Maine Water Resources Research Institute Senator George J. Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions FY17 Water Resources Sustainability Research Grants (USGS 104b) Request for Proposals

Critical Dates:

RFP Announcement: Thursday, June 9, 2016

RFP Information Session: Thursday, June 16, 2016 at 12 PM (Norman Smith Hall)

Concept/Pre-Proposal Due: Monday, July 11, 2016 at 12 PM

Proposal Invitations: Monday, July 18, 2016

Full Proposals Due: Friday, September 16, 2016 at 4 PM

Award Notification by: Friday, November 18, 2016

Project Start Date: March 1, 2017
Project End Date: February 28, 2018

General Information: The Maine Water Resources Research Institute (WRRI) in the Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions is committed to supporting water resources research for solutions-focused sustainability science. This request for pre-proposals is for funding through the U.S. Geological Survey 104b program to support research and outreach projects in which interdisciplinary teams work in partnership with stakeholders on solutions-focused problems that support undergraduate/graduate education. The overall goal of this RFP is to broaden and strengthen the scope of the Mitchell Center's research portfolio in ways that address the multi-faceted nature of critical water resource challenges, to accelerate the development of real-world solutions, and to increase our collective ability to obtain external grants and contracts.

This request for pre-proposals from the Maine - USGS WRRI, a program of the Mitchell Center, constitutes the FY17 Maine grants program as authorized by the federal Water Resources Research Act of 1984 as amended.

Grant Period: Research proposals for projects up to 12 months in duration will be considered to occur in a project period of March 1, 2017 through February 28, 2018.

Grant Categories: Three categories of projects may be funded under this program:

- 1) Research grants are funded for up to \$40,000, not including required match provided by the PI. A typical grant is approximately \$25,000. There is no minimum award limit.
- 2) Information transfer or environmental education grants are typically funded in the range of \$5,000 to \$15,000, not including PI match.
- 3) *Seed grants* are funded for no more than \$5,000, not including PI match. These grants are intended to be pilot projects or incubators for future research ideas or funding.

WRRI 104b PROGRAM OBJECTIVES:

The objectives of this federally sponsored program place special emphasis on the importance of research and education aimed at improving the nation's water supply. This focus is concordant with the Water Science Vision and Mission of the U.S. Geological Survey:

"The USGS will provide unbiased knowledge of the Nation's water resources to support human well-being, healthy ecosystems, economic prosperity, and anticipate and help resolve impending water-resource conflicts and emergencies... The USGS Water Mission Area... will serve society through water-resource monitoring, assessment, modeling, and research to provide tools that managers and

policymakers can use... Improvements are needed in the characterization and understanding of water quantity and water quality if we are to maintain our society and quality of life." USGS Circular 1383-G

The 104b program objectives also align with the mission and vision of the Mitchell Center (Attachment D, pg. 16). The Mitchell Center's intent is to foster innovative work to address intersections among the environmental, social, and economic dimensions of sustainability challenges in water resources through stakeholder-engaged, solutions-driven, interdisciplinary research.

RFP Objectives and Deliverables:

Pre-proposals must be related to freshwater resources, and focus on developing stakeholder partnerships and interdisciplinary teams that help accelerate progress in understanding and solving sustainability problems via one or more of the following strategies:

- Identifying and overcoming key barriers in connecting scientific knowledge with societal actions to promote water resource management;
- Building upon past research to increase the delivery of decision-support systems and other tools that facilitate real-world problem-solving;
- Tackling sustainability problems that are highly relevant to place-based problems in Maine;
- Increasing the capacity for integration, synthesis, and generalization across the WRRI and Mitchell Center research portfolio;
- Pursuing other novel research strategies to understand and solve sustainability problems in water resources.

All proposals must align with the WRRI's program objectives and the Mitchell Center's mission, vision, and approach (see p. 16), and demonstrate significant promise for securing external funding.

