

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: Dr. Susan McRae

Project Title:

Monitor secretive marsh birds focusing on two Species at Risk including McGillivray Seaside Sparrow and Black Rails on 21 coastal National Wildlife Refuges between North Carolina and Florida

Program Contact: Dr. Adam Smith, Wendy Stanton

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:

East Carolina University Associate Professor, Dr. Susan McRae is uniquely qualified to perform this activity. Dr. McRae and her students have been conducting research on nest success, habitat preferences, and effects of management actions on king rails and other secretive marsh birds at Mackay Island NWR. For the last two years, Dr. McRae has worked closely with the USFWS on secretive marshbird surveys for 21 National Wildlife Refuges in the Southeast Region. This project would include a continuation of this research to complete the surveys at Cedar Island NWR in North Carolina. Dr. McRae attended a sabbatical at UC Berkeley hosted by Dr. Steve Beissinger, an authority on the habitat, ecology, population dynamics, distribution and movements of black rails (Girard et al. 2010. *Conservation Genetics* 11:2409–2418). She is closely located to the 2018 study sites and will provide volunteer support capacity and technical expertise.

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.

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.

Wendy D. Stanton 7/19/18
Program Representative Sign and Date

Wendy D. Stanton
Printed Name of Program Representative

Authorized Signator Sign and Date

Printed Name of Signator