

**U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM)
Environmental Studies Program**

Program Announcement No. M19AS00010

BOEM FY 2019 Environmental Studies Program

CFDA No. 15.423

April 9, 2019

Revised May 16, 2019

I. Funding Opportunity Description

The Alaska Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) Region of the BOEM is offering a cooperative agreement for the study of Land fast Ice Climatology within the Arctic OCS, covering the areas of the Beaufort, Chukchi and possibly Bering seas. This study will examine the changes in landfast ice extent and stability over time and the physical forces driving these changes. We will investigate how the changing state of landfast ice conditions impact the oil and gas industry and the coastal communities at present and into the future. Field experiments that document the thermodynamic growth and decay of landfast ice will support validation of results from coupled ice-ocean circulation models used to support trajectory analyses for Oil Spill Risk Analysis (OSRA).

Authorities: The Energy Policy Act of 2005 Section 357 requires an inventory and analysis of oil and natural gas resources beneath the waters of the OCS that is updated at least every 5 years. Section 1346 of the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act (OCSLA) further mandates the conduct of environmental and socioeconomic studies needed for the assessment and management of environmental impacts on the human, marine, and coastal environments which may be affected by oil and gas or other mineral development. OCSLA Section 1345 authorizes the use of cooperative agreements with affected States to meet the requirements of OCSLA, including sharing of information and joint utilization of available expertise to carry out applicable Federal and State laws, regulations, and stipulations relevant to OCS operations both onshore and offshore.

Background: Offshore landfast ice is utilized as a stable platform for oil and gas exploration development, as well as for subsistence hunting activities along the Beaufort, Chukchi and Bering Sea coasts. Ongoing environmental change in the Arctic has altered the extent, stability, and seasonality of the landfast ice along the U.S. Arctic coast and updated information is needed to facilitate planning and ensure the safety of on-ice activities. Mahoney et al. (2012) last quantified the monthly minimum, mean, and maximum landfast ice extents along the Beaufort Sea coast, but these data were collected up to the spring of 2008, and are more than ten years old. Substantial deterioration of sea ice conditions has occurred since then which has restricted the time frame that industry can operate offshore and has constrained subsistence hunting at some locations along the coast.

Purpose: To improve understanding of changes in landfast ice extent and stability are needed to provide context for interpretation of changing subsistence patterns and inform reviews and decision-making regarding oil and gas exploration and development plans involving on-ice activities.

Scope of Objectives: The analysis will document the role of physical forcing mechanisms on landfast ice extent and duration, offer information for validation of coupled ice-ocean circulation models, and improve understanding of the existing environment to support National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) analyses. The goal of this study is to also develop new (or improve existing) parameterization scheme for modeling landfast ice in the nearshore Beaufort Sea based on the landfast data collected.

II. Award Information

The ***total anticipated*** amount of funding availability is approximately \$1,700,000 subject to the availability of funds. The anticipated period of performance will be from fiscal year (FY) 2019 – FY2023. This study will be incrementally funded: FY 2019 - \$500,000; FY 2020 - \$500,000; FY 2021 - \$350,000; and FY 2022 - \$350,000. The BOEM anticipates making one cooperative agreement award in FY 2019 for one proposal submitted under this program announcement.

Work performance under these awards must start before October 1, 2019 and the proposed work must be completed no later than four years from the start date. Planning should include proposed work commencing on or after August 1, 2019. Earlier starting dates may be considered if it is clearly demonstrated to be necessary to project success. Additional information regarding multi-year proposals is presented in the “Multi-Year Proposal” section below.

This Program Announcement describes the specific projects that may be awarded to the universities or eligible groups identified. All awards are premised on receipt of an acceptable proposal. This is not an open solicitation for proposals.

This announcement is specifically to announce intent to undertake the following project:

- Landfast Ice Climatology within the Arctic Alaska OCS Region

Open to:

- University of Alaska Fairbanks via the Alaska Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit (CESU)

No other proposals are requested at this time.

The award will be a cooperative agreement (with the exception of tasks performed by Federal partners—see Eligibility Information below). This involves substantial involvement by BOEM scientists in various aspects of study development and/or study conduct.

