U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Division of Migratory Bird Management

Fish and Wildlife Management Assistance
Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) Number: 15.608

Notice of Funding Opportunity

I. Description of Funding Opportunity

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Western Golden Eagle Team is funding research to provide scientifically defensible spatial products and conservation strategies to support conservation and management efforts of Golden Eagles. The highest priority is to develop species distributional models at the scale of CEC Level III Ecoregions during all parts of the golden eagle's annual cycle, for which the breeding season is of particular importance. Also of high priority is the need to evaluate the spatial distribution of a variety of potential risks to golden eagles to identify where risks can be most efficiently avoided. The Western Golden Eagle Team proposes to partner with scientists at Humboldt State University (HSU) to develop predictive models of Golden Eagle breeding habitat in the western United States, and to evaluate the ability of these models to support estimation of population distribution and abundance.
Funding is authorized by CFDA 15.608 Fish and Wildlife Management Assistance.

II. Award Information

This is a notice of intent to award a Single Source Cooperative agreement award to Humboldt State University (HSU) through the California Cooperative Ecosystems Study Unit network in accordance with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service policy 505 DM 2 (4) Unique Qualifications. The Western Golden Eagle Team proposes to partner with scientists at HSU, under a single source financial assistance award. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) will be substantially involved in projects under this funding opportunity. In particular, the Service will be responsible for the following: (A) participate and collaborate jointly with Jeffery Dunk (HSU) in carrying out the scope of work; (B) direct the work because of interrelationships with other projects and USFWS partners; and (C) limit recipient discretion with respect to scope of work, coupled with close monitoring and operational involvement during performance under the award.

This agreement is for a non-competitive single-source award starting on the Signature Date and ending on 30 September 2022 with the intent to fund $90,000.00 on the initial award and an estimated total 5 year project cost of $250,000.00. Because this project could take up to 5 years, the Service reserves the right to add incremental funding contingent on federal funding availability.

III. Basic Eligibility Requirements

Eligible Applicants: This single source financial assistance award will be awarded to Humboldt State University Sponsored Programs.

Federal law mandates that all entities applying for Federal financial assistance must have a valid Dun & Bradstreet Data Universal Number System (DUNS) number and have a current registration in the System for Award Management (SAM). See Title 2 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), Part 25 for more information. Exemptions: The SAM registration requirement does not apply to individuals submitting an application on their own behalf and not on behalf of a company or other for-profit entity, state, local or Tribal government, academia or other type of organization.

A. DUNS Registration
Request a DUNS number at http://fedgov.dnb.com/webform. For technical difficulties, contact Dun & Bradstreet by email at: govt@dnb.com, or by calling the Government Customer Resource Center at voice phone: 866-705-5711 or TTY line: 877-807-1679 (hearing impaired customers only). Once assigned a DUNS number, entities are responsible for maintaining up-to-date information with Dun & Bradstreet.

B. Entity Registration in SAM
Register in SAM at www.sam.gov. Once registered in SAM, entities must renew and revalidate their SAM registration at least every 12 months from the date previously registered. Entities are strongly urged to revalidate their registration as often as needed to ensure that their information is up to date and in synch with changes that may have been made to DUNS and IRS information. Foreign entities who wish to be paid directly to a United States bank account must enter and maintain valid and current banking information in SAM.

Note: The official U.S. government website address for SAM is www.sam.gov. There is NO COST to register in or access SAM.gov. There are third-party vendors who charge a fee in exchange for registering entities in SAM; please be aware that you can register to do business with the U.S. government FOR FREE directly in SAM at www.sam.gov.

C. Excluded Entities
Applicant entities or their key project personnel identified in the SAM.gov Exclusions database as ineligible, prohibited/restricted or excluded from receiving Federal contracts, certain subcontracts, and certain Federal assistance and benefits will not be considered for Federal funding, as applicable to the funding being requested under this Federal program. The Service conducts a review of the SAM.gov Exclusions database for all applicant entities and their key project personnel prior to award.

D. Cost Sharing or Matching:
There is no required cost sharing or matching for this award.

IV. Application Requirements

To be considered for funding under this funding opportunity, an application must contain:

A. A completed, signed and dated Application for Federal Assistance form. Do not include other Federal sources of funding, requested or approved, in the total entered in the "Federal" funding box on the Application for Federal Assistance form. Enter only the amount being requested under this program in the "Federal" funding box. Include any other Federal sources of funding in the total funding entered in the "Other" box.

B. Project Summary
The Western Golden Eagle Team proposes to partner with scientists at Humboldt State University (HSU) to develop to develop predictive models of Golden Eagle breeding habitat in

the western United States, and to evaluate the ability of these models to support estimation of population distribution and abundance. Creating spatially explicit models of golden eagle habitat use during the breeding season and the spatial distribution of risk is essential to understanding risk of eagle take. The Golden Eagle Conservation Planning project will include species distributional models for golden eagles during the breeding season and during movements. HSU will assist the Service with using these models to evaluate landscape-scale risks to golden eagles and parameterize a spatially explicit golden eagle population model for the western U.S.

C. Project Narrative

1. Statement of Need:

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) is responsible for implementing the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (Eagle Act) of 1940, as amended (16 USC 668-668d). To do so, the Service published a Final Eagle Permit Rule (Eagle Rule) in 2009 (50 CFR 22.26) that authorizes limited issuance of permits to take eagles, and the Revised Eagle Rule was published in December 2016. The 2013 Eagle Conservation Plan Guidance (ECPG) provides specific in-depth guidance for conserving bald and golden eagles in the course of siting, constructing, and operating wind energy facilities, and calls for a scientifically rigorous approach to minimize and mitigate impacts to the species.

The Western Golden Eagle Team (WGET) was formed in June 2013 by Service Regions 1, 2, 6 and 8 for the purpose of proactively addressing energy-related conservation needs of golden eagles. WGET works to inform current and future golden eagle conservation and management by developing landscape-scale decision support tools and conservation strategies that support the ECPG's staged approach to developing an Eagle Conservation Plan. Spatially explicit models of golden eagle habitat use are essential to identifying areas of relatively high or low risk and will be integrated with comprehensive landscape-scale conservation strategies.

2. Project Goals and Objectives:

Creating spatially explicit models of golden eagle habitat use during the breeding season and the spatial distribution of risk is essential to understanding risk of eagle take. The Golden Eagle Conservation Planning project will include: 1) Species distributional models will be developed for nesting golden eagles for areas not previously completed: California, Mojave Desert, Sonoran Desert, Arizona/New Mexico Plateau, Colorado Plateau, and additional ecoregional groups as determined by the Team and HSU (e.g. Northern Rocky Mountains). Relative Habitat Suitability (RHS) will be mapped at the ecoregion scale. Relative density among RHS bins will be estimated and provided. 2) Distributional modeling will also be used to model RHS of migrating Golden Eagles in the western U.S. Separate models will be developed for northward and southward movements.

HSU will also assist USFWS and collaborators in parameterizing a spatially explicit Golden Eagle population model in the Western U.S, evaluating how a variety of potential risks to Golden Eagles (e.g., wind energy development, human disturbance, lead poisoning, electrocution) are spatially distributed and where risks can be most efficiently avoided (i.e., low economic cost, but high value to eagles), and identifying locations in the landscape of the Western U.S. that have disproportionately high and low value to nesting and migrating Golden Eagles. HSU will participate in conference calls and in-person meetings as needed, write reports and publications about the process used in the above evaluations, and their meaning/interpretation relative to Golden Eagle conservation.

Other products and projects may be considered, designed, and executed after consultation between sponsors and HSU scientists. HSU scientists may also recruit and engage additional funding partners to further leverage USFWS expertise and funding.

3. Initial Project Activities, Methods and Timetable:

The Golden Eagle Distributional Models will involve the collection, processing, and analysis of golden eagle nest location data by Service and HSU staff (Jeffrey Dunk). The analyses will be conducted by Jeffrey Dunk by statistical tests to identify environmental variables that most strongly predict the location of golden eagle nests. The breeding season modeling approach will result in separate models of relative habitat suitability for each modeled ecoregion. The movement modeling approach will use a Bayesian state-space switching model to discriminate between transiting and settling behaviors, resulting in separate RSF models for each behavior. Bi-weekly coordination calls will be used to align modeling with the development of Golden Eagle Conservation Strategies for Service specified ecoregions.

4. Stakeholder Coordination/Involvement:

All modeling efforts and associated landscape assessments for this project will be coordinated with the Service's Western Golden Eagle Team and its conservation partners, including USGS, BLM, the States, tribes, non-governmental organizations, and other stakeholders as needed. Results from these projects will be made available to the public online, including written reports and spatial information.

5. Project Monitoring and Evaluation:

Monitoring of project status and progress will occur through a minimum of bi-weekly meetings with Service staff. This project will be evaluated based on its successful delivery of models for which the Service has provided HSU the required input data of nest sites and environmental variables.

6. Description of Entities Undertaking the Project:

Recipient: Jeffrey Dunk, Project Manager, Department of Environmental Science and Management, Humboldt State University
Address: Siemans Hall Rm 210, Arcata, CA 95521-0000
Email: jeffrey.dunk@humboldt.edu
Phone: (707) 826-4140

Recipient Project Officer: Erika Wright, Pre-award Specialist, Humboldt State University Sponsored Programs
Address: 1 Harpst St, Arcata, CA 95521-8299
Email: Emw7@humboldt.edu
Phone: (707) 826-6166

USFWS Project Officer: Brian Woodbridge, WGET Coordinator
Address: 777 NW 9th St, Suite 400, Corvalis, OR 97330-6169
Email: brian_woodbridge@fws.gov
Phone: (530) 340-3591

USFWS Administrative Officer: Theresa Bates, Program Analyst
Email: theresa_bates@fws.gov
Phone: (303) 236-4407
Fax: (303) 236-8680

7. Sustainability:
Project activities must be completed within the proposed project period (5 years) as no future funding is currently identified.

8. Literature Cited
None.

9. Map of Project Area:
Not applicable.

D. Budget Form
Complete the Budget Information for Non-Construction Programs (SF 424A) or Budget Information for Construction Programs (SF 424C) form. Use the SF 424A if your project does not include construction and the SF 424C if the project includes construction or land acquisition. The budget forms are available on the Internet at http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/forms/sf-424-family.html#sortby=1. When developing your budget, keep in mind that financial assistance awards and subawards are subject to the Federal cost principles in Title 2 of the Code of Federal Regulations Part 200, as applicable to the recipient organization type. Links to the full text of the Federal cost principles are available on the Internet at http://www.ecfr.gov/.

Note on Multiple Federal Funding Sources: If the project budget includes multiple Federal funding sources, you must show the funds being requested from this Federal program on the budget form *separately* from any other requested/secured Federal sources of funding. Enter the funds being requested from this Federal program in the first row of the Budget Summary section of the form, and then enter funding related to other Federal programs in the subsequent row(s). Be sure to enter each Federal program's CFDA number in the corresponding fields on the form. The CFDA number for this Federal program appears on the first page of this funding opportunity.

E. Budget Justification
In a separate narrative titled "**Budget Justification**", explain and justify all requested budget items/costs. Detail how the SF 424 Budget Object Class Category totals were determined and demonstrate a clear connection between costs and the proposed project activities. For personnel salary costs, include the base-line salary figures and the estimates of time (as percentages) to be directly charged to the project. Describe any item that under the applicable Federal cost principles requires the Service's approval and estimate its cost.

If Federally-funded equipment will be used for the project, provide a list of that equipment, including the Federal funding source.

Required Indirect Cost Statement: Recipients that do not have an approved indirect cost rate cannot charge indirect costs to their Federal award. All applicants except individuals applying for funds separate from a business or non-profit organization he/she may operate must include in the budget justification narrative one of the following statements and attach to their application any required documentation identified in the applicable statement:

"We are a University Partner that is submitting this proposal for consideration under the California Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit Network, which has a Department of the Interior-approved indirect cost rate cap of 17.5%. If we have an approved indirect cost rate with our cognizant agency, we understand that we must apply this reduced rate against the same direct cost base as identified in our approved indirect cost rate agreement. If we do not have an approved indirect cost rate with our cognizant agency, we understand that the basis for direct costs will be the modified total direct cost base defined in 2 CFR 200.68 "Modified Total Direct Cost (MTDC)". We understand that we must request prior approval from the Service to use the MTDC base instead of the base identified in our approved indirect cost rate agreement, and that Service approval of such a request will be based on: 1) a determination that our approved base is only a subset of the MTDC (such as salaries and wages); and 2) that use of the MTDC base will still result in a reduction of the total indirect costs to be charged to the award. In accordance with 2 CFR 200.405, we understand that indirect costs not recovered due to a voluntary reduction to our federally negotiated rate are not allowable for recovery via any other means.

