

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY FORT WORTH DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS P. O. BOX 17300 FORT WORTH, TEXAS 76102-0300

11 APR 2019

REQUEST FOR STATEMENTS OF INTEREST

NUMBER W9126G-19-2-SOI-5017

PROJECT TO BE INITIATED IN 2019

Project Title: Natural Resources Support, Nellis AFB (NAFB), NV

Responses to this Request for Statements of Interest will be used to identify potential investigators for a project to be funded by the US Air Force, which provides professional and technical support for its Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan (INRMP) in order to facilitate successful implementation of the 16 USC 670c-1 Sikes Act. Approximately \$388,606.00 is expected to be available to support this project.

Background:

The objectives of the work to be performed under this task order are to conduct natural resource tasks on the federal lands belonging to Nellis Air Force Base (AFB), and to prepare reports detailing the results of this work for submission to the USACE Omaha Project Manager (PM), AFCEC Nellis Installation Support Section (ISS) POC, and Nellis Natural Resource POC.

Type of Award:

In accordance with the *Sikes Act* (Sec. 103A [16 USC 670c-1]) "the Secretary of a military department may enter into cooperative agreements with States, local governments, Indian Tribes, non-governmental organizations, and individuals" This project is in support of the Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan, as directed in the *Sikes Act*, and as a result, it is anticipated that a cooperative agreement through the CESU program will be awarded. Such awards may be administered through a CESU only upon mutual agreement and official authorization by both parties of the acceptance of the application of the CESU Network IDC rate (17.5%).

Note: Must be a non-federal partner in the CESU Unit to be qualified to be considered.

Brief Description of Anticipated Work:

This project focuses on the following objectives:

- 1. MGT, INVASIVE SPECIES, MULTIPLE
 - The purpose of this task is for the NFE to conduct required Invasive Weed Surveys and Eradication on Nellis AFB and the Nellis Test & Training Range (NTTR). This work will concentrate first on invasive populations close to both the main base and range boundaries. The goal is to prevent invasive plants from moving throughout Air Force property. While this work is ongoing an invasive plant inventory of areas on Nellis AFB and the NTTR will continue. The survey will concentrate on areas most likely to contain invasive plants based on review of maps, photographic imagery and ground surveys.

2. MGT, SPECIES, DESERT TORTOISE

- The purpose of this task is for the NFE to conduct required Desert Tortoise habitat management, conservation, protection and mitigation requirements on Nellis AFB and the NTTR. The NFE will have adequate experience in performing unique habitat surveys and mapping of the Desert Tortoise in the western United States.
- The NFE will survey and document the desert tortoise population density habitat on Nellis AFB and the NTTR, collect required and appropriate data to update NAFB Biological Assessment (BA) for submittal to USFWS for issuance of a new Biological Opinion, and provide best management practices to sustain military air training operations and readiness through the development of a Desert Tortoise Management Guideline. These best management practices will provide guidance on proper management of desert tortoise habitat on Nellis AFB and NTTR in order to support mission activities.
- 3. MGT, SPECIES, BATS
 - The overall purpose of this project is to continue to inventory bat species presently inhabiting caves, mines, seeps, springs, crevices, and other potential habitats on NTTR, Nellis AFB and Creech AFB, and provide best management practices to sustain military air training operations and readiness. These best management practices will provide awareness of habitat use of bat species, and sensitive areas that may impact bat health and overall populations, in order to prevent mission delays. The project's product will be the continuation of mapping and updating NTTR, Nellis AFB and Creech AFB bat species populations, habitat use, and seasonal distribution. GIS data such as bat species occurrence, seasonal habitat use, population densities, and known roosting areas will be collected and entered into the Natural Resources GIS data base.

4. MGT, HABITAT, VEGETATION

• The overall purpose of this project is to initiate the process of surveying and mapping habitats through vegetation classification on the North Range of the NTTR. GIS data

such as designated vegetation community boundaries will be collected and entered into the Natural Resources GIS data base.

NFE personnel must be able to obtain clearance for NTTR and will be escorted by a Government employee/escort at all times while on the range. All specialized equipment must be cleared for use on the range prior to start of the project. The NFE will use rental or company vehicles, or helicopters, and as available GOVs for use on the range. No POVs are allowed on the range. Areas for surveys will be determined based on scheduled activities and range access.

Based on range access restrictions and mission training activities, field work will often be required to be conducted on weekends and holidays, in addition to normal weekdays.

NOTE: At this time we are only requesting that you demonstrate available qualifications and skills for performing similar or same type of work. You will be evaluated for request for a proposal based on skills, qualifications and certifications demonstrated in your SOI.

Period of Performance. The base year of agreement will extend one year from award.

Materials Requested for Statement of Interest/Qualifications:

Please provide the following via e-mail attachment to: <u>sandra.justman@usace.army.mil</u> (Maximum length: 2 pages, single-spaced 12 pt. font).

- 1. Name, Organization, Cage Code, Duns number, and Contact Information
- 2. Brief Statement of Qualifications (including):
 - a. Biographical Sketch,
 - b. Relevant past projects and clients with brief descriptions of these projects,
 - c. Staff, faculty or students available to work on this project and their areas of expertise,
 - d. Any brief description of capabilities to successfully complete the project you may wish to add (e.g. equipment, laboratory facilities, greenhouse facilities, field facilities, etc.).

Note: A full study proposal and proposed budget are NOT requested at this time.

Review of Statements Received: All statements of interest received will be evaluated by a board comprised of one or more people at the receiving installation or activity, who will determine which statement(s) best meet the program objectives. Based on a review of the Statements of Interest received, an investigator or investigators will be invited to prepare a full study proposal. Statements will be evaluated based on the investigator's specific experience and capabilities in areas related to the study requirements.

Please send responses or direct questions to:

USACE

Sandra Justman, Contract Specialist CESWF-CT Email: <u>specialist@usace.army.mil</u> Office: 817-886-1073

Timeline for Review of Statements of Interest: The RSOI are required to be out for a minimum of 10 working days. Review of Statements of Interest will begin 26 April 2019.