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

15APR2024

REQUEST FOR STATEMENT OF INTEREST W9126G-24-2-SOI-2232

Applicants must be a member in one of the following Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Units
Region:
Gulf Coast

Project Title: Conservation Law Enforcement Officers (CLEO) Support, AFCEC Florida A cooperative agreement is being offerred 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 **\$580,249** is expected to be available to support this project for the **base period**. Additional funding may be available to the successful recipient for optional tasks and/or follow on work in subsequent years.

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. The base period of agreement will extend 12 months from date of award. There may be up to four 12-month follow-on periods based on availability of funding.

Description of Anticipated Work: See attached Statement of Objectives

NOTE: At this time we are only requesting that you demonstrate available qualifications and capabaility 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

- 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 12:00 P.M., Central Time, on 16 May 24
- 2. Submit your Statement of Interest via e-mail attachments or direct questions thame Sandy Justman

Grants Specialist

USACE, Fort Worth District

Email: sandra.justman@usace.army.mil

Office: 817-886-1073

Kali Evans

Project Manager

USACE, Fort Worth District

Email: kali.l.evans@usace.army.mil

Office: 402-768-1048

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.

Timeline for Review of Statements of Interest: RSOI's are required to be posted on www.Grants.gov for 30 days prior to the Government making a decision and requesting full proposals.

Thank you for your interest in our Cooperative Agreements Program.

Paige E. Poorman
Paige E. Poorman

Grants Officer

Attachment: Statement of Objectives

STATEMENT OF OBJECTIVES

CONSERVATION LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS (CLEO) SUPPORT

AVON PARK AIR FORCE RANGE, TYNDALL AIR FORCE BASE, MACDILL AIR FORCE BASE, PATRICK SPACE FORCE BASE, and CAPE CANAVERAL SPACE FORCE STATION Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit

Article III, (D) of the Gulf Coast Cooperative Ecosystems Studies Unit (CESU)

1.0 PURPOSE

1.1 Department of the Air Force (DAFDAF) installations in Florida, including Avon Park Air Force Range (APAFR), Tyndall Air Force Base (TAFB), MacDill Air Force Base (MAFB), Patrick Space Force Base (PSFB), and Cape Canaveral Space Force Station (CCSFS), require professional law enforcement services for patrol and surveillance of various properties. Under this project, the DAF requires Conservation Law Enforcement Officers (CLEOs), who are willing to provide conservation law enforcement and public contact services throughout APAFR, TAFB, MAFB, PSFB, and CCSFS.

The conservation law enforcement services under this project involve making contacts with resource users, enforcing applicable conservation laws and Department of the Air Force regulations, and patrolling management area lands. The intent of the DAF is to deter illegal activities through conservation law enforcement patrols and activities, and to ensure public safety. The focus of this requested support is the enforcement of state and federal conservation laws to include hunting and fishing, and cultural resources laws and to provide all the necessary labor, facilities, equipment, materials and transportation necessary to perform the enforcement of conservation law enforcement activities.

2.0 AUTHORITY

Authority to enter into a Cooperative Agreements (CA) for the work: Section 670c-1, Title 16 United States Code, Sikes Act.

2.1 In agreement with the above stated goals, the NFE agrees to provide the necessary personnel, equipment, and materials required to implement, in part, the VSFB responsibilities pursuant to the Endangered Species Act (16 USC 1531 et seq.), the Sikes Act Improvement Act, the National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.), and applicable implementing regulations, such as Air Force Manual 32-7003, Environmental Conservation; Grant and Cooperative Agreements Act of 1977 (31 U.S.C. § 6301 et seq.). In general, cooperative agreements must carry out a public purpose of support or stimulation, however under the authority of the Sikes Act (16 USC 670c-1 (c) (2)), notwithstanding chapter 63 of Title 31 (31 U.S.C. § 6301 et seq), a cooperative agreement under this section may be used to acquire property or services for the direct benefit or use 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
- 2.2 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.), 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 Article II (A) Gulf Coast CESU Master Agreement # USACE-GUCO-CESU-2022 to include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Government is involved in development of study methodology, data gathering, analysis, and/or report writing
- Government actively participates and collaborates in carrying out the project plan of work, reviews and approves activities, helps train or select project staff or trainees
- Government 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:
- Government providing staff time to work on the project

