Oregon Sea Grant

Request for 2018 SEED Proposals

2018-2022 SEED-LEAF Research Competition

Letter of Intent Due:
Tuesday, January 17, 2017, before 5:00 p.m. PST

SEED Proposals Due: Monday, February 6, 2017, before 5:00 p.m. PST
Late and/or incomplete applications will not be considered.

Individual Requests: Not to exceed $50,000 per year
Anticipated Funding: Three to five SEED projects
Project Duration: April 1, 2017 through January 31, 2018

LEAF Proposals Due: February 2018
LEAF Project Duration: July 1, 2018 – January 31, 2022
Anticipated Funding: One to two LEAF Projects, each at $250,000 per year
Funding levels are set by the NOAA Sea Grant Program based on congressional appropriations and are subject to change and rescission.

Executive Summary:

The Oregon Sea Grant College Program invites researchers who are affiliated with any Oregon institution of higher education to submit SEED proposals for interdisciplinary research projects that address cutting-edge, socioeconomic and biophysical science related to important marine and coastal issues. The SEED project provides an initial 9 months of support for the team, ideally leading to a longer-term, larger-scale effort: the LEAF project. Oregon Sea Grant (OSG) supports the highest quality marine and coastal research characterized by strong societal relevance, so only the most creative and rigorously conceived proposals will receive consideration. Each SEED research project must include research approaches from at least two distinct disciplines, an engagement component designed to integrate potential information-users and stakeholders into the research process, and an outreach plan to ensure the research process and / or results are useful and usable to these constituencies. Oregon Sea Grant has designated "office hours" opportunities to meet with OSG outreach and engagement professionals to plan those components of the project. The SEED projects will be selected through an open, competitive, peer-review process, and successful SEED teams are eligible to apply for LEAF support. Successful SEED projects begin on April 1, 2017; successful LEAF projects would begin July 1, 2018. Available funding is set by the NOAA Sea Grant Program based on congressional appropriations.

The SEED proposal Letters of Intent (LOI) are reviewed by Oregon Sea Grant for alignment with the goals and priorities set forth in our strategic plan and this Request for Proposals. Submitted SEED proposals are reviewed by external scientific and engagement experts for scientific merit and innovation, as well as for the strength of the integrated approach and societal relevance, which is also assessed by the OSG citizen Advisory Council. Based on these evaluations, and at the discretion of the Oregon Sea Grant Director, OSG will encourage three to five (3 − 5) SEED projects. Successful SEED teams are eligible to submit LEAF proposals. The LEAF proposals undergo independent external peer reviews and the team presents their proposed project to a combined experienced generalist and citizen advisory panel, which assesses the societal relevance, scientific excellence, interdisciplinary approach, and outreach and engagement applicability of the project. Oregon Sea Grant anticipates supporting one to two (1 − 2) LEAF projects. Please carefully read all guidelines as items in the request for proposals are new for the 2018-2022 grant period.

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I. Introduction

Oregon Sea Grant directs resources to the most pressing problems of Oregon's coastal communities, often identified by local stakeholders. This includes socioeconomic and biophysical research addressing issues such as adaptation to acute or chronic coastal hazards; cultural beliefs, learning, and valuation of coastal and marine issues; ecological, social, and economic aspects of coastal development; and human and natural dimensions of coastal and marine fisheries. The results of this research are developed and shared with stakeholders through various pathways, often via Sea Grant's integrated outreach and engagement program, which brings together the collective expertise of on-the-ground extension agents, educators and communications specialists. The goal is to ensure that vital research results are created and shared with those who need it most and in ways that are timely, relevant and meaningful.

12/22/16

About Us

Oregon Sea Grant is one of the nation's four original Sea Grant Colleges; we achieved Sea Grant College status in 1971. For more than 4 decades, Oregon Sea Grant has served as a catalyst that promotes discovery, understanding, and resilience for Oregon coastal communities and ecosystems. Careful identification of needs, reasoned risk-taking, leveraging of resources, and partnering with other organizations, businesses and individuals are among the tools that Oregon Sea Grant uses to ensure that its activities make a positive difference in the well-being of coastal resources and communities in the state and the nation. The program is integral to the fabric of Oregon State University and to the state of Oregon. We take great pride in its many research and outreach accomplishments.

