

Characteristics of the Northeast Region; Northeast Regional Ocean Plan; Ocean & Coastal Ecosystem Health; and Coastal Resources Management Council's New Scenario based Permitting for Coastal Structures. The day will end with a presentation on; The Natures Conservancy (TNC) Applications of Living Shorelines and Natural and Nature-Based Features in the Northeast for Coastal Resilience.

On Wednesday morning, August 8, 2018, the Board will reconvene to discuss Coastal Research Supporting Social & Ecological Needs. Presentations will include: Research on Long-Term Natural Geomorphologic Evolution of Barrier Islands & Estuaries in Absence of Humans; Ecological Metrics; Predicting the Transport, Transformation and Fate of Sediment and Particle-Bound Nutrients and Contaminates; Research on Coastal Water Quality Addressing the Sources, Transformation, Transport, and Ecology of Biocolloid; Reducing Risk and Improving Resiliency to the Impacts of Climate Variability; Northeast Sediment Sources and Needs; and Conveyance of Risk from Storms and Social Implications of Impacts. The Wednesday afternoon session continues with the State of Knowledge and Research Direction's panel.

Presentations include: Triggers in Rising Seas and Community Flooding; Research Roadmap on Natural and Nature-Based Features; Ecological Modeling and Prediction Uncertainty; Climate Change and Adaptation Planning for Ports; and Urban Flood Prediction: Current Capabilities and Challenges. The Board will meet in Executive Session to discuss ongoing initiatives and future actions on Thursday morning, August 9, 2018.

Meeting Accessibility: Pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 552b, as amended, and 41 CFR 102-3.140 through 102-3.165, and subject to the availability of space, the meeting is open to the public. Because seating capacity is limited, advance registration is required. For registration requirements please see below.

Oral participation by the public is scheduled for 4:00 p.m. on Wednesday, August 8, 2018. The Marriott Providence Downtown Hotel is fully handicap accessible. For additional information about public access procedures, please contact COL Bryan S. Green, the Board's DFO, at the email address or telephone number listed in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section.

Registration: It is encouraged for individuals who wish to attend the meeting of the Board to register with the DFO by email, the preferred method of contact, no later than July 23, 2018,

using the electronic mail contact information found in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section. The communication should include the registrant's full name, title, affiliation or employer, email address, and daytime phone number. If applicable, include written comments or statements with the registration email.

Written Statements: Pursuant to 41 CFR 102-3.015(j) and 102-3.140 and section 10(a)(3) of the FACA, the public or interested organizations may submit written comments or statements to the Board, in response to the stated agenda of the open meeting or in regard to the Board's mission in general. Written comments or statements should be submitted to COL Bryan S. Green, DFO, via electronic mail, the preferred mode of submission, at the address listed in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section. Each page of the comment or statement must include the author's name, title or affiliation, address, and daytime phone number. The DFO will review all submitted written comments or statements and provide them to members of the Board for their consideration. Written comments or statements being submitted in response to the agenda set forth in this notice must be received by the DFO at least five business days prior to the meeting to be considered by the Board. The DFO will review all timely submitted written comments or statements with the Board Chairperson and ensure the comments are provided to all members of the Board before the meeting. Written comments or statements received after this date may not be provided to the Board until its next meeting.

Verbal Comments: Pursuant to 41 CFR 102-3.140d, the Board is not obligated to allow a member of the public to speak or otherwise address the Board during the meeting. Members of the public will be permitted to make verbal comments during the Board meeting only at the time and in the manner described below. If a member of the public is interested in making a verbal comment at the open meeting, that individual must submit a request, with a brief statement of the subject matter to be addressed by the comment, at least five business days in advance to the Board's DFO, via electronic mail, the preferred mode of submission, at the address listed in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section. The DFO will log each request, in the order received, and in consultation with the Board Chair, determine whether the subject matter of each comment is relevant to the Board's mission and/or the topics to be addressed in this public meeting. A 30-minute period near the end of the

meeting will be available for verbal public comments. Members of the public who have requested to make a verbal comment, and whose comments have been deemed relevant under the process described above, will be allotted no more than five minutes during this period, and will be invited to speak in the order in which their requests were received by the DFO.

Brenda Bowen,

Federal Register Liaison Officer, Department of the Army.

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Army

Expeditionary Technology Search (xTechSearch) Prize Competition Announcement

AGENCY: Department of the Army, DoD.

ACTION: Announcement of competition.

SUMMARY: Under the provisions of applicable laws and regulations, the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Acquisition, Logistics and Technology (ASA(ALT)) is announcing the Army Expeditionary Technology Search—xTechSearch Prize Competition—for the Army to enhance engagements with the entrepreneurial funded community, small businesses, and other non-traditional defense partners. The xTechSearch program will provide an opportunity for businesses to pitch novel technology solutions, either a new application for an existing technology or an entirely new technology concept, to the Army.

DATES:

1. July 11, 2018. Deadline for submission of White Paper with xTechSearch Cover Letter registration form.

2. July 30–August 31, 2018. Semifinalists—Up to 125 participants brief xTechSearch panels.

3. October 8–10, 2018. Up to 25 finalists featured at the Association of the United States Army Annual Meeting and Exposition in Washington, DC.

