

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-24-2-0004 No. CFDA No: 12.005 Program Authority 16 U.S.C. 670c-1 (Sikes Act)
Issue Date: 2 July 2024	Application Due Date: 29 August 2024
Overview: Seabird Monitoring and Predator Management at Koke'e Air Force Station, Kauai - All tasks associated with this requirement have an avian and/or predator control focus and shall be conducted on the island of Kauai. The execution of this project assists the United States Air Force towards compliance with the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Services Biological Opinion and the subsequent remediation efforts related to island seabirds. See full Funding Opportunity Description in Section I.	
Estimated Total Funding: \$252,000.00	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 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 (SOW)

**Seabird Monitoring and Predator Management at Koke'e Air Force Station, Kauai
U.S. Air Force 611th Civil Engineer Squadron
RAM VNMHA53237119; ACES MKPPOS68623**

Fiscal Year 2024

Project Cost Ceiling: \$252,000.00 (Funding for Tasks 1, 2, 3, 4, 7, and 8)

1.0 INTRODUCTION

This Statement of Work (SOW) provides the details of work to be performed for the U.S. Air Force (USAF) Pacific Air Forces Regional Support Center (PRSC), 611th Civil Engineer Squadron (CES) through a Cooperative Agreement (CA) administered by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) and the Recipient. The Recipient shall support the 611th CES Natural Resources Program with completion of specific monitoring tasks relating to seabirds currently listed on the Federal Register of Endangered Species that occur in the vicinity of the Koke'e Air Force Station (KAFS). KAFS is located on the island of Kauai, State of Hawaii.

Projects provided for execution under this CA, by USACE, 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, to include non-federal entities (NFE), or work products. This CA shall not be used for performance of personal services. Any modifications to CA activities, as outlined by this SOW, must be channeled through the Grants Officer Representative (GOR) and Grants Officer (GO) for approval.

Recipient personnel shall wear a distinctive recipient-furnished security identification (ID) badge/lanyard readily identifying the individual as a Recipient employee. When performing work under the CA including attendance at Government meetings and conferences that take place outside of the Government facility, the badge shall be worn in a manner that is clearly visible and not covered by attire or equipment. Recipient personnel shall identify themselves as Recipient employees when answering or placing calls on a Government telephone and when leaving outgoing or incoming messages on voicemail. Use of acronyms in this identification is insufficient to meet this requirement. All Recipient email signatures shall identify them as such and shall include their employer's name.

1.1 Authority

1.1.1 In accordance with the Sikes Act (Sec. 103A [16 USC 670c-1]) "the Secretary of a military department may enter into cooperative agreements with States, local governments, Indian tribes, non-governmental organizations, and individuals...". This project is in support of the Endangered Species Act (ESA) Section 7, Informal Consultation with the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Services (USF&WS); the Biological Opinion (dated 14 Feb 2017); and, the Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan (INRMP), as directed in the Sikes Act.

1.1.2 In agreement with the above stated goals, the Recipient agrees to provide the necessary personnel, equipment, and materials required to implement, in part, the PRSC's responsibilities

pursuant to the Sikes Act (16 USC 670 et seq.), and the ESA (16 USC 1531 et seq.).

1.1.3 In accordance with 31 U.S.C. Section 6305 – Using CAs of the Federal Grant and Cooperative Agreements Act of 1977 (31 U.S.C. § 6301 et seq.), substantial involvement is expected and required between the Department of Defense (DoD) and the Recipient when carrying out the activity contemplated by the cooperative agreement.

The 611th CES agrees to provide substantial involvement to include, but not limited to, the following:

- Provide review and comment on all written deliverables.
- Provide input, as needed, on study design, methodologies, and logistics.
- Provide selected Recipient with access to existing federal equipment (purchased in prior years for this program) needed to complete the project.
- Logistical support in gaining clearance and access for personnel to the Installation.
- Provide biosecurity consultation on proven methods for preventing the importation of invasive flora and fauna to the Installation and surrounding area(s).
- Provide names and contact information for 3rd party NFEs which have provided previous survey work of this nature at the Installation.

2.0 BACKGROUND

The 611th CES is the real property owner of the Air Force Station on the Island of Kauai and is responsible for implementing the terms and conditions detailed in the ESA Section 7 Informal Consultation, and Biological Opinion for the continuing operation of the KAFS. Through this project, the Recipient shall support the 611th CES and the personnel at the KAFS to complete the requirements set forth by the USF&WS Biological Opinion for the monitoring of the transient avian population and the implementation of non-native predator control as well as other related tasks as outlined below (Section 4).

In 2017, Informal Consultation was completed in accordance with Section 7 of the ESA, and resulted in the issuance of a Biological Opinion (01EPIF00-2016-F-0497) from the USF&WS that outlined the potential impacts to threatened and endangered seabirds of Hawaii from continuous daily and nightly operations at the Installation (also referred to as the “proposed actions”). The Biological Opinion included a list of terms, conditions, and reasonable and prudent conservation measures to minimize impacts of incidental “take” on the listed seabirds at KAFS, in addition to an incidental “take” statement for specific protected species. One (1) of the preventative measures, in the Biological Opinion, called for the continued monitoring of seabirds to understand the level of impact caused by the Installation.

In the 2015/2016 breeding season, a series of incidents occurred that harmed and/or led to the “take” of Newell’s shearwaters (*Puffinus newelli*) and Hawaiian petrels (*Pterodroma sandwichensis*), two (2) birds protected under the ESA. More than a dozen Newell’s shearwaters were inadvertently taken and more than 100 were injured. During the same series of “fallout” events, at least one (1) Hawaiian petrel was taken. Many of the birds that grounded were adults and juveniles and needed rehabilitation interventions. The adult birds may not have been able to return to their nests during the 2015/2016 breeding season, and as a result their chicks likely did not survive. Artificial lighting on the Installation was suspected of being the causative agent as it has been shown to disorient these birds, causing them to either collide with the lights or circle the lights until exhaustion. Once grounded, the seabirds are unlikely to become airborne again and are subsequently killed by nonnative predators like cats and pigs. In

response, the Air Force re-initiated consultation with the USF&WS and agreed to reduce lighting at the Installation that disorients the seabirds. The current USAF procedures are expected to reduce the “take” of seabirds to approximately four (4) birds per year. To offset these losses, the USAF also agreed to fund predator control at existing nearby seabird colonies on Kauai.

In 2017, the 611th CES constructed a walking path light system, which was intended to replace the perimeter lighting system and is to be used all year and specifically, during seabird fallout and nesting season (April-December).

3.0 OBJECTIVES

All tasks associated with this SOW have an avian and/or predator control focus and shall be conducted on the island of Kauai. The execution of this project assists the USAF towards compliance with the USF&WS Biological Opinion and the subsequent remediation efforts related to island seabirds.

4.0 MAJOR REQUIREMENTS AND TASKS

The tasks, expected requirements, deliverables and associated support documents for these tasks are discussed below. The Recipient shall obtain all permits and approvals (if any) necessary to obtain site access and interact with federally listed ESA species. All deliverables related to this agreement will be referred to as a specific deliverable number; Section 5.0 outlines all project deliverables. The following are scope of work requirements:

Preferred Requirements:

- The Primary Investigator/Biologist assigned to this scope of work must have at least two (2) years of previous experience with the genus *Puffinus* and the family Procellariidae.
- The field technicians that will be collecting installation information should be already located on the island of Kauai (this SOW does not support billeting, meals, or per diem).
- The field technicians assigned predator control duties, must have at least two (2) years of experience controlling feral cats and other predators using traps and other approved methods.

4.1 Task 1: Draft Work Plan

A Draft Work Plan (Deliverable 1a) shall be created by the Recipient displaying how and when the work will be completed over the course of the period of performance. Within the work plan, the Recipient shall populate a Project Planning Chart (PPC) which details the project schedule and shall have a full breakdown of project costs and budget for each task. Dates of site visits to the Installation to perform surveys and implementation of invasive species control efforts shall be narrowed down to specific calendar dates. The use of Gantt charts to depict project schedule is appropriate for the workplan. Deliverable submission dates shall also be depicted within the Draft Work Plan. A list of employees, inclusive of their educational certificates and licenses shall also be portrayed in the work plan. Scientific support and rationale for the methods of choice for surveying birds and implementing invasive species control tasks shall be depicted in the work plan. An emphasis in the work plan shall be placed on locations of targeted predator control off the Installation. Predator control shall be conducted on KAFS as needed but locations may require prior approval(s). Prior to conducting predator control on the Installation, the 611th CES Natural Resources Program Manager will be informed in advance to allow sufficient time to allow for review and obtain approval(s). A map of targeted areas of invasive species control shall be included, such that the reader has an understanding as to where the control tasks will be implemented by the Recipient. Trap visitation frequency shall be identified within the

workplan, and methods depicted in the work plan shall ensure animals do not remain in traps for extended periods of time. A Draft Work Plan shall be submitted to the Government within 14 calendar days of date of award. The Government shall be afforded a 14-calendar day review period and shall provide the Recipient with comments to utilize for finalization of the document. All animal control work and euthanasia shall be conducted following American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) Guidelines for the Euthanasia of Animals and Hawaii Revised Statute (HRS) 711-1109.37 Subsection 2. All reports shall include specific details of trap check frequency and specify trap check frequency for each trap type.

4.2 Task 2: Final Work Plan

The Recipient shall utilize the government comments to make final edits and changes to the work plan. A response to each government comment shall be documented by the Recipient within a response to comment matrix, which shall be submitted alongside the Final Work Plan (Deliverable 1b). The Recipient shall populate a comment matrix which shall depict the Recipient's written response to each government comment. The populated comment matrix in addition to a Final Work Plan addressing each comment, shall be submitted no later than 48 calendar days after award for 611th CES approval.

4.3 Task 3: Koke'e AFS Installation Avian Surveys

The implementation of this task, during the Period of Performance (POP), shall support the 611th CES with documenting presence of listed seabirds within the action area of KAFS. The task will identify and document actions and issues that have the potential to result in a ESA "take" of listed endangered or threatened species. A minimum of three (3) methods of seabird detection and surveillance shall be implemented during the POP and may include but not limited to the following methods: night vision, thermal, avian radar, acoustic monitoring devices, wire vibration meters, ground cameras and/or Installation walking surveys. The methods selected by the Recipient to quantify seabird utilization of the air column above KAFS and/or Installation grounds shall be described thoroughly in a draft project summary report. The draft project summary report shall depict the results of monitoring during the POP. If "take" of a listed species is suspected and/or documented, the draft summary project report shall detail possible causation, management recommendations including avoidance and minimization measures, and a detailed map showing where the incident occurred and/or was documented. Observations of birds striking buildings or birds discovered on site which may display evidence of injury due to strike should be segregated within the draft project summary report from observations of birds which fly over, but do not land or strike installation infrastructure. The total amount of time expended surveying for birds shall be quantified within the draft and final project summary reports. If a "take" of a listed species occurs or a listed species is recovered, the Recipient shall immediately notify the 611th CES Natural Resources Manager (or designated USAF representative) by phone and in writing (email). All coordination and transport of listed species shall be conducted by the Recipient and documentation of surrender to an authorized entity such as Save our Shearwaters on the island of Kauai. Additionally, the Recipient shall utilize approved methods and procedures for transport/holding any listed species and at no time will expose recovered listed species to extreme conditions or threats and shall only surrender and transfer custody to authorized/permitted entities. A chain-of-custody and surrender point record shall be submitted in writing to 611th CES within 24 hours of surrender. USAF retains the authority to approve, deny, and/or terminate any management action that may impact security, readiness, and military mission.

4.4 Task 4: Koke'e AFS Installation Predator Control

The Recipient shall implement predator control measures for the reduction of feral cats and rats within the boundary fence and in the immediate area. The trapping efforts on KAFS property will attempt to maintain feral cat and rat population levels of zero within the property boundary. All

euthanasia shall be conducted in a humane manner and in compliance with all state, federal, and local laws. All euthanasia will comply with AVMA standards. All euthanasia shall be conducted offsite (of KAFS) in approved locations. Euthanasia shall be carried out in areas that are out of view of the public and other stakeholders. A record of euthanasia locations shall be submitted to 611th CES upon request. No carcasses or animal remains will be disposed or left at KAFS or in management areas. Predator management shall be conducted during the POP. All predator management methods, equipment, and locations are subject to USAF, State, and Federal inspection and/or review at any time. Predator control may be conducted on KAFS but may require pre-approval(s) and the submission of a management plan. Prior to conducting predator management on KAFS, 611th CES Natural Resources Program Manager (or designated USAF staff) shall be given a minimum of seven (7) days' notice to allow for review and approvals. Predator management on KAFS is subject to USAF approval and inspection at any time. USAF retains the authority to approve, deny, and terminate any management action that may impact security, readiness, and military mission. This task shall require the Recipient to secure access to the Installation and maintain a trap log which identifies catch per unit effort (CPUE) and, at minimum, tracks the number of trap nights and hours, bait type, successful captures, unsuccessful captures, bait condition, and trap locations. All animal control work shall comply with AVMA Guidelines for the Euthanasia of Animals and HRS 711-1109.37 Subsection 2. All reports shall include specific details of trap check frequency and specify trap check frequency for each trap type.

A summary of the trap log data shall be included in the draft and final project summary report. All trap locations shall be mapped, and the Recipient shall utilize a Global Positioning System (GPS) unit to record a position for each trap. Photographs of each trapped cat shall be included in the draft and final report and original images made available at full resolution on disc. The GPS records along with a map of all trap locations, shall be submitted within the draft and final project summary report. World Geodetic System 1984 (WGS84) shall be used as the datum by the Recipient when collecting information using handheld GPS.

4.5 Optional Task 5: Off-Site Predator Control

Kauai possesses multiple seabird colony sites where threatened and endangered seabirds (specifically the Hawaiian Petrel and Newell's Shearwater) utilize earthen burrows, crevices, or hollows to nest. This nesting behavior makes these species especially susceptible to the effects of non-native predators (especially feral cats). The act of predator control is viewed by the biological community and conservation biologists as beneficial to improving seabird colony size and population resilience.

The Recipient shall implement predator control actions at or adjacent to known colonies on the island of Kauai in order to improve seabird survival. The species to be targeted shall include rats, cats, feral dogs, pigs (where appropriate), and barn owls. This task shall require the Recipient to maintain a trap log which tracks the number of trap nights, bait type, successful captures, unsuccessful captures, bait condition, and trap location. A summary of the trap log data shall be included in the draft and final project summary report. All trap locations shall be mapped, and the Recipient shall utilize a GPS to record a position for each trap. The GPS records along with a map of all trap locations, shall be submitted within the draft and final project summary report. Photographs of each trapped animal shall be included in the draft and final report. The Recipient is responsible for obtaining written permission or permit for land access and trapping actions on those parcels which are not managed by the 611th CES. All animal control work shall be conducted following AVMA Guidelines for the Euthanasia of Animals and HRS 711-1109.37 Subsection 2 and all submitted reports shall include a disclaimer that includes this information. The Recipient will immediately disclose any non-compliance with AVMA Guidelines for the Euthanasia of Animals and HRS 711-1109.37 Subsection 2 to the

GOR and 611th CES. All reports shall include specific details of trap check frequency and specify trap check frequency for each trap type.

4.6 Optional Task 6: Off-Site Seabird Monitoring

Predator control is an integral part of this proposal and will, in part, protect, endangered seabird colonies outside of the KAFS area. These colonies are located on steep and mainly inaccessible (to humans) ridges and so the effectiveness of predator control in these areas (which is undertaken at the top or bottom of the valleys) cannot be assessed through traditional means of burrow monitoring. Seabird monitoring staff will deploy song meters (from a helicopter) at static locations used in previous years within the colonies where predator control operations are being carried out. Units will be deployed in May and recovered in early August, collecting data from the peak vocal period of June and July. Call rates will then be compared with call rates from previous years surveys to assess whether call rates are the same, have increased or decreased. As call rates are directly related to the number of breeding birds on the ground, a change in call rates can be used to assess breeding numbers of birds in these areas. A change in breeding numbers can thus be used to infer how effective predator control in these areas is being.