On-going changes and challenges continue to confront communities, managers, and living resources on the coast of Oregon and throughout the Pacific Northwest region. Oregon Sea Grant plays an important role in addressing challenges and seizing opportunities by funding and communicating applied research, engaging and connecting stakeholders, and informing and engaging the public.

Please go to http://seagrant.oregonstate.edu/ to learn more about Oregon Sea Grant and our current activities.

II. General Information about Proposal Submission

A. Information about the SEED-LEAF competition

The 2018-22 SEED-LEAF research competition is a new Oregon Sea Grant initiative. The purpose of this pilot competition is to foster interdisciplinary research approaches that address issues critical to Oregon's coast and citizens, as outlined in Oregon Sea Grant's Strategic Plan. Successful SEED projects provide approximately $50,000 for an initial 9 months of support, possibly leading to LEAF projects supported for 3.5 years at approximately $250,000 per year. This Request for Proposals (RFP) describes the full SEED-LEAF process, and provides information specific to the requirements for the SEED competition. The SEED competition consists of two components: A Letter of Intent (LOI) and the SEED proposal itself. Additional LEAF proposal information will be provided to successful SEED project teams.

Schedule of Dates for Proposal Submission and Review

Outreach and Engagement Office Hours Sessions (by appointment only):	January 12, 20, and 26, 2017 (Contact us no later than January 19, 2017)
Letter of Intent (LOI) Due:	Tuesday, January 17, 2017, before 5:00 p.m. PST, via seagrant.admin@oregonstate.edu
Feedback on LOI Alignment:	Friday, January 27, 2017
SEED Proposals Due:	Monday, February 6, 2017, before 5:00 p.m. PST, via eSeaGrant
Peer Review Period:	February 7, 2017 – March 7, 2017
Tentative Notice of Funding Decisions:	Friday, March 24, 2017
SEED Project Duration:	April 1, 2017 – January 31, 2018
LEAF Proposals Due:	February 2018
LEAF Project Duration:	July 1, 2018 – January 31, 2022

Note: This timeline is subject to change; any updates will be posted to our website and disseminated through email.

B. Eligibility Information

Letters of Intent (LOIs) and SEED proposals may be submitted by faculty of any public or private institution of higher education in Oregon; the project's lead Principal Investigator (PI) must be deemed eligible by their institution to receive extramural funding. While non-academic researchers may be included among the co-principal investigators (co-PIs), awards will be made only through colleges and universities. We encourage participation by academic researchers who are not Oregon university faculty. Further, we require involvement in the SEED project of non-academic collaborative partners (collaborations may be with industry, state/regional/federal agencies, tribes, NGOs, governments, or individuals). *NOTE: Only one LOI and SEED proposal per lead Principal Investigator may be submitted.* Direct salary support for individuals from state and federal agencies, tribal, and for-profit and foreign organizations is not allowed; however, non-federal contributions can be counted as matching or in-kind support for the project. Project participants who are employees of Sea Grant may be part of a project team and serve as co-PIs, but they may not be project lead Principal Investigators. Project budgets for Sea Grant employees may include support for activities, but not salary or benefits (See below[1]). Oregon Sea Grant encourages submissions from researchers new to Sea Grant and those from diverse backgrounds.

C. Project and Proposal Criteria (what we are looking for)

An ideal Sea Grant SEED proposal would apply the best interdisciplinary (See below[2]) science to design an innovative, collaborative approach to tackle a well-defined coastal or marine problem or opportunity that is important to Oregon, the Pacific Northwest region, and the nation, to be implemented by the LEAF project. We anticipate that much of the effort at the SEED project stage will be gathering preliminary data, convening the scientific and engagement team, and connecting with relevant stakeholders. Outcomes may include (but are not limited to): letters of commitment from project partners for LEAF projects, meetings or workshops that connect scientific and community partners, results from initial data collection, and planning for next steps, including the LEAF project.

