



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

REQUEST FOR STATEMENTS OF INTEREST

NUMBER W9126G-15-2-SOI-0026

PROJECT TO BE INITIATED IN 2015

Project Title: Dune Enhancement and Nesting Site Preparation to Support the California Least Tern and Western Snowy Plover at Naval Air Station North Island and the Silver Strand Training Complex, Naval Base Coronado, 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 Environmental Program in order to facilitate compliance with the Endangered Species Act. Approximately \$275,079 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 terms and conditions issued in U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Biological Opinions.

To meet requirements issued under Biological Opinion (BO) FWS-SDG-08B0503-09F0517, the Navy developed the Dune Enhancement and Avian Management Plan (DEAMP) for Naval Base Coronado Silver Strand Training Complex, which guides habitat enhancement for the tern and plover. Work under this agreement will enhance a portion of the habitat at the Silver Strand Training Complex North (SSTC-N) identified in the plan. Options would add activities to prepare tern and plover sites for nesting.

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 enhance dune habitat by restoring native vegetation and treating invasive non-native plant species at the Silver Strand Training Complex North (SSTC-N) to comply with Biological Opinion (BO) FWS-SDG-08B0503-09F0517. The anticipated work will partially implement the Dune Enhancement and Avian Management Plan (DEAMP) for Naval Base Coronado Silver Strand Training Complex, which was developed in compliance with the BO. The enhancement area will encompass areas of transitional vegetation in Blue, and Orange Training Lanes identified in the DEAMP. Specific project objectives include: (1) coordination of site activities to avoid adverse impacts to federally listed avian species and their habitats, which occur adjacent to the enhancement site; (2) treatment of ice plant (*Carpobrotus edulis*) and other invasive non-native plant species; (3) propagation and out-planting of native plants; (4) maintenance and monitoring of the enhancement site; (4) attainment of success criteria for native plant survival and native and invasive plant species cover; and (5) documentation of project activities via quarterly progress reports, annual monitoring reports, and a comprehensive project report.

Three Option Tasks entail preparation of California Least Terns and Western Snowy Plovers nesting sites at Naval Air Station North Island and Naval Amphibious Base Coronado through chemical and mechanical control of vegetation.

Period of Performance. The period of performance will extend from the award date through 30 November 2018 to accommodate plant propagation and site preparation prior to planting in November-December 2015 and three years of maintenance and monitoring after planting to ensure success of plantings and invasive species treatments.

Materials Requested for Statement of Interest/Qualifications:

Please provide the following via e-mail attachment to: lucille.r.smith@usace.army.mil
(Maximum length: 2 pages, single-spaced 12 pt. font).

1. Name, Organization, CAGE, DUNS and Contact Information
2. Brief Statement of Qualifications (including):
 - a. Biographical Sketch;
 - b. Relevant past projects and clients with brief descriptions of these project;

- 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:

USACE

Lucille Smith, Contract Specialist

CESWF-CT

Email: lucille.r.smith@usace.army.mil

Office: 409-766-3845

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 **April 28, 2015**.