4.7 Task 7: Draft Project Summary Report

Results from the execution of Tasks 3-6 shall be summarized within a draft project summary report. Avian information shall be segregated from invasive species trapping results within the report. A summary of avian observations and cats trapped shall be included, in addition to the net level of effort expended. The net effort expended to complete the tasks shall be quantified in hours and this net effort shall be included in the report. The annual report will document the effectiveness of all avoidance and minimization measures. The report shall summarize annual minimization measures implemented and success of those measures. The methods and results of the monitoring efforts will also be included in report. Detailed descriptions of the methodologies used to complete Tasks 3-6 shall be included in the draft project summary report and must follow accepted best practices established by the research community for the monitoring of these fauna. In writing all reports, the Recipient shall use the "instructions for authors" and document formatting style required by the Journal of Wildlife Management as a template. At minimum, the draft report shall include the following headings: Abstract, Introduction, Study Area, Methods, Results, Discussion, Management Recommendations, Acknowledgments, and Literature Cited. The Recipient shall identify USAF 611th CES as the responsible party for funding the project within the Acknowledgments section. The draft project summary report shall be submitted to the Government no later than 15 January each calendar year. The Recipient shall grant the Government 14 calendar days to review and comment on the draft summary report.

4.8 Task 8: Final Project Summary Report

The Government shall expend 14 calendar days reviewing the draft project summary report and issue comments to the Recipient to address upon closure of the 14-calendar review period. The Recipient shall create a response to each comment and create a response to comment matrix. The matrix or spreadsheet should depict each government comment as well as the Recipient's response to each of those comments. After completing the responses, the Recipient shall use the matrix to make appropriate changes to the draft project summary report in order to create a final product. The Final Project Summary Report and populated response to comment matrix shall be submitted to the 611th CES no later than 15 February of each calendar year. Pursuant to the Koke'e AFS Biological Opinion Terms and Conditions, 2.b., the USAF shall submit the Final report by February each calendar year to the Service's Pacific Islands Fish and Wildlife Office. If for any reason the Recipient cannot deliver the Final Project Summary Report (Task 8) by 15 February, a minimum of a 14-day notice is required to allow sufficient time for USAF to

notify USF&WS of anticipated delays in required reporting.

5.0 REPORTS, DELIVERABLES, AND SCHEDULE

5.1 Draft Work Plan (Deliverable 1a)

Created by the Recipient displaying how and when the work will be completed over the course of the POP and shall include a budget breakdown (see Task 4.1). Draft Work Plan shall be submitted to the Government within 14 calendar days of date of award.

5.2 Final Work Plan (Deliverable 1b)

Utilizing USAF comments, Recipient shall make final edits and changes to the work plan (see Task 4.2). Final Work Plan addressing each comment, shall be submitted no later than 48 calendar days after award.

5.3 Monthly Progress Reports

The Recipient shall submit Monthly Progress Reports summarizing activities to the USACE Project Manager and USAF point of contact (POC). See section 10.0, Points of Contact, for details. Monthly Progress Reports shall include relevant assessment and investigation activities, any significant occurrences (bird strikes, etc.), and anticipated work for the following month. Additionally, all predator control Monthly Progress Reports shall include a section that states: "All animal control work is conducted following AVMA Guidelines for the Euthanasia of Animals and HRS 711-1109.37 Subsection 2". All reports shall include specific details of trap check frequency and specify trap check frequency for each trap type.

5.4 Draft Project Summary Report (Deliverable 2a)

The draft project summary report (see Task 7) shall be submitted to the Government no later than 15 January of each calendar year.

5.5 Final Project Summary Report (Deliverable 2b)

The Final Project Summary Report (see Task 8) and populated response to comment matrix shall be submitted to the 611th CES no later than 15 February of each calendar year.

5.6 Project Kickoff Meeting

The Project Kickoff meeting shall take place no later than 14 calendar days of date of the award.

