



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

19 July 2024

**REQUEST FOR STATEMENT OF INTEREST  
W9126G-24-2-SOI-3545**

*Applicants must be a member in one of the following Cooperative Ecosystem Studies  
Units Regions:*

Chesapeake Watershed / Gulf Coast / Great Plains / North Atlantic Coast

**Project Title:** USMC Installation Climate Change Assessments and Project Support for Headquarters Marine Corps

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 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 **\$550,000** 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 six 12-month follow-on periods based on anticipated project conditions, needs, and availability of funds.

**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, CESU Region, 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 (SOIs) are due by **Noon, Central Time, 18 August 2024.**
2. Submit your SOI via e-mail with attachments or direct questions to no later than 31 July 2024 to:

Sheri Vendemia  
Grants Specialist  
USACE, Fort Worth District  
Email: [cheryl.r.vendemia@usace.army.mil](mailto:cheryl.r.vendemia@usace.army.mil)

**and**

Kathy S. 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.

**Timeline for Review of Statements of Interest:** RSOL's are required to be posted on [www.Grants.gov](http://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  
Grants Officer

Attachment: Statement of Objectives

## STATEMENT OF OBJECTIVES

### U.S. MARINE CORPS (USMC) INSTALLATION CLIMATE CHANGE ASSESSMENTS AND PROJECT SUPPORT FOR HEADQUARTERS MARINE CORPS

#### 1.0 PURPOSE

1.1 The 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 Headquarters Marine Corps (HQMC) supports installation environmental programs to ensure military mission activities are conducted in compliance with all applicable environmental laws, regulations and policies. HQMC is requesting assistance to facilitate conservation compliance. This Statement of Objectives (SOO) describes objectives necessary to ensure climate change analyses are accomplished for installations with Integrated Natural Resources Management Plans (INRMPs) in accordance with Sikes Act, DoD Directive 4715.21; DoDM 4715.03, Enclosure 8; and USMC 5090, Chapter 11, 2021 Department of Defense Climate Adaptation Plan, and Department of the Navy Climate Action 2030 and Marine Corps Climate Action Plan. Top priority USMC installation areas requiring climate change analysis, as described in this SOO, are the Hawaiian Islands, Desert Southwest and coastal Southeast United States. Pending project conditions and needs, and availability of funds, additional areas may be included in follow on option years.

1.3 To carry out these objectives, the Non-Federal Entity (NFE) will supply the necessary personnel, equipment, and materials required to conduct climate change analyses including climate change risks, vulnerabilities, and adaptation strategies using authoritative region-specific climate science, climate projections, and existing tools. In accordance with DoDM 4715.03, the following tools and resources will be used at a minimum:

a. For national, regional, and international climate information, see the U.S. Global Change Research Program website, found at <http://www.globalchange.gov>.

b. "DoD FY2012 Climate Change Adaptation Roadmap", found at <https://www.serdp-estcp.org/News-and-Events/News-Announcements/Program-News/DoD-releases-Climate-Change-Adaptation-Roadmap-in-support-of-sustainability-planning>.

c. "DoD Natural Resources Conservation Program Climate Change Tools for Adapting Management Strategies", found at <http://www.dodworkshops.org/files/ClimateChange/CC-Home.html>.

d. Department of the Interior, USFWS website, “Conservation in a Changing Climate”, found at <http://www.fws.gov/home/climatechange>.

e. “National Fish, Wildlife & Plants Climate Adaptation Strategy”, found at <http://www.wildlifeadaptationstrategy.gov>.

f. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration’s climate data website at <http://www.noaa.gov/climate>.

## 2.0 AUTHORITY

2.1 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 Marine Corps INRMP.

2.2 In agreement with the above stated goals, the recipient/cooperator agrees to provide the necessary personnel, equipment, and materials required to implement, in part, the Marine Corps responsibilities pursuant to the Sikes Act Improvement Act (16 USC 670 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.

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 Agreement for the continuation of the CESU program.

The Marine Corps further (hence DoD) agrees to provide substantial involvement to include, but not limited to, the following:

- Headquarters Marine Corps and applicable Installations will have involvement in development of study methodology, data gathering, analysis, and/or report writing
- Headquarters Marine Corps and applicable Installations will actively participate and collaborate in carrying out the project plan of work and reviews and approves draft and final documents

### 3.0 DESCRIPTION OF OBJECTIVES

3.1 Task 1: Provide climate-based research and planning assistance for climate related projects to build climate resilience to the extent appropriate with the Sikes Act.

3.1.1 Assist with the Installation projects that address climate related threats such as rising sea levels, recurring flooding, and more frequent and destructive hurricanes threaten our coastal installations.

3.1.2 Assist with Installation projects that increase ground water recharge and address wildfire, drought, increased heat and dust that may result in impacts to training and threaten installation in the desert southwest.

3.1.3 Research and compile information developed for other purposes (e.g., facilities risk assessments) to assess climate change impacts or adaptation strategies.

3.1.4 Predict and describe incremental ecosystem effects. Use best available and geographically suitable predictive models to identify probable complex and indirect changes that are likely to happen in the future.

3.1.5 Provide adaptive support goals, objectives, and strategies to mitigate near-term and long-term effects to protected federally listed species, candidate species, species and species of concern native habitats, and rare or at –risk ecosystems.

3.1.6 Provide USMC Installation natural resources program leads to address all elements of the program and HQMC support for climate based projects.

3.2 Task 2: Conduct climate change analysis for up to four (4) USMC Installations annually. Installation INRMPs for these areas vary in size and complexity, however, it is anticipated that one of the INRMPs will be large (i.e., covering multiple areas) and the remaining three will be for average to small sized installations.

Specific sub-objectives associated with climate change analysis for each INRMP include the following:

3.2.1 Provide historical regional trends and projections of future climate or sea level rise relevant to the region.

3.2.2 Research and compile information developed for other purposes (e.g., facilities risk assessments) to assess climate change impacts or adaptation strategies.

3.2.3 Review existing INRMP management and provide a discussion of sustainability in the context of climate change in the management strategies section.

3.2.4 Collaborate with installation natural resources and other installation leads through coordination with installation conservation personnel, for comprehensive incorporation of training and test vulnerabilities related to climate change.

3.2.5 Predict and describe incremental ecosystem effects. Use best available and geographically suitable predictive models to identify probable complex and indirect changes that are likely to happen in the future.

3.2.6 Provide adaptive support goals, objectives, and strategies to mitigate near-term and long-term effects to protected federally listed species, candidate species, species and species of concern native habitats, and rare or at –risk ecosystems.

#### **4.0 QUALIFICATIONS**

4.1 All personnel supporting this effort will possess professional qualifications appropriate to the scope and complexity of their duties under this cooperative agreement. At a minimum, NFE project leaders should possess some climatological education credentials or experience. Acceptable educational fields include climatology, biology, ecology, geology, geography, and other physical sciences.

#### **5.0 GOVERNMENT FURNISHED MATERIALS OR PROPERTY**

5.1 HQMC and/or USMC Installation personnel will provide installation access to NFE personnel (presuming they meet security review requirements) and facilitate access to appropriate locations on the installations, if necessary. The government will provide applicable common installation picture layers and other pertinent existing data, and relevant GIS data models, data layer specifications, and template geodatabase.

5.2 Government furnished materials or property is governed by 2 C.F.R. Part 200.312 which states that a) Title to federally-owned property remains vested in the Federal government. The non-Federal entity must submit annually an inventory listing of federally-owned property in its custody to the Federal awarding agency. Upon completion of the Federal award or when the property is no longer needed, the non-Federal entity must return the property to the Federal awarding agency for further Federal agency utilization.

#### **6.0 FOLLOW-ON PERIODS**

6.1 Six follow-on periods extending for one year each are anticipated pending project conditions, needs and availability of funds.

