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 financial assistance for the following project activities. *Refer to Section 2. Grants.gov Posting Determination.*

ABSTRACT	
Grants.gov Opportunity Number	P20AS00082
Project Title	Building Coral Resilience and Facilitating Post-Bleaching Recovery
Recipient	University of Guam
Anticipated Federal Funding	$228,759.91 ($44,759.91 initially)
Non-Federal Cost Share	$0.00
Total Anticipated Award Amount	$228,759.91 ($44,759.91 initially)
Award Instrument	☐ Task Agreement ☑ Cooperative Agreement ☐ Grant Agreement
Anticipated Period of Performance	6/30/2020 through 9/30/2023
Legal Authority	54 USC 101702(b)
CFDA # and Title	15.945, Cooperative Research and Training Programs – Resources
Single Source Justification Criteria	Unique Qualifications
National Park Service Point of Contact	Jason Whitehead, Financial Assistance Awarding Officer jason_whitehead@nps.gov

Section 1. Project Summary

PROJECT GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the restoration activities on Guam are twofold: 1) to conserve and manage species at risk of local extirpation due to climate change-related stress; and 2) to restore habitat and topographic complexity in areas where this ecological function has been greatly reduced due to coral mortality. It is recognized that methods for culture, outplanting and monitoring must be tailored to specific species, with consideration of environmental requirements, life history, and morphology. Recipient site characteristics must also be able to support coral growth and to reasonably protect corals from human activities and catastrophic storm damage. Restoration sites within War in the Pacific National Historical Park will continue to be targeted.

STATEMENT OF PUBLIC PURPOSE

Guam relies heavily on its coral reefs for coastal protection, support of its thriving tourism-based economy, culture identity and recreation, and a fishery that supplements family incomes and protein. Guam residents have, through effective media and outreach, become acutely aware of the recent mortality events affecting their coastal coral reefs, due to climate change and degrading water quality. Many have expressed their concern for the fate of their coral reefs and support for Guam's efforts to increase reef health. As part of the coral resilience and recovery program, we will be conducting regular media and outreach updates on reef health status and the status of our reintroduction efforts. Current plans include working with partners to increase public awareness involving initiating an "adopt a coral" campaign, guiding snorkel groups through restoration sites, having shore-side and underwater signage and producing outreach materials to encourage a stronger sense of stewardship and investment in caring for all of Guam's reefs, including those in NPS waters. The information generated by this project will be useful to all those concerned with coral decline and restoration techniques.

STATEMENT OF WORK SUMMARY

The funding of this proposal will support a three-year full-time position for a coral culture and restoration technician. Raymundo and colleagues were recently awarded a US$1.4 mil grant from the National Fish and Wildlife Federation (NFWF) to upscale and expand current restoration efforts on all of Guam; this position will support that work and its application to NPS natural resources.

Phase I (Year 1): The technician will assist in snorkel resurveys of extant staghorn populations; assist in locating and surveying potential target sites for coral outplanting; assist in constructing additional nursery structures and populating them with fragments taken from wild populations; maintain the nurseries; participate in monitoring staghorn spawning to verify reproductive timing; and assist in pilot outplanting efforts within selected target sites.

Phase II (Year 2): The technician will assist in monitoring outplants; assist in data loading and transcription; continue with nursery expansion and maintenance; assist collaborating scientists in heat stress assays and population genetics studies, as needed; and participate in upscaled outplanting activities and subsequent monitoring.

Phase III (Year3): Continue with maintenance of nurseries and monitoring of outplants; participate in additional outplanting activities; assist in data loading and transcription; and participate in the planning and carrying out of the end-of-project workshop.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE PARTIES

A. The recipient shall be responsible for the following items under this agreement:

The Recipient shall carry out the Statement of Work in accordance with the terms and conditions stated herein. The Recipient shall adhere to Federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and codes, as applicable. The Recipient shall collaboratively undertake a project titled “Building Coral Resilience and Facilitating Post-Bleaching Recovery” which includes establishing coral nurseries, outplanting into restoration sites and monitoring/maintaining sites, test new restoration techniques. Disperse the knowledge and data gleaned during the project to the broader community.

B. The NPS Responsibilities:

☐ A task agreement is proposed;

☑ A cooperative agreement is proposed;

therefore substantial involvement by NPS is anticipated during the period of performance of this agreement. In support of this agreement NPS will:

Monitor and provide Federal oversight of activities performed under this Agreement. Monitoring and oversight includes review and approval of financial status and performance reports, payment requests, and tasks identified below. Additional monitoring activities may include site visits, conference calls, and other one-site and off-site monitoring activities. At the Recipient’s request, NPS may also provide technical assistance to the Recipient in support of the objectives of this Agreement.

☐ A grant agreement is proposed, therefore no substantial involvement on the part of the NPS is anticipated for the successful completion of the statement of work. It is anticipated that involvement will be limited to actions related to monitoring project performance and technical assistance at the request of the recipient.

Section 2. Grants.gov Posting Determination

☐ The National Park Service intends to award a task agreement under a previously competed or single source justified award.

☑ The National Park Service intends to award a single source justified cooperative agreement. *Refer to Section 3 Single Source Justification.*

☐ The National Park Service intends to award a single source justified grant agreement. *Refer to Section 3 Single Source Justification.*

Section 3. Single Source Justification

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
SINGLE SOURCE POLICY REQUIREMENTS

National Park Service Policy FAP&P 1443-2015-06 requires a written justification which explains why competition is not practicable. The justification must address one of the following criteria.

