

Special Notice N00014-20-S-SN02
Special Program Announcement for 2020 Office of Naval Research
Research Opportunity:
Affordable Mobile ASW Surveillance System (AMASS)

I. INTRODUCTION

This announcement describes a technology area entitled Maritime Sensing under the N00014-20-S-B001, Long Range Broad Agency Announcement for Navy and Marine Corps Science and Technology (BAA), which can be found at <https://www.onr.navy.mil/work-with-us/funding-opportunities/announcements>. The submission of proposals, their evaluation, and the award of a research contract will be carried out as described in the above BAA.

The purpose of this announcement is to focus attention of the scientific community on (1) the area to be studied, (2) an Industry Day for dialogue amongst those interested in this arena, and (3) the planned timetable for the submission of White Papers and Full Proposals.

II. TOPIC DESCRIPTION

Background:

Deployable Surveillance Systems (DSS) seeks to expand on established Fixed Surveillance Systems (FSS) and Mobile Surveillance Systems (MSS) to provide flexible and responsive wide area surveillance to Theatre Anti-Submarine Warfare (TASW) Commanders worldwide. DSS has adopted an incremental capability approach designed to address operational gaps:

- DSS Increment 1: Deep Water Passive (DSS-DWP)
- DSS Increment 2: Deep Water Active (DSS-DWA)
- DSS Increment 3: Mobile Passive / Active System (DSS-MPAS)

The AMASS program is a potential system solution to PMS 485 need for DSS DWA.

Objective:

The Office of Naval Research (ONR) is interested in receiving proposals to revolutionize long-range anti-submarine warfare (ASW) in deep water environments. The Affordable Mobile ASW Surveillance System (AMASS) program shall design, build, demonstrate, and produce a persistent, deep water, active ASW system that can detect new emerging threat submarines at extended ranges.

Proposed research should address the pressing challenges in developing a deep water active ASW system for DSS Increment 2 including active and passive sonar performance, automatic deployment, persistence, station keeping, and longevity. There are five primary identified challenges which include and should be addressed in the proposal:

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- Concept of deployment of the system from a shipping container
- Automatic deployment of large aperture sonar arrays from the buoy
- Persistent presence of the buoy by keeping it powered for long time and within one location
- Method to minimize array deformation so as not to compromise sonar performance
- Total cost of system should be affordable

III. Industry Day

ONR will hold a **classified** Industry Day on 11 March 2020 at ONR Headquarters, Arlington, VA. There is no registration fee for participation.

ONR's Ocean Battlespace and Expeditionary Access Department (Code 32) seeks targeted industry participation in a classified meeting to describe the technical challenge of building a persistent, deep water, active ASW system that can detect new emerging threat submarines at extended ranges.

ADVANCED REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED

ATTENDANCE WILL BE INVITATION ONLY

The meeting will be classified at the **SECRET** level. Only those firms with an active SECRET facilities clearance and a need to know may attend. Accordingly, only those firms with demonstrated expertise in active sonar, ASW buoy design, and prototyping who are in a position to realistically develop technological solutions may participate. Such firms are expected to currently employ technically qualified individuals capable of developing innovative designs and prototypes for persistent, deep water, active ASW systems.

A firm wishing to attend must submit an unclassified request not exceeding two-pages describing its suitability. The request should, at a minimum, address the following:

- 1) Evidence of an active facilities clearance to receive, store, generate, and process classified information up to and including SECRET.
- 2) A description of the firm's experience and expertise in active sonar, ASW buoy design, and prototyping.
- 3) A description of the qualifications of the firm's technically qualified individuals who are capable of innovative designs and prototypes for persistent, deep water, active ASW systems.

Requests must be submitted no later than 17:00 EST on 26 February 2020 to Dr. Dave Johnson at dave.h.johnson@navy.mil. A firm whose request is denied will be so informed.

IV. WHITE PAPER SUBMISSION

Although not required, White Papers are strongly desired for all offerors seeking funding. Code 32 will evaluate White Papers against the criteria listed in the BAA. The results of the White Paper evaluations will be issued via e-mail notification from the Technical Point of Contact. The intent of the White Paper evaluation is to give firms a sense whether their concepts are likely to be funded if a Full Proposal is submitted.

