



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

August 7, 2019

REQUEST FOR STATEMENTS OF INTEREST

NUMBER W9126G-19-2-SOI-8919

PROJECT TO BE INITIATED IN 2019

Project Title: Natural Resources Support: Migratory Birds, Vandenberg 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 [\\$80,570.00](#) is expected to be available to support this project.

Background:

This project will perform point count bird surveys at either riparian or upland areas, as determined by the VAFB NRM (the level of effort is comparable at either area). At completion of surveys, perform statistical analysis of survey data, then compare with data from prior year surveys to identify long-term trends.

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:

This project will perform point count bird surveys at either riparian or upland areas, as determined by the VAFB NRM (the level of effort is comparable at either area).

Trail clearing will likely be necessary to access the sample points. This work includes physical labor (vegetation clearing with hand tools, chainsaw, and/or machete). Poison oak is common throughout the base thus personnel should be comfortable identifying the plant, wearing proper protective clothing, and following common procedures to reduce exposure.

Upland Surveys: Perform two rounds of point counts at 27 arrays, each array consisting of five points. Record all birds seen or heard, noting any breeding behaviors and using a rangefinder to measure the distance at which the bird was first detected from the survey point. During the 2016 upland bird point count effort, 72 species were detected across all habitats, with a total combined abundance of 3,685 individuals.

Riparian Surveys. Following established protocols to perform two rounds of point count surveys at approximately 154 points along seven arrays within four stream drainages. Record all birds seen and heard, with particular attention on California Partners in Flight (CalPIF) riparian focus species: Song Sparrow, Wilson's Warbler, Black-headed Grosbeak, Swainson's Thrush, Warbling Vireo, Common Yellowthroat, Yellow Warbler, Yellow-breasted Chat and Blue Grosbeak. The 2017 surveys recorded a total of 6477 detections representing 99 species.

Perform statistical analysis of survey data, then compare with data from prior year surveys to identify long-term trends.

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.

Preference will be given to statements of interest that demonstrate field technicians that have at least five years' experience conducting point count surveys and be able to accurately identify riparian bird calls, including distance and direction. And a principal investigator that has the ability to synthesize collected field data into a cohesive report, including methods, results, statistical analysis, and management recommendations.

Period of Performance. The base period of performance is anticipated to be 12 months from date of award.

Materials Requested for Statement of Interest/Qualifications:

Please provide the following via e-mail attachment to: Fredrick.L.Wilson@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
Fredrick L. Wilson
CESWF-CT
Email: Fredrick.L.Wilson@usace.army.mil
Office: 817-886-1009

David Leptien, Project Manager
CENWO-PM (Omaha District)
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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 19, 2019.

[End of RSOI]