



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-19-FA-9978
Project Title	Fisheries Ecology of St. Mary's River
Recipient	Lake Superior State University
Principal Investigator / Program Manager	Principal Investigator: Ashley Moerke
Anticipated Federal Amount	\$75,000
Cost Share	None
Total Anticipated Award Amount	Possibly up to \$375,000
New Award or Continuation?	New Award
Anticipated Period of Performance	August 24, 2019
Award Instrument	Cooperative Agreement
CFDA # and Title	15.808 – U.S. Geological Survey Research and Data Collection
USGS Point of Contact	Annie Howard ahoward@usgs.gov

OVERVIEW

This project is part of a larger endeavor to understand fish production and habitat status and function in the St. Mary's River. This project will synthesize existing data and information about fish spawning and nursery areas.

RECIPIENT INVOLVEMENT

Lake Superior State University staff will develop a relational database archive of historic fish and habitat metrics, conduct analyses of data to provide a conceptual model of fish community and habitat relationships in the St. Mary's River rapids area, and prepare a scholarly publication with outreach efforts.

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 for sample collection, sample processing, and data interpretation to characterize fish populations and habitats in the St. Mary's River. The recipient will advise USGS on sample collection, database development, analysis, and dissemination of results. USGS will provide sample collection and initial processing. Together, USGS and the recipient will determine additional elements for analysis based on ongoing field observations and the results of initial analyses by the recipient. 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 are jointly authored by USGS and recipient scientists.

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:

Single Source Justification Description:

(4) UNIQUE QUALIFICATIONS

USGS Great Lakes Science Center, requests award to Lake Superior State University because they have a long history of working on the St. Mary's River, and have facilities located on the study site that can be used to facilitate this work. The Universities' Dr. Moerk, Kapuscinski and Griel have over 50 years of experience working on the system, with a demonstrated high level of expertise and knowledge. Undergraduate students at LSSU can be used for technical support in field and laboratory portions of the project.

STATUTORY AUTHORITY

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