#### **7.0 PERIOD OF PERFORMANCE**

7.1 The period of performance includes 12 months for the base period (one year from date of award) plus 6 follow-on periods with the first follow-on period beginning at the end of the base period, and so on.

#### **8.0 COORDINATION**

USACE Fort Worth District POC  
Kathy Mitchell  
(817) 886-1709  
[Kathy.S.Mitchell@usace.army.mil](mailto:Kathy.S.Mitchell@usace.army.mil)

Headquarters Marine Corps POC  
Jacqueline Rice  
(517) 256-2796  
[jacqueline.rice@usmc.mil](mailto:jacqueline.rice@usmc.mil)

#### **9.0 DELIVERABLES**

9.1 All submittals will be thorough, professional in appearance, carefully edited, and without advertisement. Include color maps, graphs, charts, and figures where appropriate to convey complex data. Each installation will receive an individual climate change analysis report in accordance with Section 3.0, and Sections 9.3, 9.4, and 9.5. The report will include text and any appropriate graphics suitable for insertion in installation INRMPs.

9.2 Project Work Plan: NFE will produce a work plan to address project objectives, actions and associated milestones in accordance with Installation and/or Region prioritization. NFE will submit a draft plan to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), HQ USMCHQ USMC and appropriate Installation POCs (TBD by HQ MC) via email within 20 days of award.

9.3 Meeting Minutes: NFE will produce meeting minutes of all items discussed at meetings and teleconferences, including a list of meeting participants, and submit to designated POC (TBD by HQ MC) and regional POCs via email within 10 days of each meeting/conference call.

9.4 Draft Report: Draft reports will include a description of the methodology, techniques, and the rationale for the use of those methods; model used and results for each installation, including GIS generated graphics. Maps will also include roads and other prominent features. Provide electronic files titled descriptively with a date. Text files (reports) will have each line of the document numbered to facilitate ease of review and comment. Text files will be submitted as Microsoft Word files. Electronic files shall be transferred no later than 6 months prior to the period of performance end date- recipients to include the, HQ USMCHQ USMC, and appropriate Installation POCs.

9.5 Draft Final Report: Upon receipt of comments on the Draft Report from the government (30 day review period), complete a Draft Final Report. The purpose of this document is to allow the government to verify adequate incorporation of government comments on the Draft Report prior to proceeding to the Final Report. Provide electronic files titled descriptively with a date. Text files (reports) will have each line of the document numbered to facilitate ease of review and comment. Text files will be submitted as Microsoft Word files. Electronic files shall be transferred no later than 4 months prior to the period of performance end date- recipients to include the USACE, HQ USMC HQ, and appropriate Installation POCs .

9.6 Final Report: Upon receipt of comments on the Draft Final Report from the government, complete one hard bound Final Report for each installation. Hard bound (three ring bound) Final Report will be named with the title and date clearly indicated on the spine of the document, printed 1.5-spaced, on double-sided sheets. Place the NFE's name and agreement number on the title page, but not on the cover, spine, or associated with any figures. Electronic files only will be sent to the USACE and appropriate USAF Region. Electronic files shall be transferred within 30 days of receipt of government comments on the Draft Final Report, but no later than 2 months prior to the period of performance end date - recipients to include the USACE, HQ USMC HQ, and appropriate and Installation POCs . The Final Report will be provided via DoD Safe or other USMC approved file transfer system and will be in both Microsoft Word and Adobe portable document format (PDF).

9.7 Consolidated Summary/Master Report: All final reports will be combined into one hardcopy volume for HQ USMC HQ. Electronic files of the consolidated report will be provided- recipients to include USACE, HQ USMC HQ, and appropriate Installation POCs.

## 9.8 GIS Data

9.8.1 All surveys will be captured, saved and delivered in GIS format, compatible with the existing geographic information system currently used by HQ USMC and the installation and in accordance with the most current version of the USMC Data Model.

