



**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 (NPS), intention to fund the following project activities **without** competition.

ABSTRACT	
Funding Announcement	NPS-NOIP15AC00938
Project Title	National Park Service- TNC Part Five, Examine the influences of Climate Change on Birds while Training International Biologists
Recipient	The Nature Conservancy
Total Anticipated Award Amount	\$33,781
Cost Share	<i>None Required</i>
Anticipated Length of Agreement	Through September 30, 2018
Anticipated Period of Performance	Through September 30, 2018
Award Instrument	Cooperative Agreement (task award)
Statutory Authority	<i>54 U.S.C. §100703, Cooperative Study Units</i>
CFDA # and Title	<i>15.945, Cooperative Research & Training Programs</i>
Single Source Justification Criteria Cited	# 2 Continuation
Point of Contact	Katie Gaertner, Grants Management Specialist

OVERVIEW, RECIPIENT AND NPS SUBSTANTIAL INVOLVEMENT

The Nature Conservancy will collaborate with the National Park Service (NPS) to provide one U.S.-citizen biologist with bird banding experience for training the Latin American biologists and for data quality control, ensure that birds are banded at three (3) MAPS sites at Bandelier National Monument and three (3) sites at Mesa Verde National Park. Each site shall be visited a minimum of 8 mornings during May 20 to August 8. A morning is defined in this scope of work as a time when bird banding is conducted for a total minimum of 30 net-hours and a maximum of 60-net-hours each day. Total

net-hours for a morning are calculated by summing the totals time open for all individual nets opened that morning, ensure that birds are banded at three (3) MAPS sites at Bandelier National Monument and three (3) sites at Mesa Verde National Park. Each site shall be visited a minimum of 8 mornings during May 20 to August 8. A morning is defined in this scope of work as a time when bird banding is conducted for a total minimum of 30 net-hours and a maximum of 60-net-hours each day. Total net-hours for a morning are calculated by summing the totals time open for all individual nets opened that morning, ensure that birds are banded at two (2) constant-effort fall migration sites. Each site shall be visited a minimum of 10 mornings during August 1-October 15. A morning is defined in this scope of work as a time when bird banding is conducted for a total minimum of 60 net-hours and a maximum of 120-net-hours before 1:00 p.m. MDT. Total net-hours for a morning are calculated by summing the totals time open for all individual nets opened that morning, ensure that the international biologists will record all data onto hard copy paper forms provided by the NPS, and ensure that the international biologists shall enter all bird-banding data into electronic form using an MS-excel file and MAPS-specific software provided by the NPS.

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 be responsible for acquiring all state and federal permits related to this project, be responsible for acquiring all state and federal permits related to this project, be responsible for developing documents for Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) review under the Animal Welfare Act. The NPS IACUC will have exclusive jurisdiction over this project, ensure that international biologists will capture and band birds following the Monitoring Avian Productivity and Survivorship (MAPS) protocols during the May-July time period, using mist nets and other equipment provided by the NPS, provide and explain the MAPS protocols to the TNC-provided and international biologists, provide lab-top computer as needed, ensure that international biologists will capture and band birds following constant-effort mist-netting protocols during the August-October, using mist nets and other equipment provided by the NPS and be responsible for sending data to the Institute for Bird Populations (IBP).

SINGLE-SOURCE JUSTIFICATION

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR SINGLE SOURCE POLICY REQUIREMENTS
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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.
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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.

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

(2) Continuation – This award is the continuation of a prior year award which was awarded to The Nature Conservancy. The research for this award has been ongoing project with the Principal Investigator and competition would have a significant adverse effect on the continuity or completion of the activity. In addition, the cooperator is a member of an established Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit (CESU) network, and was awarded a Cooperative Agreement (H1200100001) allowing TNC 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 Conservancy Partner in the Cooperative Ecosystems Study Unit, their capacity to provide appropriate researchers, and their ability to broadly utilize research results as teaching tool.