U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Deepwater Horizon Natural Resources Damage Assessment and Restoration Field Office

Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) Number: 15.658

Notice of Funding Opportunity

This announcement is not a request for applications. This announcement is a Notice of Intent to award to the University of Western Florida for the following activities. No other applications will be accepted.

I. Description of Funding Opportunity

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Deepwater Horizon Natural Resources Damage Assessment and Restoration (NRDAR) Field Office seeks to restore uncommon species of plants to the coastal dunes of Baldwin County, Alabama. Plant species of particular focus include *Asclepias humistrata and Physalis angustifolia*. Demonstrated experience collecting seed for these species is required. Demonstrated experience in propagating these species is required. The recipient must also be experienced in successfully planting rare native dune species such as those listed above. The recipient will also work with the NRDAR Field Office to select sites to plant the seedlings of the propagated plants. The recipient will be responsible for planting the species listed above and ensuring 50% survival to 180 days. The results of the propagation effort will be applied by the recipient to the development of a detailed guide for future growers of these rare plants. The recipient must have published literature in peer reviewed journal describing propagation techniques of rare dune plants.

II. Award Information

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) seeks to issue a single source award to one recipient for the duration of this project. The Service anticipates the duration of this project to run between 16 and 30 months, depending significantly on weather conditions, and the fortune experienced during this unprecedented endeavor. Based on market research, the Service estimates the amount of this award may reach $98,000. Due to the uncommon experience required for this project, the Service intends to rely upon a member of the Gulf Coast Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit (CESU) for its completion. The Service will be substantially involved in projects under this funding opportunity. In particular, the Service will be responsible for the following:

- Obtaining all necessary permits, including seed collection authority
- Coordinating planting locations and calendar dates with land managers
- Reviewing drafts of a propagation guide before final approval
- Participating in seed collection as needed

Future plantings may be added to this award, but are not contemplated at this time.

III. Basic Eligibility Requirements

Eligible Applicants:

U.S. non-profit, non-governmental organizations with 501c3 Internal Revenue Status (IRS) must provide a copy of their Section 501c3 status determination letter received from the IRS.

Federal law mandates that all entities applying for Federal financial assistance must have a valid Dun & Bradstreet Data Universal Number System (DUNS) number and have a current registration in the System for Award Management (SAM). See Title 2 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), Part 25 for more information. Exemptions: The SAM registration requirement does not apply to individuals submitting an application on their own behalf and not on behalf of a company or other for-profit entity, state, local or Tribal government, academia or other type of organization.

A. DUNS Registration

Request a DUNS number online at http://fedgov.dnb.com/webform. U.S.-based entities may also request a DUNS number by telephone by calling the Dun & Bradstreet Government Customer Response Center, Monday – Friday, 7 AM to 8 PM CST at the following numbers:

U.S. and U.S Virgin Islands: 1-866-705-5711
Alaska and Puerto Rico: 1-800-234-3867 (Select Option 2, then Option 1)
For Hearing Impaired Customers Only call: 1-877-807-1679 (TTY Line)

Once assigned a DUNS number, entities are responsible for maintaining up-to-date information with Dun & Bradstreet.

B. Entity Registration in SAM

Register in SAM online at http://www.sam.gov/. Once registered in SAM, entities must renew and revalidate their SAM registration at least every 12 months from the date previously registered. Entities are strongly urged to revalidate their registration as often as needed to ensure that their information is up to date and in synch with changes that may have been made to DUNS and IRS information. Foreign entities who wish to be paid directly to a United States bank account must enter and maintain valid and current banking information in SAM.

C. Excluded Entities

Applicant entities or their key project personnel identified in the SAM.gov Exclusions database as ineligible, prohibited/restricted or excluded from receiving Federal contracts, certain subcontracts, and certain Federal assistance and benefits will not be considered for Federal funding, as applicable to the funding being requested under this Federal program.

D. Cost Sharing or Matching:

No specified cost sharing or matching will be required for this funding opportunity

IV. Application Requirements

To be considered for funding under this funding opportunity, an application must contain:

A. A completed, signed and dated Application for Federal Assistance form. Do not include other Federal sources of funding, requested or approved, in the total entered in the "Federal" funding box on the Application for Federal Assistance form. Enter only the amount being requested under this program in the "Federal" funding box. Include any other Federal sources of funding in the total funding entered in the "Other" box.

B. Project Summary

Title: *Deepwater Horizon NRDA Alabama Dunes Plant Diversity Project*. This project is located within the coastal dunes of Baldwin County, Alabama including Bon Secour National Wildlife Refuge, Gulf State Park, and private lands. The Deepwater Horizon Trustees initiated a dune restoration project in the area in 2013 and have been monitoring plant survival since. The Trustees would like to supplement the existing project area with native species of plants that are not recruiting on their own.

C. Project Narrative

1. **Statement of Need:** This project has been authorized by the Deepwater Horizon NRDAR Trustee Council. During the Deepwater Horizon event, dunes were significantly harmed by the response activities. This project will contribute to the effort to offset those injuries. Dunes that occur in the project area have been restored by the Trustees to some degree already. However, monitoring results of that restoration effort reveal an absence of less common, but highly desired species that create diversity necessary for proper ecological function of the dunes. The project will improve the ecological services dunes provide to animals that live there. The plant species that have been carefully selected for this project are native components currently under-represented in the project area and are important for many pollinators, butterflies and beach mice.

2. **Project Goals and Objectives:** There are two goals of the project. The first is to supplement the previous dune restoration effort in this same project area with species that are not establishing a presence on their own. As these species are uncommon, and there is little economic value in them, methods to propagate these species in greenhouses are poorly understood. Therefore, the second goal of the project is to develop and communicate successful greenhouse techniques for these plants. The objective of the first goal is to achieve 50% survival of plants in the wild to 180 days. The objectives of the second goal are to first develop propagation methods that yield viable seedlings, and second to document these methods in a manual or handbook that can be shared with other growers.

3. **Project Activities, Methods and Timetable:** The project will commence immediately upon funding availability. *Asclepias* and *Physalis* seeds/cuttings will be collected during summer of 2016 from Gulf State Park, Bon Secour NWR, or both. Seeds will be grown out at the greenhouses of the recipient. Seedlings of both species will be planted through stratified periods during fall of 2016 to winter of 2017. The recipient will be responsible for planting seedlings. The NRDA field office will coordinate seed collection permits and planting locations with local land managers as appropriate. The project was reviewed and approved as part of the Deepwater Horizon NRDAR Phase I Early

Restoration Plan. This project has undergone all environmental compliance necessities, including National Environmental Policy Act, Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act.

4. **Stakeholder Coordination/Involvement:** Gulf State Park, Bon Secour NWR, local municipalities and local private landowners have been participating in the NRDA Phase I Dune Restoration project for several years. This supplemental planting effort is a continuation of that existing project.

5. **Project Monitoring and Evaluation:** Monitoring the planting success is a foundational to the purpose of the project. To increase the understanding of how to propagate these rare but important plants, the project must generate data related to survival rates in the greenhouse and in the natural environment. The objective of 50% survival to 180 days will be monitored, document, and reported by the recipient. Survival rates will be determined through systematically subsampling the project area in quadrats typical of dune vegetation monitoring. The second objective will be a deliverable product such as a grower's manual that outlines specific steps for propagation of *Ascleipias humistrata* and *Physialis angustifolia*. While publications in peer reviewed journals may also result from this project, the recipient will pursue that independently.

6. **Description of Entities Undertaking the Project**:

The recipient is the University of Florida's West Florida Research and Education Center. The eligibility for funding is based wholly on the qualifications of two specific personnel, identified and described below:

Dr. Mack Thetford and Dr. Debbie Miller work collaboratively on research projects that address barrier island ecology and restoration as well as the conservation of plant and animal species found in this dynamic system. They have recently evaluated the success of using wheat straw mulch as surrogate wrack to enhance sea oat growth and dune building. They are also evaluating the use of multiple species plantings for dune building and wildlife conservation.

Dr. Deborah (Debbie) L. Miller
Professor, Wildlife Ecology and Conservation, and NRC Undergraduate Program Coordinator, Milton Campus
Dr. Miller conducts research focused on community and landscape ecology and restoration. Topics include plant/animal interactions and disturbance ecology within barrier island, longleaf pine and wetland ecosystem. Many of Dr. Miller's projects involve collaborative efforts with researchers from Environmental Horticulture, Forest Resources and Conservation and Wildlife Ecology and Conservation. Example projects include Barrier Island Dune Restoration, Barrier Island Dynamics, Beach Mouse Landscape Use, Beach Mouse use of Restored Dunes, Fire effects on Longleaf Pine Matrix Grasses, Invasive Species Management, Herbivore effects on Wetland Community Dynamics.

Dr. Mack Thetford
Associate Professor, Landscape Ornamentals and Plant Propagation
Dr. Thetford co-teaches two state-wide web-based courses on plant propagation and Annual and Perennial Gardening and oversees the UF/IFAS Milton Gardens on the campus of Pensacola State College. Dr. Thetford's teaching program includes courses in Plant Propagation, Plant Identification, Annual and Perennial Gardening, Dendrology and Plant Communities of the Florida Panhandle. His personal research interests center around two major areas. The first area is development of propagation and production protocols with emphasis on native plants – particularly uncommon coastal species useful for dune restoration efforts. The second area of interest is evaluation of ornamental species for low input landscapes. He is also presently working with researchers to learn more about a rare coastal bee species associated with the Florida native wildflower *Balduina angustifolia* (Honeycomb Flower) and collaborating on research to learn more about the reproductive biology and management of the invasive Japanese Climbing Fern.

7. **Sustainability:** The propagation manual to be authored by the recipients will be the property of USFWS. While all credit to the authorship will be noted, the USFWS intends to disseminate the propagation manual widely and freely. Funds to print hard copies of the manual are not within the scope of this project. The recipients may use data generated by this project for any purpose including publication, which is greatly encouraged (but not funded) by the NRDA field office.

