

Funding Agency: US Army Corps of Engineers, Alaska District 2204 3 rd street JBER, AK. 99506	Funding Instrument: Cooperative Agreement Funding Opportunity No: POA-CESU-20-04 CFDA No: 12.632 Program Title: JBER Integrated Natural Resource Management Plan, Title 10 USC 2694
Issue Date: 20 February 2020	Application Due Date: 23 March 2020
<p>Overview: POA-CESU 20-04 SOSC Collared Pika Survey.</p> <p>See Scope of Work for detailed information.</p> <p>Period of Performance is: 18 months from date of award. This requirement may be modified to extend the period of performance by one additional year if these tasks are still required and acceptable performance has been met. This does not obligate the Government to extend this agreement.</p>	
Estimated Total Funding: \$57,469	Anticipated Number of Awards: 1
Contents of Full Text Announcement	
I. Funding Opportunity Description II. Award Information III. Eligibility Information IV. Application Information V. Application Review Information	1. Project description, objectives & background 2. Project Tasks and Requirements 3. Logistics 4. Supplies and Materials 5. Project Communication 6. Spatial Data & Mapping Standards 7. Deliverables 8. Points of Contact 9. Period of Performance
Contact Information: Questions that are related to Grants.gov including registration and system requirements should be directed to the Grants.gov contact center at 1-800-518-4726. For assistance with this funding Opportunity Announcement please contact Olen.R.Northern@usace.army.mil	

Instructions to Applicant: The complete Funding Opportunity Announcement, application forms and Instructions can be downloaded directly from Grants.gov.

Applications in response to this Funding Opportunity Announcement must be submitted by 2:00PM Alaska time, on the Application Due Date. Applications may be submitted by mail, e-mail, or via the internet through Grants.gov. Each applicant is responsible to ensure their application has been received timely.

Applicants will have a Dun and Bradstreet Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number, and registered

See section IV of the Funding Opportunity Announcement for complete application submission information.

Section I: Funding Opportunity Description

SOSC Collared Pika Survey Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson (JBER), Alaska.

Section II: Award Information

Cooperative Agreement, \$57,469, 18 month period of performance with possibility of extension.

Section III: Eligibility Information

Eligible Applicants – CESU Hawaii, N&W Alaska, PNW, CA, and Colorado Plateau.

Section IV: Application and Submission Information

1. Address to Request Application Package

The complete funding opportunity announcement, application forms, and instructions are available for download at Grants.gov. USACE is not responsible for any loss of internet connectivity or for an applicant's inability to access documents posted at the referenced website.

The administrative point of contact is Olen Northern, (907) 753-2525, Olen.R.Northern@usace.army.mil and/or Kelly McFarlin, (907) 753-2879, Kelly.n.mcfarlin@usace.army.mil

2. Content and Form of Application Submission

All mandatory forms and any applicable optional forms must be completed in accordance with the instructions on the forms and the additional instructions below.

a. SF 424 - Application for Federal Assistance

b. SF 424 A – Budget Information for Non-Construction Programs

c. SF 424 B – Assurances – Non-Construction Programs

d. Program Narrative – Brief program description illustrating applicant's ability to meet the goals and objectives described in Section I of the announcement.

Application shall be submitted NO LATER THAN 23 March 2020

3. Submission Instructions

Applications may be submitted via e-mail and, or the internet.

a. Internet:

Applicants are required to submit proposals through Grants.gov. Applicants are responsible for ensuring that their Grants.gov proposal submission is received in its entirety. The Government bears no responsibility for data errors resulting from transmission of conversion processes associated with electronic submissions. The Government will bear no responsibility for delays in submissions due to technical difficulties at or with the Grants.gov website.