The two primary criteria for evaluating SEED proposals are: 1) scientific excellence and 2) societal relevance, which includes relevance of the proposed work to addressing Oregon Sea Grant's four thematic areas and associated research goals through an interdisciplinary approach, and the potential for societal impact. Funded projects will meet both of these criteria. Each SEED proposal must also engage stakeholders and information users as collaborators so that the long-term LEAF research plan not only informs but also implements co-created outcomes.

The four thematic areas highlighted in our 2018-22 Strategic Plan are:
http://seagrant.oregonstate.edu/about/strategic-plan

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[1] Note: Guidelines for additional support for partially-core funding Oregon Sea Grant employees involved with project outreach and engagement activities are outlined in our internal policy. Support requires prior approval by the supervisor and Director. Please contact Sarah Kolesar for additional information.

[2] Oregon Sea Grant adopts the definition of "interdisciplinary" from Choi and Pack (2006): *Multidisciplinary work brings together those from different fields to apply their perspectives, which remain separate. Interdisciplinary work requires synthesis and synergy among participants to create a new way of addressing issues, with novel tools and approaches, made possible by the team dynamic (Clinical and Investigative Medicine, 2006 Dec; 29(6): 351–64).*

- ➢ Adaptation to acute or chronic coastal hazards
- ➢ Cultural beliefs, learning, and valuation of coastal and marine issues
- ➢ Ecological, social, and economic aspects of coastal development
- ➢ Human and natural dimensions of coastal and marine fisheries

For this competition, Oregon Sea Grant specifically requests proposals that address one or more of the following research objectives aligned with these four thematic areas.

Research Objectives for 2018-22 Competitive Projects:

- Understand the impacts of **coastal hazards**, their relevance to coastal communities, and evaluate possible solutions or responses, including tools for adaptation.
  - o **Coastal hazards** may include, but are not limited to, acute hazards, such as earthquake or tsunami, or chronic hazards, such as ocean acidification or hypoxia.

- Determine how individuals and communities value and make decisions about **market and non-market aspects** of coastal and ocean resources.
  - o **Market aspects** include the economic value stemming from activities such as property development, industry, or tourism revenue. Examples of **non-market aspects** are heritage, spiritual, and cultural values, clean air and water, and healthy fish and wildlife populations.

- Assess the social, cultural, and / or political dimensions of residents and visitors toward **critical coastal issues**, understanding associated gaps, risks, needs, and goals.
  - o **Critical coastal issues** may include, but are not limited to, coastal hazards, coastal development, fisheries and aquaculture, etc.

- Evaluate the ecological and / or socioeconomic resilience and sustainability of **Pacific Northwest coastal and marine species or habitats** that are commercially, recreationally, or culturally important.
  - o Preference given to projects focused on emerging fisheries, industries or techniques.

In addition, successful SEED proposals are also likely to:
- focus on interdisciplinary collaboration that leads to prediction and / or problem solving (rather than explanation); for example, combined socioeconomic and biophysical approaches, such as an integrated sociology and engineering study that addresses a pressing community need
- focus on outcomes co-designed with industry, agencies, communities, or other stakeholders and clearly show how and to whom the work would make a difference
- develop a clearly conceived and adequately resourced outreach plan for the engaged research approach and / or results, implemented by the LEAF project
- have substantive evidence of co-funding or co-support from interested stakeholders and partners
- show significant progress on LEAF project design within 9 months
- request less than $50,000 and provide convincing justification for the funds
- describe how the research may benefit stakeholders and explore potential long-term impacts to society

Students

Oregon Sea Grant encourages proposals that include support (i.e., salary, benefits, tuition, travel) for graduate and undergraduate students to work on proposed research projects. This support is likely most viable at the LEAF project stage, but students may be involved in SEED proposals and projects. All students supported by Sea Grant are considered Sea Grant Scholars. The Oregon Sea Grant Scholars Program helps create a community for supported students and provides them with professional development opportunities, giving them the ability to connect research to appropriate outreach. The Oregon Sea Grant Scholars supported on funded proposals are expected to participate in Oregon Sea Grant activities, such as orientation meetings, workshops, and colloquia, at which students will present their work to other Sea Grant Scholars, researchers, faculty, and staff.

Multi-institutional Teams

We strongly encourage multi-institutional approaches to state and regional issues. As such, proposals that mobilize the best research talent to address complex issues may involve funding from more than one Sea Grant program. Oregon Sea Grant encourages researchers involved in such projects to contact the relevant Sea Grant programs as soon as possible to discuss options.

