Maine Water Resources Research Institute Senator George J. Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions FY18 Water Resources Sustainability Research Grants (USGS 104b) Request for Proposals

Critical Dates:

RFP Announcement: Monday, June 26, 2017

RFP Information Session: Thursday, July 6, 2017 at 12 PM (Norman Smith Hall). Virtual options for

participation are available. Contact carol.hamel@maine.edu.

Please RSVP by 9am, Wednesday, July 5, 2017

Concept/Pre-Proposal Due: Monday, July 24, 2017 at 4 PM

Proposal Invitations: Monday, August 7, 2017

Full Proposals Due: Monday, October 2, 2017 at 4 PM

Award Notification by: Friday, December 1, 2017

Project Period: Start date: March 1, 2018 End date: February 28, 2019

General Information: The Maine Water Resources Research Institute (WRRI) in the Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions is committed to supporting research and outreach that enhance the capacity for solving problems related to the sustainable management of water resources. This request for pre-proposals is for funding through the U.S. Geological Survey 104b program for solutions-driven projects in which interdisciplinary teams collaborate with stakeholders and provide support for undergraduate/graduate training. Another 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 FY18 Maine grants program as authorized by the federal Water Resources Research Act of 1984 as amended. Please note that funding for the FY18 WRRI program is dependent on inclusion of the program in the FY18 federal budget.

<u>Grant Period:</u> Research proposals for projects up to 12 months in duration will be considered to occur in a project period of March 1, 2018 through February 28, 2019.

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 wellbeing, healthy ecosystems, economic prosperity, and anticipate and help resolve impending waterresource 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. 17). 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 effective 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;
- 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. 17), 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) Interdisciplinarity: Teams must include participants with sufficiently diverse expertise across fields to respond effectively to the multi-faceted nature of the proposed problem.
- 3) Stakeholder engagement: Proposals will only be accepted for projects that include strong stakeholder participation to maximize the relevance and usability (sensu Clark et al. 2016) of research or information transfer products. Examples of stakeholder participation include: identification of research needs, development of research goals, interpretation and use of research results.
- 4) *Project Scope:* Single investigator proposals will not be accepted only team-based, interdisciplinary projects are eligible.
- 5) All PIs and co-PIs must be current on deliverables from prior USGS Institute grants.
- 6) 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.
- 7) 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 July 24, 2017 at 4 PM. Please utilize the format below and email to Ruth Hallsworth at hallsworth@maine.edu.
- 2. Evaluation: A review committee representing the Mitchell Center, the USGS New England District, and other pertinent 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 August 7. Full proposal format requirements are included below, with full proposals due by 4 PM on October 2, 2017.
- 3. Selection: The review committee will evaluate the submitted full proposals. The WRRI Director will then consult with members of the Research Advisory Committee to make final award selections. Notification will be made no later than December 1, 2017.
- 4. Award Period: The award period for these projects begins March 1, 2018 and all project components must be completed by February 28, 2019.
- 5. *Support level*: It is anticipated that in FY18 \$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, 2019.

Questions regarding this RFP should be directed to WRRI Director David Hart (david.hart@maine.edu) or Mitchell Center Strategic Program Manager Ruth Hallsworth (hallsworth@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 Ruth Hallsworth (hallsworth@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 Ruth Hallsworth 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 \$1,689 (\$15,200/9 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.

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 their participation?*
- 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 proposals will be required to include details on stakeholder participation at each stage of the project. Letters from stakeholders describing their commitment to participation will also be required.

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 hallsworth@maine.edu by **October 2, 2017**. Researchers at UMaine can expedite the institutional review notification by adding Ruth Hallsworth as the final approver in PARS. All other proposal review procedures at UMaine 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 **October 2, 2017**. 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 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 in accordance with the program goals and objectives listed on pages 1 and 2. (25%)
- Scientific merit as judged by peer reviews. (20%)
- Impact the potential of the project to be important and innovative, deliver progress towards solutions, and benefit stakeholders. (20%)
- Stakeholder involvement (required). (15%)
- Student involvement (required). (10%)
- Total budget request and cost-effectiveness of the project, including leveraging of external dollars. (5%)
- Attainable and significant proposed deliverables consistent with sustainability goals, including the likelihood of additional follow-on funding. (5%)

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

Reviewers

Reviewers will be selected by the Director 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, 2018
- 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. Letters must include a commitment by the stakeholder to participate actively in the project. Examples of participation include: identification of research needs, development of research goals, interpretation and use of research results.

