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	P19AS00591
Project Title	Plan and Implement Hazardous Fuels Reduction Activities on Natio
Recipient	County of Marin, Marin County Fire Department
Anticipated Federal Funding	$1,499,995.00, subject to available funding ($249,995.00 initially)
Non-Federal Cost Share	$54,612.00 ($9,612.00 initially)
Total Anticipated Award Amount	$1,554,607.00, subject to available funding
Award Instrument	☐ Task Agreement ☑ Cooperative Agreement ☐ Grant Agreement
Anticipated Period of Performance	09/15/2019 – 09/15/2024
Legal Authority	54 U.S.C. § 101702(a)
CFDA # and Title	15.948, National Fire Plan-Wildland Urban Interface Community Fire
Single Source Justification Criteria	(4) Unique Qualifications
National Park Service Point of Contact	Rachel Dell'Osso, Grants Management Specialist | Point Reyes National Seashore | (415) 464-5110 | rachel_dell'osso@nps.gov

Section 1. Project Summary

PROJECT GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The purpose of the National Park Service's (NPS) wildland-urban interface community assistance program is to implement the National Fire Plan and aid communities at risk from catastrophic wildland fires by providing assistance in the following areas: provide community programs that develop local capability including; risk assessment and planning, mitigation activities, and community and homeowner education and action; plan and implement hazardous fuels reduction activities, monitoring or maintenance associated with such activities on federal land or on adjacent non-federal land where there is a threat of catastrophic fire to communities and natural resources; enhance local and small business employment opportunities for rural communities; enhance the knowledge and fire protection capability of rural fire districts by providing assistance in education and mitigation methods on a cost share basis.

STATEMENT OF PUBLIC PURPOSE

The purpose of this Agreement is to mitigate the threat of catastrophic fire to communities and natural resources by reducing the amount of hazardous wildland fuels in the parks while initiating inventory and monitoring programs to determine the impacts of fuels reduction and removal actions on vegetation, wildlife, and overall ecosystem health.

STATEMENT OF WORK SUMMARY

Personnel from MCFD's TFC and NPS' SF Bay Area Network will plan and implement hazardous fuels/vegetation reduction activities (fuels work) on NPS lands in Point Reyes National Seashore, Golden Gate National Recreation Area, and Muir Woods National Monument. The parties will also collaborate on monitoring and long-term maintenance associated with these hazardous fuels/vegetation reduction activities to assess fuel loading and treatment effectiveness.

The fuels work accomplished under this Agreement will include cutting and piling, chipping, or hauling living or dead flammable vegetation including trees, branches, or brush. The goal of this work is to increase protection to the structures, residents, and communities that live near the parks' boundaries. This Agreement will also provide for fuels work to protect NPS facilities and resources and increase safety for visitors.

TFC will maintain operational readiness to respond to wildland fires in the parks identified in this Agreement, as well as throughout Marin County, by having fire response vehicles on-site while conducting project activities.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE PARTIES

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

1. Provide the TFC with all equipment and staff to complete project activities throughout the duration of the Agreement. For Phase 1, this includes a total of 50 work days.
2. Provide technical guidance, crew leadership, and crew personnel for the removal and reduction of targeted wildland fuels. The crew will include 8 seasonal firefighters, one engineer, and one crew captain for a total of 10 persons.
3. Coordinate a work schedule with the NPS to perform work activities. Work weeks will consist of 4 10-hour days. Unless specifically requested, fuels work will not be conducted on weekends.
4. Provide cost sharing or matching, if available, for work on certain project activities, as mutually agreed to by both parties.
5. Provide supplies, materials, and equipment, as necessary, to perform specific project activities.
6. Provide NPS with final reports, images, mappings, and requested monitoring data from activities conducted under this Agreement.
7. Provide assistance to NPS fire ecology, fuels planning, and natural resource monitoring programs.
8. Provide advice regarding hazardous fuels reduction planning, wildland fire fuels inventorying, and monitoring protocols and

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. Provide MCFD, to the extent allowed by the law and applicable NPS policies, use of the resources and facilities for appropriate training.
2. Provide MCFD with technical assistance and guidance as deemed necessary.
3. Where it is deemed in the best interest of the NPS, MCFD staff may be authorized to utilize NPS-owned equipment to assist in accomplishing the objectives of the projects funded through this Agreement.
4. Hold orientation briefings with MCFD personnel at the commencement of each project activity to discuss safety considerations and clearly explain the project operational plan, expectations, specific instructions, desired outcomes, and other necessary details.
5. Provide on-site coordination and assistance for project activities.

☐ 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.

MCFD has unique qualifications to conduct hazardous fuels reduction activities initiated under this agreement due to its location and technical expertise. MCFD is a well-established, local all-hazard fire department that responds to incidents and provides protection to adjacent communities and local land management agencies in Marin County. MCFD's TFC is a professional, local, state-certified Type 1 fire crew that has been involved in many hazardous fuels management, prescribed fire, and suppression activities on NPS lands. It is located in close proximity to the project areas; has the equipment, skill set and technical expertise to conduct project activities; and help the NPS reach its hazardous fuels reduction goals. It also provides the NPS another mechanism for reaching out to community members and organizations through outreach and educational component of the TFC program.

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: