RFP# 15-504 - Nature-Base Tourism Management Plan-MGCNHA
Questions and Answers

1. Is the Mississippi Gulf Coast National Heritage Area Program currently funded by the National Park System and/or other entity?

   Answer: Yes

2. What is the annual budget of MGCNHAP and are all funds currently dedicated to management and existing programs?

   Answer: $300,000 yes

3. What aspects of the existing MGCNHAP management plan have been and/or are currently being implemented?

   Answer: All 3 goals are part of the current work plan

4. Is a dedicated source of funding in place to fund the Nature-Base Tourism Management Plan (RFP- #15-504) upon its completion?

   Answer: Yes

5. What is the desired scale of study that is being solicited and/or maximum funding limit?

   Answer: $100,000

6. Would the Mississippi Gulf Coast National Heritage Area Commission be available to provide input in the planning process for the Nature-Base Tourism Plan?

   Answer: Yes

7. Is the Tourism Task Force and Nature Base Tourism Task Force the same entity and is it currently active and part of the MGCNHA under the MDMR?

   Answer: Yes

8. Is development of a Nature-Base Tourism Management Plan (NBTMP) dependent on receipt of federal funding from the NPS and thus require an environmental assessment to "assess potential indirect impacts of industrial development on adjacent and nearby habitat." (RFP-#15-504)?

   Answer: No

9. The Detailed Minimum Specifications in Section 2.2 (pg. 5) appear to require a multi-phase process involving a multitude of components, including public outreach and possibly an environmental assessment, which would require more than one year and a substantial budget. Would MDMR/MGCNHA consider a phased approach over a two to three year time period as funding becomes available?

   Answer: Possibly

10. Is the proposer also required to develop a budget for implementation of the Nature-Base Tourism Master Plan under the MGCNHA with MDMR?

    Answer: There will be certain components of the plan that will require a budget.

11. Will the MCGNHA within MDMR be the entity responsible for approving and implementing the NBTMP?

    Answer: Yes

12. Will the MDMR provide coordination and administrative support for the public outreach phase of the plan development?

    Answer: Yes

13. Can the MDMR provide a one stop shop for tourism packages (yes) or would they prefer to enter into a cooperative agreement with another entity such as a state or local tourism group?

    Answer: We can and that would be the ultimate goal of the plan.

14. Is the MDMR/MGCNHA prepared to maintain and update databases developed as part of the NBTMP?

    Answer: Yes