Eligibility:

- 1) Team composition: Federal guidelines for this USGS program require that principal investigators (PI) be faculty or regular staff of a four-year institution of higher education in Maine. Coinvestigators are not required to meet this criterion.
- 2) Interdisciplinary: The project needs a team with sufficiently diverse expertise across fields to respond effectively to the multi-faceted nature of the proposed problem.
- 3) *Project Scope:* Single investigator proposals will not be accepted only team-based, interdisciplinary projects are eligible.
- 4) All PIs and co-PIs must be current on deliverables from prior USGS Institute grants.
- 5) Federal employees cannot be PIs, but are encouraged as co-investigators. Federal employees may not be supported by funds from these grants, but are encouraged to provide fiscal support for the project. Federal support cannot be counted as match.
- 6) This program supports water resource-related research. Projects primarily focusing on human health, specific biological organisms or communities (unless to be used as an indicator or wider application), oceanography, or exclusively marine issues are not eligible for this program under federal rules. Estuarine proposals that directly connect with freshwater flows are eligible for funding.

Proposal & Review Process:

- 1. *Pre-Proposal:* All interested applicants must submit a four-page pre-proposal explaining their project idea by 12 PM on July 11, 2016. Please utilize the format below (pg. 3) and email to Ruth Hallsworth at hallsworth@maine.edu.
- 2. Evaluation: A review committee representing the Mitchell Center, the U.S.G.S., New England District, and other experts will evaluate the submitted pre-proposals for relevance to the

- program's mission, vision and objectives. Invitations for full proposal submission will be announced by July 18. Full proposal format requirements will be provided at that time, with proposals due by 4 PM on September 16, 2016.
- 3. Selection: The WRRI Directors will consult with members of the Research Advisory Committee to review the full proposals and make award selections. Notification will be made no later than November 18, 2016.
- 4. Award Period: The award period for these projects begins March 1, 2017 and all project components must be completed by February 28, 2018.
- 5. *Support level*: It is anticipated that in FY17 \$60,000 will be available for research and information transfer projects. Applicants are encouraged to leverage matching sources of funding whenever possible. Final project reports will be due by April 30, 2018.

Questions regarding this RFP should be directed to WRRI Directors John Peckenham (jpeck@maine.edu) or David Hart (david.hart@umit.maine.edu).

Fiscal Guidelines:

Proposal budgets must reflect a \$2 non-federal match for each federal dollar requested. This means that a federal request of \$20,000 will result in a research project with at least a \$60,000 total project cost. The match may include fringe benefits and indirect costs, as well as direct costs. Contact John Peckenham at the Mitchell Center (jpeck@maine.edu) for specific guidance on match. Overhead (indirect) costs are not permitted to be charged on the federal funding request in this program, although the match may include those indirect costs that are not charged on federal dollars. An Excel budget template is available. Please contact umgmc@maine.edu for a copy of the template.

The congressional authorizing language in the Water Resources Research Act specifically refers to the "training of future water resource professionals." Therefore, preference is given to projects for which student participation and training is a substantial part of the effort. All projects must include a training component for students, and typically will fund a graduate assistantship or undergraduate stipend. The recommended minimum monthly graduate stipend rate is \$1,622 (\$14,600/9 months). PIs are urged to provide tuition in the 'other' budget line. Tuition does not generate IDC match. Please note that partial payment of health insurance premiums is required for UMaine graduate students. Please check with Office of Research and Sponsored Programs staff for details.

Base-funded faculty PIs should prioritize student support, not their own salary. Rarely are projects funded that request more than one week per year in faculty salary.

PRE-PROPOSAL FORMAT

The pre-proposal has two parts: 1) technical document (3 pages); and 2) sustainability concept document (1 page). It should be set in 12-point type with one-inch margins on all sides. The document must be entirely self-contained and self-explanatory; no cover letter is allowed. The following technical document structure is highly recommended as it follows the format for a full proposal:

Technical Document (3 page limit)

- Project title PIs and affiliations (include contact information for the lead PI)
- Project dates and duration
- Agency funds requested
- Proposed match and source of funds
- Project synopsis (one paragraph provided in 3rd person, present tense, lay-friendly text for publication purposes)

- Problem Statement
- Objectives (bulleted)
- Methods outline
- Impact of project (one paragraph)
- Expected deliverables (bulleted)
- Investigators qualifications (one paragraph; no CVs)

Sustainability Concepts (1 page limit)

- 1. What sustainability problem does the proposed research address?
- 2. Who are the relevant project stakeholders, what kind of stakeholder engagement has already occurred, and how do you plan to strengthen this engagement?
- 3. What is the status of your plans for creating a research team with sufficient interdisciplinary breadth to address the problem?
- **4.** How do you plan to identify and implement a solution to this problem?