Outreach and Engagement

In addition to supporting research projects that are scientifically excellent and societally relevant, Oregon Sea Grant is committed to projects that inform and engage relevant communities. The results of this research are developed with stakeholders through various pathways, and shared often via Sea Grant's integrated outreach and engagement program, which brings together the collective expertise of on-the ground extension agents, educators and communications specialists. The goal is to ensure that vital research results are informed by and shared with those who need it most and in ways that are timely, relevant and meaningful.

To assist potential researchers in developing strong outreach and engagement for their projects, Oregon Sea Grant offers outreach and engagement guidelines (available [here](#)), and will offer a series of office hours to address the question: how is the proposed research useable and accessible? Prior to LOI submission, potential PIs have the opportunity to meet with 3 – 4 members of Sea Grant's integrated outreach and engagement program. During these short sessions, the team will consider a researcher's proposed project and offer best practices for designing a strong outreach and engagement approach using Oregon Sea Grant or other resources. Anticipated outcomes from these meetings include a framework for developing, implementing, and assessing the outreach and engagement strategy, along with guidelines for working with potential partners to assist in developing outreach and engagement strategies as needed. These meetings are by appointment only and will be held January 12, 20, and 26, 2017 for SEED proposals. Meeting with Sea Grant Outreach and Engagement personnel is suggested but not required and does not guarantee project support. The lead PI is responsible for all components of the proposal and funded project. To schedule a session, send an email to: seagrant.admin@oregonstate.edu no later than January 19, 2017 with "SEED O&E Session Request" in the subject line.

D. Duration of Grant

The expected duration of the SEED grant is 9 months. Proposed work should begin April 1, 2017 and be completed by January 31, 2018. No-cost extensions will not be granted for SEED projects. Successful SEED project teams are eligible to submit LEAF proposals for the project

period July 1, 2018 – January 31, 2022. Requests for support exceeding this time frame will not be considered.

E. Funding

Proposals at the SEED stage requesting $50,000 or less will have a competitive advantage since we want to fund as many efforts as possible, all else being equal. Proposals requesting larger amounts will not be accepted for this competition. Only successful SEED teams can submit a LEAF proposal. Anticipated funding for each LEAF project is anticipated to be $250,000 per year. Not all excellent proposals can be funded.

Grant funding comes from our NOAA appropriation and totals about $1.7 million over two years, assuming no changes in the federal Sea Grant appropriation. Funding levels are subject to change and rescission based on Congressional actions.

F. Cost-Share Requirement

Federal law requires that Oregon Sea Grant provide a non-federal cost share of at least 50% of federal funds received. Matching funds may come from a variety of state, local, international, tribal, or private funds or in-kind services. Cost-share on SEED proposals of at least 50% non-federal match is encouraged but not required. Researchers should take cost share into consideration as they develop budgets and projects, and contact Oregon Sea Grant in advance to discuss any anticipated shortfall in matching funds. The LEAF project will require at least 50% non-federal cost share.

G. NOAA Data Sharing Requirement

Environmental data and information collected and / or created under NOAA grants and cooperative agreements must be made visible, accessible, and independently understandable to general users, free of charge or at minimal cost, in a timely manner (typically no later than two years after the data are collected or created), except where limited by law, regulation, policy or by security requirements. The requirement has two basic parts: (1) environmental data generated by a grant project must be made available after a reasonable period of exclusive use, and (2) the grant application must describe the plan to make the data available (Principal Investigators are expected to execute the plan).

To meet this requirement, the Principal Investigator must comply with the process described in eSeaGrant during submission of the SEED and LEAF proposals, and explain how the data and metadata will be provided. Funds may be budgeted in the project proposal for this task. For detailed guidance, please refer to NOAA's Data Sharing Directive for Grants, Cooperative Agreements, and Contracts at the following permanent URL (Appendix B outlines requirements): https://nosc.noaa.gov/EDMC/documents/Data_Sharing_Directive_v3.0.pdf.