4. April 2019. Capstone Demonstration with Senior Army Leadership.

ADDRESSES: Proposal submissions should be emailed to usarmy.pentagon.hqda-asa-alt.mbx.xtechsearch@mail.mil no later than 11 July 2018. Detailed information can be found at [Challenge.gov](https://www.challenge.gov/challenge/army-expeditionary-technology-search-xtechsearch/): <https://www.challenge.gov/challenge/army-expeditionary-technology-search-xtechsearch/>

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Jennifer Smith, Deputy Director for Laboratory Management ASA(ALT) Office of the Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army, Research and Technology, (703) 697-0685.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Eligibility: The entities allowed to participate in this competition are small businesses as defined in 13 CFR part 121. To qualify, the participating entity must fall within the size standard by North American Industry Classification System code 541713, 541714, and 541715.

There may be only one submission per business. In addition, each entity:

- Shall provide registration information in the xTechSearch Cover Letter registration form;
- Shall be incorporated in and maintain a primary place of business in the United States;
- Shall perform the work in the United States.

• May not be a Federal entity or Federal employee acting within the scope of their employment.

Registered participants shall be required to agree to assume any and all risks and waive claims against the Federal Government and its related entities, except in the case of willful misconduct, for any injury, death, damage, or loss of property, revenue, or profits, whether direct, indirect, or consequential, arising from their participation in a prize competition, whether the injury, death, damage, or loss arises through negligence or otherwise.

Participants shall be required to obtain liability insurance or demonstrate financial responsibility, in amounts determined by the Army, for claims by—

- Third parties for death, bodily injury, or property damage, or loss resulting from an activity carried out in connection with participation in a prize competition, with the Federal Government named as an additional insured under the registered participant's insurance policy and registered participants agreeing to indemnify the Federal Government against third party claims for damages arising from or related to prize competition activities; and
- Federal Government for damage or loss to Government property resulting from such an activity.

Prizes will be offered under 15 U.S.C. Section 3719 (Prize competitions).

- The total prize pool is \$1.95M.

Evaluation Criteria and Process

Phase I: Concept White Paper Contest

- All interested eligible contestants will submit a xTechSearch Cover Letter

registration form with a White Paper, of no greater than 1000 words, describing the novel technology concept, innovative application concept, and integration with the Army's modernization priorities and outlining their knowledge, skills, capabilities, and approach for this challenge. Contestants' concept papers will be reviewed by a panel of subject matter experts and judges who will select semifinalists who will be awarded a prize of \$1000 and be invited to the Phase II xTechSearch Technology Pitch Forums.

• Concept White Papers will be ranked based on the novelty of the proposed technology to revolutionizing and modernizing the Army. Each white paper must include the following:

- Proposed Army Modernization Priority alignment,
- Proposed concept and current technology maturity,

• Concept White Paper Scoring Criteria:

- Potential for Impact/ Revolutionizing the Army—50%
- Scientific and Engineering Viability—30%
- Team Experience and Abilities—20%

Phase II: xTechSearch Technology Pitches

• Up to one hundred twenty five (125) selected contestant semi-finalists will be invited to complete an in-person Technology pitch to a panel of Army and Department of Defense subject matter experts and judges at one of five selected locations across the United States.

• xTechSearch Technology Pitches will be ranked based on the novelty of the proposed technology to revolutionizing and modernizing the Army. Finalists will be selected based on the propensity of the technology to revolutionize Army missions, solve an Army capability gap, and catalyze with Army assets. Each technology pitch must include a proposal to demonstrate proof-of-concept for the technologies within 6 months.

• Up to twenty-five (25) finalists selected by the judge panel will receive a prize of \$5000 and be invited to display an exhibit and make a formal public oral presentation of their proposal at the 2018 AUSA Annual Meeting Innovators' Corner in Washington, DC.

- Scoring Criteria:
 - Potential for Impact/ Revolutionizing the Army—50%
 - Scientific and Engineering Viability; Proof-of-Concept Demonstration Plan—30%

- Team Experience and Abilities—20%

Phase III: AUSA Innovators' Corner

• Up to twenty-five (25) xTechSearch finalists will be featured at Innovators' Corner at the 2018 AUSA Annual Meeting and Exposition, 8–10 October 2018 in Washington, DC.

• Finalists will provide a display and a presentation on their submission in an Army-sponsored exhibit space and engage with Department of Defense (DoD) customers, industry partners, and academia.

• Up to twelve (12) Phase III prize winners will be announced, four (4) each day. Phase III prize winners will be awarded prizes of \$125,000 and 6 months to demonstrate proof-of-concept for their xTechSearch technology, to be demonstrated at an xTechSearch Finale Demonstration.

Phase IV: xTechSearch Finale Demonstration—April 2019

• Each Phase III winner will demonstrate proof-of-concept for their technology solution to senior DoD, Government, and industry leadership. The winner of the Finale Demonstration will be awarded a prize of \$200,000.

Authority: 15 U.S.C. Section 3719; Pub. L. 96-480, Section 24, as added Pub. L. 111-358, title I, Section 105a, Jan. 4, 2011 Stat. 3989

Brenda S. Bowen,

Army Federal Register Liaison Officer.

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Office of the Secretary

[Docket ID DOD-2018-HA-0038]

Proposed Collection; Comment Request

AGENCY: Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Agency, DoD.

ACTION: Information collection notice.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the *Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995*, the Defense Health Agency announces a proposed public information collection and seeks public comment on the provisions thereof. Comments are invited on: Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed information collection; ways