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	NOI-P20AC00353
Project Title	Assess Natural Resource Impacts and Determine Restoration Acti
Recipient	University of Texas at Austin
Anticipated Federal Funding	$42,889.58
Non-Federal Cost Share	$0
Total Anticipated Award Amount	$62,889.58
Award Instrument	☑ Task Agreement ☐ Cooperative Agreement ☐ Grant Agreement
Anticipated Period of Performance	3/30/2020 to 12/31/2020
Legal Authority	54 U.S.C. § 101702(a), (b) and (d)(1)
CFDA # and Title	15.945 Cooperative Research and Training Programs Resources of
Single Source Justification Criteria	
National Park Service Point of Contact	Rose_McClelland@nps.gov

Section 1. Project Summary

PROJECT GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The specific goals of this effort are to assemble an Interdisciplinary Team (IDT) consisting of selected specialists and park staff that will:
a) assess the status of marine, coastal and terrestrial habitats at the four Caribbean parks and
b) develop a restoration plan that defines restoration objectives, recommended appropriate restoration actions, and defines cost estimates necessary for successful implementation.

2. Project Objective –
The objective of this project is to restore coral reefs, mangrove, beaches, and terrestrial sites at VIIS, VICR, BUIS, and SARI through the development and subsequent implantation of management actions identified within a restoration plan.

STATEMENT OF PUBLIC PURPOSE

This project will engage partners in assessing impacts of hurricanes and in helping with the restoration and protection of significant resources in parks in the U.S. Virgin Islands. The scientific information and technical advice acquired through this project will not only increase scientific understanding of ecological systems in the Caribbean, but also benefit the communities surrounding the park units studied by providing guidance for the restoration of natural resources which are vital to the economic well-being of the islanders.

STATEMENT OF WORK SUMMARY

This project will assess the current status and condition of mangroves, beaches, and coral reefs, as well as assess debris in upland forest habitat at four Caribbean park units and develop a restoration plan that identifies specific management actions that can be undertaken by the NPS to restore park resources and values.

Dr. Pedro Ramos form the University of Texas-Austin, will participate as a member of the IDT and will write portions of the plan requiring his area of expertise. He will contribute input on impacts of runoff and sediment load and how this might affect habitats and restoration goals. Additionally, he will contribute to the development of restoration goals, monitoring goals and on-the-ground restoration practices and procedures. As an IDT member, he will also provide expertise on watershed management with an emphasis on sediment reduction.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE PARTIES

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

• Providing input in the development of the assessment methodology to be used by the IDT to assess site conditions. This will likely involve conversations via conference calls and possible review/comment of written documents developed by IDT members.
• Participation in field site visits to understand the current condition and status of each site visited involving the generation of notes and observations that will be used in the development of written assessments.
• Written assessments of each field site visited, which will be completed during the on-site meeting. Format, templates, datasheets, and any other information needed to facilitate the assessments will be provided by the NPS prior to the site visits.
• Written restoration plan

IDT Member Specific Responsibilities:
Recipient will participate as a member of the IDT and will write portions of the plan requiring his area of expertise. He will contribute input on impacts of runoff and sediment load and how this might affect habitats and restoration goals. Additionally,

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:

• Manage the overall IDT including securing funding, identifying IDT members, communicating needs, responding to questions, providing data and information, resolving any conflict, tracking progress and reporting results to management, and providing leadership and direction to the team.
• Complete all contracting and procurement actions including the development of Interagency Agreements, Cooperative Agreements, and General Agreements with each IDT member agency and the park.
• Complete all National Environmental Policy Act, environmental, and cultural compliance requirements to include completion of environmental screening forms, consultation with trustee agencies and representatives, documentation of compliance decisions and supporting documentation, and completion of park compliance completion letters for each park.
• Report bi-weekly and monthly status of this project to park, regional, Washington, and Department of Interior representatives through scheduled calls, completion of project tracking spreadsheet reports, and written status reports.
• Develop the draft site assessment methodology and the restoration plan format and template.
• Identify, collect, and provide written and digital data to be reviewed by the IDT and used to develop the restoration plan
• Provide logistical support for the on-site visits to BUIS, SAPL, VIIS, and VICR

☐ 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.

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.
- [x] 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: