

**Call for Proposals
Vermont Water Resources and Lakes Studies Center
2010 - 2011**

Dear Colleagues: The USGS has posted the 2010 RFP for the state-level (104B) research program for 2010-2011.

In the coming year the Vermont Water Resources and Lake Studies Center may be able to fund 1 or 2 new projects in addition to 2 projects that we expect to continue. New projects may be for a one or two year duration, at up to \$50k *per year* though I strongly encourage a lower request. Projects must be lead by a Vermont university or college faculty Principal Investigator (PI) but can and should include federal, state, or private partners. **Note that new projects require a 2:1 match; i.e., \$2 of match from a non-federal source for each \$1 of requested support.** I strongly encourage you to talk with your pre-award grants representative who should be able to help you with this. As initial guidance there are three important immediate sources of match: faculty time cost-share, overhead (F&A) costs foregone, and possibly unrecovered out-of-state tuition dollars for graduate student support. By rule USGS does not allow overhead costs and so your institution can claim this foregone revenue as match. In addition, each participating faculty member will be expected to devote a minimum of 0.5 mon FTE cost-shared time to the proposed project (which generates additional F&A match). Beyond this, match can be generated from any non-federal source in the form of real dollars, cost-sharing, or in-kind support from internal or external partners. You should talk with potential partners who could help with these matching requirements. Note that the pool of supplemental funds available in previous years from the VT/ANR for matching projects will likely be consumed entirely in support of the two continuing projects.

Detailed instructions for how to prepare a proposal can be found on the [Vermont Water Resources and Lakes Studies Center](#) website by following the link to the 2009 USGS RFP document (a PDF). If and when the 2010 RFP is released, it will be posted at the same location. The USGS RFP describes the entire response required for the Vermont 104b program and so you can ignore much of this document. You should focus in particular on Section F (Project Proposals) and Attachments C (Budget Breakdown) and D (Budget Justification). Prepare your proposal as described in this document and submit it as a PDF file to Breck.Bowden@uvm.edu **by Monday, 23 November 2009**. The review process has two steps: a state-level review of each individual proposal and a USGS review of the group of proposals selected for submission. In step one all proposals will be reviewed by the Vermont Water Center Advisory Board, a group of state agency, university, private sector, and NGO stakeholders. The Advisory Board will recommend a group of proposals to forward to the USGS. Principle investigators (PIs) for all proposals will be notified of the outcome of their proposal **by Friday, 11 December 2009**. PI's for proposals that are recommended for inclusion in the group submitted to the USGS may be required to modify their proposals according to suggestions made by the Advisory Board. These PI's must submit a revised version of their proposal **by Friday, 8 January, 2010**. This version of the proposal should be submitted as an MS/Word .doc file, to Murphy.MacLean@uvm.edu with a cc: to Breck.Bowden@uvm.edu. Do not submit a PDF file as indicated in the USGS RFP. We will arrange to submit all proposals as a package, to USGS; you do not need to worry about this step. Though this is a somewhat cumbersome process, please note that proposals selected for advancement in the state-level review are virtually assured of funding at the USGS level.

The key dates to note are:

- **Proposal due (PDF format): Monday, 23 November 2009**
- **Notification of selection: Friday, 11 December 2009**
- **Revisions of selected proposals due (MS/Word format): Friday, 8 January 2010**

Regards,
Breck Bowden, Director