

NOTICE OF INTENT (NOI) 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	R10AS20010
Project Title	Integrated Regional Water Plan for the Central Valley of California
Recipient	California State University, Fresno Foundation, California Water Institute
Principle Investigator (if applicable)	N/A
Total Anticipated Award Amount	\$1,000,000.00
Cost Share	None
New Award or Continuation?	New Award
Anticipated Length of Agreement	5 years
Anticipated Period of Performance	Date of execution through December 31, 2014
Award Instrument	Grant Agreement
Statutory Authority	Public Law 111-11, Part II, Section 10101, Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009
CFDA Number & Title	15.507
Single Source Justification Criteria Cited	Department of Interior Policy (505 DM 2) (3) Legislative Intent
Reclamation Point of Contact	Maria E. Castaneda, Contract Specialist Email: mcastaneda@usbr.gov Phone Number: (916) 978-5148

OVERVIEW

The purpose of the work is to engage and enlist as many areas of the San Joaquin Valley into a water management planning process known as “integrated regional water management planning” (IRWMP). The activity proposed is designed to develop the capacity for as much regional “self-sufficiency” for the major beneficial uses of water by agriculture, domestic and industrial supplies and the environment. The United States would benefit from the effort since the highest and best water use efficiency, management and quality attainable is a clear purpose and mission of many, if not all, of the water-use-related federal agencies (Agriculture, COE, EPA, DOE, Geological Survey, Reclamation, others).

In 2006 the Institute was commissioned by the “California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley” to develop a “framework” for the implementation of IRWMP. The “Partnership” adopted the “framework” by “resolution” as the tool to advance IRWMP in the Valley in October 2009. The adoption of the framework was significant because the membership includes all eight counties and 62 cities in the Valley which as a result draws both the land use authorities and often separate water management entities together into a meaningful process to develop practices and policy to optimize water management in a more holistic way. The result of this process, a Valley-wide water management planning process, will therefore much more efficiently meet the mission, needs and purposes of the federal water management partners.

RECIPIENT INVOLVEMENT

Under this grant agreement, California Water Institute shall complete the following tasks:

1. Facilitating and coordinating the efforts of existing and emerging IRWMP’s (see map in “framework” report submitted previously and made a part of this SOW).
2. Sharing the common and unique elements of the IRWMP’s amongst all parties so as to efficiently advance water management best practices and policies in the plan areas.
3. Share existing and new data on water conditions, goals and objectives so as to make sure all regional plans have the best information available for decision-making.
4. Facilitate the integration of the regional plans into inter-regional, basin and Valley-wide plans where feasible and appropriate given the appetite and capacity of the regional plan participants.

RECLAMATION INVOLVEMENT:

Not Applicable

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:

(4) UNIQUE QUALIFICATIONS

California Water Institute, located at California State University, Fresno California, requested funding support from area Congressman Jim Costa. Congressman Costa entered the request into the Wilderness Omnibus Act of 2009. As authorized, the Secretary of Interior, acting through the Bureau of Reclamation, shall provide direct financial assistance to the California Water Institute, to conduct a study regarding the coordination and integration of sub-regional water management plans into a unified Integrated Regional Water Management Plan for the subject counties in the hydrologic basins within the area.

PROGRAM AUTHORITY

SEC. 10101. STUDY TO DEVELOP WATER PLAN; REPORT.

(a) Plan.--

(1) Grant.--To the extent that funds are made available in advance for this purpose, the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the Bureau of Reclamation, shall provide direct financial assistance to the **California Water Institute**, located

at **California State University, Fresno, California**, to conduct a study regarding the coordination and integration of sub-regional integrated regional water management plans into a unified Integrated Regional Water Management Plan for the subject counties in the hydrologic basins that would address issues related to--

- (A) water quality;
- (B) water supply (both surface, ground water banking, and brackish water desalination);
- (C) water conveyance;
- (D) water reliability;
- (E) water conservation and efficient use (by distribution systems and by end users);
- (F) flood control;
- (G) water resource-related environmental enhancement; and
- (H) population growth.

(2) Study area.--The study area referred to in paragraph (1) is the proposed study area of the San Joaquin River Hydrologic Region and Tulare Lake Hydrologic Region, as defined by California Department of Water Resources Bulletin 160-05, volume 3, chapters 7 and 8, including Kern, Tulare, Kings, Fresno, Madera, Merced, Stanislaus, and San Joaquin counties in California.

(b) Use of Plan.--The Integrated Regional Water Management Plan developed for the 2 hydrologic basins under subsection (a) shall serve as a guide for the counties in the study area described in subsection (a)(2) to use as a mechanism to address and solve long-term water needs in a sustainable and equitable manner.

(c) Report.--The Secretary shall ensure that a report containing the results of the Integrated Regional Water Management Plan for the hydrologic regions is submitted to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate and the Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives not later than 24 months after financial assistance is made available to the California Water Institute under subsection (a)(1).

(d) Authorization of Appropriations.--There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section \$1,000,000 to remain available until expended.