



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

9 February 2017

**REQUEST FOR STATEMENTS OF INTEREST**

**NUMBER W9126G-17-2-SOI-0003**

**PROJECT TO BE INITIATED IN 2017**

**Project Title:** California Least Tern and Western Snowy Plover Nest Monitoring and Raptor Management on 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 Management Programs in order to facilitate successful implementation of the 16 USC 670c-1 Sikes Act. Approximately **\$549,522** 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 USFWS, and through terms and conditions issued in USFWS Biological Opinions. Management actions include nest monitoring, research studies, 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. Naval Base Coronado nesting sites started with 13 Least Tern nests in 1977 and supported 879 nests in 2016 and the 12 Snowy Plover nests in 1992 increased to 92 in 2016.

**Type of Award:**

In accordance with the *Sikes Act* (Sec. 103A [16 USC 670c-1]) "the Secretary of a military department may enter into cooperative agreements with States, local governments, Indian Tribes, non-governmental organizations, and individuals..." This project is in support of the Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan, as directed in the *Sikes Act*, and 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 CESU Unit to be qualified to be considered.

**Brief Description of Anticipated Work:** The objectives of this project are to cooperatively work with the Navy to assess the status of nesting California Least Tern (CLT) and Western Snowy Plover (WSP) on Naval Base Coronado.

This effort will include intensive field nest monitoring to determine the location, abundance, and fate of CLT and WSP on the Naval Base Coronado nesting sites, and will provide the Navy with a report of the activity of these species. Naval Amphibious Base Coronado (NAB Coronado) also known as Silver Strand Training Complex North (SSTC-N), Naval Air Station North Island (NASNI), and Silver Strand Training Complex South (SSTC-S) are the focus areas for the project. This project will also provide investigations, preventative measures, trapping, and relocation to reduce the impacts of predation by native raptors. The data collected for this agreement will also support military training requirements on the Silver Strand Training Complex and will monitor the effects of training.

Specifically, the cooperator shall work with the Navy to execute a nest monitoring program to determine the abundance and success of CLT and WSP on Navy sites. Requirements will include but not be limited to preparing the sites for nesting (e.g. replacing grid posts, setting out chick shelters, and putting up symbolic fencing), conducting nest monitoring in accordance with the most recent Navy/USFWS agreements, documenting any mortality events, recording observed disturbances due to human activities, banding CLT/WSP chicks in accordance with the most recent Navy/USFWS agreement, collecting information on impacts from ants, and monitoring native raptor presence/impact and carrying out trapping/relocation of raptors as necessary to protect CLT/WSP. In addition to draft and final reports, reporting requirements will include weekly reports of current nest locations to inform military operations. Frequent meetings and coordination with the Navy, USFWS, and CLT/WSP working groups will be required. The Navy also encourages the cooperator to explore and develop potential research projects that would allow for more effective and informative nest monitoring.

**Period of Performance.** The base year of agreement will extend 18 months from award (including 12 months of field work plus 6 months for report writing). Four option years are anticipated pending funds. If funding is available to award a given option period, the option period would be awarded and funded for the full 18 month period.

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

Please provide the following via e-mail attachment to: [nicholas.a.aprea@usace.army.mil](mailto:nicholas.a.aprea@usace.army.mil)  
(Maximum length: 2 pages, single-spaced 12 pt. font).

1. Name, Organization, Cage Code, Duns number, 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. 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  
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**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 **February 21, 2017**.