8. **Literature Cited**

   N/A

9. **Map of Project Area:**

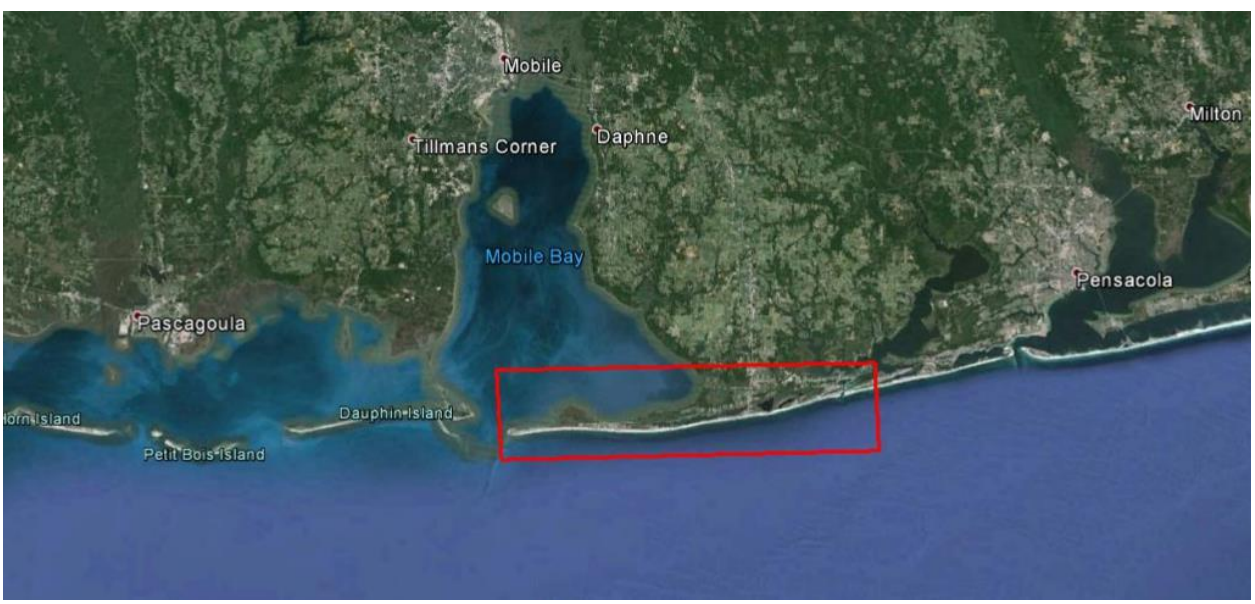
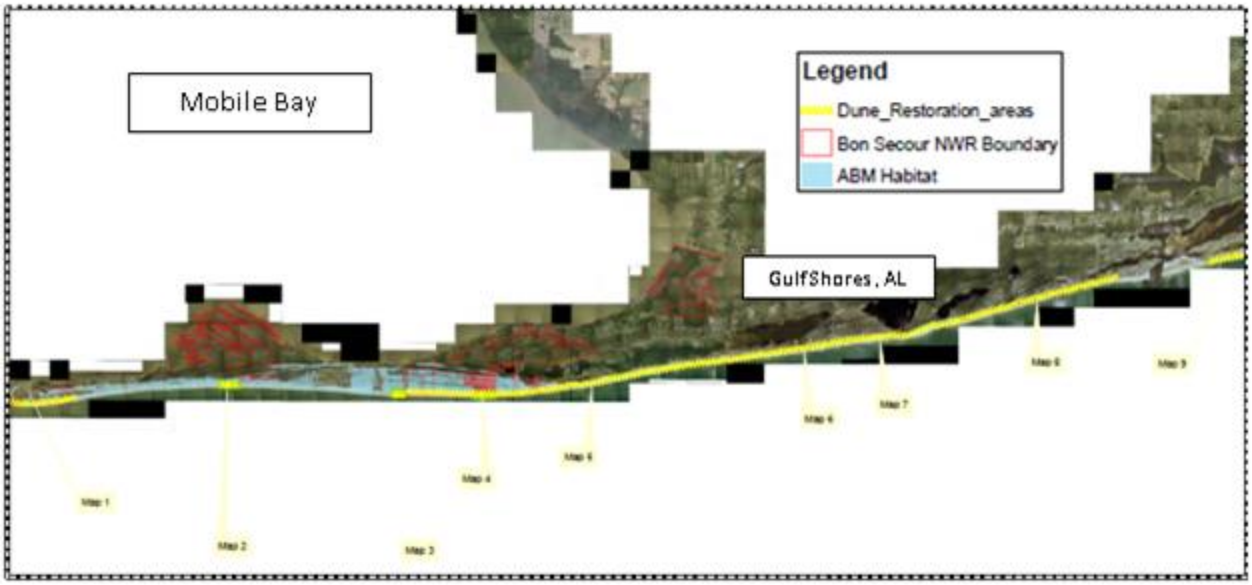


Figure 1. Overview of the project area (red rectangle) within the context of the northern Gulf of Mexico.



Alabama Dune Restoration Cooperative Project planting/fencing areas.

Figure 2. The project area.

D. Budget Form

Complete the Budget Information for Non-Construction Programs (SF 424A) or Budget Information for Construction Programs (SF 424C) form. Use the SF 424A if your project does not include construction and the SF 424C if the project includes construction or land acquisition. The budget forms are available on the Internet at http://apply07.grants.gov/apply/FormLinks?family=15. When developing your budget, keep in mind that financial assistance awards and subawards are subject to the Federal cost principles in Title 2 of the Code of Federal Regulations Part 200, as applicable to the recipient organization type. Links to the full text of the Federal cost principles are available on the Internet at http://www.ecfr.gov/.

Multiple Federal Funding Sources: If the project budget includes multiple Federal funding sources, you must show the funds being requested from this Federal program *separately* from any other requested/secured Federal sources of funding on the budget form. For example, enter the funds being requested from this Federal program in the first row of the Budget Summary section of the form and then enter funding related to other Federal programs in the subsequent row(s). Be sure to enter each Federal program's CFDA number in the corresponding fields on the form. The CFDA number for this Federal program appears on the first page of this funding opportunity.

