CESU 18-10 Questions
Fort Carson Bat Surveys

1. Is this year one of a multi-year project? The Period of Performance is for 12 months only. If not, is it a bridging, "middle" year?

No, this support has not been previously provided to the installation. The PWS/SOW was written for multi-years, but this contract will be for 12 months only. At this time we cannot commit to years beyond the 12 month PoP of this contract, but there is the potential for this project to continue for two more years.

a. Will there be opportunities for renewal next year?

Unknown, the funding received from the installation is for 12-months of support only, as stated in answer to question 1. It is not known if funds will be available next fiscal year for continued support. If funds will be available next year, it is anticipated this would be another individual task order/project, but that information is not available at this time.

2. The mist netting portion suggests 1-2 weeks of survey effort several times per year. Do you have a more specific frequency of required mist netting surveys?

We want sampling done from different habitat types. At this time we are considering 6-8 different habitats. There shall be at least one week sampling at each habitat type, with more time added, as needed. Frequency has not been firmly decided yet, but the objective is to ascertain species present and abundance on Fort Carson in identified habitat types across time period of highest bat activity (spring to fall). Use of mist netting will further define species, in conjunction with acoustic identification on Fort Carson. Frequency of netting will depend on what is needed, during the first year or two, to meet the objectives.

3. Will PIT tags be supplied? Yes.

4. For the acoustical data recording, will it be necessary for the NFE to utilize the already-existing acoustical recording equipment at Ft. Carson?

Well, we have used Colorado Parks and Wildlife's (CPW) prototype for acoustical recording equipment and set-up, so we would generally want to follow their methodology for consistency and to easily compare or combine data. But we will consider other acoustical recording equipment for compatibility with CPW equipment.

a. (NFE) has well over 200 SMBAT4-FS monitors that we are highly confident in and they have produced excellent results on past projects.

i. Is Ft. Carson against (NFE) using our own acoustic equipment in efforts to maintain data integrity across projects?

This will depend on what CPW currently uses for the bat acoustical data recording. When we purchased the equipment (5 + years ago) it was what CPW was using, we will have to see what they are currently using and if still SM2BAT+, we will have to evaluate if your equipment will maintain data integrity with them. A third option is to utilize both equipment types.

5. Approximately how many nights of acoustical data is Ft. Carson looking to collect?

We want data collected throughout the time of year bats are most active (spring to fall).

a. How many transect sites is Ft. Carson looking to collect data at?

We are not really doing transects, but rather stratified sampling across the installations (Fort Carson and Pinon Canyon), utilizing high bat use areas within habitat types.

6. Will leaving a sufficient number of monitors to cover desired habitat areas for the duration of the sampling season be sufficient to complete acoustic surveys?

We are wanting to also supplement static acoustic monitoring and mist netting with variable monitoring/recording from vehicles, as possible.

a. (NFE) can leave our monitor stations for a period of time up to 3 months, while continuously collecting data.

7. Will (NFE) existing monthly reporting format be sufficient, or will weekly reports truly be required?

Not sure what (NFE) existing monthly reporting format consists of, but we can determine this at the beginning meetings. If this report meets our needs it may be allowed.