

Funding Agency: US Army Corps of Engineers, Alaska District 2204 3 rd street JBER, AK. 99506	Funding Instrument: Cooperative Agreement Funding Opportunity No: POA-CESU-18-01 CFDA No: 12.632 Program Title: Legacy Resource Management Program, Sikes Act 670c-1
Issue Date: 13 July 2020	Application Due Date: 24 August 2020
<p>Overview: W911KB-20-2-0209 Management Species, Threatened and Endangered Species Kittlitz’s Murrelet Surveys at Tin City LRRS, Alaska.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Intro, Legal Drivers. 2. Major Requirements. Draft work plan, Final work plan, Draft Summary Report, Final summary report. 3. Supplies and Logistics. 4. Notification Requirements. 5. Master Deliverable Schedule. 6. Media contact and publication of data. 7. Period of Performance. 8. Points of Contact. 9. References. <p>See Scope of Work for detailed information.</p> <p>Period of Performance is: 18 months from date of award.</p>	
Estimated Total Funding: \$164,870.00	Anticipated Number of Awards: 1
Contents of Full Text Announcement	
I. Funding Opportunity Description	1. Project description, objectives & background
II. Tasks	2. Project Tasks and Requirements
III. Supplies & Logistics	3. Logistics
IV. Notification Requirements	4. Supplies and Materials
V. Master Deliverable Schedule	5. Project Communication
VI. Media contact and publication of data.	6. Spatial Data & Mapping Standards
*** There are 7 supporting documents referenced in the SOW that are too large to include*** contact the POC to obtain them.	7. Deliverables
	8. Points of Contact
	9. Period of Performance
Contact Information: Questions that are related to Grants.gov including registration and system requirements should be directed to the Grants.gov contact center at 1-800-518-4726. For assistance with this funding Opportunity Announcement please contact Olen.R.Northern@usace.army.mil	

Instructions to Applicant: The complete Funding Opportunity Announcement, application forms and Instructions can be downloaded directly from Grants.gov.

Applications in response to this Funding Opportunity Announcement must be submitted by 2:00PM Alaska time, on the Application Due Date. Applications may be submitted by mail, e-mail, or via the internet through Grants.gov. Each applicant is responsible to ensure their application has been received timely.

Applicants will have a Dun and Bradstreet Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number, and registered

See section IV of the Funding Opportunity Announcement for complete application submission information.

Section I: Funding Opportunity Description

NOTE** There are 7 supporting documents referenced in the SOW that are too large to include*** contact the POC in this RFP to obtain them. ******

POA-CESU 20-05 Management Species, Threatened and Endangered Species Kittlitz's Murrelet Surveys at Tin City LRRS, Alaska.

Cooperative Agreement, \$164,870.00, 18 month period of performance.

Section III: Eligibility Information

Eligible Applicants – CESU members.

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. **NOTE**** There are 7 supporting documents referenced in the SOW that are too large to include*** contact the POC in this RFP to obtain them. ******

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 Olen Northern, (907) 753-2525,
Olen.R.Northern@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. Program Narrative – Brief program description illustrating applicant’s ability to meet the goals and objectives described in Section I of the announcement.

Application shall be submitted NO LATER THAN 24 August 2020

3. Submission Instructions

Applications may be submitted via e-mail and, or the internet. E-mail is the preferred method.

a. Internet:

Applicants may submit proposals through Grants.gov. Applicants are responsible for ensuring that their Grants.gov proposal submission is received in its entirety. 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 using Grants.gov to submit proposals must be registered and have an account with Grants.gov. It may take up to three weeks to complete Grants.gov registration. For more information on registration, go to <http://www.grants.gov/ForApplicants>.

b. E-mail: **Preferred method**

Format all documents to print on Letter (8 ½ x 11”) paper. E-mail proposal to Olen.R.Northern@usace.army.mil

Section V: Application Review Information

1. Evaluation for Selection to receive consideration for award, the proposal must meet the requirements set forth in this FOA and be presented with adequate detail to assure the evaluator(s) have a good understanding of the proposed requirement(s). All proposals will be evaluated to determine the extent to which each offeror demonstrates a clear understanding of the requirements of the announcement, Scope of Work (SOW), and FOA.

The offeror shall submit a proposal that completely addresses all evaluation criteria and specifically identifies how each requirement will be satisfied. Technical proposal shall be no longer than 15-pages, font 12 (This page limitation is in addition to all required forms). All questions shall be submitted no later than 25 July 2020 at 2:00PM Alaska time.

