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-NOIP20AC00382
Project Title	ROMO CESU: Submerged Habitat Mapping Assistance..
Recipient	Front Range Community College
Anticipated Federal Funding	$24,999.98
Non-Federal Cost Share	$0
Total Anticipated Award Amount	$299,999.98
Award Instrument	☐ Task Agreement ☑ Cooperative Agreement ☐ Grant Agreement
Anticipated Period of Performance	April 1, 2020-December 31, 2024
Legal Authority	54 USC §101702(b): Cooperative Agreements, Cooperative Researc
CFDA # and Title	15.945 - Cooperative Research and Training Programs - Resources
Single Source Justification Criteria	Unique Qualifications
National Park Service Point of Contact	Katherine Borschel, Grants Management Specialist, katherine_borschel@nps.gov, 402-661-1958

Section 1. Project Summary

PROJECT GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

This project engages Front Range Community College (FRCC) faculty and students to provide technical geospatial support to a nationwide coastal habitat mapping effort as well as several Great Lakes-specific projects. Key objectives include processing submerged photo and video imagery and developing mapping visualization products for use in resource management and outreach.

STATEMENT OF PUBLIC PURPOSE

Through the proposed project activities, the scientific community external to NPS will gain new knowledge about coastal habitats. The project will generate needed mapping products with immediate applications in scientific, management, and educational contexts. Bottom habitat classifications will be used by coastal managers to prioritize areas for research and restoration activities in the Great Lakes, and will aid in the identification of potential submerged archaeological sites. Mapping products will be shared with park staff and more broadly with the public through interpretive programming and outreach efforts. The project also improves public understanding of an underappreciated resource (submerged landscapes) with broad benefits to coastal stewardship within and beyond NPS units.

STATEMENT OF WORK SUMMARY

The National Park Service (NPS) protects nearly 2.5 million acres of coastal habitats in the Great Lakes and other coastal parks, but mapping efforts in these underwater environments has lagged behind those in upland areas. In an effort to address these information gaps, considerable lake bottom mapping data has been collected for Great Lakes national park units since 2010 and is currently being processed. Supplemental ground truthing imagery has been collected via drop cameras and Remotely Operated Vehicles, and must be reviewed and sorted in order to be used for substrate classification. This project engages Front Range Community College (FRCC) faculty and students in providing geospatial support for the nationwide coastal habitat mapping effort as well as specific assistance with mapping needs in Great Lakes national parks. FRCC partners will assist with processing submerged photo and video imagery and developing mapping visualization products for use in resource management and outreach activities at multiple parks.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE PARTIES

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

1) Carry out the Statement of Work in accordance with the terms and conditions stated herein and adhere to laws, regulations and codes as applicable.
2) Provide general technical advice on nationwide submerged habitat mapping activities.
3) Facilitate student involvement in nationwide submerged habitat mapping efforts.
4) Provide leadership on several submerged habitat mapping tasks at Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore, including review of underwater photos and videos, assignments of habitat classifications, and development of mapping and outreach products.

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) Monitor and provide Federal oversight of activities performed under this agreement and technical assistance in support of agreement objectives.
2) Provide mapping and ground-truth datasets available to NPS.
3) Provide staff to coordinate project activities and offer technical advice.
4) Assist with interpretation of datasets and mapping products.
5) Engage park interpreters and communications staff in sharing mapping products.

☐ 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.

The principle investigator, Dr. Jamie Hoover, has previously worked as an NPS partner via a university agreement and is intimately familiar with NPS mapping datasets, objectives, and needs. She has done pilot coastal mapping work on portions of the NPS dataset and has a clear concept of the required tasks. Dr. Hoover's coastal mapping qualifications are quite unique nationally, and she maintains many professional contacts in the field. Geographically, Dr. Hoover is well-positioned to lead this project due to her location at Front Range Community College in Fort Collins, Colorado; her main office is situated within close reach of the NPS Ocean and Coastal Resources Branch where several of the main NPS collaborators are located. She also has a close working history with two NPS technical specialists in the Great Lakes region where the initial project activities will be focused. Finally, Dr. Hoover teaches several geospatial classes through which students could become involved in project activities.

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: