

FUNDING OPPORTUNITY ANNOUNCEMENT (FOA)

Funding Agency: US Army Corps of Engineers Alaska District PO Box 6898 JBER AK 99506	Funding Instrument: Cooperative Agreement Funding Opportunity W911KB-23-2-0011 No. CFDA No: 12.005 Program Authority 16 U.S.C. 670 (Sikes Act)
Issue Date: 10 July 2023	Application Due Date: 10 August 2023
Overview: Management, Species, Nuisance Wildlife, RAM #: FXSBA53236122, ACES #: FXSBOS691423, Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson (JBER), Alaska - The tasks outlined in the Statement of Work support the JBER Conservation Wildlife Program, through a cooperative agreement (CA) between the Recipient, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), and JBER. The goal of this work is to continue supporting the projects under the Nuisance Wildlife Section of the Wildlife Program on JBER. See full Funding Opportunity Description in Section I.	
Estimated Total Funding: \$74,367.00	Estimated Number of Awards: 1
Contents of Full Text Announcement	
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Contact Information: Questions relating to Grants.gov including the registration process and system requirements should be directed to the Grants.gov Contact Center at 1-800-518-4726. For assistance with the requirements of this Funding Opportunity Announcement, please contact the Grants Specialist, casandra.a.hutchins@usace.army.mil.	
Instructions to Applicants: The complete Funding Opportunity Announcement, application forms, and instructions are available for download at Grants.gov. Applications in response to this Funding Opportunity Announcement shall be submitted by the application due date. Applications may be submitted electronically via email or through Grants.gov. Applicants shall have a Unique Entity Identification (UEI) number, registration with the System of Award Management (SAM), and registration with Grants.gov, if submitting application through Grants.gov. See Section IV of the Funding Opportunity Announcement for complete application submission information.	

Section I: Funding Opportunity Description

**STATEMENT OF WORK
Cooperative Agreement
Management, Species, Nuisance Wildlife
RAM #: FXSBA53236122
ACES #: FXSBOS691423
Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson (JBER), Alaska**

Project Cost Ceiling \$74,367

1. GENERAL

The purpose of this Statement of Work (SOW) is to provide details of work to be performed on a collaborative research project between the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) and Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson (JBER) Environmental Conservation program involving the wildlife program. The work outlined in the tasks of this SOW support collaborative studies between ADF&G and JBER Natural Resources program involving a multi-year project.

The tasks performed support the JBER Conservation Wildlife Program, through a cooperative agreement (CA) between the Recipient, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), and JBER. The goal of this work is to continue supporting the projects under the Nuisance Wildlife Section of the Wildlife Program on JBER.

Projects for execution under this cooperative agreement, awarded and administered by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Alaska District, do not include any functions to be performed that are inherently governmental. This determination is made with the assessment that places emphasis on the degree to which conditions and facts restrict the discretionary authority, decision-making responsibility, or accountability of government officials using recipient services or work products.

This cooperative agreement shall not be used for performance of personal services. These tasks, provided by the customer for execution under this cooperative agreement by USACE, do not include functions to be performed that are personal services.

Any modifications to cooperative agreement activities, as outlined by this SOW, must be coordinated through the Grants Officers Representative (GOR) and approved by the Grants Officer (GO) prior to recipient implementation.

1.1 Legal Drivers

Legal Drivers: Sikes Act (PL 105-85, as amended through 2004 including PL 108-136; Title 16 USC 670 *et seq.*); DoD Instruction 4715.03, *Natural Resources Conservation Program* (February 14, 2011); AFMAN 32-7003, *Environmental Conservation* (20 April 2020); ABWI 32-7001; and MOU w/Municipality of Anchorage, Alaska: A Comprehensive Wildlife Management Plan, Living with Wildlife in Anchorage.

1.2 Background

Wildlife is protected under a number of statutes, such as the ESA, MBTA, State of Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) laws, Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act, etc. JBER is located within the Municipality of Anchorage in Southcentral Alaska, with abundant wildlife. Most species indigenous to southcentral Alaska can be found on JBER, including

moose, wolves, and both black and brown bears. Extensive natural areas in and around JBER provide habitat for these and other species. Conflicts routinely arise with animals that occasionally pose a health or safety hazard to Base residents, training military, and recreationists. Integrated Natural Resource Management Plan (INRMP) Goal 1 is to minimize conflicts between the military mission, wildlife, natural resources, and land use. Currently, the JBER Conservation Law Enforcement Officers (CLEOs) respond to most wildlife nuisance calls and conflict situations on JBER, particularly involving potentially dangerous animals such as moose and bears. The CLEOs have responded to an average (five-year average, 2020-2016) of 474 wildlife calls.

In 1996, the State of Alaska recognized the unique nature of human-wildlife conflicts within the greater Anchorage area (including JBER lands) and began a planning program designed to mitigate human-wildlife interactions. The program publishes a guide entitled “Living with Wildlife” and JBER staff are participants in the planning group responsible for the document and its revision(s). In 2000, JBER became a signatory to the 2000 MOU Regarding a Comprehensive Wildlife Management Plan, Living with Wildlife in Anchorage: A Cooperative Planning Effort for Anchorage, Alaska (FWS70181-9-K235). Other key signatories included ADF&G, the Municipality of Anchorage, USFWS, and other land and natural resource management agencies. Two (2) of the stated goals of this program are to “Minimize opportunities for conflicts between wildlife and people” and “Foster a sense of stewardship for wildlife and their habitats among the public, non-governmental organizations, and local governmental agencies.”

1.3 JBER INRMP Goals and Objectives:

- Goal 1: Minimize conflicts between military mission, wildlife, natural resources, and land use.
 - JBER INRMP Objective 1.3: Identify areas at high risk of wildlife conflict based on wildlife response calls and use this information to effectively implement monitoring and mitigation of wildlife conflict.
 - JBER INRMP Objective 1.5: Provide environmental education and outreach. Work to establish better working relationships with neighboring communities and federally recognized tribes.
- Goal 2: Manage JBER natural resources under the guidelines and principles of adaptive ecosystem management, which aim to maintain functional ecosystems and natural diversity including sustainable populations, native species, and ecological communities.
 - JBER INRMP Objective 2.7: Establish/sustain functional partnerships with land management agencies, non-governmental organizations, universities, and the public to fulfill JBER natural resource objectives.
- Goal 3: Manage human use of resources for long-term sustainability, by offering products and services at levels compatible with the military mission and ecosystem diversity, health, and productivity and placing equal emphasis on consumptive and non- consumptive use and conservation and preservation of natural resources on JBER consistent with Sikes Act requirements.
 - JBER INRMP Objective 3.4: Provide consistent and effective enforcement of all federal, state, and local natural resource laws and regulations.

2. SCOPE

The purpose of the JBER Nuisance Wildlife project is to support the military mission by minimizing human-bear conflicts on JBER lands, particularly near military operations and the

cantonment areas. The project will identify high risk areas (hot spots) from nuisance bear calls and begin a monitoring program focused on problem bear issues on JBER.

This project is the continuation of a multi-year study, with the goal of supporting the military mission by minimization of wildlife conflicts with human health and safety, military operations, quality of life on JBER. Data from this project will be used in support of the management decisions of the nuisance wildlife to help minimize human/wildlife conflicts on JBER.

This SOW intends to address the following objectives:

- Keep current the wildlife response forms in the wildlife incident database and the GeoBase Wildlife Incident Geo database.
- Evaluate the current data collection process on the wildlife response forms, provide recommendations of data collection improvements, and work with the CLEOs and GeoBase to develop a more useable Wildlife Incident Geo Database.
- In collaboration with the lead federal biologist and Conservation Law Enforcement Officer, develop best management practices (BMPs) to reduce wildlife conflict annually and publicize and/or promote these BMPs to the leadership and base employee/residents annually.
- Continue the black bear DNA study in conjunction with the JBER Federal biologist and CLEOs.

3. MAJOR REQUIREMENTS AND TASKS

This project is a continuation of a multi-year study and the tasks outlined occur on a reoccurring annual basis. The tasks, expected requirements, deliverables and associated support documents for these tasks are discussed below. The tasks and deliverables, within this SOW, shall be completed during the period of performance.