III. SEED-LEAF Proposal Development and Evaluation Process

The development and review of Sea Grant SEED-LEAF proposals is a multi-step process:

SEED PROPOSALS
1. Oregon Sea Grant releases the 2018 SEED Research Request for Proposals and makes times available for researchers to meet with outreach and engagement experts. To

schedule a session, send an email to: seagrant.admin@oregonstate.edu no later than January 19, 2017 with "SEED O&E Session Request" in the subject line.

2. The Letter of Intent (LOI) is submitted to Oregon Sea Grant via email before 5:00 p.m. PST on **Tuesday, January 17, 2017**. Note that SEED proposals will be accepted without a LOI; please contact Oregon Sea Grant as soon as possible to discuss options (seagrant.admin@oregonstate.edu).

3. The LOI has 3 functions: it serves as the PI's request to obtain access to eSeaGrant, it informs SEED proposal review and panel, and it allows Oregon Sea Grant leadership to assess alignment with the Strategic Plan and Thematic Area objectives. Feedback on alignment will be provided to PIs by January 27, 2017.

4. The SEED proposal is submitted to Oregon Sea Grant via eSeaGrant before 5:00 p.m. PST on Monday, February 6, 2017.

5. The SEED proposals will be reviewed by experienced generalists (individuals outside of Oregon with broad expertise in applied coastal or marine science and engagement) and OSG Advisory Council members. Funding recommendations for SEED projects will be based on alignment of the proposed idea with OSG's strategic plan, thematic areas and objectives; technical merits of the research questions posed; strength and diversity of the interdisciplinary approach, including student training and mentoring; planned engagement with community partners; evaluation of success for the SEED project; and potential outcomes and feasibility of success for the LEAF project.

6. The Advisory Council also weighs in on societal relevance of SEED, and planned LEAF, projects. The Oregon Sea Grant Director and program leads assess alignment with Sea Grant goals and priorities.

7. The Oregon Sea Grant Director will consider these evaluations and selects a portfolio of proposals to recommend for funding to the National Sea Grant Office. Final project recommendations also take into account programmatic considerations, such as the overall balance of projects and disciplines in our research portfolio, and the diversity of institutions and investigators supported by Oregon Sea Grant.

8. Final decisions for Oregon Sea Grant-funded proposals are approved by the program officer from the National Sea Grant Office.

9. Applicants will be informed of final decisions by late March, 2017. Oregon Sea Grant reserves the right to negotiate and / or adjust the final grant amount and work plan prior to award, as appropriate and consistent with University policy and funds available. Awarded projects are expected to complete the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Environmental Compliance Questionnaire.

LEAF PROPOSALS
1. The LEAF proposals are to be submitted through eSeaGrant to Oregon Sea Grant in February, 2018. These proposals may be submitted by invitation only. Only projects that complete activities outlined in SEED projects are eligible for LEAF applications. Project teams are responsible for defining and demonstrating success, with review by an external panel.

2. Full LEAF proposals detailing the research and engagement approach, evaluation, and anticipated milestones will be evaluated by external (out-of-state) scientific and community engagement experts. Following external review, the LEAF proposal team prepares a presentation responding to questions generated from reviewer comments.

These presentations, along with the proposals, are reviewed by a panel of experienced generalists, a program officer from the National Sea Grant Office, OSG program leads, the Director, and Advisory Council members. Proposals will be evaluated on scientific merit, including the planned interdisciplinary approach; societal relevance as aligned with Oregon Sea Grant's Thematic Areas; and engagement with stakeholders and community partners. Presentations will be evaluated on the effectiveness of the integrated approach and how the team responds to questions.

3. The Oregon Sea Grant Director will consider these evaluations and selects a portfolio of proposals to recommend for funding to the National Sea Grant Office. Final project recommendations also take into account programmatic considerations, such as the overall balance of projects and disciplines in our research portfolio, and the diversity of institutions and investigators supported by Oregon Sea Grant.

4. Final decisions for Oregon Sea Grant-funded proposals are approved by the program officer from the National Sea Grant Office.

5. Applicants will be informed of final decisions by June, 2018. Oregon Sea Grant reserves the right to negotiate and / or adjust the final grant amount and work plan prior to award, as appropriate and consistent with University policy and funds available. Awarded projects are expected to complete the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Environmental Compliance Questionnaire.

