emailed in April 2011 to past and present principal investigators and those who have requested to be on our distribution list. To receive future email notifications of preproposals, send your request to [cruickshank.3@osu.edu](mailto:cruickshank.3@osu.edu) and type "subscribe RFP list" in the subject line.

Ohio Sea Grant is one of 32 state Sea Grant programs that are part of the National Sea Grant College Program within NOAA, U.S. Department of Commerce. Sea Grant addresses problems and opportunities related to marine resource utilization and management in partnership with government, academia, and industry.

Ohio Sea Grant is a statewide program based at The Ohio State University. The program brings together the best talent within Ohio's colleges and universities, without regard to academic program affiliation. Grants have been awarded to over 250 investigators at 19 Ohio colleges and universities.

Sea Grant's mission is to increase understanding and wise use of the nation's ocean, coastal, and Great Lakes resources. Sea Grant fulfills this mission by promoting educational excellence, responsive research and training, and broad, prompt dissemination of knowledge and technical information. Ohio Sea Grant takes the educational component of this mission very seriously and prefers projects requesting student support rather than investigator salary when possible. Historically, about 80% of our funded projects have provided no federal Sea Grant support to the principal investigator. However, we allow up to \$5,000, including benefits, to go to investigator salary annually. Collaboration with industry and/or state, regional, and federal agencies is very strongly encouraged and rewarded. Proposals must include an outreach component, and we encourage you to involve our extension agents and/or communications staff on your projects early in proposal development.

## Preproposal Preparation Schedule

### **Thursday, 19 May 2011 by 5 p.m.**

Applicants should submit a PDF version by accessing [ohioseagrant.osu.edu/research/submit](http://ohioseagrant.osu.edu/research/submit) and uploading files. Pre-proposals should include a title page, up to two pages of narrative (12-point, Times New Roman font preferred); a Sea Grant budget form (form 90-4) for each year of the project and a summary budget combining all years (forms are available at [ohioseagrant.osu.edu/research/forms](http://ohioseagrant.osu.edu/research/forms)); a two-page vita for each investigator; and the names, addresses, telephone and fax numbers, and email addresses of seven, unbiased, potential reviewers who are not from your institution and who are not

your former students or advisers. Fax copies are not acceptable.

### **Tuesday, 7 June 2011**

Researchers will be notified of the status of their preproposals (encouraged or discouraged from submitting a full proposal).

### **Thursday, 16 June 2011 1 p.m.**

*Ohio Sea Grant main office*  
Meeting for potential Sea Grant investigators to discuss the process, ask questions, and explore possible opportunities for collaboration.

### **Thursday, 21 July 2011 by 5 p.m.**

Applicants should submit a PDF version of their full proposals by accessing [ohioseagrant.osu.edu/research/submit](http://ohioseagrant.osu.edu/research/submit) and uploading files. Proposals should include the proposal (12-point, Times New Roman font preferred); summary and budget forms (90-2 and 90-4 forms available at [ohioseagrant.osu.edu/research/forms](http://ohioseagrant.osu.edu/research/forms)); and a two-page vita for each investigator.

### **Thursday, 25 August 2011**

Investigators receive copies of external peer reviews.

### **Thursday, 1 September 2011 5 p.m.**

Deadline for Ohio Sea Grant to receive comments (one copy) from investigators wishing to respond to peer reviews.

### **Friday, 30 September 2011**

Researchers will be notified as to whether their proposal will be included in the omnibus proposal submitted by Ohio Sea Grant to the National Sea Grant College Program.

# Decision Process Used By Ohio Sea Grant

Ohio Sea Grant uses two review panels, preproposals, full proposals, and externally written peer reviews when evaluating research proposals.

**PREPROPOSALS:** The preproposal process allows investigators to propose projects and receive feedback without spending the time required to prepare a full proposal. Successfully completing the preproposal process (i.e., being asked to submit a full proposal) does not, however, guarantee funding.