Task 1: Support / Assistance of Nuisance Wildlife Calls

Support and assist in wildlife nuisance calls by fielding calls, assisting with hazing, monitoring, or trapping of wildlife and documenting the incidences. This task also includes, but is not limited to, working with the CLEOs on camera trapping on JBER and updating iSportsman with natural resource updates and closure announcements.

Task 2: Nuisance Wildlife Calls Database Management

This task includes data collection from the Wildlife response forms documented by the CLEOs and Military Conservation Agents (MCAs), locations, data entry, and analysis and report generation. Data from the forms will be entered into the GeoBase system to provide up to date information for the CLEOs in support of management decisions.

The Recipient shall continue to keep the GIS shapefile and Geo database up to date on a daily to weekly basis, as the CLEOs complete wildlife response forms. The Recipient shall work with the CLEOs to identify and analyze wildlife responses specific to different areas on JBER (e.g., housing areas, airfields, recreational areas, campgrounds, etc.).

The Recipient shall work closely with the CLEOs and Geobase to identify any modifications to the wildlife response forms or GIS program for better clarification and usability of the information collected. For example, one (1) modification to the program would be to filter by area (i.e., housing vs facility areas). These modifications will be identified as the program is

further developed and used. The Recipient shall also document any additional information that could be drawn from the data (i.e., hunter locations, nuisance calls within housing areas, hazed animals vs monitored vs unable to locate, etc.).

Task 3: Bear DNA Study

This task includes continuation of the black bear DNA study that began in 2019. The Recipient shall work closely with the JBER Wildlife Biologist, CLEOs, and ADF&G staff to ensure tasks and field activities are conducted appropriately as well as the plans and field activities are concurrent with state protocols for sampling.

Annual data collection would include responding to nuisance bear calls, hair or scat sample collection per protocols developed in the study design. Sampling would be documented in a field data sampling log which will include at a minimum, date, time and digital location of the sampling event, type of sample, any photographs of the bear sampled, behavior activity, and date and time delivered to the lab for analysis.

The work supports a collaborative study between ADF&G and JBER Conservation Wildlife Program involving a multi-year project. The DNA sample analysis will be conducted accordingly with ADF&G's established protocols with United States Geological Survey (USGS), with USGS responsible for sample DNA genotype data. The sample analysis portion of this task has been removed, as this work is to be completed under a different cooperative agreement (Mgt, Species, Nuisance Wildlife – Bear DNA Analysis).

Task 4: Data Analysis and Reporting

Upon completion of the field work and tasks outlined in the work plan, the Recipient shall take information collected over the course of the project and develop a draft post field season summary. The post field season summary shall discuss all the work completed for the tasks presented in this document and detailed in the work plan. The summary report shall contain at a minimum: methodology (and any deviations), results, data analysis and discussion, photos, and maps; a narrative regarding the quality assurance and quality control of the data and results (data accuracy); overall field season success and discussion of any issues and recommendations towards improving the projects or study. The report shall include maps of the areas surveyed, locations of species identified during surveys, initial locations of collared wolves, and, if available, initial movement data.

The draft report shall be submitted to the Government within 90 days of the end of the field season survey effort. The Government shall be afforded a 14-calendar day review period. The Recipient shall utilize the government comments to make final edits and changes to the draft project summary report. One (1) set of all field notes and/or field data forms, photos, GPS and GIS data, and excel database of all survey data shall be submitted digitally alongside the report to the JBER Technical POC. Spatial data requirements are detailed in section 4.0 of the SOW.

4. TASK MANAGEMENT, PLANNING, AND REPORTING

The Recipient shall plan project activities, including the development, implementation, and maintenance of project schedules, events, status of resources, report(s) on the activities, and progress towards accomplishing project objectives. Document for government review and approval the results of the project effort for this SOW.

Kick-off meeting

A kick-off meeting will be held within the first (1st) quarter of agreement award and shall discuss priorities and components of the SOW and details of the deliverables and schedules. A summary of key tasks, deliverables, and schedules shall be documented in the kick-off meeting minutes and presented to the JBER Technical POC and USACE contracting official for concurrence. Attendees at the kick-off meeting shall include at a minimum: the JBER Technical POC and other coordinating agency representatives (e.g., ADF&G), and other interested parties which may include other JBER environmental staff.

