

RECLAMATION

Managing Water in the West

U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Reclamation

NOTICE OF INTENT TO AWARD

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

ABSTRACT	
Funding Announcement	R12SS40022
Project Title	Boundary Fence Maintenance and Repair
Recipient	Western Colorado Conservation Corps-Mesa Youth Services
Principal Investigator / Program Manager	Trevor Wickersham – Director
Anticipated Federal Amount	\$48,000
Cost Share	25% Required
Total Anticipated Award Amount	\$48,000
New Award or Continuation?	New Award (for continuation of fencing work already ongoing with WCCC)
Anticipated Period of Performance	8 Weeks
Award Instrument	Cooperative Agreement
Statutory Authority	The Public Lands Corps Act of 1993 (16 U.S.C. §§ 1721-1730) and Youth Conservation Corps Act of 1970 (16 U.S.C. §§ 1701-06)
CFDA # and Title	15.546 Youth Conservation Program
Single Source Justification Criteria Cited	(2) Continuation
Reclamation Point of Contact	Kent Van Roosendaal (970) 248-0658 or Kathleen Ozga (970) 248-0649

OVERVIEW

Property boundary fencing is in need of repair, replacement, and in some cases installation at various Reclamation project areas under the jurisdiction of the Western Colorado Area Office, Grand Junction, Colorado. A boundary fence encompasses the reservoir boundary and State Park recreation area, and separates the recreation area/federal land from adjoining private

property. The boundary fence keeps cattle, sheep, and other livestock from entering the reservoir area/State Park and public recreation areas, it restricts unauthorized uses and trespass, identifies the extent of the federal project area and State Park, and helps protect project resources.

The project areas/reservoirs associated with this work includes Rifle Gap Reservoir (Silt Project), Vega Reservoir (Collbran Project), and Ridgway Reservoir (Dallas Creek Project). All projects are located on the western slope of Colorado.

RECIPIENT INVOLVEMENT

Scope of Work:

Fence maintenance and repairs to existing property boundary fence at Rifle Gap, Vega Reservoir and Ridgway Reservoir. The work consists of clearing of vegetation. Fence maintenance includes the repair or replacement of existing fence to the fence standard described below, and the removal of old fence that is no longer needed or usable. New fence may also need to be installed complying with the fence standard. The necessary fence work will be prioritized based on the highest priority or need for each reservoir area. Reseeding areas of disturbance caused from fencing activities may be necessary; Reclamation will supply the seed and materials. Installation of steel gates may also be needed. Fence materials will be supplied by Reclamation; however, the Recipient may be required to transport fence materials from Reclamation's wareyard/storage area in Grand Junction to the worksite at Rifle Gap and Vega Reservoirs.

To accomplish this work a Crew Chief and 8 fence crew members will be needed for approximately 8 weeks at 40 hours per week (Crew Chief 40 hours/wk x 8 weeks = 320 hours; fence crew members 8 members x 40 hrs/wk = 320 hrs/wk x 8 wks = 2560 hours). The time will be split with about 6 weeks at Rifle Gap Reservoir and 2 weeks at Vega Reservoir. If any funding and time remains after work is accomplished at Rifle Gap and Vega Reservoir, the remaining balance may be used at Ridgway Reservoir for the same purposes. The following items are included in the scope of work:

1. Trees will not be removed unless absolutely necessary and approved by Reclamation. The Recipient will minimize damage to trees and vegetation as much as possible. Consult with Reclamation GOTR to advise as needed.
2. Clearing vegetation means to remove the vegetation (mainly brush, shrubs, and low tree branches that are in the way of the fence, and any trees that have been approved by Reclamation for removal) along the existing and proposed fence lines, this may be accomplished using mechanical means and/or hand clearing to clear a path or corridor to provide access and room to work in order to repair, replace, or construct new fence and for future fence maintenance. Clearing does not apply to grass.
3. The Recipient will use existing roads and routes to access the work sites, unless new routes are specifically approved by Reclamation.
4. Repair or Replace means: If the fence wire, posts, wood stays, steel T-posts, bracing, etc., of an existing fence is in fair to good condition then repair the fence as needed and upgrade to the fence standard described below. Replace parts of a fence or a segment of fence if the fence wire, posts, wood stays, steel T-posts, bracing, etc. are in poor condition (split, broken, cut, rotting, damaged, leaning, etc.) and upgrade to the fence standard described below.

5. An onsite meeting may be required to see the project work area(s) and work proposed under this statement of work.
6. Existing old fence that is removed from the fence line or other fence that is removed from its place shall be properly disposed of offsite. Completely remove the old fence from within the Reservoir/State Park boundary and dispose of appropriately and legally.

FENCE STANDARD: Construct new fence and repair or replace existing fencing to the following standard:

This is a 4 wire fence (using barbed and smooth/barbless wire) designed to keep livestock (especially cattle) out of the State Park off Reclamation land, with some important wildlife considerations. For the fence to be wildlife friendly there has to be a 12 inch spacing between the top two wires, this is a kick space to prevent entanglement with elk and deer legs when jumping the fence. Sixteen (16) inch spacing is needed between the ground and the bottom wire, so elk calves and deer fawns can crawl under the fence. The top wire has to be tight or deer and elk will still have a problem entangling their legs in the wire. This will help to ensure uninterrupted migration routes and the survival of elk, deer, and especially, young calves and fawns

1. Wood Posts:

The line posts are 6 inch diameter pressure treated wood posts, 7 – 8 feet in length. The line posts are placed a minimum of 3 ft. in the ground (in a pre-dug hole), the wood posts are not driven into the ground); the wood post extends 4 ft. (48 inches) above the ground.

