

Cooperative Agreement

P20AC00475

Between

THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

AND

NatureServe

DUNS No: 0156082710000

2500 South Clark Street

Suite 930

Arlington, VA 22202

CFDA: 15.945 Cooperative Research and Training Programs Resources of the National Park System

Project Title: Provide research, technical assistance and education for resource management

Amount of Federal Funds Obligated: Funding will occur through subsequent task agreements. Refer to Article VI (A) of this agreement.

Period of Performance: Date of final signature-

This Cooperative Agreement (Agreement) is entered into by the U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service (NPS), and [NatureServe] (Recipient).

Table of Contents

ARTICLE I – LEGAL AUTHORITY 2

ARTICLE II – PROJECT GOALS AND OBJECTIVES..... 3

ARTICLE III – PUBLIC PURPOSE 4

ARTICLE IV – STATEMENT OF WORK 5

ARTICLE V – COST-SHARE REQUIREMENT 7

ARTICLE VI – PRE-AWARD INCURRENCE OF COSTS 7

ARTICLE VII – APPROVED INDIRECT RATE 8

ARTICLE VIII – TERM OF AGREEMENT 8

ARTICLE IX – KEY OFFICIALS 8

ARTICLE X – AWARD AND PAYMENT..... 9

ARTICLE XI – PRIOR APPROVAL..... 11

ARTICLE XII – INSURANCE AND LIABILITY 11

ARTICLE XIII – REPORTS AND/OR OUTPUTS/OUTCOMES..... 13

ARTICLE XIV – PROPERTY UTILIZATION..... 13

ARTICLE XV – MODIFICATION, REMEDIES FOR NONCOMPLIANCE,
TERMINATION..... 13

ARTICLE XVI – GENERAL AND SPECIAL PROVISIONS 13

ARTICLE XVII – ATTACHMENTS 28

ARTICLE XVIII – SIGNATURES 30

ARTICLE I – LEGAL AUTHORITY

NPS enters into this Agreement pursuant to:

a. 54 U.S.C. § 100703 - Agreements with Educational Institutions to Study National Park System Resources and Non-Park Service Resources: The NPS is authorized and directed to enter into cooperative agreements with colleges and universities in partnership with other Federal and State agencies, to establish cooperative study units to conduct multi-disciplinary research and develop integrated information products on the resources of the National Park System or the larger region of which parks are a part.

b. 54 U.S.C. § 101702(b) – Cooperative Research and Training Programs: The NPS is authorized to enter into cooperative agreements with public or private educational institutions, States, and their political subdivisions, for the purpose of developing adequate, coordinated, cooperative research and training activities concerning the resources of the NPS, and to make available support such as staff, financial assistance, and supplies, as appropriate..

c. 54 U.S.C. § 101702(a) – Agreements for the Transfer of Appropriated Funds to Carry out NPS Programs: The NPS is authorized to enter into cooperative agreements that involve the transfer of National Park Service appropriated funds to State, local and tribal governments, other public entities, educational institutions, and private nonprofit organizations for the public purpose of carrying out National Park Service programs.

d. 54 U.S.C. § 101702(d)(1) – Cooperative Agreements for National Park Natural Resource Protection: The NPS is authorized to enter into cooperative agreements with State, local, or tribal governments, other Federal agencies, other public entities, educational institutions, private nonprofit organizations, or participating private landowners for the purpose of protecting natural resources of units of the National Park System through collaborative efforts on land inside and outside of National Park System units.

e. 54 U.S.C. § 200103(g)(1) - Outdoor Recreation of Programs, Research and

Education: The NPS is authorized to sponsor, engage in, and assist in research relating to outdoor recreation, directly or by contract or cooperative agreements, and make payments for such purposes without regard to the limitations of section 3324(a) and (b) of title 31 concerning advances of funds when he considers such action in the public interest, (2) undertake studies and assemble information concerning outdoor recreation, directly or by contract or cooperative agreement, and disseminate such information without regard to the provisions of section 3204 of title 39, and (3) cooperate with educational institutions and others in order to assist in establishing education programs and activities and to encourage public use and benefits from outdoor recreation.

ARTICLE II – PROJECT GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The Recipient demonstrated expertise in disciplines and subject areas of relevance to cooperative research and training. The Recipient met the program interests of NPS with expertise, facilities, experience, diversity of programs, and history of collaborative research projects.

The Recipient helps the NPS Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Units (CESU) network to meet its objectives to:

- Provide research, technical assistance and education to NPS for resource management;
- Develop a program of research, technical assistance and education that involves the biological, physical, social, and cultural sciences needed to address resources issues and interdisciplinary problem-solving at multiple scales and in an ecosystem context at the local, regional, and national level; and
- Place special emphasis on the working collaboration among NPS, universities, and their related partner institutions.

Title: Provide research, technical assistance and education for resource management

The CESU network seeks to provide scientifically-based information on the nature and status of selected biological, physical, and cultural resources occurring within the parks in a form that increases its utility for making management decisions, conducting scientific research, educating the public, developing effective monitoring programs, and developing management strategies for resource protection.

Studying the resources present in NPS parks benefits the Recipient's goal of advancing knowledge through scientific discovery, integration, application, and teaching, which lead toward a holistic understanding of our environmental and natural resources.

The Recipient is a professional, science based, non profit conservation organization, sharing research, educational, and technical strengths with other institutions. Through inter-institutional collaboration, combined with the unique contributions of each constituent institution, the Recipient strives to contribute substantially to the cultural, economic, environmental, scientific, social and technological advancement of the nation.

For performance under this cooperative agreement, the regulations set forth in 2 CFR, Part 200, supersedes OMB Circulars A-21 (2 CFR 220), A-87 (2 CFR 225), A-110, and A-122 (2 CFR 230); Circulars A-89, A-102, and A-133; and the guidance in Circular A-50 on Single Audit Act follow-up apply. The Recipient shall adhere to 2 CFR, Part 200 in its entirety in addition to any terms and conditions of the master agreement not superseded by 2 CFR 200, as well as the terms and conditions set forth in this Agreement. In the event of a conflict between the original terms of the master agreement and 2 CFR, Part 200, relating to this task agreement, 2 CFR, Part 200 shall take precedence.

ARTICLE III – PUBLIC PURPOSE

The NPS expects there to be substantial involvement between itself and the Recipient in carrying out the activities contemplated in this Agreement.

The primary purpose of this study is not the acquisition of property or services for the direct benefit or use by the Federal Government, but rather to accomplish a public purpose of support or stimulation authorized by the Legislative Authorities cited in ARTICLE II of this Agreement.

This Agreement fulfills the Public Purpose of support and economic stimulation for some, or all of the following reasons:

- Projects will engage recipients, partners, communities, and/or visitors in shared environmental stewardship.
- Projects will promote greater public and private participation in historic preservation programs and activities. The project builds resource stewardship ethics in its participants.
- The information, products and/or services identified or developed by projects will be shared through a variety of strategies to increase public awareness, knowledge and support for historic preservation and stewardship of the nation's cultural and historical heritage.
- Projects will support the Government's objective to provide opportunities for youth to learn about the environment by spending time working on projects in National Parks. The NPS receives the indirect benefit of completing conservation projects.
- Projects will motivate youth participants to become involved in the natural, cultural and /or historical resource protection of their communities and beyond.

- Students gain “real world” or hands-on experience outside of the classroom of natural, cultural and/or historical resource projects.
- The scientific community and/or researchers external to NPS gains by new knowledge provided through research and related results dissemination of natural, cultural and/or historical resource information.
- Projects assist in the creation, promotion, facilitation, and/or improvement of the public’s understanding of natural, cultural, historic, recreational and other aspects of areas such as ecological conservation areas, and state and local parks.

ARTICLE IV – STATEMENT OF WORK

Detailed statements of work will be defined at the task agreement level based on the goals, objectives, and public purpose of this Agreement.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE PARTIES

As subsequent task agreements are entered into under this Agreement, specific party responsibilities will be developed for each project or activity having a separate statement of work and budget, and will be developed cooperatively between the NPS and Recipient.

- A. The Recipient agrees to:
1. Carry out the Statement of Work in accordance with the terms and conditions stated herein. The Recipient shall adhere to Federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and codes, as applicable.
 2. Conduct, a program of research, technical assistance, and education related to the CESU objectives and allow and encourage faculty to participate in the program as appropriate;
 3. Promote the application of biological, physical, and cultural information to the conservation, restoration, and management of NPS’s resources for public use and/or education;
 4. Encourage students and employees to participate in the activities of the CESU;
 5. Allow and encourage faculty to engage in NPS research, technical assistance, and education activities related to the CESU objectives, as appropriate;
 6. Encourage its students to participate in the activities of the CESU;
 7. Participate in the CESU Manager's Committee meeting, at least annually, to provide advice and guidance, review of the annual work and multi-year strategic plans, and assist in evaluating the CESU;
 8. Obtain research collecting permits through the appropriate NPS administrative unit for work accomplished through this Agreement and subsequent task agreements;

9. Participate in symposiums, conferences, or workshops to promote the understanding and use of biodiversity information on NPS parks;
10. Support professional development for youth and visitors, whenever possible, with projects under this Agreement;
11. Provide to the NPS expert consultation in support of environmental policy and management of natural and cultural resources;
12. Assist the NPS in outreach to national and international audiences with information about the resources that are supported by national parks;
13. Provide the NPS with reports, manuscripts, popular-press articles, monographs, and research data generated by personnel conducting projects under this Agreement.

B. The NPS agrees to:

1. Monitor and provide Federal oversight of activities performed under this Agreement. Monitoring and oversight includes review and approval of financial status and performance reports, payment requests, and tasks identified below. Additional monitoring activities may include site visits, conference calls, and other on-site and off-site monitoring activities. At the Recipient's request, NPS may also provide technical assistance to the Recipient in support of the objectives of this Agreement.
2. Provide administrative assistance, as appropriate, necessary to execute this Agreement and subsequent modifications;
3. Participate in project activities, research, technical assistance, and education related to the CESU objectives to the extent allowed by NPS authorizing legislation;
4. Provide opportunities for research on national park lands or using federal facilities in cooperation with NPS, as appropriate, and according to all applicable laws, regulations, and policies;
5. Provide project funds and/or collaboration to support specific research, technical assistance and education projects, as appropriate;
6. Make available managers to serve on the CESU Manager's Committee;
7. Ensure its employees follow the Code of Ethics for Government Service (Pub. L. 96-303) and Standards of Ethical Conduct (5 CFR Part 2635);
8. Allow NPS employees to participate in the activities of the Recipient, including serving on graduate committees and teaching courses, as appropriate, and as specifically determined in modifications to the Agreement; and
9. Provide substantial guidance and consultation to the Recipient in connection with projects, as appropriate.
10. Familiarize the Recipient with parks and park resources.
11. Provide the Recipient with timely information on changes to park boundaries or land ownership.

12. Provide access to and use of the natural and cultural resources of units of the National Park System for appropriate research, monitoring, and educational activities of the Recipient, except for those activities which may conflict with the values and purposes of the area as stated in Federal law or policy.

A. The Recipient and NPS, jointly, agree to:

1. Maintain the CESU closely following the mission and goals of the CESU Network as described in the *CESU Network Strategic Plan*, adapting key elements to local and regional needs, as appropriate;
2. Maintain a CESU role and mission statement;
3. Operate under a multi-year strategic plan;
4. Issue individual funding documents, in accordance with NPS procedures, developed cooperatively between the NPS and Recipient that individually include a specific “scope of work” statement and a brief explanation of the following:
 - a. the proposed work;
 - b. the project contribution to the objectives of the CESU;
 - c. the methodology of the project;
 - d. the substantial involvement of each party;
 - e. the project budget and schedule;
 - f. the specific project outputs or products.

Unless otherwise specified, the terms and conditions of this Agreement will apply to task agreements written under it.

5. Provide data on CESU projects to the CESU Network National Office and/or host institution in accordance with CESU Network Council guidelines as posted on the CESU Network National Office website (www.cesu.org);
6. Engage in collaborative activities consistent with federal scientific and scholarly integrity directives and policies (e.g., Presidential and OSTP Scientific Integrity Memoranda, as appropriate. The Code of Scientific and Scholarly Conduct for the Department of the Interior can be found at: <https://www.doi.gov/sites/doi.gov/files/migrated/scientificintegrity/upload/DOI-Code-of-Scientific-and-Scholarly-Conduct-Poster-December-2014.pdf>

ARTICLE V – COST-SHARE REQUIREMENT

Non-Federal cost-share is not required for this Agreement.

ARTICLE VI – PRE-AWARD INCURRENCE OF COSTS

The Recipient is not authorized to incur costs prior to the award of this Agreement. Costs incurred prior to the award of this Agreement are not allowable.

