

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	R10AS20016
Project Title	Rosewood Creek Area A Restoration Project
Recipient	Nevada Tahoe Conservation District
Principle Investigator (if applicable)	Scott Brown
Total Anticipated Award Amount	\$2,000,000.00
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 108-7, Energy and Water Development Appropriations Act, 2003, title II, Section 207
CFDA Number	15-508
Single Source Justification Criteria Cited	Legislative Intent
Reclamation Point of Contact	Jeff Palachat

OVERVIEW

Lake Tahoe and its watershed have been degraded by numerous environmental perturbations during the past several decades. These perturbations, including rural and residential development, new transportation routes, increased human population, and increased numbers of motor vehicles, have degraded the integrity of the watershed in various ways. The purpose of the Tahoe Regional Wetlands Development Program is to assist in addressing the past degradation of Lake Tahoe and its watershed by undertaking projects, either directly or through financial assistance to others, to meet the environmental thresholds as defined in the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency's (TRPA) Environmental Improvement Program (EIP). The environmental thresholds are defined as the environmental standards necessary to protect the natural environment and public health and safety within the Lake Tahoe basin. The environmental

thresholds of interest include water quality, soil conservation, wildlife, fisheries, and vegetation. To achieve environmental restoration in the Lake Tahoe basin, funded activities may include project planning and implementation, program coordination and management, and public outreach.

The preservation and restoration of Stream Environment Zones (SEZs) is an important component of the EIP. Functional SEZs protect the clarity of the lake by providing natural storm water treatment and stable conveyance of runoff. They often include diverse plant communities and are a key habitat for wildlife.

Incline Village, on the Nevada side of Lake Tahoe, experienced heavy development in the 1960s and 1970s that caused excessive erosion of sediment into Lake Tahoe. Since that time, urban development has slowed, and erosion rates have subsequently decreased. However, watersheds within Incline Village still have high rates of erosion and nutrient flux relative to background conditions. Rosewood Creek, a sub-watershed of Third Creek, is a Priority 1 watershed as designated by TRPA, and as such there is a need to reduce fine sediment and nutrient loading in this stream to improve lake clarity. The Third Creek watershed (encompassing Rosewood Creek) is rated as one of the highest contributors of sediment loading to Lake Tahoe. Because of sediment and nutrient loading concerns, a completely new channel was constructed for Lower Rosewood Creek (below State Route [SR] 28 down to Lakeshore Blvd) in the summer of 2003 with funding from a Reclamation grant (02FG202067). The objectives of that project were to reduce sediment and nutrient loading to Lake Tahoe and improve the SEZ. Initial monitoring results indicate this project may reduce sediment loading over time. However, there are indications of excessive sediment delivery from higher in the watershed, and observations strongly suggest the source is from the middle reach.

The geomorphic status of Area A of middle Rosewood Creek is unstable and actively degrading. Although Area A comprises only 24% of middle Rosewood Creek, it represents 75% of the very unstable sections subject to extreme erosion in the future. If left unchecked, an additional 16,000 cubic yards of soil and sub-soil material could be eroded from middle Rosewood Creek, with the majority of it originating from Area A.

Starting from SR 28 and working upstream, the first 400 feet of creek is incised over 10 feet, and the width of incision is more than 30 feet wide. The incision is nearly complete, in large part because the culvert at SR 28 prevents further down cutting, but the stream banks continue to fail and the channel widens. It is estimated that 1,800 cubic yards of material have been moved from this area to the lower reach of Rosewood Creek, then to Third Creek, and into Lake Tahoe. However, the drop from the culvert on the downstream side of SR 28 has prevented fish from passing upstream SR 28 for many years.

As a result of the geomorphic assessment, a team generated a 25% design for the restoration of middle Rosewood Creek. This effort divided middle Rosewood Creek into implementation areas, with the section of creek from 100 feet upstream of Northwood Blvd down to SR 28 designated as Area A. It is an SEZ along 2,200 feet of channel between SR 28 and 100 feet upstream of Northwood Boulevard in Incline Village. For each implementation area, conceptual strategies for restoration were identified, along with opportunities and constraints.

RECIPIENT INVOLVEMENT

The Nevada Tahoe Conservation District will:

1. Finalize 90% engineering designs and secure appropriate permits, including those from TRPA, Army Corps of Engineers, and Nevada Department of Environmental Protection.
2. Prepare project specifications.
3. Prepare and stamp final design plans.
4. Prepare bid documents, advertise, process bids, and select contractor.
5. Construct new channel
6. Revegetate and season new stream channel.
7. Introduce flow into new stream channel.
8. Fill old stream channel.
9. Re-vegetate area around old stream channel.
10. Monitor water quality parameters.

SINGLE-SOURCE JUSTIFICATION

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR SINGLE SOURCE POLICY REQUIREMENTS
<p>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.</p>
<p>In order for an assistance award to be made without competition, the award must satisfy one or more of the following criteria:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">(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:

LEGISLATIVE INTENT

the Bureau of Reclamation is authorized hereafter to negotiate and enter into financial assistance agreements with public and private agencies, organizations and institutions for activities under the Lake Tahoe Regional Wetlands Development Program.

STATUTORY AUTHORITY

Public Law 108-7, Energy and Water Development Appropriations Act, 2003, title II, Section 207.