

**REQUEST FOR STATEMENTS OF INTEREST/REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS WITHIN
THE
COOPERATIVE ECOSYSTEM STUDIES UNIT**

INTEREST #N62473-19-2-0016

PROJECT TO BE INITIATED IN 2019

Project Title: Environmental and Biological Data Collection to Support Construction of Ammunition Pier and Turning Basin in Anaheim Bay, Seal Beach, CA

Responses to this Request for Statements of Interest (RSOI) will address measures in support of environmental and biological data collection in Anaheim Bay. The authority for this Cooperative Agreement is 16 USC §670c-1. Approximately \$654,300.00 to \$727,000.00 is expected to be available to support the base requirements of this project and \$218,100.00 to \$242,333 for the Option Task.

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 U.S. Department of the Navy (Navy) proposes to construct a replacement ammunition pier and associated waterfront facilities within Anaheim Bay located within Naval Weapons Station (NAVWPNSTA) Seal Beach, California (CA) (projects are formally known as military construction project, “P-224, Causeway, Boat Channel, and Turning Basin and P-226, Ammunition Pier And Turning Basin, NAVWPNSTA, California). Anaheim Bay and neighboring Seal Beach National Wildlife Refuge (SBNWR), also located within NAVWPNSTA Seal Beach, are part of a highly urbanized ecosystem subject to anthropogenic watershed development and subsequent resource degradation and eutrophication. Despite the anthropogenic influences on these areas, they serve as a crucial ecosystem for several federally listed and sensitive species (i.e. California Least Tern (*Sterna antillarum browni*), Light-Footed Clapper Rail (*Rallus longirostris levipes*) and Green Sea Turtle (*Chelonia mydas*)). Abiotic factors are known to be major contributors to the health of marine species and the food resources on which they depend (e.g., see Green Sea Turtle Recovery Plan for the maintenance of healthy foraging area). Similarly, parameters such as seawater temperature, salinity, water clarity, and velocity can impact species at the primary productivity level, such as eelgrass (e.g., see CA Eelgrass Mitigation Policy), which can lead to impacts to fish nurseries and have detrimental impacts up the food chain (e.g., green turtles, CA least terns).

In result of this construction project, a formal consultation with US Department of Commerce,

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) was initiated. In reply, NOAA issued a biological opinion (BO). Pursuant to section 7 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 and in accordance with the BO, the Navy is required to provide for the development and submission of monitoring plans for assessing the impacts to federally listed/threatened and sensitive species and their preferred habitats within the action area during the proposed project. The monitoring plans include, but are not limited to periodic reporting on the progress of the monitoring and project. This is a new project that has not been previously procured.

Brief Description of the Anticipated Work:

The Department of the Navy (DoN) is seeking statements of interest that address the Navy's monitoring requirements for environmental and biological data at NAVWPNSTA Seal Beach. Generally, the Navy's monitoring requirements include: (1) prepare a draft and final work plan; (2) collect pre-construction environmental and biological data from various locations within Anaheim Bay and SBNWR; (3) collect environmental and biological data from various locations within Anaheim Bay and SBNWR during and after construction; (4) conduct analyses and modeling for all data collected; (5) prepare an annual draft and final report. Please see enclosure 1 for full scope of work and enclosure 2 for applicable terms and conditions.

Period of Performance:

The BASE period of performance covered by this agreement is 60 months upon award with one option item. The option items may be unilaterally awarded at the time of award or anytime within the period of performance of the base scope of work. The period of performance of the base item and option item may overlap. If option item 1 is awarded, the total period of performance will not be greater than 60 months for both the base and option item 1. The end date is the anticipated date that the Final Report is accepted by the Government. The parties may extend the term of this Agreement by written modification. The total duration of this agreement, including the Option Items and any time-extension modifications, shall not exceed 60 months. The option item is subject to the availability of funds under the Anti-Deficiency Act (31 U.S.C. § 1341).

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 & Related Budget Form (Enclosure 5). Please see Factor 3 for additional submittal requirements.
- 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. Data will be 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. 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 pages. Submissions that exceed the page limitation specified within its corresponding factor may have additional pages removed from consideration.

Factor 1 - Credentials of Key Personnel

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

- i. A Ph.D. in Civil Engineering or a related science.
- ii. At least 10 years of experience examining anthropogenic impacts to estuarine and coastal hydrodynamics.
- iii. Extensive experience in utilizing hydrodynamic modeling methodologies for southern California nearshore marine systems.

B. Associate Professor: The Recipient shall designate one person as responsible for assisting with field operations and data collection. This person shall have, at minimum:

- i. A Ph.D. in Biological Oceanography or a related science.

- ii. At least 10 years of experience in evaluating the ecology, functions, and processes of southern California wetlands.

C. Assistant Professor: The Recipient shall designate one person responsible for experimental design and conducting rigorous analysis of data collected. This person shall have, at minimum:

- i. A Ph.D. in Civil and Environmental Engineering or a related science.
- ii. At least 10 years of experience evaluating nearshore oceanography and estuarine processes.

D. Research Assistant: The Recipient shall designate one or more people responsible for assisting with field operations and data collection. This person shall have, at minimum:

- i. At least 2 years of experience as an oceanographic field technician.
- ii. Experience deploying and recovering oceanographic instruments.

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 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 will be analyzed for fair and reasonable pricing. The proposal will be analyzed to determine whether its pricing is materially/mathematically balanced, and is fair and reasonable. The Offeror shall use OMB Circular A-21 “Cost Principles for Institutions of Higher Education,” 48 CFR part 31 “Contract Cost Principles and Procedures,” or 2 CFR 200 Subpart F “Audit Requirements” as applicable. Evaluations will include an analysis to determine the Offeror’s comprehension of the requirements of the solicitation as well as to assess the validity of the Offeror’s approach. 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 option items as listed within the statement of work. Please submit a proposed budget each of the option items on separate research and related budget forms.

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 July 10, 2019 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 July 10, 2019 2:00 PM local standard time is considered “late” and may not be considered. Please submit requests for information/questions no later than July 01,

2019 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

Point of Contact Information:

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