

## 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	
<b>Funding Announcement</b>	R11AS20025 - Reposting
<b>Project Title</b>	Public Outreach and Education
<b>Recipient</b>	Trinity County Resource Conservation District
<b>Principle Investigator (if applicable)</b>	Not Applicable
<b>Total Anticipated Award Amount</b>	\$754,888.00
<b>Cost Share</b>	N/A
<b>New Award or Continuation?</b>	New Award
<b>Anticipated Length of Agreement</b>	5 years
<b>Anticipated Period of Performance</b>	Date of Execution through July 31, 2016
<b>Award Instrument</b>	Cooperative Agreement
<b>Statutory Authority</b>	Central Valley Project Improvement Act, Trinity River Division, Trinity River Fish and Wildlife Management, Title 34, Public Law 102-575, Section 3406(b)(1) and 3407(e)
<b>CFDA Number</b>	15.532
<b>Single Source Justification Criteria Cited</b>	Justification Criterion (4) (Unique Qualifications) of the Department of Interior Single Source Policy Requirements
<b>Reclamation Point of Contact</b>	Name/Title: Judy A. Hudson, Grants Management Specialist Email: <a href="mailto:jhudson@usbr.gov">jhudson@usbr.gov</a>

### OVERVIEW

The December 19, 2000 Record of Decision (ROD) for the Trinity River Mainstem Fishery Restoration Environmental Impact Statement/Impact Report (EIS/EIR) directed the Department of Interior to undertake an innovative and system-oriented approach to recovering the River's anadromous fish populations. The Trinity River Restoration Program (TRRP) was established to restore the attributes found in natural alluvial river systems on a managed river downstream of a dam. A combination of mechanical rehabilitation, sediment management, a naturalized flow release schedule, and adaptive environmental assessment and management (AEAM) will be used to reverse the impacts caused by decades of flow diversion on one of California's most significant rivers. In addition to recovery of naturally-spawning anadromous fish populations in the Trinity River, the TRRP also presents a unique opportunity to advance scientific understanding of managed river systems and the recovery processes of natural systems for broader application.

The primary objective of this project is outreach to and education of local residents, landowners, business owners, schools, elected officials, recreational visitors and other stakeholders by preparing, printing and

distributing newsletters, TRRP brochures and related documents; sponsoring appropriate river conservation related activities; and developing public displays (e.g. interpretive signs) emphasizing how the TRRP projects benefit fish, wildlife habitat, recreational opportunities, and the community. As part of this effort, the multi-agency structure and unique program identity of the TRRP is to be emphasized. This will be accomplished using a variety of techniques, media, and public forums.

### **RECIPIENT INVOLVEMENT**

Under this cooperative agreement Trinity County Resource Conservation District (TCRCD) will perform the following tasks:

<b>Media Outreach</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Producing articles and submitting press releases.</li> </ul>
<b>Print Media</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Acquisition and/or design and development of graphic display materials including exhibit posters, display signs, flyers, event calendars, brochures, maps, etc.</li> </ul>
<b>Reports</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Annual Reports - Recipient will facilitate development of and provide technical and professional editing services for Program annual reports.</li> <li>Informational Reports – Development of short reports highlighting topics of public interest including variable annual flow regime; mechanical channel rehabilitation; sediment management; watershed restoration; channel morphology; fisheries data and habitat; herpetofauna; etc.</li> </ul>
<b>Public Event Facilitation and Participation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Facilitation, planning, sponsorship and/or participation in community events, meetings, symposiums, technical workshops, etc., including the Trinity County Fair and TRRP Science Symposium.</li> </ul>
<b>Meetings</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Initiate, arrange, facilitate, attend, and/or participate in quarterly planning meetings and multiple technical work group meetings.</li> </ul>
<b>Website</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Coordinate with community members/volunteers and appropriate subject matter experts to develop/design a website portal to be hosted on the TRRP website.</li> </ul>
<b>Interpretive Displays</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Coordinate with the TRRP on the design, manufacture and installation of interpretive signs at restoration project sites.</li> </ul>

### **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:

- Make available, appropriate staff and contribute relevant information, such as Trinity River Restoration Program (TRRP) accomplishments, graphics and data, and project specific information for inclusion in news articles, interpretive signs and brochures; review all articles, print media and publications and collaborate on informational reports prior to publishing.
- Fully participate in the planning process and make available, appropriate staff for attendance at public events. TRRP will collaborate on community outreach meeting topics and will co-lead at meeting presentations.
- Provide agendas and dates at least one week in advance for technical work group meetings to allow advance notice for making note taking arrangements.

- Host community website portal on the TRRP website and provide staff to arrange for uploading current information.
- Make available, appropriate staff to collaborate on the content, design and production of interpretive displays, including staff to acquire appropriate rights for sign placement on federal or state lands.

### 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

Trinity County Resource Conservation District (TCRCD) is uniquely qualified to provide public outreach, education and support for the Trinity River Restoration Program (TRRP). TCRCD agency was founded in 1956 and is well-established and highly regarded in the local communities for its effective,

collaborative approach to natural resources conservation. It is the only countywide special district with a focus on natural resources and conservation education. Its board of directors is comprised of community volunteers who, by law, must all be local landowners.

TCRCD's presence is widely known since its facilitation and/or support are integral to a number of community-based volunteer organizations throughout Trinity County. Because of its effective community relations and reputation, the Recipient has its finger on the pulse of the community and its needs. Its employees and volunteers are skilled at public outreach and education and are integral to several efforts being undertaken by the TRRP. TCRCD is situated locally in Weaverville, California, is highly accessible and is very skilled at "rapid response."

TCRCD collaborates with a broad range of community organizations, local and regional entities and agencies, and they have an effective media contacts. Combined, all of these will contribute greatly to the TCRCD's efficiency and provide a measure of cost effectiveness for the TRRP.

The Trinity County Resource Conservation District has a proven record of success in public outreach and education.

### **STATUTORY AUTHORITY**

#### ***Section 3406(b)(1) and 3407(e)***

(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. s 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.

#### ***Section 3407(e)***

(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.