

NOTICE OF INTENT TO AWARD

This Funding Announcement is not a request for applications. This announcement is to provide public notice of Reclamation's intention to fund the following project activities without full and open competition.

ABSTRACT	
Funding Announcement	R10AS20006
Project Title	Interagency Ecological Study Program – Core Monitoring
Recipient	California Department of Fish and Game
Principle Investigator (if applicable)	Mr. Chuck Armor
Total Anticipated Award Amount	\$9,209,000.00
Cost Share	\$11,600,000.00
New Award or Continuation?	Continuation
Anticipated Length of Agreement	5 years
Anticipated Period of Performance	January 1, 2010 through December 2014
Award Instrument	Cooperative Agreement
Statutory Authority	<i>P.L. 102-575, Title 34 – Central Valley Project Improvement Act, Section 3406(b)(1) & 3407(e)</i>
CFDA Number	15.512
Single Source Justification Criteria Cited	(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;
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OVERVIEW

Since 1970, Reclamation has worked closely with the California Department of Fish and Game to monitor fish and other aquatic organisms of the San Francisco Bay-Delta. This monitoring fulfills conditions attached to Reclamation's permit to pump water from the Delta (State Water Resources Control Board Water Rights Decision D-1641) and complies with conditions stipulated in the Operations Criteria and Plan Biological Opinions issued by the US Fish and Wildlife Service to protect delta smelt and the National Marine Fisheries Service to protect listed salmonid species. This monitoring activity is a critical component of the Interagency Ecological Program (IEP). The IEP is an integrated program governed by a memorandum of understanding

between six Federal and three State of California member agencies. The purpose of the IEP is to provide scientific information on the aquatic resources of the San Francisco Estuary to support a wide range of decision making processes. Reclamation and DFG are members of the IEP.

RECIPIENT INVOLVEMENT

The California Department of Fish and Game will:

1. Conduct the Fall Midwater Trawl Survey monitoring program element (#2010-003). This task consists of sampling from September through December at 90 sites from San Pablo Bay to the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta to monitor the abundance and distribution of estuarine fishes, especially striped bass and delta smelt.
2. Conduct the Summer Tow-net Survey monitoring program element (#2010-007). This task consists of sampling from spring through summer with a towed small-mesh net at 31 sites from San Pablo Bay to the Sacramento San-Joaquin Delta to monitor the annual abundance and distribution of juvenile fish in the upper region of the San Francisco Estuary and to evaluate factors affecting their abundance.
3. Conduct the Estuarine and Marine Fish Abundance and Distribution Survey monitoring program element (#2010-011). This task consists of sampling by midwater trawl and otter trawl 52 channel and shoal stations from South San Francisco Bay to the lower Sacramento and San Joaquin Rivers to track the abundance and distribution trends of marine and estuarine fishes.
4. Conduct the Bay Shrimp and Crab Abundance and Distribution Surveys monitoring program element (#2010-012). This task consists of sampling San Francisco Bay and estuarine shrimp species as described in project element 12 in the IEP Annual Work Plan for 2009.
5. Conduct the Data Management and Utilization program element (#2010-019). This task consists of compiling, storing, and making available upon request, through web-based data management, the data and information generated by the IEP.
6. Conduct the 20-millimeter Delta Smelt Survey monitoring program element (#2010-033). This task consists of bi-weekly sampling from April to July with a fine-mesh towed net at 35 to 40 stations from San Pablo Bay to the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta to determine the distribution and abundance of post-larval delta smelt.
7. Conduct the Juvenile Salmon and Delta Fishes Abundance and Distribution Sampling monitoring program element (#2010-053). This task consists of trawling and seining at key sites in the lower rivers in the Central Valley and in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta to determine the timing of emigration, extent of rearing in the Delta, annual production, distribution and abundance of juvenile salmonids and other fishes in the Delta.
8. Conduct the Upper Estuary Zooplankton Sampling monitoring program element (#2010-077). This task consists of monthly sampling for *Neomysis* shrimp and other zooplankton at 16 sites in San Pablo Bay, Suisun Bay, and the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta.

