

**U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Determination for Issuing a Single Source Financial Assistance Award**

Instructions: In accordance with Service policy 516 FW 6, *Issuing Discretionary Grant and Cooperative Agreement Awards without Competition*, complete this form to document the justification for issuing a single source grant or cooperative agreement award. This form must be signed by both a program representative and the employee with signature authority for the award to be issued (see 516 FW 3, *Signature Authority for Grant and Cooperative Agreement Awards*). The completed and signed form must be maintained in the official award file.

Recipient Name: Zoological Society of San Diego
Project Title: Captive propagation of Pacific pocket mouse
Program Contact: William Miller

Select all criteria that apply (from 505 DM 2):

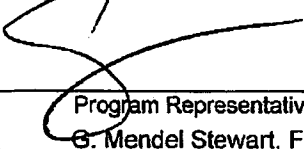
☐	(1) Unsolicited Proposal: The proposed award is the result of an unsolicited application that represents a unique or innovative idea, method, or approach that is not the subject of a current or planned award, but is found to be advantageous to program objectives.
☐	(2) Continuation: The activity to be funded is necessary for the satisfactory completion of, or is a continuation of, an activity we are funding and holding a competition would have a significant adverse effect on continuing or completing the activity.
☐	(3) Legislative Intent: The language in the applicable authorizing legislation or legislative history clearly indicates the intent of Congress to restrict the award to a particular recipient or purpose.
☒	(4) Unique Qualifications: The applicant is uniquely qualified to perform the activity based on 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: Because of a compelling and unusual urgency, or substantial danger to health or safety, there is not enough time to follow adequate competitive procedures.

Explain below why competition for this award is not practical. As applicable, summarize the program legislative history, unique capabilities of the proposed recipient, and any cost-sharing contribution offered by the proposed recipient. Be brief and specific:

This project will fund captive propagation of the endangered Pacific pocket mouse. The Zoological Society of San Diego already has an existing captive population at their Safari Animal Park, and therefore are uniquely qualified to conduct further research on the Pacific pocket mouse. This project will expand on the existing work accomplished by The Zoo by introducing new individuals to the captive colony to maintain genetic diversity, as the breeding success of the current colony has varied. The Zoological Society of San Diego is one of only a few organizations who work with this species, therefore, funding this ongoing project would greatly benefit this species. This project is contingent upon availability of funds.

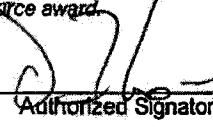
I have determined that this project meets the requirements for a single source award and recommend that it be awarded to the recipient named above.

JUN 09 2015



G. Mendel Stewart, Field Supervisor
Printed Name of Program Representative

I, as the Service employee with signature authority for this award under 516 FW 3, have reviewed this program recommendation and find that it meets the requirements for a single source award.



Darrin Thome, Deputy ARD, ES, Region 8
Printed Name of Signator

Proposal for USFWS Region 8 End of Year Funding

Project Name: Captive Propagation of the Pacific Pocket Mouse (*Perognathus longimembris pacificus*, "PPM"), Phase 3

Funding Amount: ~~\$92,000~~ ^{\$}185,973

Project Contact: Debra M. Shier, Ph.D., Brown Endowed Associate Director, San Diego Zoo Institute for Conservation Research
Telephone: (310) 569-2486
Email: dshier@sandiegozoo.org

USFWS Contact: William B. Miller
Carlsbad Fish and Wildlife Office
Telephone: (760) 431-9440 extension 206
Email: William_B_Miller@fws.gov

Project Description:

The Recovery Plan for PPM (USFWS 1998) identifies two major strategies for recovering PPM including; 1) stabilizing known and protecting unknown populations; and, 2) establishing additional populations through the translocation of wild-caught and/or release of captive-bred individuals. Despite efforts to safeguard the known and discover unknown populations, consensus was reached in 2011 that PPM population parameters have reached a critical point that justifies establishment of a captive breeding program to safeguard the survival and recovery of the species. Using traditional section 6 grant funds, the captive breeding program was initiated by the San Diego Zoological Society, Institute for Conservation Research in June of 2012, with an objective of using captive breeding techniques to increase numbers of PPM, prepare captive born animals for reintroduction to the wild, and reintroduce them to sites within their historic range. Tasks that have been completed during phases 1 and 2 of the program include establishing a captive breeding facility, performing population surveys, bringing animals into captivity, genotyping collected individuals, conducting behavioral and endocrinology studies, tracking reproductive readiness, and breeding founders and the offspring of founder animals. Based on the rate of population growth within the breeding facility and the number of animals that have been targeted for release during population reintroductions, the program is projected to perform its first reintroduction in the spring or early summer of 2016.

While the captive breeding program is not intended to serve as a long-term assurance population for the survival of PPM, it was created with a prescribed goal of establishing three additional PPM populations from captive born individuals before the breeding program is discontinued. Because funding for the captive breeding program will run out in June of 2016, additional

funding is needed to support continued care and breeding of the captive population and establishment of additional PPM populations in the wild. End of year funding is specifically sought to help support an anticipated six month gap (July of 2016 through December of 2016) in funding for the captive breeding program. Following use of end of year funds, the captive breeding program will continue to pursue recovery goals with support from the section 6 grant program and our partners. Activities that are proposed for Phase 3 include: continued husbandry of the captive population; continued behavioral, genetic and endocrine research of the captive colony; preparation of captive born PPM for behavioral competency in the wild; monitoring of any released animals; and, contingent upon production of enough animals, performing animal releases within existing or selected reintroduction sites. Fulfillment of these tasks is essential for continuation of the PPM captive breeding program and achievement of PPM Recovery Plan objectives.

Contractor Justification: The San Diego Zoo Institute for Conservation Research (ICR) is proposed to carry out Phase 3 of Captive Propagation of the Pacific Pocket Mouse (*Perognathus longimembris pacificus*, "PPM"). This proposal represents the continuation of an established captive breeding program that has been implemented by ICR since June of 2012. Not only is contracting with ICR important for continuity of an existing captive breeding program, but ICR is uniquely qualified to perform this work because they have a custom designed captive breeding facility for PPM, and staff experienced at implementing a successful breeding protocol that they developed.