Multi-Year Proposals:

If the proposed work is such that more than one year is required to complete the research, then a multi-year proposal is appropriate and the applicant shall write the proposal accordingly. Proposals shall clearly define the work to be completed in the first, second, and each succeeding year, and the evaluation panel reserves the option to fund only the first year of a multi-year proposal. Funding for subsequent years of a multi-year cooperative agreement is contingent upon the availability of funds and satisfactory progress demonstrated by the recipient. Progress will be determined through technical review of quarterly and annual progress reports and other work identified by the BOEM Project Officer. Funds requested for the final year of performance shall include a 15% retainage of the project’s total anticipated budget request. Continuation notices shall be provided by the BOEM Project Officer at least 60 days prior to the end of each funding period.

III. Eligibility Information

Research projects are required to have a staff member of the applying organization as the Principal Investigator (PI). Cooperative research between interested organizations—i.e., state agencies, public universities, and non-profits in affected states—is always encouraged.

Contributions of matching funds towards these efforts, either as cash or in-kind contributions (such as salary, equipment, *etc.*, or a combination of both) is very strongly encouraged. Match cannot include value associated with collection costs for samples previously collected. Match value for instrumentation and other equipment should be adjusted to the period of use within the project relative to the full life cycle for the item. Written documentation for the assessed match for ship time (if applicable) shall provide a fair assessment of costs relevant to the project. Matching dollars cannot be from other federal funding sources. Further information can be located at [2 CFR 200.306](#).

Federal entities as partners are allowed, however the tasks performed by the Federal partner and the associated budget must be presented separately by the Federal partner. The organization's proposal and the Federal proposal should be cross referenced to each other, but each should stand alone. Other non-federal organizations may be partners and their tasks and budgets should be included in the organization's proposal.

All questions regarding this project, including eligibility, should be directed only to the *Program Announcement and Cooperative Agreement Questions* point-of-contact listed in Section VII.

IV. Application and Submission Information

1. Proposals must be submitted by 5 PM EDT, **June 7, 2019**.
2. Location of Application Package.

Applications must be submitted through the www.Grants.gov portal at “Apply for Grants.” Applicants can locate the application package by visiting the Grants.gov portal and searching on CFDA number 15.423 in the Grants.gov search engine.

The electronic submission system requires several preliminary registration steps before the actual proposal can be submitted (go to www.grants.gov, and click on “Applicants” on top menu bar, go to “Apply for Grants”, Register as an Organization or Register as an individual.

The application will be submitted according to the format provided below. Following this format ensures that every application contains all essential information and is evaluated equitably.

3. Content and Form of Applications

The application process begins by downloading Adobe Reader (version 9.0.0 and later) at <http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/applicants/adobe-software-compatibility.html>.

Note: The Adobe software (Adobe Reader DC) is going through compatibility issues that may or may not affect you. The Adobe software will enable the applicant and all interested parties to view and complete the following required application forms:

SF-424 Application for Federal Assistance
 SF-424a Budget Information
 SF-424b Assurances – Non-Construction Programs
 Project Narrative Form (including Proposal Cover Sheet described below)
 Budget Narrative Form
 University of Alaska Budget Form and Budget Justification
 GG Certification Regarding Lobbying Form
 (Complete the Optional SF-LLL Lobbying form only if lobbying has occurred)

4. Proposal Cover Sheet

The cover sheet of the proposal shall contain the following information: Project Title:

Principal Investigator(s): Name:

Address:

Phone:

FAX:

Email:

Name of university/department:

Contact information for Technical and Administrative Negotiations

Project Status: New/Continuation

Project Duration: (years or months) Proposed Start Date:

Proposed Draft Final Report Submission Date:

Proposed Completion Date:

Amount Requested From BOEM:

Amount and Sources of Non-Federal Match:

Total Project Cost:

Signature, Name and Contact Information of University Principal Investigator and Co-Investigator:

Proposal Endorsement, including Signature, Name and Contact Information of Sponsoring University Department Dean or Institute Director:

Signature, Name and Contact Information, Office of Sponsored Programs, University of Alaska:

5. Proposal Text

The proposal must be in 11-12 point Times New Roman, Arial, or similar font with 1" page margins. Non-conforming proposals will not be considered. Text, figures, etc. in support of items a-n below should be no longer than 15 pages.

