



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
FORT WORTH DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS
P.O. BOX 17300
FORT WORTH, TX 76102-0300

20 June 2023

**REQUEST FOR STATEMENT OF INTEREST
W9126G-23-2-SOI-3464**

*Applicants must be a member in one of the following Cooperative Ecosystem Studies
Chesapeake Watershed / Southern Appalachian Mountains CESU Regions*

Project Title: Bat Surveys Raystown Lake

A cooperative agreement is being offered ONLY to members of the Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Units (CESU) Program Region(s) identified above. Award will be made upon mutual agreement and acceptance of the terms and conditions contained in the request for proposal and the of the recipient's CESU Master Agreement. Note the established CESU Program indirect rate is 17.5%.

Responses to this Request for Statements of Interest will be used to identify potential organizations for this project. Approximately **\$213,260** is expected to be available to support this project for the **base period**.

Period of Performance. The base period of the agreement will extend 36 months to include 2 full spring and summer seasons. There are no follow-on periods for this effort.

Description of Anticipated Work: See attached Statement of Objectives

NOTE: At this time we are only requesting that you demonstrate available qualifications and capability for performing similar or same type of work by submitting a Statement of Interest. A full proposal and budget are NOT requested at this time.

Preparation of your Statement of Interest: Provide the following (Maximum length: 2 pages, single-spaced, 12 pt. font):

1. Name, Organization, Cage Code, Unique Entity ID, and Contact Information (Email)
2. Brief Statement of Qualifications (including):
 - a. Biographical sketch of the Principal Investigator, to include specific experience and capabilities in areas related to this project's requirements
 - b. Relevant past projects and clients with brief descriptions of these projects
 - c. Staff, faculty or students available to work on this project and their areas of expertise
 - d. Brief description of other capabilities to successfully complete the project: (e.g. equipment, laboratory facilities, greenhouse facilities, field facilities, etc.)

Submission of Your Statement of Interest

1. Statements of Interest are due by 5:00 P.M., Central Time, on **21 July 2023**.
2. Submit your Statement of Interest via e-mail attachments or direct questions to:
Sandy Justman
Grants Specialist
USACE, Fort Worth District
Email: **Sandra.justman@usace.army.mil**
Office: 817-886-1073
Kathy Mitchell
Project Manager
USACE, Fort Worth District
Email: **kathy.s.mitchell@usace.army.mil**
Office: 817-886-1709

Review of Statements Received: All statements of interest received from a member of the CESU Region(s) identified above will be evaluated by a board comprised of one or more people at the receiving installation or activity, who will determine which statement(s) best meet the program objectives: offer the most highly qualified Principal Investigator, have the most relevant experience and the highest capability to successfully meet the program objectives. Submitters whose statements are determined to best meet the program objectives will be invited to submit a full proposal.

Timeline for Review of Statements of Interest: RSOI's are required to be posted on www.Grants.gov for 30 days prior to the Government making a decision and requesting full proposals.

Thank you for your interest in our Cooperative Agreements Program.

ALICE AUSTIN
Contracting Officer

Attachment: Statement of Objectives

STATEMENT OF OBJECTIVES
Bat Surveys
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers,
Baltimore District, Raystown Lake Project

1.0 PURPOSE

1.1 This Statement of Objectives (SOO) provides the details for bat surveys to be performed for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District, Raystown Lake Project. The purpose is to collect, analyze, and apply resource data as necessary to support bat species management plans required to meet regional goals and objectives along with regulatory mandates for successful implementation of operation and maintenance missions at the Raystown Lake Project.

1.2 This work requires onsite personnel at Raystown during the time required to perform the necessary field activities outlined in this SOO.

2.0 AUTHORITY

2.1 In agreement with the above stated purpose, the recipient/cooperator agrees to provide the necessary personnel, equipment, and materials required to implement, in part, the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)-Baltimore District objectives pursuant to the authority 10 U.S.C. 4001 (formerly 2358) - Research and Development.

2.2 In accordance with section 6305 – *Using cooperative agreements* of the *Federal Grant and Cooperative Agreements Act of 1977* (31 U.S.C. § 6301 et seq.), all CESU projects must carry out a public purpose of support or stimulation, instead of acquiring goods or services for the exclusive direct benefit of the United States Government. Examples of carrying out a public purpose may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Project results are made available to a wide audience (including nonfederal entities)
- Project results/outputs add to the scientific literature/knowledge base, with applicability and utility beyond the scope of the project footprint/study area
- Academic and other nonfederal partner institutions (and their personnel) gain professional experience, increase knowledge, and develop skills and abilities
- Students benefit from direct interaction with federal scientists, program and technical staff, and field unit managers

2.3 In accordance with section 6305 – *Using cooperative agreements* of the *Federal Grant and Cooperative Agreements Act of 1977* (31 U.S.C. § 6301 et seq.), substantial involvement is expected between the Department of Defense and the recipient when carrying out the activity contemplated by the cooperative agreement. The DoD agrees to participate at a national level in support of the CESU program as accepted in the Master

MOU for the establishment and continuation of the CESU program Article II 1-4 and Article VI 1-7.

