

United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

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In Reply Refer To:
6100 (MT924.4) P

December 3, 2012

EMAIL TRANSMISSION – 12/04/2012
Instruction Memorandum No. MT-2013-026
Expires: 9/30/2014

To: Montana Dakotas Leadership
Attention: All Managers and Program Areas

From: State Director

Subject: National Landscape Conservation System Request for Research Partnership Proposals
DD: 01/28/2013

Program Area: National Landscape Conservation System (NLCS)

Purpose: Request for proposals for scientific research funding for Fiscal Year 2013

Policy/Action: All offices who manage National Monuments, Wilderness/Wilderness Study Areas, Wild and Scenic Rivers, or National Scenic and Historic Trails are requested to coordinate research proposals with partners. The NLCS Science Program will provide up to \$25,000 per project for proposals that seek to enhance our scientific knowledge related to issues within NLCS and for the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) at large. Proposals will only be accepted if they are with partner organizations that have an active assistance agreement with BLM.

Field offices with NLCS management responsibilities are encouraged to develop at least one research proposal. Please review Attachment 1 for funding criteria and submission requirements. Research proposals must adhere to the requirements contained in Attachment 1. Proposals should also be developed with consideration given to the evaluation criteria, which are also contained in Attachment 1. Refer to WO IM-2013-012 for the proposal submission process. For offices with multiple submissions, please provide project rankings. Please note that BPS submissions are not required as they have been in past years. We request that project submissions have the concurrence of the District Manager.

Timeframe: Please submit high-merit proposals to Dave Lefevre, NLCS Program Lead (MT-924), by close of business January 28, 2013.

Budget Impact: None

Background: The NLCS was legislatively established by the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009 (Public Law 111-11) in order to conserve, protect, and restore nationally-significant landscapes that have outstanding cultural, ecological, and scientific values for the benefit of current and future generations.

The BLM policy manual describes how “the BLM will use the best available science in managing the NLCS” and how “science and the scientific process will inform and guide management decisions concerning NLCS units” (BLM Manual §6100 (1.6)(A)(9) and (1.6)(F)(1)). Providing a scientific foundation for decisionmaking is also a goal identified in the NLCS 15-Year Strategy (Goal 1C).

Manual/Handbook Sections Affected: None

Coordination: This IM has been coordinated with WO-410, MT-924, and MT-923.

Contact: Please contact David Lefevre, Montana/Dakotas NLCS Lead (MT-924), at 896-5037.

Signed by:
Jamie E. Connell
State Director

Authenticated by:
Kathy Iszler
Staff Assistant (MT-924)

1 Attachment

[1-NLCS Research Support Program – Request for Proposals – Additional Information
\(2 pp in its entirety\)](#)