

National Aeronautics and
Space Administration

Headquarters

Washington, DC 20546-0001



Reply to SMD – 5H79
Attn of:

November 6, 2007

TO: Distribution

FROM: Science Mission Directorate, Airborne Science Program Manager

SUBJECT: FY 2008 Airborne Science Flight Program

The Airborne Science Office (formerly Suborbital Science) under the Science Mission Directorate (SMD) announces the annual call for flight requests to use the NASA aircraft observing platforms and capabilities in Fiscal Year 2008. This request applies to all Earth Science activities with NASA or other funding requiring NASA aircraft or NASA facility sensors.

All investigators with approved or pending proposals from the Research Opportunities in Space and Earth Sciences (ROSES) announcements that have a requirement for airborne science **must also submit a Flight Request**. However, for investigators proposing to the ROSES-2007 Tropospheric Chemistry: Arctic Research of the Composition of the Troposphere from Aircraft and Satellites (ARCTAS), a single flight request will be submitted for each mission by the project scientist.

This call letter also serves as a reminder of the Airborne Science Program Portal. The website is located at <http://airbornescience.nasa.gov>. This site is a centralized portal for all components of the Program. It hosts the flight request system, program capabilities, schedules, points of contact, and facility information.

The flight request system has been significantly upgraded and can be reached directly at <http://airbornescience.nasa.gov/sofrs>. Please submit all flight requests through this paperless system.

Facility Update

The Airborne Science Program uses “core” NASA aircraft, consisting of unique highly modified science ready platforms, as well as an aircraft catalog program which consists of other government, university and aircraft commercial aircraft that have completed NASA safety reviews. In an effort to encourage use of “core” NASA

operated aircraft, some aircraft user fees have been reduced. See Appendix A for the list of aircraft and their current user fees. The University of North Dakota will continue its role in DC-8 science management; however, the airplane will be operated by NASA Dryden Flight Research Center and based in Palmdale, CA.

The program continues to provide a mix of manned and unmanned assets to conduct a variety of scientific studies. In addition to Appendix A, the list of available aircraft in the program can be found at <http://airbornescience.nasa.gov/>.

The Science Mission Directorate continues to support selected interdisciplinary science instruments for community use. An interdisciplinary science instrument is funded by a particular science program(s), but available for use by all science programs. Typically there is a team that supports the operations on the instrument, and who may or may not be part of all investigations. If use of an interdisciplinary science instrument is approved by the sponsoring science program manager, only the additional mission-peculiar support costs for the instrument team are requested. Available interdisciplinary science instruments and suitable commercial sensors with point-of-contact are listed in Appendix B and non-NASA Aircraft Platform Services in Appendix C. A list of Program Managers is in Appendix D and flight request information for Earth Observing System (EOS) Investigators can be found in Appendix E.

User Fees and Flight Requests

A Flight Request is necessary in order to schedule an airborne asset through the Airborne Science Program, but it is not a substitute for a proposal. All Flight Requests should be associated with a NASA grant, proposal or, if funded from a non NASA source, deemed to be directly related to a NASA area of interest. If no NASA investigation is associated with your request, it will be handled as a reimbursable mission and may be required to include justification for use of NASA facilities. All Airborne assets are subject to user fees which reflect the marginal cost of using the asset, and are assessed by the organization operating the asset. This is true for both NASA and non-NASA facilities. Reimbursable missions using NASA assets may be subject to additional fees.

Please include on the Flight Request the name and contact information of a funding sponsor who can review and approve the user fee expense. For SMD investigators, the sponsor is the program manager who has issued your grant or contract. Once a Flight Request is approved and scheduled, the user fees must be forwarded to the performing organization before the flight can occur. For SMD funded researchers using NASA assets, the fees will normally be withheld from the investigator's budget and sent by the sponsor directly to the NASA aircraft or sensor organization. For researchers using non-NASA assets, payment of the fees will vary and the Airborne Science business managers are prepared to assist the investigator through the financial procedures.

The Flight Request process is managed by the Earth Science Project Office at Ames Research Center. If you did not receive this message directly and would like to be on

further distributions or if you have any questions regarding the flight request system or process please contact:

Marilyn Vasques
Flight Request Manager
Marilyn.Vasques@nasa.gov
Tel: 650-604-6120

Questions regarding the Airborne Science Program can be addressed to:

Andrew Roberts	or	Randy Albertson
Program Director		Deputy Program Director
andrew.c.roberts@nasa.gov		Randal.T.Albertson@nasa.gov
Tel: 202-358-7212		Tel: 661-276-7540

Please submit your completed flight requests no later than COB December 1, 2007.

Sincerely,

Andrew Roberts
Airborne Science Director
Science Mission Directorate

Appendix A

Available NASA Airborne Science Catalog of Platforms

The Airborne Science Program has successfully continued the catalog aircraft program and we are continually adding aircraft to the catalog. The Program is working to augment this catalog with additional commercial platforms, and already have a number of industry partners.

Listed below are the currently available platforms, points of contact, and associated user's fees on a per hour basis unless otherwise noted. The rates below do not include mission peculiar costs (MPCs) for a given campaign or deployment, it is only the rate of the aircraft from its home base:

Facility	Center /State	Contact Name	Contact Phone	NASA SMD User Fee (per flight hour)
NASA Core Platforms:				
DC-8	DFRC CA	Rick Shetter Pri Frank Cutler	701.330.2126 661.276.3998	\$5000
ER-2	DFRC CA	Robert Navarro	661.276.3328	\$2500
P-3B	GSFC WFF, VA	Anthony Guillory	757.824.2161	\$2500
WB-57F	JSC, TX	Ken Cockrell	281.244.9543	\$2500
Other NASA Platforms:				
G-3	DFRC CA	Frank Cutler	661.276.3998	\$2500
Learjet 23	GRC, OH	Al Micklewright	216.433.2036	\$2500
Learjet 25	GRC, OH	Al Micklewright	216.433.2036	\$2500
B-200	LaRC, VA	Mike Wusk	757-864- 3937	\$1600
Twin Otter	GRC, OH	Al Micklewright	216.433.2036	\$1200
S-3	GRC, OH	Al Micklewright	216.433.2036	\$3500
T-34	GRC, OH	Al Micklewright	216.433.2036	\$500
NASA UAS:				
Global Hawk	DFRC CA	Chris Naftel	661.276.2149	Call

Ikhana/Predator -B	DFRC CA	Brent Cobleigh	661.276.2249	\$3500
Sierra	ARC, CA	Steve Dunagan	650.604.4560	Call
Other Federal Aircraft:				
King Air	NV	Jeff Myers	650.604.3598	\$1050
NRL P-3	MD	Anthony Guillory	757.824.2161	\$11,000 per hr (1.5hr min per day)
NRL P-3 and C-12 (B-200) – http://www.nrl.navy.mil/planes/index.php				
Commercial Aircraft¹:				
Twin Otter (DHC-6)	CO	Anthony Guillory	757.824.2161	\$700/hr + \$1400/day
King Air (B-200)	VA	Anthony Guillory	757.824.2161	Call
Cessna 402B	MD	Anthony Guillory	757.824.2161	Call
Piper Aztec	MD	Anthony Guillory	757.824.2161	Call
Piper Arrow	MD	Anthony Guillory	757.824.2161	Call
L-1011	CA	Anthony Guillory	757.824.2161	Call
Gulfstream I	WA	Anthony Guillory	757.824.2161	Call
OV-1	FL	Anthony Guillory	757.824.2161	Call
SAAB 340	VA	Anthony Guillory	757.824.2161	Call
Learjet 24D	FL	Anthony Guillory	757.824.2161	Call
King Air (B100/B200)	VA	Anthony Guillory	757.824.2161	Call
Beechcraft Baron (B-55)	VA	Anthony Guillory	757.824.2161	Call
Commerical UAS				
TARZAN TD-1c	OH	Anthony Guillory	757.824.2161	Call
Super Ferret	OH	Anthony Guillory	757.824.2161	Call
Viking 100//300/400	MD	Anthony Guillory	757.824.2161	Call

¹. Pending contract award

Appendix B

Airborne Interdisciplinary Science Instrumentation

The program is supporting flights with NASA-funded sensors, both PI-led sensors or interdisciplinary science instruments. An interdisciplinary science instrument is funded by a particular program manager, or multiple program managers, and is available for use by other investigations. Certain interdisciplinary science instruments are partially supported by the Airborne Science Program, and may be provided for use by approved requesters under the SMD Research and Analysis Program. The following is a table of the NASA Interdisciplinary Science Instruments:

Instrument	Contact	Telephone
Airborne Visible Infrared Imaging Spectrometer (AVIRIS)	Robert Green	818-354-9136
UAS-Autonomous Modular Sensor (UAS-AMS)	Jeff Myers	650-604-3598
MODIS Airborne Simulator (MAS)	Jeff Myers	650-604-3598
MODIS-ASTER Simulator (MASTER)	Jeff Myers	650-604-3598
Cirrus Digital Camera System (DCS)	Jeff Myers	650-604-3598
Precision Attitude/position equipment (POS-AV)	Jeff Myers	650-604-3598

Web links to remote sensing industry organizations that responded to a request for information (RFI) in April 2004 are provided for information only as a service to investigators. NASA does not endorse any commercial product or organization, and other comparable systems may exist within the industry. NASA is not responsible for maintaining or verifying the accuracy of data on non-NASA web sites. Investigators are responsible for contacting vendors to determine if the product meets the requirements of the proposed scientific investigation. Before any actual data collection flights, all vendors are subject to airworthiness/flight safety reviews in accordance with NASA Aviation Safety Policy for Non-NASA Aircraft.

Information on commercially available remote sensing services can be found at:

<http://www.mapps.org>

https://eserv.asprs.org/eseries/scriptcontent/Custom/sustaining_search.cfm?

Additional information is also available at:

Instrument Type	Instrument	Organization	Website
Hyperspectral Imagers	HYMAP	Hyvista	http://www.hymap.com
	PROBE-1	I-Cubed/Earth Search Sciences, Inc.	http://www.earthsearch.com/Earth_Search's_Probe_1_Sensor.htm
	CASI-550	ITRES	http://www.itres.com
	CASI-1500	Hyperspectral	

	SASI-640 TRWIS-III LWHIS	Imagers Northrop Grumman	http://www.northropgrumman.com
LIDAR Systems	Airborne Laser Terrain Mapper SHOALS LIDAR Bathymeter Laser Terrain Mapper (Optec ALTM 2050) LVIS	Optech Sanborn	http://www.optec.on.ca http://www.sanborn.com https://lvis.gsfc.nasa.gov/index.php
RADAR Systems	X-Band IFSAR	INTERMAP	http://intermaptechnologies.com

Appendix C

Other Non-NASA Aircraft Platform Services

This table of platforms is provided for information only as a service to investigators. NASA is not responsible for maintaining or verifying the accuracy of data on non-NASA web sites. The list represents those platforms for which agreements for access by SMD investigators are in place, in work, or have recently been approved by NASA Aviation Management as airworthy and safe to operate. The list should not be considered all-inclusive, but any platform selected by investigators must comply with NASA aviation safety policies, including the Non-NASA Aircraft Safety Policy. Please refer to the NASA Aircraft Operations Management Procedure which is located at: http://nodis.hq.nasa.gov/displayDir.cfm?Internal_ID=N_PR_7900_003B_&page_name=main

Each of these providers schedules their own platforms, and many include a formal request and allocation system, similar to the Airborne Science Flight Request system. Investigators may conclude their own arrangements with a provider of their choice, to be paid from existing grant/contract funds, or may use the NASA Flight Request for assistance in scheduling and pricing from the Airborne Science Office.

Owner/Operator	Platform	Location	Information
Federal (non-NASA)			
NOAA-AOC	Gulfstream IV	AOC, MacDill AFB FL	http://www.aoc.noaa.gov
NOAA-AOC	Citation II-CE550	AOC, MacDill AFB FL	http://www.aoc.noaa.gov
NOAA-AOC	Gulfstream AC-690	AOC, MacDill AFB FL	http://www.aoc.noaa.gov
NOAA-AOC	P-3D	AOC, MacDill AFB FL	http://www.aoc.noaa.gov
NOAA-AOC	Lake Seawolf	AOC, MacDill AFB FL	http://www.aoc.noaa.gov
NOAA-AOC	Aero Commander	AOC, MacDill AFB FL	http://www.aoc.noaa.gov
NOAA-AOC	Twin Otter DHC-6	AOC, MacDill AFB FL	http://www.aoc.noaa.gov
NSF	HIAPER G-5	NCAR/Boulder, CO	http://www.hiaper.ucar.edu/
NSF	C-130	NCAR/Boulder, CO	http://raf.atd.ucar.edu/Aircraft
ONR/NPS/CIRPAS	Altus 1 (UAV)	CIRPAS/Marina, CA	http://web.nps.navy.mil/~cirpas
ONR/NPS/CIRPAS	Pelican	CIRPAS/Marina, CA	http://web.nps.navy.mil/~cirpas
ONR/NPS/CIRPAS	Twin Otter	CIRPAS/Marina, CA	http://web.nps.navy.mil/~cirpas

