

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	NPS-19-NERO-0113
Project Title	Inspire Cooperative Coastal Adaptation Through Locally-Scaled Vu
Recipient	Boston University
Anticipated Federal Funding	\$105,930.00
Non-Federal Cost Share	\$0
Total Anticipated Award Amount	\$105,930.00
Award Instrument	☐ Task Agreement ☒ Cooperative Agreement ☐ Grant Agreement
Anticipated Period of Performance	9/1/2019 - 9/21/2021 (Original CA signed 9/21/2017)
Legal Authority	54 U.S.C. §101702(a)
CFDA # and Title	15.944 Natural Resource Stewardship
Single Source Justification Criteria	Continuation
National Park Service Point of Contact	Patrick Reidy, Grants Management Specialist 215-597-5949

Section 1. Project Summary

PROJECT GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

This is Modification 02 to Cooperative Agreement P17AC00958. The objectives of this project are: (1) to characterize the processes involved in coastal change in the park; (2) to develop predictions about the rates and magnitudes of these processes on each distinct shoreline segment of three sets of islands (cultural resources cluster, salt marsh cluster, and high energy cluster), including analyses of three future sea level scenarios; (3) to predict when specific key thresholds will be reached (e.g. granite seawall overtopping, marsh loss, lighthouse, fort, nesting colony or campground inundation); and (4) to develop and present maps and other graphic products that interpret the predictions for federal and non-federal landowners and the public. This modification provides funding for the remaining project years for Boston University of a project started 9/21/2017.

STATEMENT OF PUBLIC PURPOSE

The project fulfills a range of public purposes, including (1) engaging cooperating partners and stakeholders in shared environmental stewardship, (2) providing new knowledge through the research and dissemination of results of natural, cultural and historical resources to benefit cooperating researchers and the broader scientific community, (3) increasing public awareness, knowledge and support for stewardship of the nation's natural and cultural heritage, and (4) providing graduate student field opportunities to enhance their educational experience.

The goals of the agreement and modification are to provide essential information that non-federal island owners and the public need to help protect nationally significant cultural and natural resources in the Boston Harbor Islands National Recreation Area, to advance the field of coastal change modeling and mapping by utilizing novel locally-scaled analyses, and to provide graduate student opportunities for field project work to enhance their educational objectives. The information, products, and activities that comprise this project are intended to facilitate collaborative adaptation planning by the non-federal landowners and other partners in the Boston Harbor Islands Partnership, and to increase public awareness, knowledge and support for stewardship of the natural and cultural heritage of the Boston Harbor Islands.

STATEMENT OF WORK SUMMARY

Localized predictions of the effects of storms and flooding on coastal features will be produced for each island, using model output data for three sea level scenarios. Maps and graphical products will be produced that identify indicators that can be easily monitored, and recommend thresholds essential for adaptation decision-making. The project develops scientific information on facilities and natural resources including all of the embayed salt marsh habitats within the park, nesting sites for multiple coastal breeding bird species, and extremely vulnerable cultural resources on Gallops Island, Georges Island and others that have begun to be exposed by erosion. Project findings will be presented to the scientific community, to non-federal landowners, the NPS, and others in the Boston Harbor Islands Partnership, to local students, and to the general public. The application of the results will be transferable to other research groups and to planners and managers of coastal public lands where the management of historic fortifications and other cultural and natural resources needs to be balanced with visitor access and dynamic natural processes. This project will become an important component of the burgeoning collaboration around coastal adaptation planning in the Boston area, including the City of Boston, the Boston Planning and Development Agency, the Massachusetts state parks agency (Department of Conservation and Recreation), the U.S. Coast Guard, and others, in addition to NPS.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE PARTIES

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

1. Develop data sets, map products and related interpretive materials using clear language and simple graphics in order to facilitate collaborative decision-making by landowners, NPS and other stakeholders, including member organizations in the Boston Harbor Islands Partnership.
2. Facilitate meetings and workshops to disseminate key information and initiate discussion about collaborative coastal adaptation planning based on project findings.
3. Provide a Final Report summarizing findings and deliverables.
4. Provide staff, transportation, travel allowance/reimbursement for staff, meeting facilitation, public relations, science communication specialist, and supplies required to perform the work.

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. Advise on all aspects of this study
2. Assign the Northeast Region Coastal Landscape Adaptation Coordinator to collaborate with the Boston University investigators on the project study design, and final report preparation;
3. Facilitate access to the islands as needed (e.g. coordinate partner/landowner permission and boat access to islands not serviced by ferries);
4. Provide information necessary for identifying site locations and environmental and technical information about sites, including locations of important natural and cultural resources and visitor facilities;
5. Provide advice to Boston University investigators on issues that arise during the project;
6. Participate and provide unsolicited advice in formal project review meetings;
7. Provide technical review and facilitate peer-review of the final report; and
8. Provide financial assistance.

- ☐ 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.

This a Continuation of single source justified CA P17AC00958, which began on 9/21/2017.

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: