

ANNOUNCEMENT 2011-2012
FLORIDA AQUACULTURE REVIEW COUNCIL
REQUEST FOR STATEMENTS OF INTEREST

The Florida Aquaculture Review Council (ARC) is pleased to announce a request for statements of interest to perform aquaculture projects during the 2011-2012 fiscal year. This package contains all necessary information, instructions, format and forms necessary for preparation of these statements of interest. Statements and the accompanying forms should be delivered to the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Division of Aquaculture, by **February 12, 2010**. Statements of interest will be reviewed by the ARC and selected investigators invited to submit full proposals. Funding for projects selected by the ARC is not guaranteed but aquaculture projects will not receive State of Florida funding unless included in this process.

The Aquaculture Review Council wants to stimulate the growth of aquaculture in Florida.

Areas of Interest:

1) Statements of interest are strongly encouraged for short-term development, coordination, education, and implementation of aquaculture technical, research, market, and demonstration projects of strong interest by the aquaculture industry as found in the *Florida Aquaculture Plan* – (<http://www.floridaaquaculture.com/publications/aquaplan.pdf>).

2) Specifically, and in addition to number 1) above, the ARC finds the following listed short term projects of immediate interest and need of funding:

- Development of packaging and processing techniques to improve quality, shelf life, and marketability of aquaculture produced products.
- Development of techniques to eliminate or mitigate off-flavor compounds in aquaculture food products.
- Develop reproductive techniques, including molecular and cellular approaches, to spawn and produce economically viable marine and freshwater aquaculture species in a sustainable, eco-friendly manner.
- Develop cost effective, high performing post-larval production diets through improved feed technology and feed management strategies and evaluate the performance of existing manufactured diets on emerging fish species.
- Create the infrastructure to enhance the veterinary support to sturgeon farmers in developing health maintenance protocols, assisting in diagnoses, and developing clinical responses to sturgeon health challenges.
- Development of extension programs and demonstration projects which employ new technologies with an emphasis on the unique production practices in the ornamental fish industry.
- Increased research on particular diseases of ornamental fish concern and development of new management tools to increase profitability and efficiency.
- Enhancement and development of educational/research programs for middle or high school students to train a skilled workforce.

Funding: The source of funding for projects would be a State of Florida Legislative appropriation. No dollar amount is currently set aside for aquaculture projects. Statements of Interest selected by the Council and submitted as full proposals will be reviewed by the Council and investigators invited to present a

summary of the proposed project at a meeting of the Council. Full proposals will be scored and those meeting minimum scoring will be ranked by the Council and submitted as recommendations to the Commissioner of Agriculture, Governor, and Legislature. Project funds, if appropriated, will be administered by the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services. Note that Florida Statute mandates public-private partnerships, when appropriate, and a return of a percentage of the profit/revenue generated by projects for funding future projects. **Projects should be of no more than one year duration.**

Eligibility: Participating organizations may include State, private sector, local and Federal government organizations. Investigators outside the state of Florida are eligible, but the project **MUST** be directly applicable to Florida's physical conditions, market and workforce and the research must take place in Florida. Ongoing programs are not appropriate for this process, only specific projects with definitive objectives and endpoints.

Evaluation of Statements of Interest: The Florida Aquaculture Review Council will evaluate Statements of Interest. The ARC is composed of a cross-section of aquatic farmers, a commercial fisherman and the Chair of the Aquaculture Interagency Coordinating Council. The Council acts as an advisory body to the Commissioner of Agriculture. The Council will select statements of interest based on the immediate applicability, project merit, short-term economic impact to Florida producers, project management and budget. Researchers with selected statements of interest will be asked to generate fully detailed proposals.

Proposals that demonstrate an effective alliance between the investigator(s) and private sector Florida aquaculture operations are highly encouraged. Amount of cost sharing should be in the form of cash, matching funds, funds from other granting sources (USDA, Sea Grant, etc.), personnel time, expendables, equipment, and so on. Facilities and other contributions of a private sector farm may be considered as cost sharing.

The aquaculture project review process is designed to create a partnership between the public (universities, non-profits, State and Federal agencies) sector and the private sector to find joint venture solutions to industry needs and problems and transfer these solutions directly to the farmer. Although the Aquaculture Review Council will be evaluating, ranking and submitting a list of recommended projects to the Commissioner of Agriculture, please remember that investigators are responsible for obtaining legislative support for their proposals.

Statement of Interest Format and Contents: Appropriate forms for the statement of interest are included in this package. All items must be addressed and all forms completed.

