

Northeast Consortium

University of New Hampshire

University of Maine

Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution

2009 Collaborative Research Opportunities Full Proposals and Project Development Awards

Deadline: December 8, 2009

The Northeast Consortium invites proposals for collaborative research programs that address issues in fisheries and marine science focused within the Georges Bank and Gulf of Maine ecosystem. Proposals are invited for both full and project development awards; individuals may submit proposals for one or both categories however emphasis will be given to the project development category.

The distribution of collaborative research funds will be via an open competition to be administered by the University of New Hampshire on behalf of the Northeast Consortium. Funding recommendations and decisions will be made by the Northeast Consortium representatives, based on review and recommendations of a panel consisting of Northeast Consortium Advisory Committee members and other commercial fishermen, scientists, and representatives of governmental, quasi-governmental and non-governmental agencies and organizations.

Topic Areas

The intent of the Northeast Consortium is to provide funding for projects that address fisheries and ocean research issues within the Gulf of Maine and Georges Bank ecosystem. To encourage potential proposers, we provide here summaries of general topic areas that are appropriate for Northeast Consortium collaborative research funding. Proposals are not restricted to the topic areas outlined below.

- **SELECTIVE FISHING-GEAR RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT.** The development of selective fishing gears that enhance gear selectivity, target healthy stocks, reduce bycatch and discard, reduce or eliminate technical barriers to trade, minimize harvest losses, and improve fishing practices. We also encourage studies of new and developing fishing gears and technologies aimed at reducing environmental impact.
- **ESTIMATION OF SURVIVAL AND SURVIVABILITY.** Studies that estimate survival and survivability of aquatic species following fishing gear encounters; including estimation of mortality rates from currently used fishing gears and studies that aim at improving survival.
- **ECOSYSTEM APPROACHES TO FISHING AND MANAGEMENT.** Alternative or supplementary approaches to the analysis of species' distribution; life history features, behavior, dispersal, and the effects of oceanographic patterns and processes; ecological interactions between species.
- **OCEANOGRAPHIC AND METEOROLOGICAL MONITORING.** Information on weather, sea-state, and oceanographic and fishing conditions; synoptic coverage of large regions, use of satellite telemetry; use of commercial fishing vessels as platforms for ocean monitoring, modeling, and prediction.
- **SOCIOECONOMIC IMPACTS.** Studies which lead to a better understanding of the effects of fisheries, coastal, and ocean management decisions and collaborative research on the fishing industry and fishing communities.
- **OUTREACH AND EDUCATION.** Approaches to enhance knowledge sharing among fishermen, scientists, managers and the general public. Projects should focus on collaborative research generally, not just on Northeast Consortium-funded activities.



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