All applicants are hereby notified of the following:

- Recipients without an approved indirect cost rate are prohibited from charging indirect costs to a Federal award. Accepting a flat *de minimis* rate as a condition of award is an approved rate.
- Failure to establish an approved rate during the award period renders all costs otherwise allocable as indirect costs unallowable under the award.
- Recipients may not charge to their Service award any indirect costs calculated against the portion of total direct project costs paid by any other Federal funding source or non-Federal partner.
- Recipients must have prior written approval from the Service to transfer unallowable indirect costs to amounts budgeted for direct costs or to satisfy cost-sharing or matching requirements under the award.
- Recipients are prohibited from shifting unallowable indirect costs to another Federal award unless specifically authorized to do so by legislation.

Applicants who are individuals applying for funds separate from a business or non-profit organization he/she may operate are not eligible to charge indirect costs to their award. If you are an individual applying for funding, do not include any indirect costs in your proposed budget.

For more information on indirect cost rates, see the Service's **Indirect Costs and Negotiated Indirect Cost Rate Agreements** guidance document on the Internet at https://www.fws.gov/grants/atc.html.

Negotiating an Indirect Cost Rate with the Department of the Interior: Entities that do not have a NICRA must first have an open, active Federal award before they can submit an indirect cost rate proposal to their cognizant agency. The Federal awarding agency that provides the largest amount of direct funding to your organization is your cognizant agency, unless otherwise assigned by the White House Office of Management and Budget (OMB). If the Department of the Interior is your cognizant agency, your indirect cost rate will be negotiated by the Interior Business Center (IBC). For more information, contact the IBC at:
Indirect Cost Services
Acquisition Services Directorate, Interior Business Center
U.S. Department of the Interior
650 Capitol Mall, Suite 7-400
Sacramento, CA 95814
Phone: 916-930-3803
Email: Through https://www.doi.gov/ibc/contactus/ibcfeedback web form
Internet address: https://www.doi.gov/ibc/services/finance/indirect-cost-services

F. Single Audit Reporting Statements: As required in Title 2 of the Code of Federal Regulations Part 200, Subpart F, all U.S. states, local governments, federally-recognized Indian tribal governments, and non-profit organizations expending $750,000 USD or more in Federal award funds in a fiscal year must submit a Single Audit report for that year through the Federal Audit Clearinghouse's Internet Data Entry System. All U.S. state, local government, federally-recognized Indian tribal government and non-profit applicants must provide a statement regarding if your organization was/was not required to submit a Single Audit report for the organization's most recently closed fiscal year and, if so, state if that report is available on the Federal Audit Clearinghouse Single Audit Database website (https://harvester.census.gov/facweb/) and provide the EIN under which that report was submitted. Include these statements at the end of the Project Narrative in a section titled "**Single Audit Reporting Statements**".

G. Assurances: Include the appropriate signed and dated Assurances form available at http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/forms/sf-424-family.html#sortby=1. Use the **Assurances for Construction Programs (SF 424D)** for construction and land acquisition projects. Use the **Assurances for Non-Construction Programs (SF 424B)** for all other projects. The form includes a statement that some of the assurances may not be applicable to your organization and/or your project or program. Signing this form does not make you or your organization subject to laws that are otherwise not applicable to you or your organization. Changing, crossing out, or making notations on the form before signing has no impact on the applicability of law.

H. Certification and Disclosure of Lobbying Activities: Under Title 31 of the United States Code, Section 1352, an applicant or recipient must not use any federally appropriated funds (both annually appropriated and continuing appropriations) or matching funds under a grant or cooperative agreement award to pay any person for lobbying in connection with the award. Lobbying is defined as influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress connection with the award. Submission of an application also represents the applicant's certification of the statements in 43 CFR Part 18, Appendix A-

Certification Regarding Lobbying. If you/your organization have/has made or agrees to make any payment using non-appropriated funds for lobbying in connection with this proposal AND the Federal share exceeds $100,000, complete and submit the **SF LLL, Disclosure of Lobbying Activities** form available at http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/forms/post-award-reporting-forms.html#sortby=1. See 43 CFR, Subpart 18.100 for more information on when additional submission of this form is required.

I. Conflict of Interest Disclosures: Applicants must notify the Service in writing of any actual or potential conflicts of interest that are known at the time of application or that may arise during the life of this award, in the event an award is made. Conflicts of interest include any relationship or matter which might place the recipient, the recipient's employees, or the recipient's subrecipients in a position of conflict, real or apparent, between their responsibilities under the award and any other outside interests. Conflicts of interest may also include, but are not limited to, direct or indirect financial interests, close personal relationships, positions of trust in outside organizations, consideration of future employment arrangements with a different organization, or decision-making affecting the award that would cause a reasonable person with knowledge of the relevant facts to question the impartiality of the applicant, the applicant's employees, or the applicant's future subrecipients in the matter. Upon receipt of such a notice, the Service Project Officer in consultation with their Ethics Counselor will determine if a conflict of interest exists and, if so, if there are any possible actions to be taken by the applicant to reduce or resolve the conflict. Failure to resolve conflicts of interest in a manner that satisfies the Service may result in the project not being select for funding.

J. Required Overlap/Duplication Statement: Applicants must provide a statement that addresses if there is any overlap between the proposed project and any other active or anticipated projects in terms of activities, costs, or time commitment of key personnel. If any overlap exists, applicants must provide a description of the overlap in their application. Applicants must also state if the proposal submitted for consideration under this program is/is not in any way duplicative of any proposal that was/will be submitted for funding consideration to any other potential funding source (Federal or non-Federal). If such a circumstance exists, applicants must detail when the other duplicative proposal(s) were submitted, to whom (entity name and program), and when funding decisions are expected to be announced. If at any time a proposal is awarded funds that would be duplicative of the funding requested from the Service, applicants must notify the Service point of contact for this funding opportunity immediately.

Application Checklist

- ☐ **Evidence of non-profit status**: If a non-profit organization, a copy of their Section 501(c)(3) or (4) status determination letter received from the Internal Revenue Service.
  - ☐ **SF 424, Application for Federal Assistance**: A complete, signed and dated SF 424, SF 424-Mandatory, or SF 424-Individual form.
  - ☐ Project summary or Statement of Work
  - ☐ Project narrative

    - ☐ Timetable
    - ☐ **Single Audit Reporting statement**: If a U.S. state, local government, federally-recognized Indian tribal government, or non-profit organization, statements regarding applicability of and compliance with Single Audit reporting requirements.
    - ☐ **SF 424 budget form**: A complete SF 424A or SF 424C Budget Information form.
- ☐ Budget justification
- ☐ **Federally-funded equipment list**: If Federally-funded equipment will be used for the project, a list of that equipment.
- ☐ Indirect cost statement
- ☐ **NICRA**: When applicable, a copy of the organization's current Negotiated Indirect Cost Rate Agreement.
- ☐ **SF 424 Assurances form:** Signed and dated SF 424B or SF 424D Assurances form.
- ☐ **SF LLL form:** If applicable, completed SF-LLL Disclosure of Lobbying Activities form.
- ☐ Conflict of Interest disclosure, when applicable.
- ☐ Overlap/Duplication statement

Failure to provide complete information may cause delays, postponement, or rejection of the application.

V. Submission Instructions
SUBMISSION DEADLINE: July 3, 2017

Intergovernmental Review: Before submitting an application, U.S. state and local government applicants should visit the following website (http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/grants_spoc/) to determine whether their application is subject to the state intergovernmental review process under Executive Order (E.O.) 12372 "Intergovernmental review of Federal Programs." E.O. 12372 was issued to foster the intergovernmental partnership and strengthen federalism by relying on state and local processes for the coordination and review of proposed Federal financial assistance and direct Federal development. The E.O. allows each state to designate an entity to perform this function. The official list of designated entities is posted on the website. Contact your state's designated entity for more information on the process the state requires to be followed when applying for assistance. States that do not have a designated entity listed on the website have chosen not to participate in the review process.

Download the Application Package linked to this Funding Opportunity on Grants.gov to begin the application process. Downloading and saving the Application Package to your computer makes the required government-wide standard forms fillable and printable. Completed applications may be submitted by mail, by email, electronically through Grants.gov, or as otherwise described in the Grants.gov funding opportunity. Please select **ONE** of the submission options:

To submit an application by mail:
Number all pages of your printed application. Mail one, single-sided, unbound copy (do not staple or otherwise permanently bind pages) of your complete application to the Service program point of contact identified in the Grants.gov funding opportunity.

The required SF 424 Application for Federal Assistance and Assurances forms and any other required standard forms MUST be signed by your organization's authorized official. The Signature and Date fields on the standard forms downloaded from Grants.gov are pre-populated with the text "Completed by Grants.gov upon submission" or "Completed on submission to Grants.gov". Remove this text (manually or digitally) before signing the forms.

To submit an application by e-mail:
Format all of your documents to print on Letter size (8 ½" x 11") paper. Format all pages to display and print page numbers. Scanned documents should be scanned in Letter format, as black and white images only. Where possible, save scanned documents in .pdf format. E-mail your application to the Service program point of contact identified in the Grants.gov funding opportunity.

The required SF 424 Application for Federal Assistance and Assurances forms and any other required standard forms MUST be signed by your organization's authorized official. The Signature and Date fields on the standard forms downloaded from Grants.gov are pre-populated with the text "Completed by Grants.gov upon submission" or "Completed on submission to Grants.gov". Remove this text (manually or digitally) before signing the forms.

To submit an application through Grants.gov:
Go to the Grants.gov Apply for Grants page (http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/applicants/apply-for-grants.html) for an overview of the process to apply through Grants.gov. You/your organization must complete the Grants.gov registration process before submitting an application through Grants.gov. Registration can take between three to five business days, or as long as two weeks if all steps are not completed in a timely manner.

Important note on Grants.gov application attachment file names: Please do not assign application attachments file names longer than 20 characters, including spaces. Assigning file names longer than 20 characters will create issues in the automatic interface between Grants.gov and the Service's financial assistance management system.

VI. Application Review Information

Criteria: The agreement is for a single source financial assistance award based on the unique qualifications of the researchers at the Humboldt State University (HSU).

Review and Selection Process:
A Determination for Issuing a Single Source Financial Assistance Award was made due to the unique qualifications of researchers at HSU, a member of the California Cooperative Ecosystems Unit (CACESU). Solicitation and selections of CESUs has previously occurred under a broad announcement and competition. Each of the 17 CESUs in the network was formed by a prescribed round of competitive solicitations to universities, state organizations, tribes, and nongovernment organizations. Between fiscal years 1999 and 2003, the CESU Network Council conducted five rounds of formal competition to establish the 17 CESUs. All research universities were eligible to compete as a host university. Each CESU followed a formal process, developed by the CESU Network Council, and approved by the Department of the Interior Office of the Solicitor.

The competitive process was developed by the CESU council of interagency representatives and was approved by the Department of the Interior Solicitor's Office (a letter is on file with the National CESU office). For each CESU, a formal Program Announcement and Request for

Proposals was widely distributed in the states within a CESU biogeographical area. The RFP was published for 10 days in Commerce Business Daily as well as being posted on the CESU website. Proposals received by the assigned due date were technically evaluated according to criteria described in the RFP. Site visits to the applicants were organized and conducted. The CESU council of interagency representatives selected, by vote, the host and partners with each CESU. The competitive process is described further here: http://www.cesu.psu.edu/materials/fs-selecting.pdf

The experience and demonstrated expertise of Humboldt State University (HSU) researchers, as well as the existing collaboration among HSU, USGS and EPA researchers, and the USFWS Western Golden Eagle Team (WGET) is a paramount KSA to sufficiently complete the activities of this agreement. HSU researchers are already engaged in a variety of research projects related to integration of habitat models with population estimation and simulation models; the primary purpose of this agreement is to support and further integrate this research with the work of the WGET. Because this agreement supports a number of interrelated research activities requiring a high degree of expertise and specific state and federal permits, we have determined it is in the public's interest to use the existing CESU to accomplish the research program. This agreement allows Hsu to partner with USFWS and leverage both agencies resources to facilitate accomplishment of shared goals.

Prior to participating in any review or evaluation process, all staff and peer reviewers, evaluators, panel members, and advisors must sign and return to the program office point of contact the "Department of the Interior Conflict of Interest Certification" form. For a copy of this form, contact the Service point of contact identified in the Agency Contacts section below.

Prior to award, the Service reviews the selected applicant's statement regarding potential overlap or duplication in terms of activities, funding, or time commitment of key personnel and makes a determination regarding Service funding. Depending on the circumstances, modification of the application, other pending applications, or an active award may be necessary, or the Service might choose to not fund the proposed project.

Each fiscal year, for every entity receiving one or more awards in that fiscal year, the Service conducts a risk assessment based on eight risk categories. The result of this risk assessment is used to establish a monitoring plan for all awards to the entity in that fiscal year. For a copy of the Service's risk assessment form, go to https://www.fws.gov/grants/atc.html.

Prior to approving an award with a Federal funding amount that exceeds or is expected to exceed the simplified acquisition threshold, as adjusted (see 2 CFR 200.88), the Service must review and consider any information about the applicant that is in the designated integrity and performance system accessible through SAM (currently FAPIIS; https://www.fapiis.gov/fapiis/index.action) to determine if, at a minimum, the information found in the system for the applicant demonstrates a satisfactory record of Federal award performance and integrity and business ethics (see 2 CFR 200.205(a)(2)). The Service must also report to FAPIIS if an applicant subject to this review is found not qualified for a particular award due to its prior record of integrity or performance under Federal awards (see 2 CFR 200.212).

VII. Award Administration

Award Notices: Following review, applicants may be requested to revise the project scope and/or budget before an award is made. Successful applicants will receive written notice in the form of a notice of award document. Notices of award are typically sent to recipients by e-mail. If e-mail notification is unsuccessful, the documents will be sent by courier mail (e.g., FedEx, DHL or UPS). Award recipients are not required to sign/return the Notice of Award document. Acceptance of an award is defined as starting work, drawing down funds, or accepting the award via electronic means. Awards are based on the application submitted to, and as approved by, the Service. The notice of award document will include instructions specific to each recipient on how to request payment. If applicable, the instructions will detail any additional information/forms required and where to submit payment requests. Applicants whose projects are not selected for funding will receive written notice, most often by e-mail, within 5 business days of the final review decision.

Domestic Recipient Payments: Prior to award, the Service program office will contact you/your organization to either enroll in the U.S. Treasury's Automated Standard Application for Payments (ASAP) system or, if eligible, obtain approval from the Department of the Interior to be waived from using ASAP.

Domestic applicants subject to the SAM registration requirement (see Section III B.) who receive a waiver from receiving funds through ASAP must maintain current banking information in SAM. Domestic applicants exempt from the SAM registration requirement who receive a waiver from receiving funds through ASAP will be required to submit their banking information directly to the Service program. However, ***do NOT submit any banking information to the Service until it is requested from you by the Service program!***

Transmittal of Sensitive Data: Recipients are responsible for ensuring any sensitive data being sent to the Service is protected during its transmission/delivery. The Service strongly recommends that recipients use the most secure transmission/delivery method available. The Service recommends the following digital transmission methods: secure digital faxing; encrypted emails; emailing a password protected zipped/compressed file attachment in one email followed by the password in a second email; or emailing a zipped/compressed file attachment. The Service strongly encourages recipients sending sensitive data in paper copy to use a courier mail service. Recipients may also contact their Service Project Officer and provide any sensitive data over the telephone.

Award Terms and Conditions: Acceptance of a financial assistance award (i.e., grant or cooperative agreement) from the Service carries with it the responsibility to be aware of and comply with the terms and conditions applicable to the award. Acceptance is defined as the start of work, drawing down funds, or accepting the award via electronic means. Awards are based on the application submitted to and approved by the Service and are subject to the terms and conditions incorporated into the notice of award either by direct citation or by reference to the following: Federal regulations; program legislation or regulation; and special award terms and conditions. The Service's Standard Award Terms and Conditions are available on the Internet at https://www.fws.gov/grants/atc.html. If you do not have access to the Internet and require a full text copy of the award terms and conditions, contact the Service point of contact identified in the Agency Contacts section below.