9.8.2 Final deliverable GIS datasets will be provided in the following coordinate system:

- § Coordinate System/Projection: UTM
- § Datum: WGS-84
- § Zone: Zone will vary depending on installation location.
- § Units: Meters

All feature classes (geodatabase) developed in the course of this CA will be provided as a final deliverable and are exclusively the property of the US Marine Corps. These files may not be distributed, shared, copied, sold, or otherwise used without express written permission of HQ USMC HQ. All data/sets will be differentially corrected to an accuracy of 5 meters horizontal accuracy, or better. Data shall include complete attributes in accordance with data layer specifications in accordance with the current Marine Corps Data model and associated documents (user guides). These data will be provided in digital format via DoD Safe or other Marine Corps approved file sharing system.

## 10.0 Post Award & Invoice Processes

10.1. Payment Requests and Progress Reports (Invoice Package) - Submit Payment Request and additional required documents to: [swf-cesu-invoice@usace.army.mil](mailto:swf-cesu-invoice@usace.army.mil). Carbon Copy the assigned USACE Project Manager as well as your organization's point of contacts (POCs) for the additional required documents and for delinquent accounts.

10.1.1. Frequency: Quarterly plus 30-day grace period (except for the final invoice package noted below). If the coverage dates are not quarterly or preapproved by the PM (or the first/last submittal), the invoice package will be **rejected**.

Quarters	Invoice pkgs due No Later Than (NLT):
Q1: Oct-Dec	Q1: 31 Jan
Q2: Jan-Mar	Q2: 30 Apr
Q3: Apr-Jun	Q3: 30 Jul
Q4: Jul-Sep	Q4: 31 Oct

10.1.2. Payment Requests **must** be submitted on form SF270 Request for Advance or Reimbursement **with the accompanying Standard Form-Performance Progress Report (SF-PPR), otherwise the SF270 will be rejected.**



### 10.1.3. SF270 Request for Advance or Reimbursement

10.1.3.1 Block 9, Recipient Organization. **For successful set up of Electronic Transfer of Funds (EFT), the Recipient's name and address shall reflect the exact name and physical address that appears in the System for Award Management (SAM), <https://sam.gov/>.**

10.1.3.2. Blocks 11, (a), (b), & (c) are for the description of funds. Preferred description is: CLIN/POP Type, POP start and end dates, amount awarded (see example below); at minimum include the CLIN. If the description or the minimum CLIN information is missing, the **SF270 and SF-PPR will be rejected.**

Example:

**CLIN 0001 / Base  
22SEP23 – 21SEP24  
\$100,000.00**

Funding must be separated as specified on the Award document. Sub-CLINs that specify “*for funding only*” (e.g., numbered 000101, 000102, etc.) may be rolled into the primary CLIN (e.g., 0001) unless otherwise instructed. All others required PM approval.

The SF270 may have multiple pages. An SF270 in Excel format may be requested at: [swf-cesu-invoice@usace.army.mil](mailto:swf-cesu-invoice@usace.army.mil), however, **must be submitted in pdf format otherwise will be rejected.**

10.1.4. SF-PPR Standard Form-Performance Progress Report : The Recipient shall tailor the SF-PPR to include, at minimum, the following information:

- Separate details by CLIN as applicable
- Achievements (must detail work during quarter associated with the invoice)
- Percent Completion
- Project Status
- Problems encountered and impact of activities and personnel on schedule.
- Anticipated work in next reporting period.

**If the SF-PPR is incomplete, the SF-PPR and SF270 will be rejected.**

A tailored SF-PPR form may be requested at: [swf-cesu-invoice@usace.army.mil](mailto:swf-cesu-invoice@usace.army.mil).

10.2. The **Final** invoice package is due no later than 90 days from final (funded/exercised) POP end date and must include the following documents: If any of the required information below is missing, the final invoice package will be **rejected**.

Final SF270  
SF-PPR  
Final SF425  
DD882  
SF428 plus attachment B (C&S if applicable)  
SF298  
Final Report

Forms may be requested from the district office at [swf-cesu-invoice@usace.army.mil](mailto:swf-cesu-invoice@usace.army.mil) or found at: <https://www.grants.gov/forms>.

**11.0** 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.