

**Deadline for Submission: 11 December 2007**

### ***General Guidance for Proposal Preparation***

The Northeast Consortium Project Development Awards provide up to \$25,000 to fund seed projects that plan, design, and test the feasibility of an idea, or otherwise lay the groundwork for future cooperative research projects. Innovative, novel and unique approaches to research are particularly encouraged. Topic areas could include: development of new fishing gears or strategies that reduce bycatch and discard while retaining target catch, fishing gear selectivity, studies that quantify impacts of fishing gears on the marine environment and their mitigation, studies that define fish habitats and ecology, oceanography, and socioeconomics. In general, funds should be requested for projects lasting one year or less. Exceptions to this guideline can be made in special cases.

### ***Specific Guidance for Proposal Preparation***

Project Development funds will be awarded based upon the review of a short proposal, which should include the following:

- **Description of idea or concept:** Explain the proposed idea or concept. Describe what outcomes or solutions are expected from the project.
- **Approach and method:** Provide a detailed description of the project strategy, approach, or method to achieve the objectives.
- **Project significance:** Explain the practical and scientific importance of the project and the potential benefits and impact of the work.
- **Participants:** All project participants should be named with a brief explanation of each person's role in the project. A brief biographical sketch or one-page resume should be attached for each participant (not included in 5-page limit).
- **Next steps:** Provide a clear description of how the project will lead to future cooperative research projects, lasting fishermen-scientist partnerships, or other specific next steps and benefits.
- **Budget:** A one-page budget sheet should specify each line item requested (e.g. personnel, equipment, supplies, travel, etc.). A standard budget form is now required. The form may be downloaded at: <http://www.northeastconsortium.org/fundingapply>. While the Northeast Consortium aims for a program-wide balance in its funding allocation of 75% to industry participants and 25% to science participants, a 75/25 split is not required for Project Development Awards.
- **Budget justification:** Supply a concise and complete narrative to justify the project's budget, in order for reviewers to clearly identify how costs were calculated.
- **Other information:** Additional relevant and helpful information to permit complete evaluation of the importance and merit of a proposed project development activity. Letters of support will not be considered and should not be included.

### ***Proposal Format Requirements***

Every proposal must be submitted with a cover page. Using the form provided on-line, provide the project title, names and complete contact information for the project leader and key participants, the cover page form may be downloaded at: <http://www.northeastconsortium.org/fundingapply>



**Request  
for  
Project Development Proposals**  
*(Page 2)*

Proposals may not exceed five pages in length, not including the cover page, required budget sheet, budget justification, and biographical information. Text size should not be smaller than a 12-point font. Please note that the project leader's signature is now required on the cover sheet, indicating the prior agreement to participate of all parties named as participants in the proposal.

***Review Process***

Proposals will be reviewed by the Northeast Consortium Representatives and a panel of Advisory Committee members and external reviewers. Reviewers will consider the feasibility of project implementation, the potential impact of the idea on fisheries and ocean science or management in the Gulf of Maine and Georges Bank, and the potential or demonstrated impact on future fishermen-scientist research partnerships. The Northeast Consortium considers both the importance of an idea and its technical merit when making a funding decision. Descriptions and reports of cooperative research projects and project development awards previously supported by the Northeast Consortium are available via its Project Information Database: <http://www.northeastconsortium.org/projects.shtml>.

Prior to receiving funding, proposals will be reviewed by the National Marine Fisheries Service for environmental and regulatory impacts. Projects that involve the care and use of animals may require review by an approved Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC). These reviews will influence the time it takes for funding to be released to the grantee.

***Proposal Submission***

Fifteen copies of Project Development Proposals must be received by 5 p.m. on 11 December 2007. Proposals received after this time and date will not be considered. Proposals may not be submitted via fax or e-mail. Please note that U.S. Mail to Durham may be significantly delayed.

Requests for assistance with proposal preparation, submission, Northeast Consortium documents and program information, should be directed to Program Coordinator Laurinda Sousa Smith by phone (603-862-0136) or email (Laurinda.Smith@unh.edu).

**Send proposals (15 copies) to:**

Laurinda Sousa Smith, Program Coordinator  
Northeast Consortium  
Institute for the Study of Earth, Oceans and Space  
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Durham, NH 03824  
(603) 862-0136

**Timeline:**

Announcement: 30 October 2007  
Letter proposal deadline: 11 December 2007