



## Coral Reef Conservation Fund 2010 Request for Proposals

The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF), in partnership with the NOAA Coral Reef Conservation Program (CRCP), announces the availability of grant funding in the following priority proposal categories:

**U.S. Jurisdictions** (Florida, U.S. Virgin Islands (USVI), Puerto Rico, Hawaii, American Samoa, Guam, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI))

- Addressing sediment and nutrient run-off to coral reefs from development
- Implementing priority actions described in watershed and marine protected area (MPA) management plans in areas containing U.S. coral reef ecosystems

**International** (Regional focus on Micronesia, Samoa and the Southwest Pacific, the Wider Caribbean, and the Coral Triangle region; however, all international coral reef locations are eligible.)

- Implementing activities that support the priority goals and objectives identified in NOAA CRCP's International Strategy ([http://coralreef.noaa.gov/wgroups/resources/final/intl\\_strategy.pdf](http://coralreef.noaa.gov/wgroups/resources/final/intl_strategy.pdf))

Applicants are encouraged to select one category for each proposal. Proposals addressing topics outside of these priority categories will be considered to the extent that they support the goals and objectives of CRCP ([http://coralreef.noaa.gov/wgroups/resources/final/3threats\\_go.pdf](http://coralreef.noaa.gov/wgroups/resources/final/3threats_go.pdf), [http://coralreef.noaa.gov/wgroups/resources/final/intl\\_strategy.pdf](http://coralreef.noaa.gov/wgroups/resources/final/intl_strategy.pdf)) and the NFWF Coral Reef Conservation Business Plan found at [www.nfwf.org/coralreef](http://www.nfwf.org/coralreef).

### Eligibility

All persons, organizations, and non-U.S. Federal agencies are eligible to apply, including parties within and outside the United States. Proposals requesting funding for land or easement acquisition, political advocacy, lobbying, or litigation will not be considered.

### Grant Size

The majority of awards under this program will fall in the range of \$25,000 to \$100,000. The total amount of awards made under this RFP is not expected to exceed \$500,000. Matching funds from non-U.S. Federal sources are required at a minimum 1:1 ratio for all proposed projects.

### Grant Period

Projects may extend from 12-18 months.

## **Proposal Categories**

The most competitive projects under this request for proposals will be those that directly implement projects under the following four priority proposal categories. Projects outside of these proposal categories or that indirectly influence these topics are still eligible for funding provided they support the specific goals and objectives of CRCP and NFWF as outlined via the Internet links above.

### *Projects in U.S. Jurisdictions*

#### **Decreased sediment and nutrient run-off from development**

Projects submitted for funding under this topic may promote known and proven technologies or best practices for mitigating impacts of development related to sediment and nutrient inputs in watersheds containing coral reefs. Increased application of conservation practices, such as erosion control measures, changes in chemical application methods, use of water retention gardens, etc., through outreach and/or incentive programs are encouraged, in addition to continued testing of new technologies or practices that mitigate threats to coral reefs stemming from development activities. Projects should quantify the acreage of land in which conservation practices will be implemented as a result of proposed project activities, the acreage of land and/or percent of land in the watershed that will be impacted by the proposed conservation measures, and/or the percent reduction of target nutrient or sediment loads throughout the watershed expected from project activities.

#### **Implementation of watershed and marine protected area management plans in areas containing coral reef ecosystems**

Projects submitted for funding under this category should focus on implementation of priority activities identified in existing management plans, particularly plans that have been established in the past five years and include significant stakeholder input. Project applications should list the specific plan(s) that they are working to implement and the extent of implementation that has been accomplished to date. Applicants under this topic should target actions in the plan(s) that were seen as a top management priority or have the greatest potential for improving the condition of living coral.

### *International Projects*

#### **Implementation of NOAA Coral Reef Conservation Program's International Strategy**

Projects submitted for funding under this category should focus on implementation of one or more of the specific objectives identified in the CRCP International Strategy. Preference will be given to projects that address objectives under priority Goal 1: "support the development of effective MPAs and MPA networks and strengthen local management capacity to improve and maintain resilience of coral reef ecosystems and the human communities that depend on them," but efforts to implement other objectives identified in the CRCP International Strategy will be considered as well. Preference will also be given to projects that focus on international coral reef areas in CRCP's priority geographic regions of: Micronesia, the Southwest Pacific, the Wider Caribbean (including Mesoamerica), and the Coral Triangle region (Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Papua New Guinea, Timor Leste, and the Solomon Islands). Projects in other international coral reef areas may be funded but are a lower priority for this competition.

# Application Guidelines

## Pre-Proposal

All applicants are required to submit an on-line pre-proposal application form, including the proposal category to which you would like to apply, requested grant amount, matching funds and sources, and general project information for review. As part of your on-line application you will be asked to submit a Pre-proposal Narrative as outlined below. No additional supporting materials will be accepted during this phase of the review.

Pre-Proposal Narrative (maximum 2 pages, single-spaced, 12-point type)

The pre-proposal narrative should provide introductory/background information and descriptions of: the project's goals and objectives, how the project supports CRCP's goals and objectives, the activities/methods to be used in the project, the anticipated outcomes, and the research and management utility of the results/outcomes. **See the Pre-proposal narrative template in the NFWF Easygrants system for further detail.**

## Full Proposal (by invitation only)

A *limited number* of pre-proposal applicants will be invited to submit a full proposal to elaborate on their work for a second stage of review. At that time, additional information will be required, including an expanded proposal narrative, detailed budget, organization/team qualifications, status of necessary permits, and other relevant information.

## Application Process

The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation launched an on-line application program in March of 2008. Applicants can find information about the grant applications, including templates and orientation webinars if needed, at <http://www.nfwf.org/applicantinfo>.

Organizations interested in applying should submit a **pre-proposal** using NFWF's online Easygrants system:

1. **This funding opportunity will open on September 11, 2009.** Applicants should visit <http://www.nfwf.org/easygrants> and register as a new user (unless you have previously applied to NFWF in the Easygrants system under a different funding opportunity) and then follow the instructions below.
2. Under "Apply for a New Grant", click the "Start a New Application" link. Select the Coral Reef Conservation Fund 2010 funding opportunity.
3. Follow the instructions to complete an eligibility quiz and, if deemed eligible, a pre-proposal.

Pre-proposals must be submitted via the Foundation's online system, **in English**, and received no later than 11:59 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time on **October 12, 2009** (no exceptions). Upon receipt and competitive evaluation of the pre-proposal, the Foundation will invite successful applicants to submit a full proposal. Applicants will be notified by **November 13, 2009**, as to the status of their preliminary applications. Full proposal will be solicited from successful applicants at that time and will be due by 11:59 p.m. Eastern Standard Time on **January 8, 2010**. Awards for this program are scheduled to be announced in **March, 2010**.

Awards may be contingent upon obtaining permits from appropriate national environmental agencies, and/or approvals from appropriate oversight bodies at the performing institution or appropriate government agency.

For further information on the program or completing the application, please contact Stephanie Pendergrass (202-857-0166 or [stephanie.pendergrass@nfwf.org](mailto:stephanie.pendergrass@nfwf.org)) or Michelle Pico (262-567-0601 or [pico@nfwf.org](mailto:pico@nfwf.org)).