Please include the following in the Proposal:

a. Abstract

b. Background/Relevance to BOEM Issues, Information Needs, and Research Topics: Give a brief introduction to the research problem. State how the proposal addresses BOEM goals. Explain why the work is important. Specify the contribution to science related to oil and gas development and the benefits that society will receive from the study. Proposals should describe why the research is important to Alaska offshore oil and gas development issues and to the coastal communities within the study domain.

Provide a brief summary of findings or outcomes of any prior work you have completed in this area.

- c. Objectives/Hypotheses: Clearly define goals of the project.
- d. Methods/Analyses: Provide a clear description of planned methodologies and analyses.
- e. Data Management, Data Security and Data Archiving Plan: State intent to provide copies of data files with metadata to BOEM in a format that meets Federal data standards (e.g. current Federal Geographic Data Committee standards). Copies shall also be archived with the National Centers for Environmental Information (NCEI, formerly NODC), the National Environmental Satellite, Data, and Information Service (NESDIS), or another appropriate Federal Data Repository as clearly identified in the proposal. All data shall be provided to BOEM in formats that can be easily incorporated into BOEM's internal ArcGIS supported spatial databases.
- f. For studies involving field work, or as otherwise appropriate, applicants shall provide plans for Logistics, Safety Management, and necessary Permits/Interagency Coordination/Local Coordination.
- g. Project Management/Staffing Plan: All key personnel (including graduate student workers) shall be identified by name. List the University Principal Investigator first, followed by the names of other individuals. Indicate the role and anticipated level of effort for each key participant offering unique or specific contributions to the project (oceanographer, geochemist, field assistant, etc.). If names of any key participants are unknown, a proposal addendum with the names and vitae must be submitted prior to award.
- h. Performance Measures: Applicants shall suggest specific measures that will be used to monitor project progress, including progress of sub-awardees (e.g. quality and timely deliverables, timely completion of fieldwork or other project components, draft peer-reviewed articles). These performance measures will be incorporated in the cooperative agreement award and reviewed as part of any continuation request.
- i. Timeline (including deliverables): Provide for submission of the draft final report six months before project end date to ensure adequate time for BOEM review, revisions to draft, and publishing by the CESU Program Office. All data will be delivered to BOEM at the time of the draft final report for review and concurrence.
- j. Critical Starting Dates (e.g. for season-limited field work): Identify any critical starting dates and the reason why project success is dependent upon that start date.
- k. Project Deliverables and Planned Products: List product(s) (reports, analyses, maps, digital data, etc.) that will be delivered during the performance period. Quarterly, annual, draft and final reports and draft and final technical summaries are required. Required deliverables shall also include, as appropriate, electronic data files and no less than 20 digital images related to the research activity.

- l. **Publication and Presentation:** The following presentations are required: annual oral presentations during the project performance period and one or two additional presentations at meetings to be identified in agreement with BOEM (e.g., the Alaska Marine Science Symposium or a BOEM-sponsored information synthesis meeting). Presentation meetings should be included in the proposal and budget. BOEM strongly encourages the Recipients to publish project related articles in scientific and technical journals and present results to the scientific community (appropriate professional organizations; local, State, and Federal agencies) as part of the project.
- m. **Local Involvement:** Applicants are strongly encouraged to involve local residents in the study where appropriate, including: local hire and or training for participation in project tasks; public briefings with local communities about project goals, research design, and study results; and consideration about whether and how to include explicit traditional ecological knowledge statements in final study products.
- n. **Local and Scientific Outreach:** Applicants are required to disseminate research results to relevant local communities. At a minimum outreach must include provision of a separate executive summary in language appropriate to a non-science, lay audience and either a) an 8½" x 11" poster suitable for mailing to local village organizations and public display on local bulletin boards or b) a formal presentation of study findings to an appropriate audience at local schools or public gatherings. Proposals may include other effective outreach activities such as development of a professional video for a local museum kiosk. BOEM will consider funding up to a total of \$5,000 toward this type of outreach or capacity building for each proposal and budget without a 1:1 match of non-federal funds. Documentation of completion of a public outreach will be required at the end of the project.
- o. **Bibliography:** List all references cited in the text, as well as references that are relevant to the current proposal from your past work in the field.
- p. **Curricula Vitae** (maximum two pages) for each identified key participant. Emphasize previous experience in the field of study that the proposal addresses.
- q. **Letters of Commitment:** Provide signed letters of commitment by matching fund grantors, contractors, and sub-grantees.
- r. **Budget Spreadsheet:** In addition to SF-424a Budget Information form in Section IV.3 above, include information in a format which provides personnel, travel, services, supplies, equipment, tuition, and indirect costs on an annual basis for both the requested BOEM funds and for any anticipated match funds.
- s. **Budget Justification Narrative:** (see item 6 below)

