

Funding Opportunity Announcement

Keesler AFB, MS

Funding Agency : US Army Corps of Engineers, Omaha District 1616 Capitol Ave Omaha, NE 68102	Funding Instrument: Cooperative Agreement Funding Opportunity No: NWO-CESU-18-07 CFDA No: 12.632 Program Title: Sikes Act (670c-1)
Issue Date: 1 MARCH 2018	Application Due Date: 2 APRIL 2018
Overview: CESU 18-07, PLAN, UPDATE, INRMP FOR KEESLER AFB <i>Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan (INRMP) Revision:</i> A partial Sikes Act 5-Year revision was signed in February 2014. The NFE shall complete additional updates required to 1) convert the form into the new Air Force Electronic Management Plan (EMP) format and upload to the EMP site, and 2) fill in historical information, 3) add information from recent studies and reports, 4) identify and include other general updates that were not accomplished in 2014. - The NFE shall provide biological support for a complete update of the INRMP, gaining regulatory signatures, providing support and attending an Annual Meeting, and developing a revised INRMP utilizing Air Force template - Support the installation in coordination of the plan with the base users, local stakeholders, regulatory agencies, and the AFCEC Barksdale ISS to make necessary changes and updates to the species information, goals and objectives, and project work plans in the INRMP. - Prepare paperwork, submit update to two regulatory agencies (U.S. Fish and Wildlife and the Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks) for review, and attend two meetings with said regulatory agencies. POP: 10 Months	
Estimated Total Funding:	\$29,250.00 - \$32,500.00
Estimated Number of Awards: 1	
Contents of Full Text Announcement	
I. Funding Opportunity Description	V. Application Review Information
II. Award Information	VI. Award Administration Information
III. Eligibility Information	VII. Agency Contacts
IV. Application Information	VIII. Other Information
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 stephanie.a.rostemundt@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 by via the internet through Grants.gov. Applicants shall have a Dun and Bradstreet Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number, register with the System for Award Management (SAM), and if submitting application via the internet, register with Grants.gov. See Section IV of the Funding Opportunity Announcement for complete application submission information.	

Section I: Funding Opportunity Description

CESU 18-07, PLAN, UPDATE, INRMP FOR KEESLER AFB

Section II: Award Information

Cooperative Agreement; \$29,250.00 - 32,500.00, Budget; 1 award; 10 month Period of Performance

Section III: Eligibility Information

Eligible Applicants – All CESU Networks (<http://www.cesu.psu.edu/>)

1. Cost Sharing – 100% USACE Funded
2. Other – n/a

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 Stephanie Rostermundt, 402-995-2083,
Stephanie.A.Rostermundt@usace.army.mil

Or

Shanna.M.Comparato@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 I of the announcement.

Application shall be submitted NO LATER THAN **2 APRIL 2018**

3. Submission Instructions

Applications may be submitted via the internet through <https://www.grants.gov>.

- a. Internet:

Applicants are required to submit proposals through Grants.gov. Applicants are responsible for ensuring that their Grants.gov proposal submission is received in its entirety. 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 using Grants.gov to submit proposals must be registered and have an account with Grants.gov. It may take up to three weeks to complete Grants.gov registration. For more information on registration, go to <http://www.grants.gov/ForApplicants>.

Section V: Application Review Information

1. **Evaluation for Selection** To receive consideration for award, the proposal must meet the requirements set forth in this FOA and be presented with adequate detail to ensure the evaluator(s) have a good understanding of the proposed requirement(s). All proposals will be evaluated to determine the extent to which each offeror demonstrates a clear understanding of the requirements of the announcement, Scope of Work (SOW), and FOA. The offeror shall submit a proposal that completely addresses all evaluation criteria and specifically identifies how each requirement will be satisfied. Technical proposal shall be no longer than 10-pages, font 12 (**This page limitation is in addition to all required forms**)

QUESTIONS

All question, comments, or recommendations shall be submitted to Contracting no later than 8 March 2018 by 5 PM CST.

2. **Basis of Award** A merit review will be conducted to select the Non Federal Entity (NFE) to whom this award will be made. The selection decision will be based on the NFE offering the best overall value to the Government, with consideration given to all factors described below. Factors are listed in descending order of importance. The selection will not be based on lowest proposed cost, it will be based on an analysis of each criteria listed below. The proposal document shall be outlined as shown below.

3. **Initial Review** The Grants Officer/Specialist will perform an initial review to determine that the applicant is (1) eligible in accordance with Section III of the announcement; (2) all information required by Section IV has been submitted; and (3) all mandatory requirements are satisfied. **Failure to respond to all factors in their entirety will render the proposal non-responsive, and no further consideration shall be given.**

4. Evaluation Criteria

The following criteria shall serve as the standard against which any response to this announcement will be evaluated.

a. **Factor I: Project Team & Technical Approach**

- i. The technical approach presented shall demonstrate the Offerors understanding of INRMP updates and/or revisions, and any other components required to successfully meet program objectives.
- ii. The NFE will ensure that the proposal outlines the requirements of the SOW. This factor will be rated as acceptable when the applicant specifically outlines:
 1. Technical Approach
 2. Project Team
 - a. Qualifications (and/or resumes),
 - b. Capabilities,
 - c. Experience,
 - d. Licensure and/or Certifications.

b. **Factor II: Project Schedule**

- i. The proposal shall provide in detail, a timeline for the project execution. This timeline schedule shall outline how the NFE will complete the mission within the state Period of Performance, and include:
 1. Receipt of a Cooperative Agreement award from USACE Omaha
 2. Field mobilization
 3. Project Phase Schedule (to include schedule of deliverables)

4. Project closeout.

c. **Factor II: Past Performance**

- i. The NFE will ensure that the proposal outlines the NFE's proven ability to perform programmatic activities, and submit reports on time. This factor will be rated as acceptable when the applicant **submits a minimum of two (2) technical projects that include Integrated Natural Resource Management Plan updates/Revisions with favorable customer feedback.** Applicants must utilize the Past Performance Template for each project cited, and fill it out completely. Information collected by the CoE will be evaluated for:
 1. Age (Within 3-5 Years)
 2. Relevance (Location, Objectives, Value)
 3. Technical Complexity
 4. General trend of the applicants performance
- ii. Other Past Performance information considered shall include:
 1. SAM (www.SAM.gov) to check for suspension and/or debarment
 2. FAPIIS (<https://www.fapiis.gov>)
 3. Past Performance history known to the agency

d. **Factor III: Cost Review:**

- i. The NFE will ensure the total budget proposal is within the funding amount listed in Section II.
- ii. The NFE will ensure the budget line items are appropriate and reasonable with the level of effort needed to accomplish the tasks listed in the SOW. Cost information shall include:
 - a. Key Personnel with labor rates
 - b. Equipment/Vehicle lease or purchase (with completion of Lease vs. Buy template for each)
 - c. Associated travel costs per location, to include:
 - i. Estimated flights,
 - ii. Hotel Costs,
 - iii. Estimated days in travel status,
 - iv. Per diem,
 - v. Applicable leases,
 - vi. Estimated fuel costs
 - d. Indirect cost categories shall be identified (such as F&A rates)
 - e. Detailed sub-recipient and or sub-contractor proposals

Evaluation Ratings For evaluation of technical factors, the following adjectival ratings will be used:

PROPOSAL MERIT RATING SCALE

Combined Technical/Risk Ratings	
Outstanding	Proposal meets requirements and indicates an exceptional approach and understanding of the requirements. Strengths far outweigh any weaknesses. Risk of unsuccessful performance is very low.
Good	Proposal meets requirements and indicates a thorough approach and understanding of the requirements. Proposal contains strengths which outweigh any weaknesses. Risk of unsuccessful performance is low.

Acceptable	Proposal meets requirements and indicates an adequate approach and understanding of the requirements. Strengths and weaknesses are offsetting or will have little or no impact on contract performance. Risk of unsuccessful performance is no worse than moderate.
Marginal	Proposal does not clearly meet requirements and has not demonstrated an adequate approach and understanding of the requirements. The proposal has one or more weaknesses which are not offset by strengths. Risk of unsuccessful performance is high.
Unacceptable	Proposal does not meet requirements and contains one or more deficiencies. Proposal is not awardable.

4. Review and Selection Process

See above

5. Anticipated Award Date

Announcement Issue Date: **1 MARCH 2018**

Announcement Due Date: **2 APRIL 2018**

Estimated Award Date: **15 April 2018**

Section VI: Award Administration Information

1. Award Notices

Written notice of award will be given in conjunction with issuance of a cooperative agreement signed by a Grants Officer. The cooperative agreement will contain the effective date of the agreement, the period of performance, funding information, and all terms and conditions. The recipient is required to sign and return the document before work under the agreement commences. **Work described in this announcement SHALL NOT begin without prior authorization from a Grants Officer.**

2. Administrative Requirements

The cooperative agreement issued as a result of this announcement is pursuant to the administrative requirements in

3. Reporting

Omaha District POC listed below

Section VII: Agency Contact

Stephanie Rostermundt, Grants Officer, Contracting Division
 USACE, Omaha District Tel: 402-995-2083
 ATTN: CECT-NWO-E
 1616 Capitol Ave
 Omaha, NE 68102
 E-mail: Stephanie.A.Rostermundt@usace.army.mil

Shanna Comparato, Grants Specialist, Contracting Division
 USACE, Omaha District Tel: 402-995-2067

ATTN: CECT-NWO-E
1616 Capitol Ave
Omaha, NE 68102
E-mail: Shanna.M.Comparato@usace.army.mil

Section VIII: Substantial Involvement

The Corps of Engineers will be substantially involved in the agreement by providing agency review and approval required at the completion of one stage of the work, prior to moving on to subsequent phases.