

**REQUEST FOR STATEMENTS OF  
INTEREST NUMBER N62473-14-2-0014  
PROJECT TO BE INITIATED IN 2014**

**Project Title: CALIFORNIA VOLE SURVEYS NAVAL WEAPONS STATION CHINA LAKE, CALIFORNIA**

Responses to this Request for Statements of Interest (RSOI) will be used to identify potential recipients to provide a of study California Voles through acquisition of specimens and genetic analysis. Approximately \$10,735 is expected to be available to support this project.

Type of Assistance Instrument Anticipated: Cooperative Agreement

Authority: Cooperative Agreement under 16 USC §670c-1 (Natural Resources Management)

Eligible Applicants: Any potential cooperator who qualifies under the DoDGARS Part 32, 33, and 34 is eligible to apply.

Cost Sharing: Not required

**Background:**

The California voles (*Microtus californicus*) of the Naval Air Weapons Station, China Lake (NAWS-CL) area are undocumented in North American museums. Although their presence has been documented during surveys, no vouchers were taken. The nearby populations of California voles are fragmented and one subspecies, *Microtus californicus scripensis*, is a federally-listed endangered sub-species. Voles are generally dependent on springs or wetland habitats. Areas on the Station's North Range that are known or suspected to have voles include Haiwee Springs, Mountain Springs Canyon, the Sewage Ponds, Paxton Ranch, Birchum Springs, Mill Springs, Tennessee Springs, Old House Springs and New House Springs. Given that the affinities of the China Lake Air Base voles are unknown this project would study them through acquisition of specimens and genetic analysis. It is in the best interest of NAWS-CL to know which sub-species of California Voles occur on the Station in order to appropriately account for the presence of the *Microtus californicus scripensis*. This will allow for management of known resources, and avoid regulatory hurdles should this subspecies become protected at the state or federal level. Weather differences between years can cause significant habitat differences and consequently drive fluctuation vole populations. In order to account for this variation, the study will run for 18 months.

**Brief Description of Anticipated Work:**

This project will study California Voles through acquisition of specimens and genetic analysis. It is in the best interest of NAWS-CL to know which sub-species of the California Vole occur on the Station. Surveys will be conducted in some of the following potential locations: Haiwee Springs, Mountain Springs Canyon, the Sewage Ponds, Paxton Ranch, Birchum Springs, Mill Springs, Tennessee Springs, Old House Springs and New House Springs.

Please see enclosure 1 for full scope of work and enclosure 2 for applicable terms and conditions.

**Period of Performance.** The period of performance covered by this agreement is 18 months

upon award

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

Please provide the following via e-mail attachment to: Reagan Pablo (reagan.s.pablo@navy.mil).

A brief proposal, maximum length: 5 pages, single-spaced 12 pt. font, addressing Factors 1 and 2 listed below. There is no page limitation applicable to the Research and Related Budget document. Be sure to include Name, Organization, and Contact Information on statement of interest.

Reimbursement of pre-award costs will not be allowed.

**Review of Statements Received:** Proposals will be evaluated based on the three factors listed below and include Credentials of Key Personnel, Scientific Approach and Reasonableness of Cost.

**1. Criteria**

**Factor 1 – Credential of Key Personnel**

The Applicant shall provide type written resumes, not to exceed 3 pages, single spaced with 12pt font for the one project manager and all field assistants proposed for this project. Resumes must state qualifications, experience with this type of project, professional registration and certificates. The Applicant shall submit evidence of the following technical requirements/qualifications of their personnel:

A. The Project Manager/Principal Investigator: The Recipient shall designate one person as responsible for ensuring that provisions are in place project and personnel supervision, quality control and meeting of reporting requirements on a daily basis. This person shall have, at the minimum:

1. Bachelor of Science degree in zoology, biology, ecology, wildlife management or a related field experience from an accredited college or university.
2. Three (3) years of relevant field monitoring experience for voles, including experience in supervising field technicians.
3. Three years of local experience in identifying and sampling voles.

B. Field Technicians:

1. Bachelor of Science degree in zoology, biology, ecology, wildlife management, botany, landscape architecture or horticulture or other related field from an accredited college or university.
2. A thorough understanding of regulations regarding voles.
3. Due to the complexity of work, the Recipient and/or his/her representatives must have the following minimum qualifications:

- a. All required state and federal permits to conduct the activities stated in this Agreement. A copy of all required permits or evidence of renewable permits must be submitted with the proposal.

