

REQUEST FOR STATEMENTS OF INTEREST PROJECT TO BE INITIATED IN 2021

Applicants must be a member in one of the
Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Units (CESU) National Network

Project Title: Archaeological Site Management Plan and Treatment of Eroding Archaeological Sites, Pecos NHP, San Miguel County, New Mexico.

Responses to this Request for Statements of Interest will be used to identify potential investigators for a project to be funded by the National Park Service (NPS) which provides professional and technical support for its Cultural Resources Program in order to facilitate successful implementation of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (S110), as amended (16 USC 470). Approximately \$160,000 over two years is expected to be available to support this project.

Background:

Pecos National Historical Park consists of three detached units and totals almost 7000 acres. The park has been 100% surveyed and protects almost 800 archaeological sites spanning 12,000 years of human history. The park is named after Pecos Pueblo, which was one of the first Ancestral Pueblo sites to be systematically excavated in the 1920s. This work was completed by one of the founders of American archaeology, Alfred V. Kidder. The park protects a diverse array of archaeological sites including large and small pueblos (50-1000 rooms), agricultural field houses/features, sacred sites, trails/roads, Pueblo and Archaic artifact scatters, and Plains tipi rings. Some sites have standing architecture but most are rubble mounds, surficial, or sub-surface in nature.

The purpose of the project is create a plan or guide that will guide future research and management of archaeological sites by analyzing existing archaeological information; identifying gaps in knowledge; developing research questions or domains for future research or investigations needed to address questions; assisting with development of monitoring and condition assessment protocols for backcountry archaeological sites; and drafting treatment plans for threatened or damaged archaeological sites. Phase II of the project may include data recovery at threatened archaeological sites, but will not be funded until FY22.

Type of Award:

This project is in support of the NPS's federal mandates to inventory the historic properties under the Service's management (16 USC 470), and as a result, it is anticipated that a cooperative agreement through the CESU program will be awarded. Such awards 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%).

Brief Description of Anticipated Work:

The proposed project shall facilitate better future management and stewardship of PECO archaeological resources by accomplishing the following:

- Completion of a guiding management document called an **Archaeological Site Management Plan**. This plan is the main product to be completed. The focus of the plan will be on Archaic sites, Ancestral Pueblo sites/landscapes, Plains occupation/interaction, and secondarily on Spanish Colonial presence at Pecos.
- The Archaeological Site Management Plan should address several questions related to site management including:
 - What are the most important research questions, or major gaps in knowledge, related to the archaeology and history of Pecos? Can these questions be grouped by site type (i.e. field houses, communal pueblos etc.)? What questions cross site types?
 - What is the nature of Archaic occupation and how can we gain a better understanding of Archaic occupation/sites within Pecos?
 - How can park research programs contribute to local and regional understanding of Ancestral Pueblo occupations?
 - What research is needed to better understand Plains-Pueblo interactions at Pecos?
 - How do we assess the conditions of sites within the park?
 - What preservation treatments are available to stabilize the physical condition of sites and recover information?
 - What planning is needed to be able to preserve and collect data concerning sites?
 - What are the arguments or reasons for excavation/data recovery at threatened sites?
 - What do we hope to learn through data recovery?

The plan may have three major parts. Suggested organization/topics include:

- I. Research Designs/Questions organized by site types or groups (gaps in knowledge)
 - a. Small Communal Pueblos
 - b. Large Communal Pueblos
 - c. Agricultural Field Houses and agricultural features (structural components)
 - d. Special Activity Loci (artifact scatters without structural components; many of which could be agricultural sites)
 - e. Shrines/Sacred Sites (including some petroglyph sites- maybe overlap with other site types)

- f. Trails/roads (a few possible near Pecos Pueblo)
 - g. Plains Indian sites (i.e. stone circles/tipi rings, other?)
- II. Monitoring/Condition Assessment Protocols
- a. How should sites be assessed and monitored?
 - b. How should condition be recorded- forms, photos, CRIS etc.
 - c. Include assessment of documentation needs.
 - d. What sites should be monitored and how often?
 - e. How does monitoring/condition assessment inform treatment plans?
 - f. What conditions need to exist before considering data recovery or treatments?
- III. Treatment Recommendations
- a. Develop case studies based on certain sites to help identify types of erosion/threats and responses as part of an archaeological site preservation/treatment guide.
 - b. Develop a treatment plans specific to each type of impact/threat that can be implemented at different archaeological sites.
 - c. Identify thresholds-either quantitative and/or qualitative measures for determining which treatment option should be pursued (i.e. erosion control, structural stabilization, backfilling, artifact collection, excavation...).

Applicants should possess a strong knowledge of archaeological survey, recording and excavation and of northern New Mexico history and archaeology, including Ancestral Pueblo and Plains cultures, and Spanish Colonial occupation. They should also possess at least a basic understanding of archaeological site management on government lands, and the monitoring and conservation of archaeological sites.

We are seeking applicants who can ideally complete all three phases of the project in-house including. Background Research; Research Designs focused on identified problem areas or gaps in knowledge and on specific archaeological site types; Monitoring and Condition Assessment/Conservation Protocols; Development of Treatment Recommendations/Plans which may include site stabilization, tribal consultation and data recovery.

We are also open to working with a cooperator who is willing to subcontract portions of the work to ensure that the proper expertise is used to develop the plan.

NOTE: Pecos NHP cultural resources staff will have significant involvement with the project to ensure that a product fits the parks needs and to help provide background references/research documents, GIS data, and guidance about direction. To make this project a success the park and cooperator will need to work together.

Period of Performance. The base period of agreement will extend 24 months from award.

Materials Requested for Statement of Interest/Qualifications:

Deadline for replies: **April 12th, 2021**

Please provide the following via e-mail attachment to:

Jeremy_moss@nps.gov

Maximum length: 2 pages, single-spaced 12 pt. font).

1. Name, Organization, Cage Code, Duns Number, Contact Information, Email address, CESU affiliation.
2. Brief Statement of Qualifications (including):
 - a. Biographical Sketch,
 - 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. Any brief description of capabilities to successfully complete the project you may wish to add (e.g. equipment, laboratory facilities, etc.).

Note: At this time we are only requesting that you demonstrate available qualifications and skills for performing similar or same type of work. A full study proposal and proposed budget are NOT requested at this time.

Review of Statements Received: All statements of interest received will be evaluated by a board comprising one or more people at the receiving installation or activity, who will determine which statement(s) best meet the program objectives. Based on a review of the Statements of Interest received, an investigator or investigators will be invited to prepare a full study proposal. Statements will be evaluated based on the investigator's specific experience and capabilities in areas related to the study requirements.

Please send responses or direct questions to:

Jeremy Moss

Chief of Resource Stewardship and Science/Archaeologist

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