Deliverables

Details and requirements of the deliverables will be further discussed and defined during the kick-off meeting. The deliverables listed are the general outline of the required deliverables as part of this SOW.

- Up to date electronic database of nuisance wildlife calls and conflicts (Tasks 1 and 2)
- GIS map and shapefile(s) of nuisance wildlife calls and conflict areas (Tasks 1 and 2)
- Wildlife Conflict Summary Report (Tasks 1 and 2)
 - The summary report will include discussion of the nuisance wildlife calls activities, modifications, and any analysis completed during the SOW (Tasks 1 and 2)
- Draft and Final Project Summary Report (Tasks 3 and 4)
 - Upon completion of the black bear DNA Study, the Recipient shall take the data, information, and photos collected over the course of the field trial and compile a project summary report. The report shall include at a minimum: discussion of field work and sample collection, number samples taken, number of samples sent to the lab for analysis (if any) or location and status of stored samples and any results or expected timeframe of results, if lab analysis is completed the results will be discussed describing individual bear or any family relationships identified. Any modifications needed to protocols or activities, including manpower constraints, level of effort needed to conduct the study, and any other important details that need to be detailed to support and shape future planning to conduct the black bear DNA study.

Estimated Schedule

Task	Deliverable	Period of Performance
1 & 2	Wildlife electronic database	30 days prior to end of period of performance
1 & 2	Wildlife Geo database & shapefiles	30 days prior to end of period of performance
1 & 2	Wildlife Conflict Summary Report	Draft Report due – 60 days prior to end of period of performance Final Report due – within 15 days of receiving comments from the Government
3	Work Plan/Schedule	Draft due – 60 days prior to field work to allow JBER and ADF&G to review Final due –30 days prior to field work
4	Project Summary Report	Draft Report due – 90 days from end of field season/sampling Final Report due – within 15 days of receiving comments from the Government
	Installation Program Review (IPR)	Present in the Installation Program Review on JBER in Spring (March or April) annually

Data Collection and Spatial Data Requirements

Data will be transferred from the field notebook or data forms to an electronic database, GPS information downloaded and converted into ArcGIS shapefile format, and photos will be downloaded and saved to Site location folders. Data will be reviewed for completeness and accuracy. Data shall be presented in data form format provided by the JBER Technical POC. During the field season, data shall be managed so that it is available upon request for management decisions.

GPS waypoints will be submitted electronically using any Environmental Systems Research Institute's (ESRI) compatible GIS format or Garmin GPS exchange format (.gpx). Any government issued GPS /sensitive equipment shall be turned in to the JBER Natural Resources Program Manager immediately after field work is completed.

All GIS data must be accepted and approved to be compatible by the 673 CES GeoBase GIS office to ensure compliance with AF GIS format. Data for this project shall be collected in compliance with Spatial Data Standards for Facilities, Infrastructure, and Environment (SDSFIE). The latest version shall be used for data collection. Maps generated from GIS data shall be reduced and included in reports. Data collection shall be accurate enough to ensure reasonable accuracy on large scale maps. The collected data shall be made available in layers, as agreed by the Recipient and the JBER Natural Resources Program Manager. All original and AF formatted GIS information and data shall be delivered in the required format to the JBER Natural Resources Program Manager.

All geospatial data must be delivered in the following format:

The horizontal coordinate system shall be Universal Transverse Mercator (UTM) coordinate system, Transverse Mercator projection, Geodetic Reference System 1980 (GRS80) spheroid, World Geodetic System 1984 (WGS84) datum, (WGS84 UTM Zone 6 North) and use metric coordinate units.

The vertical datum will be the North American Vertical Datum 1988 (NAVD 88). Further guidance on mapping units, coordinate systems and projections are available from the Installation GIO (673 CES GeoBase section).

5. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

The following requirements are common to all tasks listed above in Section 3.0.

Preparation

Provide professional report preparation, editing, and printing which present study findings for future JBER planning purposes.

Equipment, Supplies, and Materials

Provide supplies and materials as necessary for this study and prepare reports. Provide computers with GIS mapping capabilities and hard drives, to collect, analyze, and report on data collected. For safety reasons, cellular phones are required for recipient personnel to operate in the field on JBER-managed lands. Recipient personnel are required to have a cellular phone and bear spray on their person when operating in the field on JBER-managed lands.