IV. SEED Proposal Narrative Guidelines
A. SEED Proposal Development and Evaluation Process

For complete consideration for the Oregon Sea Grant 2018-22 SEED-LEAF Competition, you must submit a Letter of Intent (LOI), to be followed by the SEED proposal narrative, a short two-page vitae of all senior personnel (PIs and co-PIs) and their current and pending support, suggested reviewers, a budget and budget justification, and data management plan. Guidance for writing the LOI and SEED proposal follows.

We will be using eSeaGrant, a web-based tool for submitting, reviewing, updating, and tracking grant proposals for this call. To register for the eSeaGrant system, the lead principal investigator (PI) submits the LOI to seagrant.admin@oregonstate.edu by **Tuesday, January 17, 2017**. If you cannot submit a LOI by this date, please contact OSG as soon as possible. Instructions are provided only to registered users, and submission of all SEED proposal related materials are due via eSeaGrant before **5:00 p.m. PST on Monday, February 6, 2017**. If you cannot submit using the eSeaGrant system, please contact the Oregon Sea Grant program for accommodation.

Information for **the Letter of Intent (LOI)** includes:

1. Anticipated Title of Proposed Project.
2. Expected Project Personnel, indicating lead Principal Investigator (Name, Title, Institutional Affiliation, and Contact Information).
3. Potential Peer Reviewer Information (must be from outside of Oregon), including: Names, Titles, Institutional Affiliation, and potential Conflicts of Interest.
4. General SEED-LEAF Project Objectives, not to exceed two single-spaced pages with one-inch margins, using a 12-pt font, including any references and figures.

Submit the LOI to seagrant.admin@oregonstate.edu by Tuesday, January 17, 2017

Information required for the SEED proposal in eSeaGrant includes the following (some fields may be populated from LOI):

1. Anticipated Title of Proposed Project.
2. Expected Project Duration.
3. Lead Principal Investigator: Name, Title, Institutional Affiliation, Contact Information, and Curriculum Vitae.
4. Known and Anticipated Co-Investigator: Names, Titles Institutional Affiliations, and Curriculum Vitae.
5. Potential Peer Reviewer Information (must be from outside of Oregon), including: Names, Titles, Institutional Affiliation, and potential Conflicts of Interest.
5. SEED Proposal Narrative: SEED proposal narratives cannot exceed five single-spaced pages with one-inch margins, using a 12-pt font, not including references and figures. Additional guidance is provided in the discussion of Decision Criteria, outlined below.
6. Budget and Budget Justification. The SEED proposal requires departmental approval for all budgeted items, including cost share. This can be accomplished by submitting a letter of commitment from each authorizing individual.
7. Data Management Plan (not to exceed two single-spaced pages with one-inch margins, using a 12-pt font).
8. Letters of Support (optional).

Submit the SEED Proposal to eSeaGrant by Monday, February 6, 2017

If you have technical problems with completion and submission of your LOI or SEED proposal, please contact Sarah Kolesar, Research and Scholars Program Leader, at (541) 737-8695 or Sarah.Kolesar@oregonstate.edu. Upon submission of the LOI, you should receive an email from OSG personnel. Upon submission of the SEED proposal, you should receive an automated email from the eSeaGrant system. If you do not receive an email reply within 24 hours of submission, please contact us via telephone as soon as possible.

B. Decision Criteria
We will fund the best science that is relevant to Oregon stakeholders. Research to gain knowledge solely for its own sake is considered inappropriate for Oregon Sea Grant support. The SEED proposals and LEAF proposals are rigorously reviewed by groups including peer reviewers from outside of Oregon, a panel of experienced generalists, the Oregon Sea Grant Citizen Advisory Council, and Oregon Sea Grant leadership. Final funding recommendations are at the discretion of the Oregon Sea Grant Director.