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. The unsolicited proposal must demonstrate an innovative capability or concept not currently available to the government, and prepared without Government involvement. ;

(2) Continuation – The activity to be funded is necessary to the satisfactory completion of, or is a continuation of, an activity presently being funded, 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, technical expertise, or other such unique qualifications. Successful past performance, familiarity with existing requirements, capabilities that can be obtained or matched by a competitor, or a positive reputation, are not considered to be 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.

NPS did not solicit full and open competition for this award based the following criteria:

☐ Task Agreement issued under previously competed or single source master cooperative agreement per Section 2 above. Single Source Justification not applicable.

☐ Unsolicited Proposal ☐ Continuation ☐ Emergency

☐ Legislative Intent ☑ Unique Qualifications

Explanation of the proposed recipient's qualifications or the criteria of the proposed project which requires use of the single source criteria cited.

The applicant is uniquely qualified to perform the activity based upon a variety of demonstrable factors including being able to continue work based on advancements made by the PI over the previous years of the park's project on coral reef health; having significant scientific expertise needed for this project; being located in Guam to efficiently and cost effectively do the required work; having many years of experience in coral reef research in the targeted NPS coral reefs; possessing flexible staff whose availability for field work must adjust to weather and oceanographic conditions; and support capacity for project staff. The PI has managed and supported globally recognized research based in Guam and its coral reef resources for more than a decade.

The PI, Dr. Laurie Raymundo of UOG, has global recognition among scientists for her expertise and experience with coral reef ecology in the Pacific as reflected in her publication record, and is ideally available for frequent coordination and meetings with the NPS staff in Guam. Additionally, she has successfully supervised graduate research students in similar projects. The UOG is the only institution of higher education in Guam qualified to undertake this project, and as this project requires frequent in-person collaboration and field work, it would be cost-prohibitive and infeasible to have personnel from

Section 4. Department of the Interior Secretary's Priorities

This award will support the following DOI Secretary priority(ies):

Other Key Initiatives:

- ☐ Employment of veterans.
- ☐ Supporting DOI Infrastructure needs.
- ☐ Creating jobs in the American economy.
- ☐ Access to outdoor recreation opportunities.

Priority 1: Creating a conservation stewardship legacy second only to Teddy Roosevelt

- ☑ Utilize science to identify best practices to manage land and water resources and adapt to changes in the environment.
- ☐ Examine land use planning process and land use designations that govern public use and access.
- ☐ Revise and streamline the environmental and regulatory review process while maintaining environmental standards.
- ☐ Review DOI water storage, transportation, and distribution systems to identify opportunities to resolve conflicts and expand capacity.
- ☐ Foster relationships with conservation organizations advocating for balanced stewardship and use of public lands.
- ☐ Identify and implement initiatives to expand access to DOI lands for hunting and fishing.
- ☐ Shift the balance towards providing greater public access to public lands over restrictions to access.

Priority 2: Utilizing our natural resources

- ☐ Ensure American energy is available to meet our security and economic needs.
- ☐ Ensure access to mineral resources, especially the critical and rare earth minerals.
- ☐ Refocus timber programs to embrace the entire 'healthy forests' lifecycle.
- ☐ Manage competition for grazing resources.

Priority 3: Restoring trust with local communities

- ☐ Be a better neighbor with those closest to our resources by improving dialogue and relationships with persons and entities bordering our lands.
- ☐ Expand the lines of communication with Governors, state natural resource offices, Fish and Wildlife offices, water authorities, county commissioners, Tribes, and local communities.

Priority 4: Ensuring sovereignty means something

- [ ] Support tribal self-determination, self-governance, and sovereignty.
- [ ] Solidify mutual interests between the U.S. and the freely associated states and territories.

Priority 5: Generating additional revenues to support DOI & National interests

- [ ] Ensure that the public receives the full market value for the natural resources produced on Federal lands.
- [ ] Ensure that fees or costs levied for DOI services are reasonable and targeted to achieve cost recovery.
- [ ] Consider the impact of DOI decisions on economic development and job creation.

Priority 6: Protecting our people and the border

- [ ] Actively support efforts to secure our southern border.
- [ ] Ensure DOI law enforcement staffing addresses public safety risks anticipated on DOI land.
- [ ] Promote a "public service" demeanor within our law enforcement community.

Priority 7: Striking a regulatory balance

- [ ] Reduce the administrative and regulatory burden imposed on U.S. industry and the public.
- [ ] Ensure that Endangered Species Act decisions are based on strong science and thorough analysis.

Priority 8: Modernizing our infrastructure

- [ ] Support the White House Public/Private Partnership Initiative to modernize U.S. infrastructure.
- [ ] Remove impediments to infrastructure development and facilitate private sector efforts to construct infrastructure projects serving American needs.
- [ ] Prioritize DOI infrastructure needs to highlight:
    1. Construction of infrastructure;
    2. Cyclical maintenance;
    3. Deferred maintenance.

Priority 9: Reorganizing for the next 100 years

☐ Improve alignment and integration of the DOI organizational structure. Redistribute organizational resources (people and funding) to enhance mission achievement and improved public service.

☐ Improve organizational alignment with Executive Branch counterparts with major land management assets or influence.

Priority 10: Achieving our goals and leading our team forward

☐ Senior executives are expected to provide leadership in achieving goals of the President and the Secretary.

☐ The Management Team is expected to:

1. Ensure cost-effective operations and quality service to the public;
2. Facilitate organizational cooperation and conflict resolution;
3. Ensure the workplace environment is conducive to employee productivity and safety;
4. Hold individuals accountable for actions that violate DOI policies and requirements.

The proposed project does not support any of the DOI Secretary priorities, but the project is being funded for the following reasons: