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: Clemson University

Project Title: Conservation and natural history of Northern Pine Snake across north Georgia

Program Contact: Donald W, Imm, PhD. Project Leader

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:

Faculty and staff at Clemson University have been conducting a genetic and morphological study concerning the differentiation of the northern pine snake and Florida pine snake. The Florida pine snake is considered an at-risk species, and is scheduled for an upcoming species status assessment (SSA). The outcome of this SSA is partially dependent on the differentiation of these two species, and the resulting differences in geographic range. This study will focus on the species status within the area of range overlap between the two species, but the outcome will be partially depend on information already gathered by Clemson University in other geographies outside of the overlap. Therefore, Clemson University is uniquely equipped to address this key question. Methodology and protocols are already established, and scientifically accepted. And, the results are dependent on existing information concerning genetics, morphology, and location of the species.

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.

Donald W. Imm 11 Aug 2018

Program Representative Sign and Date

Donald W. Imm, PhD, Program Leader

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.

Kerri Heywood 8/29/2018

Authorized Signator Sign and Date

KERRI HEYWOOD

Printed Name of Signator

FWS 3-2452
11/25/2013