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	P20AS00009
Project Title	Determining Relative Abundance and Distribution of the Endanger
Recipient	Game and Fish, Arizona Department of
Anticipated Federal Funding	$29,682.00
Non-Federal Cost Share	N/A
Total Anticipated Award Amount	$29,682.00
Award Instrument	☐ Task Agreement ☑ Cooperative Agreement ☐ Grant Agreement
Anticipated Period of Performance	12/02/2019 - 09/30/2022
Legal Authority	54 U.S.C. §101702(a)
CFDA # and Title	15.944, Natural Resource Stewardship
Single Source Justification Criteria	Unique Qualifications
National Park Service Point of Contact	Darren Battles Joshua Tree National Park

Section 1. Project Summary

PROJECT GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The objective of this Agreement is to collaboratively investigate the current distribution and abundance of the Endangered Humpback Chub in the newly formed 15-mile Colorado River reach below Pearce Ferry Rapid to the Lake Mead inflow within Lake Mead National Recreation Area (LAKE). Long-term standardized Humpback Chub monitoring of the Colorado River from Glen Canyon Dam to Lake Mead has been conducted by different entities for almost two decades. However, as the elevation of Lake Mead has decreased since 2000, approximately 15 miles of new riverine habitat below Pearce Ferry formed within LAKE, which may serve as important habitat for native fishes such as Humpback Chub. This agreement will facilitate a partnership between LAKE and G&F, AD allowing investigators from both agencies to combine resources and determine if the Humpback Chub inhabiting the downstream part of the Grand Canyon to the inflow of Lake Mead constitutes a new aggregation of Humpback Chub separate from those upstream.

STATEMENT OF PUBLIC PURPOSE

This project assists in the improvement of the public's understanding of natural, cultural, recreational, and other aspects of areas such as ecological conservation areas. Researchers internal and external to NPS will gain new knowledge through research and related results dissemination of natural, cultural, and/or historical resource information for future generations.

STATEMENT OF WORK SUMMARY

To evaluate the current distribution and abundance of Endangered Humpback Chub from downstream of Pearce Ferry Rapid to the inflow of Lake Mead in Gregg Basin, G&F, AD and LAKE will delineate the area of interest into 250 m using aerial maps and GIS layers. Hoop netting will be conducted in each 250 m reach for three nights per week for a total of two weeks per year for three years. All fish captured with be enumerated, measured, tagged, and released in accordance with standardized Colorado River fisheries method. Following completion of field investigations, a manuscript summarizing results and conservation implications will be prepared and published.

To meet the goals and objectives of this project, the following project tasks will be carried out:

a. Successfully conduct three data collecting trips to the study area (one per year for three years)(the first year will be funded at $11,887.00 and the future years will be funded in the future with a modification) and complete sampling using standard methods consistent with G&F, AD and Grand Canyon standardized fisheries methods.

b. Provide copies of data collected, data summaries, reports, and other documentation to the NPS ATR (upon request).

c. Provide an annual report on project accomplishments and collaboratively publish results.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE PARTIES

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

1. The Recipient shall carry out the Statement of Work in accordance with the terms and conditions stated herein. The Recipient shall adhere to Federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and codes, as applicable.

2. Lead all aspects of field sampling, data collection, data analysis, reporting, and collaborative publications.

3. Provide adequate project staff who are experienced in the capturing and handling of endangered species to conduct one sampling event per year for three of the four agreement years (2019-2022).

4. Secure and maintain required state and federal permits.

5. Provide all necessary field equipment such as hoop nets, batteries, rite-in-the-rain paper, field notebooks, PIT tags, PIT tag gun, and miscellaneous supplies needed for securing and flagging hoop nets in the field.

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:

Substantial involvement by NPS is anticipated during the period of performance of this agreement. In support of this agreement NPS will be responsible for the following:

a. Aquatic Biologist to support this project. A collaborative effort will be made assisting with field activities, providing logistic support, technical review, and assistance with reporting and public outreach.

☐ 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;

(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. A single source on the basis of continuation must demonstrate that competition would result in a substantial duplicate cost to the government that cannot be recovered through competition;

(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;

(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.

AZGFD currently conducts extensive endangered fish monitoring within the Colorado River Basin applying standardized Grand Canyon fisheries methods and AZGFD standard methods. They are already permitted to handle threatened and endangered fishes throughout the Basin and have all necessary data management processes in place. Staff are all experienced and able to begin work immediately. Partnering with AZGFD for this project allows for cost savings to both AZGFD and NPS, and allows for sharing of resources and collaborations on a difficult to access stretch of river with in Lake Mead National Recreation Area.

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.
- [x] 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:

N/A