2. Basis of Award: The selection decision will be based on the NFE offering the best overall value to the Government, with consideration given to all factors described below (weighted in descending order of importance). Proposals will not be ranked. The Government will not award a Cooperative Agreement to a grantee whose proposal

contains a deficiency. The selection will not be based on lowest proposed cost, it will be based on an analysis of each criteria listed below. The proposal document shall be outlined as shown below.

**PROJECT WORK STATEMENT
COOPERATIVE ECOSYSTEM STUDIES UNIT (CESU)**

**MGT, SPECIES, THREATENED AND ENDANGERED SPECIES
KITTLITZ'S MURRELET SURVEYS AT TIN CITY LRRS, ALASKA
RAM #VNMHA53207119**

Project Cost Ceiling: \$164,870

1.0 INTRODUCTION

Pacific Air Forces Regional Support Center (PRSC) manages the Tin City Long Range Radar Station (LRRS) in Northern Alaska. The purpose of this SOW is to provide details of the work to be performed in support of the Installation Natural Resource Management Plan (INRMP). Avian surveys are one component of the natural resource management program. A special emphasis has been placed in the plan on understanding the extent by which sensitive species using the installation or nearby areas. A number of bird species afforded protection from the Endangered Species Act, as well as Migratory Bird Treaty Act may be present at Tin City. A former ESA candidate species, the Kittlitz's murrelet has been detected in the Tin City LRRS region in past years.

This project shall enhance the PRSC's understanding of how the Kittlitz's Murrelet currently uses the installation, airspace, and nearby coastal areas. The PRSC has not surveyed this site for avian species in >5 years, thus existing data is rather out dated. The results of this project shall not only provide specific information about the status of the Kittlitz's Murrelet at Tin City LRRS, but also information valuable to aviators regarding any avian strike risks posed by murrelets or other species documented during the site visits. This project supports the PRSC with its completion of goals and objectives of the 2020 Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan, specifically Goal 4, objective 4.1.

Projects 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 or work products. This CA shall not be used for performance of personal services. These tasks provided by the customer for execution under this CA by USACE do not include functions to be performed that are personal services.

Any modifications to Cooperative Agreement activities as outlined by this SOW must be coordinated through the Grants Officer's Technical Representative (GOTR) and approved by the Grants Officer (GO) prior to Cooperator implementation.

1.1 Legal Drivers

This project is intended to meet installation-wide ecosystem monitoring and assessment goals set forth in the JBER Integrated Natural Resource Management Plan (INRMP). Legal Drivers: Title 16 USC 670c-1, Title 10 USC 2694, DoD Instruction 4715.03, *Natural Resources Conservation Program* (February 14, 2011); AFI 32-7064, *Integrated Natural Resources Management*.

2.0 MAJOR REQUIREMENTS AND TASKS

The tasks and deliverables described within this SOW shall be completed during the course of the period of performance. The awardee implanting the tasks in the field shall have searching experience for murrelet species. The awardee is responsible for completion of all tasks described within this SOW, inclusive of transport needs, state and federal permitting, and any logistical needs or costs required to perform the work identified within this SOW. Reference B provides the awardee with an understanding of installation access, visitor processing, required forms, and other information helpful for new visitors to Tin City LRRS. The awardee is responsible for populating and submitting all site access request documentation in order to access the USAF site. Any charter companies the awardee uses for logistics shall be aware that the Civilian Aircraft Landing Permit is a responsibility of the awardee and its subcontractors.

2.1 TASK 1 - DRAFT WORK PLAN

A Draft Work Plan shall be created by the awardee displaying how and when the work shall be completed over the course of the period of performance. Within the work plan, the NFE shall populate a Project Planning Chart (PPC), which details timing of actions taking place through the span of the entire scope of the project. Dates of site visits, document submissions, and review periods shall be portrayed in the PPC. The use of Gantt charts to fulfill the PPC requirement of the draft and final work plan is appropriate. A list of employees, inclusive of their educational certificates and licenses shall also be portrayed in the work plan.

The awardee may require usage of the on-site contractor for logistics, vehicles, building access and other site specific support. The services the awardee intends to subcontract from the installation support contractor or other logistics contractors in the state shall be described in the draft work plan and identified as subcontract actions.

Scientific support for the methods of selection for the implementation of Kittlitz's murrelet surveys as well as any equipment selected to implement those tasks shall be depicted in the work plan. The survey methods, design and approach shall yield a minimum population estimate for the installation. The approach proposed and methods selected shall be repeatable.

All Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) required for the project shall be identified within the work plan. The work plan shall also include a section entitled "safety" where the awardee lays out how project safety hazards will be eliminated or mitigated. The safety section of the work plan shall identify what PPE will be used during the project.

Prior to implementation of field work, the awardee shall apply and obtain all federal and state permits required for the proposed work. Copies of draft permit applications and final permits shall be included in the draft and final work plan. The work plan shall identify and include sources of peer reviewed literature which depicts how successful the selected survey methods and deterrents have performed elsewhere in the world. Any equipment used for satellite tracking capture birds shall have the model and vendor of the equipment included in the work plan.

The work plan contents shall defend and explain the awardee's selected scientific approach for the methods used to implement tasks in this SOW. An itemized list of all equipment and the purchase price shall appear in the draft and final workplan. The survey design shall be outlined in the draft work plan. The USAF anticipates repeating the survey in future years, thus the survey design and methodologies shall be clear, easily repeatable, and memorialized using high quality maps, detailed descriptions, GIS and peer reviewed methodologies. A Draft Work Plan shall be submitted to the government within 30 calendar days of award date. The government shall be afforded a 14 calendar day review period and shall provide the awardee with comments to utilize for finalization of the document.

2.2 TASK 2 - FINAL WORK PLAN

The awardee 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 awardee within a response to comment matrix, which shall be submitted alongside the Final Work Plan. The awardee shall submit a Final Work Plan with accompanying populated response to comment matrix 21 calendar days after receipt of government comment. The awardee is not permitted to begin field work until the PRSC has approved the work plan and the manner by which all comments have been addressed.

2.3 TASK 3 - DRAFT SUMMARY REPORT

After completion and approval of the Final Work Plan is documented, the awardee shall proceed to complete field work at Tin City LRRS. Submittal of All Site arrival notices and Civilian Aircraft Landing Permits are the requirement of the awardee for trip planning. During site visits the awardee shall coordinate with base operations site contractor on safety procedures required while conducting work on PRSC installation. In the event the awardee does not possess a vehicle in nearby village the awardee shall be required to arrange for transportation.

During field surveys the following data shall be recorded: track log of the survey teams search paths, GPS location of any Kittlitz's murrelet observed, their nests or eggs, or evidence of their presence. If satellite collars are utilized as a method, flight paths of this species shall be portrayed in the draft report. In the event satellite collars are used, maps shall also display locations of the animals at sea. All GIS data collected during this project shall meet the format and definition identified within Reference C.

All nests discovered shall be monitored and a nest fate for each discovered nest shall be recorded and portrayed in the report. The airfield approach and departure axis shall be portrayed on maps when displaying the location of any Kittlitz's Murrelet sightings, in order to provide information on whether this species has any potential to interact with aircraft. The report shall provide advice to aviators in the event findings display potential for airfield interactions with this species (e.g bird strikes).

The awardee shall create a section in the report entitled "Guidelines for Minimizing Disturbance of Kittlitz's Murrelet at Tin City" and populate this section with valid information based on observations from the field visits and past scientific literature. The Draft Summary report shall utilize the format used in Reference D in this SOW. The Draft Summary Report shall be

submitted to the government no later than 15 months after award date. The government shall be afforded a 14 calendar day review period.

2.4 TASK 4 - FINAL SUMMARY REPORT

The government shall provide the awardee with comments nested within a response to comment matrix within 14 calendar days of draft report receipt. The awardee shall utilize the comments to make necessary changes to the document. The awardee shall submit the Final Summary Report to the government within 21 calendar days of receipt of comment. GIS data shall be submitted alongside the Final Summary Report.

3.0 SUPPLIES AND LOGISTICS

All supplies, materials, and shipments required to complete the tasks in this SOW must be purchased by the awardee. There is no government provided equipment for this project. Shipping of any materials necessary for the project shall be done so at the cost of the awardee and will be done via barge or air cargo movements to the PRSC sites. In the event the awardee wishes to ship using DOD shipment services, the awardee shall apply for airlift Customer Identification Code (CIC) and transportation account code (TAC) in order to utilize air cargo shipping and processing of payments. This awardee is responsible for all project demobilization and clean up after completion of tasks and site visits. Early coordination with the USAF PRSC program management office and the PRSC Air Support Squadron regarding site visits is advised. Awardee is responsible for populating and submitting site arrival notices in a timely manner. Many contractors using the PRSC sites, utilize services from the Base Operations Contractor including but not limited to: vehicle rental, taxi services, tool rental, shipping services.