Budget description/justification (one paragraph)

Budget outline:

Cost Category	Program Funds	Non-Federal Match
Salaries/Wages		
Students (no fringe benefits)		
Fringe benefits @ (rate)		
Supplies		
Equipment		
Services		
Travel		
Other (e.g. tuition)		
Total Direct Costs		
IDC on Program \$		
IDC on Match		
Total Requests		

FULL PROPOSAL FORMAT

Full Proposal Review, Ranking Criteria, and Selection Process

Invited research proposals will be reviewed by at least three peer reviewers.

The proposal submission procedure for this program is a two-step process:

Step I: Prior to submission to the Mitchell Center, full proposals must be processed through your institution's standard procedure for proposals to be submitted to Federal agencies. A scanned copy of the signature paperwork must be emailed to umgmc@maine.edu by **September 16, 2016**.

Researchers at the Orono campus can expedite the institutional review notification by adding Ruth Hallsworth as the final approver in PARS. All other proposal review procedures at the Orono campus must be completed.

Step II: The complete electronic copy of the proposal must be submitted by the PI to http://niwr.net no later than 4 PM on **September 16, 2016**. Proposal text, investigator information and budget information are entered directly on the NIWR.net web page.

Once the peer-review process has been completed, final project selection will be based on consultation with the Mitchell Center's Research Advisory Committee comprised of appropriate expert stakeholders. PIs should pay careful attention to the proposal evaluation criteria used by reviewers and the selection panel:

- Relevance to key research needs and priorities in Maine as established by the selection panel and published in the call for proposals in concordance with program goals and objectives listed on pages 1 and 2. (25%),
- Scientific merit as judged by peer reviews. (25%),
- Impact the potential of the project to be important and innovative, deliver progress towards solutions, and benefit stakeholders. (25%),
- Total budget request and cost-effectiveness of the project, including leveraging of external dollars. (10%),
- Student involvement (required). (10%),
- Attainable and significant proposed deliverables consistent with sustainability goals, including the likelihood of additional follow-on funding or other tangible results. (5%).

Please refer to the fiscal guidelines for information on prioritizing student support.

Reviewers

Reviewers will be selected by the Directors of the Maine WRRI.

Research proposal

The following information is entered on-line at http://NIWR.net. New investigators must register under Maine at NIWR.net to obtain access to the site. Enter ERAS subsystem for (104B) System proposal.

Executive summary:

- 1. Title
- 2. Focus categories (see Attachment A)
- 3. Keywords (see Attachment B)
- 4. Project duration is one year, project start date may be as early as March 1, 2017
- 5. Agency funding requested
- 6. Matching funds provided
- 7. PI names and affiliations (with full contact information for the lead PI)
- **8.** Congressional district (first or second Maine)
- 9. Abstract
- 10. Budget (use format provided))
- 11. Budget justification (one page maximum)

The information above is entered on-line at NIWR.net. Text can be transferred using cut-and-paste.

Main body of proposal (numbered starting with page 1)

- 12 Title
- 13. Statement of critical regional or state water problem
- 14. Statement of results and benefits
- 15. Nature, scope, and objectives
- 16. Methods, procedures, and facilities available
- 17. Summary of closely related research (related activities for IT proposals)
- 18. Student training
- 19. Statement of government involvement
- 20. Expected deliverables, including information dissemination plan for all proposals, a bulleted list is preferred
- 21. References cited
- The text should be formatted in 12 point type with one inch margins on all sides.

Sections 12 through 21 must fit on 8 pages.

- 22. Narrative statement of investigators qualifications
- 23. CVs/Resumes (maximum two pages per investigator)
- 24. Letters of participation from stakeholders.