**Factor 2 – Scientific Approach**

The Applicant shall provide a brief summary not to exceed 2 pages, single spaced with 12pt font that includes planned methodology and approach for agreement requirements pertaining to the vole surveys. The Applicant shall be evaluated as to the soundness of the overall approach and the use of any innovative techniques to accomplish the

**Factor 3 - Reasonableness of Cost**

After technical evaluation of the proposal, 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. A clear cost breakdown of work elements to be accomplished detailing quantities for the various work items, unit, unit prices and extended prices will be required and will be evaluated. Evaluation will include an analysis to determine the Offeror's comprehension of the requirements of the proposed agreement as well as to assess the validity of the Offeror's approach.

RELATIVE IMPORTANCE OF EVALUATION FACTORS – Factor 1 and 2 are of equal importance and when combined are approximately equal to Factor 3.

Please provide your proposed budget on the provided pdf titled, "Research and Related Budget" form\*(enclosure 3).

**\*Form: RESEARCH AND RELATED BUDGET**

Complete the Research and Related Budget form in accordance with the instructions on the form. You must provide a detailed cost breakdown of all costs, by cost category, by the funding periods described below, and by task/sub-task corresponding to the task number in the proposed Statement of Work. Options (if applicable) must be separately priced. The form will generate a cumulative budget for the total project period. You must complete all the mandatory information on the form before the NEXT PERIOD button is activated. You

may request funds under any of the categories listed as long as the item and amount are necessary to perform the proposed work and meet all the criteria for allowability under the applicable Federal cost principles. The budget should adhere to the following guidelines:

The budget should be driven by program requirements. Elements of the budget shall include:

- Direct Labor - Individual labor category or person, with associated labor hours and unburdened direct labor rates.
- Indirect Costs - Fringe benefits, overhead, G&A, COM, etc. (must show base amount and rate). Justify in Field K.
- Travel - Number of trips, destination, duration, etc. Justify in Field K (on the form).
- Subcontract - A cost proposal as detailed as the applicant's cost proposal will be required to be submitted by the subcontractor. If applicable, include in Research & Related Subaward Budget Attachment Form.
- Consultant - Provide consultant agreement or other document that verifies the proposed loaded daily/hourly rate. Include a description of the nature of and the need for any consultant's participation. Strong justification must be provided, and consultants are to be used only under exceptional circumstances where no equivalent expertise can be found at a participating university. Provide budget justification in Field K.
- Materials - Specifically itemized with costs or estimated costs. An explanation of any estimating factors, including their derivation and application, shall be provided. Include a brief description of the applicant's procurement method to be used (competition, engineering estimate, market survey, etc.). Justify in Field K.
- Other Directs Costs - Particularly any proposed items of equipment or facilities. Equipment and facilities generally must be furnished by the cooperator/recipient (justifications must be provided when Government funding for such items is sought). Include a brief description of the applicant's procurement method to be used (competition, engineering estimate, market survey, etc.). Justify in Field K.

Budget Justification (Field K on the form): Provide the required supporting information for the cost elements as shown above (see Research & Related Budget instructions) and listed as follows: indirect cost, travel, consultant, materials, and other direct costs. Provide any other information you wish to submit to justify your budget request.

**NOTE:** Every deviation from the scope of work requirement must be identified. Offerors must identify the paragraph in the scope of work that is applicable and provide sufficient information to justify why the deviation is in the best interest of the government.

**RELATIVE IMPORTANCE OF EVALUATION FACTORS – Factor 1 and 2 are of equal importance and when combined are approximately equal to Factor 3.**

**Please send electronic responses and questions to:**

Mr. Reagan Pablo, Contract Specialist Environmental Acquisition Core  
[reagan.s.pablo@navy.mil](mailto:reagan.s.pablo@navy.mil)

**Point of Contact Information:**

Mr. Reagan Pablo, Contract Specialist Environmental Acquisition Core  
Naval Facilities Engineering Command Southwest  
1220 Pacific Highway  
San Diego, CA 92132  
619.532.2090

**Timeline for Review of Statements of Interest:**

We request that Statements of Interest be submitted by September 06, 2014 2:00. This Request for Statements of Interest will remain open until an investigator team is selected.