ARTICLE VII – APPROVED INDIRECT RATE

A 17.5% indirect cost rate will be applied on the same bases of the universities' or non-profits' negotiated rate. If the recipient does not have a negotiated rate, the indirect cost rate shall be calculated using Modified Total Direct Cost. The 17.5% rate will be paid on work covered by the Agreement and all its modifications or task agreements Non-CESU sub-recipients may be asked to follow the rate but may not be required.

ARTICLE VIII – TERM OF AGREEMENT

The Agreement will become effective upon the date of the last signature in Article XIV (Effective Date) and will expire **five years from date of final signature** years from that date (Expiration Date), unless terminated earlier per Article XI. The period from the Effective Date to the Expiration Date is the period of performance for the Agreement (Agreement Term).

ARTICLE IX – KEY OFFICIALS

A. Key officials are essential to ensure maximum coordination and communications between the parties and the work being performed. They are:

1. For the NPS:

Awarding Officer (AO):

LaQuita Palmer
Financial Assistance Officer
National Capital Region
1100 Ohio Drive SW
Washington, DC 20242
Phone: 202-619-7082
LaQuita_Palmer@nps.gov

Agreement Technical Representative (ATR):

Dr. Daniel Filer
Chesapeake Watershed CESU Research Coordinator
National Park Service
301 Braddock Road, Room 304
Frostburg, MD 21532
Phone: 301-689-7108

Danny_Filer@nps.gov

2. **For the Recipient:**

Don Faber-Langendoen
Senior Ecologist
NatureServe
2550 South Clark Street, Suite 930
Arlington, VA 22202
703-908-1800
Don_Faber-Langendoen@natureserve.org

- B. **Communications.** Recipient shall address any communication regarding this Agreement to the ATR with a copy to the AO. Communications that relate solely to technical matters may be sent only to the ATR.
- C. **Changes in Key Officials.** Neither the NPS nor Recipient may make any permanent change in a key official without written notice to the other party reasonably in advance of the proposed change. The notice will include a justification with sufficient detail to permit evaluation of the impact of such a change on the scope of work specified within this Agreement. Any permanent change in key officials will be made only by modification to this Agreement.

ARTICLE X – AWARD AND PAYMENT

- A. The commitment of funds in furtherance of this Agreement will be authorized by individual Task Agreements issued against this Cooperative Agreement identifying each project or group of projects, the amount of financial assistance and any other special terms or conditions applicable to that project tasks.
- B. Recipient shall request payment in accordance with the following:
1. **Method of Payment.** Payment will be made by advance and/or reimbursement through the Department of Treasury's Automated Standard Application for Payments (ASAP) system.
 2. **Requesting Advances.** Requests for advances must be submitted via the ASAP system. Requests may be submitted as frequently as required to meet the needs of the Financial Assistance (FA) Recipient to disburse funds for the Federal share of project costs. If feasible, each request should be timed so that payment is received on the same day that the funds are dispersed for direct project costs and/or the proportionate share of any allowable indirect costs. If

same-day transfers are not feasible, advance payments must be as close to actual disbursements as administratively feasible.

3. **Requesting Reimbursement.** Requests for reimbursements must be submitted via the ASAP system. Requests for reimbursement should coincide with normal billing patterns. Each request must be limited to the amount of disbursements made for the Federal share of direct project costs and the proportionate share of allowable indirect costs incurred during that billing period.
 4. **Adjusting Payment Requests for Available Cash.** Funds that are available from repayments to, and interest earned on, a revolving fund, program income, rebates, refunds, contract settlements, audit recoveries, credits, discounts, and interest earned on any of those funds must be disbursed before requesting additional cash payments.
 5. **Bank Accounts.** All payments are made through electronic funds transfer to the bank account identified in the ASAP system by the FA Recipient.
 6. **Supporting Documents and Agency Approval of Payments.** Additional supporting documentation and prior NPS approval of payments may be required when/if a FA Recipient is determined to be “high risk” or has performance issues. If prior Agency payment approval is in effect for an award, the ASAP system will notify the FA Recipient when they submit a request for payment. The Recipient must then notify the NPS AO that a payment request has been submitted. The NPS AO may request additional information from the Recipient to support the payment request prior to approving the release of funds, as deemed necessary. The FA Recipient is required to comply with these requests. Supporting documents may include invoices, copies of contracts, vendor quotes, and other expenditure explanations that justify the reimbursement requests.
- C. In order to receive a financial assistance award and to ensure proper payment, it is required that Recipient maintain their registration with the System for Award Management (SAM), accessed at <http://www.sam.gov>. Failure to maintain registration can impact obligations and payments under this Agreement and/or any other financial assistance or procurement documents the Recipient may have with the Federal government.
- D. Any award beyond the current fiscal year is subject to availability of funds; funds may be provided in subsequent fiscal years if project work is satisfactory and funding is available.

- E. **Allowable and Eligible Costs.** Expenses charged against awards under the Agreement may not be incurred prior to the beginning of the Agreement, and may be incurred only as necessary to carry out the approved objectives, scope of work and budget with prior approval from the NPS AO. The Recipient shall not incur costs or obligate funds for any purpose pertaining to the operation of the project, program, or activities beyond the expiration date stipulated in the award.
- F. **Travel Costs.** For travel costs charged against awards under the Agreement, costs incurred must be considered reasonable and otherwise allowable only to the extent such costs do not exceed charges normally allowed by the Recipient in its regular operations as the result of the Recipient's written travel policy. If the Recipient does not have written travel policies established, the Recipient and its contractors shall follow the travel policies in the Federal Travel Regulation, and may not be reimbursed for travel costs that exceed the standard rates. All charges for travel must conform to the applicable cost principles.
- G. **Indirect Costs.** Indirect costs will not be allowable charges against the award unless specifically included as a line item in the approved budget incorporated into the award.
- H. **Recipient Cost Share or Match.** Any non-Federal share, whether in cash or in-kind, is expected to be paid out at the same general rate as the Federal share. Exceptions to this requirement may be granted by the AO based on sufficient documentation demonstrating previously determined plans for or later commitment of cash or in-kind contributions. In any case, the Recipient must meet their cost share commitment over the life of the award.

ARTICLE XI – PRIOR APPROVAL

The Recipient shall obtain prior approval for budget and program revisions, in accordance with 2 CFR 200.308.

ARTICLE XII – INSURANCE AND LIABILITY

- A. **Insurance.** The recipient shall be required to (1) obtain liability insurance or (2) demonstrate present financial resources in an amount determined sufficient by the Government to cover claims brought by third parties for death, bodily injury, property damage, or other loss resulting from one or more identified activities carried out in connection with this financial assistance agreement.
- B. **Insured.** The Federal Government shall be named as an additional insured under the recipient's insurance policy.

- C. Indemnification. The recipient hereby agrees to indemnify the Federal government, and NPS from any act or omission of the Recipient, its officers, employees, or (members, participants, agents, representatives, agents as appropriate), (1) against third party claims for damages arising from one or more identified activities carried out in connection with this financial assistance agreement and (2) for damage or loss to government property resulting from such an activity. This obligation shall survive the termination of this Agreement.

To purchase public and employee liability insurance at its own expense from a responsible company or companies with a minimum limitation of one million dollars (\$1,000,000) per person for anyone claim, and an aggregate limitation of two million dollars (\$2,000,000) for any number of claims arising from any one incident. The policies shall name the United States as an additional insured, shall specify that the insured shall have no right of subrogation against the United States for payments of any premiums or deductibles due thereunder, and shall specify that the insurance shall be assumed by, be for the account of, and be at the insured's sole risk. Prior to beginning the work authorized herein, [Recipient Name] shall provide the NPS with confirmation of such insurance coverage.

To pay the United States the full value for all damage to the lands or other property of the United States caused by the Recipient, its officers, employees, or representatives.

To provide workers' compensation protection to the Recipient, its officers, employees, and representatives.

To cooperate with NPS in the investigation and defense of any claims that may be filed with NPS arising out of the activities of the Recipient, its agents, and employees.

In the event of damage to or destruction of the buildings and facilities assigned for the use of the Recipient in whole or in part by any cause whatsoever, nothing herein contained shall be deemed to require NPS to replace or repair the buildings or facilities. If NPS determines in writing, after consultation with the Recipient that damage to the buildings or portions thereof renders such buildings unsuitable for continued use by the Recipient, NPS shall assume sole control over such buildings or portions thereof. If the buildings or facilities rendered unsuitable for use are essential for conducting operations authorized under this Agreement, then failure to substitute and assign other facilities acceptable to the Recipient will constitute termination of this Agreement by NPS.

- D. Flow-down: For the purposes of this clause, "recipient" includes such sub-recipients, contractors, or subcontractors as, in the judgment of the recipient and subject to the Government's determination of sufficiency, have sufficient

resources and/or maintain adequate and appropriate insurance to achieve the purposes of this clause.

ARTICLE XIV – REPORTS AND/OR OUTPUTS/OUTCOMES

SF425 Federal Financial Reports (FFR) and Performance Reports submission dates and requirements shall be set at the task agreement level.

- A. The Secretary of the Interior and the Comptroller General of the United States, or their duly authorized representatives, will have access, for the purpose of financial or programmatic review and examination, to any books, documents, papers, and records that are pertinent to the Agreement at all reasonable times during the period of retention in accordance with 2 CFR 200.333.

ARTICLE XIV – PROPERTY UTILIZATION

All tools, equipment, and facilities furnished by NPS will be on a loan basis. Tools, equipment and facilities will be returned in the same condition received except for normal wear and tear in project use. Property management standards set forth in 2 CFR 200.310 through 200.316 *applies* to this Agreement.

ARTICLE XV – MODIFICATION, REMEDIES FOR NONCOMPLIANCE, TERMINATION

- A. This Agreement may be modified at any time, prior to the expiration date, only by a written instrument executed by both parties. Modifications will be in writing and approved by the NPS Awarding Officer and the authorized representative of Recipient.
- B. Additional conditions may be imposed by NPS if it is determined that the Recipient is non-compliant to the terms and conditions of this agreement. Remedies for Noncompliance can be found in 2 CFR 200.338.
- C. This Agreement may be terminated consistent with applicable termination provisions for Agreements found in 2 CFR 200.339 through 200.342.

ARTICLE XVI – GENERAL AND SPECIAL PROVISIONS

- A. **General Provisions**

1. **OMB Circulars and Other Regulations.** The following Federal regulations are incorporated by reference into this Agreement (full text can be found at <http://www.ecfr.gov>):
 - a) **Administrative Requirements:**

2 CFR, Part 200 – Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards, in its entirety;
 - b) **Determination of Allowable Costs:**

2 CFR, Part 200 – Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards, Subpart E; and
 - c) **Audit Requirements:**

2 CFR, Part 200 – Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards, Subpart F.
 - d) **Code of Federal Regulations/Regulatory Requirements:**

2 CFR Part 182 & 1401, “Government-wide Requirements for a Drug-Free Workplace”;

2 CFR 180 & 1400, “Non-Procurement Debarment and Suspension”, previously located at 43 CFR Part 42, “Governmentwide Debarment and Suspension (NonProcurement)”;

43 CFR 18, “New Restrictions on Lobbying”;

2 CFR Part 175, “Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000”;

FAR Clause 52.203-12, Paragraphs (a) and (b), Limitation on Payments to Influence Certain Federal Transactions;

2 CFR Part 25, System for Award Management (www.SAM.gov) and Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS); and

2 CFR Part 170, “Reporting Subawards and Executive Compensation”.
2. **Non-Discrimination.** All activities pursuant to this Agreement shall be in compliance with the requirements of Executive Order 11246, as amended; Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, (78 Stat. 252; 42 U.S.C. §§2000d

- et seq.); Title V, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, (87 Stat. 394; 29 U.S.C. §794); the Age Discrimination Act of 1975 (89 Stat. 728; 42 U.S.C. §§6101 et seq.); and with all other Federal laws and regulations prohibiting discrimination on grounds of race, color, sexual orientation, national origin, disabilities, religion, age, or sex.
3. **Lobbying Prohibition.** 18 U.S.C. §1913, Lobbying with Appropriated Moneys, as amended by Public Law 107–273, Nov. 2, 2002 Violations of this section shall constitute violations of section 1352(a) of title 31. In addition, the related restrictions on the use of appropriated funds found in Div. F, § 402 of the Omnibus Appropriations Act of 2008 (P.L. 110–161) also apply.
 4. **Anti–Deficiency Act.** Pursuant to 31 U.S.C. §1341 nothing contained in this Agreement shall be construed as binding the NPS to expend in any one fiscal year any sum in excess of appropriations made by Congress, for the purposes of this Agreement for that fiscal year, or other obligation for the further expenditure of money in excess of such appropriations.
 5. **Minority Business Enterprise Development.** Pursuant to Executive Order 12432 it is national policy to award a fair share of contracts to small and minority firms. NPS is strongly committed to the objectives of this policy and encourages all recipients of its Cooperative Agreements to take affirmative steps to ensure such fairness by ensuring procurement procedures are carried out in accordance with the Executive Order.
 6. **Assignment.** No part of this Agreement shall be assigned to any other party without prior written approval of the NPS and the Assignee.
 7. **Member of Congress.** Pursuant to 41 U.S.C. § 22, no Member of Congress shall be admitted to any share or part of any contract or agreement made, entered into, or adopted by or on behalf of the United States, or to any benefit to arise thereupon.
 8. **Agency.** The Recipient is not an agent or representative of the United States, the Department of the Interior, NPS, or the Park, nor will the Recipient represent its self as such to third parties. NPS employees are not agents of the Recipient and will not act on behalf of the Recipient.
 9. **Non–Exclusive Agreement.** This Agreement in no way restricts the Recipient or NPS from entering into similar agreements, or participating in similar activities or arrangements, with other public or private agencies, organizations, or individuals.
 10. **Survival.** Any and all provisions which, by themselves or their nature, are reasonably expected to be performed after the expiration or termination of this

