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	P19AS00586
Project Title	San Francisco Bay Area National Parks Marin Landbird Monitoring
Recipient	Point Blue Conservation Science
Anticipated Federal Funding	$54,793.00
Non-Federal Cost Share	$0.00
Total Anticipated Award Amount	$54,793.00
Award Instrument	☐ Task Agreement ☑ Cooperative Agreement ☐ Grant Agreement
Anticipated Period of Performance	09/15/2019 - 03/31/2021
Legal Authority	54 U.S.C. §101702(a)
CFDA # and Title	15.944, Natural Resource Stewardship
Single Source Justification Criteria	(4) Unique Qualifications
National Park Service Point of Contact	Rachel Dell'Osso, Grants Management Specialist | Point Reyes National Seashore | (415) 464-5110 | rachel_dell'osso@nps.gov

Section 1. Project Summary

PROJECT GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The National Park Service (NPS) Inventory and Monitoring (I&M) Program was launched as part of the 1999 Natural Resource Challenge and has been designed to perform long-term monitoring of key ecological indicators. Landbirds have been identified as a key ecological vital sign within the San Francisco Bay Area Network (SFAN). Birds are an excellent indicator of ecosystem health and were selected as a SFAN vital sign because they live in every habitat, and are easy to observe and document. This project fulfills NPS' responsibilities to "undertake a program of inventory and monitoring of System resources to establish baseline information and to provide information on the long-term trends in the condition of System resources," as required by 54 USC 100704.

The objectives of this project are to collect long term data on the status and trends of landbirds on NPS lands in Marin County, using the

STATEMENT OF PUBLIC PURPOSE

This project will generate data that will provide context to NPS natural resource management programs and assist managers to identify best practices to manage land and water resources, particularly birds and their habitats. The information will be used to enrich NPS education programs by building greater knowledge of current resource conditions. The scientific community and/or researchers external to NPS gain new knowledge provided through research and related results dissemination of natural resource information.

STATEMENT OF WORK SUMMARY

Personnel from Point Blue Conservation Science (Point Blue) and NPS will collaborate to conduct point counts for riparian landbirds in San Francisco Bay Area National Parks in Marin County using the methodologies and standard operating procedures outlined in a peer-reviewed protocol. Landbird monitoring will occur primarily in Point Reyes National Seashore and Golden Gate National Recreation Area with a few sites in Muir Woods National Monument and Marin County Open Space District. Reporting, data management and analyses of point counts, as well as mist netting data (funding for mist netting from other Point Blue sources), will also be performed according to guidance in that protocol. A final report for the 2019-2020 data collection will be delivered to the NPS.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE PARTIES

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

1. Provide qualified and trained individuals for field work and data analysis.
2. Conduct landbird monitoring in San Francisco Bay Area National Parks, primarily in Point Reyes National Seashore and Golden Gate National Recreation Area with a few sites in Muir Woods National Monument and Marin County Open Space District.
3. Perform quality assurance/quality control (QA/QC) procedures on data, enter point count data into the California Avian Data Center, enter banding data into Point Blue banding software programs, and provide the NPS access to online and offline databases.
4. Submit financial, performance, and progress reports as described in the agreement.
5. Participate in an annual review of risk management procedures and ensure that all field staff are sufficiently trained to perform field work with minimal safety risks.
6. Acknowledge the NPS in any published or formally presented material developed or derived from this Cooperative 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:

1. Provide overall program direction, technical assistance, guidance and monitoring necessary to successfully complete the project.
2. Provide logistical support, access, and data management for project activities.
3. Provide overview and orientation associated with all park visits including: Briefings on safety procedures; introductions to park staff; and logistical support for field work operations, which include coordination with the park and making safety a priority.
4. Assist with safe undertaking of fieldwork within the park and have appropriate NPS staff accompany recipient workers when needed in the field.
5. Provide site access throughout the duration of the Agreement, advice on site conditions, and guidance on relevant NPS policy.
6. Assist with data collection and analysis, when possible.
7. Provide technical and editorial review for collaborative reports resulting from this project.
8. Provide access to and use of the natural resources of the NPS units for appropriate research, monitoring, and educational

☐ 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.

Point Blue Conservation Science (Point Blue) has unique qualifications to conduct this project due to its location and technical expertise. Core to the mission of Point Blue since its founding in Point Reyes National Seashore in 1965 has been the advancement of improved scientific understanding bird communities of the San Francisco Bay Area. The team of avian ecologists participating in the project with the NPS I&M program possess extensive and unrivaled local knowledge and expertise of San Francisco Bay Area avian ecology, and particularly of avian ecology within National Park units of the Bay Area. Point Blue ecologists were the primary collaborators with the NPS in the development of the Bay Area I&M monitoring strategy and lead authors of the monitoring protocol. Point Blue has implemented the field monitoring every year of sampling (every third year at each of the parks involved) since the publication of the protocol in 2010. They additionally have invested significant effort at their own expense into the development and maintenance of a multi-partner database suited to house point count data collected under this monitoring program. Point Blue is located in close proximity to the parks and has a field station located in Point Reyes National Seashore, making it time efficient and cost effective to conduct fieldwork and to meet regularly with park staff about the project. Finally, Point Blue also funds collection of banding data that they include in trends analyses for the project at no costs to the NPS.

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: