

**REQUEST FOR STATEMENTS OF INTEREST WITHIN THE
COOPERATIVE ECOSYSTEM STUDIES UNIT
INTEREST #N62473-16-2-0013
PROJECT TO BE INITIATED IN 2016**

Project Title: Marine Corps Air Station Miramar Least Bell's Vireo and Southwestern Willow Flycatcher Surveys

We seek to understand the distribution of least Bell's vireo (LBVI, *Vireo bellii pusillus*) and Southwestern willow flycatcher (SWFL, *Empidonax traillii extimus*) on Marine Corps Air Station (MCAS) Miramar, how the species are affected by nest predation, and how the species' distributions relate to Miramar land use, future land use change, and to the military readiness mission. The objective is to examine variables. This Agreement is to produce data, analysis, evaluation, reports, and activities necessary to support the stewardship requirements of MCAS Miramar in accordance with the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (19 USC 1531 et seq.), Department of Defense Instruction 4715.3 – Environmental Conservation Program, and Marine Corps Order P5090.2A. Approximately \$30,000.00 is expected to be available to support this project.

Type of Assistance Instrument Anticipated: Cooperative Agreement

Authority: Cooperative Agreement under 16 USC §670c-1

Eligible Applicants: Any Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit Californian cooperative partner who qualifies under the DoDGARS Part 34 or 2 Code of Federal Regulations 200 is eligible to apply.

Cost Sharing: Not required

Background:

The least Bell's vireo LBVI and the SWFL are listed as an endangered species by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and the California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG). The LBVI and the SWFL are found on MCAS Miramar and the surrounding Marine Corps Base associated with (Miramar), foraging and breeding in similar riparian habitats. Surveys for both species can be conducted concurrently. This is a new requirement.

Brief Description of the Anticipated Work:

The purpose of this Cooperative Agreement is to conduct a detailed survey of LBVI and SWFL suitable habitat, singing locations, territories and demographic specifics (number of breeding pairs, number of eggs, number of young fledged, etc.) on MCAS Miramar.

The objective of this Agreement is to produce data, analysis, evaluation, reports, and activities necessary to support the stewardship requirements of MCAS Miramar in accordance with the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (19 USC 1531 et seq.), Department of Defense Instruction 4715.3 – Environmental Conservation Program, and Marine Corps Order P5090.2A. All work must stand up to professional standards and be scientifically defensible. Data are to be presented in three

formats: a written scientific report (both paper and electronic forms); electronic raw data using Microsoft ACCESS or Microsoft Excel software running on IBM AT compatible computers; and Geographic Information System (GIS) formatted data for inclusion in the Station GIS. 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 13 months upon award. The exact period of work performance will be determined upon award, and will be subject to the Anti-Deficiency Act (31 U.S.C. § 1341). The end date is the anticipated date that the Final Report is accepted by the Government.

Materials Requested for Statement of Interest/Qualifications:

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

- 1) SF 424 (Enclosure 3)
- 2) Research & Related Senior/Key Personnel Form (Enclosure 4). Please see Factor 1 for additional submittal requirements.
- 3) Research and Related Budget Form (Enclosure 5)
- 4) SF-LLL Disclosure of Lobbying Activities (Enclosure 6). If applicable, complete SF-LLL. Applicability: If any funds other than Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with the grant/cooperative agreement, you must complete and submit Standard Form - LLL, "Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying."

Reimbursement of pre-award costs will not be allowed.

Review of Statements Received: Proposals will be evaluated based on the following three factors: 1) Credentials of Key Personnel, 2) Scientific Approach, and 3) Reasonableness of Cost

NOTE: All requirements listed are minimum requirements. Offerors will be assessed on their ability to adhere to the listed requirements, completeness of responses, follow directions, comply with restrictions and provide quality control on their submittals. All page limits refer to 12 point font and single spaced one-sided pages.

Factor 1 - Credentials of Key Personnel

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

- i. Minimum of four (4) seasons of field experience conducting permitted unsupervised surveys for LBVI/SWFL 's and associated report preparation and additional permitted Biologist/Technicians (as needed) for fieldwork and data collection/analysis/interpretation, technically qualified GIS personnel, and technically proficient editorial staff.
- ii. Possession of any/all applicable permits from all appropriate agencies, e.g., USFWS.
- iii. Minimum of Bachelor's degree in Wildlife Biology, or related science.

B. Project Manager: The person(s) shall have, or have immediate access to personnel that have, at the minimum:

- i. Minimum of four (4) seasons of field experience conducting permitted unsupervised surveys for LBVI/SWFL 's and associated report preparation and additional permitted Biologist/Technicians (as needed) for fieldwork and data collection/analysis/interpretation, technically qualified GIS personnel, and technically proficient editorial staff.

With the Research & Related Senior/Key Personnel Form, the Applicant shall provide type written resumes, not to exceed 3 pages, single spaced with 12pt font for the Principal Investigator and Research Associates. Resumes must state qualifications, experience with this type of project, professional registration and certificates.

Factor 2 – Scientific Approach

Not to exceed 3 pages, the Offeror shall develop an outline for their approach to addressing the anticipated work stated above. The Offeror may only propose additional geographic and environmental variables to consider, not mentioned in the RSOI, but pertinent to the study issues. The Offeror shall be evaluated as to the soundness of the overall approach and use of any innovative techniques to accomplish project objectives.

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. Please be sure to provide a proposal for the optional work years as listed within the statement of work.

Please provide your proposed budget on the provided pdf titled, "Research and Related Budget" form*(Enclosure 5).

***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. 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. Proposer 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, 2, and 3 are of equal importance.

Timeline for Review of Statements of Interest:

We request that Statements of Interest be submitted by August 18, 2016 2:00 PM local standard time. This Request for Statements of Interest will remain open until an investigator team is selected. Statements of Interest received after August 18, 2016 2:00 PM local standard time is considered “late” and may not be considered.

Please send electronic responses and questions to:

Mr. Reagan Pablo, Contract Specialist Environmental Acquisition Core
Reagan.s.pablo@navy.mil

Point of Contact Information:

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