

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 task agreement under a previously competed or single source justified master cooperative agreement.

ABSTRACT	
Funding Announcement Number	P17AS00317
Project Title	Development of Online Launch Calendar, Phase III
Recipient	Maggie Vanderberg, Northern Arizona University
Anticipated Federal Funding	\$27,608
Anticipated Period of Performance	6/15/2017-11/1/2018
Award Instrument	Task Agreement
Statutory Authority	54 U.S.C. §100703, Cooperative Study Units
CFDA # and Title	15.945 CESU
Point of Contact	Katie Gaertner Katie_gaertner@nps.gov

BACKGROUND AND OBJECTIVES

Cooperative Agreement Number P14AC00921 was entered into by and between the Department of the Interior, National Park Service, (NPS), and Northern Arizona University (NAU) (hereafter referred to as 'Recipient') for the purpose of providing research, technical assistance, and/or education, as described below. Unless otherwise specified herein, the terms and conditions as stated in the Cooperative Agreement will apply to this Task Agreement.

STATEMENT OF WORK

Commercial River trips launch at Lees Ferry, may exchange some or all passengers at Phantom Ranch, may exchange some or all passengers again at Whitmore Wash, and must exit the river at either Diamond Creek or Pearce Ferry. End users (GCROA staff) interact with the OLC through five linked webpage calendars, each showing one of these five passenger launch/exchange locations. The OLC also provides reports and information about individual Concessioners' activities as well as aggregate river usage statistic across all commercial users.

RECIPIENT AGREES TO:

1. Provide overall coordination and management of the project focused on providing multiple undergraduate students with full-stack web development experience using state-of-art technologies such as Ruby-on-Rails, Javascript, PostgreSQL, and Amazon Web Services.
2. Provide all project management, programmer personnel, and training required to prepare student programmers to develop a new version of the OLC that will help the NPS better manage our natural resource, the CO river in the Grand Canyon.

3. Provide space and facilities for student experiences and execution of the project, i.e., workspace for programmer(s) and meeting space.
4. Provide bi-annual reporting to the NPS on project progress and status with details about students' accomplishments and experiences.
5. Develop and keep current a complete set of technical specifications documents for the OLC. This will help students understand real-world expectations relating to appropriate documentation for code and other software artifacts, as well as the usefulness of such documentation (especially as new students join the project and others graduate).
6. Conduct ongoing maintenance of the program as needed to allow for continuous functionality at current standards, which will provide students with real-world experience supporting an existing system while simultaneously developing a new version (which is very common in software development). Students also have the benefit of learning about the current management practices through existing system and learning from client feedback, allowing them to make suggestions for improvements.
7. Continue OLC software development, as described in the Statement of Work above. Depending on if funds are available, further programming work will be authorized to develop this increased functionality as part of Phase III through a subsequent Modification. For example, reports focused on understanding and analyzing the usage of and impact on the natural resources in the canyon could be developed, such as:
 - a. Trip logs that allow for input of camps/dates, and that output individual or aggregate reports (for example, how many times in one summer was a particular camp used).
 - b. Aggregate reports regarding such things as watercraft, trip options, and levels of use.
 - c. Calendars that combine internal data about commercial river trips combined with external data regarding noncommercial trips for common locations including Lees Ferry, Phantom Ranch, Diamond Creek, and Lake Mead.
8. Ensure regular backups of the database and OLC project repository. NAU will ensure security of both OLC data and code. The cloud-based virtual server architecture provided and maintained by Amazon Web Services (AWS) hosting provides for incremental daily backups, as well as avoiding backups stored on a single physical machine; this provides excellent short and long-term data security. As a further measure, we will arrange for export, compression, encryption (AES256 or better) of weekly backups of both the OLC database and code from AWS, and to be stored on an appropriate storage device at NAU. Copies of the website source code and encrypted copies of the OLC database will be provided in electronic format on portable media to the NPS a minimum of once per year. (Password to decrypt must also be provided.) NAU will keep weekly backups of the OLC database and website source code for a minimum for the time period of the current project.
9. Ensure website security. NAU will ensure the OLC website and all hosted data are kept secure and patched, with log-in requirements for all users, managed by a limited number of administrators to be designated by the NPS.

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE AGREES TO:

1. Consult with end users (e.g. GRCA staff, river outfitters) to determine ongoing development needs.
2. Consult with NAU project representatives and programmers, listen to their recommendations, and decide the overall prioritization, deadlines, and milestones for the continued development and programming work.
3. Collaboratively review changes as software development takes place, providing direction as necessary to ensure cohesive integration with other website development work, and providing answers to NAU queries regarding system requirements and prototype performance as well as systems testing.
4. Barring negotiation and installation of a new/extended project agreement before that time, the NPS will assume full responsibility for all maintenance and further improvements to software after the end of the project period.