

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Division of Migratory Birds/Rocky Mountain Arsenal National Wildlife Refuge

Migratory Bird Monitoring, Assessment and Conservation
Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) Number: 15.655

Notice of Funding Availability and Application Instructions

I. Single Source Information

This is a Notice of Intent to award a Single Source Grant agreement to City and County of Denver for the purpose of Urban Bird Treaty.

The tasks to be performed under this agreement are as follows:

- Print Pocket Guides to Backyard Birds of the Front Range (\$10,000);
- Partially fund a stationary bird banding station to be used by Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory (RMBO) and Audubon Society of Greater Denver as an outreach tool about bird migration and why birds matter (\$6,500);
- Develop five interpretive panels to highlight migratory birds with a message of "Why Birds Matter." The panels would include mounting systems and be located along the South Platte River, City Park or Sloan's Lake, RMBO, Sand Creek Greenway, and Rocky Mountain Arsenal NWR (\$28,000);
- Enhance and restore land on an island off of Sloan's Lake Duck Point, which will attract several species of migratory birds. The project would include planting native vegetation including wetland species on the island and shore edges totaling approximately 1.8 acres, and 8 nesting boxes for ducks and other species will be installed. This urban park will provide good bird viewing and educational opportunities for the public. Partnering agencies include City and County of Denver, Groundwork Denver, Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory, and Denver Audubon. Restoration specifics include (\$9,500):
 - o Conducting noxious weed management of invasive herbaceous species
 - o Remove non-native trees on the island
 - o Plant native trees and shrubs on the island along with native grasses and forbs; including similar species to existing native vegetation and add others to increase diversity and habitat values
 - o Plant native shrubs in groupings scattered on the island and along the shoreline to provide diversity along with food and shelter for birds
 - o Install wetland plants on the shoreline to enhance habitat
 - o Install geese protection after fall seeding until habitat is established
 - o Install 8 nesting boxes for ducks and other birds
- Provide funding for bus transportation and program fees for metro area elementary school children to take environmental education field trips to Barr Lake State Park through RMBO. Environmental education programs focus on birds and their habitats as well as land conservation (\$7,500);

- Create a Denver Metropolitan Area Bird App. This app will provide users (visitors and locals) with a map of urban birding areas in the Denver metropolitan area with emphasis on parks and trails that connect urban areas to downtown Denver. This app will also highlight the habitat and species that may be found at each location. This information will correlate with interpretive signage described above that will be located in urban parks, along the South Platte River trail, at RMBO and the Refuge (\$12,225);
- Restore a portion of the South Platte River's west bank between 15th and 19th Avenue between Confluence and Cuernavaca Park in downtown Denver. Improvements include weed control, removing invasive trees, planting native shrubs, trees, and riparian forbs. Urban Drainage and Flood Control will partner with the City and County of Denver on the project (\$7,700);
- Highlight the national Lights Out campaign to reduce light disturbance at commercial and residential buildings in urban areas by funding outreach programs, social media, and paid advertising (\$10,000);
- Purchase and install an eBird Trail Tracker kiosk at Rocky Mountain Arsenal NWR so visitors can input bird sightings as well as learn about recent sightings in the urban metro area (\$8,575).

This Single Source Award is being awarded in accordance with Department of the Interior Policy 505 DM 2.14 B (4 – Unique Qualifications), which allows for award without competition to an applicant. This recipient and project meet this criteria due to the Urban Bird Treaty challenge grants being awarded to cities that can accomplish the Urban Bird treaty goals. Denver has been selected as a city because of their ability to work with the USFWS Rocky Mountain Arsenal NWR and partners in the Denver urban area to conserve migratory birds, and their ability to perform the required action to fulfill the Urban Bird Treaty goals. The City and County of Denver is best positioned to coordinate accomplishing the Urban Bird Treaty goals given the city structure, the partners, and the Rocky Mountain Arsenal NWR.

The City and County of Denver will be facilitating Urban Bird Treaty partnerships that can bring money and other resources to the Urban Bird Treaty program. Denver can include the suburban areas (considered metropolitan areas) around the major city; a criterion is the availability of Service personnel of the Migratory Bird Program or the National Wildlife Refuge system to provide technical assistance and guidance in achieving Urban Bird Treaty activities.

II. Award Information

Estimated Total Program Funding: \$100,000

Expected Number of Awards: 1

Award Ceiling: \$100,000

Award Floor: \$100,000

The period of performance for the majority of projects funded under this program is one year, starting on the date the award is signed by the USFWS. Project proposals must be designed accordingly. Past and present recipients of

awards under this program are eligible, but must submit new proposals to compete for funding each year. This program uses grant agreements as the primary assistance instrument.

III. Basic Eligibility Requirements

Cost Sharing or Matching:

City and County of Denver is being offered a Service Migratory Bird program "challenge" grant. City and County of Denver is being "challenged" to raise an amount equal to or greater than the amount of funds awarded by the Service. The matching support raised by Denver must be of non-federal origin. Matches may consist of cash, "in-kind" contributions of goods and services from Denver and its partners, or a combination of cash or in-kind donations from other institutions or businesses. The Urban Bird Treaty program offers a great deal of flexibility to incorporate the best combination of projects that are appropriate for Denver and that will also have the greatest benefits to birds.

IV. Agency Contacts

All applications must be mailed or emailed to Cindy Souders, Visitor Services Manager, Rocky Mountain Arsenal NWR, USFWS, 6550 Gateway Road, Bldg 121, Commerce City, Colorado 80022 or cindy_souders@fws.gov.