SECOORA and the FACT Network are partnering to sponsor a graduate student to examine how temperature affects fish movement patterns in south Florida marine ecosystems.

The funding for this award is provided through the generosity of our donors Curtis and Edith Munson Foundation, Ocean Tracking Network, Innovasea, the SECOORA Education and Outreach Committee, and individual donors from the SECOORA region.

Deadline for applications is April 8, 2020.
The award value is $12,800
Opportunity

This award value is $12,800.

This award will be provided to one graduate student to support research examining how temperature affects fish movement patterns in south Florida marine ecosystems.

Request for Applications/Proposal

Proposals must follow the required proposal format. Proposals that do not follow the required format will not be evaluated. Funds must be used within one year of project start date. The anticipated start date is July 1, 2020; a later start date may be considered based on explanation contained in the proposal. The research should include the effects of temperature on fisheries movement using acoustic telemetry and temperature loggers. The research must be conducted in South Florida.

Maximum page length is four (4) pages (does not include appendices). Text should be 12-point font, all margins 1-inch, and must include the following components:

- Title Page
  - Proposal title
  - Applicant’s name and complete contact information
  - Advisor name and contact information (i.e. professor supervising work)
  - Project summary (1 paragraph)
- Description of research project
  - Statement of the issue being addressed
  - Project description including objectives and methodology
  - Geographic location of study site (priority will be given to research conducted in Biscayne Bay, Florida Bay, and/or the Florida Keys)
  - Project deliverables and project timeline
  - Identify how these funds are required for completion of the student’s research.

The following proposal appendices are required but do NOT count towards the four-page proposal limit:

- A Budget and Budget Justification. Funds may be used for any purpose related to the project. University overhead charges are not permitted, nor is any support for the faculty sponsor. Matching funds or in-kind support is not required. Download the budget template (Excel document) and the budget justification template (Word document).
- Literature Cited
- A one-page CV or resume
- One signed letter of support from a faculty member familiar with the student’s academic career
- A completed SECOORA endorsement form by College/University sponsored programs office. Contact the University Sponsored Program Office well in advance of submission date.
A one-page Data Management Plan is required for projects that include the generation of new data. This plan must describe the data being collected, including temporal and spatial resolution, how the data will be processed, and the timeline for sharing the data with SECOORA and the FACT Network. For information on data management plans, please email dmac@secoora.org.

Eligibility

An eligible applicant is any graduate student in a marine science field. Applicants must: reside in, and attend, an academic institution in the United States.

Submission

Please submit the entire application package electronically in PDF format no later than 5:00PM ET on April 8, 2020 to Joy Young (Joy.Young@thefactnetwork.org) and copy Jennifer Dorton (jdorton@secoora.org).

Application/Proposal Review Process and Terms

1. Proposal package is due by 5:00PM ET on April 8, 2020.
2. SECOORA and the FACT Network will convene a 3-5 person review panel. The review panel will rank proposals based on their relevance to marine resource conservation and management with priority given to fisheries South Florida ecosystems (Everglades, Biscayne Bay, Florida Bay, and Florida Keys) and adherence to the instructions provided in this request for proposals.
3. Anticipated project start date is July 1, 2020. All work in the proposal must be completed no later than one year after the project start date.
4. A final report on this project must be submitted to Dr. Joy Young (Joy.Young@thefactnetwork.org) and copy Jennifer Dorton (jdorton@secoora.org) within two months of completion of the award.
5. The awardee will also be required to provide a webinar on their project at the end of the award period.
Award Funding

The successful applicant will be notified in June 2020. Funding will be distributed by SECOORA. Funds will be distributed to the applicant’s university and will be managed by the awardee’s major professor, who must agree to serve as principal investigator on the project.

This is an open and competitive process. SECOORA and the FACT Network reserve the right to reject any and all applications/proposals received as a result of this process. Additionally, both organizations reserve the right to request that applicants make modifications to proposals at any time before an award is made.

Questions Regarding Application Solicitation

For any questions related to this fellowship, please contact Dr. Joy Young (Joy.Young@thefactnetwork.org). Good-faith efforts will be made to answer as many questions as possible, but an answer is not guaranteed for every question.