



**National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior**

NOTICE OF INTENT TO AWARD

This Funding Announcement is not a request for applications. This announcement is to provide public notice of the National Park Service's intention to fund the following project activities without full and open competition.

ABSTRACT	
Funding Announcement Number	NPS-NOIP15AC00730
Project Title	National Park Service- Establishing a Baseline for Bat Microbiota and Discovering Clues to Natural Defenses Against WNS in Bat Microbiota in El Malpais National (ELMA) Monument
Recipient	University of New Mexico
Principle Investigator / Program Manager	Diana E. Northup Ph.D., Visiting Associate Professor; Professor Emerita
Total Anticipated Award Amount	\$64,500
Cost Share	<i>None Required</i>
New Award or Continuation?	Task award under terms and conditions established in umbrella Cooperative Agreement, P14AC00921
Anticipated Length of Agreement	Through end date July 31, 2016
Anticipated Period of Performance	Through end date July 31, 2016
Award Instrument	Cooperative Agreement (task award)
Statutory Authority	16 U.S.C. §5933
CFDA # and Title	15.945, Agency is currently establishing
Single Source Justification Criteria Cited	#4 – Unique Qualifications
NPS Point of Contact	Katie Gaertner, Grants Management Specialist

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OVERVIEW, RECIPIENT AND NPS SUBSTANTIAL INVOLVEMENT

The University of New Mexico (UNM) will collaborate with the National Park Service (NPS) identify and describe the bacteria and fungi present within microbial communities among key bat species, isolate and test Actinobacteria, research metagenomics, provide WNS research science-in-action photos that can be used by NPS and conduct public and/or NPS personnel presentation concerning the proposed research and results.

Substantial involvement on the part the National Park Service (NPS) is anticipated for the successful completion of the objectives to be funded by this award. NPS staff will assist with WNS fieldwork, be involved in the planning of what WNS research science-in-action photos will be taken, utilize results and photos and encourage rangers to assist with WNS.

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.

The National Park Service awarded this task to the University of New Mexico based on the following exception. University of New Mexico is a member of the NPS CESU network.¹

(4) Unique Qualifications -The cooperator is a member of an established **Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit (CESU)** network, and was awarded a Cooperative Agreement (P14AC00921) allowing UNM to participate in specific tasks, and can provide the specific research and investigative support to conduct this particular task while providing an effective outcome for the National Park Service and the research project. As such, the applicant is uniquely qualified to perform the activity based on their participation as a University Partner in the Cooperative Ecosystems Study Unit (CESU) their capacity to provide appropriate researchers, and their ability to broadly utilize research results as teaching tool.

¹ Additional information regarding participation in the CESU Network is provided at <http://www.cesu.psu.edu>