



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

April 14, 2020

**REQUEST FOR STATEMENTS OF INTEREST
NUMBER W9126G-20-2-SOI-3417
PROJECT TO BE INITIATED IN 2020**

Project Title: Integrated Wildland Fire Management Plan (IWFMP) Support at Pinon Canyon Maneuver Site

Responses to this Request for Statements of Interest will be used to identify potential investigators for a project to be funded by Fort Carson, 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 **\$29,945** is expected to be available to support this project for the base task. Optional Task funding may be available \$9,400.00 to the successful Recipient/Awardee.

Background:

Provide support to the Pinon Canyon Maneuver Site (PCMS), Colorado, IWFMP activities.

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 Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Units (CESU) Program to be qualified for consideration. Suggested area is Colorado Plateau or Great Plains CESU Regions.

Brief Description of Anticipated Work:

This research focuses on the following objectives:

1. The Cooperator will produce an IWFMP for PCMS that is fully compliant with National Wildfire Coordinating Group (NWCG) and Army Wildland Policy Guidance. This task includes, but is not limited to the following work:

- a. Review existing wildland fire management related documents and policies.
- b. Conduct site visits to review wildfire infrastructure and equipment needs, observe current firebreak and fuels management, meet with primary stakeholders, etc.
- c. Compile a comprehensive history of fire at PCMS through existing records, reports, documents, and subject matter experts (research historic range of variability for short-grass, mid-grass, Pinon Juniper and ponderosa pine ecosystems foothills communities).
- d. In coordination with local subject matter experts (SMEs), including but not limited to Foresters, Natural Resources Managers, Firefighters, Range Control and Integrated Training Area Management Personnel, Trainers/Operators, and local partner agencies, develop strategies to effectively address wildfire at the installation. Use these to define goals and objectives of the IWFMP.
- e. Carry out an assessment of ignition probability on the installation through a review of existing records, provided sufficient spatial data exists.
- f. Establish a fire danger rating system. As appropriate, create or modify training modifications and/or staffing requirements for each fire danger category.
- g. Analyze weather data from a representative weather station for trends and weather conditions relevant to wildland fire management.
- h. Establish pre-fire measures to be taken to include firebreak maintenance, fuels management, training, and other requirements.
- i. Establish return intervals for putting prescribed fire on the ground within the historic range of variability.
- j. Establish prioritized rotational units for training areas and firebreaks to be subject to prescribed burning, and the return intervals for these units.
- k. Establish/integrate with existing wildfire response procedures.
- l. Establish/integrate with existing post-fire rehabilitation, data collection, and other necessary measures.
- m. Compile all of the above into a PCMS IWFMP that comprehensively addresses all aspects of wildland fire management, and is consistent and does not conflict with the Fort Carson IWFMP nor the Fort Carson Integrated Natural Resource Management Plan (INRMP). The IWFMP will become an appendix in the INRMP.

n. Local Subject Matter Experts (SMEs) contributing to the plan must have the opportunity to review and provide comments; the Cooperator must work with the SMEs to incorporate and address comments; the plan must be approved by Installation Management Command (IMCOM) Wildland Fire POCs prior to being finalized.

The Cooperator shall submit a preliminary draft, draft final, and final Integrated Wildland Fire Management Plan to the USAG POC and the USACE PM. The Government will have 45 business days to review the draft IWFMP. The Cooperator shall deliver the draft-final IWFMP within 45 business days from receipt of the Government's comments on the draft IWFMP. The Government will then have 30 business days to review the draft final IWFMP. The Cooperator shall deliver the final IWFMP report within 30 business days of receipt of Government comments on the draft-final version of the IWFMP. All report submittals for this task will be provided in .pdf (Adobe Acrobat) format and Microsoft Word (.docx) format

A geodatabase of all data created during the execution of this task will be referenced in the IWFMP and provided to the USAG POC. GIS data shall be provided with basic metadata.

Spreadsheets and database items of data collected shall be delivered to the USAG POC in Microsoft Office format.

2. OPTIONAL (Pending availability of funds) The Cooperator shall analyze the change in risk between the baseline risk assessment, already completed for Fort Carson by IMCOM and the Center for Environmental Management of Military Lands (CEMML), and two future scenarios to be agreed upon by the Cooperator and the Fort Carson POCs.

The Cooperator shall provide the Fuels Management Analysis in the draft, draft-final, and final versions. The Government will have 45 business days to provide comments on the draft. The Cooperator shall provide the draft-final version no later than 30 business days after receipt of the Government's draft comments. The Government will have 30 business days to comment on the draft-final version. The Cooperator shall submit the final version of the Fuels Management Analysis no later than 30 days after receipt of Government comments on the draft-final version of the document.

A geodatabase of all data created during the support of this task will be provided to the USAG POC. GIS data shall be provided with basic metadata.

Spreadsheets and database items of data collected shall be delivered to the USAG POC in Microsoft Office format.

NOTE: At this time we are only requesting that you demonstrate available qualifications and skills for performing similar or same type of work. Preferred qualifications include a minimum of ten years of experience with military wildland fire management planning. You will be evaluated for a request for a proposal based on skills and qualifications demonstrated in your SOL.

Period of Performance. The agreement will extend 18 months from date of award. An optional task will extend 18 months from date of award.

Materials Requested for Statement of Interest/Qualifications:

Please provide the following via e-mail attachment to: sandra.justman@usace.army.mil and brian.d.hesford@usace.army.mil (Maximum length: 2 pages, single-spaced 12 pt. font).

1. Name, Organization, Cage Code, Duns number, and Contact Information (Email)
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
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CESWF-CT
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Timeline for Review of Statements of Interest: RSOI is required to be posted on www.grants.gov for a minimum of 30 days. Review of Statements of Interest will begin **05/14/2020**.

[End of RSOI]