

**REQUEST FOR STATEMENTS OF INTEREST  
NUMBER N6247013XXXX  
PROJECT TO BE INITIATED IN 2013**

**Project Title: Naval Base Coronado Natural Resource Management: SCI Grassland Restoration, SCI Fire Management Plan Implementation, SCI Rare Plant Surveys and NBC Sensitive Species Habitat Management**

Responses to this Request for Statements of Interest will be used to identify potential investigators for a project to be funded by the Department of the Navy (DoN) Naval Facilities Engineering Command Atlantic (NAVFAC LANT). NAVFAC LANT seeks to develop information on the historic vegetation of San Clemente Island and understand the relationship between fuel moisture, weather and fire size on Marine Corps Base, Camp Pendleton.

**Background:** The purpose of this project is to support ecosystem management and scientific research efforts by conducting rare plant surveys and implementing habitat restoration management practices. The Naval Base Coronado (NBC) Complex INRMP requires these lands to be managed within an ecosystem context while providing optimal landscape benefits for realistic military training. The proposed project consists of tasks associated with management and restoration of native vegetation on NBC and its adjunct range San Clemente Island (SCI), thus providing for improved management of natural resources on the NBC complex in four areas. The first task is to restore native grasslands on SCI. The second task is to implement the SCI Fire Management Plan through fuel moisture monitoring. The third task is to survey and monitor sensitive plant species across under-surveyed areas of SCI. The fourth task is to manage sensitive plant species occurring on NBC through implementation of habitat improvements in areas which support these species but are also subject to frequent human activity.

**Description of Requirement:**

The proposed work will be on-the-ground actions on Naval Base Coronado (NBC) and San Clemente Island (SCI). The overall project objective is to implement natural resources and ecological restoration management actions that are prescribed in the NBC Complex Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan (INRMP). Achieving these objectives involves four main Tasks.

Specific tasks include:

- 1) **SCI Grassland Restoration:** The Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit Member shall perform seeding, mechanical weed control and herbicide application treatments within a 300 square meter grassland restoration site. The Member shall also provide monitoring of the site for one year. The Member shall design the study to assess the effects of at least three environmental factors: use and timing of herbicide application, supplemental watering, and mowing. Emphasis shall be placed on an establishing an experimental design and analysis that can determine significant differences among the various treatments.
- 2) **SCI Fire Management Plan Implementation:** The Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit Member shall conduct fuel moisture sampling according to the following protocol;

however, because fuel moisture data have been collected on SCI thus far only as a pilot project, the Member shall also assess the current elements of the protocol including sampling locations and provide recommendations for improvements in the sampling protocol to reflect conditions over the entire island.

- 3) **SCI Rare Plant Survey:** The Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit Member shall locate and map populations, record species associates and habitat characteristics, and determine the distribution and abundance of all federally endangered, proposed for listing, candidate and other rare plant species that occur on San Clemente Island including those in and adjacent to AVMAs, the IOA, and TARs, as stated in Conservation Measures TAR-M-1 and AVMC-M-2 of the SCI BO. The member shall collect and process voucher specimens of vascular plant species that are currently missing from the San Clemente Island herbarium.
- 4) **Sensitive Plant Species Habitat Improvement Naval Base Coronado:** The Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit Member shall implement management strategies for federally listed and other sensitive plant species within the study area. The plan will cover 2 species considered rare by the California Native Plant Society (CNPS): Nuttall's lotus and Brand's phacelia. The member shall develop management strategies for improving available existing occupied habitat for Brand's phacelia and Nuttall's lotus. Potential management strategies may include mowing, hand removal of competing plants, herbicide control of other species or out-planting of species that favor growth of either of these species, Target weeds will include *Carpobrotus* spp, schismus and red stem filaree. The Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit Member shall develop a long-term plan for future work designed to promote these two species.

**Materials Requested for Statement of Interest/Qualifications:**

Please provide the following via e-mail attachment to:  
Tina Gillespie-Lucas (tina.gillespie-lucas@navy.mil)

A brief proposal, maximum length: 4 pages, single-spaced 12 pt. font, addressing the factors listed below. Be sure to include Name, Organization, and Contact Information

**Review of Statements Received:** Proposals will be evaluated based on the three factors listed below and must include the credentials of key personnel, scientific approach, and technical approach to safety. Evaluation factors are co-equal to each other.

**Factor 1 - Credentials of Key Personnel**

Project Manager. This individual must have:

- a minimum of a Master's degree in Plant Ecology or related science disciplines such as Biology, Ecology, or Computer Science; and
- a minimum of 7 years of experience in a responsible position providing oversight of, support to or directly involved in plant community research; and

Technical Staff. Technical Staff must have:

- a minimum of a Bachelor's degree in geography, or related science discipline; and
- a minimum of a Bachelor's degree in Plant Ecology, or related science discipline
- a minimum of 2 years' experience conducting fuel moisture sampling

**Factor 2 – Scientific Approach** – The Offeror shall develop a proposal addressing the proposed research and management tasks. The Offeror shall discuss their proposed approach and techniques to accomplish the objectives. Offeror's proposals will be evaluated by a team of technical and contracting personnel from NAVFAC Atlantic. This Factor will be evaluated based on:

- The use of methods demonstrated to effectively search the National Archives for biological data related to SCI, and
- Knowledge of and access to the mapping methodologies and standards used in pre-1920 maps
- Knowledge of and experience working with plant root systems
- Experience completing comparable projects.

**Factor 3 – Technical Approach to Safety**

The Offeror shall provide a narrative of describing how safety practices/procedures will be implemented to complete the proposed work. Proposals shall be analyzed to determine how the Offeror will implement safety practices/procedures and determine the degree to which innovations are being proposed that may enhance safety on this procurement. The Government is seeking to determine that the Offeror has demonstrated a commitment to safety and that the Offeror plans to properly manage and implement safety procedures for itself.

The Offeror's proposals shall be analyzed to determine whether they are balanced with respect to prices or separately priced items, and for fair and reasonable pricing. Evaluations will include an analysis to determine the Offeror's comprehension of the requirements of the solicitation as well as to assess the validity of the Offeror's approach.

**Please send responses or direct questions to:** Tina Gillespie-Lucas ([tina.gillespie-lucas@navy.mil](mailto:tina.gillespie-lucas@navy.mil))

**Timeline for Review of Statements of Interest:** Review of Statements of Interest will begin two weeks from the posting date. This Request for Statements of Interest will remain open until an investigator team is selected.