A PDF version (with all pieces of the pre-proposal in one PDF document) of the preproposal must be submitted to Ohio Sea Grant by 5 p.m. on Thursday, 19 May 2011. Applicants should submit by accessing [ohioseagrant.osu.edu/research/submit](http://ohioseagrant.osu.edu/research/submit) and uploading files. Preproposals should include:

**All of the documents listed below should be included in a single PDF file:**

- A cover page of your own design that includes the project title, and the name, affiliation, address, telephone and fax numbers, and email address of each principal investigator; this must be signed by the lead investigator and an authorized institutional representative;
- A maximum of two pages of narrative explaining the objectives, methodology, and rationale for the proposed project (12 point, Times New Roman font preferred); investigators should use Sea Grant's project summary form (90-2);
- A Sea Grant budget form (form 90-4) for each year of the project and a summary budget combining all years (forms are available on our web site at [ohioseagrant.osu.edu/research/forms](http://ohioseagrant.osu.edu/research/forms));
- A two-page vita for each investigator;
- The names, addresses, telephone and fax numbers, and email addresses of seven potential reviewers who are not affiliated with the investigators or the home institutions of the investigators (in all cases this list will be augmented by Ohio Sea Grant); and
- Up to three short letters of support from partners in management agencies or industry.

A panel of science and outreach experts will review all preproposals. Full proposals are then solicited from those investigators receiving the best reviews. The number of preproposals selected is based on the quality of the preproposals and an estimate of funding that is available. It is inevitable that budget constraints will eliminate some proposals. The first investigator listed on each preproposal will be contacted with the results of the review by Tuesday, 7 June 2011.

**FULL PROPOSALS:** Guidelines for preparing proposals will be emailed 7 June 2011. Full proposals will be due by 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, 21 July 2011 and will be immediately mailed to reviewers. External written peer reviews are due by Thursday, 25 August 2011 and will be distributed to investigators immediately (minus the names of the reviewers). Investigator's comments on these reviews are due by 5:00 p.m. on 1 September 2011. After reviewing the proposals, the peer reviews, and the investigator's comments, an external review panel will recommend to the Director which proposals to support and include in Ohio Sea Grant's omnibus proposal to the National Sea Grant College Program.

**NATIONAL SEA GRANT REVIEW:** The staff of the National Sea Grant College Program will review all full proposals, external reviews, and investigator's comments obtained by Ohio Sea Grant and will ascertain that state Sea Grant programs are not duplicating research. Funding decisions should be made by mid-November 2011.

## Ohio Sea Grant's Priorities and Strategic Plan

Ohio Sea Grant's 2010-2014 strategic plan ([go.osu.edu/osgsp1014](http://go.osu.edu/osgsp1014)) seeks to improve the economy, education, and the environment using research, education, and outreach in partnership with government, academia, and the private sector. The plan is built to guide our implementation of the National Sea Grant Program strategic plan ([seagrant.noaa.gov/focus](http://seagrant.noaa.gov/focus)) and its focus areas—hazard resilient coastal communities, healthy coastal ecosystems, safe sustainable seafood supply, and sustainable coastal development—locally as they address Lake Erie and its coastal issues. Any proposal that addresses our strategic plan will be considered. However, priority in the 2012–14 funding cycle will be given to projects that focus on issues of nutrient loading to Lake Erie and harmful algal blooms or coastal economic development (in particular, projects that can create jobs and enhance economic activity through improved practices, product creation, and specialized training are encouraged, along with human dimensions studies documenting the economic value of Lake Erie natural resources or of cleaning up Lake Erie Areas of Concern). Social science projects are a particular focus this year as the National Sea Grant College Program may supplement up to 50% of the requested federal budget for these projects. Priority will also be given to supporting at least one project at Old Woman Creek NERR focusing on healthy coastal ecosystems. This project will be co-funded by Old Woman Creek and Sea Grant. *All proposals should clearly specify the strategies addressed within our strategic plan.*

# Ohio Sea Grant's Current Research Program

Listed below are titles of research projects funded by Ohio Sea Grant since 1 February 2010.