We strongly recommend that PIs read the fiscal guidelines before preparing proposal budgets.

NOTIFICATION AND AWARD PERIOD

Proposed projects may be up to 12 months in duration and may begin as early as March 1, 2017.

Projects must be completed by February 28, 2018. No-cost extensions may be requested on a case-by-case basis. Final funding decisions will be announced by November 18, 2016, dependent upon federal budget completion.

Attachment A Focus Categories

Category	Abbreviation
Acid Deposition	ACD
Agriculture	AG
Climatological Processes	СР
Conservation	COV
Drought	DROU
Ecology	ECL
Economics	ECON
Education	EDU
Floods	FL
Geomorphological and Geochemical Processes	G&G
Groundwater	GW
Hydrogeochemistry	HYDGEO
Hydrology	HYDROL
Irrigation	IG
"Law, Institutions, and Policy"	LIP
Management and Planning	M&P
Methods	MET
Models	MOD
Nitrate Contamination	NC
Non-Point Pollution	NPP
Nutrients	NU
Radioactive Substances	RAD
Recreation	REC
Sediments	SED
Solute Transport	ST
Surface Water	SW
Toxic Substances	TS
Treatment	TRT
Wastewater	WW
Water Quality	WQL
Water Quantity	WQN
Water Supply	WS
Water Use	WU
Wetlands	WL
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Attachment B

Keywords

Note: The keywords describe areas of interest as related to water; e.g., "Cooling" refers to water as used in cooling; "Fertilizers" implies the effect of fertilizers on water characteristics, etc.

A	22. Bays
1. Acid Deposition	23. Beaches
2. Acid Rain	24. Benefit Cost Analysis
3. Activated Carbon	25. Benthos
4. Activated Sludge	26. Biodegradation
5. Adsorption and Exchange	27. Bioindicators
6. Aeration	28. Biological Control
7. Agriculture	29. Biological Treatment
8. Algae	30. Biomonitoring
9. Alkaline Scale	31. Biotechnology
10. Anaerobic Treatment	32. Birds
11. Animal Waste	33. Boating
12. Aquaculture	34. Brackish Water
13. Arid Climates	35. Brines
14. Aquatic Plants	
15. Aquifer Characteristics	С
16. Aquifer Parameters	36. Cartography
17. Atmospheric Models	37. Channels
18. Atmospheric Processes	38. Chemigation
	39. Chlorination
В	40. Climate
19. Bacteria	41. Cloud Sending
20. Basalt Hydrology	42. Coastal Engineering

43. Coastal Zone

21. Base Flow

44. Computers	70. Economics
45. Conflict Management	71. Ecosystems
46. Conjunctive Use	72. Education
47. Conservation	73. Energy Budget
48. Contaminant Transport	74. Energy Use and Conservation
49. Conveyance Systems	75. Environmental Sanitation
50. Cooling	76. Epidemiology
51. Crop Water Use	77. Estuaries
52. Crustaceans	78. Estuarine Modeling
	79. Eutrophication
D	80. Evaporation
53. Dairy Waste Management	81. Evaporatranspiration
54. Dams	
55. Data Analysis	F
56. Data Storage and Retrieval	82. Fertilizers
57. Decision Models	83. Fish Ecology
58. Demand Management	84. Fisheries
59. Denitrification	85. Flood Control
60. Desalination	86. Flood Plain Management
61. Developing Countries	87. Fluid Flow
62. Disinfection	88. Fluid Mechanics
63. Distillation	89. Fungicides
64. Distribution Systems	
65. Drainage	G
66. Drilling	90. Geochemistry
67. Drought	91. Geographic Information Systems
68. Dynamic Programming	92. Geomorphology
	93. Geophysics
E	94. Geothermal Power
CO Farth Dame	

69. Earth Dams

95. Glaciers	122. Insecticides
96. Great Lakes	123. Insects
97. Groundwater Hydrology	124. Institutional Relationships
98. Groundwater Management	125. Instream Flow
99. Groundwater Modeling	126. Interbasin Transfers
100. Groundwater Movement	127. Invertebrates
101. Groundwater Quality	128. Ion Exchange
102. Groundwater Recharge	129. Irrigation
	130. Irrigation Management
Н	131. Irrigation Scheduling
103. Hazardous Waste	132. Irrigation Systems
104. Health Effects	133. Isotopes
105. Heat Budget	
106. Heavy Metals	К
107. Herbicides 108. History	134. Karst Hydrology
109. Hydraulic Structures	135. Lagoons
110. Hydraulics	136. Lakes
111. Hydrobiology	137. Land Use
112. Hydrogeology	138. Landscape Management
113. Hydrologic Models	139. Land-Water Interactions
114. Hydropower	140. Law
115. Hypothermia	141. Leaching
1	М
116. lce	142. Marketing
117. Impoundments	143. Marinas
118. Indian Water Issues	144. Marine Resources
119. Industrial Wastewater	145. Marshes
120. Infiltration	146. Mathematical Models

121. Information Dissemination

147. Membranes	171. Phosphorus
148. Microclimatology	172. Photosynthesis
149. Mineralogy	173. Phreatophytes
150. Mining	174. Physical Chemistry
151. Model Studies	175. Planning
152. Moisture Uptake	176. Plant Growth
153. Mountain Lakes/Streams	177. Plant Pathology
154. Multiple-Objective Planning	178. Plant Stress
	179. Plant-Water Relationships
N	180. Policy Analysis
155. Navigation	181. Pollutants
156. Nitrogen	182. Pollution Control
157. Numerical Analysis	183. Ponds
158. Nutrients	184. Port Facilities
	185. Power Plants
0	186. Public Health
O 159. Oil-Water Interfaces	186. Public Health 187. Pumps
159. Oil-Water Interfaces	
159. Oil-Water Interfaces 160. Open Channels	187. Pumps
159. Oil-Water Interfaces160. Open Channels161. Operation Research	187. Pumps
159. Oil-Water Interfaces160. Open Channels161. Operation Research162. Optimization	187. Pumps R 188. Rainfall
159. Oil-Water Interfaces160. Open Channels161. Operation Research162. Optimization163. Organic Compounds	187. Pumps R 188. Rainfall 189. Rainfall-Runoff Models
159. Oil-Water Interfaces160. Open Channels161. Operation Research162. Optimization163. Organic Compounds164. Osmosis	R 188. Rainfall 189. Rainfall-Runoff Models 190. Rainfall-Runoff Processes
159. Oil-Water Interfaces160. Open Channels161. Operation Research162. Optimization163. Organic Compounds164. Osmosis165. Oxidation	R 188. Rainfall 189. Rainfall-Runoff Models 190. Rainfall-Runoff Processes 191. Range Management
159. Oil-Water Interfaces160. Open Channels161. Operation Research162. Optimization163. Organic Compounds164. Osmosis165. Oxidation	R 188. Rainfall 189. Rainfall-Runoff Models 190. Rainfall-Runoff Processes 191. Range Management 192. Recreation
 159. Oil-Water Interfaces 160. Open Channels 161. Operation Research 162. Optimization 163. Organic Compounds 164. Osmosis 165. Oxidation 166. Ozonation 	R 188. Rainfall 189. Rainfall-Runoff Models 190. Rainfall-Runoff Processes 191. Range Management 192. Recreation 193. Reefs
159. Oil-Water Interfaces 160. Open Channels 161. Operation Research 162. Optimization 163. Organic Compounds 164. Osmosis 165. Oxidation 166. Ozonation	R 188. Rainfall 189. Rainfall-Runoff Models 190. Rainfall-Runoff Processes 191. Range Management 192. Recreation 193. Reefs 194. Regulatory Permits
 159. Oil-Water Interfaces 160. Open Channels 161. Operation Research 162. Optimization 163. Organic Compounds 164. Osmosis 165. Oxidation 166. Ozonation P 167. Perched Water Table 	R 188. Rainfall 189. Rainfall-Runoff Models 190. Rainfall-Runoff Processes 191. Range Management 192. Recreation 193. Reefs 194. Regulatory Permits 195. Remote Sensing