E. Budget Justification

In a separate narrative titled "**Budget Justification**", explain and justify all requested budget items/costs. Detail how the SF 424 Budget Object Class Category totals were determined and demonstrate a clear connection between costs and the proposed project activities. For personnel salary costs, include the base-line salary figures and the estimates of time (as percentages) to be directly charged to the project. Describe any item that under the applicable Federal cost principles requires the Service's approval and estimate its cost.

If Federally-funded equipment will be used for the project, provide a list of that equipment, including the Federal funding source.

Federal equipment that may be used for the project if available include:

- Truck
- ATV
- Boat

Required Indirect Cost Statement: All applicants except individuals applying for funds separate from a business or non-profit organization he/she may operate must include in the budget justification narrative one of the following statements and attach to their application any required documentation identified in the applicable statement:

"We are:

1. A U.S. state or local government entity receiving more than $35 million in direct Federal funding each year with an indirect cost rate of [insert rate]. We submit our indirect cost rate proposals to our cognizant agency. A copy of our most recently approved rate agreement/certification is attached.
2. A U.S. state or local government entity receiving less than $35 million in direct Federal funding with an indirect cost rate of [insert rate]. We are required to prepare and retain for audit an indirect cost rate proposal and related documentation to support those costs.
3. A [insert your organization type; U.S. states and local governments, please use one of the statements above or below] that has previously negotiated or currently has an approved indirect cost rate with our cognizant agency. Our indirect cost rate is [insert rate]. A copy of our most recently approved rate agreement is attached.
4. A [insert your organization type] that has never submitted an indirect cost rate proposal to our cognizant agency. Our indirect cost rate is [insert rate]. In the event an award is made, we will submit an indirect cost rate proposal to our cognizant agency within 90 calendar days after the award is made.
5. A [insert your organization type] that has never submitted an indirect cost rate proposal to our cognizant agency. Our indirect cost rate is [insert rate]. However, in the event an award is made, we will not be able to meet the requirement to submit an indirect cost rate proposal to our cognizant agency within 90 calendar days after award. We request as a condition of award to charge a flat *de minimus* indirect cost rate of 10% of modified total direct costs as defined in Title 2 of the Code of Federal Regulations Part 200, section 200.68. We understand that the 10% *de minimus* rate will apply for the life of the award, including any future extensions for time, and that the rate cannot be changed even if we do establish an approved rate with our cognizant agency at any point during the award period

6. A [insert your organization type] that is submitting this proposal for consideration under the [insert either “Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit Program” or “Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit Network”], which has a Department of the Interior-approved indirect cost rate cap of [insert program rate]. If we have an approved indirect cost rate with our cognizant agency, we understand that we must apply this reduced rate against the same direct cost base as identified in our approved indirect cost rate agreement. If we do not have an approved indirect cost rate with our cognizant agency, we understand that the basis for direct costs will be the modified total direct cost base defined in 2 CFR 200.68 “Modified Total Direct Cost (MTDC)”. We understand that we must request prior approval from the Service to use the MTDC base instead of the base identified in our approved indirect cost rate agreement, and that Service approval of such a request will be based on: 1) a determination that our approved base is only a subset of the MTDC (such as salaries and wages); and 2) that use of the MTDC base will still result in a reduction of the total indirect costs to be charged to the award. In accordance with 2 CFR 200.405, we understand that indirect costs not recovered due to a voluntary reduction to our federally negotiated rate are not allowable for recovery via any other means.

7. A [insert your organization type] that will charge all costs directly.

All applicants are hereby notified of the following:

- Recipients without an approved indirect cost rate are prohibited from charging indirect costs to a Federal award. Accepting the 10% *de minimus* rate as a condition of award is an approved rate.
- Failure to establish an approved rate during the award period renders all costs otherwise allocable as indirect costs unallowable under the award.
- Only the indirect costs calculated against the Federal portion of the total direct costs may be charged to the Federal award. Recipients may not charge to their Service award any indirect costs calculated against the portion of total direct costs charged to themselves or charged to any other project partner, Federal and non-Federal alike.
- Recipients must have prior written approval from the Service to transfer unallowable indirect costs to amounts budgeted for direct costs or to satisfy cost-sharing or matching requirements under the award.
- Recipients are prohibited from shifting unallowable indirect costs to another Federal award unless specifically authorized to do so by legislation.”

