

**REQUEST FOR STATEMENTS OF INTEREST
NUMBER N40192-18-R-8003
PROJECT TO BE INITIATED IN FISCAL YEAR 2018
Project Title: GUAM MICRONESIAN KINGFISHER AVIARY DESIGN ON GUAM**

Responses to this Request for Statements of Interest will be used to identify potential projects to be funded by the Department of the Navy (DON) in support of Guam Micronesian kingfisher reintroduction on Guam. Approximately \$100,000.00, is expected to be available to support this project (contingent upon availability of funds). The DON's obligation to pay or reimburse any costs hereunder is subject to the availability of appropriated funds and limited by funds obligated and nothing in this Agreement will be interpreted to require obligations or payments by the Federal Government in violation of the Anti-Deficiency Act, 31 U.S.C. §1341.

Background

The Memorandum of Agreement for the Conservation of Guam Micronesian Kingfisher (GMK) Recovery Habitat in Northern Guam (June 2015), the Final Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan for Joint Region Marianas of December 2013 and The Biological Opinion for the relocation of U.S. Marines to Guam (2015-F-0025) all discuss the need to implement programs and projects that will benefit the Guam Micronesian kingfisher (GMK) in terms of population recovery towards the goal of delisting the species.

Development of an aviary on Guam could be used as a proving ground for filling data gaps about habitat within the GMK Memorandum of Agreement lands.

Brief Description of Anticipated Work:

This Cooperative Agreement includes the following requirements:

This project will develop design criteria and conceptual engineering plans for an aviary that protects the GMK from likely predators (with Brown treesnake as priority), meets facility support requirements to deliver complete biological needs of the GMK prior to and during potential release trials, and is able to be developed for wide scale use and allows for investigation of: (1) Annual cycle synchronization, (2) Predator interaction and dissuasion training, (3) Plant preferences and plant-bird interactions, (4) Nest substrate options, (5) Factors affecting site fidelity, and (6) Release techniques.

The DON is seeking a statement of interest from the Californian, Colorado Plateau and Hawaii-Pacific Islands Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit (CESU) network.

Proposals should address:

This Agreement requires the Recipient to develop and implement the following minimums:

Technical Requirements:

1. Develop and submit draft and final aviary design; and
2. Develop draft and final reports describing the aviary design

Tasks:

Task 1 – Project Planning: The Recipient shall participate in a kick-off meeting prior to the start of work to become acquainted with the various parties involved with the project; to discuss the statement of the proposed work including scheduling, and coordination; and to define channels of communication and points of contact.

1. The Recipient will be responsible for presenting a plan of action and milestones (POAM) for timely completion of the work. The POAM will be provided to the CATR at least 1 week prior to the kick-off meeting. CATR will comment on POAM and Recipient will incorporate comments before POAM is finalized.

2. The Recipient shall ask any questions related to the successful completion of the work.

3. The Recipient shall be responsible for documenting the discussions (meeting minutes). Meeting minutes shall be provided to the CATR within 5 days after the kick-off meeting. The kickoff meeting will be held via conference call (date, time and location to be determined). The Recipient shall provide project status and schedule updates, and deliverables throughout the duration of the Agreement.

Task 2 – Project Management: The Recipient shall provide project oversight and coordination for all technical requirements and tasks. This will include; maintaining budget coordination, tracking, and reporting, as appropriate.

1. The Recipient is responsible for providing monthly updates to the CATR and the updates shall include implementation accomplishments, budget drawdowns, technical aspects, any project coordination difficulties, adaptive management proposals or actions, and agreement's quality control and assurance activities.

Task 3 – Aviary Design: The Recipient shall develop cost-effective methods for the development of a predator proof Guam Micronesian kingfisher aviary. . Design criteria should factor in engineering considerations such as cost-effective phased deployment (relative to long-term timeline for reintroduction of GMK in the wild) of separate modules that consider scalability in the field (up or down-scale), portability and speed of deployment with common hand tools and non-mechanized site preparation, ease of maintenance and repair, heavy weather resistance, and field reconfiguration with limited use of weight handling equipment.

Task 4 – Draft and Final Reports: Recipient shall indicate in their Statement of Interest the timeline for delivery of the draft and final aviary designs and draft and final project reports.