All other equipment and/or training necessary to complete the work described in the SOW shall be provided by the Recipient:

- If a military radio is not available, a cell phone will be necessary to contact Range Control.
- Any training and safety equipment required by Recipient agency.
- All tools, equipment, and project materials purchased with project dollars, shall become government property at the end of the project.
- One (1) four-wheel drive truck for the duration of the field portion of this project.
- All other equipment or training necessary to complete the work described in the SOW shall be provided by the Recipient.

Transportation

If needed, provide 4X4 vehicle, ATV, snow machine, and air (rotary or fixed wing) support, as necessary, to complete surveys and monitoring studies.

Travel

Travel on JBER is required to accomplish some of the tasks identified in this SOW. In addition, travel is required to meet with various consulting agencies and stakeholders. Recipient personnel may be required to travel on government-provided fixed or rotary wing aircraft during the execution of their studies on JBER-managed land.

Recipient Employee Government Access Requirements

All Recipients shall comply with applicable installation, facility, and area commander installation/facility access and local security policies and procedures. The Recipient shall also provide all information required for background checks to meet installation access requirements to be accomplished by installation Provost Marshall Office, Director of Emergency services, and/or Security Office.

The Recipient shall ensure that its employees entering JBER installations or facilities have obtained access badges and passes in accordance with facility regulations and that these badges and passes are obtained in advance so as not to delay the accomplishment of services.

The Recipient shall return all issued U.S. Government Common Access Cards (CAC), installation badges, and/or access passes to the Government Representative when the agreement is completed or when a Recipient employee no longer requires access to the installation or facility.

Regularity/Professional Interface

The Recipient shall assist with oral/written interaction with interested parties related to the project. Requirements include, but are not limited to, presentation materials, agendas, minutes, publications, news releases, and public notices. The Recipient shall assist in project technical review, analysis, and discussions to integrate comments from interested parties on programs and related data and studies. The Recipient or Principal Investigator shall develop options for responses and prepare report(s) to communicate government priorities to regulatory agencies and other interested parties. All public or professional presentations must be reviewed and approved for release by the JBER Technical

representation and Public Affairs office.

Sharing of Information

The Recipient shall be free to publish, permit to be published, or distribute for public consumption, any information, oral or written, concerning the results from fundamental research, provided that it shall provide copies of any such publication or release of information to the Government for review and comment at least sixty (60) days prior to any such release. If no response is received within thirty (30) days of the date submitted, it will be conclusively presumed that that publication and/or dissemination may proceed without delay. If the Government determines that proposed publication and/or dissemination contains confidential and/or classified information, it shall be removed. Fundamental research, as used in this clause, means basic and applied research in science and engineering, the results of which ordinarily are published and shared broadly within the scientific community, as distinguished from proprietary research and from industrial development, design, production, and product utilization, the results of which ordinarily are restricted for proprietary national security reasons.

6. GOVERNMENT FURNISHED INFORMATION AND EQUIPMENT

JBER shall provide access to the installation, training on how to access training areas, how to identify and report ordnance(s), and how to avoid negative interactions with wildlife. Additional government furnished material includes:

- Installation access for Recipients (all personnel must be eligible for base access)
- Orientation to installation and coordination of range training
- Bear safety and food-conditioned bear procedure training
- Nuisance wildlife responding procedure training
- Bear DNA sampling collection procedures
- Historical and current aerial imagery, if needed
- Current installation and natural resources GIS data
- Technical guidance and fieldwork support (fieldwork support only if JBER personnel are available)
- Lab analysis support for DNA samples
- Camera support
- Historical and current aerial imagery and GIS data, if needed
- Military radio for field communication with Range Control, if available

7. MEETINGS, REVIEWS, AND COORDINATION

Point of Contact(s) (POCs)

JBER technical POC and Recipient shall hold regular meetings to discuss needs, priorities, and updates as deemed necessary by parties to this agreement. The timing and frequency of the meetings will be determined by the project needs and JBER POC staff.

The following actions must be coordinated with the JBER Technical POCs:

- Access to the installation
- Any/All photography and video
- All fieldwork shall be scheduled with and approved by the JBER Technical POC in writing, and coordinated with Range Control and others as appropriate

The Recipient shall interact with the JBER POC(s) listed below. The POC for USACE Project Management is Katie Russell. Correspondence should be addressed as follows:

JBER Technical POC / Natural Resource Manager:	Colette Brandt Biologist 673 CES/CEIEC 724 Quartermaster Rd Door 5, 2 nd Floor JBER, Alaska 99505 Phone: (907) 384-3380 Email: colette.brandt@us.af.mil	USACE POC:	Katie Russell, P.E. Civil Engineer Environmental and Special Programs U.S. Army Corps of Engineers - Alaska District Phone: (907) 753-2535 Email: kathryn.russell@usace.army.mil
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Cooperative agreement questions should be directed to the Grants Officer, Michelle Mandel. Correspondence should be addressed as follows:

		Grants Officer:	Michelle Mandel Contracting Division U.S. Army Corps of Engineers - Alaska District Phone: (907) 753-2502 Email: michelle.r.mandel@usace.army.mil
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8. PERIOD OF PERFORMANCE

The work described in this SOW corresponds to a multi-year study. The intent is to award an 18-month base period and three (3) 12-month option periods subject to availability of funding. This does not obligate the Government to extend this agreement beyond the initial 18-month period of performance.

Section II: Award Information

The work described in this Funding Opportunity Announcement corresponds to a multi-year study. The intent is to award an 18-month base period and three (3) 12-month option periods subject to availability of funding. This does not obligate the Government to extend this agreement beyond the initial 18-month period of performance. The total Project Cost Ceiling for the Base Period is \$74,367.00.

Announcement Issue Date: 10 July 2023

Application Due Date: 10 August 2023

Estimated Award Date: On or About 25 August 2023

Section III: Eligibility Information

1. Eligible Applicants – Open to all that meet the criteria of this announcement.
2. Cost Sharing – This action will be 100% funded by USACE.
3. Other Information – None noted.

Section IV: Application and Submission Information

1. Address to Request Application Package:

The complete Funding Opportunity Announcement, application forms, and instructions are available for download at Grants.gov. USACE is not responsible for any loss of internet connectivity or for an applicant's inability to access documents posted at the referenced website.

The administrative point of contact is the Grants Specialist, Casandra Hutchins, casandra.a.hutchins@usace.army.mil.

2. Content and Form of Application Submission

All mandatory forms and any applicable optional forms must be completed in accordance with the instructions on the forms and the additional instructions below.

- a. SF 424 - Application for Federal Assistance
- b. SF 424 A – Budget Information for Non-construction Programs
- c. SF 424 B – Assurances – Non-Construction Programs
- d. Program Narrative – Brief program description illustrating applicant's ability to meet the goals and objectives described in Section VI Scope of Work of this announcement.

3. Application shall be submitted **NO LATER THAN 10 August 2023; 2:00 PM (Alaska Time)** via email or through Grants.gov.

4. Submission Instructions

Applications may be submitted by email or via the internet through Grants.gov. Choose ONE (1) of the following submission methods:

Via Email: Format all documents to print on Letter (8 ½ x 11") paper. E-mail proposal to the Grants Specialist, Casandra Hutchins, at casandra.a.hutchins@usace.army.mil.

Via Grants.gov:

Applicants are not required to submit proposals through Grants.gov. However, if applications are submitted via the internet, applicants are responsible for ensuring that their Grants.gov proposal submission is received in its entirety and within the date and time required. The Government bears no responsibility for data errors resulting from transmission of conversion processes associated with electronic submissions. The Government will bear no responsibility for delays in submissions due to technical difficulties at or with the Grants.gov website. All applicants choosing to use Grants.gov to submit proposals must be registered and have an account with Grants.gov. ***It may take up to three (3) weeks to complete Grants.gov registration.*** For more information on registration, go to <http://www.grants.gov/ForApplicants>.

Section V: Application Review Information

Offer Submission Evaluation Criteria and Basis of Award

Management, Species, Nuisance Wildlife

RAM #: FXSBA53236122

ACES #: FXSBOS691423

Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson (JBER), Alaska

June 2023

The Government will evaluate technical submissions in accordance with the criteria described herein and award a cooperative agreement to the responsible offeror whose submission is determined to represent the best overall value to the Government. The Government will not award a cooperative agreement to an offeror whose submission contains a deficiency.

The evaluation factors for this action are:

- Factor 1, 40%: Experience (most important factor)
- Factor 2, 35%: Technical Approach (2nd most important factor)
- Factor 3, 25%: Cost (3rd most important factor)

The Government will assign an adjective rating of Outstanding, Good, Acceptable, Marginal, or Unacceptable to each technical factor which reflects the Government's confidence in each offeror's ability, as demonstrated in its submission, to perform the requirements stated in the Statement of Work (SOW). The ratings shall be assigned, using the following criteria, which incorporate a submission risk assessment:

Weight	Adjectival Rating	Description
4	Outstanding	Submission indicates an exceptional approach and understanding of the requirements and contains multiple strengths.
3	Good	Submission indicates a thorough approach and understanding of the requirements and contains at least one (1) strength.
2	Acceptable	Submission indicates an adequate approach and understanding of the requirements.
1	Marginal	Submission has not demonstrated an adequate approach and understanding of the requirements or contains an element of risk.
0	Unacceptable	Submission does not meet requirements of the solicitation and, thus, contains one (1) or more deficiencies and is unawardable.

OFFER EVALUATION AND SELECTION CRITERIA

Each Offeror shall be evaluated in accordance with the selection criteria below. The selection criteria are listed in descending order of importance.

Factor 1 Experience

The Offeror shall demonstrate prior project experience relevant to the attached SOW, completed within the last five (5) years of this Funding Opportunity Announcement, and other qualifications and technical competence in all of the following areas:

1. Experience supporting Air Force Natural Resource Wildlife Management programs.
2. Experience assisting with nuisance wildlife calls and monitoring or trapping of wildlife.
3. Experience compiling historic and current wildlife response forms in a wildlife incident database.

The Offeror shall provide examples of up to four (4) past projects of similar size, scope, and complexity that best demonstrate the above qualifications. Submit projects that are at least 25% complete or were completed within the past five (5) years. The example project summaries shall be limited to one (1) page each. The example project summaries shall identify:

- Title/Subject
- Location
- Duration
- Brief description
- Roles and work self-performed
- Date project began and if completed
- Complexities or key accomplishments
- Client contact information

The Government will utilize the example project summaries to evaluate the capability and experience as a basis for comparing offerors to determine best value.

Factor 2 Technical Approach

The Offeror shall provide a brief narrative of their technical approach and a milestone schedule. The narrative shall be no more than one (1) page per main task and must include:

- A discussion of the technical approach to accomplish the Statement of Work requirements, detailing number of hours anticipated to complete the project deliverables.
- A discussion of the quality assurance, quality control, and other technical activities that will be implemented to ensure that quality data is collected to support project data quality objectives.
- A discussion of applicable regulatory requirements and how project requirements will be implemented.
- A discussion of all assumptions.

The Offeror shall also provide an organizational chart with the proposed project team with

defined roles, responsibilities, and lines of communication for all key personnel and sub-recipients.

The evaluation standard has been met when the Offeror demonstrates an understanding of the work that adequately addresses the requirements outlined in the SOW. The inclusion of numerous assumptions that significantly "assume away" Offeror risk, with regard to major issues or problems that may be encountered on the project, will be considered unacceptable.

Factor 3 Cost

Provide proposed cost to the government. Allowable costs incurred by institutions of higher education are determined in accordance with the provision of OMB Circular A-21, "Cost Principles for Educational Institutions," ONR negotiated rates, and institutional policies. OMB's cost principles are contained in 2 CFR 200.400-.475 et seq.

Cost is considered less important than non-cost factors and will be evaluated for fairness and reasonableness per OMB cost principles. If more than one (1) offer is rated as having equal non-cost factors, the lowest cost tender of the offers received would be granted as the preferred tender unless there are extraordinary reasons for not doing so.

Section VI: Award Administration Information

Reserved.

Section VII: Agency Contacts

Reserved.

Section VIII: Other Information

Reserved.

All questions or inquiries regarding this Funding Opportunity Announcement shall be directed to the agency contact(s) noted in Section IV.