3.0 DESCRIPTION OF OBJECTIVES

- 3.1. Conservation Law Enforcement Officers (CLEOs) shall:
- 3.1.1. Provide scheduled patrolling and surveillance of DAF lands IAW duties and responsibilities set forth in appropriate state of Florida standard position description and this SOO.
- 3.1.2 Patrol and conduct surveillance of, respond to reports of, or investigate:
- 3.1.2.1. boundary fence lines to prevent illegal entries,
- 3.1.2.2. interior areas and waterways to apprehend individuals involved in unauthorized activities,
- 3.1.2.3. remote structures to prevent theft and vandalism,

- 3.1.2.4. suspected search for or removal of unexploded ordnance (UXO), scrap metal, or other military debris,
- 3.1.2.5. natural and cultural resources to prevent their unauthorized removal (poaching, looting) and/or damage,
- 3.1.2.6. protected species habitats, including beaches,
- 3.1.2.7. vehicle access control barriers, signage, gates, and other exclusion, restriction, or off-limits mechanisms,
- 3.1.2.8. public/urban interface to address encroachment and illegal dumping,
- 3.1.2.9. public use permits and state licenses held by recreationists,
- 3.1.2.10. known illegal off-road usage areas, and
- 3.1.2.11. public use closure areas.
- 3.1.3. Make efforts to contact resource users and provide them with accurate information regarding activities on DAF properties.
- 3.1.4. React to anyone or any suspicious activity on DAF lands in the same manner as the officers would investigate any other violation of law and shall exercise the authority vested in the officers as a commissioned conservation law enforcement officer. Officers may give verbal or written warnings, issue citations and make custodial arrests of suspected violators.
- 3.1.5. When encountering suspected violators, officers shall follow the operating procedures as set forth by cooperator policy (i.e. use of force, arrest, transport, pursuit, etc.). Violation Reports shall be in the form of cooperator written tickets (duplicate copies of issued tickets).
- 3.1.5.1. Officers shall provide written APAFR Violation Reports to the APAFR Outdoor Recreation Program Staff at the conclusion of each duty day for each incident resulting in a citation or warning.
- 3.1.5.2. Officers shall provide written TAFB Violation Reports to 325 Security Forces and Mr. Jared Kwitowski at the conclusion of each duty day for each incident resulting in a citation or warning.
- 3.1.5.3. Officers shall provide written MAFB Violation Reports to 6^{th} Security Forces Squadron at the conclusion of each duty day for each incident resulting in a citation or warning.
- 3.1.5.4. Officers shall provide written PSFB Violation Reports to 45 SW Security Forces Squadron at the conclusion of each duty day for each incident resulting in a citation or warning.

- 3.1.5.5. Officers shall provide written CCSFS Violation Reports to 45 SW Security Forces Squadron at the conclusion of each duty day for each incident resulting in a citation or warning.
- 3.1.6. Officers shall initiate and complete incident follow-up activities which include, but are not limited to, investigating violations, interviewing suspects and witnesses, completing and filing offense reports with prosecuting attorneys, and testifying in court.
- 3.1.7. Officers shall update check-in stations when the status of recreational management units hangers.
- 3.1.8. Officers shall inspect campgrounds and management units after these areas close to the public to ensure that recreationists have departed.
- 3.1.9. Officers shall staff access and egress points to check incoming traffic for possession of required permits, licenses, and compliance with installation recreation instructions. Officers shall check outgoing traffic for possession of unchecked game.
- 3.1.10. Officers are not expected to augment/replace/increase installation security forces, who have primary responsibility for installation boundary security and conduct arrests, or other actions related to general policing of the installation.
- 3.1.11. Officers shall be given installation security forces POCs/phone numbers in order to report suspected violations/violators that would fall under general policing (e.g. DUI, speeding).

4.0 QUALIFICATIONS

- 4.1. The NFE shall ensure that officers fulfill the following criteria:
- 4.1.1. The duties of this position require constituted law enforcement officers that maintain the appropriate authority as designated by the State of Florida and the regular bearing of firearms.
- 4.1.2. Officers must have a professional working knowledge of Federal Statutes, Florida Wildlife Code and DAF and installation specific regulations.
- 4.1.3. Officers must have access to cooperator-issued equipment required to perform the job responsibilities, such as vehicles, uniforms, firearms, and communications equipment.
- 4.1.4. Officers must represent the DAF in a positive manner and uphold the values of Air Force management and the military mission. Failure to do so will disqualify officers from patrolling DAF properties under this agreement.
- 4.1.5. Officers must have experience operating specialized equipment specific to conservation law enforcement in the various habitats of central Florida.

- 4.2. The DAF reserves the right to determine the suitability of individual officers for patrol of DAF properties based on their qualifications and performance of those activities outlined in the Statement of Work. Officers who are determined to be unsuitable will not be allowed to patrol DAF property under this task order.
- 4.3. Any and all obligations for payments under this task order are specifically conditioned upon the following:
- 4.3.1. an express representation by the NFE that it has the legal authority to enforce all criminal and/or civil violations applicable to DAF and installation specific regulations relating to public use of the lands subject to this task order; and
- 4.3.2. an express representation by the NFE that it has or will procure the necessary physical and human resources to enforce all applicable DAF and installation specific regulations relating to public use of the lands subject to this task order; and
- 4.3.3. a documented good faith effort by the NFE as to the continuous enforcement of all applicable DAF and installation specific regulations relating to public use of the lands subject to this task order.

5.0 LOCATION OF PROJECT

- 5.1. Properties to be patrolled include all of: Avon Park Air Force Range, located in Polk and Highlands Counties, Florida; Tyndall Air Force Base, located in Bay County, Florida; MacDill Air Force Base located in Hillsborough County, Florida; Patrick Space Force Base, located in Brevard County, Florida; and Cape Canaveral Space Force Station, located in Brevard County, Florida.
- 5.2. Attachment 1: Maps, contains general maps of Avon Park Air Force Range, Tyndall Air Force Base, MacDill Air Force Base, Patrick Space Force Base, and Cape Canaveral Air Force Station.
- 5.3. APAFR, TAFB, MAFB, PSFB, and CCSFS may, at any time upon two weeks prior written notice to the NFE, add or delete areas to be covered for conservation law enforcement services in the locations

6.0 SUPERVISION

- 6.1 NFE shall provide field supervision and coordination, and radio dispatching for officers while on patrol.
- 6.2 A 24-hour emergency contact number for a Cooperator supervisor will be made available to the APAFR, TAFB, MAFB, PSFB, and CCSFS Chiefs identified in Section 11.
- 6.3 NFE supervisors shall meet with APAFR, TAFB, MAFB, PSFB, and CCSFS staff to review conservation law enforcement related issues and patrolling schedules on an

annual basis, or more often if required and requested by APAFR, TAFB, MAFB, PSFB, CCSFS, or NFE personnel.

7.0 SCHEDULING & EQUIPMENT

- 7.1 The NFE shall coordinate patrolling times and locations with the DAF Staff. APAFR and TAFB will require patrols year-round, which vary in starting time and duration. MAFB, PSFB, and CCSFS will require patrols intermittently. Routinely scheduled patrols will be from three to eight hours in duration, but will vary according to specific circumstances of range activity.
- 7.2 The USAF will submit a patrolling request to the NFE on a quarterly basis. The patrolling request will list the number of hours per week for the installation to be patrolled. Preliminary estimates are as follows:
- 7.2.1 APAFR requires 30 hours per week, an up to 10 additional drive time hours in accordance with section 7.7.
- 7.2.2 TAFB requires 45 hours per week
- 7.2.3 MAFB requires 20 hours per week
- 7.2.4 PAFB requires 16 hours per week
- 7.2.5 CCAFS requires 24 hours per week.
- 7.3 Based on the DAF patrolling request, the NFE shall submit a patrolling schedule to the DAF monthly, a week prior to the beginning of each month. The patrolling schedule will list the incoming officer's name, location of patrol, and time of patrol.
- 7.4 Patrols will be a minimum of 3 hours and up to 8 hours per officer.
- 7.5 Patrols will be conducted in daylight hours and into evening hours but are not expected to occur after dark. Seasonally, patrols may be required on weekends or in extended daylight days to provide a presence during high recreational use times.
- 7.6 Patrols shall cover approximately 30 miles per 3-hour shift, pending weather, ongoing activities, and other constraints.
- 7.7 Billable hours begin when the officer crosses the installation boundary. <u>Due to the remote</u> nature of APAFR, APAFR may bill no more than 1 drive time hour, per officer, per day.
- 7.8 Normal/anticipated support levels may be suspended temporarily in the event of a natural disaster or another emergency. The NFE would need to coordinate with the installation for future scheduling and provide increased support/patrols IAW estimated patrol hours necessary to meet the installation's needs.
- 7.9 Equipment:

7.9.1 Officers shall use law enforcement vehicles, uniforms, and equipment, supplied by to them by the NFE, for patrolling DAF lands.

7.9.2 Vehicles, uniforms and equipment will be readily identifiable as that of the NFE, and shall be maintained in accordance with cooperator policy and procedure.