Agreement shall survive and be enforceable after the expiration or termination of this Agreement. Any and all liabilities, actual or contingent, which have arisen during the term of and in connection with this Agreement shall survive expiration or termination of this Agreement.

11. **Partial Invalidity.** If any provision of this Agreement or the application thereof to any party or circumstance shall, to any extent, be held invalid or unenforceable, the remainder of this Agreement or the application of such provision to the parties or circumstances other than those to which it is held invalid or unenforceable, shall not be affected thereby and each provision of this Agreement shall be valid and be enforced to the fullest extent permitted by law.
12. **Captions and Headings.** The captions, headings, article numbers and paragraph numbers appearing in this Agreement are inserted only as a matter of convenience and in no way shall be construed as defining or limiting the scope or intent of the provision of this Agreement nor in any way affecting this Agreement.
13. **No Employment Relationship.** This Agreement is not intended to and shall not be construed to create an employment relationship between NPS and Recipient or its representatives. No representative of Recipient shall perform any function or make any decision properly reserved by law or policy to the Federal government.
14. **No Third-Party Rights.** This Agreement creates enforceable obligations between only NPS and Recipient. Except as expressly provided herein, it is not intended nor shall it be construed to create any right of enforcement by or any duties or obligation in favor of persons or entities not a party to this Agreement.
15. **Foreign Travel.** The Recipient shall comply with the provisions of the Fly America Act (49 U.S.C. 40118). The implementing regulations of the Fly America Act are found at 41 CFR 301-10.131 through 301-10.143.
16. **Program Income.** If the Recipient earns program income, as defined in 2 CFR §200.80, during the period of performance of this Agreement, to the extent available the Recipient must disburse funds available from program income, and interest earned on such funds, before requesting additional cash payments (2 CFR §200.305 (5)). As allowed under 2 CFR §200.307, program income may be added to the Federal award by the Federal agency and the non-Federal entity. The program income must be used for the purposes, and under the conditions of, the Federal award. Disposition of program income remaining after the end of the period of performance shall be negotiated as part of the agreement closeout process.

B. **Special Provisions –**

1. Public Information and Endorsements

- a) Recipient shall not publicize or otherwise circulate promotional material (such as advertisements, sales brochures, press releases, speeches, still and motion pictures, articles, manuscripts or other publications) which states or implies governmental, Departmental, bureau, or government employee endorsement of a business, product, service, or position which the Recipient represents. No release of information relating to this award may state or imply that the Government approves of the Recipient's work products, or considers the Recipient's work product to be superior to other products or services.
- b) All information submitted for publication or other public releases of information regarding this project shall carry the following disclaimer.
- c) The views and conclusions contained in this document are those of the authors and should not be interpreted as representing the opinions or policies of the U.S. Government. Mention of trade names or commercial products does not constitute their endorsement by the U.S. Government.
- d) Recipient must obtain prior Government approval for any public information releases concerning this award which refer to the Department of the Interior or any bureau or employee (by name or title). The specific text, layout photographs, etc. of the proposed release must be submitted with the request for approval.
- e) Recipient further agrees to include this provision in a subaward to a subrecipient, except for a subaward to a State government, a local government, or to a Federally recognized Indian tribal government.

2. Publications of Results of Studies. No party will unilaterally publish a joint publication without consulting the other party. This restriction does not apply to popular publications of previously published technical matter. Publications pursuant to this Agreement may be produced independently or in collaboration with others; however, in all cases proper credit will be given to the efforts of those parties contribution to the publication. In the event no agreement is reached concerning the manner of publication or interpretation of results, either party may publish data after due notice and submission of the proposed manuscripts to the other. In such instances, the party publishing the data will give due credit to the cooperation but assume full responsibility for any statements on which there is a difference of opinion.

3. Rights in Data. The Recipient must grant the United States of America a royalty-free, non-exclusive and irrevocable license to publish, reproduce and use, and dispose of in any manner and for any purpose without limitation, and to authorize

- or ratify publication, reproduction or use by others, of all copyrightable material first produced or composed under this Agreement by the Recipient, its employees or any individual or concern specifically employed or assigned to originate and prepare such material.
4. **Retention and Access Requirements for Records.** All Recipient financial and programmatic records, supporting documents, statistical records, and other grants-related records shall be maintained and available for access in accordance with 2 CFR Part 200.333–200.337.
 5. **Audit Requirements**
 - a) Non-Federal entities that expend \$750,000 or more during a year in Federal awards shall have a single or program-specific audit conducted for that year in accordance with the Single Audit Act Amendments of 1996 (31 U.S.C. 7501–7507) and 2 CFR Part 200, Subpart F , which is available at http://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?SID=fd6463a517ceea3fa13e665e525051f4&node=sp2.1.200.f&rgn=d_iv6
 - b) Non-Federal entities that expend less than \$750,000 for a fiscal year in Federal awards are exempt from Federal audit requirements for that year, but records must be available for review or audit by appropriate officials of the Federal agency, pass-through entity, and General Accounting Office (GAO).
 - c) Audits shall be made by an independent auditor in accordance with generally accepted government auditing standards covering financial audits. Additional audit requirements applicable to this Agreement are found at 2 CFR Part 200, Subpart F, as applicable. Additional information on single audits is available from the Federal Audit Clearinghouse at <http://harvester.census.gov/sac/>.
 6. **Procurement Procedures.** A full description of procurement standards can be found in 2 CFR §200.317-§200.326.
 7. **Prohibition on Text Messaging and Using Electronic Equipment Supplied by the Government while Driving.** Executive Order 13513, Federal Leadership On Reducing Text Messaging While Driving, was signed by President Barack Obama on October 1. This Executive Order introduces a Federal Government-wide prohibition on the use of text messaging while driving on official business or while using Government-supplied equipment. Additional guidance enforcing the ban will be issued at a later date. In the meantime, please adopt and enforce policies that immediately ban text messaging while driving company-owned or –rented vehicles, government-owned or leased vehicles, or while driving privately

owned vehicles when on official government business or when performing any work for or on behalf of the government.

