



NOTICE OF INTENT TO AWARD

This Funding Announcement is not a request for applications. This announcement is to provide public notice of the U.S. Geological Survey's intention to fund the following project activities without full and open competition.

ABSTRACT	
Funding Announcement	USGS-18-FAC-0060 G18AC00060
Project Title	Estuarine Wetland and Nearshore Ecology Studies along the Pacific Flyway
Recipient	San Jose State University Research Foundation
Principal Investigator / Program Manager	James Harvey Moss Landing Marine Laboratories 8272 Moss Landing Rd. Moss Landing, CA 95093 jharvey@mlml.calstate.edu (831)771-4402
Anticipated Federal Amount	Planned Obligation Value: \$99,800 and Planned Total Value \$499,999
Cost Share	N/A
Total Anticipated Award Amount	Planned Obligation Value: \$99,800 and Planned Total Value \$499,999
New Award or Continuation?	New
Anticipated Period of Performance	Date of Award to 5/1/2023
Award Instrument	Cooperative Agreement
CFDA # and Title	15.808 Research & Data Collection
USGS Point of Contact	Cheryl Ciccarelli cciccarelli@usgs.gov 916-278-9346 Sasha Klingler sklingler@usgs.gov 916-278-9333

OVERVIEW

The major goal of the proposed research is to study Estuarine Wetland and Nearshore Ecology Studies along the Pacific Flyway. The agreement is established to facilitate general cooperation between USGS and MLML in the collection of data relevant to estuarine wetland and nearshore ecology studies along the Pacific Flyway.

RECIPIENT INVOLVEMENT

Recipient will

1. Provide science support and conduct monitoring surveys in areas of estuarine restoration.
2. Develop experimental research studies that increase understanding of coastal ecology with a focus on Pacific Flyway avian species and their habitats with global change

USGS INVOLVEMENT

Substantial involvement on the part USGS is anticipated for the successful completion of the objectives to be funded by this award. In particular, USGS will be responsible for the following:

The project will be carried out in close partnership with USGS researchers during survey and sampling efforts as well as quantitative evaluation of habitat characteristics, and waterbird abundance and distribution in the San Francisco Bay Estuary. The recipient will be integral in sampling and data collection, and working with government and local cooperators to facilitate project development and data acquisition and management. The USGS will provide the equipment (spotting scopes, field supplies, benthic sampling gear, microscopes), and transport to and from field sites. Data and information collected during the project will be the property of USGS but may be disseminated via a variety of means, including graduate student theses, USGS series reports, and scientific publications that may be jointly authored by USGS, and recipient scientists. Sharing and dissemination of data will follow USGS guidelines for data management and peer review, and will be done in a collaborative manner that benefits USGS, NPS, and the recipient. The recipient is expected to hire trained and qualified biological technicians to conduct the field sampling, data entry, and quality assurance.

SINGLE-SOURCE JUSTIFICATION

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR SINGLE SOURCE POLICY REQUIREMENTS
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.
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.
- (6) Cooperative Agreements - USGS Unique Authority cited at 43 U.S.C. 36d (Federal, State, and academic partners) or DOI Authority cited at 43 U.S.C. 1457b (not-for-profit organizations).

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

(4) Unique Qualifications - San Jose State University Research Foundation, Moss Landing Marine Laboratories (MLML) and California State Universities (CSU), have been working with scientists at the USGS Western Ecological Research Center (WERC) in estuarine wetland studies, open water habitat research, and nearshore ecology for many years. MLML is a consortium campus for seven different CSUs, with a focus on marine science. James T. Harvey, Director, Moss Landing Marine Laboratories, at Cal State University is uniquely qualified to contribute to this project because of his experience in marine science, and the monitoring of students during the collection of data relevant to estuarine wetland studies.

Single Source Justification Description:

(6) Cooperative Agreements - USGS Unique Authority cited at 43 U.S.C. 36d (Federal, State, and academic partners).

STATUTORY AUTHORITY

The statutory authority is 43 U.S.C. 36d which reads as follows:

Title 43 - PUBLIC LANDS

CHAPTER 2 - UNITED STATES GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

Sec. 36d - Cooperative agreements

Notwithstanding the provisions of the Federal Grant and Cooperative Agreement Act of 1977 (31 U.S.C. 6301–6308), the United States Geological Survey is authorized to continue existing, and on and after November 10, 2003, to enter into new cooperative agreements directed towards a particular cooperator, in support of joint research and data collection activities with Federal, State, and academic partners funded by appropriations herein, including those that provide for space in cooperator facilities.