

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 a modification to a previously single source justified master cooperative agreement.

ABSTRACT	
Funding Announcement Number	NPS-17-NERO-0115
Project Title	Implement White Clay Creek Wild and Scenic River Watershed Management Plan
Recipient	White Clay Watershed Association
Anticipated Federal Funding	\$99,000
Non-federal Cost Share	No
Anticipated Period of Performance	Through September 30, 2018
Award Instrument	Cooperative Agreement
Statutory Authority	54 USC 101702(a); PL 106-357 Sec 5a-c, 6b; PL 90-452 Sec 11(b)(1)
CFDA # and Title	15.962 National Wild and Scenic Rivers System
Single Source Justification Criteria	Continuation
Point of Contact	Patrick Reidy, Grants Management Specialist 215-597-5949

BACKGROUND AND OBJECTIVES

The White Clay Creek in Chester County, PA and New Castle County, DE was designated into the National Wild & Scenic River System by P.L. 106-357, signed October 24, 2000. The White Clay Creek is recognized as nationally significant for its outstanding recreational, natural, and cultural resources, and the United States has entered into a partnership with states, municipalities, and others to conserve and restore the Creek through the Wild & Scenic River Program.

The NPS is responsible for managing the 190-mile river corridor in partnership with state and local entities and is committed to assisting in enhancing interpretation of, and access to, The White Clay Creek resources for the purposes of advancing and supporting the Creek's conservation.

As part of the study process prior to the Creek's designation into the W&SR system, the NPS prepared a watershed management plan for the study area entitled, "The White Clay Creek and Its Tributaries Watershed Management Plan" dated May 1998 and amended in 2001. The plan establishes goals and actions to ensure the long-term protection of the outstanding values of, and compatible management of land and water resources associated with the watershed. The NPS entered into partnerships with signatories of the Watershed Management Plan through a Memorandum of Understanding. This agreement continues the work begun under the Cooperative Agreement H457080510.

The White Clay Watershed Association (WCWA) assisted the NPS in the preparation of the Watershed Management Plan and is the coordinator for the White Clay Creek Watershed Steering Committee responsible for assisting NPS in plan implementation.

STATEMENT OF WORK

RECIPIENT AGREES TO:

1. Plan and implement the enumerated goals in The White Clay Creek Watershed Management Plan with county, state, federal agencies, watershed municipalities, and non-government organizations with shared watershed conservation interests.
2. Develop and produce interpretive exhibits, publications, and other media and programs that interpret the resources of The White Clay Creek and watershed, with priority given to updating the website and maintaining an active social media presence.
3. Promote technical support to NPS for planning education, outreach, and research activities as they relate to The White Clay Creek watershed.
4. Support the needs and goals of The White Clay Creek Steering Committee.
5. Work with the Water Resources Agency, Natural Lands Trust, and the Brandywine Conservancy to provide GIS analysis, technical assistance, and recommendations to the NPS, watershed counties and municipalities, and other non-governmental organizations, and the State of Delaware and Commonwealth of PA.
7. Promote the long term protection of the White Clay Creek watershed and its outstandingly remarkable resources.
8. Participate in municipal planning and zoning meetings and provide technical assistance in the review and revision of municipal plans to ensure consistency with the White Clay Creek Watershed Management Plan and address issues affecting The White Clay Creek and its resources.

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE AGREES TO:

1. Provide financial, logistical and technical support in accordance with this agreement, and undertake projects and address issues to promote the long-term protection objectives for the watershed.
2. Make staff available for meetings to assist in planning, design, and implementation of conservation projects relating to this agreement, and assist in conducting public meetings, workshops, and reviews of municipal zoning, county and state land use management practices, and other local river protection plans and practices.
3. Participate in public outreach education events with other White Clay Creek Watershed Steering Committee members to raise awareness of and promote the National W&SR System and The White Clay Creek resources, and increase the understanding of stewardship responsibilities under the W&SR Act.
4. Coordinate with WCWA and the WCCWSC to develop long-term protection strategies and initiatives.
5. Work with WCWA and the WCCWSC to develop an annual budget and workplan, and review progress of conservation, education, and recreation projects provided under this agreement in accordance with approved schedules and the goals of the Watershed Management Plan.

SINGLE-SOURCE JUSTIFICATION

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) 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.

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

- (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.

This is a Continuation of Cooperative Agreement P13AC01266.