



NOTICE OF INTENT TO AWARD

This Funding Announcement is not a request for applications. This announcement is to provide public notice of the U.S. Geological Survey's intention to fund the following project activities without full and open competition.

ABSTRACT	
Funding Announcement	USGS-19-FA-0407
Project Title	Mapping and estimation of the areas of deforestation, forest degradation and reforestation in the Peruvian Amazon
Recipient	Boston University
Anticipated Federal Amount	\$49,554
Cost Share	N/A
Total Anticipated Award Amount	\$49,554
New Award or Continuation?	New award
Anticipated Period of Performance	October 1, 2019 through September 30, 2020
Award Instrument	Cooperative Agreement
CFDA # and Title	15.808 – Research and Data Collection
USGS Point of Contact	Sylvia Wilson (snwilson@usgs.gov)

OVERVIEW

Boston University will work collaboratively with USGS and colleagues at the Amazon Research Center in Iquitos, Peru (ARCI) on enhancing mapping deforestation and forest degradation with the goal to evaluate whether it is possible to map and estimate deforestation and forest degradation for different forest types. The work will build off ongoing efforts at Boston University to estimate deforestation and degradation for the entire Amazon Basin using methods described in Bullock et al., 2019. Integration of the local knowledge, data, and expertise of ARCI will lead to improved maps, definitive estimates for the Peruvian Amazon, and possibly the estimation of degradation amounts and magnitudes as a function of forest type.

RECIPIENT INVOLVEMENT

Boston University will:

- Test the forest degradation mapping methodology;
- Develop degradation maps for the Peruvian Amazon;
- Develop the land change indicators for forest degradation;
- Quantify forest degradation by type of forest and associated disturbance; and
- Summarize successful improvement in forest type mapping in a scientific publication.

USGS INVOLVEMENT

Substantial involvement on the part USGS is anticipated for the successful completion of the objectives to be funded by this award. In particular, USGS will be responsible for the following:

- Bring together multiple relevant partners in the Peruvian Amazon;
- Provide input for revision of the classification scheme;
- Assist with revision of the base map and deforestation and degradation maps;
- Provide the link between the IAPP and Boston University for organized transfer of the methodology and results;
- Together with the IIAP, contribute to the collection of training and reference data for each of the forest types to be considered;
- Assist with preliminary visual analysis of results; and
- Contribute to the scientific publication.

SINGLE-SOURCE JUSTIFICATION

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR SINGLE SOURCE POLICY REQUIREMENTS
Department of the Interior Policy (505 DM 2) 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, and for which competition would have a significant adverse effect on the continuity or completion of the activity;
- (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) 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;
- (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.
- (6) Cooperative Agreements - USGS Unique Authority cited at 43 U.S.C. 36d (Federal, State, and academic partners) or DOI Authority cited at 43 U.S.C. 1457b (not-for-profit organizations).

USGS did not solicit full and open competition for this award based the following criteria:

- (4) Unique Qualifications
- (6) Cooperative Agreements - USGS Unique Authority cited at 43 U.S.C. 36d

Single Source Justification Description:

The applicant is uniquely qualified to perform the activity based upon a variety of demonstrable factors. This work includes the development of degradation maps by forest types, the transfer of the results and methodology, and improvement of local estimates of forest degradation. Boston University’s responsibility is to generate the methodology and assist the partners to implement their processing method in house. The maps will be developed by Boston University, using a methodology created within their remote-sensed and statistical team; therefore, they have the expertise to transfer the capacity to the partners. This cannot be done without the suite of tools developed by Boston University.

STATUTORY AUTHORITY

USGS Unique Authority cited at 43 U.S.C. 36d (Federal, State and academic partners).

§ 36d. Cooperative agreements: Notwithstanding the provisions of the Federal Grant and Cooperative Agreement Act of 1977 (31 U.S.C. 6301–6308), the United States Geological Survey is authorized to continue existing, and on and after November 10, 2003, to enter into new cooperative agreements directed towards a particular cooperator, in support of joint research and data collection activities with Federal, State, and academic partners funded by appropriations herein, including those that provide for space in cooperator facilities.