

The Government received the following questions regarding the opportunity for N62473-25-2-0007, CULTURAL AND NATURAL RESOURCES SUPPORT AT THE MARINE CORPS AIR GROUND COMBAT CENTER, TWENTYNINE PALMS, CALIFORNIA, and is providing the responses below:

1. Incumbent Personnel

Q1: Are there incumbent staff currently performing this work? If so, does the installation hope to retain that staff?

A1: There are no incumbent staff or retention staff performing this work.

2. Pest Management

Q2: Are we expected to provide supplies for pest management?

A2: No, supplies are available through the base.

Q3: Does the existing pest management program provide support?

A3: It provides support but monitoring status of pests (mostly arthropods) and pest traps is a more frequent responsibility of the Cooperator

Q4: Is infestation response considered outside the scope of this agreement?

A4: No, but rarely is there a substantive infestation. There are times when pest traps may need to be positioned, inspected, and discarded by the CR support staff (i.e., Cooperator). However, there are occasions when 'infestations' require an elevated intervention by contacting Public Works staff (e.g., application of insecticide).

3. Garden Maintenance

Q5: Could you please clarify what garden maintenance entails and specify the supplies we are expected to provide?

A5: The installation has tools and supplies, or can readily obtain them (e.g., an irrigation hose or nozzle or tools, e.g., shovels), so the Cooperator should not provide these, and is not required to provide these. Maintenance is meant to be applying irrigation, checking plant status (e.g., dead, wilting for lack of water, overgrowing garden plots, threatened by weeds) and fence or landscaping status (e.g., has flooding erode garden structure, and occasional minor replacement of signs (paid by MCAGCC). The Cooperator may help coordinate

and oversee work crews, typically volunteer Marine or civilian, for substantive garden cleaning or revegetation.

4. Interpretive Materials

Q6: The scope includes designing interpretive and outreach materials. Would we also responsible for printing, manufacturing, installing, or constructing these materials?

A6: The emphasis is designing such materials. The cooperator may be required to be on site to help guide or oversee the installation of such materials (e.g., location and orientation), or distribution of such materials at events (e.g., Earth Day).

5. Wildlife Transport

Q7: Will the government vehicle be available as needed to transport wildlife to offsite rehabilitation centers or veterinarians?

A7: Please submit costs for vehicle support. Government vehicles may be made available if possible, but it's uncertain.

6. Budget Justification

Q8: Why is the budget reduced in subsequent years? Given the salary requirements for staffing an Authorized Desert Tortoise Biologist and an Archaeologist or Qualified Museum Professional this may inhibit retaining qualified staff and meeting all agreement requirements?

A8: Following initial startup costs and administrative kickoff (kickoff meeting, workplan development, job descriptions development and other hiring materials, etc.), administration of ongoing positions are expected to be lower overall than Year 1.

7. Tortoise Holding Facility

Q9: Is there an existing facility available for holding tortoises removed during clearance surveys?

A9: Yes, and there are additional contract mechanisms providing husbandry, release, headstarting, and other care. The facility is on base and operated under all necessary permits.