Required Qualifications of the Project Team shall include:

The Recipient shall provide the following key personnel with the following minimum qualifications:

A. Principal Investigator (PI): The PI shall meet the following requirements:

- Possess at least a Masters in Science (MS) degree in biology or a related field
- At least two (2) years of experience in management of ornithology-related projects, preferably with Guam Micronesian kingfisher or a closely related species, and/or species reintroductions

- At least two (2) years of PI or Project Manager (PM) professional work experience in the field of ornithology, wildlife biology, conservation biology, or a related field
- At least two (2) years of experience working in the Guam Micronesian kingfisher or a closely related species

B. Project Manager (PM): The Recipient shall assign an appropriate number of PMs for this Agreement, who shall be responsible for overseeing on a day-to-day basis necessary activities of the project. The PM's oversight of the project includes monitoring and controlling project costs, assigning personnel consistent with the Agreements requirements, understanding and assuring compliance with applicable Federal, DoD, DON and Air Force natural resources and environmental policies and regulations and their territory counterparts, and other applicable or relevant and appropriate requirements, shall be the first in line of control in ensuring that information/data obtained for the project are of high quality and accuracy, and shall be responsible in keeping quality control and assurance inspections activities and record keeping of these inspections.

- Bachelors of Science (BS) degree in biology or a related field
- At least one (1) year of experience in management of ornithology-related projects, preferably with Guam Micronesian kingfisher or a closely related species, and/or species reintroductions
- At least one (1) year of PI or Project Manager (PM) professional work experience in the field of ornithology, wildlife biology, conservation biology, or a related field
- At least one (1) year of experience working in the Guam Micronesian kingfisher or a closely related species

Period of Performance:

The period of performance will be eighteen (18) months starting from the date of award. After completion of the initial period of performance, the total performance period can include two (2) option periods of twelve (12) months each dependent upon the availability of funds and the unilateral election of the Government to exercise an option. This proposed award is based on the availability of funds.

Materials Requested for Statement of Interest/Qualifications: Please provide the following via e-mail attachment to: thelman.fontenot@fe.navy.mil (Approximate length: 3-6 pages, single-spaced 12 pt. font).

1. Name, Organization and Contact Information

2. Statement of Qualifications (including):

- Curriculum vita of Principal Investigator and Project Manager;
- Relevant past projects and clients with brief descriptions of these projects; and
- Staff, faculty or students available to work on this project and their areas of expertise.

3. Project proposal to include timelines, roles and responsibilities of personnel, specific tasks to be conducted, and deliverables.

4. Any brief description of capabilities to successfully complete the project you may wish to add (e.g. equipment, laboratory facilities, field facilities, etc.).

5. A proposed detailed budget of the costs to implement the proposed project.

Review of Statements Received: Statements will be evaluated based on the Principal Investigator and Project Manager specific experience and capabilities in areas related to the project requirements.

Factor 1 – Credentials of the Principal Investigator and Project Manager– The Offeror shall identify the Principal Investigator and Project Manager proposed for this project, stating their qualifications, experience with this type of project, professional registration and certificates, and publications.

Factor 2 –Innovative Approach – The Recipient shall develop a Statement of Interest to manage the total work effort and assure fully adequate and timely completion of services required under this Agreement. Included in this function shall be a full range of management duties including, but not limited to, planning, scheduling, analysis, quality control, and for meeting professional industry standards for designing a predator proof aviary. Collaboration with entities that have successfully implemented a GMK captive breeding/propagation program is highly desired.

Factor 3 – Reasonableness of Cost – After technical evaluation of the Statements of Interest the offers shall be analyzed to determine whether they are materially/mathematically balanced with respect to prices or separately priced items, and for fair and reasonable pricing. Evaluation will include an analysis to determine the Offeror’s comprehension of the requirements of the Request for Statements of Interest as well as to assess the validity of the Offeror’s approach.

RELATIVE IMPORTANCE OF EVALUATION FACTORS – Factor 1, Credentials of the Principal Investigator and Project Manager and Factor 2, Innovative Approach combined are significantly more important than Factor 3, Reasonableness of Cost.

Please send responses or direct questions to: Thelman Fontenot, Contract Specialist NAVFAC Marianas
Tel: (671) 349-4119, E-mail: thelman.fontenot@fe.navy.mil

Timeline for Review of Statements of Interest: DON intends to use fiscal year 2018 funds for this project. In order to be considered, Statements of Interest shall be submitted for no later than 0900 Chamorro standard time (local Guam time) on 4 June 2018.