S		CA	as
ONR/NPS/CIRPAS	Predator (UAV)	CIRPAS/Marina, CA	http://web.nps.navy.mil/~cirpas
USDA Forest Service	Navajo	Carlsbad, CA	Bob Lockwood (909) 315-0181
Industry			
Aero-Metric	Cessna Conquest	Sheboygan, Wisconsin	http://www.aerometric.com
Airpower Inc	Canberra B-6	Lakeport, CA	http://www.airplatforms.com
Dynamic Aviation	King Air	Bridgewater, VA	http://www.dynamicaviation.com
Horizons, Inc.	Cessna Conquest	Montana	http://www.horizonsinc.com
Kenn Borek LTD	Twin Otter	Calgary, Alberta, Canada	http://www.borekair.com
Keystone Aerial Surveys, Inc.	Cessna Conquest	Philadelphia, PA	http://www.keystoneaerialsurveys.com
University			
U Wyoming	King Air	UW, Laramie, WY	http://flights.uwyo.edu

Appendix D NASA Program Managers

This table of NASA Program Managers is provided for information only as a service to investigators.

Name	Last Name	Organization	Code
SCIENCE			
Don	Anderson	NASA - SMD	Modeling Analysis and Prediction
Paula	Bontempi	NASA - SMD	Ocean Biology and Biogeochemistry
Jim	Crawford	NASA - SMD	Tropospheric Chemistry Program – Atmospheric Composition
Craig	Dobson	NASA - SMD	International Polar Year & Radar
William	Emanuel	NASA - SMD	North American Carbon Program
Jared	Entin	NASA - SMD	Hydrology Program
Garik	Gutman	NASA - SMD	Land Use-Land Cover
Rangshayi	Haltore	NASA - SMD	Atmospheric Chemistry Modeling and Analysis Program
Ken	Jucks	NASA - SMD	Upper Atmosphere Research Program - Atmospheric Composition
Ramesh	Kakar	NASA - SMD	Atmsph Dyn and Rmte Snsng Pro
Michael	Kurylo	NASA - SMD	Upper Atmosphere Research Program - Atmospheric Composition
John	LaBrecque	NASA - SMD	Earth Surface Interior
Eric	Lindstrom	NASA - SMD	Oceanography
Hal	Maring	NASA - SMD	Radiation Science Program - Atmospheric Composition
Seelye	Martin	NASA - SMD	Cryosphere & International Polar Year
Andrew	Roberts	NASA - SMD	Airborne Science
Woody	Turner	NASA - SMD	Biological Diversity
Diane	Wickland	NASA - SMD	Terrestrial Ecology
SENSORS			
Amy	Walton	NASA - SMD	Earth Science Technology Office
SATELLITES			
Michael	King	NASA - SMD	EOS
Stephen	Ungar	NASA -GSFC	EO-1 Program
Darrel	Williams	NASA -GSFC	Landsat Program
OTHER			
Stephen	Ambrose	NASA - SMD	Disaster Management

Appendix E

SPECIAL ADDENDUM FOR EOS INVESTIGATORS PLANNING FOR NASA'S FY 2008 SCIENCE MISSION DIRECTORATE AIRBORNE SCIENCE PROGRAM

November 29, 2007

INTRODUCTION

This Addendum contains specific guidance for Earth Observing System (EOS) Investigators in responding to the annual call for flight requests to use the NASA Airborne Science Program observing capabilities in Fiscal Year 2008.

The EOS investigator/science team has responsibility for sensor support and maintenance, and each investigator should plan on paying the cost of aircraft operations. It must be recognized that there are many demands for aircraft support of other NASA satellite missions, the NASA Science Programs, and other users. Hence, it is not likely that all of the proposed aircraft missions can be accomplished, and it is incumbent upon all investigators to plan carefully and combine missions with other investigators whenever possible.