All applicants using Grants.gov to submit proposals must be registered and have an account with Grants.gov. It may take up to three weeks to complete Grants.gov registration. For more information on registration, go to <http://www.grants.gov/ForApplicants>.

b. E-mail:

If there is an issue with submission to Grants.gov, please contact the Corps at the email addresses below. Format all documents to print on Letter (8 ½ x 11”) paper. E-mail proposal to Olen.R.Northern@usace.army.mil and/or Kelly.n.mcfarlin@usace.army.mil

Section V: Application Review Information

1. Evaluation for Selection to receive consideration for award, the proposal must meet the requirements set forth in this FOA and be presented with adequate detail to assure the evaluator(s) have a good understanding of the proposed requirement(s). All proposals will be evaluated to determine the extent to which each offeror demonstrates a clear understanding of the requirements of the announcement, Scope of Work (SOW), and FOA.

The offeror shall submit a proposal that completely addresses all evaluation criteria and specifically identifies how each requirement will be satisfied. Technical proposal shall be no longer than 15-pages, font 12 (This page limitation is in addition to all required forms). All questions shall be submitted no later than 9 March 2020 at 2:00PM Alaska time.

2. Basis of Award: The selection decision will be based on the NFE offering the best overall value to the Government, with consideration given to all factors described below (weighted in descending order of importance). Proposals will not be ranked. The Government will not award a Cooperative Agreement to a grantee whose proposal contains a deficiency. The selection will not be based on lowest proposed cost, it will be based on an analysis of each criteria listed below. The proposal document shall be outlined as shown below.

STATEMENT OF WORK
COOPERATIVE ECOSYSTEM STUDIES UNIT (CESU)
Management, Species, SOSC Collared Pika Survey (FXSB559298)
Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson (JBER), Alaska

Project Cost Ceiling: \$57,469

1. GENERAL

The purpose of this Statement of Work (SOW) is to provide details of the described work to be performed to support the U.S. Air Force through a cooperative agreement (CA) between the Cooperator, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) and Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson (JBER) Natural Resources program involving the terrestrial wildlife program. The work outlined in the tasks in this SOW support collaborative studies between Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) and Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson (JBER) Natural Resources program involving a multi-year project.

Projects for execution under this CA by USACE do not include any functions to be performed that are inherently governmental. This determination is made with the assessment that places emphasis on the degree to which conditions and facts restrict the discretionary authority, decision-making responsibility, or accountability of Government officials using recipient services or work products. This CA shall not be used for performance of personal services. These tasks provided by the customer for execution under this CA by USACE do not include functions to be performed that are personal services.

Any modifications to Cooperative Agreement activities as outlined by this SOW must be coordinated through the Grants Officer's Technical Representative (GOTR) and approved by the Grants Officer (GO) prior to Cooperator implementation.

1.1 Legal Drivers

This project is intended to meet installation-wide ecosystem monitoring and assessment goals set forth in the JBER Integrated Natural Resource Management Plan (INRMP). Legal Drivers: Title 16 USC 670c-1, Title 10 USC 2694, DoD Instruction 4715.03, *Natural Resources Conservation Program* (February 14, 2011); AFI 32-7064, *Integrated Natural Resources Management*.

1.2 Background

Wildlife surveys are a component of the Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson (JBER) Natural Resources program. These surveys are aimed to fill in information gaps of species presence, abundance and distribution across JBER. Monitoring the distribution and relative abundance of wildlife species can be important for documenting the effects of harvest, habitat change, and environmental variability on populations. However, many mammals are highly secretive, difficult to repeatedly capture, and naturally occur at low to moderate densities, making it difficult to estimate abundance over large areas using traditional methods (e.g. mark-recapture, distance sampling, etc.).

Collared pika have been identified within the ADF&G State Wildlife Action Plan as a species of greatest conservation need. Documenting their distribution and abundance is necessary to support sustainably functioning military land. JBER natural resources has collaborated with ADF&G and incorporated

surveying collared pika on JBER as part of a larger ADF&G study aimed to fill in the information gaps of species presence, abundance, and reproduction across southcentral and interior Alaska.

2. SCOPE

The purpose of this task is to continue and expand on the collared pika surveys started in 2018 and 2019 to identify distribution, habitat use, and abundance of collared pika on JBER. The information collected on JBER will provide key insight to the natural resources on JBER to support management decisions while supporting the multi-agency collaboration.

The objectives of the work to be performed under this CESU cooperative agreement are to conduct natural resource tasks on the federal lands belonging to Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson (JBER), and to prepare reports detailing the results of this work for submission to the USACE Alaska District point of contact (POC) and JBER Natural Resource Program Manager (POC). It is anticipated a Senior Biologist and MS Student would complete the work in supporting the collaborative studies between ADF&G and JBER Natural Resources program. The Cooperator shall work closely with the JBER POC and ADF&G during the project.

The collared pika study is a multi-agency collaboration with ADF&G as the principle investigator, which aims to address the informational gaps on how abundance, survival, and reproduction are influenced by environmental change in Alaska. The Cooperator shall work closely with the JBER-Natural Resource Program Manager and ADF&G during the project. Listed below are the ADF&G Collared Pika Study objectives the JBER survey effort is currently addressing.

- *Occupancy Study: Survey JBER sites historically occupied by collared pikas and quantify habitat associations as well as patterns of extinction and colonization over time and space.*
- *Foraging Study: Determine the relationship between pika foraging activity and weather patterns through direct behavioral observations and deployment of motion-triggered cameras.*
- *Demography Study: Contribute to a multi-year study of survival and reproductive success to understand mechanisms of population change.*

3. MAJOR TASKS AND REQUIREMENTS

The work described in this SOW is a multi-year study to continue through 2022. The project should be awarded with a base year and two option years, dependent on funding. The tasks outlined in this SOW are to be completed for this project, and re-occur each field season of the entire study.

The surveys/tasks will be completed at the two established pika survey plots that were surveyed in 2018 and 2019 on JBER. Additional surveys may be completed within the JBER alpine training areas if time, resources and access allow. Additionally, the Cooperator will be working with closely with ADF&G as part of the multi-agency collaboration which includes pika survey sites across Southcentral Alaska.

3.1 Task 1: Occupancy Surveys

Objectives of the Occupancy Survey are:

- Conduct a thorough ground based search of known pika sites on JBER and at other ADF&G established collared pika monitoring sites in Southcentral Alaska for evidence (fresh haypiles or visual observations of pikas) of current occupancy by collared pikas.

- Use seasonal occupancy models to estimate probability of occupancy, colonization, and extinction as a function of time, elevation, aspect, boulder field size, climate variables, and characteristics of surrounding vegetation.

Survey methods for completing the occupancy survey shall follow the established protocols developed by the University of Alaska Anchorage (UAA), Alaska Center for Conservation Science (ACCS) and ADF&G (2018), *Field Guide for Pika Surveys*. The 2018 *Field Guide for Pika Surveys* identifies the methods for conducting a thorough ground-based search using two independent observers, fecal sample collections and haypile sample collections during the occupancy surveys. In addition, surrounding vegetation shall be surveyed using the standardized vegetative protocol in the 2018 Field Guide to provide an estimate of habitat and forage availability.

During the 2019 survey, motion-activated game cameras and temperature loggers were deployed. The cameras and temperature loggers will be retrieved and data will be analyzed and incorporated into this SOW. Motion-activated game cameras and temperature loggers shall be retrieved and re-deployed at a minimum of the two JBER two active haypiles (one per plot), as well as up to 10 additional sites with ADF&G. At the locations where the game cameras will be deployed, temperature and humidity sensors shall be deployed following recommendations from ADF&G.

3.2 Task 2: Foraging study

Objectives of the foraging study are:

- Determine the relationship between pika foraging activity and weather patterns through direct behavioral observations using appropriate methods for behavioral sampling.
- Deploy motion-triggered cameras and temperature loggers on pika territories to assess patterns of behavior relative to weather variables.
- Analyze direct observations and camera data to create activity budgets relative to time of day, julian date, and weather patterns.

Survey methods for completing the foraging study coincide with the occupancy survey in Task 1, which shall follow the established protocols developed by the University of Alaska Anchorage (UAA), Alaska Center for Conservation Science (ACCS) and ADF&G (2018), *Field Guide for Pika Surveys*. The foraging study shall be completed during the same timeframe as the occupancy surveys described above.

3.3 Task 3: Demography Study

The following objectives may be completed if time, budget, and personnel are available to support this effort.

Objectives of the Demography Study are:

- Capture and mark adult and juvenile collared pikas with colored ear tags using established ADF&G protocols.
- Monitor subnivean temperature and snow conditions
- Revisit known pika territories and resight marked pikas annually.
- Estimate juvenile recruitment via visual observations and trapping data.

4. REPORTS AND DELIVERABLES

The following deliverable requirements are common to all project tasks listed in Section 3.0.

4.1 Kick-Off Meeting and Project Schedule

Within the first quarter post-award, the Cooperator will schedule a kick-off meeting with all parties involved (JBER, ADF&G, Cooperator, etc.) to discuss the project, and develop a project schedule to implement the SOW. The Cooperator or principal investigator is responsible for all meeting minutes and distributed to all parties within 10 working days of the meeting.

The Cooperator shall work with the JBER-Natural Resources Program Manager and ADF&G to establish priority areas of survey areas. This determination should be made based on mission priority, range access, or by habitat priority as determined by the JBER-Natural Resources Program Manager. Due to JBER mission and training prioritization schedules and access restrictions, implementation of fieldwork activity/schedules may be required to be changed, as agreed upon as necessary by the Cooperator and the JBER-Natural Resources Program Manager.

A kick-off meeting will be held within the first quarter post-award and shall discuss the project, address concerns, project schedule, and details of the tasks required for this project. Schedule for remaining deliverables will be defined during the project kick-off meeting. Attendees at the kick-off meeting will include at a minimum: the JBER POC, ADF&G, Cooperator, and coordinating agency representatives (if applicable).

The JBER POC, ADF&G and Cooperator shall hold regular meetings to discuss needs, priorities, and updates as deemed necessary by parties to this agreement. The timing and frequency of the meetings will be determined by the project needs and JBER POC staff during the kick-off meeting. Quarterly Progress Reports will be provided to the USACE Project Manager.

4.2 Quarterly Progress Reports

Progress reports shall be submitted to the USACE Project Manager and JBER POC quarterly via electronic mail no later than the 10th calendar day following the end of the reporting period. Invoices for partial payment shall be submitted to coincide with receipt of the quarterly progress reports. No partial payment will be approved unless the government has received all progress reports which are due.

4.3 Work Plan/Fieldwork Preparation

A work plan shall be produced by the Cooperator during the base year (first award year) with the support of ADF&G and the JBER POC depicting how and when the work will be completed over the course of the period of performance. Not all of the tasks outlined in the SOW are described in the existing 2018 Field Guide for Pika Surveys. The additional tasks that do not mention using the established methods (Tasks 2) will require more detail in the required work plan. The work plan will be based on the tasks and methods, deliverables, and schedule presented in this document and kick-off meeting discussions. The work plan shall be approved by JBER POC and ADF&G prior to initiating fieldwork. The work plan will define the schedule for all required tasks and methods to complete the projects and required deliverables. A draft will be provided to the JBER-Natural Resource Manager and ADF&G for review and comment within 60 days of the task order award. The government shall be afforded 10 working days review period and shall provide the Cooperator with comments to utilize for finalization of the document. The Cooperator shall utilize the government comments to make final edits and changes to the work plan. Any field deviations will be documented in field notes and require verbal concurrence from the JBER technical POC. Any field deviations that modifies the project scope must be approved by the USACE Grants officer prior to any action being taken.

Coordinate with the JBER-Natural Resources Program Manager and ADF&G to arrange and prepare for supplies, equipment, personnel, transportation, range access information, etc. in preparation for field events. Certain equipment and supplies, such as radios and GPS units, must be picked up at JBER from the Natural Resources Program Office. Equipment may be checked out at the start of the field season or as needed and returned after the field season is completed.

Due to JBER mission and training prioritization schedules and access restrictions, implementation of activity/schedules may change. Field work and access schedules shall be coordinated closely with the JBER-Natural Resources Program Manager and Range Control.