198. Resource Development	226. Soil Erosion
199. Resource Planning	227. Soil Microbiology
200. Reverse Osmosis	228. Soil Physics
201. Riparian Vegetation	229. Soil-Water Relationships
202. Risk Analysis	230. Solar Energy
203. Risk Management	231. Solute Transport
204. River Basin Development	232. Springs
205. River Beds	233. Statistics
206. Rivers	234. Stochastic Hydrology
207. Runoff	235. Stochastic Processes
	236. Storm Water Management
S	237. Streams
208. Saline Soils	238. Subsidence
209. Saline-Freshwater Interfaces	239. Subsurface Drainage
210. Salinity	240. Surface Drainage
211. Sanitary Landfills	241. Surface-Groundwater Relationships
212. Saturated Flow	242. Suspended Sediments
213. Seawater	243. Synthetic Hydrology
214. Sedimentation	244. Synthetic Organics
215. Seismology	245. Systems Analysis
216. Septic Tanks	246. Systems Engineering
217. Sewer Systems	
218. Shellfish	Т
219. Shipping	247. Thermodynamics
220. Shore Birds	248. Tidelands
221. Shore Protection	249. Time-Series Analysis
222. Sludge	250. Tourism
223. Snow	251. Toxic Substances
224. Socioeconomic Issues	252. Trace Elements
225. Soil Chemistry	

253. Trace Organics	273. Water Quality Management
254. Tropics	274. Water Quality Modeling
	275. Water Quality Monitoring
U	276. Water Quality Standards
255. Underground Storage Tanks	277. Water Resources Development
256. Unsaturated Flow	278. Water Reuse
257. Urban Drainage	279. Water Rights
258. Urban Hydrology	280. Water Softening
259. Urban Planning	281. Water Treatment
260. Urban Water Systems	282. Water Treatment Facilities
	283. Water Use Data
V	284. Water Use Efficiency
261. Viruses	285. Water Use Monitoring
	286. Watershed Management
W	287. Waves
262. Waste Disposal	288. Weather Data Collection
263. Wastewater	289. Weather Forecasting
264. Wastewater Irrigation	
	290. Weather Modification
265. Wastewater Treatment	290. Weather Modification 291. Weeds
265. Wastewater Treatment 266. Water Chemistry	
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266. Water Chemistry	291. Weeds 292. Well Hydraulics
266. Water Chemistry 267. Water Demand	291. Weeds292. Well Hydraulics293. Wetlands
266. Water Chemistry267. Water Demand268. Water Harvesting	291. Weeds292. Well Hydraulics293. Wetlands
266. Water Chemistry267. Water Demand268. Water Harvesting269. Water Law	291. Weeds292. Well Hydraulics293. Wetlands294. Wildlife Management

Attachment C Federal Authorization Requirements

The Water Resources Research Act Amendments of 2006 (42 USC §§10301-10309) reauthorized the Water Resources Research Institutes' program through 2011. Special emphasis was placed on the importance of research and education aimed at improving the nation's water supply. This new focus suggests that the Water Research Institutes should ensure that their assessments of performance provide evidence that the Institutes are accomplishing statutory purposes.

Under this reauthorization each institute shall-

- (1) plan, conduct, or otherwise arrange for competent applied and peer-reviewed research that fosters
 - (A) improvements in water supply reliability;
 - (B) the exploration of new ideas that
 - (i) address water problems or
 - (ii) expand understanding of water and water-related phenomena;
 - (C) the entry of new research scientists, engineers, and technicians into water resources fields; and
 - (D) the dissemination of research results to water managers and the public.
- (2) Reports

The Secretary shall report to Congress annually on coordination efforts with other

Federal departments, agencies, and instrumentalities under paragraph (1). As part of the annual budget submission to Congress, the Secretary shall also provide a crosscut budget detailing the expenditures on activities listed under subsection (a)(1) and a report which details the level of applied research and the results of the activities authorized by this Act, including potential and actual –

- (A) increases in annual water supplies;
- (B) increases in annual water yields;
- (C) advances in water infrastructure and water quality improvements; and
- (D) methods for identifying, and determining the effectiveness of,

treatment technologies and efficiencies.

