



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

26 Feb 2020

REQUEST FOR STATEMENTS OF INTEREST

INTERESTED PARTIES MUST BE a partner in one of these CESU Program Units:

Gulf Coast	W9126G-12-2-0019
Hawaii Pacific	W9126G-14-2-0017
North Atlantic Coast	W9126G-14-2-0016
Chesapeake Watershed	W9126G-11-2-0041
Great Plains	W9126G-10-2-2010

NUMBER W9126G-20-2-SOI-2340

PROJECT TO BE INITIATED IN 2020

Note: Must be a non-federal partner in the Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Units listed (CESU) Program to be qualified to be considered.

Project Title: Air Space Management, National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), Natural, Cultural, and Overseas Environmental Program Technical Assistance for The Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for installation, Environmental and Energy (SAF/IE), Headquarters of the Air Force Civil Engineer (HAF/A4), and the Air Force Civil Engineer Center (AFCEC/CZ).

Responses to this Request for Statements of Interest will be used to identify potential investigators for a project to be funded by AFCEC/CZ which provides professional and technical support for its Cultural Resources Program in order to facilitate successful implementation of the 16 USC 670c-1 Sikes Act. Approximately \$1,480,000 is expected to be available to support this project for the base period. Additional funding may be available for follow on work in subsequent fiscal years to the successful Recipient/Awardee.

Background:

The Air Force (AF) manages lands in all 50 states, territories and overseas in accordance with all appropriate environmental laws and regulations, including the Sikes

Act, National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), Endangered Species Act (ESA), Clean Water Act (CWA) and others, and Host Nation requirements. The AFCEC Environmental Directorate requires technical support at AFCEC, SAF, and Headquarters (HQ) AF for natural, cultural (conservation), and overseas resource programs to ensure that AF, federal, state, local and host nation resource regulations are met while minimizing the impact of AF activities on the environment.

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”. 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 registered in the CESU Unit to be qualified to be considered.

Brief Description of Anticipated Work:

This research focuses on the following objectives:

- 1) Planning and Decision Support to contribute to make sound decisions regarding land use, natural resources, and cultural resources management, military training impacts, project siting, etc.
- 2) Environmental Assessments (EA), Environmental Impact Statements (EIS) and Environmental Reviews (ER) are routinely necessary on public and military lands prior to initiating testing and training exercises, implementation of various resource management plans, siting projects and construction activities. Such assessments and statements require large amounts of supporting data, information and analysis. Planning documents are increasingly common and often required by law and regulations. Integrated Natural Resource Management Plans (INRMPs) and Integrated Cultural Resource Management Plans (ICRMPS) are two examples. The plans, in turn, require supporting documentation such as multiple layers of data in a geographical information system; vegetation community maps; and databases on the resources in question.
- 3) NEPA analyses that are required prior to initiation of testing and training exercises, implementation of resource management plans, project siting or construction activities when such actions are to be completed using federal funds. NEPA analysis requires collection and evaluation of large amounts of

supporting data and services to be provided under this agreement, including the collection and analysis of data; preparation of required documents; and facilitation of all aspect of the NEPA process, to include public meetings and Native American consultations. Planning and decision support will include programmatic and technical expertise for SAF/IE Natural Resources and the Cultural Resources (NR/CR) Program authorized by Sikes Act, the Endangered Species Act (ESA), National Historical Preservation Act (NHPA), Archaeological Resources and Protection Act (ARPA), Weapons Systems Pollution Prevention, and the Overseas Environmental Baseline Guidance Document (OEBGD). Support will assist the AF in follow-up questions related to OEBGD standards, other conservation laws, and regulations including DoD and Air Force policy abroad.

- 4) Sustainability Planning: Management of natural, cultural, overseas environmental sustainment and training resources within the Environmental Quality (EQ) program is necessary to ensure the availability of these resources in both the near- and long-term, requiring an approach that specifically targets their sustainability. Planning for sustainability requires an integrated management approach that provides for collection and analysis of data from diverse programs within Environmental Quality, and inclusion of findings in a decision support framework that crosses program boundaries. This agreement will facilitate sustainability planning at the headquarters and installation levels by providing for integrated data management and analysis, cross-program coordination, and creation and integration of resources planning processes focused on sustainment of the military training mission.

This work requires an onsite support person located at Joint Base San Antonio-TX, Washington DC, and Bellows AFB, HI. The work involves travel to: Washington D.C. (or equivalent), San Antonio, TX (or equivalent), Areas of Responsibility within Pacific Air Forces (PACAF), and Areas of Responsibility within United States Air Forces in Europe (USAFE).

Period of Performance. The base period of agreement will extend 12 months from award.

Option Period: Six option periods extending for 12 months each subject to availability of funds.

Materials Requested for Statement of Interest/Qualifications:

Please provide the following via e-mail attachment to: sandra.justman@usace.army.mil (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:

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Timeline for Review of Statements of Interest: The RSOI is required to be posted for at least 30 days prior to the Government making a decision and requesting full proposals. Review of Statements of Interest will begin **25 MARCH 2020**.