6. Budget Justification Narrative

This information will provide more details than the SF-424a form (Section IV.3) and will provide adequate information for the Contracting Officer to conduct a detailed analysis of the costs to determine they are reasonable, allowable and allocable. Please include the following:

- a. Salaries and Wages. List positions and rate of compensation for University employees.
- b. Fringe Benefits/Labor Overhead. Indicate the rates/amounts in conformance with normal accounting procedures. Explain what costs are covered in this category and the basis of the rate computations. Provide a copy of the negotiated rate agreement, if available.
- c. Tuition. Requests for funds for tuition must identify the student by name if known. The total compensation (including tuition funds, stipend, etc.) requested for the individual must be commensurate with the services to be performed by that individual. Students must be identified by name prior to any tuition payments.
- d. Lab Analyses. Briefly itemize cost of all analytical work.
- e. Supplies. Enter the cost for all tangible property. Include the cost of office, laboratory, computing, and field supplies separately. Provide detail on any specific item that represents a significant portion of the proposed amount. Provide a statement that supplies will be purchased in accordance with 2 CFR 200.318-326.
- f. Equipment. Show the cost of all special-purpose equipment necessary for achieving the objectives of the project. "Special-purpose equipment" means scientific equipment having a useful life of more than 1 year and having an acquisition cost of \$5,000 or more per item. Each item should be itemized and include a full justification and a dealer or manufacturer quote, if available. General-purpose equipment (used also for purposes other than this project) must be purchased from the applicant's operating funds. Title to non-expendable personal property shall be vested solely with the Recipient. Under no circumstances shall property title be vested in a sub-tier recipient. Provide a statement that equipment will be purchased in accordance with 2 CFR 200.318-326 and managed in accordance with 2 CFR 200.313.
- g. Services or Consultants. Identify the tasks or problems for which such services would be used. List the contemplated sub-recipients by name (including consultants), the estimated amount of time required, and the quoted rate per day or hour. Sub-applicant proposals should provide cost breakdowns at the same level of detail as the Applicant's proposal. If contract employees are hired, include their total time, rate of compensation, job titles, and roles. Provide a statement that salaries will be charged at the actual rate and that the rate is comparable to others doing similar work within the organization.
- h. Educational Outreach. Identify planned outreach activities and clearly identify associated costs. BOEM will consider funding up to \$5,000 (including associated indirect charges) per project with cost share requirement waived.
- i. Travel. State the purpose of the trip and itemize the estimated travel costs to show the number of trips required, the destinations, the number of people traveling, the per diem rates, the cost of transportation, and any miscellaneous expenses for each trip. Calculations of other special transportation costs (such as charges for use of applicant- owned vehicles or vehicle rental costs) should also be shown.

Applicants should include in the proposal a plan to present findings at one to two major meetings (see Section IV.5.1).

- j. Publication Costs. Show the estimated cost of publishing the results of the research. If publication of results of the research in a peer-reviewed literature (identify likely publications) is anticipated, include costs of drafting or graphics, reproduction, page or illustration charges, and a minimum number of reprints.
- k. Other Direct Costs. Itemize the different types of costs not included elsewhere.
- l. Total Direct Charges. Totals for items a - l.
- m. Indirect Charges (Overhead). Indirect cost/general and administrative (G&A) cost. Show the proposed rate, cost base, and proposed amount for indirect costs based on the cost principles applicable to the Applicant's organization. If the Applicant has separate rates for recovery of labor overhead and G&A costs, each charge should be shown. Provide a copy of the negotiated rate agreement with the Applicant's federal cognizant audit agency.
- n. Amount Proposed. Total items m and n.
- o. Multi-year Projects. The Applicant shall provide summary information as well as a detailed budget for each year. Funds requested for the final year of performance shall comprise a minimum of 15% of the project's total anticipated budget.

