

# INTERDISCIPLINARY INCUBATION GRANTS

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Montana Institute on Ecosystems



# Letters of Intent – 61 LOIs received!

## Institutional Leads

✓ MSU	33
✓ UM	22
✓ UM-MSU	3
✓ MTech	2
✓ MTech-MSU	1

## Total Participants

✓ MSU	92
✓ UM	70
✓ MTech	10
✓ MSU-Northern	2
✓ MSU-Billings	1
✓ Tribal Colleges	8
✓ Non-MUS	13

# Topics covered in LOIs

- Terrestrial ecosystems 13
- Biogeochemistry 8
- Microbiology 5
- Modeling 5
- Watershed interactions/processes 5
- Social science/Humanities 5
- Aquatic ecosystems 3
- Food/agriculture 3
- Tribal communities 4
- Architecture 2
- Education/Outreach 2
- Energy and the environment 2
- Engineering 1
- Environmental planning 1
- Human health and the environment 1
- Wildlife disease 1

# Funding realities

- \$320,000 available total for Year 1
  - ✓ (~\$5K/LOI if all are funded!)
  - ✓ 4-8 awards anticipated
  - ✓ Joint grants will have budget from both UM & MSU

# Important dates

- Proposal due
  - ✓ **9 January 2012, 5 pm**
- Decisions announced
  - ✓ **10 February 2012**
- Award duration
  - ✓ **15 February-31 August 2012**
- Final report
  - ✓ **30 September 2012**

# Evaluation criteria

- General eligibility (meet RFP requirements?)
- Fit for EPSCoR science focus areas and importance of project to advance EPSCoR objectives
- Clarity of goals and activities
  - ✓ Potential for success and transformational discovery
  - ✓ Plan to build capacity in a new area
  - ✓ Significance to the IoE
- Strength of interdisciplinary, multi-institutional team
- Potential to leverage new and existing funding
  - ✓ Description of plans to submit an external proposal that meets an identified funding solicitation and deadline
  - ✓ Matching support from existing grants and funding sources (NSF, NIH, DOE, NASA, tribal college funds, etc.)
- Strength of broader impacts
- Reasonableness of budget request and justification

# Review process

- Ranked by a committee of external and internal referees, scored by criteria above
- Funding levels decided by IoE co-Directors and EPSCoR Director

# Modifications

- Due to the large number of LOIs, a few modifications are needed in solicitation:
  - ✓ An individual may be a lead PI on only one incubation proposal
  - ✓ An individual can be a co-PI or team member on as many proposals as desired



# More information

- <http://environment.montana.edu>
  - ✓ Interdisciplinary Incubation Grant proposal information
  - ✓ This PowerPoint
  - ✓ Q&A from this meeting
  - ✓ EPSCoR Track 1 project information

# Questions?