Applicants who are individuals applying for funds separate from a business or non-profit organization he/she may operate are not eligible to charge indirect costs to their award. If you are an individual applying for funding, do not include any indirect costs in your proposed budget.

For more information on indirect cost rates, see the Service’s **Indirect Costs and Negotiated Indirect Cost Rate Agreements** guidance document on the Internet at http://www.fws.gov/grants/.

Negotiating an Indirect Cost Rate with the Department of the Interior: Entities that do not have a NICRA must first have an open, active Federal award before they can submit an indirect cost rate proposal to their cognizant agency. The Federal awarding agency that provides the largest amount of direct funding to your organization is your cognizant agency, unless otherwise assigned by the White House Office of Management and Budget (OMB). If the Department of the Interior is your cognizant agency, your indirect cost rate will be negotiated by the Interior Business Center (IBC). For more information, contact the IBC at:

Indirect Cost Services
Acquisition Services Directorate, Interior Business Center
U.S. Department of the Interior
2180 Harvard Street, Suite 430
Sacramento, CA 95815
Phone: 916-566-7111
Email: ics@nbc.gov
Internet address: http://www.doi.gov/ibc/services/Indirect_Cost_Services/index.cfm

F. **Single Audit Reporting Statements:** As required in Title 2 of the Code of Federal Regulations Part 200, Subpart F, all U.S. states, local governments, federally-recognized Indian tribal governments, and non-profit organizations expending $750,000 USD or more in Federal award funds in a fiscal year must submit a Single Audit report for that year through the Federal Audit Clearinghouse's Internet Data Entry System. All U.S. state, local government, federally-recognized Indian tribal government and non-profit applicants must provide a statement regarding if your organization was/was not required to submit a Single Audit report for the organization's most recently closed fiscal year and, if so, state if that report is available on the Federal Audit Clearinghouse Single Audit Database website (http://harvester.census.gov/sac/) and provide the EIN under which that report was submitted. Include these statements at the end of the Project Narrative in a section titled "**Single Audit Reporting Statements**".

G. **Assurances:** Include the appropriate signed and dated Assurances form available online at http://apply07.grants.gov/apply/FormLinks?family=15. Use the **Assurances for Construction Programs (SF 424D)** for construction and land acquisition projects Use the **Assurances for Non-Construction Programs (SF 424B)** for all other projects. Signing this form does not mean that all items on the form are applicable. The form contains language that states that some of the assurances may not be applicable to your organization and/or your project or program.

H. **Certification and Disclosure of Lobbying Activities:** Under Title 31 of the United States Code, Section 1352, an applicant or recipient must not use any federally appropriated funds (both annually appropriated and continuing appropriations) or matching funds under a grant or cooperative agreement award to pay any person for lobbying in connection with the award. Lobbying is defined as influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress connection with the award. Submission of an application also represents the applicant's certification of the statements in 43 CFR Part 18, Appendix A-Certification Regarding Lobbying. If you/your organization have/has made or agrees to make any payment using non-appropriated funds for lobbying in connection with this proposal AND the Federal share exceeds $100,000, complete and submit the **SF LLL, Disclosure of Lobbying Activities** form. See 43 CFR, Subpart 18.100 for more information on when additional submission of this form is required.

I. **Conflict of Interest Disclosures:** Applicants must notify the Service in writing of any actual or potential conflicts of interest that are known at the time of application or that may arise during the life of this award, in the event an award is made. Conflicts of interest include any relationship or matter which might place the recipient, the recipient's employees, or the recipient's subrecipients in a position of conflict, real or apparent, between their responsibilities under the award and any other outside interests. Conflicts of interest may also include, but are not limited to, direct or indirect financial interests, close personal relationships, positions of trust in outside organizations, consideration of future employment arrangements with a different organization, or decision-making affecting the award that would cause a reasonable person with knowledge of the relevant facts to question the impartiality of the applicant, the applicant's employees, or the applicant's future subrecipients in the matter. Upon receipt of such a notice, the Service Project Officer in consultation with their Ethics Counselor will determine if a conflict of interest exists and, if so, if there are any possible actions to be taken by the applicant to reduce or resolve the conflict. Failure to resolve conflicts of interest in a manner that satisfies the Service may result in the project not being select for funding.

Application Checklist

- ☐ **Project summary**
- ☐ **Project narrative**
- ☐ **Timetable**
- ☐ **Description of key personnel qualifications**
- ☐ **SF 424 budget form**: A complete SF 424A or SF 424C Budget Information form.
- ☐ **Budget justification**
- ☐ **NICRA**: When applicable, a copy of the organization's current Negotiated Indirect Cost Rate Agreement.
- ☐ **SF 424 Assurances form:** Signed and dated SF 424B or SF 424D Assurances form.
- ☐ **SF LLL form:** If applicable, completed SF-LLL Disclosure of Lobbying Activities form.
- ☐ **Conflict of Interest statement,** when applicable.

Failure to provide complete information may cause delays, postponement, or rejection of the application.

V. Submission Instructions

SUBMISSION DEADLINE:
N/A

Intergovernmental Review: Before submitting an application, U.S. state and local government applicants should visit the following website (http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/grants_spoc/) to determine whether their application is subject to the state intergovernmental review process under Executive Order (E.O.) 12372 "Intergovernmental review of Federal Programs." E.O. 12372 was issued to foster the intergovernmental partnership and strengthen federalism by relying on state and local processes for the coordination and review of proposed Federal financial assistance and direct Federal development. The E.O. allows each state to designate an entity to perform this function. The official list of designated entities is posted on the website. Contact your state's designated entity for more information on the process the state requires to be followed when applying for assistance. States that do not have a designated entity listed on the website have chosen not to participate in the review process.

VI. Application Review

Criteria: N/A

Review and Selection Process:

Each fiscal year, for every entity receiving one or more awards in that fiscal year, the Service conducts a risk assessment based on eight risk categories. The result of this risk assessment is used to establish a monitoring plan for all awards to the entity in that fiscal year. The Service's risk assessment form is available on the Internet at http://www.fws.gov/forms/3-2462.pdf.

VII. Award Administration

Award Notices: Following review, recipients may be requested to revise the project scope and/or budget before an award is made. Successful recipients will receive written notice in the form of a notice of award document. Notices of award are typically sent to recipients by e-mail. If e-mail notification is unsuccessful, the documents will be sent by courier mail (e.g., FedEx, DHL or UPS). Award recipients are not required to sign/return the Notice of Award document. Acceptance of an award is defined as starting work, drawing down funds, or accepting the award via electronic means. Awards are based on the application submitted to, and as approved by, the Service. The notice of award document will include instructions specific to each recipient on how to request payment. If applicable, the instructions will detail any additional information/forms required and where to submit payment requests.

Domestic Recipient Payments: Prior to award, the Service program office will contact you/your organization to either enroll in the U.S. Treasury's Automated Standard Application for Payments (ASAP) system or, if eligible, obtain approval from the Department of the Interior to be waived from using ASAP.

Domestic applicants subject to the SAM registration requirement (see Section III B.) who receive a waiver from receiving funds through ASAP must maintain current banking information in SAM. Domestic applicants exempt from the SAM registration requirement who receive a waiver from receiving funds through ASAP will be required to submit their banking information directly to the Service program. However, ***do NOT submit any banking information to the Service until it is requested from you by the Service program!***

The Notice of Award document from the Service will include instructions specific to each recipient on how to request payment. If applicable, the instructions will detail any additional information/forms required and where to submit payment requests.

Transmittal of Sensitive Data: Recipients are responsible for ensuring any sensitive data being sent to the Service is protected during its transmission/delivery. The Service strongly recommends that recipients use the most secure transmission/delivery method available. The Service recommends the following digital transmission methods: secure digital faxing; encrypted emails; emailing a password protected zipped/compressed file attachment in one email followed by the password in a second email; or emailing a zipped/compressed file attachment. The Service strongly encourages recipients sending sensitive data in paper copy to use a courier mail service. Recipients may also contact their Service Project Officer and provide any sensitive data over the telephone.

Award Terms and Conditions: Acceptance of a financial assistance award (i.e., grant or cooperative agreement) from the Service carries with it the responsibility to be aware of and comply with the terms and conditions applicable to the award. Acceptance is defined as the start of work, drawing down funds, or accepting the award via electronic means. Awards are based on the application submitted to and approved by the Service and are subject to the terms and conditions incorporated into the notice of award either by direct citation or by reference to the following: Federal regulations; program legislation or regulation; and special award terms and conditions. The Federal regulations applicable to Service awards are available on the Internet at http://www.fws.gov/grants/. If you do not have access to the Internet and require a full text copy of the award terms and conditions, contact the Service point of contact identified in the Agency Contacts section below.

Recipient Reporting Requirements:
Financial and Performance Reports: Interim financial reports and performance reports will be required. Interim reports will be required no more frequently than quarterly, and no less frequently than annually. A final financial report and a final performance report will be required and are due within 90 calendar days of the end date of the award. Performance reports must contain: 1) a comparison of actual accomplishments with the goals and objectives of the award as detailed in the approved scope of work; 2) a description of reasons why established goals were not met, if appropriate; and 3) any other pertinent information relevant to the project results.

Significant Developments Reports: Events may occur between the scheduled performance reporting dates that have significant impact upon the supported activity. In such cases, recipients are required to notify the Service in writing as soon as the following types of conditions become known:

- Problems, delays, or adverse conditions that will materially impair the ability to meet the objective of the Federal award. This disclosure must include a statement of any corrective action(s) taken or contemplated, and any assistance needed to resolve the situation.

- Favorable developments that enable meeting time schedules and objectives sooner or at less cost than anticipated or producing more or different beneficial results than originally planned.

The Service will specify in the notice of award document the reporting and reporting frequency applicable to the award.

Conflict of Interest Disclosures: Recipients are responsible for notifying the Service Project Officer in writing of any actual or potential conflicts of interest that may arise during the life of this award. Conflicts of interest include any relationship or matter which might place the recipient, the recipient's employees, or the recipient's subrecipients in a position of conflict, real or apparent, between their responsibilities under this award and any other outside interests. Conflicts of interest may also include, but are not limited to, direct or indirect financial interests, close personal relationships, positions of trust in outside organizations, consideration of future employment arrangements with a different organization, or decision-making affecting the award that would cause a reasonable person with knowledge of the relevant facts to question the impartiality of the Recipient, the Recipient's employees, or the Recipient's subrecipients in the matter. Upon receipt of such a notice, the Service Project Officer in consultation with their Ethics Counselor will determine if a conflict of interest exists and, if so, if there are any possible actions to be taken by the Recipient, the Recipient's employee(s), or the Recipient's Subrecipient(s) that could reduce or resolve the conflict. Failure to resolve conflicts of interest in a manner that satisfies the Service may result in any of the remedies described in 2 CFR 200.338, Remedies for Noncompliance, including termination of this award.

Other Mandatory Disclosures: Recipients and their subrecipients must disclose, in a timely manner and in writing, to the Service or pass-through entity all violations of Federal criminal law involving fraud, bribery, or gratuity violations potentially affecting this award. Failure to make required disclosures can result in any of the remedies described in 2 CFR 200.338, Remedies for noncompliance, including suspension or debarment (See 2 CFR 200.113, 2 CFR Part 180, and 31 U.S.C. 3321).

VIII. Agency Contacts

The USFWS contact for this award is:

Ben Frater
USFWS Deepwater Horizon NRDAR Field Office
341 North Greeno Road
Fairhope, Alabama 36532
251-517-8019
Benjamin_Frater@fws.gov