The US Army Corps of Engineers agrees to provide substantial involvement as directed under Article II (A) of the above listed CESU Master Agreement # to include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Raystown staff will provide technical assistance and guidance as necessary to support successful implementation of all required technical project elements.
- Raystown staff will participate in a pre-work meeting and status meetings as mutually agreed by the Government and recipient.
- Raystown staff will provide GIS files, maps, and any previous bat survey data that is currently available.
- Raystown incurs in-kind or direct expenditures in carrying out the activities specified in the project agreement. Examples include, but are not limited to, the following:
 - Providing computing services
 - Providing staff time to work on the project

3.0 DESCRIPTION OF OBJECTIVES

Field work for this effort will require data collection and analysis of at least two (2) spring and summer field seasons over a span of up to 36 months. All work shall be completed in accordance with the rules and regulations as specified by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

3.1 Conduct bat survey efforts at the Raystown Lake Project, located in Huntingdon County, Pennsylvania. Work shall include a combination of acoustic surveys, mist-netting, radio telemetry, and colony counts as required herein.

3.2 Design and implement a landscape scale study focusing on the use of acoustics, mist netting, radio telemetry, and colony counts to determine species presence/absence, species composition, habitat use, and colony location/size. This design shall include appropriate protocol elements necessary to obtain data to support the following:

- a. Data to support the presence or absence of all bat species. Species of particular interest include the Indiana bat, northern long-eared bat, little brown bat, and tri-colored bat.
- b. Capture of species, radio tagging, and tracking data to determine day-roost use, foraging preferences, reproductive behaviors, and habitat usage in order to support forest management plans that will continue to enhance species population by encouraging growth of surviving species and population sustainment.

4.0 QUALIFICATIONS

4.1 The recipient's principal investigator shall demonstrate appropriate education within a field related to natural resources supported by specific experience related to studying bat species and familiarity with regional natural resources and must demonstrate experience directing the efforts of a field team.

The recipient must demonstrate the availability of technical team members with appropriate education and background related to natural resources and appropriate technical experience pertaining to studying and handling bat species.

The recipient must demonstrate the ownership or ability to obtain required state or federal species handling or application permits required for this project.

5.0 GOVERNMENT FURNISHED MATERIALS OR PROPERTY

5.1 Physical Data: Raystown shall provide access to any existing data, existing reports, recent studies, or any other available information to support the objectives of this scope.

5.2 Facility: The Government will allow the use of facilities (office space), computers, equipment, and furniture that maybe available during the period of performance. The facilities, equipment, and furniture will be retained on Government records for accountability purposes.

5.3 Equipment: If the need arises for any Government furnished materials or property to be used during the period of performance those items will be governed by 2 C.F.R. Part 200.312 which states that a) Title to federally owned property remains vested in the Federal government. The non-Federal entity must submit annually an inventory listing of federally owned property in its custody to the Federal awarding agency. Upon completion of the Federal award or when the property is no longer needed, the non-Federal entity must return the property to the Federal awarding agency for further Federal agency utilization.

6.0 PERIOD OF PERFORMANCE

This effort requires 36 months from the date of award for administrative and technical support that will include 2 full spring and summer seasons. There are no follow-on periods.

7.0 COORDINATION

- USACE Fort Worth District GOTR
Kathy Mitchell
Environmental Agreements PM & Biologist
817 886-1709
kathy.s.mitchell@usace.army.mil

- USACE-CENAB
Glenn Werner
Forester
Raystown Lake Project
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Glenn.E.Werner@usace.army.mil
814-658-6807

8.0 DELIVERABLES

8.1 Progress Reports - One (1) typed letter report describing progress on the project. The report shall be due on or before the last day of each quarter (**31 December, 31 March, 30 June & 30 September**) and shall be transmitted via electronic mail to the Fort Worth USACE cooperative agreement post award inbox at swf-cesu-invoice@usace.army.mil. Invoices for partial payment shall be submitted along with each of the progress reports. No partial payment will be approved unless the government has received all progress reports due for each quarter.

8.2 Annual Inventory – Federally owned property - An annual inventory listing Federal property (to include description of the property, a serial number or other identification number) that is in the custody of the recipient; Copies to be sent to USACE – SWF GOTR and USACE - CENAB.

8.3 Annual Inventory – Acquired Property purchased with funding from award - property records must be maintained that includes description of the property, serial number or other identification number, source of funding, who holds title, acquisition date, cost of property, percentage of Federal participation in project costs, location, use and condition of property, and ultimate disposition including date of disposal and sale price. A physical inventory must be taken, and results reconciled every two years. Copies of the inventory to be sent annually to USACE – SWF, USACE GOTR and USACE - CENAB.

8.4 Annual Report per 2CFR. One (1) paper copy of a annual report shall be submitted no later than one month before end of each year. At a minimum, the report shall contain an introduction section, and one section for each Task identified in your proposal. For each Task, the report shall summarize work accomplished for the Task. USACE staff will review and provide comments, if any, within fifteen (15) calendar days after receipt.

8.5 Any records of meeting minutes shall be submitted to USACE – SWF, USACE GOTR, and USACE - CENAB.

8.6 Draft Final Technical Report. Draft final report to include final analysis of data along with mapping to illustrate day-roost use, foraging preferences, reproductive behaviors, and habitat usage. Provide to USACE – SWF, USACE GOTR and USACE – CENAB shall review and provide comments.

8.7 Final Technical Report. Prepare and submit final report addressing all government comments no later than two (2) weeks prior to the end of the period of performance.

9.0 ADMINISTRATION

9.1 This cooperative agreement may be administered through a CESU only upon mutual agreement and official authorization by both parties of the acceptance of the application of the CESU Network IDC rate (17.5%).

9.2 Any resulting cooperative agreement will be subject to and recipient/cooperator shall comply with 2 CFR 200.313 "Equipment", 200.314 "Supplies", and 200.315 "Intangible Property" which includes use of research data.

[End of SOO]