5.7 Deliverable Schedule:

Deliverable	also listed as:	Completion Date
Draft Work Plan	Deliverable 1a	14 days after award
Final Work Plan	Deliverable 1b	48 days after award
Monthly Progress Reports		Monthly
Draft Project Summary Report	Deliverable 2a	15 January of each calendar year
Final Project Summary Report	Deliverable 2b	15 February of each calendar year

6.0 LOGISTICS

6.1 The Recipient shall work with the 611th CES Natural Resources team on Joint Base Pearl Harbor – Hickam (JBPHH), Oahu to execute this project. The 611th CES Natural Resources Program Manager or Environmental Lead will serve as the logistics POC and will be the

technical reviewer of deliverables. The field work associated with this SOW is intended to be carried out by qualified staff on the island of Kauai; this SOW is not intended to fund billeting, meals, travel, or per diem. The 611th CES Natural Resources Program Manager or Environmental Lead will identify in advance the name and email of the security POC who will process the Recipient's Site Arrival Requests (SAR). The Recipient or designated representative shall submit requested personnel information for those parties who would visit the Installation, and the issuance of site clearance is contingent upon approval of a SAR. The USAF reserves the right to restrict access to KAFS and USAF property at any time.

6.2 Materials and Equipment

6.2.1 This agreement does not include the purchase of supplies needed to conduct the field work and observations. The Recipient may utilize existing USAF equipment previously secured for this on-going monitoring effort (e.g., night vision goggles, etc.). All USAF equipment shall be returned upon completion of the project. Field equipment may be left on site if the project is planned to continue in subsequent years with the written approval of the 611th CES POC.

6.2.2 If additional equipment is deemed necessary based on the methodologies utilized, it is the responsibility of the Recipient in securing that equipment, and the 611th CES shall be provided the no cost opportunity to retain any supplies and equipment purchased for this project.

6.2.3 The Recipient is responsible for all transportation costs associated with the project, inclusive of equipment shipment, vehicle rental, and any other transportation costs required to fulfill this SOW.

7.0 GIS REQUIREMENTS

The project surveys and associated deliverables require the need for Geographic Information System (GIS) data to be collected and submitted. The following guidance is provided for completing environmental GIS data development or performing GPS surveys and inventories of environmental data. No geospatial data may be shared without the express written approval of the USAF.

The USAF Environmental GIS mission is to support AF wide environmental programs by collecting, developing, and maintaining spatial data within Functional Data Sets (FDS). FDS spatial data has been standardized to the Spatial Data Standards for Facilities, Infrastructure and Environment (SDSFIE) 3.1, Air Force Adaptation. All products associated with this agreement that generate GIS data, such as GPS data collection (i.e. vegetation removal areas, fuel storage tanks, hazardous waste accumulation points, natural resources, cultural resources, environmental remediation, etc.) or other related overhead (plan) views of KAFS (partial or entire) and off-site predator control areas must adhere to the following requirements.

- The Recipient shall develop GIS data to comply with all applicable Data Layer Specifications (DLS). The Recipient shall provide final ArcGIS shapefiles for all spatial data collected.
- The Recipient shall utilize the appropriate SDSFIE USAF compliant template. The appropriate template will be transmitted to the Recipient through DoD SAFE (<https://safe.apps.mil/>) or other equivalent secure network-based data transmission system following award.
- The Recipient is responsible for delivering the spatial data in the applicable Universal Transverse Mercator (UTM) coordinate system, WGS84 datum and spheroid which for Kauai, Hawaii is UTM Zone 4 North.

- Prior to generating GIS data, the Recipient shall coordinate with 611th CES to determine the current version being used for all software, data, and data standards.
- All metadata associated with the Air Force Environmental GIS Program data layers must meet the Federal Geographic Data Committee (FGDC) Content Standard for Geospatial Metadata (CSDGM), revised in June 1998. Metadata must also include all content stated in the metadata section of each DLS.
- GIS data generated during this project is considered by the Government to be “sensitive, but unclassified.” The intent of this clause is to prevent intentional or unintentional dissemination of “sensitive, but unclassified” information to include unauthorized access to the source and product data by any entity wishing to do harm to the USAF or United States Government while the data resides on the Recipient's computer network. The Recipient is responsible for transmitting all GIS data in the proper format via DoD SAFE (<https://safe.apps.mil/>) or other equivalent secure network-based data transmission platform.