Special Award Terms and Conditions: The Recipient will conduct scientific and scholarly activities as defined in Department of the Interior policy 305 DM 3, Integrity of Scientific and Scholarly Activities that are intended for use in Service decision-making processes and/or publications. Acceptance of this award carries with it the responsibility to be aware of and follow the Code of Scientific and Scholarly Conduct described in 305 DM 3, Section 3.7 to the best of your ability.

Recipient Reporting Requirements:
Financial and Performance Reports:
Final Reports: Recipients are required to submit final financial and performance reports no later than 90 calendar days after the award period of performance end date or termination date, whichever comes first. For awards lasting 12 months or less, the final reports will be the only financial and performance reports required, except in unusual circumstances or if waived.

Interim Reports: For awards that last longer than 12 months, recipients are required to submit interim financial and performance reports no less frequently than annually and no more frequently than quarterly, except in unusual circumstances or if waived. Requiring a higher frequency of reporting than annual reporting will be based on the Service's assessment of higher or other unusual circumstance. Quarterly and semiannual interim reports are due within 30 calendar days of the reporting period end date. Annual interim reports are due within 90 calendar days of the reporting period end date.

Recipients must use the Standard Form 425, Federal Financial Report for financial reporting, available on the Internet at http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/forms/post-award-reporting-forms.html#sortby=1.

Performance reports must contain: 1) a comparison of actual accomplishments with the goals and objectives of the award as detailed in the approved scope of work; 2) a description of reasons why established goals were not met, if appropriate; and 3) any other pertinent information relevant to the project results.

Significant Developments Reports: Events may occur between the scheduled performance reporting dates that have significant impact upon the supported activity. In such cases, recipients are required to notify the Service in writing as soon as the following types of conditions become known:

- Problems, delays, or adverse conditions that will materially impair the ability to meet the objective of the Federal award. This disclosure must include a statement of any corrective action(s) taken or contemplated, and any assistance needed to resolve the situation.
- Favorable developments that enable meeting time schedules and objectives sooner or at less cost than anticipated or producing more or different beneficial results than originally planned.

The Service will specify in the notice of award document the reporting and reporting frequency applicable to the award.

Conflict of Interest Disclosures: Recipients are responsible for notifying the Service Project Officer in writing of any actual or potential conflicts of interest that may arise during the life of this award. Conflicts of interest include any relationship or matter which might place the recipient, the recipient's employees, or the recipient's subrecipients in a position of conflict, real or apparent, between their responsibilities under this award and any other outside interests. Conflicts of interest may also include, but are not limited to, direct or indirect financial interests, close personal relationships, positions of trust in outside organizations, consideration of future employment arrangements with a different organization, or decision-making affecting the award that would cause a reasonable person with knowledge of the relevant facts to question the impartiality of the Recipient, the Recipient's employees, or the Recipient's subrecipients in the matter. Upon receipt of such a notice, the Service Project Officer in consultation with their Ethics Counselor will determine if a conflict of interest exists and, if so, if there are any possible actions to be taken by the Recipient, the Recipient's employee(s), or the Recipient's Subrecipient(s) that could reduce or resolve the conflict. Failure to resolve conflicts of interest in a manner that satisfies the Service may result in any of the remedies described in 2 CFR 200.338, Remedies for Noncompliance, including termination of this award.

Other Mandatory Disclosures: The non-Federal entity or applicant for a Federal award must disclose, in a timely manner, in writing to the Federal awarding agency or pass-through entity all violations of Federal criminal law involving fraud, bribery, or gratuity violations potentially affecting the Federal award. Non-Federal entities that have received a Federal award including the term and condition outlined in 2 CFR 200, Appendix XII—Award Term and Condition for Recipient Integrity and Performance Matters are required to report certain civil, criminal, or administrative proceedings to SAM. Failure to make required disclosures can result in any of the remedies described in 2 CFR 200.338 Remedies for noncompliance, including suspension or debarment. (See also 2 CFR Part 180, 31 U.S.C. 3321, and 41 U.S.C. 2313.)

2 CFR Part 200, Appendix XII—Award Term and Condition for Recipient Integrity and Performance Matters is applicable to awards with a total Federal share of more than $500,000, except those to individuals and foreign public entities.

VIII. Agency Contacts
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