

September 2020

**REQUEST FOR STATEMENTS OF INTEREST/ REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
N62473-20-2-0017
PROJECT TO BE INITIATED IN 2020**

Project Title: TRADITIONAL CULTURAL LANDSCAPE STUDY IN THE VICINITY OF THE US/MEXICO BORDER ON THE BARRY M. GOLDWATER RANGE WEST FOR MARINE CORPS AIR STATION YUMA, ARIZONA

Responses to this Request for Statements of Interest will be used to identify potential cooperators for a project to be funded by the Department of the Navy (DoN) to provide cultural resources support to the Marine Corps Air Station (MCAS) Yuma. Funding in the range of \$78,300 to \$87,000 is expected to be available to support this project for the base period (24 months).

Type of Assistance Instrument Anticipated: Cooperative Agreement

Authority: Cooperative Agreement under 10 USC §2684 (Cultural Resources Management).

Eligible Applicants: Any Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit Californian, Desert Southwest, Colorado, Great Basin, and Pacific Northwest partner who qualifies under DoDGARS Part 34 or 2 Code of Federal Regulations 200 is eligible to apply.

Cost Sharing: Not required

Background:

The proposed Traditional Cultural Landscape Study area consists of approximately 120,000-acres along roughly 37 miles of the United States (US)/Mexico international border that delineates the southern boundary of the Barry M. Goldwater Range West (BMGRW); and 5 miles north of the border (See Enclosure 1). The Study area is located west of the Cabeza Prieta National Wildlife Refuge (CPNWR), east of the Colorado River, south of the Gila River, and north of El Pinacate y Gran Desierto de Altar Biosphere Reserve.

The study area is known to contain multiple archaeological sites including indigenous trails, rock art, rock features, and lithic, shell, and ceramic scatters that are thought to be part of an extensive trade network developed by the prehistoric Native Americans who inhabited the Sonoran Desert in the southwestern US and northwestern Mexico. These Native Americans are thought to be ancestral to modern tribes including the Ak-Chin Indian Community, Cocopah Tribe, Colorado River Indian Tribes, Fort Mojave Indian Tribe, Gila River Indian Community, Hia-Ced Hemajkam, Hopi Tribe, Quechan Tribe, Salt River Pima Maricopa Indian Community, Tohono O'odham Nation, Yavapai-Apache Nation, Yavapai-Prescott Tribe, and the Zuni Tribe. Many of these tribes are concerned about the treatment of these and other tribal resources within the Study area.

Addressing Native American concerns is one of the three major goals of MCAS Yuma's BMGRW Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan (ICRMP). Through recent consultations before and during preparation of the ICRMP, several tribes expressed concern to the MCAS Yuma Cultural Resources Manager about the fact that a landscape study was not being done in the vicinity of the US/Mexico border. This Study is proposed as a means to partially address tribal concerns about cultural resources in this area. It will benefit Navy and US Marine Corps training by building trusting relationships between the agency and the tribes with whom we typically consult for important mission undertakings.

The 120,000-acre study area has had limited archaeological survey done to date, covering approximately 24,600 acres, or about 21 percent of the total area. Those surveys resulted in the recording of 45 archaeological sites, not including the International Boundary Monuments, consisting of 19 prehistoric sites, 7 sites dating to the historical period, 8 multicomponent sites, and 11 sites of unknown age. This averages out to 1 site in every 547 acres. From this, we can estimate that if the entire 120,000 acres were to be surveyed, there would be approximately 220 sites within the study area.

These data, however, make up only a small portion of the information that contributes to the cultural landscape in the Study area. Without the knowledge that the tribes have, and without giving them the means to compare their knowledge with those data, we are not addressing the tribes' concerns. Some of the information that the tribes may wish to share during the Study include:

- place names for mountains and other landforms in the study area
- traditional names for the Colorado River
- stories or traditions tied to the study area
- plants, minerals, or other natural and biological resources known from the area
- any villages or trails in the vicinity
- any ceremonies or gatherings conducted in the vicinity

The knowledge gained from this study could serve as the bases for several further ethnographic, ethnobotanical, and archaeological themed studies in this area. Awarding this Study with a CESU would help the Cooperator, the Government, the Tribes, and the community establish new, and build on existing, partnerships. This is a new requirement that has not been previously procured.