4.4 Post Field Season Summary Report

Upon completion of the field work and tasks outlined in the work plan, the Cooperator shall take information collected over the course of the project and develop a draft post field season summary. The post field season summary shall discuss all the work completed for the tasks presented in this document and detailed in the work plan. The summary report shall contain at a minimum: methodology (and any deviations), results, data analysis and discussion, photos, and maps; a narrative regarding the quality assurance and quality control of the data and results (data accuracy); overall field season success and discussion of any issues and recommendations towards improving the projects or study. The report shall include maps of the areas surveyed, locations of species identified during surveys, initial locations of collared wolves, and, if available, initial movement data.

Reports will be submitted in Microsoft Word and Adobe PDF formats and provided on a CD (Compact Disc) containing the report, digitized imagery, photos, and any other data provided in appropriate usable format. At the end of the field season, a draft report will be completed within 60 days of completion of field sampling. The final draft will be submitted no later than 30 days following receipt of edits/comments from 673 CES/CEIEC on the draft report. The final report and collection summary will be provided to the ADF&G in accordance with the permit requirements. Maps with sampling locations identified shall be created and/or supplied, and the relevant GIS layers transferred to JBER (see below for Spatial Data Requirements).

The draft report shall be submitted to the government within 90 days of the end of the field season survey effort. The government shall be afforded 14 calendar day review period. The Cooperator shall utilize the government comments to make final edits and changes to the draft project summary report. One set of all field notes and/or field data forms, photos, GPS and GIS data, and excel database of all survey data shall be submitted digitally alongside the report to the JBER Technical POC. Spatial data requirements are detailed in section 4.1 of the SOW.

4.5 Annual Field Data

Hard copies and scanned pdfs of field data, photographs, GPS and GIS data shall be provided to the JBER POC as part of the final post field season summary report package. All data will be reviewed for

4.6 Final Analysis and Report

At the end of the multi-year survey, the third year, all years of survey data analysis will be compiled and analyzed into a final report. Reports will be submitted in Microsoft Word and Adobe PDF formats and provided on a CD (Compact Disc) containing the report, digitized imagery, photos, and any other data provided in appropriate usable format. The draft report shall be submitted to the government within 120 days of the end of the field season survey effort. The government shall be afforded 10 working day

review period. The Cooperator shall utilize the government comments to make final edits and changes to the draft project summary report. One set of all field notes and/or field data forms, photos, GPS and GIS data, and excel database of all survey data shall be submitted digitally alongside the report to the JBER Technical POC. Spatial data requirements are detailed in section 4.1 of the SOW.

4.7 Deliverable(s) Submission Schedule

The table below depicts the submission schedule of the deliverables outlined this SOW.

Deliverable Title	Submission Schedule
- Kick-off Meeting Minuets/Project Schedule (deliverable A)	Deliverable A: Within 10 working days of the kick-off meeting
- Draft Work Plan (deliverable B) - Final Work Plan (deliverable B1)	Deliverable B: Within 60 days of Task Order award Deliverables B1: Within 10 working days of receiving comments from the JBER Technical POC
- Draft Post Field Season Report (deliverable C) - Final Post Field Season Report (deliverable C1) - Annual Field Data (deliverable D)	Deliverable C: Within 90 days of completion of field and lab work (estimated end January) Deliverable C1 and D: Within 30 working days of receiving comments from the JBER Technical POC
- Draft Final Project Report (deliverable E) - Final Project Report (deliverable E1)	Deliverable E: At the conclusion of the 3 year study, 120 days of completion of the final field season. Deliverables E1: Within 10 working days of receiving comments from the JBER Technical POC
- Installation Program Review (IPR)	Participate annually in the Installation Program Review on JBER in Spring (typically March or April each year)

The Cooperator shall provide all draft/draft final/final reports as identified. All reports and information collected shall not be released to the public unless permission is obtained in advance from the AFCEC/JBER ISS, and the JBER-Natural Resources Program Manager. All GIS data must be reviewed and approved by 673 CES GeoBase GIS office to ensure compliance with AF GIS compatibility.

5. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

The following requirements are common to all tasks listed above in Section 3.0.

5.1 Preparation

Provide professional report preparation, editing and printing which present study findings for future JBER planning purposes.

5.2 Equipment, Supplies, and Materials

Provide supplies and materials as necessary to conduct fieldwork for this study and prepare reports. Provide computers with GIS mapping capabilities and hard drives, to collect, analyze, and report on data collected. For safety reasons, cellular phones are required for Cooperator personnel to operate in the field on JBER-managed lands. Cooperators are required to have a cellular phone and bear spray on their person when operating in the field on JBER-managed lands.

5.3 Transportation

If needed, provide 4X4 vehicle, ATV, snow machine, and air (rotary or fixed wing) support as necessary to complete surveys and monitoring studies.

5.4 Travel

Travel on JBER is required to accomplish some of the tasks identified in this SOW. In addition, travel is required to meet with various consulting agencies and stakeholders. Cooperator personnel may be required to travel on government-provided fixed or rotary wing aircraft during the execution of their studies on JBER-managed lands.

5.5 Cooperator Employee Government Access Requirements

5.5.1 All Cooperators shall comply with applicable installation, facility and area commander installation/facility access and local security policies and procedures. The Cooperator shall also provide all information required for background checks to meet installation access requirements to be accomplished by installation Provost Marshall Office, Director of Emergency services or Security Office.

5.5.2 The Cooperator will ensure that its employees entering JBER installations or facilities have obtained access badges and passes in accordance with facility regulations and that these badges and passes are obtained in advance so as not to delay the accomplishment of services.

5.5.3 The Cooperator will return all issued US Government Common Access Cards (CAC), installation badges, and/or access passes to the Government Representative when the project is completed or when a Cooperator employee no longer requires access to the installation or facility.

5.6 Regularity/Professional Interface

The Cooperator shall assist with oral/written interaction with interested parties related to the project. Requirements include, but are not limited to, presentation materials, agendas, minutes, publications, news releases, and public notices. The Cooperator shall assist in project technical review, analysis, and discussions to integrate comments from interested parties on programs and related data and studies. The Cooperator or principle investigator shall develop options for responses and prepare report(s) to communicate government priorities to regulatory agencies and other interested parties. All public or professional presentations must be reviewed and approved for release by the JBER Technical representation and Public Affairs office.

5.7 Sharing of Information

All reports and data generated under this agreement are the property of the government and distribution by the Cooperator to any source, unless previously authorized by the JBER Technical POC, is prohibited. Any public dissemination and/or financial gain endeavor utilizing information obtained through this project requires mutual agreement and approval by JBER.

The Cooperator shall not make available to the news media or publicly disclose any data generated or reviewed under this agreement. If approached by the news media, the Cooperator shall refer them to the JBER Technical POC for response. Project reports and data generated under this agreement shall become the property of the government and distribution to any other source by the Cooperator is prohibited, unless approved by the JBER Technical POC. The government reserves the right to review the Cooperator's proposed publications and approve or deny publication of data collected under the auspice of this cooperative agreement. Requests to publish shall be reviewed on a case by case basis.

Any public dissemination and/or financial gain endeavor utilizing information obtained through this project requires mutual agreement and approval by JBER.

6. GOVERNMENT FURNISHED INFORMATION AND EQUIPMENT

The Government will not furnish any supplies or manpower in support of this agreement. The Government may furnish some sensitive equipment for use during field surveys as available and appropriate for specified field work. Sensitive equipment furnished may include GPS, binoculars, and digital cameras in an effort to standardize data collected as well as comply with sensitive equipment rules/restrictions while on JBER. JBER will provide access to the installation, training on how to access training areas, how to identify and report ordnance, and how to avoid negative interactions with wildlife. Additional government furnished material includes:

- Coordination and signup for range training
- Historical and current aerial imagery and GIS data, if needed
- Military radio for field communication with Range Control, if available
- GPS Unit(s), if available
- Technical guidance and fieldwork support (fieldwork support only if JBER personnel are available)

7. DATA COLLECTION AND GIS REQUIREMENTS

Data will be transferred from the field notebook or data forms to an electronic database, GPS information downloaded and converted into ArcGIS shapefile format, and photos will be downloaded and saved to Site location folders. Data will be reviewed for completeness and accuracy. Data shall be presented in data form format provided by the JBER Technical POC. During the field season, data shall be managed so that it is available upon request for management decisions.

GPS waypoints will be submitted electronically using any Environmental Systems Research Institute's (ESRI) compatible GIS format or Garmin GPS exchange format (.gpx). Any Government issued GPS /sensitive equipment will be turned in to the JBER-Natural Resources Program Manager immediately after field work is completed.

All GIS data must be accepted and approved to be compatible by the 673 CES GeoBase GIS office to ensure compliance with AF GIS format. Data for this project will be collected using in compliance with Spatial Data Standards for Facilities, Infrastructure, and Environment (SDSFIE). The latest version should be used for data collection. Maps generated from GIS data will be reduced and included in reports. Data collection will be accurate enough to ensure reasonable accuracy on large scale maps. The collected data will be made available in layers as agreed by the Cooperator and the JBER-Natural Resources Program Manager. All original and AF formatted GIS information and data shall be delivered in the required format to the JBER-Natural Resources Program Manager.

All geospatial data must be delivered in the following format:

The horizontal coordinate system shall be Universal Transverse Mercator (UTM) coordinate system, Transverse Mercator projection, Geodetic Reference System 1980 (GRS80) spheroid, World Geodetic System 1984 (WGS84) datum, (WGS84 UTM Zone 6 North) and use metric coordinate units.

The vertical datum will be the North American Vertical Datum 1988 (NAVD 88). Further guidance on mapping units, coordinate systems and projections is available from the Installation GIO (673 CES GeoBase section).

8. POINTS OF CONTACT

The POC for USACE Project Management is Charis Cooper. Cooperative Agreement questions should be addressed to the Grants Officer, Olen Northern. Correspondence should be addressed as follows:

Charis Cooper
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Environmental & Special Projects Branch
ATTN: CEPOA-EC-EE
P.O. Box 6898
JBER, AK 99506-0898
Phone: (907) 753-5692
Email: charis.a.cooper@usace.army.mil

Olen Northern
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Contracting Division
ATTN: CEPOA-CT
P.O. Box 6898
JBER, AK 99506-0898
Phone: (907) 753-2525
Email: Olen.R.Northern@usace.army.mil

The USACE Grants Officer is the only person authorized to make or approve any changes in any of the requirements of this agreement. In the event the Cooperator makes any changes at the direction of any person other than the USACE Grants Officer, the change will be considered to have been made without authority and no adjustment will be made in the agreement price to cover any increase in costs incurred as a result thereof.

The JBER POC and Cooperator shall hold regular meetings to discuss needs, priorities, and updates as deemed necessary by parties to this agreement. The timing and frequency of the meetings will be determined by the project needs and JBER POC staff.

The following actions must be coordinated with the JBER Technical POCs:

- Access to the installation
- Any/All photography and video
- All fieldwork shall be scheduled with and approved by the JBER Technical POC in writing, and coordinated with Range Control and others as appropriate

The Cooperator shall coordinate with the JBER Technical Point of Contact (POC) listed below. Correspondence should be addressed as follows:

Colette Brandt
Biologist
673 CES/CEIEC
724 Quartermaster Rd
Door 5, 2nd Floor
JBER, Alaska 99505
Tel: 907-384-3380
Email:
colette.brandt@us.af.mil

9. PERIOD OF PERFORMANCE

The period of performance ends 18 months from date of award.

Proposal Submission Evaluation Criteria and Basis of Award
Management, Species, SOSC Collared Pika Survey
RAM # FXSBA53206120
ACES # FXSB559298
Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, Alaska

The Government will evaluate technical proposals in accordance with the criteria described herein and award a Cooperative Agreement task order to the responsible grantee whose proposal is determined to represent the best overall value to the Government. The Government will not award a Cooperative Agreement to a grantee whose proposal contains a deficiency.

