

**REQUEST FOR STATEMENTS OF INTEREST WITHIN THE  
COOPERATIVE ECOSYSTEM STUDIES UNIT  
INTEREST #N62473-19-2-0001  
PROJECT TO BE INITIATED IN 2019**

**Project Title:** California Least Tern and Western Snowy Plover Predator Control On Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, California

The purpose of this agreement is to reduce and effectively manage the populations of potential predators in the vicinity of nesting Western Snowy Plover (*Charadrius alexandrinus nivosus*) (SNPL) and nesting colonies of the endangered California Least Tern (*Sternula antillarum browni*) (LETE) on Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton (CPEN). Specifically, this agreement provides predator management at three active breeding sites in order to minimize depredation of LETE and SNPL eggs, chicks, and adults and to provide wildlife damage management services to other areas of the Base. This agreement includes management of nuisance and predatory wildlife in housing areas. A written report describing these activities will be provided to the Cooperative Agreement Technical Representative and the Base Representatives at the end of the period of performance of the Agreement. Subject to the availability of funds, this proposed project contains option years to continue this work into the future when options are exercised. Approximately \$160,000.00 is expected to be available to support this project for the base year.

Type of Assistance Instrument Anticipated: Cooperative Agreement

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

Eligible Applicants: Any Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit Californian and Colorado Plateau 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:**

CPEN is located in the northwestern portion of San Diego County, immediately north of Oceanside, California. On CPEN, there are known nesting and nesting colonies of Endangered Species Act (ESA), federally listed, SNPL and LETE located on Blue Beach, White Beach, and Salt Flats (Santa Margarita River salt flat area). The nesting populations of these species have historically been predated upon by various species. To reduce the predation levels on these populations of federally listed species, the predators are removed from the area using lethal and non-lethal means. Historically wildlife species have caused problems in base housing areas and in riparian areas of CPEN. These species have been removed, and/or managed using lethal and non-lethal means for human health and welfare and for the hydrological management of the aquifers of CPEN.

**Brief Description of the Anticipated Work:**

The Cooperator will be responsible for overall predator management at all LETE colonies and SNPL posted nesting sites on the CPEN as defined within this Agreement. The Cooperator shall

visit the LETE and SNPL nesting areas as often as necessary to accomplish the purpose of this agreement as detailed in the scope. The purpose of these removals is to reduce and effectively manage the populations of potential predators in the vicinity of nesting SNPL and nesting colonies of the endangered LETE on CPEN. Specifically, this agreement provides predator management at three active breeding sites in order to minimize depredation of LETE and SNPL eggs, chicks, and adults and to provide wildlife damage management services to other areas of the Base.

The work also includes management of nuisance and predatory wildlife in housing areas. A fundamental part of this Cooperative Agreement is that the recipient will explore non-lethal means of predator control and report on findings. A written report describing these activities will be provided to the Cooperative Agreement Technical Representative and the Base Representatives at the end of the Period of Performance.

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 12 months upon award. The end date is the anticipated date that the Final Report is accepted by the Government. The agreement contains one (1) base period and four (4) option periods. If awarded, the period of performance will be extended by 12 months. These options may be unilaterally awarded within the 12-month period of performance of the base scope of work. Total duration of this agreement, including any option items shall not exceed 60 months. The exercise of any option items is subject to the availability of funds.

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

Please provide the following via e-mail attachment to: Reagan Pablo ([reagan.s.pablo@navy.mil](mailto: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."
- 5) Research & Related Senior/Key Personnel Form (Enclosure 7). The Federal Government has a continuing commitment to monitor the operation of its review and award processes to identify and address any inequities based on gender, race, ethnicity, or disability of its proposed PDs/PIs and co-PDs/PIs. To gather information needed for

this important task, the applicant should submit the requested information for each identified PD/PI and co-PDs/PIs with each proposal. Submission of the requested information is voluntary and is not a precondition of award. However, information not submitted will seriously undermine the statistical validity, and therefore the usefulness, of information received from others. Any individual not wishing to submit some or all the information should check the box provided for this purpose. Upon receipt of the application, this form will be separated from the application. This form will not be duplicated, and it will not be a part of the review process. This data will be kept confidential.

Reimbursement of pre-award costs will not be allowed.

Please note, that some of the forms functionality may be lost. Please visit <https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/forms/r-r-family.html#sortby=1> to retrieve the forms directly from the Grants.gov website.

**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. Information provided must be recent (within last seven (7) years) and relevant. Offerors will be assessed on their ability to adhere to the listed requirements, 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 minimum of one (1) Full-time Field Investigator/Biologist. This position shall be responsible for being the liaison between Recipient personnel and the Grants Officer, CAA or CATR and shall serve as the main point of contact for all required results and/or progress reports on the study. The Field Investigator/Biologist shall have the minimum qualifications:

- 1) A minimum of a Bachelor's degree in biology, ecology, natural resources management or related science.
- 2) Demonstrated experience conducting avian and mammalian predator control.
- 3) Working knowledge of equipment required to trap avian and mammalian predators.
- 4) Certification in the use of hand guns and long guns by an NRA Instructor; experience and legal authority to use hand guns and long guns.
- 5) Permits to effectively implement the work and comply with the requirements of this agreement.

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 full-time biologist and field

investigators that are assigned to the project. 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 and in the scope of work. 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 periods as listed within the statement of work.

Please provide your proposed budget on the provided pdf titled, "Research and Related Budget" form\*(Enclosure 5). Please submit one budget form for the base year of work and separate budget form for each of the options specified in the Statement of Work.

### **\*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 within the Statement of Work (enclosure 1). 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 31 December 2018 2:00 PM Pacific standard time. This Request for Statements of Interest will remain open until an investigator team is selected. Statements of Interest received after 31 December 2018 2:00 PM Pacific standard time is considered “late” and may not be considered. Please submit requests for information/questions no later than 31 December 2018 2:00 Pacific standard time.

**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:**

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