4.0 NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

The awardee is required to issue a status report 9 months after award. The purpose of the status report is to ensure the initial 50% of the period of performance is being successfully completed in parallel with this SOW and Final Approved Work Plan. The mid-term status report shall identify what field work has been completed and when, what portion of the draft report has been completed, and what remaining task still need to be completed. Challenges and successes shall also be portrayed in the mid-term status report. The draft mid-term status report shall be submitted to the government 9 months after award. The government shall be afforded 14 calendar days to review and provide comment on the submittal. The awardee shall revise the document using government comment and provide a final mid-term status report 14 calendar days after receipt of comment.

During any course of the project the awardee shall notify the government of critical issues that may affect the awardees performance and/or human health and the environment. The types of issues that require notification include, but are not limited to, health risks, spills, unexpected utility crossings, unusual weather conditions, unacceptable materials, changes in critical personnel, and Unexploded Ordinance (UXO). On critical issues, oral notification should be made immediately, followed by written notification as soon as practical. Prior to outside regulatory communications with USFWS or other permitting agent, the awardee shall coordinate with the government. All site arrival notices, civilian landing permits, and other access document shall be submitted by their advertised deadlines.

5.0 MASTER DELIVERABLE SCHEDULE

Deliverable Title	Submission Schedule
Draft Work Plan	30 calendar days after award date.
Final Work Plan	14 calendar days after receipt of govt comment
Draft Mid Term Project Status Report	9 months after award date.
Final Mid Term Project Status Report	14 calendar days after receipt of govt comment
Draft Summary Report	15 months after award date.
Final Summary Report	21 calendar days after receipt of govt comment

6.0 MEDIA CONTACT AND PUBLICATION OF DATA

All reports and data generated under this contract are the property of the government and distribution by the awardee to any source, unless previously authorized by the 611 CES, is prohibited. The awardee shall not make available to the news media or publicly disclose any data generated or reviewed under this contract. When approached by the news media, the awardee shall refer them to the CO for response. Project reports and data generated under this contract shall become the property of the government and distribution to any other source by the awardee is prohibited. In the event the awardee decides to publish findings which utilize field data from this award, the awardee agrees to share a draft version of the publication with the 611 CES project manager prior to submitting to a journal body. The government reserves the right to review the awardee’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.

7.0 PERIOD OF PERFORMANCE

The Period of Performance is 18 months from the date of award.

8.0 POINTS OF CONTACT

The POC for USACE Project Management is Charis Cooper. Cooperative Agreement questions should be addressed to the Grants Officer, Olen Northern. Correspondence should be addressed as follows:

Charis Cooper
 U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
 Environmental & Special Projects Branch
 ATTN: CEPOA-EC-EE
 P.O. Box 6898
 JBER, AK 99506-0898
 Phone: (907) 753-5692
 Email: charis.a.cooper@usace.army.mil

Olen Northern
 U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
 Contracting Division
 ATTN: CEPOA-CT
 P.O. Box 6898
 JBER, AK 99506-0898
 Phone: (907) 753-2525
 Email: Olen.R.Northern@usace.army.mil

The USACE Grants Officer is the only person authorized to make or approve any changes in any of the requirements of this agreement. In the event the Cooperator makes any changes at the direction of any person other than the USACE Grants Officer, the change will be considered to

have been made without authority and no adjustment will be made in the agreement price to cover any increase in costs incurred as a result thereof.

The Air Force Technical POC for the project is:

Joel Helm
611th Civil Engineer Squadron
10471 20th Street, Suite 302
JBER AK 99506-2201
Email: joel.helm.1@us.af.mil

9.0 REFERENCES

- Reference A. 2020 PRE FINAL USAF PRSC Remote Sites INRMP
- Reference B. 2012 FINAL USAF 611 ASG Remote Sites INRMP
- Reference C. AFCEC GIS Standards
- Reference D. 2018 Journal of Wildlife Management Publication Format and Guidelines

Proposal Submission Evaluation Criteria and Basis of Award

MGT, SPECIES, THREATENED AND ENDANGERED SPECIES KITTLITZ's MURRELET SURVEYS AT TIN CITY LRRS, ALASKA USAF 611TH CIVIL ENGINEER SQUADRON

The Government will evaluate technical proposals in accordance with the criteria described herein and award a Cooperative Agreement task order to the responsible grantee whose proposal is determined to represent the best overall value to the Government. Proposals will not be ranked. The Government will not award a Cooperative Agreement to a grantee whose proposal contains a deficiency.

The evaluation factors for this action are:

- Factor 1, 40%: Experience (most important technical factor)
- Factor 2, 35%: Technical Approach (2nd most important technical factor)
- Factor 3, 25%: Cost (reviewed after the technical package for fairness and reasonableness, and weighted against the totality of the technical factors)

After listing proposal 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 proposal, to perform the requirements stated in the grant. The adjectival ratings shall be assigned, using the following criteria, which incorporate a proposal risk assessment:

Weight	Adjectival Rating	Description
4	Outstanding	Proposal indicates an exceptional approach and understanding of the requirements and contains multiple strengths.
3	Good	Proposal indicates a thorough approach and understanding of the requirements and contains at least one strength.
2	Acceptable	Proposal indicates an adequate approach and understanding of the requirements.
1	Marginal	Proposal has not demonstrated an adequate approach and understanding of the requirements or contains an element of risk.
0	Unacceptable	Proposal does not meet requirements of the solicitation and, thus, contains one or more deficiencies and is unawardable.

PROPOSAL AND SELECTION CRITERIA

The Cooperator shall be evaluated in accordance with the selection criteria below. The selection criteria are listed in descending order of importance.

Factor 1 Experience

The Cooperator shall demonstrate prior project experience relevant to the attached SOW, completed within 5 years of the RFP, and other qualifications and technical competence in all of the following areas:

1. Experience performing aerial bird surveys, conducting/monitoring ground surveys for bird nesting/productivities, and preparing technical reports for studies, projects or plans.
2. At least 2 years of previous experience searching or surveying for the presence of Kittlitz's Murrelets.
3. Planning and managing time critical work, performing studies, projects or preparing plans or reports in accordance with applicable guidance and regulations.
4. Experience developing and implementing monitoring plans and collecting data in remote locations.

The Cooperator 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 25% complete or were completed within the past seven (7) 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 Cooperator shall provide a brief narrative of their technical approach and a milestone schedule. The narrative shall be no more than 1 page per main task and must include:

- A discussion of the technical approach to accomplish the performance work statement requirements, detailing number of hours anticipated to complete the project deliverables.
- 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 Cooperator 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-cooperators.

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

The evaluation standard has been met when the Cooperator demonstrates an understanding of the work that adequately addresses the task order requirements. The inclusion of numerous assumptions that significantly “assume away” Cooperator risk with regard to major issues or problems that may be encountered on the project will be considered unacceptable.

Factor 3 Cost

Provide proposed cost to the government. Allowable costs incurred by institutions of higher education is determined in accordance with the provision of OMB Circular A-21, "Cost Principles for Educational Institutions," ONR negotiated rates, and institutional policies. OMB's cost principles are contained in 2 CFR 200.400-.475 et seq.

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 proposal are rated as having equal non-cost factors, the lowest cost tender of the proposals received would be granted as the preferred tender unless there are extraordinary reasons for not doing so.

Compete W911KB-20-2-0209
 MANAGEMENT, SPECIES, Threatened and Endangered Species Kittlitz's Murrelet Surveys at Tin
 City LRRS, Alaska..

Lease vs. Buy Evaluation Factors

The NFE shall provide a cost analysis for Lease vs. Buy factors. The following factors shall be considered at a minimum, and shall contain numerical values where applicable.

Factors	Lease	Buy
Estimated Period of Use/Extent of Use		
Financial Advantages		
Cumulative Rental Payments for Estimated Time Period		
Transportation and Installation Costs		
Maintenance & Other Service Costs		
Potential Obsolescence of equipment due to imminent technological improvements		
Availability of Purchase Options		
Potential for Use by other Agencies after preliminary use has ended		
Trade-in or Salvage Value		
Imputed Interest		
Can the equipment be serviced by the government or other sources if it is purchased?		
Total Cost:		

Factors	Lease	Buy
Estimated Period of Use/Extent of Use		
Financial Advantages		
Cumulative Rental Payments for Estimated Time Period		
Transportation and Installation Costs		
Maintenance & Other Service Costs		
Potential Obsolescence of equipment due to imminent technological improvements		
Availability of Purchase Options		
Potential for Use by other Agencies after preliminary use has ended		
Trade-in or Salvage Value		
Imputed Interest		
Can the equipment be serviced by the government or other sources if it is purchased?		
Total Cost:		

Project Past Performance

Project Name,	
Project Location:	
Contract or Cooperative Agreement #:	
Size (Value):	
Technical Complexity:	
Technical Team Utilized:	
Point of Contact(s): Provide Email and phone number	