

Clear Form

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U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Determination for Issuing a Single Source Financial Assistance Award

Instructions: In accordance with Service policy 516 FW 6, *Issuing Discretionary Grant and Cooperative Agreement Awards without Competition*, complete this form to document the justification for issuing a single source grant or cooperative agreement award. This form must be signed by both a program representative and the employee with signature authority for the award to be issued (see 516 FW 3, *Signature Authority for Grant and Cooperative Agreement Awards*). The completed and signed form must be maintained in the official award file.

Recipient Name: Minnesota Land Trust

Project Title: Landscape Conservation Design for the Lower St. Louis River

Program Contact: Pete Fasbender

Select all criteria that apply (from 505 DM 2):

☐	(1) Unsolicited Proposal: The proposed award is the result of an unsolicited application that represents a unique or innovative idea, method, or approach that is not the subject of a current or planned award, but is found to be advantageous to program objectives.
☐	(2) Continuation: The activity to be funded is necessary for the satisfactory completion of, or is a continuation of, an activity we are funding and holding a competition would have a significant adverse effect on continuing or completing the activity.
☐	(3) Legislative Intent: The language in the applicable authorizing legislation or legislative history clearly indicates the intent of Congress to restrict the award to a particular recipient or purpose.
☒	(4) Unique Qualifications: The applicant is uniquely qualified to perform the activity based on 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: Because of a compelling and unusual urgency, or substantial danger to health or safety, there is not enough time to follow adequate competitive procedures.

Explain below why competition for this award is not practical. As applicable, summarize the program legislative history, unique capabilities of the proposed recipient, and any cost-sharing contribution offered by the proposed recipient. Be brief and specific:

The USFWS has long been involved in fish and wildlife conservation and habitat restoration in the Lower St. Louis River estuary/tributary to Western Lake Superior. These efforts continue to contribute to the recovery of the St. Louis River Area of Concern (AOC). The Minnesota Land Trust (MLT) is uniquely positioned among local partnerships now planning for "post-AOC recovery" land use that includes conservation, economic, and community health interests. Communication and coordination within these local partnerships is critical to the success of the Landscape Conservation Design (LCD) project intended to integrate these major land use considerations, and the USFWS does not have the local capability available through the MLT. MLT is also currently providing similar services through the City of Duluth's Natural Areas Program (DNAP), and can use the DNAP as a prototype for developing the same type of decision-making framework across a broader geographic area through the LCD project; and in the process, realize cost-efficiencies. Local contractors and other agencies can contribute to select aspects of the LCD, but do not have the broad-based coordination capability, expertise, and experience of the MLT necessary for overall project management.

I have determined that this project meets the requirements for a single source award and recommend that it be awarded to the recipient named above.

PETER FASBENDER

Digitally signed by PETER
FASBENDER
Date: 2018.09.06 16:04:29 -05'00'

Program Representative Sign and Date

Pete Fasbender

Printed Name of Program Representative

I, as the Service employee with signature authority for this award under 516 FW 3, have reviewed this program recommendation and find that it meets the requirements for a single source award.



Digitally signed by DANIEL
LOVDAHL
Date: 2018.09.07 08:40:58 -05'00'

Authorized Signator Sign and Date

Daniel D. Lovdahl

Printed Name of Signator