FLIGHT REQUEST

NASA is making the annual Call Letter for the development of the FY 2008 Science Mission Directorate (SMD) Airborne Science Program plan available electronically via the Internet at <http://airbornescience.nasa.gov>. Flight Requests should be submitted at <http://airbornescience.arc.nasa.gov/flight/request.html>.

EOS Team Members and Instrument Investigators should enter the following in the "Funding Agency Sponsor" box of the Flight Request form:

Dr. Michael D. King
EOS Senior Project Scientist, Code 610
NASA/Goddard Space Flight Center
Greenbelt, MD 20771
Phone: 301-614-5636
FAX: 301-614-5620
Internet: Michael.D.King@nasa.gov

Similarly, Interdisciplinary Investigators should enter the following in the box:

(Discipline Manager)
Earth Science Division
Science Mission Directorate
NASA Headquarters
300 E St. SW

Washington, DC 20546

The EOS review of flight requests and setting of priorities will be accomplished by the EOS Senior Project Scientist and the Associate Director for Research, Earth Science Division. To enable the most equitable allocation of available resources, you are asked to send a copy of your flight request to the Team Leader or Principal Investigator of your science team who will be called upon to help prioritize multiple requests from a single investigation team.

In FY 2008, as in previous years, user fees for aircraft hours have been instituted by the SMD Airborne Program (see Appendix A). Flight fees will be withheld automatically from each EOS investigator's budget and transferred directly to the appropriate flight account at Dryden, Wallops, Johnson, Langley, Glenn or appropriate contract for cooperative aircraft. However, the EOS Project Science Office will consider supporting up to 50% of EOS flight fees from a Special Aircraft Support Fund, subject to scientific priorities, programmatic balance, and availability of funds in FY 2008, with the remaining 50% or more coming from the individual investigator budgets. Depending upon the number and scope of the Flight Requests, the Special Aircraft Support Fund will also be used to pay mission peculiar costs (MPCs) in their entirety. The total amount available for both flight fees and MPC will be up to \$300 K in FY 2008.

In addition to flight fees, certain sensor operation and data production costs ("data fees") have been instituted by the Science Mission Directorate. Data fees, if any, are the responsibility of each individual investigator and will not be subsidized by the Special Aircraft Support Fund in FY 2008. In some cases investigators may be able to avoid overhead charges by their home institutions by having the government transfer data fees directly from their accounts to the appropriate data account at a NASA Field Center. An investigator should contact the appropriate Resource Analyst or Contracting Officer to make such arrangements. Data from many sensors, e.g., photography on most aircraft, are available at no cost or only nominal cost for approved flights.

The Airborne Visible and Infrared Imaging Spectrometer (AVIRIS) will be available as a NASA Facility Sensor for scientific research and applications. As before, EOS investigators will be expected to pay for AVIRIS data acquisition and processing costs associated with their investigations. If AVIRIS requirements were approved as part of the original proposal selection, then these costs should already be provided for in your budget or reserved for this purpose at NASA Headquarters. Please contact your Technical Monitor if you have any question about this. If your AVIRIS requirement is new and was not in the originally selected proposal, then resources must be found within your existing budget or secured through an augmentation request to your Technical Monitor or Program Manager at NASA Headquarters. Furthermore, scenes from the AVIRIS archive (i.e., data that have already been acquired) can be obtained at only a nominal cost.

The MODIS Airborne Simulator (MAS) and the MODIS/ASTER simulator (MASTER)

are available for flight on the NASA ER-2 and potentially other aircraft in FY 2008, where the calibration and data processing (level-1b and geolocation) are supported by the Airborne Science & Technology Laboratory at NASA Ames Research Center. Higher level products are possible in some instances but these are supported separately by the MAS PI (Dr. Michael King) and should not be assumed in any flight request.

Additional information on MAS or MASTER can be obtained from:

Use/Cost Policies: Dr. Michael D. King (as above)

Sensor & FY 2008 Schedule: Jeff Myers, Ames Research Center, 650-604-3598

Scheduling and final flight year approvals are the responsibility of:

Andrew C. Roberts
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Earth Science Division
Science Mission Directorate
NASA Headquarters
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