

This Funding Announcement is not a request for applications. This announcement is to provide public notice of the National Park Service (NPS), intention to fund the following project activities **without** competition.

ABSTRACT	
Funding Announcement	P17AS00038
Project Title	Conservation Legacy Restoration Crew
Recipient	Mike Wight, Arizona Conservation Corps, Conservation Legacy
Total Anticipated Award Amount	\$52,800
Cost Share	\$39,665
Anticipated Length of Agreement	12/26/16-12/31/17
Anticipated Period of Performance	12/26/16-12/31/17
Award Instrument	Task Agreement under a Cooperative Agreement
Statutory Authority	54 USC §101702(a), 16 USC §1723(c)(1)
CFDA # and Title	15.931, Conservation Activities by Youth
Single Source Justification Criteria Cited	Single source justification, continuation of Master Agreement.
Point of Contact	Katie Gaertner, Grants Management Specialist

OVERVIEW

Projects are for training and educating primarily Native American youth and giving them direct technical experience with the management and control of persistent invasive non-native plants and native habitat restoration techniques. Projects will be within National Park Service units throughout the Southwest.

STATEMENT OF JOINT OBJECTIVES/PROJECT MANAGEMENT PLAN

Conservation Legacy Ancestral Lands will provide a 5-8 person crew for invasive plant control and restoration reparation activities at NPS units throughout the southwest United States. These projects may require skilled chainsaw use and herbicide application to weeds. These projects will be completed by Dec 31, 2017. Conservation Legacy will provide all materials and equipment for work and camping. Conservation Legacy will also provide transportation to sites throughout the Southwest.

RECIPIENT INVOLVEMENT

Provide a specialized crew of 5-8 youth, including crew leader and assistant crew leader, to work with the control of invasive plants and native habitat restoration, and learn about invasive plants and the problems they present to NPS and other government agencies.

Supply a specially trained and fully equipped crew for 8 weeks, which will actively participate in the control of invasive plants and restoration of native habitats on NPS lands throughout the Southwest.

Provide administration for any interns hired under this agreement.

Provide all needed equipment needed to perform tasks in the field.
 Provide all herbicides needed for each project.

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE INVOLVEMENT

Provide logistical and planning support for all projects.
 Provide a representative that will present educational modules on the impacts of invasive plants on our parks and refuges.
 Provide some equipment and technical support for the program. This will include herbicide in situations where herbicide is not readily available, or was not originally planned for the specific project. It will also include training of specific safety and equipment use techniques.
 Provide tools when there is an unforeseen shortage or if unplanned work is added to a particular project.
 Provide all technical advice, direction, and recommendations for the completion of projects.
 Acquire any permits or keys needed in order to access project areas.
 Assist in arranging camping accommodations for the crews.

SINGLE-SOURCE JUSTIFICATION

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR SINGLE SOURCE POLICY REQUIREMENTS
Department of the Interior Policy (505 DM 2) requires a written justification which explains why competition is not practicable for each single-source award. The justification must address one or more of the following criteria as well as discussion of the program legislative history, unique capabilities of the proposed recipient, and cost-sharing contribution offered by the proposed recipient, as applicable.
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, and 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, cost-sharing ability if applicable, 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:

Continuation – The activity to be funded is necessary to the satisfactory completion of, or is a continuation of an activity presently being funded, and for which competition would have a significant adverse effect on the continuity or completion of the activity;

Conservation Legacy Program is fully equipped, highly experienced, and provides extensive training in the control of invasive species and restoration of natural areas. They are flexible and are capable of providing service throughout the Southwest with very little lead time and during all seasons of the year.

Two other youth groups were considered but one (American Conservation Experience) was not available for a number of the open dates, and the other Texas Youth Conservation Corps considers some of the jobs too far away for their service.