Brief Description of Anticipated Work:

This Cooperative Agreement is for providing technical cultural resources support in order to assist the Range Management Department at MCAS Yuma in maintaining their high level of compliant, expert environmental stewardship by conducting a Traditional Cultural Landscape Study in the vicinity of the international border (within five miles on the US side) on the BMGRW. The Cooperator will work with the Native American communities associated with the US/Mexico border region of the BMGRW through documentation of their historical and contemporary associations with the landscape. Specific tasks consist of:

- Conduct a comprehensive literature review to identify properties of traditional, religious, and cultural significance, and incorporate this information into an overview
- Conduct presentations ($n \leq 10$), field trips ($n \leq 4$), and structured oral interviews ($n \leq 30$) with cultural representatives, leaders, and advisors for the associated tribes
Garner Native American understandings and interpretations of the cultural resources and landscape of the Study area - and the interrelationships among them - that can inform archaeological research and interpretations
- Synthesize the data gathered into drafts and a final Traditional Cultural Landscape Study

See Statement of work (enclosure 2) and Terms and Conditions (enclosure 3) for additional information.

Period of Performance:

The period of performance covered by this agreement is 24 months upon award, with up to 60-month Option Period that, if exercised, will extend the period of performance by another 24 months. The end date is the anticipated date that the Final Report is accepted by the Government. The parties may extend the term of this Agreement by written modification. The total duration of this agreement, including the Option Period and any time-extension modifications, shall not exceed 60 months. The Option Period is subject to the availability of funds.

A fifteen (15) day period, starting on date of award, will be used for the Recipient to provide preliminary documents to the CAA and CATR. Documents include, but are not limited to, Insurance documents/certificates and a Draft Work Plan. Recipient may not begin performance until preliminary documents are submitted and accepted/approved as appropriate.

Materials Requested for Statement of Interest/Qualifications:

Please provide the following via e-mail attachment to: Kellie Wilson
(kellie.wilson@navy.mil)

- 1) SF 424 (Enclosure 4)
- 2) Research & Related Senior/Key Personnel Form (Enclosure 5). Please see Factor 1 for qualification requirements.
- 3) Research and Related Budget Form (Enclosure 6). Please see Factor 3 for additional submittal requirements.
- 4) SF-LLL Disclosure of Lobbying Activities (Enclosure 7). If applicable, complete SF-LLL. Applicability: If any funds other than Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of

Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with the grant/cooperative agreement, you must complete and submit Standard Form - LLL, "Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying."

Reimbursement of pre-award costs will not be allowed.

Please note, that some of the forms functionality may be lost when retrieved from a 3rd party website. Please visit <https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/forms/r-r-family.html#sortby=1> to retrieve the forms directly from the Grants.gov website and use these forms when submitting your statement of interest.

Review of Statements Received: Proposals will be evaluated based on the following three factors: 1) Credentials of Key Personnel 2) Technical Approach, and 3) Reasonableness of Cost. Factors 1, 2 and 3 are of equal importance.

NOTE: All requirements listed are minimum requirements. Applicants will be assessed on their ability to adhere to the listed requirements, the completeness of their responses, their following of directions, their compliance with restrictions, and their ability to provide quality control on their submittals.

Factor 1 - Credentials of Key Personnel:

Principal Investigator (PI)/Archaeologist/Senior Researcher.

The Recipient shall provide one archaeologist/cultural resource specialist capable and qualified to meet the requirements of the Scope of Work. This person shall, at the minimum:

- have previously conducted and written a cultural landscape study for which they successfully communicated with Native American tribal representatives;
- have at least five years of documented experience in Native American traditional use studies focused on past and present properties of traditional, religious, and cultural significance;
- have at least five years of documented experience in ethnohistorical research; and
- meet the Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualification Standards in Prehistoric Archaeology (Secretary of the Interior, Federal Register, Vol. 48 No. 190).

The Applicant shall provide type-written resumes, not to exceed 5 pages each, single spaced with 12pt font.

Factor 2 – Technical Approach– The Cooperator shall provide up to a 5-page proposal describing how they will work with the Native American communities to conduct presentations, field trips, and structured oral interviews with tribal representatives and garner Native American understandings and interpretations of the cultural resources and landscape of the Study area.

Higher ratings may be given to proposals that demonstrate focus and state a clear hypothesis.

Factor 3 – Reasonableness of Cost –The proposal will be analyzed to determine whether its pricing is materially/mathematically balanced, and is fair and reasonable. The Offeror shall use OMB Circular A-21 “Cost Principles for Institutions of Higher Education,” 48 CFR part 31 “Contract Cost Principles and Procedures,” or 2 CFR 200 Subpart F “Audit Requirements” as applicable. Evaluations will include an analysis to determine the Offeror’s comprehension of the requirements of the solicitation as well as to assess the validity of the Offeror’s approach. A clear cost breakdown of work elements to be accomplished detailing quantities for the various work items, unit, unit prices and extended prices will be required and will be evaluated. Evaluation will include an analysis to determine the Offeror’s comprehension of the requirements of the proposed agreement as well as to assess the validity of the Offeror’s approach.

Please provide your proposed budget on the provided pdf titled, “Research and Related Budget” form (Enclosure 5). Please submit one budget form for the base year of work and separate budget form for Option Period 1 as specified in the Statement of Work.

***Form: RESEARCH AND RELATED BUDGET**

Complete the Research and Related Budget form in accordance with the instructions on the form. You must provide a detailed cost breakdown of all costs, by cost category, by the funding periods described below, and by task/sub-task corresponding to the task number in the proposed Statement of Work. You may request funds under any of the categories listed as long as the item and amount are necessary to perform the proposed work and meet all the criteria for allowability under the applicable Federal cost principles. The budget should adhere to the following guidelines:

The budget should be driven by program requirements. Elements of the budget shall include:

- Direct Labor - Individual labor category or person, with associated labor hours and unburdened direct labor rates.
- Indirect Costs - Fringe benefits, overhead, G&A, COM, etc. (must show base amount and rate). Justify in Field L.
- Travel - Number of trips, destination, duration, etc. Justify in Field L (on the form).
- Subcontract - A cost proposal as detailed as the applicant's cost proposal will be required to be submitted by the subcontractor. If applicable, include in Research & Related Subaward Budget Attachment Form.
- Consultant - Provide consultant agreement or other document that verifies the proposed loaded daily/hourly rate. Include a description of the nature of and the need for any consultant's participation. Strong justification must be provided, and consultants are to be used only under exceptional

circumstances where no equivalent expertise can be found at a participating university. Provide budget justification in Field L.

- Materials - Specifically itemized with costs or estimated costs. An explanation of any estimating factors, including their derivation and application, shall be provided. Include a brief description of the applicant's procurement method to be used (competition, engineering estimate, market survey, etc.). Justify in Field L.
- Other Directs Costs – Clarify any proposed items of equipment or facilities. Equipment and facilities generally must be furnished by the cooperator/recipient (justifications must be provided when Government funding for such items is sought). Include a brief description of the applicant's procurement method to be used (competition, engineering estimate, market survey, etc.). Justify in Field L.
- Budget Justification (Field L on the form): Provide the required supporting information for the cost elements as shown above (see Research & Related Budget instructions) and listed as follows: indirect cost, travel, consultant, materials, and other direct costs. Provide any other information you wish to submit to justify your budget request.

NOTE: Every deviation from the scope of work requirement must be identified. Proposer must identify the paragraph in the scope of work that is applicable and provide sufficient information to justify why the deviation is in the best interest of the government.

Timeline for Review of Statements of Interest:

We request that Statements of Interest be submitted by 15 September 2020 2:00 PM Pacific standard time. This Request for Statements of Interest will remain open until an investigator team is selected. Statements of Interest received after 09 September 2020 2:00 PM Pacific standard time are considered “late” and may not be considered. Please submit requests for information/questions no later than 15 September 2020 2:00PM Pacific standard time.

Please send responses or direct questions to:

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