



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

4 Aug, 2023

**REQUEST FOR STATEMENT OF INTEREST**  
**W9126G-23-2-SOI-4313**  
**Due Date Revised Only**

*Applicants must be a member in one of the following Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Units Regions:*  
North Atlantic Coast / Chesapeake Watershed CESU Regions

**Project Title:** Devens RFTA Integrated Wildland Fire Management Plan (IWFMP)

A cooperative agreement is being offered ONLY to members of the Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Units (CESU) Program Region(s) identified above. Award will be made upon mutual agreement and acceptance of the terms and conditions contained in the request for proposal and the of the recipient's CESU Master Agreement. Note the established CESU Program indirect rate is 17.5%.

Responses to this Request for Statements of Interest will be used to identify potential organizations for this project. Approximately **\$63,000** is expected to be available to support this project for the **base period**.

**NOTE:** This project will be awarded under the authority of 10 USC 670c-1, **Sikes Act**: For projects for the implementation and enforcement of integrated natural resources management plans, priority shall be given to award to Federal and State agencies having responsibility for the conservation or management of fish or wildlife.

**Period of Performance.** One Period will 8 months from date of award.

**Description of Anticipated Work:** See attached Statement of Objectives

**NOTE:** At this time we are only requesting that you demonstrate available qualifications and capability for performing similar or same type of work by submitting a Statement of Interest. A full proposal and budget are NOT requested at this time.

**Preparation of your Statement of Interest:** Provide the following (Maximum length: 2 pages, single-spaced, 12 pt. font):

1. Name, Organization, Cage Code, Unique Entity ID, and Contact Information (Email)
2. Brief Statement of Qualifications (including):
  - a. Biographical sketch of the Principal Investigator, to include specific experience and capabilities in areas related to this project's requirements
  - 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. Brief description of other capabilities to successfully complete the project: (e.g. equipment, laboratory facilities, greenhouse facilities, field facilities, etc.)

**Submission of Your Statement of Interest**

- 1. Statements of Interest are due by 5:00 P.M., Central Time, on **4 SEP 2023**.
- 2. Submit your Statement of Interest via e-mail attachments or direct questions to:  
Sandra Justman, Grants Specialist  
USACE, Fort Worth District  
Email: [Sandra.justman@usace.army.mil](mailto:Sandra.justman@usace.army.mil)  
Office: 817-886-1073  
Kathy Mitchell, Project Manager  
USACE, Fort Worth District  
Email: [kathy.s.mitchell@usace.army.mil](mailto:kathy.s.mitchell@usace.army.mil)  
Office: 817-886-1709

**Review of Statements Received:** All statements of interest received from a member of the CESU Region(s) identified above 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: offer the most highly qualified Principal Investigator, have the most relevant experience and the highest capability to successfully meet the program objectives. Submitters whose statements are determined to best meet the program objectives will be invited to submit a full proposal.

Thank you for your interest in our Cooperative Agreements Program.

**AUSTIN.ALICE.MIL** Digitally signed by  
**NER.1076269790** AUSTIN.ALICE.MILNER.1076269790  
Date: 2023.08.05 21:08:43 -05'00'  
ALICE AUSTIN  
Contracting Officer

Attachment: Statement of Objectives

STATEMENT OF OBJECTIVES  
DEVENS RFTA INTEGRATED WILDLAND FIRE MANAGEMENT PLAN (IWFMP)  
for  
FORT DEVENS RESERVE TRAINING FORCES TRAINING AREA (RFTA),  
DEVENS, MA 01434

1.0 PURPOSE

1.1 The Fort Devens environmental program ensures military mission activities are conducted in compliance with all applicable environmental laws, regulations and policies. Article I B of the master agreement states the objectives of the CESU are to: provide research, technical assistance and education to federal land management, environmental and research agencies and their potential partners; develop a program of research, technical assistance and education that involves the biological, physical, social sciences needed to address resource issues and interdisciplinary problem-solving at multiple scales and in an ecosystem context at the local, regional, and national level; and place special emphasis on the working collaboration among federal agencies and universities and their related partner institutions.

1.2 This work requires some onsite work at Fort Devens Reserved Force Training Area in Devens, MA as necessary for data gathering for the plan and coordination meetings.

2.0 AUTHORITY

2.1 This cooperative agreement will be awarded under authorities associated with 16 U.S.C. § 670(c) (1) – (SIKES ACT). In agreement with the above stated goals, the recipient agrees to provide the necessary personnel, equipment, and materials required to implement, activities to support the installation's commitment toward environmental stewardship to manage natural and cultural resources in a responsible way that has the least impact on military missions and is beneficial to the region. In addition, the activities performed by the recipient must be completed in a manner conducive to guidelines outlined in the Endangered Species Act (16 USC 1531 et seq.), the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (16 USC 1361 et seq.), National Historic Preservation Act (54 U.S.C. 300101 et seq.), the National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.), applicable implementing regulations, Army Regulations 200-1, and any other applicable regulatory guidelines.

2.2 In accordance with section 6305 – *Using cooperative agreements* of the *Federal Grant and Cooperative Agreements Act of 1977* (31 U.S.C. § 6301 et seq.), all CESU projects must carry out a public purpose of support or

stimulation, instead of acquiring goods or services for the exclusive direct benefit of the United States Government. Examples of carrying out a public purpose may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Project results are made available to a wide audience (including nonfederal entities)
- Project results/outputs add to the scientific literature/knowledge base, with applicability and utility beyond the scope of the project footprint/study area
- Academic and other nonfederal partner institutions (and their personnel) gain professional experience, increase knowledge, and develop skills and abilities
- Students benefit from direct interaction with federal scientists, program and technical staff, and field unit managers

2.3 In accordance with section 6305 – *Using cooperative agreements* of the *Federal Grant and Cooperative Agreements Act of 1977* (31 U.S.C. § 6301 et seq.), substantial involvement is expected between the Department of Defense and the recipient when carrying out the activity contemplated by the cooperative agreement. The DoD agrees to participate at a national level in support of the CESU program as accepted in the Master MOU for the establishment and continuation of the CESU program Article II 1-4 and Article VI 1-7.

The installation further (hence DoD) agrees to provide substantial involvement as directed under the appropriate master agreement to include, but are not limited to, the following:

- INSTALLATION is involved in development of study methodology, data gathering, analysis, and/or report writing
- INSTALLATION actively participates and collaborates in carrying out the project plan of work, reviews and approves activities, helps train or select project staff or trainees
- INSTALLATION incurs in-kind or direct expenditures in carrying out the activities specified in the project agreement. Examples include, but are not limited to, the following: (Choose what applies must have at least 2 and you can add others that apply)
  - Providing computing services
  - Providing staff time to work on the project

### 3.0 DESCRIPTION OF OBJECTIVES

#### 3.1 Task 1: Prepare an Integrated Wildland Fire Management Plan (IWFMP)

The recipient shall provide subject matter expertise from a Fire Management Officer or equivalent that has Incident Commander Type 5 (ICT5) and Prescribed Fire Burn Boss Type 3 (RXB3), or Firefighter Type 1 (FFT1) and Prescribed Fire Burn Boss Type 3 (RXB3) to prepare an IWFMP for Devens RFTA. This plan will provide planning and guidance

on prescribed fire operations and wildland fire response for 5,000 acres of Devens RFTA South Post.

- The IWFMP will include operations that address fuel load, fire management zones, and identify areas to restore and maintain fire adapted communities (e.g., Pitch Pine Barrens).
- IWFMP will follow all Army Wildland Fire Guidance dated 15 March 2021 and follow provide standardized template.
- The IWFMP will be up to all National Wildfire Coordinating Group (NWCG) standards and follow all State and Federal Laws.
- The IWFMP will comply and integrate with the Installation Integrated Natural Resource Management Plan (INRMP), the installation's existing Fire and Emergency Services Program (F&ES) plan(s), the Range Complex Master Plan (RCMP).
- During the preparation of this plan the recipient shall ensure that all threatened and endangered species considerations are coordinated with the Devens RFTA Natural Resources Manager.
- All components of the plan will be coordinated and approved by the Devens RFTA Natural Resources Manager.

#### 4.0 QUALIFICATIONS

4.1 Recipients must be able to provide interdisciplinary expertise on wildland fire management such as Incident Commander Type 5 (ICT5) and Prescribed Fire Burn Boss Type 3 (RXB3), or Firefighter Type 1 (FFT1) and Prescribed Fire Burn Boss Type 3 (RXB3).

4.2 Recipient must demonstrate familiarity with Natural and Cultural Resource planning and integrated processes and knowledge of applicable regulations and guidance.

#### 5.0 GOVERNMENT FURNISHED MATERIALS OR PROPERTY

5.1 Devens RFTA will provide all associated and developed GIS layers and other supporting documents such as Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan, Integrated Cultural Resource Management Plan and any other existing background information necessary to support IWFMP preparation.

#### 6.0 PERIOD OF PERFORMANCE

The period of performance will be 8 months from the date of award.

## 7.0 COORDINATION

- USACE Fort Worth District POC  
Kathy Mitchell  
817 886-1709  
[kathy.s.mitchell@usace.army.mil](mailto:kathy.s.mitchell@usace.army.mil)
- Kyle J. Crafts  
Natural Resources Manager, Environmental Division  
Devens Reserve Forces Training Area  
(978) 615-6086  
[Kyle.j.crafts.civ@army.mil](mailto:Kyle.j.crafts.civ@army.mil)

## 8.0 DELIVERABLES

8.1 Progress Reports & Invoices - One (1) typed letter report describing progress on the project shall be due as of the last day of each third month (**quarterly**) and shall be transmitted via electronic mail, facsimile, or regular 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 monthly progress reports. No partial payment will be approved unless the government has received all progress reports which are due.

8.2 Annual Inventory –Federally owned property - an annual inventory listing Federal property (to include description of the property, a serial number or other identification number) that is in the custody of the recipient; Copies to be sent to USACE and the Installation.

8.3 Annual Inventory – Required under 2CFR for Grants and Cooperative Agreements - Acquired Property purchased with funding from award - property records must be maintained that includes description of the property, serial number or other identification number, source of funding, who holds title, acquisition date, cost of property, percentage of Federal participation in project costs, location, use and condition of property, and ultimate disposition including date of disposal and sale price. A physical inventory must be taken and results reconciled every two years. Copies of the inventory to be sent annually to USACE – USACE and the Installation.

8.4 Annual Report (if the project is longer than one year).

8.5 Task-specific deliverables

8.5.1 Draft Final IWFMP. Draft plan shall be submitted at least 60 days prior to the end of the period of performance. Submit one hard copy and one electronic copy to the Installation POC.

8.5.22 Final IWFMP. Final plan shall incorporate all comments received from Installation components. One hard copy and one electronic copy shall be submitted by the end of the period of performance to the Installation POC and the USACE POC.

- 10.0 This cooperative agreement 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%).

Any resulting cooperative agreement will be subject to and recipient/cooperator shall comply with 2 CFR 200.313 "Equipment", 200.314 "Supplies", and 200.315 "Intangible Property" which includes use of research data.