8.0 COMMUNICATIONS

8.1 Data Ownership

All reports and data generated under this agreement are the property of the Government, and distribution by the Recipient to any source, unless previously authorized by the 611th CES, is prohibited.

8.2 Media Contact

The Recipient shall not make available to the news media or publicly disclose any data generated or reviewed under this agreement. If approached by the news media, the Recipient shall refer them to the 611th CES POC for response.

8.3 Scientific Publications

The 611th CES supports the utilization of this data in the furtherance of science. However, the Recipient is advised that the Government, as owner of the data, reserves the right to review the Recipient's proposed publications and approve or deny publication of data collected subject to the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA). As such, all data produced, as a result of project work, is accessible to the public unless specifically exempted under FOIA due to personal privacy, national security, and/or law enforcement. In the event the Recipient wishes to publish findings in the scientific literature (or other venue) which utilizes field data from this award, the Recipient agrees to share a draft version of the publication with the 611th CES POC prior to submitting any documents for publication. The 611th CES POC will share the document with the USAF 611th Public Affairs Office. The USAF shall then review the document and return comments and written permissions (if approved) 30 days after a submission request.

8.4 Required Immediate Contact

The Recipient is required to notify the 611th CES POC and the USACE Project Manager of critical issues that may affect the project performance and/or human health and the environment. The types of issues that require notification include, but are not limited to, health risks, spills, bird strikes, unusual inclement weather conditions, unacceptable materials, and changes in critical personnel. On critical issues, oral notification should be made immediately, followed by written notification as soon as practical.

8.4.1 The Recipient shall immediately notify the 611th CES point of contact in writing and by phone call of any suspected and/or documented “take” of listed species at KAFS. Per the Terms and Conditions of the 2017 KAFS Biological Opinion, USAF is required to report any “take” of

listed species within 72 hrs. Notification to all 611th CES contacts shall be by telephone and email for each occurrence and shall be made within two (2) hours of discovery. The area surrounding KAFS has limited cellular coverage and poor communications available to the public. In addition to notifications, the Recipient may request that an email be sent via KAFS personnel to ensure rapid notification.

9.0 PERIOD OF PERFORMANCE

The POP for the base period is 42 **18** months from date of award. The work described in this SOW is a multi-year project. The Fiscal Year 2024 award is the base period, and ~~four (4)~~ **two (2)** additional 42 **18**-month option periods may be awarded, dependent on funding.

10.0 POINTS OF CONTACT

Routine correspondence shall be sent to both 611th POCs via email and phone. For incidents that require immediate USAF notification, both 611th POCs shall be notified via email and phone call as required. When notifying 611th POCs of incidents involving listed species by phone, a voicemail shall be left if there is no answer. Voicemails shall include brief description of incident, time, date, POC, and callback phone number. Phone calls to report "take" of listed species are authorized at any time including weekends, holidays, 24 hrs./day, and seven (7) days/week.

USAF 611th CES Primary Contact:

Melissa Evans-Shontofski
USAF 611th Civil Engineer Squadron
Environmental Lead- Hawaii and Wake Island
Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, HI 96853
Mobile: (814) 242-3210
Email: melissa.evans-shontofski.2@us.af.mil

USAF 611th CES Alternate Contact:

Jeffrey Platner
Chief Environmental Compliance
611th Civil Engineer Squadron (Hawaii and Wake Island)
Phone: (907) 552-4489
Email: Jeffrey.platner.3@us.af.mil

The POC for USACE Project Management is Kathryn Russell. Cooperative agreement questions should be addressed to the Grants Officer, Tammy Davis. Correspondence should be addressed as follows:

USACE Contacts:

Kathryn Russell, P.E.
Project Manager
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
ATTN: CEPOA-PME
P.O. Box 6898
JBER, AK 99506-0898
Phone: (907) 753-2535
Email: kathryn.russell@usace.army.mil

Tammy Davis
Grants Officer
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
ATTN: CEPOA-CT (Tammy Davis)
P.O. Box 6898
JBER, AK 99506-0898
Phone: (907) 753-5592
Email: tammy.davis@usace.army.mil

Section II: Award Information

This Funding Opportunity Announcement is for a competed, potentially multiyear, cooperative agreement. The period of performance is 42 **18** months from date of award with the option for ~~four (4)~~ **two (2)** additional 42 **18**-month option periods to be exercised subject to availability of funding and at the Government's discretion. This does not obligate the Government to extend this agreement beyond the initial 42 **18**-month period of performance. The total Project Cost Ceiling for **Tasks 1, 2, 3, 4, 7, and 8** of the base period of performance is \$252,000.00. **Provide proposed cost information, for Base and Optional Tasks, for the base and each option period.** The Government will have substantive involvement throughout the execution of this requirement.

Announcement Issue Date: 2 July 2024

Application Due Date: 2 **9** August 2024

Estimated Award Date: On or About 9 **16 August 2024**

Section III: Eligibility Information

1. Eligible Applicants – Open to all that meet the criteria of this announcement. Award shall be limited to States, local governments, Indian tribes, non-governmental organizations, and individuals, pursuant to the authority of 16 U.S.C. 670c-1(a).
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 9 August 2024; 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

**Seabird Monitoring and Predator Management at Koke'e Air Force Station, Kauai
U.S. Air Force 611th Civil Engineer Squadron
RAM VNMHA53237119; ACES MKPPOS68623**

May 2024

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: Experience (most important technical factor)
- Factor 2: Technical Approach (2nd most important technical factor)
- Factor 3: Cost (3rd most important factor)

After listing submission strengths, weaknesses and deficiencies, 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 adjectival ratings shall be assigned, using the following criteria, which incorporate a submission risk assessment:

Adjectival Rating	Description
Outstanding	Submission indicates an exceptional approach and understanding of the requirements and contains multiple strengths.
Good	Submission indicates a thorough approach and understanding of the requirements and contains at least one (1) strength.
Acceptable	Submission indicates an adequate approach and understanding of the requirements.
Marginal	Submission has not demonstrated an adequate approach and understanding of the requirements or contains an element of risk.
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 conservation and protection of natural resources and fish and wildlife resources on military installations and performing invasive species eradication and/or control, following the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) Guidelines for the Euthanasia of Animals and Hawaii Revised Statute (HRS) 711-1109.37 Subsection 2.
2. At least two (2) years of previous experience with the genus *Puffinus* and the family Procellariidae.
3. At least two (2) years of experience controlling feral cats, pigs, invasive owls, or other predators using traps and/or other approved methods.
4. Field technicians that will be collecting Installation information should be already located on the island of Kauai as travel is not supported for this effort.
5. Planning and managing time critical work, performing studies, projects or preparing plans or reports in accordance with applicable guidance and regulations.

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 50% 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 two (2) pages per main task and must include:

- A discussion of the technical approach to accomplish the SOW requirements.
- A discussion of the quality assurance, quality control, and other technical activities that will be implemented to ensure that quality data are 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 inclusion of numerous assumptions that significantly “assume away” offeror risk regarding major issues or problems that may be encountered on the project will be considered unacceptable.

Recipient personnel must be able to comply with all applicable regulations to obtain a Common Access Card (CAC). Personnel are required, at a minimum, to complete a NACI/SF85 and successfully pass a federal background check. The Recipient shall employ no foreign nationals without prior approval of the Government.

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 Government will review, evaluate, and compare the technical approach documentation received from each offeror to determine best value.

Field technicians must be already located on the island of Kauai (this scope of work does not support billeting, meals and/or per diem).

Factor 3 Cost

Provide proposed cost to the Government, for Base and Optional Tasks, for each period of performance, to include optional periods of performance, as this data must be reviewed and evaluated to aid in determining fairness, reasonableness, and best value.

In accordance with Title 2 of the Code of Federal Regulations, non-Federal entities may not earn or keep any profit (or comparable fees) resulting from Federal Financial Assistance actions. Therefore, any offers that contain profit and/or fees will be excluded from consideration because the Government cannot compensate for profit or fees on Federal Financial Assistance awards (i.e., Grants and Cooperative Agreements).

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.