- Space the wood posts 15 or 20 feet apart as instructed with a steel T-post (5 ½, 6, or 6 ½ feet in length) spaced evenly in-between the wood posts and a pressure treated wood stay (2 ½"x 2 ½"x 48") spaced evenly in-between the wood posts and steel T-post. In other words, a wood post then a wood stay then a steel T-post then a wood stay then a wood post evenly spaced within the 15 ft. spacing or 20 ft. spacing.
- If the existing fence does not fit into the 15 ft. or 20 ft. spacing between wood posts then a lesser spacing may be used where needed and approved.

2. Fence Wire:

A 12 ½ gauge 2 pt. galvanized barbed wire and 12 ½ gauge galvanized twisted barbless/smooth wire will be used to construct new fence or to repair or replace existing fence.

- The BOTTOM wire is a smooth/barbless wire attached to the wood line post at 16 inches above the ground,
- The 2nd wire from the bottom is a barbed wire attached to the wood post at 23 inches above the ground.
- The 3rd wire from the bottom is a barbed wire attached to the wood post at 30 inches above the ground.
- The top wire or 4th wire from the bottom is barbed wire attached to the post 42 inches above the ground.
- All wires will be tight.
- All wires will be attached to wood posts using 1 ¾ inch or 2 inch staples.
- All wires will be attached to wood stays using appropriate gauge (12 gauge) galvanized fence or tie wire, or wire clip.

- All wires will be attached to steel T-posts using wire clips or if not available an appropriate gauge (12 gauge) galvanized fence/tie wire.
- 3. Steel T-posts: 5 ½ foot, 6 foot, or 6 ½ foot steel T-posts will be used and will be pounded or driven into the ground the appropriate depth to match the height of the wood posts so the height of the fence looks the same, and the foot tread on the steel post is buried or partially buried beneath the ground surface.
- 4. Pressure treated wood stays are approximately 2 ½"x2 ½"x48". They will be placed between the wood post and the steel T-posts. The bottom of the wood stay must rest on the ground surface.
- 5. Braces: Contractor will determine where and what type of support, stress, end, or corner brace will be used to provide strength and support to the fence. If the fence bracing is not adequate the Contractor will be responsible to replace or add additional braces at no extra cost to Reclamation.

RECLAMATION INVOLVEMENT

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

1. Provide all necessary fencing materials and gates.
2. When necessary identify and mark the federal boundary and Closed Area boundary line on ground.
3. Ensure the availability of camping locations (facilities or backcountry) for the duration of each project.
4. Provide oversight at the beginning of each task to ensure clear understanding of the task to be completed. Periodically review and inspect the work as it is being accomplished and provide a final review after the entire task in completed.
5. Complete all necessary NEPA (National Environmental Protection Act) compliance associated with the work.
6. Specify acceptable access routes to work sites.

Reclamation will monitor and provide federal oversight of activities performed under this Agreement. Monitoring and oversight includes review and approval of financial status and performance reports, payment requests, and any other deliverables identified as part of the Scope of Work. Additional monitoring activities may include site visits, conference calls, and other onsite and off-site monitoring activities. At the Recipient's request, Reclamation may also provide technical assistance to the Recipient in support of the Scope of Work and objectives of this Agreement.

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.

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

This agreement award will:

Promote and stimulate public purposes such as education, job training, development of responsible citizenship, productive community involvement, and furthering the understanding and appreciation of natural and cultural resources through the involvement of local youth and young adults in the care and enhancement of public resources; and

Continue the long-standing efforts of Reclamation to provide opportunities for public service youth employment, minority youth development and training, and the participation of young adults in accomplishing conservation related work which clearly represents public benefit as exemplified through Reclamation support of programs such as the Federal Youth Conservation Corps, and state and local Conservation Corps; and

Restore and maintain Reclamation resources in a cost-effective and efficient manner that provides for the mutual benefit of the Youth Conservation Corps and Reclamation and for the general benefit of the people of the United States and future generations.

In addition, the recipient will provide a 25% non-federal cost-share through either cash or in-kind services, and tasks/activities identified in the statement of work and work will commence within 2 weeks of the issuance.

(2) CONTINUATION

The activity to be funded 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. The WCCC fence crew is already mobilized and hard at work on-site with their equipment, tools, and fencing materials, completing work specified in an existing agreement. They know the fence specifications and requirements. It is in the best interest of the government continuing the work with WCCC because it provides a savings in time, effort and money, and will allow them to do additional work in which they have already been doing and are familiar with. To go out and seek competition would not be cost effective or advantageous to the government or the general public.

STATUTORY AUTHORITY

The Public Lands Corps Act of 1993 (16 U.S.C. §§ 1721-1730) and the Youth Conservation Corps Act of 1970 (16 U.S.C. §§ 1701-06) as delegated to Reclamation through Secretarial Order No. 3286, Amendment 1.

The Public Lands Corps Act of 1993.

§1723. Public Lands Corps program, © Qualified youth or conservation corps, (1) In general, The secretary is authorized to enter into contracts and cooperative agreements with any qualified youth or conservation corps to perform appropriate conservation projects referred to in subsection (d) of this section.