For White Papers that propose efforts that are considered of particular value to the Navy based on the evaluation criteria, but either exceed available budgets or contain certain tasks or applications that are not desired by the Navy, Code 32 may suggest a Full Proposal with reduced effort to fit within expected available budgets or an effort that refocuses the tasks or application of the technology to maximize the benefit to the Navy. Whether a firm follows such suggestions is a matter within its independent business judgement. Following such suggestions does not guarantee award.

White Papers shall comply with the BAA requirements for format, content, and submission. For purposes of this notice, a resume of the principal investigator, not to exceed 1 page, should also be included after the 5-page body of the white paper.

White Papers must be sent to the email address listed at the bottom of the technology area under “Our Research” on the ONR Website, e.g., onrcode32research.fct@navy.mil. Sending to the Technical POC listed on the research area page is optional. The subject line of the email shall read: “N00014-20-S-B0001” *White Paper Submission*. Do not send ZIP files. Password protected files are discouraged.

To ensure full, timely consideration for funding, White Papers should be submitted **no later than 2 April 2020**. White Papers received after that date may be considered as time and availability of funding permit.

The planned date for completing the evaluation of White Papers is **17 April 2020**.

V. FULL PROPOSAL SUBMISSION AND AWARD INFORMATION

Full Proposals (Technical and Cost volumes) will be subsequently encouraged from those firms whose proposed technologies have been identified through the above referenced e-mail as being of particular value to the Navy based on the white paper evaluations. However, any such encouragement does not assure a subsequent award. Full Proposals may also be submitted by any firm whose white paper was not identified as being of particular value to the Navy or any firm that did not submit a white paper. The proposals timely received will be evaluated against the BAA criteria.

Full Proposals for contracts should be submitted in accordance with the Appendix 2 of the N00014-20-S-B001 no later than **15 May 2020**. Full Proposals received after that date may be considered as time and availability of funding permit.

The period of performance for projects may be up to three years.

ONR anticipates award of a single contract for this effort.

Although ONR expects the above described program plan to be executed, ONR reserves the right to make changes or to cancel the effort entirely.

ONR expects to make funding decisions no later than **29 May 2020**. The estimated award date for the selected project is **29 Oct. 2020**.

VI. SIGNIFICANT DATES AND TIMES

Event	Date	Time
Industry Day	11 March 2020	TBD
Deadline to request classified SOW appendix and Industry Day brief	12 March 2020	16:00 EST
White Paper Submission Date	2 April 2020	16:00 EST
Notification of White Paper Evaluation*	17 April 2020	16:00 EST
Full Proposal Submission Date	15 May 2020	16:00 EST
Notification of Full Proposal Evaluation*	29 May 2020	16:00 EST
Award*	29 October 2020	

Note: * These are approximate dates.

VII. POINTS OF CONTACT

In addition to the points of contact listed in N0014-20-S-B0001 the specific points of contact for this announcement are listed below:

Technical Point of Contact:

Dr. David H Johnson
Code 32 ASW Program Officer
Dave.H.Johnson@navy.mil

Business Point of Contact:

Ms. Dunia Hickey
Senior Contract Specialist/Contracting Officer
dunia.hickey@navy.mil

Contracting Officer:

Mr. Sean Palmer
Office of Naval Research
ONR Code 252
One Liberty Center

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875 N. Randolph Street
Arlington, VA 22203-1995
Email Address: sean.m.palmer@navy.mil

VIII. SUBMISSION OF QUESTIONS

Any questions regarding this announcement must be provided to the Technical Point of Contact and the Business Point of Contact listed above. All questions shall be submitted in writing by electronic mail.

Answers to questions submitted in response to this Special Notice will be addressed in the form of an Amendment and will be posted to the following web pages:

- Beta Sam Webpage – <https://www.beta.sam.gov/>
- Grants.gov Webpage – <http://www.grants.gov/>
- ONR Special Notice Webpage - <http://www.onr.navy.mil/Contracts-Grants/Funding-Opportunities/Special-Notices.aspx>

Questions regarding White Papers or Full Proposals should be submitted no later than one week before the dates for their receipt. Questions submitted after these dates may not be answered.