

RSOI W9126G-25-2-SOI-6573 Questions and Answers

Question#1 - Task 2: Landscape vegetation sampling says using an existing GRTS sampling framework. As we know GRTS will generate base sites to be sampled and the total number of plots to be visited play an important role about the feasibility of this project within a year covering all three WCAs and ENP. Should we design the sampling using GRTS or do we have to use the original sampling plots/existing GRTS? If we are using the existing GRTS outputs, how many plots are in the project. The number of plots and when/how often and where to visit decide the feasibility of this project.

Answer #1 - The customer organization prefers to use the existing GRTS design, although encourages the candidate to propose several sites and plots, that when sampled, yield a statistically robust and defensible measures of vegetation communities and relevant environmental factors. The existing GRTS sampling framework includes sampling 58 2x5km Primary Sampling Units (PSUs) once per 5-year cycle. PSUs are divided into 40 500x500m subunits, and then at least 45 sites must be sampled with 3 quadrats per site, yielding 135 quadrat samples per PSU per cycle. One Optional Task the customer organization is interested in executing this Base Year for this Cooperative Agreement is the Task 8 Statistical Review of the Long-Term Monitoring. This review would examine the study and sampling design, the observed variation in the metrics of interest, and determine what the existing method is providing in terms of a measure with a credible interval (CI). We would then compare measure and CI with our needs to determine if we should increase or decrease the number of sites/plots visited per year.

Solution: The SOO has been revised in the RSOI and posted to Grants.gov. Please see the attached corrected document.