V. Application Review Information

Proposals will be reviewed by BOEM scientists, program managers, and may also include external peer review. Reviewers have expertise in Federal offshore programs and/or the specific scientific discipline of the proposal.

Evaluation Criteria. All proposals will be evaluated in accordance with the following criteria:

1. Completeness of Proposal:

Does the proposal include each of the elements identified in Section IV.5?

2. Scientific Quality and Impact:

Is the proposed study of high scientific quality with clear hypotheses? Does the project respond to identified information needs and target one of the listed specific research areas?

3. Work Plan/ Methodology:

Are the strategy and work plan clear and designed for success? Are proposed methods adequate to meet objectives? Are the identified tools appropriate for the proposed study? Are logistics, safety, and permits/interagency coordination adequately addressed?

4. Timeline:

Is the proposed timeline realistic and appropriate? Does the timeline include reasonable and appropriate submission dates for all reports and other deliverable products?

5. Planned Scientific Products and Dissemination of Results:

Are the products clearly defined? Are plans for dissemination of results (e.g. through outreach and/or publication in a peer-reviewed journal) identified? Does the proposal indicate Principal Investigator (PI) will provide data and metadata in a format that meets Federal data standards and submit copies to a recognized Federal Data Repository? Will data be supplied to BOEM in formats that can be easily incorporated into BOEM's internal databases?

6. Local Outreach/Local Involvement and Capacity Building/Traditional Knowledge:

Does proposal identify appropriate outreach activities? (A minimum of an executive summary and small poster are required.) Are additional outreach efforts proposed sufficient to warrant provision of up to \$5,000 un-matched BOEM funding for outreach in the overall study budget? Has a plan been developed to include supported data and input from the coastal communities within the study domain?

7. Budget Justification and Clarity:

Is project staffing appropriate to accomplish the proposed goals? Are field expenses, supplies, lab work, and other expenses appropriate? Are expenses adequately itemized? Is a Letter of Commitment included?

8. Experience/Competence of Research Personnel:

Have the applicants demonstrated (through bibliographic references, previous relevant experience, awards, etc.) that they are capable of doing the proposed research? Have the applicants demonstrated a thorough knowledge of the scientific problem? Have products been on schedule and within budget?

VI. Award Administration Information

The recipient is responsible for managing the day-to-day operations of the cooperative agreements and sub-awards to ensure compliance with applicable Federal statutes, regulations and policies. The recipient is also responsible for meeting the performance goals identified in the Proposal Text.

Awards based on the application submitted to, and as approved by the BOEM, are subject to the terms and conditions incorporated either directly or by reference in the following:

Acceptance of a Federal Financial Assistance award from the Department of the Interior (DOI) BOEM carries with it the responsibility to be aware of and comply with the terms and conditions of award. Acceptance is defined as the start of work, drawing down funds, or accepting the award via electronic means. Awards are based on the application submitted to, and as approved by BOEM, and are subject to the terms and conditions incorporated either directly or by reference in the following:

- Program legislation/regulation.
- Special terms and conditions.
- Code of Federal Regulations/Regulatory Requirements, as applicable (Contact the Contracting Officer with any questions regarding the applicability of the following):

- o 2 CFR Part 200 Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards
- o 2 CFR Part 25 Universal Identifier and System for Award Management
- o 2 CFR Part 170 Reporting Subaward and Executive Compensation Information 2 CFR Part 175 Award Term for Trafficking in Persons
- o 2 CFR Part 182 Governmentwide Requirements for Drug-Free Workplace 2 CFR Part 1400 NonProcurement Debarment and Suspension
- o 2 CFR Part 1401 Requirements for Drug-Free Workplace
- o 2 CFR Part 1402 Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards
- o 43 CFR Part 18 New Restrictions on Lobbying

The following provisions are included in full text:

Conflicts of Interest

(a) Applicability.

- 1) This section intends to ensure that non-Federal entities and their employees take appropriate steps to avoid conflicts of interest in their responsibilities under or with respect to Federal financial assistance agreements.
- 2) In the procurement of supplies, equipment, construction, and services by recipients and by sub-recipients, the conflict of interest provisions in 2 CFR 200.318 apply.

(b) Requirements.

