NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE: NOTICE OF INTENT TO AWARD

This announcement is not a request for applications.
This announcement is to provide public notice of the National Park Service's intention to award financial assistance for the following project activities without competition.

ABSTRACT	
Funding Announcement Number	NOIP14AC00104
Project Title	Minnesota Department of Natural Resources Fire Agreement
Recipient	Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
Anticipated Federal Funding	$40,000.00
Non-federal Cost Share	$194,372.00
Anticipated Period of Performance	10/1/2013 through 9/30/2018
Award Instrument	Cooperative Agreement
Statutory Authority	Title IV, Public Law 106-297 and , 54 U.S.C. § 101701 - Cost Share Arrangements with Partners
CFDA # and Title	15.948 – National Fire Plan – Wildland Urban Interface Community Fire Assistance
Single Source Justification Criteria	Unique Qualification
Point of Contact	Katherine Borschel, katherine_borschel@nps.gov, 402-661-1958

BACKGROUND AND OBJECTIVES

This cooperative agreement is entered into by and between the U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service (NPS), and the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources. The objective of this agreement is to pay for the NPS share of expenses that are incurred operating the NE Interagency Cache and the Minnesota Interagency Fire Center (MIFC) and to pay the NPS share of the MNICS Task Force and Boar of Directors. The overall objective is to continue a collaborative effort to fight fires.

STATEMENT OF WORK

Operating costs for the cache will be split between the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Forest Service and the State of Minnesota, Department of Natural Resources, Division of Forestry. Operating costs for MIFC will be shared among the participating members of the Minnesota Incident Command System (MNICS). Cooperative Agreement P14AC00104 original agreement was for $7,467.00 and a modification to add additional funding is the amount of $7,987.00 is required to fund the current project activities.

RECIPIENT AGREES TO:

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources agree to: provide electricity, water and sewer, heat, cable, basic phone service, trash removal, janitorial building maintenance, snow removal, lawn care, and miscellaneous supplies associated with MIFC and building projects submitted and approved by the MNICS Task Force all to continue the collaborative effort to fight fires as described in the Annual Operating Plan.

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE AGREES TO:

NPS is substantially involved with this agreement and agreed to: participate and collaborate jointly with the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources to carry out the statement of work as described in the Annual Operating Plan; to provide a NPS technical representative to assist with specifics of the projects as needed. Direct or redirect the work because of interrelationships with other projects in accordance with as described in the Annual Operating Plan; oversee the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources with respect to the statement of work, organizational structure, staffing, mode of operations and other management processes, combines with close monitoring or operational involvement during performance under this agreement.

SINGLE-SOURCE JUSTIFICATION

The National Response Framework (NRF) applies to all Federal departments and agencies that may be requested to provide assistance or conduct operations during Presidential/Stafford Act declared disasters. These disasters also require a coordinated response by an appropriate combination of State and Tribal entities, along with the Agencies. This agreement documents the commitment of the Parties to provide cooperation, resources, and support to the Secretary of Homeland Security in the implementation of the NRF, as appropriate and consistent with their own authorities and responsibilities. Only wildland fires and non-wildland emergencies or disasters that are Presidentially-declared emergencies and disasters are covered under this Agreement.

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE SINGLE SOURCE POLICY REQUIREMENTS
Department of the Interior Policy (505 DM 2) and National Park Service Policy FAP&P 1443-2015-06 requires a written justification which explains why competition is not practicable for each single-source award. The justification must address one or more of the following criteria as well as discussion of the program legislative history, unique capabilities of the proposed recipient, and cost-sharing contribution offered by the proposed recipient, as applicable.
In order for an assistance award to be made without competition, the award must satisfy one or more of the following criteria: (1) Unsolicited Proposal – The proposed award is the result of an unsolicited assistance application which represents a unique or innovative idea, method, or approach which is not the subject of a current or planned contract or assistance award, but which is deemed advantageous to the program objectives; (2) Continuation – The activity to be funded is necessary to the satisfactory completion of, or is a continuation of, an activity presently being funded, for which competition would have a significant adverse effect on the continuity or completion of the activity. A single source on the basis of continuation must demonstrate that competition would result in a substantial duplicate cost to the government that cannot be recovered through competition.; (3) Legislative intent – The language in the applicable authorizing legislation or legislative history clearly indicates Congress' intent to restrict the award to a particular recipient of purpose; **(4) <u>Unique Qualifications – The applicant is uniquely qualified to perform the activity based upon a variety of demonstrable factors such as location, property ownership, voluntary support capacity, cost-sharing ability if applicable, technical expertise, or other such unique qualifications;</u>**

(5) Emergencies – Program/award where there is insufficient time available (due to a compelling and unusual urgency, or substantial danger to health or safety) for adequate competitive procedures to be followed.