



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

5 January 2015

REQUEST FOR STATEMENTS OF INTEREST

NUMBER W9126G-15-2-SOI-0004

PROJECT TO BE INITIATED IN 2015

Project Title: Predator Management and Research to protect the California Least Tern (*Sternula antillarum browni*) and Western Snowy Plover (*Charadrius nivosus nivosus*) at Naval Base Coronado, San Diego, California.

Responses to this Request for Statements of Interest will be used to identify potential investigators for a project to be funded by the U.S. Navy which provides professional and technical support for its Endangered Species Programs in order to facilitate compliance with Endangered Species Act and the Sikes Act. Approximately \$126,635 is expected to be available to support this project. Additional funding may be available for follow on work in subsequent fiscal years to the successful Recipient/Awardee.

Background:

Naval Base Coronado supports nesting populations of the federally listed California Least Tern and Western Snowy Plover. Navy management requirements for the tern and plover are designated by the Endangered Species Act, Sikes Act Improvement Act, a Memorandum of Understanding between the Navy and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and through terms and conditions issued in USFWS Biological Opinions. To support these requirements significant resources are expended annually by the Navy for monitoring, management, research, site preparation, banding, fencing and predator control. Over the years, the Navy's program has contributed significantly to the recovery of these two federally listed species. The Navy site started with 13 LETE nests in 1977 and supported 1068 nests in 2014 and the 11 SNPL nests in 1992 increased to 145 in 2014.

Type of Award:

In accordance with section 6305 – *Using cooperative agreements of the Federal Grant and Cooperative Agreements Act of 1977* (31 U.S.C. § 6301 et seq.), all CESU projects must carry out a public purpose of support or stimulation, instead of acquiring goods or services for the exclusive direct benefit of the United States Government.

In accordance with section 6305 – *Using cooperative agreements of the Federal Grant and Cooperative Agreements Act of 1977* (31 U.S.C. § 6301 et seq.), substantial involvement is expected between the federal partner and the nonfederal partner when carrying out the activities specified in the project agreement. The exact nature of the government’s involvement will be defined in the statement of objectives, issued with a request for full proposal.

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 CEU Unit to be qualified to be considered.

Brief Description of Anticipated Work:

The purpose of the anticipated work is to manage predators on two federally listed species; the federally listed endangered Least Tern and federally listed threatened Snowy Plover and their nests. The goal is to control and/or depress predator populations in order to minimize predation pressure, particularly during the breeding season to aid in the recovery and conservation of these species, as required under the 2010 Biological Opinion (FWS- SDG- O8BO503-09F0517) on the US Navy’s Silver Strand Training Operations on Naval Base Coronado, CA. Predator control field activities shall occur primarily during the breeding season, March through September. The cooperator shall manage predators using methods and equipment prescribed by Federal and State laws and Navy policies. The Cooperator shall be responsible for the selection, development and construction of all predator trapping and management techniques/methods.

Period of Performance:

Period of performance is for 18 months, starting from date of award, to accommodate the 2015 field season and report writing, plus options for two additional field seasons of work, if additional funding is available.

Materials Requested for Statement of Interest/Qualifications: Please provide the following via e-mail attachment to: jack.e.mobley@usace.army.mil (Maximum length: 2 pages, single-spaced 12 pt. font).

1. Name, Organization 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., permits, equipment, laboratory facilities, field facilities, etc.).

Note: A full study proposal and proposed budget are NOT requested at this time.

Review of Statements Received: 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

Aldrich Nichols, Contract Specialist

CESWF-CT

Email: aldrich.a.nichols@usace.army.mil

Office: 409-766-3963

Fax: 409-766-3845

Timeline for Review of Statements of Interest: The RSOI are required to be out for a minimum of 10 working days. Review of Statements of Interest will begin **21 January 2015**.