

**REQUEST FOR STATEMENTS OF INTEREST WITHIN THE COOPERATIVE
ECOSYSTEM STUDIES UNIT INTEREST
N62473-22-2-0005
PROJECT TO BE INITIATED IN 2022**

Project Title: Chinese Abalone Fishing Industry Study at San Nicolas Island

Responses to this Request for Statements of Interest (RSOI) will address measures in support of archaeological survey for and National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) evaluations of Chinese abalone fishing industry sites at San Nicolas Island. Approximately \$430,000.00 is expected to be available to support the requirements of this project.

Item	Estimated Funding
Base Period	\$430,000.00

Type of Assistance Instrument Anticipated: Cooperative Agreement

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

Eligible Applicants: Any Californian Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit 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:

This project will focus on understanding better the activities, impacts, and lifeways of historic abalone fisheries on San Nicolas Island (SNI) in the southern California bight. While extensive archival research has been conducted on this period of island and mainland history (between about AD 1850 and 1920), we are left with, almost exclusively, anecdotal catch records and newspaper accounts to understand this fascinating time in early Californian history, leaving a number of questions about the activities and lifeways of abalone fishermen, harvest techniques, the specific sizes of exploited abalone, and the potential impacts on local abalone populations and marine environments. Systematic archaeological survey and historical documentation for the Chinese abalone industry has been completed on San Miguel, Santa Rosa, and Santa Cruz Islands, but has not been completed on the southern islands.

In order to understand the extent and nature of the historic Chinese abalone fishing industry on the southern islands, the research team will conduct an extensive survey and small scale surface collection and sampling campaign on San Nicolas and San Clemente Islands. The team will develop a robust historical context, document the archaeological sites related to this period, and evaluate each for eligibility to the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). This project will explore the history of early Chinese and Euro-American commercial interests in southern California, and provide the Navy with critical information on the eligibility of these sites to the NRHP that will assist the Navy in its stewardship of historic properties, and in future National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) Section 106 consultations.

Further, this project will provide essential information on the nature of historic period intertidal communities in southern California. These data will link the deep precontact record that extends back over 10,000 years with modern catch records and ecological datasets. Ultimately, these deep historical data are essential in helping to build appropriate management and restoration baselines for abalone and other endangered or threatened marine resources.

Brief Description of the Anticipated Work:

The Department of the Navy (DoN) is seeking statements of interest that address the Navy’s historic preservation requirements for Chinese abalone fishing industry sties at San Nicolas Island. Generally, the Navy’s historic preservation requirements are to conduct pedestrian surveys for archaeological sites on SNI, develop an historic context for Chinese abalone fishing industry sites, and evaluate those sites’ eligibility for listing in the NRHP.

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 24 months upon award. The Cooperative Agreement will have one (1) 24-month base period. The period may be extended by written modification. The exact period of work performance will be determined upon award, the award of any optional work elements will be subject to the Anti-Deficiency Act (31 U.S.C. § 1341). The end date is the anticipated date that the Final Report is accepted by the Government.

Period	Period of Performance	Anticipated Award Date
Base Period	Date of Award – 24 Months	Fall 2022

Materials Requested for Statement of Interest/Qualifications:

Please provide the following via e-mail attachment to: Kevin Magennis (kevin.e.magennis.civ@us.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."

*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.

**Reimbursement of pre-award costs will not be allowed.

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 one-sided pages.

wFactor 1 - Credentials of Key Personnel

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

- i. A PhD in Anthropology, Archaeology, or related science.
- ii. Experience and knowledge documenting the archaeology and history of the Chinese abalone fishing industry sites on California's Channel Islands and mainland demonstrated by at least 15 years of previous work or research experience.

B. Research Associates: The Recipient shall designate one or more people as responsible for assisting the principal investigator. The person(s) shall have, or have immediate access to personnel that have, at the minimum:

- i. A Graduate Degree in Archaeology, Anthropology, History, or related science.
- ii. At least 10 years of experience and knowledge documenting the archaeology and history of Chinese abalone fishing industry sites on California's Channel Islands and mainland.

C. Field Technicians: The Recipient shall have, or have immediate access to personnel that have, at a minimum:

- i. A Bachelor's Degree (or in progress of obtaining a degree) in Archaeology, Anthropology, History, or related science.
- ii. At least 1 year of experience conducting archaeological fieldwork.

With the Research & Related Senior/Key Personnel Form, the Applicant shall provide typed written resumes, not to exceed 3 pages, single spaced with 12pt font for the Principal Investigator, Senior Research Assistant, and Senior Field Technician. 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. 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 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 22, 2022 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 22, 2022 2:00 PM local standard time is considered “late” and may not be considered. Please submit requests for information/questions no later than July 18, 2022 2:00 PM local standard time.

Please send electronic responses and questions to:

Kevin Magennis, Contract Specialist Environmental Acquisition Core
kevin.e.magennis.civ@us.navy.mil

Point of Contact Information:

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