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	P19AS00497
Project Title	Youth Crews Perform Habitat Restoration at Pinnacles National Pa
Recipient	American Conservation Experience
Anticipated Federal Funding	$93,000.00, subject to available funding ($14,054.39 initially)
Non-Federal Cost Share	$31,000.00 ($4,684.80 initially)
Total Anticipated Award Amount	$124,000.00, subject to available funding
Award Instrument	☑ Task Agreement ☐ Cooperative Agreement ☐ Grant Agreement
Anticipated Period of Performance	09/01/2019 – 12/31/2022
Legal Authority	16 U.S.C. §1723(c)
CFDA # and Title	15.931, Conservation Activities by Youth Service Organizations
Single Source Justification Criteria	
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Section 1. Project Summary

PROJECT GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

This multi-year project focuses on providing American Conservation Experience (ACE) youth crews with work experience and educational opportunities on conservation projects within Pinnacles National Park (PINN or park). Youth crews will primarily work on invasive plant management, but other projects may include maintaining a pig exclusionary fence, fuels reduction, training in wildlife surveys and trail work. Youth will gain understanding of habitat restoration concepts, invasive species management skills, team-building, and communication skills, which will aid them in their future careers. The objectives of this project are to provide career skills for participating youth and improve approximately 5,000 acres of native habitat at PINN. Every effort will be made to ensure crews receive a service-learning experience, are provided with safe work practices training, work plans, and on-the-job training.

STATEMENT OF PUBLIC PURPOSE

This project will provide opportunities for youth to learn about the environment by spending time working on projects in National Parks. ACE crews receive a high degree of daily mentorship and training throughout their experience at PINN. The project instills through its programming components the development of leadership skills in its youth participants and encourages them to teach the NPS mission of natural and cultural resource stewardship to others in their communities and beyond. This project will benefit the general public by providing opportunities to experience and observe Central California's unique wildflowers and wildlife in the absence of dense infestations of highly invasive species. Many thousands of visitors come to PINN every year to witness California's native plants and animals in a natural and wild setting. This project provides direct support to protecting and enhancing these park attributes for the public.

STATEMENT OF WORK SUMMARY

1. Habitat Restoration and Invasive Species Control: Crews will assist the park in habitat restoration by bringing lands to healthier condition through active revegetation, intense invasive species control, feral animal fencing, fuels management, and other habitat restoration techniques. Within the core area of the park, many sites are reaching a level where eradication is feasible; however reinvasion is still a possibility due to the proximity of uncontrolled sites.

2. Trail Activities: Crews will assist with trail maintenance, such as brushing, helping to improve park trails.

3. Wildlife Management: Crews will receive training on and assist with wildlife surveys and management techniques from NPS staff.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE PARTIES

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

1. Provide crew members and qualifying supervisors to accomplish work objectives.
2. Coordinate a work schedule with the NPS.
3. Provide materials, specialized tools, personal protective equipment and related supplies and safety gear to crew members.
4. Provide transportation to and from PINN and within park during assignment.
5. Ensure properly trained crew leader accompanies crews and conducts safe work practices at all times.
6. Take steps to insure that all accidents involving personal injury (other than minor first aid), and property damage occurring within facilities or programs assigned under this project are reported immediately to the NPS Key Official or his/her authorized representative.
7. Coordinate off-site housing arrangements for crew members when not at the park.

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:

1. Ensure that ACE crews are given proper orientation to the park, logistical support, technical expertise, and resource education with a particular emphasis on natural and cultural resource management.
2. Hold orientation meetings with ACE members and staff at the commencement of projects approved by ACE, for the purpose of explaining technical aspects, safety considerations, and other details necessary for successful completion of the project.
3. Supplement materials, specialized tools, personal protection equipment, and related supplies for ACE crew as needed.
4. Provide safety training, skills development, plant identification, use of technical field equipment including remote telemetry equipment and GPS.
5. Provide ACE crew a campsite at the park during work weeks.
6. Assist with the safe undertaking of fieldwork and have appropriate NPS staff accompany ACE crews when needed in the field.

☐ 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;

(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. A single source on the basis of continuation must demonstrate that competition would result in a substantial duplicate cost to the government that cannot be recovered through competition;

(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;

(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.

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.
- [x] 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: