



New England Fishery Management Council

News Release

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NMFS Solicits Proposals for NE Fishery Council's Scallop Research Set-Aside Program

The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) announced today that it is accepting proposals under the New England Fishery Management Council's 2008 Scallop Research Set-Aside (RSA) Program for cooperative scallop-related research activities to be conducted during the 2008 fishing year, from March 1, 2008 through February 28, 2009. For more information and to apply for this opportunity, please go to <http://www.grants.gov> and use the number NMFS-NEFSC-2008-2001277. **Full proposals must be received by 5 p.m. Eastern Standard Time on March 21, 2008.**

Application information is available at <http://www.grants.gov>. Electronic copies of the standard forms for submission of research proposals may be found on the internet in a PDF version at <http://www.ago.noaa.gov/grants/appkit.shtml>. Applicants who do not have internet access may contact Cheryl Corbett, NMFS, Northeast Fisheries Science Center, 166 Water Street, Woods Hole, MA 02543, by telephone at 508.495.2070, by fax at 508.495.2004 or via email at cheryl.corbett@noaa.gov. Because of potential delays in the Grants Online process near the end of the solicitation period, applicants are encouraged to begin their application process in advance of the deadline date.

The Scallop RSA Program funds scallop research and compensates participating vessels through the sale of scallops harvested under the RSA quota. Priority will be given to proposals that address the following research areas: intensive, industry-based access area surveys; other surveys, including areas not surveyed by the annual NMFS survey; identification and evaluation of methods to reduce groundfish bycatch; identification and evaluation of methods to reduce habitat impacts; habitat characterization; sea turtle/scallop fishery interactions; scallop stock assessment and population dynamics; area management and the transition of the NMFS Northeast scallop dredge survey.

The New England Fishery Management Council, one of eight regional councils established by federal legislation in 1976, is charged with conserving and managing fishery resources from three to 200 miles off the coasts of Maine, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island and Connecticut.

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