The evaluation factors for this action are:

- Factor 1, 40%: Experience (most important factor)
- Factor 2, 35%: Technical Approach (2nd most important factor)
- Factor 3, 25%: Cost (3rd most important factor)

The Government will assign an adjective rating of Outstanding, Good, Acceptable, Marginal, or Unacceptable to each technical factor which reflects the Government's confidence in each offeror's ability, as demonstrated in its proposal, to perform the requirements stated in the grant. The ratings shall be assigned, using the following criteria, which incorporate a proposal risk assessment:

Weight	Adjectival Rating	Description
4	Outstanding	Proposal indicates an exceptional approach and understanding of the requirements and contains multiple strengths.
3	Good	Proposal indicates a thorough approach and understanding of the requirements and contains at least one strength.
2	Acceptable	Proposal indicates an adequate approach and understanding of the requirements.
1	Marginal	Proposal has not demonstrated an adequate approach and understanding of the requirements or contains an element of risk.
0	Unacceptable	Proposal does not meet requirements of the solicitation and, thus, contains one or more deficiencies and is unawardable.

PROPOSAL EVALUATION AND SELECTION CRITERIA

The Cooperator shall be evaluated in accordance with the selection criteria below. The selection criteria are listed in descending order of importance.

Factor 1 Experience

The Cooperator shall demonstrate prior project experience relevant to the attached SOW, completed within 7 years of the RFP, and other qualifications and technical competence in all of the following areas:

1. Experience developing and implementing monitoring plans and collecting data in remote locations.
2. Project team must have experience with the collared pika (*Ochotona collaris*) species and habitat preference/requirements.
3. Project team must have knowledge of Alaska alpine flora (including incomplete, old/dry specimens).
4. Experience in statistical analysis and modeling with an emphasis of occupancy modeling and database development and management.
5. Experience supporting DoD natural resource programs and Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan (INRMP) objectives.
6. Experience preparing detailed reports demonstrating the methods and results of work completed, incorporating detailed and sustainable recommendations beyond the end of the contracted effort
7. Experience in ArcGIS and aerial imagery interpretation for pika habitat (talus locations).

The Cooperator shall provide examples of up to four (4) past projects of similar size, scope and complexity that best demonstrate the above qualifications. Submit projects that are at least 25% complete or were completed within the past five (5) years. The example project summaries shall be limited to one (1) page each. The example project summaries shall identify:

- Title/Subject
- Location
- Duration
- Brief description
- Roles and work self-performed
- Date project began and if completed
- Complexities or key accomplishments
- Client contact information

The Government will utilize the example project summaries to evaluate the capability and experience

as a basis for comparing offerors to determine best value.

Factor 2 Technical Approach

The Cooperator shall provide a brief narrative of their technical approach and a milestone schedule. The narrative shall be no more than 2 pages per main task and must include:

- A discussion of the technical approach to accomplish the performance work statement requirements, detailing number of hours anticipated to complete the project deliverables.
- A discussion of the quality assurance, quality control, and other technical activities that will be implemented to ensure that quality data are collected to support project data quality objectives
- A discussion of applicable regulatory requirements and how project requirements will be implemented.
- A discussion of all assumptions.

The Cooperator shall also provide an organizational chart with the proposed project team with defined roles, responsibilities, and lines of communication for all key personnel and sub-cooperators.

The evaluation standard has been met when the Cooperator demonstrates an understanding of the work that adequately addresses the task order requirements. The inclusion of numerous assumptions that significantly “assume away” Cooperator risk with regard to major issues or problems that may be encountered on the project will be considered unacceptable.

Factor 3 Cost

Provide proposed cost to the government. Allowable costs incurred by institutions of higher education is determined in accordance with the provision of OMB Circular A-21, "Cost Principles for Educational Institutions," ONR negotiated rates, and institutional policies. OMB's cost principles are contained in 2 CFR 200.400-.475 et seq.

Cost is considered less important than non-cost factors and will be evaluated for fairness and reasonableness per OMB cost principles. If more than one proposal are rated as having equal non-cost factors, the lowest cost tender of the proposals received would be granted as the preferred tender unless there are extraordinary reasons for not doing so.