8.0 GOVERNMENT FURNISHED MATERIALS OR PROPERTY

The NFE is responsible for all supplies, equipment, or manpower necessary to complete this task order.

9.0 Follow On Periods: up to 4 optional periods (2025-2028) are anticipated to support this project and are subject to availability of funds. Option year costs should be included in proposal.

10.0 PERIOD OF PERFORMANCE

10.1 BASE PERIOD: The base period of performance is anticipated to be 12 months from the date of award.

10.2 Follow On PERIODS: Each optional period will be for 12 months and will start at the end of the base/previous period.

11.0 COORDINATION

USACE POC:

Kali Evans
USACE Environmental Project Manager

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AFCEC and Installation POCs:

AFCEC – Primary: Karla Meyer Natural Resources Subject Matter Expert Air Force Civil Engineer Center 210-925-4261

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PAFB and CCAFS POC:
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MACDILL-Andrew Rider Acting Chief, Installation Management 6 CES/CEI 7621 Hillsborough Loop Dr. MacDill AFB, Florida DSN 968-4241 andrew.rider.2@us.af.mil

12.0 DELIVERABLES TASK SPECIFIC DELIVERABLES

The NFE shall submit quarterly progress reports summarizing activities as follows:

- Number of days, locations, and activities in travel status
- List of plans, reports, and briefings prepared or reviewed
- List of meetings attended including purpose/objective and attendees
- List of major action item support and taskers accomplished

- Status of project progress, problems identified, solutions implemented, and schedule adjustments if appropriate
- Any critical communications not reported in other sections
 Reporting to be included in daily logs and summarized in quarterly reports Officers shall maintain a daily log and shall submit a compilation of log to the appropriate NFE supervisor no later than five days after the bi-weekly work period. After receipt, the appropriate NFE supervisor will immediately forward the patrol logs to the USACE PM, APAFR, TAFB, MAFB, PSFB, and CCSFS Chiefs identified in Section 11.
- -The daily patrol log shall be signed by the officer and give all information as indicated on the form, including vehicle mileage, and shall include a brief narrative statement of special incidences and/or circumstances.
- -The officers' daily patrol log shall include, but not be limited to:
 - any breaches in property boundary integrity (fence cuts and breaks),
 - trespassers and illegal entry by air boats, off road vehicles, or other transportation
 - illegal hunting activities,
 - wildfires,
 - theft or vandalism (including Historic Artifacts/Sites)
 - any hazard, condition or incident that may become a liability to the DAF or may be damaging to the management or improvements, and
 - public contacts, citations and physical arrests.

AGREEMENT REQUIRED DELIVERABLES

- I. Progress Reports One (1) typed letter report describing progress on the project. The report shall be due as of the last day of the 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 quarterly progress reports. No partial payment will be approved unless the government has received all progress reports which are due.
- II. Monthly Progress Agenda, Reports & Meeting Minutes One (1) typed report describing progress on the project. The report shall be due two days before the scheduled monthly meeting and shall be transmitted via electronic mail. Meeting minutes are due within 2 days following the monthly meeting to include a summary of action items.
- **III.** 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 SWF.
- **IV.** Annual Inventory 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 SWF.

V. Draft Final Project Reports – See each task for task specific reports. Electronic copies of draft final reports should be submitted no later than one month before end of the project. All draft deliverables shall be reviewed by an experienced editor to fix any editorial issues. At a minimum, the reports shall contain an executive summary, introduction, methods, results, discussion, and recommendations section. Each report, shall summarize work accomplished for the Task. Installation and AFCEC POCs will review and provide comments within 21 calendar days after receipt.

VI. Final Project Reports – See each task for task specific reports. All final deliverables shall be reviewed by an experienced editor to fix any editorial issues. Electronic copies of the final report, incorporating Installation and AFCEC POC comments on the draft shall be submitted no later than thirty (30) days after receipt of comments.

VII. Project Schedule and Work Plan – Provide an electronic copy of a work plan and project schedule in table format that includes all tasks. Should be concise yet communicate what will be performed and when. The schedule should break down the work into sections with associated timetables. Document shall be reviewed at the monthly meetings to ensure we are on schedule.

13.0 ADMINISTRATIVE

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.

14.0 GENERAL INSTALLATION MAPS

Attachment 1: Maps

Tyndall Air Force Base MacDill Air Force Base Patrick Space Force Base Cape Canaveral Space Force Station

[End of SOO]