- I. Cover Page (use attached form)
- II. Project Description (one page limit, excluding references) to include:
 - A. Description of specific objective (from above areas of interest) to be resolved by the project
 - B. Methods
 - C. Short-term economic impact to Florida producers
 - D. Dissemination of results
- III. Prior, Current, and Proposed Work
Applicants must submit a list of projects of similar size, scope, and relevance to the proposed project that the applicant has undertaken in the past five years or proposals submitted to another entity for funding. Include project titles, principal investigators and co-investigators, total amounts awarded, project periods, and brief (1-3 sentence) descriptions. If the proposed project is similar to a

previously funded activity(ies), applicants are to briefly discuss how the previous project(s) and the current proposal differ and explain how the current proposal will build on the work that was previously done. If the applicant cannot clearly distinguish between activities in the current proposal and the difference from work previously funded, the proposal will be deemed ineligible for funding.

IV. Resumes/Qualifications of Key Personnel (one page per investigator)

V. Proposed Budget (use attached form)

A separate budget justification with sufficient detail to enable reviewers to evaluate the appropriateness of the funding requested is strongly encouraged.

Submission of Statements of Interest: Ten copies of the statement of interest must be submitted. Projects from previous years will not be considered unless resubmitted. Electronic or facsimile submissions will not be accepted. Late submissions will be returned unopened. Proposals must be received by **5:00 pm, February 12, 2010**. Completed proposals should be sent to:

Kim Norgren
Division of Aquaculture: ARC Statement of Interest Submission
1203 Governor's Square Boulevard, 5th Floor
Tallahassee, FL 32301
(850) 488-4033

AQUACULTURE REVIEW COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP

Alligators

Allen Register
Gatorama
Post Office Box 248
Palmdale, FL 33944-0248
Phone: 863/675-0623 Fax: 863/675-7191
E-mail: allen@gatorama.com

Food Fish

Gene Evans
Evans Farms
1195 East Washington Ave.
Pierson, FL 32180
Phone: 386/749-0399 Fax: 386/775-1530
E-mail: geneevans@mpinet.net

Aquatic Plants

Brad McLane
Florida Aquatic Nurseries
700 South Flamingo Road
Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33325
Phone: 954/472-5120 Fax: 954/472-5446
E-mail: admin@floridaaquatic.com

Shellfish

Daniel Solano
Cedar Key Aquaculture Farms, Inc.
11227 E. Riverview Road
Riverview, Florida 33569
Phone: 888/252-6735 Fax: 352/543-9132
E-mail: dansolano@hotmail.com

Aquaculture Industry Member At-Large

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Tropical Fish

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Phone: 813/737-3418 Fax: 813/737-3756

Aquaculture Interagency Coordinating Council

Sherman Wilhelm
FL Dept. of Agriculture & Consumer Services
Division of Aquaculture
1203 Governor's Square Boulevard, 5th Floor
Tallahassee, Florida 32301
Phone: 850/488-4033 Fax: 850/410-0893
E-mail: wilhels@doacs.state.fl.us

State Agricultural Advisory Council

Marty Tanner
Aquatika Tropicals, Inc.
6611 Hayter Drive
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Phone: 863/660-3391 Fax: 863/644-9127
E-mail: jmtanner@gte.net

Commercial Fishing

Heath Davis
Davis Seafood
P.O. Box 502
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Phone: 352/543-9493 Fax: 352/543-5133
E-mail: hdavis@drummondbank.com

office use only

Florida Aquaculture Project Statement of Interest – 2011-2012

Cover Sheet

Name and Address of Submitting Organization:

Principal Investigator(s) (name and title):

Title of Proposed Project:

Cooperating Investigators (name, title and organization)

Total Project Cost: _____
State of Florida Cost: _____

Florida Aquaculture Project Review Process – 2011-2012

Budget

	# people	Months of effort	State of Florida funds	Matching / Cost Share
1. Salaries				
Project Manager				
Principal Investigator				
Technician				
Clerical				
Total Salaries				

2. Other Personnel Services (OPS)				
Consultants				
Other (specify)				
Total OPS				

3. Fringe Benefits*				
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4. Capital Outlay (OCO)				
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5. Expenses				
Supplies				
Office (copier, phone, postage, etc.)				
Other (specify)				

Total Direct Costs (add 1 through 5)	
Total Indirect Costs*	
Total Matching Funds [#]	
Total Amount of Request	

* describe formula: _____

[#] source of matching funds: _____

**Indirect costs are limited to 5% of total direct cost, excluding any matching funds.
Travel and/or Per Diem are not allowed expenditures**

Note: Florida Statute mandates public-private partnerships, when appropriate, and a return of a percentage of the funds generated by projects for funding future projects.