



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

1 August 2019

**REQUEST FOR STATEMENTS OF INTEREST**

**NUMBER W9126G-19-2-SOI-8918**

**PROJECT TO BE INITIATED IN 2019**

**Project Title:** Natural Resources Support: Grazing Expansion Travis AFB, CA.

Responses to this Request for Statements of Interest will be used to identify potential investigators for a project to be funded by [the US Air Force](#), which provides professional and technical support for its [Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan \(INRMP\)](#) in order to facilitate successful implementation of the [16 USC 670c-1 Sikes Act](#). Approximately **\$55,875.00 with an additional \$720,000.00 in optional tasks (subject to availability of funds)** is expected to be available to support this project.

**Background:**

In order to provide landscape-level, low-cost, and long-term invasive species control and suppression, expand the grazing programs at Travis and Beale Air Force Bases (AFBs) by establishing new grazing pastures. Work will include installing new barbed wire, electric fencing, and gates; repairing or removing existing barbed-wire and chain link fence; installing solar wells which includes drilling down to access groundwater; hooking up water troughs to existing water systems/lines; installing water storage tanks; and installing water troughs. All work must be coordinated by an AF-approved biologist. Some biological monitoring will be required during fence building per the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and Endangered Species Act Section 7 consultations to avoid all impacts to vernal pools, wetlands, elderberry shrubs, and oak trees.

**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:**

This project focuses on the following objectives:

The primary goal is to install solar wells which includes drilling down to access groundwater; hooking up water troughs to existing water systems/lines; installing water storage tanks; installing water troughs; and a long-lasting, sturdy fence capable of containing cattle (i.e. tight wires, long-lasting materials, built to be easily repairable). Biologists will complete the deliverables once grazing pasture infrastructure installation is complete. Project implements the following projects from the Integrated Natural Resources Management Plans (INRMP) for both bases:

Travis AFB: Install perimeter fencing and other appropriate infrastructure in appropriate areas based on grazing plan recommendations to allow for livestock grazing of the vernal pool grassland habitat.

Beale AFB: Determine if exclosures are needed around blue elderberry plants in areas grazed by cattle, and install if needed. Exclosures are fences that enclose resources (e.g. elderberry plants, oak trees, lakes, etc.) and exclude browsers (e.g. cattle, deer) to prevent those resources from being grazed.

Beale AFB: Continue to use a combination of firebreaks, mowing, and grazing to reduce the risk of damage from wildfire.

Beale AFB: Evaluate and implement opportunities to expand grazing operations to and support conservation goals.

**NOTE:** At this time we are only requesting that you demonstrate available qualifications and skills for performing similar or same type of work. You will be evaluated for request for a proposal based on skills, qualifications and certifications demonstrated in your SOI.

**Period of Performance.** Base period: 24-months to allow for two field seasons of support  
Options: Each optional task will have a 24-month period of performance from date of award.

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

Please provide the following via e-mail attachment to: [alisa.marshall@usace.army.mil](mailto:alisa.marshall@usace.army.mil) and [david.b.leptien@usace.army.mil](mailto:david.b.leptien@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 is required to be out for a minimum of 10 working days. Review of Statements of Interest will begin **August 14, 2019**.

[End of RSOI]