Your SEED proposal narrative should address the following points (5-page limit):
1) What is the issue? Please provide brief background and introduction. Why is this topic relevant to the Oregon Coast? Who are the stakeholders / potential end-users? How does this project relate to Oregon Sea Grant's Strategic Plan, align with Thematic Areas, and address research objectives? (1.5 pages recommended)
2) Why is an interdisciplinary approach required? Which disciplines are represented and how will they contribute to the project? Who is on the team, and what are their responsibilities? Will student training and mentoring be part of the SEED effort, and

what will it look like? How do you plan to engage stakeholders? (1.5 pages recommended)

3) How will you define success for the SEED project? What are anticipated outcomes / outputs for the SEED project? (1 page recommended)

4) **Briefly** outline a potential longer-term project (LEAF). What is / are the general research question(s) or hypothesis(es) being investigated for the longer-range effort? How is this a novel approach or application (can frame in both scientific and engagement terms)? What could happen as a result of this project that may not be possible otherwise? What are anticipated outcomes / outputs for the potential LEAF project? How will research results be applied / used, and when (what is the anticipated timeline or process, especially if it extends beyond the project end-date)? Who are potential project partners? (recommended not to exceed 1 page)

Note that detailed methods are not required for SEED proposals. Please provide a limited description of methods for the SEED (and future LEAF) project, unless novel methods are an important element of the work. The goal is to provide a general understanding of the approach.

Considerations in SEED proposal and LEAF proposal evaluations include:

1. Scientific or Professional Merit: The degree to which the activity will advance the state of the science through use and extension of state-of-the-art interdisciplinary and innovative methods, while learning from previous findings. Innovativeness is defined as applying new approaches to solving problems and exploiting opportunities in resource management or development, or in public outreach on such issues; alternatively, it can be the degree to which the activity will focus on new types of important or potentially important resources and issues. **SEED Proposal Focus**: Experienced generalists assess the technical merits of the research questions posed; strength and diversity of the interdisciplinary approach, including student training and mentoring; planned engagement with community partners; evaluation of success for the SEED project; and potential outcomes and feasibility of success for the LEAF project. Reviewers will also screen for fatal technical flaws, originality, and innovative ideas. Feedback will be provided to principal investigators.

2. Societal Relevance and Rationale: The clarity with which the proposed activity addresses an important issue, problem, or opportunity in development, use, or management of marine or coastal resources, and proposes a collaborative approach alongside relevant stakeholders. Some questions to consider: Does the proposed work appear to lead to real solutions to real problems? Is the proposed work likely to make a positive difference to society and stakeholders? Does the proposed work seem likely to influence resource/coastal/ocean management by businesses and agencies? Does the proposed work appear to be applicable beyond a specific local community? Can it raise public awareness/education about the problem/solutions addressed? **SEED Proposal Focus**: Using this rubric, the OSG Advisory Council answers the question: is the proposed research needed? Oregon Sea Grant leadership assesses alignment of the proposed idea with OSG's strategic plan, thematic areas and objectives.

3. Outreach/Education/Extension and User Relationship: Investigators must present a clear rationale for the proposed project, expected outcomes from the research, and

beneficiaries of the proposed work. The SEED proposals are expected to briefly describe stakeholder engagement goals and how they will be achieved through outreach and/or education. Describe how the project will engage stakeholders (e.g., local coastal communities, public and private sectors) along the way. **SEED Proposal Focus**: Based on the outreach and engagement criteria outlined here, Oregon Sea Grant leadership assesses whether planned activities are appropriate for the project, meet audience needs, and answer the question: how is the planned research useable and accessible?

V. LEAF Proposal Narrative Guidelines

Additional details on developing and submitting the LEAF proposal will be shared with principal investigators following SEED proposal decisions.

VI. Contacts

Researchers preparing SEED proposals for possible Oregon Sea Grant funding should contact the program with their questions.

- For questions about proposal topics or the overall funding policy, contact Oregon Sea Grant Director Shelby Walker. (541-737-6200)
- For questions on the application, review and approval process, the Scholars program or technical questions regarding eSeaGrant, contact Research and Scholars Program Leader Sarah Kolesar. (541-737-8695)
- To schedule an Outreach and Engagement session, send an email to: seagrant.admin@oregonstate.edu no later than January 19, 2017 with "SEED O&E Session Request" in the subject line.
- For additional questions on Sea Grant public engagement programs, projects and faculty, contact Outreach and Engagement Program Leader Dave Hansen. (541-737-2737)