9. Conduct the Spring Kodiak Trawl monitoring program element (#2010-088). This task consists of monthly sampling from February to April with a Kodiak trawl at 39 sites from San Pablo Bay through the Delta to monitor the abundance and distribution of estuarine fishes, specifically adult pre-spawning delta smelt during late winter and spring.
10. Conduct the Larval Fish Survey monitoring program element (#2010-096). This task consists of sampling larval fish, particularly delta smelt, throughout the Delta to guide pumping operations and to become a monitoring program for delta smelt as required by environmental compliance requirements.
11. Conduct the Knight's Landing Juvenile Salmon Monitoring program element (#2010-074). This task consists of continuous sampling by rotary screw trap of juvenile salmonids emigrating from the Sacramento River for near real-time reporting of early detection of salmon entering the Delta, as required by the NOAA Fisheries OCAP biological opinion for winter-run and spring-run Chinook salmon.
12. Conduct Mill and Deer Creeks Juvenile Salmonid Monitoring program element (#2010-075). This task consists of continuous sampling by rotary screw traps of juvenile salmonids emigrating from Mill and Deer creeks for near real-time reporting of early detection of salmon entering the Delta, as required by the NOAA Fisheries OCAP biological opinion for winter-run and spring-run Chinook salmon.
13. Conduct the Program Management program element. This consists of management and oversight activities including participation in IEP Management Team, in various Project Work Teams and in the IEP Coordinating Committee.

RECLAMATION INVOLVEMENT:

Reclamation anticipates substantial involvement for the successful completion of the objectives to be funded by this award. In particular, Reclamation will be responsible for the following:

1. Reclamation will provide overall program direction through the MP Regional Director's participation in the quarterly meetings of the IEP Directorate, which consists of the directors of each IEP member agency.
2. Reclamation will participate in the monthly meetings of IEP Coordinating Committee which oversees the IEP budget and provides guidance to the IEP Management Team and Project Work Teams.
3. Reclamation's IEP coordinator implements the MP Regional Directors' directives and assigns particular program tasks to the IEP Management Team. Reclamation's Management Team representative works closely with Management Team members from all of the other IEP member agencies to provide technical planning and oversight of the day-to-day activities of the IEP core monitoring program.

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.

Reclamation did not solicit full and open competition for this award based the following criteria:

(2) **Continuation** – This agreement provides funding to continue California Department of Fish and Game compliance field monitoring activities required under Water Right Decision D-1641 and OCAP Biological Opinions issued by US Fish and Wildlife Service and NOAA-Fisheries (National Marine Fisheries Service) governing operation of the Central Valley Project.

STATUTORY AUTHORITY

3406(b) FISH AND WILDLIFE RESTORATION ACTIVITIES- *The Secretary, immediately upon the enactment of this title, shall operate the Central Valley Project to meet all obligations under State and Federal law, including but not limited to the Federal Endangered Species Act, 16 U.S.C. 1531, et seq., and all decisions of the California State Water Resources Control Board establishing conditions on applicable licenses and permits for the project. The Secretary, in consultation with other State and Federal agencies, Indian tribes, and affected interests, is further authorized and directed to:*

(1) develop within three years of enactment and implement a program which makes all reasonable efforts to ensure that, by the year 2002, natural production of anadromous fish in Central Valley rivers and streams will be sustainable, on a long-term basis, at levels not less than twice the average levels attained during the period of 1967-1991; Provided, That this goal shall not apply to the San Joaquin River between Friant Dam and the Mendota Pool, for which a separate program is authorized under subsection 3406(c) of this title; Provided further, That the programs and activities authorized by this section shall, when fully implemented, be deemed to meet the mitigation, protection, restoration, and enhancement purposes established by subsection 3406(a) of this title; And provided further, That in the course of developing and implementing this program the Secretary shall make all reasonable efforts consistent with the requirements of this section to address other identified adverse environmental impacts of the Central Valley Project not specifically enumerated in this section.

3407(e) FUNDING TO NON-FEDERAL ENTITIES- *e) Funding to Non-Federal Entities.--If the Secretary determines that the State of California or an agency or subdivision thereof, an Indian tribe, or a non-profit entity concerned with restoration, protection, or enhancement of fish, wildlife, habitat, or environmental values is able to assist in implementing any action authorized by this title in an efficient, timely, and cost effective manner, the Secretary is authorized to provide funding to such entity on such terms and conditions as he deems necessary to assist in implementing the identified action.*