Project Number	Project Title
R/ER-087	The role of sediment in controlling the fate and toxicity of microcystin
R/ER-031	Development and validation of a high-resolution nearshore model for Lake Erie
R/ER-009	Environmental tolerance of type A influenza virus isolated from wild waterfowl in Ohio
R/LR-015	Development and implementation of a new molecular test for active viral hemorrhagic septicemia infection in fish
R/LR-032	Leveraging natural amenities for sustainable development in the Great Lakes region
R/PS-033	Socio-economic impacts of bird watching along Great Lakes
R/PS-043	Bench-scale evaluation of in-situ ultrasonic remediation of contaminated sediments

For a complete list of Ohio Sea Grant-funded projects, visit the project report page on our web site at: [ohioseagrant.osu.edu/research](http://ohioseagrant.osu.edu/research). This site can also be accessed to get more information on any of the project numbers listed above.

## Questions Asked of a Research Proposal

**OBJECTIVES:** What are the goals of the project? What do you hope to accomplish? Objectives should be stated so as to be verifiable upon completion of the project. Quantifiable and hypothesis-based objectives are often a good idea, as is development of a timeline or schedule.

**METHODOLOGY:** Describe your research plan and methods. Specify any standard techniques, special equipment, computer models, etc., that you plan to employ. Be as explicit as space allows.

**RATIONALE:** Summarize the problem or opportunity being addressed. Why is this an important issue? The project does not need to promise to fully solve a problem, but it should be a logical step toward a solution. Identify groups that can use the information being developed (involving these groups in your proposals is encouraged) and/or explain how this information is applicable to the problem or opportunity being addressed. Include a literature review as space allows.

**POINTS TO CONSIDER:** A significant consideration in submitting a proposal to Sea Grant is the matching funds requirement. You must show \$1 of nonfederal support for every \$2 of federal support. Matching nonfederal support may include:

- salaries, wages, and benefits of those working on the project;
- expendable supplies and equipment;
- donated supplies, space, or equipment; and
- unclaimed indirect costs.

Progress/completion reports for Sea Grant projects are submitted electronically through our web site semi-annually. **Electronic reporting on all previous grants must be current before an investigator's new proposal or preproposal will be accepted.** The initiation date for new projects in this two-year submission can be 1 February 2012 or 1 February 2013. While projects can be approved for more than one year, funding is approved annually and is dependent upon federal and state appropriations. Contact the Ohio Sea Grant office if you have any questions regarding this process.

In addition, an outreach component is required of all Sea Grant-funded research. It is often helpful to discuss potential projects with people in industry, government/agencies, or Sea Grant Extension staff; their support can often significantly strengthen a proposal. Invited full proposals will be assigned to a Sea Grant Educator or Specialist to facilitate dissemination to our constituencies if investigators have not yet sought the input of our extension staff by that time.



Ohio Sea Grant works with communities and industries through its 9 Extension specialists:

**Heather Elmer**, Huron

419/433-4601, [heather.elmer@dnr.state.oh.us](mailto:heather.elmer@dnr.state.oh.us)

**Tory Gabriel**, Oak Harbor

440/808-5627, [gabriel.78@osu.edu](mailto:gabriel.78@osu.edu)

**John Hageman**, Put-in-Bay

419/285-1800 or 614-247-6500, [hageman.2@osu.edu](mailto:hageman.2@osu.edu)

**Melinda Huntley**, Sandusky

419/609-0399, [huntley@coastalohio.com](mailto:huntley@coastalohio.com)

**David O. Kelch**, Lorain

440/326-5851, [kelch.3@osu.edu](mailto:kelch.3@osu.edu)

**Frank R. Lichtkoppler**, Painesville

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**Matt Thomas**, Put-in-Bay

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**Colleen Wellington**, Sandusky

419/609-4120, [wellington.28@osu.edu](mailto:wellington.28@osu.edu)

## Ohio Sea Grant's Small Grants Program

Ohio Sea Grant's small grants program accepts proposals requesting up to approximately \$10,000 at any time. These proposals should include National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) summary and budget forms (90-2 and 90-4) and a short narrative proposal not to exceed five pages. Forms can be downloaded from the Ohio Sea Grant web site at [ohioseagrant.osu.edu/research/forms](http://ohioseagrant.osu.edu/research/forms).

## Ohio Sea Grant Management Team:

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## Ohio Sea Grant College Program

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