Projects funded by the Maine Water Resources Research Institute must produce results that coincide with one or more of these performance metrics:

Applied and Practical Research

- 4) "applied water supply research"
- 5) "applied and peer-reviewed research"

- 6) "quality and relevance of its water research"
- 7) "address water problems"
- 8) "effectiveness at producing measured results"

Education

9) "entry of new research scientists, engineers, and technicians into water resources fields"

Outreach

- 10) "dissemination of research results to water managers and the public"
- 11) "potential and actual increases in annual water supplies"

Water Supply (Quantity)

- 12) "applied water supply research"
- 13) "potential and actual increases in annual water yields"
- 14) "expand understanding of water and water related phenomena"

Water Quality

15) "potential and actual advances in water quality improvements"

Water Supply Reliability

16) "improvements in water supply reliability"

Water Infrastructure and Technology

- 14. "potential and actual advances in water infrastructure improvements"
- 15. "methods for identifying and determining the effectiveness of treatment technologies and efficiencies"

Attachment D Senator George J. Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions Maine Water Resources Research Institute

Mission, Vision, and Approach

Mitchell Center Mission:

The mission of the Mitchell Center is to be a leader and valued partner in understanding and solving societal problems related to the growing challenge of sustainable development (i.e. improving human well-being while protecting the environment).

Mitchell Center Vision:

The vision of the Mitchell Center is to connect knowledge with action to create a brighter environmental, social, and economic future in and beyond Maine.

Mitchell Center Approach:

The Mitchell Center's general approach to sustainability science: (i) is problem-driven and focused on deriving and testing solutions based on scientific knowledge; (ii) uses interdisciplinary research teams to analyze the dynamic, coupled interactions between natural and human systems; and (iii) stresses early, active and ongoing engagement with diverse stakeholders.

Key Publications and other Resources for Preparing Effective Research Proposals

General Sustainability Science Resources

Clark, W.C. and Nancy M. Dickson. 2003. Sustainability Science: the emerging research program. PNAS 100(14): 8059-8061. http://www.pnas.org/content/100/14/8059.full.pdf+html

Kates, R.W. et al. (2001). Sustainability Science. Science 292(5517), 641-642. Miller TR. 2015. *Reconstructing sustainability science: Knowledge and action for a sustainable future*. New York: Routledge.

PNAS Sustainability Science Web Page Access to PNAS publications and links to other relevant websites http://www.pnas.org/site/misc/sustainability.shtml

Understanding and strengthening connections between knowledge and action

Cash, D.W., Clark, W.C, Alcock, F., Dickson, N.M., Eckley, N., Guston, D.H., Jager, J., and R.B. Mitchell.

+2003. Knowledge systems for sustainable development. PNAS 100(14): 8086-8091. http://www.pnas.org/content/100/14/8086.full.pdf+html

Hart, D. D., K. P. Bell, L. A. Lindenfeld, S. Jain, T. R. Johnson, D. Ranco, and B. McGill. 2015. Strengthening the role of universities in addressing sustainability challenges: the Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions as an institutional experiment. *Ecology and Society* **20**(2):4. http://dx.doi.org/10.5751/ES-07283-200204

Jacobs, K. et al. 2002. Connecting Science, Policy, and Decision-making: Agencies. NOAA Climate Program Office. http://leopoldleadership.stanford.edu/sites/default/files/Jacobs_2001-02 Connecting.Science.Decisionmaking.pdf

Pielke, R. et al. 2010. Usable Science: A Handbook for Science Policy Decision Makers. Science Policy Assessment and Research on Climate.

http://cstpr.colorado.edu/sparc/outreach/sparc_handbook/brochure.pdf

Rowe, A. and K. Lee. 2012. Linking knowledge with action. A report to the Packard Foundation. http://www.packard.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/05/LinkingKnowledgewithAction ScienceCS2013.pdf

van Kerkhoff, L. and L. Lebel. 2006. Linking knowledge and action for sustainable development. Annu. Rev. Environ. Resourc 31: 445-477.

http://arjournals.annualreviews.org.prxy4.ursus.maine.edu/doi/pdf/10.1146/annurev.energy.31.102405.170850