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, 2018. Projects must be completed by February 28, 2019. No-cost extensions may be requested on a case-by-case basis. Final funding decisions will be announced by December 1, 2017, and are dependent upon federal budget completion.

Award Requirements

Projects receiving WRRI funding are required to provide the following items:

- 1. Final report (due April 30, 2019). If a no-cost extension is requested, an interim report is due on April 30, 2019 with a final report due on April 30, 2020.
- 2. Oral or poster presentation at Maine Sustainability & Water Conference.
- 3. One page summary of proposed project for lay audience (due March 2018).
- 4. One page report of project results for lay audience (due April 2019).

Attachment A Focus Categories

Acid Deposition ACD Agriculture AG Climatological Processes CP Conservation COV Drought DROU Ecology ECL Economics ECON Education EDU Floods FL Geomorphological and Geochemical Processes G&G Groundwater GW Hydrogeochemistry HYDROL Hydrology HYDROL Irrigation IG T-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	Category	Abbreviation
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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	M
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
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 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	286. Watershed Management 287. Waves
W 262. Waste Disposal	-
	287. Waves
262. Waste Disposal	287. Waves 288. Weather Data Collection
262. Waste Disposal 263. Wastewater	287. Waves 288. Weather Data Collection 289. Weather Forecasting
262. Waste Disposal263. Wastewater264. Wastewater Irrigation	287. Waves 288. Weather Data Collection 289. Weather Forecasting 290. Weather Modification
262. Waste Disposal263. Wastewater264. Wastewater Irrigation265. Wastewater Treatment	287. Waves 288. Weather Data Collection 289. Weather Forecasting 290. Weather Modification 291. Weeds
262. Waste Disposal263. Wastewater264. Wastewater Irrigation265. Wastewater Treatment266. Water Chemistry	287. Waves 288. Weather Data Collection 289. Weather Forecasting 290. Weather Modification 291. Weeds 292. Well Hydraulics
262. Waste Disposal263. Wastewater264. Wastewater Irrigation265. Wastewater Treatment266. Water Chemistry267. Water Demand	287. Waves 288. Weather Data Collection 289. Weather Forecasting 290. Weather Modification 291. Weeds 292. Well Hydraulics 293. Wetlands
262. Waste Disposal263. Wastewater264. Wastewater Irrigation265. Wastewater Treatment266. Water Chemistry267. Water Demand268. Water Harvesting	287. Waves 288. Weather Data Collection 289. Weather Forecasting 290. Weather Modification 291. Weeds 292. Well Hydraulics 293. Wetlands
262. Waste Disposal 263. Wastewater 264. Wastewater Irrigation 265. Wastewater Treatment 266. Water Chemistry 267. Water Demand 268. Water Harvesting 269. Water Law	287. Waves 288. Weather Data Collection 289. Weather Forecasting 290. Weather Modification 291. Weeds 292. Well Hydraulics 293. Wetlands 294. 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., van Kerkhoff, L., Lebel, L., & Gallopin, G. C. (2016). Crafting usable knowledge for sustainable development. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, *113*(17), 4570-4578. http://www.pnas.org/content/113/17/4570.abstract.

Hart, D.D. et al. (2016). Mobilizing the power of higher education to tackle the grand challenge of sustainability: Lessons from novel initiatives. *Elementa: Science of the Anthropocene*, 4: 000090. doi: 10.12952/journal.elementa.000090

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

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://sciencepolicy.colorado.edu/research_areas/sparc/outreach/sparc_handbook/index.html

Rowe, A. and K. Lee. 2012. Linking knowledge with action. A report to the Packard Foundation. https://www.packard.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/04/Linking-Knowledge-with-Action DEC-2012.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