



# Oregon

John A. Kitzhaber, MD, Governor

## Department of State Lands

775 Summer Street NE, Suite 100

Salem, OR 97301-1279

(503) 986-5200

FAX (503) 378-4844

[www.oregonstatelands.us](http://www.oregonstatelands.us)

March 1, 2013

### State Land Board

John A. Kitzhaber, MD

Governor

Kate Brown

Secretary of State

Ted Wheeler

State Treasurer

The Honorable Richard Devlin, Co-Chair  
The Honorable Peter Buckley, Co-Chair  
Joint Legislative Committee on Ways and Means  
H-178, State Capitol  
900 Court Street NE  
Salem, OR 97301

Dear Co-Chairpersons:

### Nature of the Request

The purpose of this letter is to request permission from the Joint Committee on Ways and Means for the Department of State Lands (DSL) and the South Slough National Estuarine Research Reserve (SSNERR) to submit an application for \$450,000 in Federal Funds in response to a call for proposals from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). The proposal will be submitted to the Estuarine Reserves Division within NOAA. The specific program area is for NOAA supported construction and acquisition within the coming year, to complete the SSNERR Estuarine and Coastal Science (ECOS) Laboratory remodel project on the campus of the Oregon Institute of Marine Biology (OIMB) in Charleston.

Match, consisting of 30% of total project costs, and in the form of project oversight by existing personnel, in-kind and other funding is available and is currently being negotiated with the University of Oregon, OIMB. No general funds will be needed to support this work.

If permission to apply is granted and the application is successful, DSL and SSNERR will seek limitation from the Emergency Board during the interim.

### Agency Action

A Federal Funding Opportunity (FFO) competition for FY 13 Construction and Acquisition is being published by NOAA with an application due date of March 22, 2013 and an anticipated award date of July 1, 2013.

Due to quickly changing Federal budget considerations a fast-track invitation to develop full proposals was extended to the agency and SSNERR on February 16, 2013, and the decision to apply for a grant was made on February 27, 2013; however, the official notice for application has not yet been published. The deadline to submit on-line applications for the grant is March 22, 2013.

### Background

A previous NOAA Construction and Acquisition award funded the DSL SSNERR ECOS Laboratory remodel project phase one which was dedicated in 1999. This and anticipated future improvements are supported by a Memorandum of Understanding between DSL and OIMB. In addition, this project is an interim step to implement the Charleston Oregon Solutions project plan to develop the Coasts and Oceans facility on the UO/OIMB campus.

In 2011 SSNERR received a grant from NOAA for planning phase two of the project in progress. A portion of the planning grant was for estimating costs of the SSNERR ECOS Laboratory construction project phase 2. This construction award would be used for permitting, demolition and removal of part of existing structure, new construction (improved field staging, storage, loading, and live specimen sea water facilities improvement), related equipment, realignment of roadbed and artificial stream channel on adjacent newly acquired land parcel, and miscellaneous expenditures including adaptive alternative energy such as solar, wind energy generators and climate infrastructure and processes, utility connection fees, telecommunications lines, 1% for the arts, contract recruitment, etc. Completion in 2013 of the planning and design grant will strengthen the competitiveness of this construction proposal.

NOAA Construction and Acquisition Funding is for designated National Estuarine Research Reserve (NERR) agencies (including DSL) to acquire property interests and construct facilities that strengthen the protection of reserve key land and water areas; enhance long-term protection of the areas for research and education; and provide facilities and interpretive exhibits that enhance reserve programs. Positive impacts expected include local employment, reduced energy impacts and costs, and improved efficiency of reserve operations, use of renewable building materials where possible, and public demonstration of agency and reserve program commitment to reduced carbon footprint and structural design that is adaptive to anticipated local effects of changing climate.

When the final applications are submitted, DSL will provide copies to the Department of Administrative Services and the Legislative Fiscal Office.

#### **Action Requested**

The Department of State Lands requests permission to apply for \$450,000 in federal funds from NOAA for phase two of the construction project at the SSNERR ECOS Laboratory on the OIMB campus.

#### **Legislation Affected**

Chapter 412, Section 2 (3), Oregon Laws 2011.

Thank you for your interest and assistance. If you have any questions, please contact Cyndi Wickham at 503-986-5227.

Sincerely,



Mary M. Abrams, Ph.D.  
Director

Cc: Richard Whitman, Governor's Office  
Joshua Goldberg, Secretary of State  
Michael Selvaggio, Treasurer's Office  
Lisa Pearson, Chief Financial Officer, DAS  
Linda Gilbert, Legislative Fiscal Office  
Cyndi Wickham, Finance and Administration