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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: University of Minnesota Duluth - Natural Resources Research Institute

Project Title: St. Louis River Plant Biology & Community Ecological Expertise Project Support

Program Contact: Pete Fasbender

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:

The USFWS is part of a large, complex, multi-partner habitat restoration project at Kingsbury Bay and Grassy Point in the Lower St. Louis River, Duluth, MN. St. Louis River plant biology and vegetative community ecology expertise - identification, natural history, conservation, establishment/restoration/enhancement, and management expertise and experience - is required to help the USFWS and project partners design, establish, and manage native vegetative communities in coordination with major construction activity. The USFWS does not have the extent of local plant biology and ecological expertise and experience necessary for the project. Professional staff at the University of Minnesota Duluth Natural Resources Research Institute (NRRI) are locally and nationally recognized specifically for this type of expertise, and already have critical site information, thus providing cost-efficiencies to the project. Local contractors do not have the scientific credentials of NRRI, and other agency biological programs are already providing the extent of personnel and technical resources available; however additional expertise is required to work with the USFWS and partners to successfully complete the project.

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.

PETER FASBENDER Digitally signed by PETER FASBENDER Date: 2018.09.06 16:05:32 -05'00'

Program Representative Sign and Date

Pete Fasbender

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.

Digitally signed by DANIEL LOVDAHL Date: 2018.09.07 10:01:29 -05'00'

Authorized Signator Sign and Date

Daniel D. Lovdahl

Printed Name of Signator