

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	NPS-NOI-19-1316
Project Title	Natural and Cultural Resource Interns
Recipient	Conservation Legacy
Anticipated Federal Funding	\$229,000.00
Non-Federal Cost Share	\$76,333.00
Total Anticipated Award Amount	\$305,333.00
Award Instrument	☒ Task Agreement ☐ Cooperative Agreement ☐ Grant Agreement
Anticipated Period of Performance	September 15, 2019 – December 31, 2021
Legal Authority	54 USC §101702 Cooperative Agreements
CFDA # and Title	15.931, Conservation Activities by Youth Service Organizations
Single Source Justification Criteria	
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Section 1. Project Summary

PROJECT GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Project Goals

JELA aims to provide developmental experiences for young adult interns that leverage their focused effort on high-priority projects while providing them opportunities to learn about natural and cultural resource conservation at the federal level.

JELA's overall goals for the natural resource Intern Stewards are to: 1) help us extend our array of hydrology and elevation dynamics monitoring stations to new park lands and major restoration and mitigation projects, 2) sustain data collection, data processing and data stewardship for the entire array, and 3) help us implement other tools to assess environmental change and biological responses to these changes. As time and interest allow, we will encourage Stewards to 4) identify and support opportunities for involving volunteers in this work, and 5) work with JELA interpretive staff to develop programs that communicate the goals and findings of one or more of these

STATEMENT OF PUBLIC PURPOSE

In general, this project fulfills a Public Purpose of support by providing hands-on experience and training on a real-world project while motivating young adult youth to become involved in resource stewardship protection of their communities and beyond. Specifically, this program directly engages these interns ("Stewards") in stewardship of public lands, archives and collections, and it broadens and deepens their personal definition of stewardship. We encourage Stewards to "extend" our public outreach by developing and delivering programs addressing these projects and by involving park volunteers in collaborative resource stewardship in the context of these projects. Stewards learn approaches to natural resource monitoring, including monitoring outcomes of management activities, in a real world context. We involve them in many aspects of this work, including developing and testing monitoring approaches and tools, establishing environmental monitoring infrastructure, making observations in the field, processing and analyzing data, and communicating findings to interested public audiences. Stewards also gain expertise in historic preservation in the context of archives and collection management and modernization. This specific task agreement will direct Steward effort toward implementing tools for observing increasing coastal flooding, collecting and analyzing hydrology data, and supporting the measurement of ecological responses to this and other environmental changes. Especially due to the rapid rate of subsidence in the Mississippi River delta region, Louisiana's

STATEMENT OF WORK SUMMARY

Youth Interns interested in developing expertise in resource management will work closely with Jean Lafitte National Historical Park and Preserve (JELA) staff on projects in two high-priority program areas, (1) implementing environmental monitoring and flooding response assessment at the Barataria Preserve Unit to inform JELA's adaptive management decisions, and (2) supporting an archives digitization project to provide online access to the park's historical archives and cultural collections. Because JELA Resource Management staff collaborates on major public events and volunteer projects, interns will gain exposure to a broad spectrum of federal resource stewardship work.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE PARTIES

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

A. CL Responsibilities:

- CL shall carry out the Statement of Work in accordance with the terms and conditions stated herein. CL shall adhere to Federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and codes, as applicable.
- Assist the JELA Ecologist and Cultural Resource Program Manager with Steward recruitment and selection.
- Provide a cost share of 25% of the total cost of the project as the required match to National Park Service (NPS) funds provided under this task agreement.
- Provide interns with living allowances, workers compensation, liability insurance, personnel management, and orientation to AmeriCorps.
- Provide AmeriCorps Award to members upon their successful completion of the program.
- Manage and carry out all administrative functions associated with the provisions of services under this agreement.

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:

B. NPS Responsibilities:

Role of NPS through Substantial Involvement:

- 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 request, and tasks identified below. Additional monitoring activities may include site visits, conference calls, and other on-site and off-site monitoring activities. At CL's request, NPS may also provide additional technical assistance to CL in support of the objectives of this agreement.
- Recruit & select Steward Interns for natural and cultural resource programs.
- Provide on-site direction and mentoring for the Steward Interns.
- Provide project support (i.e. work space, tools, materials . . .) for the Steward interns.
- Monitor and approve effort hours logged by the interns.
- ~~Promote and stimulate public purposes such as education, job training, development of responsible citizenship, productive~~



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.
- ☐ 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: