

## **REQUEST FOR STATEMENTS OF INTEREST**

### **PROJECT TO BE INITIATED IN 2023**

Applicant must be a member in the one of the following  
Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Units (CESU):

Californian CESU  
Colorado Plateau CESU  
Desert Southwest CESU  
Rocky Mountains CESU

#### **Project Title:**

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, as amended (16 USC 470). Approximately \$172,500 is expected to be available to support this project.

#### **Background:**

Chaco Culture National Historical Park (CHCU) and Aztec Ruins National Monument (AZRU) are jointly managed park units that are UNESCO World Heritage Sites representing the heart of the ancient Chacoan culture. Enabling legislation establishing both parks was founded on protection and preservation of the unique cultural resources within the park boundaries representing the Chacoan culture. Baseline documentation of cultural resources is a mandate for these parks to assist in management, protection, and preservation of these ancient cultural sites. One of these baseline documents is an Archeological Overview and Assessment (AOA), which is needed for CHCU and due for an update for AZRU. From NPS DO-28 (1998:25), Cultural Resource Management Guideline, an AOA “describes and assesses the known and potential archeological resources in a park area. The overview reviews and summarizes existing archeological data; the assessment evaluates the data. The report assesses past work and helps determine the need for and design of future studies. It is undertaken in a park or regional geographical framework and may be a part of multi-agency planning efforts.”

#### **Type of Award:**

This project is in support of the NPS’s federal mandates to inventory and preserve 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:**

This project will complete an (AOA) for CHCU and update an existing 1977 AOA for AZRU. The project will fund research, fieldwork, and analyses to complete AOA reports for both parks. Duties will include conducting literature review and archival research, artifact and data analysis (as needed), developing site assessment and significance standards, providing National Register nominations for eligible resources, providing a protection plan of eligible resources, updating

GIS documentation (as needed) for proposed fieldwork, and identifying gaps in research. The AOA reports will be a critical synthesis of current knowledge about both park's cultural resources that must be protected from adverse impacts from park infrastructure development, visitor use, natural threats, and climate change. The documents will improve strategies for ongoing Section 106 and Section 110 archeological data collection and analysis by providing an overview of what's been done so far, and what we have learned from it. The AOA will develop site significance standards to help the parks make more informed, efficient, and defensible decisions about these resources.

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

**Materials Requested for Statement of Interest/Qualifications:**

Deadline for replies: **January 13, 2023**

Please provide the following via e-mail attachment to:

Lori Stephens

lori\_stephens@nps.gov

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

1. Name, Organization, CESU, Duns Number, Contact Information, Email address.
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, greenhouse facilities, field 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 comprised of 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 project proposal. Statements will be evaluated based on the investigator's specific experience and capabilities in areas related to the project requirements.

**Please send responses or direct questions to:**

Lori Stephens, Supervisory Archaeologist

Chaco Culture NHP and Aztec Ruins NM

National Park Service

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