- 1) Non-Federal entities must avoid prohibited conflicts of interest, including any significant financial interests that could cause a reasonable person to question the recipient's ability to provide impartial, technically sound, and objective performance under or with respect to a Federal financial assistance agreement.
- 2) In addition to any other prohibitions that may apply with respect to conflicts of interest, no key official of an actual or proposed recipient or sub-recipient, who is substantially involved in the proposal or project, may have been a former Federal employee who, within the last one (1) year, participated personally and substantially in the evaluation, award, or administration of an award with respect to that recipient or sub-recipient or in development of the requirement leading to the funding announcement.
- 3) No actual or prospective recipient or sub-recipient may solicit, obtain, or use non-public information regarding the evaluation, award, or administration of an award to that recipient or sub-recipient or the development of a Federal financial assistance opportunity that may be of competitive interest to that recipient or sub-recipient.

(c) Notification.

- 1) Non-Federal entities, including applicants for financial assistance awards, must disclose in writing any conflict of interest to the DOI awarding agency or pass-through entity in accordance with 2 CFR 200.112, Conflicts of Interest.
 - 2) Recipients must establish internal controls that include, at a minimum, procedures to identify, disclose, and mitigate or eliminate identified conflicts of interest. The recipient is responsible for notifying the Financial Assistance Officer in writing of any conflicts of interest that may arise during the life of the award, including those that have been reported by sub-recipients.
- (d) Restrictions on Lobbying. Non-Federal entities are strictly prohibited from using funds under this grant or cooperative agreement for lobbying activities and must provide the required certifications and disclosures pursuant to 43 CFR Part 18 and 31 USC 1352.
- (e) Review Procedures. The Financial Assistance Officer will examine each conflict of interest disclosure on the basis of its particular facts and the nature of the proposed grant or cooperative agreement, and will determine whether a significant potential conflict exists and, if it does, develop an appropriate means for resolving it.
- (f) Enforcement. Failure to resolve conflicts of interest in a manner that satisfies the Government may be cause for termination of the award. Failure to make required disclosures may result in any of the remedies described in 2 CFR 200.338, Remedies for Noncompliance, including suspension or debarment (see also 2 CFR Part 180).

Data Availability

- (a) Applicability. The DOI is committed to basing its decisions on the best available science and providing the American people with enough information to thoughtfully and substantively evaluate the data, methodology, and analysis used by the Department to inform its decisions.
- (b) Use of Data. The regulations at 2 CFR 200.315 apply to data produced under a Federal award, including the provision that the Federal Government has the right to obtain, reproduce, publish, or otherwise use the data produced under a Federal award as well as authorize others to receive, reproduce, publish, or otherwise use such data for Federal purposes.
- (c) Availability of Data. The recipient shall make the data produced under this award and any sub-award(s) available to the Government for public release, consistent with applicable law, to allow meaningful third party evaluation and reproduction of the following:
- (i) The scientific data relied upon;
 - (ii) The analysis relied upon; and
 - (iii) The methodology, including models, used to gather and analyze data.

Reporting

The BOEM will conduct oversight and monitoring of the work progress and financial status of each cooperative agreement by requiring the following information from the Recipient institution, at a minimum:

1. Federal Cash Transactions Reports

The Recipient must submit the Standard Form 425, Federal Financial Report and, when necessary, its continuation form if funds are withdrawn in advance of expenditures. The BOEM will use the form to monitor the cash advanced to the Recipient, and to obtain disbursement or outlay information for each cooperative agreement.

2. Performance and Financial Status Reporting Requirements

Reporting requirements for the projects are regulated by 2 CFR Part 200. These regulations specify basic cooperative agreement reporting requirements including performance and financial reports. BOEM will work closely with the recipient to incorporate appropriate performance and financial reporting requirements into each cooperative agreement award, consistent with 2 CFR Part 200. These regulations provide some flexibility in determining the appropriate content and frequency of performance and financial reports. At a minimum, however, the reporting schedule will require the recipient to report their progress at least quarterly through the established CESU reporting process and yearly submission of financial status reports.

3. Single Audit Requirements

Non-federal entities that expend financial assistance funds of \$750,000 or more in Federal awards must have a single or a program-specific audit conducted for that year. Non-federal entities that expend less than \$750,000 in Federal awards are exempt from Federal audit requirements for that year, except as noted in 2 CFR 200.501.