8. **Seat Belt Provision.** The Recipient is encouraged to adopt and enforce on-the-job seat belt use policies and programs for their employees when operating company-owned, rented, or personally owned vehicles. These measures include, but are not limited to, conducting education, awareness, and other appropriate programs for their employees about the importance of wearing seat belts and the consequences of not wearing them.
9. **Trafficking in Persons.** This term of award is pursuant to paragraph (g) of Section 106 of the Trafficking Victims Protections Act of 2000, as amended (2 CFR §175.15).
10. **Recipient Employee Whistleblower Rights and Requirement to Inform Employees of Whistleblower Rights**
 - a) This award and employees working on this financial assistance agreement will be subject to the whistleblower rights and remedies in the pilot program on Award Recipient employee whistleblower protections established at 41 U.S.C. 4712 by section 828 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2013 (Pub. L. 112-239).
 - b) The Award Recipient shall inform its employees in writing, in the predominant language of the workforce, of employee whistleblower rights and protections under 41 U.S.C. 4712.
 - c) The Award Recipient shall insert the substance of this clause, including this paragraph (c), in all subawards or subcontracts over the simplified acquisition threshold, 42 CFR § 52.203-17 (as referenced in 42 CFR § 3.908-9).
11. **Reporting Subawards And Executive Compensation.**

Recipients must report all subaward and executive compensation data pursuant to the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act (FFATA) of 2006 and associate amendments (P.L. 109-282, as amended by section 6202(a) of P.L. 110-252 (see 31 U.S.C. 6101 note)). Refer to <https://www.fsrs.gov/> for more information.
12. **Conflict of Interest**
 - (a) Applicability.
 - (1) This section intends to ensure that non-Federal entities and their employees take appropriate steps to avoid conflicts of interest in their

responsibilities under or with respect to Federal financial assistance agreements.

- (2) In the procurement of supplies, equipment, construction, and services by recipients and by subrecipients, the conflict of interest provisions in 2 CFR 200.318 apply.

(b) Requirements.

- (1) Non-Federal entities must avoid prohibited conflicts of interest, including any significant financial interests that could cause a reasonable person to question the recipient's ability to provide impartial, technically sound, and objective performance under or with respect to a Federal financial assistance agreement.
- (2) In addition to any other prohibitions that may apply with respect to conflicts of interest, no key official of an actual or proposed recipient or subrecipient, who is substantially involved in the proposal or project, may have been a former Federal employee who, within the last one (1) year, participated personally and substantially in the evaluation, award, or administration of an award with respect to that recipient or subrecipient or in development of the requirement leading to the funding announcement.
- (3) No actual or prospective recipient or subrecipient may solicit, obtain, or use non-public information regarding the evaluation, award, or administration of an award to that recipient or subrecipient or the development of a Federal financial assistance opportunity that may be of competitive interest to that recipient or subrecipient.

(c) Notification.

- (1) Non-Federal entities, including applicants for financial assistance awards, must disclose in writing any conflict of interest to the DOI awarding agency or pass-through entity in accordance with 2 CFR 200.112, Conflicts of interest.
- (d) Recipients must establish internal controls that include, at a minimum, procedures to identify, disclose, and mitigate or eliminate identified conflicts of interest. The recipient is responsible for notifying the Financial Assistance Officer in writing of any conflicts of interest that may arise during the life of the award, including those that have been reported by subrecipients. Restrictions on Lobbying. Non-Federal entities are strictly prohibited from using funds under this grant or cooperative agreement for

lobbying activities and must provide the required certifications and disclosures pursuant to 43 CFR Part 18 and 31 USC 1352.

- (e) Review Procedures. The Financial Assistance Officer will examine each conflict of interest disclosure on the basis of its particular facts and the nature of the proposed grant or cooperative agreement, and will determine whether a significant potential conflict exists and, if it does, develop an appropriate means for resolving it.
- (f) Enforcement. Failure to resolve conflicts of interest in a manner that satisfies the Government may be cause for termination of the award. Failure to make required disclosures may result in any of the remedies described in 2 CFR 200.338, Remedies for Noncompliance, including suspension or debarment (see also 2 CFR Part 180).

13. Minimum Wages Under Executive Order 13658 (January 2015)

a) *Definitions.* As used in this clause—

“United States” means the 50 states and the District of Columbia.

“Worker”—

(1) Means any person engaged in performing work on, or in connection with, an agreement covered by [Executive Order 13658](#), and

(i) Whose wages under such agreements are governed by the Fair Labor Standards Act (29 U.S.C. chapter 8), the Service Contract Labor Standards statute (41 U.S.C. chapter 67), or the Wage Rate Requirements (Construction) statute (40 U.S.C. chapter 31, subchapter IV),

(ii) Other than individuals employed in a bona fide executive, administrative, or professional capacity, as those terms are defined in [29 C.F.R. § 541](#),

(iii) Regardless of the contractual relationship alleged to exist between the individual and the employer.

(2) Includes workers performing on, or in connection with, the agreement whose wages are calculated pursuant to special certificates issued under [29 U.S.C. § 214\(c\)](#).

(3) Also includes any person working on, or in connection with, the agreement and individually registered in a bona fide apprenticeship or

training program registered with the Department of Labor's Employment and Training Administration, Office of Apprenticeship, or with a State Apprenticeship Agency recognized by the Office of Apprenticeship.

b) *Executive Order Minimum Wage rate.*

(1) The non-Federal entity shall pay to workers, while performing in the United States, and performing on, or in connection with, this agreement, a minimum hourly wage rate determined by the Secretary of the Department of Labor on an annual basis (currently \$10.20 per hour as of January 1, 2017).

(2) The non-Federal entity shall adjust the minimum wage paid, if necessary, annually thereafter, to meet the Secretary of Labor's annual E.O. minimum wage. The Administrator of the Department of Labor's Wage and Hour Division (the Administrator) will publish annual determinations in the Federal Register no later than 90 days before the effective date of the new E.O. minimum wage rate. The Administrator will also publish the applicable E.O. minimum wage on www.wdol.gov (or any successor Web site) and on all wage determinations issued under the Service Contract Labor Standards statute or the Wage Rate Requirements (Construction) statute. The applicable published E.O. minimum wage is incorporated by reference into this agreement.

(3) (i) The non-Federal entity may request a price adjustment only after the effective date of the new annual E.O. minimum wage determination. Prices will be adjusted only if labor costs increase as a result of an increase in the annual E.O. minimum wage, and for associated labor costs and relevant subaward costs. Associated labor costs shall include increases or decreases that result from changes in social security and unemployment taxes and workers' compensation insurance, but will not otherwise include any amount for general and administrative costs, overhead, or profit.

(ii) Subrecipients may be entitled to adjustments due to the new minimum wage, pursuant to paragraph (b)(2). Non-Federal entities shall consider any Subrecipient requests for such price adjustment.

(iii) The Financial Assistance Awarding Officer will not adjust the agreement price under this clause for any costs other than those identified in paragraph (b)(3)(i) of this clause, and will not provide

duplicate price adjustments with any price adjustment under clauses implementing the Service Contract Labor Standards statute or the Wage Rate Requirements (Construction) statute.

(4) The non-Federal entity warrants that the prices in this agreement do not include allowance for any contingency to cover increased costs for which adjustment is provided under this clause.

(5) The non-Federal entity shall pay, unconditionally to each worker, all wages due free and clear without subsequent rebate or kickback. The non-Federal entity may make deductions that reduce a worker's wages below the E.O. minimum wage rate only if done in accordance with [29 C.F.R. § 10.23](#), Deductions.

(6) The non-Federal entity shall not discharge any part of its minimum wage obligation under this clause by furnishing fringe benefits or, with respect to workers whose wages are governed by the Service Contract Labor Standards statute, the cash equivalent thereof.

(7) Nothing in this clause shall excuse the non-Federal entity from compliance with any applicable Federal or State prevailing wage law or any applicable law or municipal ordinance establishing a minimum wage higher than the E.O. minimum wage. However, wage increases under such other laws or municipal ordinances are not subject to price adjustment under this subpart.

(8) The non-Federal entity shall pay the E.O. minimum wage rate whenever it is higher than any applicable collective bargaining agreement(s) wage rate.

(9) The non-Federal entity shall follow the policies and procedures in [29 C.F.R. § 10.24\(b\)](#) and 10.28 for treatment of workers engaged in an occupation in which they customarily and regularly receive more than \$30 a month in tips.

c)

(1) This clause applies to workers as defined in paragraph (a). As provided in that definition—

(i) Workers are covered regardless of the contractual relationship alleged to exist between the non-Federal entity or subrecipient and the worker;

(ii) Workers with disabilities whose wages are calculated pursuant to special certificates issued under [29 U.S.C. § 214\(c\)](#) are covered; and

(iii) Workers who are registered in a bona fide apprenticeship program or training program registered with the Department of Labor's Employment and Training Administration, Office of Apprenticeship, or with a State Apprenticeship Agency recognized by the Office of Apprenticeship, are covered.

(2) This clause does not apply to—

(i) Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) – covered individuals performing in connection with contracts covered by the E.O., *i.e.* those individuals who perform duties necessary to the performance of the agreement, but who are not directly engaged in performing the specific work called for by the agreement, and who spend less than 20 percent of their hours worked in a particular workweek performing in connection with such agreements;

(ii) Individuals exempted from the minimum wage requirements of the FLSA under [29 U.S.C. § 213\(a\)](#) and 214(a) and (b), unless otherwise covered by the Service Contract Labor Standards statute, or the Wage Rate Requirements (Construction) statute. These individuals include but are not limited to—

(A) Learners, apprentices, or messengers whose wages are calculated pursuant to special certificates issued under [29 U.S.C. § 214\(a\)](#).

(B) Students whose wages are calculated pursuant to special certificates issued under [29 U.S.C. § 214\(b\)](#).

(C) Those employed in a bona fide executive, administrative, or professional capacity ([29 U.S.C. § 213\(a\)\(1\)](#) and [29 C.F.R. § part 541](#)).

d) *Notice.* The non-Federal entity shall notify all workers performing work on, or in connection with, this Agreement of the applicable E.O. minimum wage rate under this clause. With respect to workers covered by the Service Contract Labor Standards statute or the Wage Rate Requirements (Construction) statute, the Contractor may meet this requirement by posting, in a prominent and accessible place at the worksite, the applicable wage determination under those statutes. With respect to workers whose wages are governed by the FLSA, the non-Federal entity shall post notice,

utilizing the poster provided by the Administrator, which can be obtained at www.dol.gov/whd/govcontracts, in a prominent and accessible place at the worksite. Non-Federal entities that customarily post notices to workers electronically may post the notice electronically provided the electronic posting is displayed prominently on any Web site that is maintained by the non-Federal entity, whether external or internal, and customarily used for notices to workers about terms and conditions of employment.

e) *Payroll Records.*

(1) The non-Federal entity shall make and maintain records, for three years after completion of the work, containing the following information for each worker:

(i) Name, address, and social security number;

(ii) The worker's occupation(s) or classification(s);

(iii) The rate or rates of wages paid;

(iv) The number of daily and weekly hours worked by each worker;

(v) Any deductions made; and

(vi) Total wages paid.

(2) The non-Federal entity shall make records pursuant to paragraph (e) (1) of this clause available for inspection and transcription by authorized representatives of the Administrator. The non-Federal entity shall also make such records available upon request of the Contracting Officer.

(3) The non-Federal entity shall make a copy of the agreement available, as applicable, for inspection or transcription by authorized representatives of the Administrator.

(4) Failure to comply with this paragraph (e) shall be a violation of [29 C.F.R. § 10.26](#) and this Agreement. Upon direction of the Administrator or upon the Financial Assistance Awarding Officer's own action, payment shall be withheld until such time as the noncompliance is corrected.

(5) Nothing in this clause limits or otherwise modifies the non-Federal entity's payroll and recordkeeping obligations, if any, under the Service Contract Labor Standards statute, the Wage Rate Requirements (Construction) statute, the Fair Labor Standards Act, or any other applicable law.

- f) *Access.* The non-Federal entity shall permit authorized representatives of the Administrator to conduct investigations, including interviewing workers at the worksite during normal working hours.
- g) *Withholding.* The Financial Assistance Awarding Officer, upon his or her own action or upon written request of the Administrator, will withhold funds or cause funds to be withheld, from the non-Federal entity under this or any other Federal agreement with the same non-Federal entity, sufficient to pay workers the full amount of wages required by this clause.
- h) *Disputes.* Department of Labor has set forth in [29 C.F.R. § 10.51](#), Disputes concerning non-Federal entity compliance, the procedures for resolving disputes concerning a non-Federal entity's compliance with Department of Labor regulations at [29 C.F.R. § 10](#). Such disputes shall be resolved in accordance with those. This includes disputes between the non-Federal entity (or any of its Subrecipients) and the contracting agency, the Department of Labor, or the workers or their representatives.
- i) *Antiretaliation.* The non-Federal entity shall not discharge or in any other manner discriminate against any worker because such worker has filed any complaint or instituted or caused to be instituted any proceeding under or related to compliance with the E.O. or this clause, or has testified or is about to testify in any such proceeding.
- j) *Subcontractor compliance.* The non-Federal entity is responsible for Subrecipient compliance with the requirements of this clause and may be held liable for unpaid wages due Subrecipient workers.
- k) *Subawards.* The non-Federal entity shall include the substance of this clause, including this paragraph (k) in all subawards, regardless of dollar value, that are subject to the Service Contract Labor Standards statute or the Wage Rate Requirements (Construction) statute, and are to be performed in whole or in part in the United States.

14. **Prohibition on Issuing Financial Assistance Awards to Entities that Require Certain Internal Confidentiality Agreements:** Section 743 of Division E, Title VII of the Consolidated and Further Continuing Resolution Appropriations Act of 2015 (Pub. L. 113-235) prohibits the use of funds appropriated or

otherwise made available under that or any other Act for grants or cooperative agreements to an entity that requires employees or contractors of such entity seeking to report fraud, waste, or abuse to sign internal confidentiality agreements or statements prohibiting or otherwise restricting such employees or contractors from lawfully reporting such waste, fraud, or abuse to a designated investigative or law enforcement representative of a Federal department or agency authorized to receive such information.

Recipients must not require their employees or contractors seeking to report fraud, waste, or abuse to sign internal confidentiality agreements or statements prohibiting or otherwise restricting such employees or contractors from lawfully reporting such waste, fraud, or abuse to a designated investigative or law enforcement representative of a Federal department or agency authorized to receive such information.

Recipients must notify their employees or contractors that existing internal confidentiality agreements covered by this condition are no longer in effect.

15. Data Availability:

(a) Applicability. The Department of the Interior is committed to basing its decisions on the best available science and providing the American people with enough information to thoughtfully and substantively evaluate the data, methodology, and analysis used by the Department to inform its decisions.

(b) Use of Data. The regulations at 2 CFR 200.315 apply to data produced under a Federal award, including the provision that the Federal Government has the right to obtain, reproduce, publish, or otherwise use the data produced under a Federal award as well as authorize others to receive, reproduce, publish, or otherwise use such data for Federal purposes.

(c) Availability of Data. The recipient shall make the data produced under this award and any subaward(s) available to the Government for public release, consistent with applicable law, to allow meaningful third party evaluation and reproduction of the following:

- (i) The scientific data relied upon;
- (ii) The analysis relied upon; and
- (iii) The methodology, including models, used to gather and analyze data.

16. CESU Cooperative and Joint Venture Agreement Compliance: In addition to the terms and conditions of this Agreement, the Recipient shall also comply with the terms and conditions of the Chesapeake Watershed Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit, Cooperative and Joint Venture Agreement Document Number: NPS# P16AC01389 . In the instance of

conflicting terms and conditions, the terms and conditions of this Agreement shall apply.

XVII. SECTION 508 OF THE REHABILITATION ACT OF 1973

While the requirements of Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, do not apply to financial assistance agreements, the NPS is subject to the Act's requirements that all documents posted on an NPS or NPS-hosted website comply with the accessibility standards of the Act. Accordingly, final deliverable reports prepared under this agreement and submitted in electronic format must be submitted in a format whereby NPS can easily meet the requirements of Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended.

NOTE: Quarterly Progress Reports and financial reports are not considered final deliverables and therefore the following requirements do not apply.

All electronic documents prepared under this agreement must meet the requirements of Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended. The act requires that all electronic products prepared for the Federal Government be accessible to persons with disabilities, including those with vision, hearing, cognitive, and mobility impairments. View Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act (<http://www.access-board.gov/508/508standards.htm>) and the Federal IT Accessibility Initiative Home Page (<http://section508.gov>) for detailed information.

The following summarize the requirements for preparing NPS reports in conformance with Section 508 for eventual posting by NPS to an NPS-sponsored website.

a. Electronic documents with images

Provide a text equivalent for every non-text element (including photographs, charts and equations) in all publications prepared in electronic format. Use descriptions such as "alt" and "longdesc" for all non-text images or place them in element content. For all documents prepared, vendors must prepare one standard HTML format as described in this statement of work AND one text format that includes descriptions for all non-text images. "Text equivalent" means text sufficient to reasonably describe the image. Images that are merely decorative require only a very brief "text equivalent" description. However, images that convey information that is important to the content of the report require text sufficient to reasonably describe that image and its purpose within the context of the report.

b. Electronic documents with complex charts or data tables

When preparing tables that are heavily designed, prepare adequate alternate information so that assistive technologies can read them out. Identify row and column headers for data tables. Provide the information in a non-linear form. Markups will be

used to associate data cells and header cells for data tables that have two or more logical levels of row and column headers.

c. Electronic documents with forms

When electronic forms are designed to be completed on-line, the form will allow people using assistive technology to access the information, field elements, and functionality required for completion and submission of the form, including all directions and cues.

ARTICLE XVIII – ATTACHMENTS

The following completed documents are attached to and made a part of this Agreement:

[Insert approved budget and any other relevant documents, such as the detailed statement of work if applicable.]

Attachment A. SF424 - Application for Federal Assistance

Attachment B. SF424B – SF424B – Assurances

The Standard Forms (SF) can be downloaded electronically at www.grants.gov or by contacting the NPS Awarding Officer.

ARTICLE XVIV – SIGNATURES

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have executed this Agreement on the date(s) set forth below.

FOR NATURESERVE



Name Steve Sellers

Date 04/14/2020

Title Chief Operating Officer

FOR THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

LaQuita Palmer
Awarding Officer

Date

Attachment A

SF-424A – Budget Information – Non-Construction Programs

Attachment B
Miscellaneous Attachment(s)

[*As applicable*]