



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-16-FA-C0229
Project Title	National Fish and Wildlife Foundation – U.S. Geological Survey Monarch Butterfly Conservation Fund
Recipient	National Fish and Wildlife Foundation
Principal Investigator / Program Manager	Teal Edelen, Manager, Central Regional Office National Fish and Wildlife Foundation 1133 15th Street, NW, Suite 1100 Washington, DC 20005
Anticipated Federal Amount	\$150,000
Cost Share	NA
Total Anticipated Award Amount	\$150,000
New Award or Continuation?	New Award
Anticipated Period of Performance	September 1, 2016 – August 31, 2017
Award Instrument	Cooperative Agreement
CFDA # and Title	15.808
USGS Point of Contact	Steve Hilburger Wildlife Program Manager

OVERVIEW

Monarch butterflies (*Danaus plexippus*) are found throughout the United States with the majority of the species spending the summer months in temperate regions in central U.S. and Canada and migrating up to 3,000 miles to Mexico for the winter months. Populations also migrate from areas west of the Rockies to overwinter in coastal California. Monarchs that reach the adult stage during the spring/summer live up to four-weeks while monarchs that reach adult stage in the late summer/fall make the migration to Mexico, returning the following spring to lay their eggs, living approximately nine months. Over the past twenty years, there has been seen a significant decrease in the populations of monarch butterflies. A major contribution to population decline is

the direct loss of habitat, as well as habitat fragmentation and degradation. Of note is the reduction in milkweed (*Asclepias* spp.), the only food source for monarch caterpillars. While adult monarch butterflies have a more general diet, management of nectar-producing plant species for this life-cycle is essential in ensuring sufficient energy for migration.

The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) has established a Monarch Butterfly Conservation Fund (Monarch Fund), with the goal of recovering monarch populations and the important native plant species on which they depend. Through the Monarch Fund, NFWF solicits proposals for monarch conservation and habitat restoration projects from qualified agencies and organizations. The USGS intends to award NFWF with a contribution toward the Monarch Fund, which can be used to support proposals.

RECIPIENT INVOLVEMENT

The NFWF involvement includes facilitating partner cooperation, leveraging funds, and managing a Request for Proposals (RFP). The RFP process entails the preparation of program goals, announcement of RFP, collection of proposals, coordination of review, and announcement of awards. The NFWF will also manage the distribution of funds to recipients and collect reports to document progress and accomplishments.

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: Serving as part of a collaborative team which assists NFWF with the Monarch Fund by helping to develop program goals, review and select project proposals, and announce subawards.

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: (1) Unsolicited Proposal, and (4) Unique Qualifications.

Single Source Justification Description:

The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, was established in 1984 by the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Establishment Act, 16 U.S.C. §3701, and operates as a private nonprofit organization focused on the conservation and management of natural resources. NFWF is one of the world’s largest conservation grant-makers, and has a significant track record of running programs such as the Monarch Fund. This award by USGS is being made as a result of an unsolicited proposal by NFWF, and is in support of the only current, national-scale, monarch conservation granting program of which the USGS is aware. NFWF has the unique qualifications and capabilities already in place for success, and is leveraging funds from a number of partners to produce a unique, significant, large-scale conservation effort for this species.

STATUTORY AUTHORITY

43 USC Section 1457b

“For fiscal year 2010, and each fiscal year thereafter, the Secretary of the Interior may enter into cooperative agreements with a State or political subdivision (including any agency thereof), or any not-for-profit organization if the agreement will: (1) serve a mutual interest of the parties to the agreement in carrying out the programs administered by the Department of the Interior; and (2) all parties will contribute resources to the accomplishment of these objectives. At the discretion of the Secretary, such agreements shall not be subject to a competitive process.”