4. Technical Reporting Requirements (to be submitted by project PI)

Quarterly Reports, Annual Progress Reports, Draft and Final Reports, and Draft and Final Technical Summaries are required. Details are available at: <http://www.boem.gov/Environmental-Studies-Program-Report-Specifications/>.

Acknowledgement of Sponsorship

The Recipients shall acknowledge Federal sponsorship in the draft and final reports by placing the following statement on the disclaimer page of both reports: “Study collaboration and funding were provided by the U.S. DOI, BOEM, ESP under Agreement Number ____.”

The following disclaimer statement shall be placed on the disclaimer/acknowledgement page of both reports: “This report has been technically reviewed by BOEM, and it has been approved for publication. The views and conclusions contained in this document are those of the authors and should not be interpreted as representing the opinions or policies of the U.S. Government, nor does mention of trade names or commercial products constitute endorsement or recommendation for use.”

The Recipient shall require of all investigators that all manuscripts intended to be published in journals resulting from this study shall be submitted to BOEM for review and comment prior to submittal to the journal, with final revisions remaining subject to the discretion of the author.

BOEM manuscript reviews shall be conducted expeditiously, within a period of ten business days, and in conformance with the U.S. Department of the Interior Scientific and Scholarly Integrity Policy, as outlined in the DOI Departmental Manual (Part 305: Chapter 3).

All publications and oral presentations shall contain an acknowledgement of support from BOEM under this cooperative agreement that reads: “Study collaboration and funding were provided by the U.S. DOI, Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, ESP under Agreement Number _____.”

Scientific integrity is vital to DOI activities under which scientific research, data, summaries, syntheses, interpretations, presentations, and/or publications are developed and used. Failure to uphold the highest degree of scientific integrity will result not only in potentially flawed scientific results, interpretations, and applications but will damage DOI’s reputation and ability to uphold the public’s trust. All work performed must comply with the DOI Scientific Integrity Policy posted to <http://www.doi.gov/ScientificIntegrity>, or its equivalent as provided by their organization or State law.

Environmental Studies Program Information System (ESPIS)

ESPIS data will be submitted to the Contracting Officer’s Representative as a final deliverable of the study to include the:

1. Final Report and Technical Summary: the copies of the narratives of study results in both Microsoft Word and Adobe Acrobat (PDF/A) formats, without any password protections for open access by BOEM staff and the public, following the [Environmental Studies Program Report Specifications](#).
2. Study Footprint: the geographic information that enables the referencing of the study using a geographic information system (GIS), following the study footprint specifications.
3. Study Footprint Metadata: the scientific attribution information required to enhance discoverability of the study in the ESPIS system and third party sites (such as <http://www.data.gov/>), following the study footprint metadata specifications.
4. Study Map: the study area map embedded in the (i) Final Report, and (ii) Technical Summary that depicts the study footprint and that is cited in the study footprint metadata.
5. Federal Geographic Data Committee (FGDC) compliant metadata for each scientific dataset: the scientific, technical, and administrative information for each coherent unit of scientific data, including the physical medium, file information, volume, and access uniform resource locator (URL), when applicable.
6. Copy of related publications: the manuscripts of scholarly publications and conference presentations for research funded by this agreement for free and unlimited use by BOEM staff, which may take the form of a full-text, final, pre-publication copy of the related publication in cases that the publisher enforces pay for access or copyright restrictions.
7. Bibliographic information for related publications: the information on each related publication needed for formatting Council of Science Editors (CSE) bibliographies using the name-date system, including the URL and Digital Object Identifier to access the publication on the publisher’s website, when applicable.

VII. Agency Contacts

Grants.gov:

Technical questions concerning the application process: Grants.gov Help Desk at:

Phone: 1-800-518-4726

Email: support@grants.gov

Program Announcement and Cooperative Agreement Questions:

Acquisition Policy and Financial Assistance Branch

Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement

45600 Woodland Road, VAE-AMD

Sterling, Virginia 20166

Attn: Christy Tardiff

Phone (703) 787-1367

christy.tardiff@bsee.gov

Program Office:

Warren Horowitz

BOEM, Alaska Environmental Studies Management

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-- End of Program Announcement M19AS00010 --