

FUNDING OPPORTUNITY ANNOUNCEMENT (FOA)

Funding Agency: US Army Corps of Engineers Alaska District PO Box 6898 JBER AK 99506	Funding Instrument: Cooperative Agreement Funding Opportunity W911KB-24-2-0005 No. CFDA No: 12.005 Program Authority 16 U.S.C. 670 (Sikes Act)
Issue Date: 19 July 2024	Application Due Date: 20 August 2024
<p>Overview: Tanana Flats Training Area All Season Road and Gravel Production, Fort Wainwright, Alaska SOW 21-108 - The objectives of this scope of work are to implement the Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan to provide healthy and resilient environments that are sustainable, high-quality settings for military training, to protect and enhance biological diversity and ecological health on all Department of Defense (DoD) lands, and to ensure compliance with all environmental laws and regulations. See full Funding Opportunity Description in Section I.</p>	
Estimated Total Funding: \$298,638.00	Estimated Number of Awards: 1
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II. Award Information	VI. Award Administration Information
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<p>Contact Information: Questions relating to Grants.gov including the registration process and system requirements should be directed to the Grants.gov Contact Center at 1-800-518-4726. For assistance with the requirements of this Funding Opportunity Announcement, please contact the Grants Specialist, casandra.a.hutchins@usace.army.mil.</p> <p>Instructions to Applicants: The complete Funding Opportunity Announcement, application forms, and instructions are available for download at Grants.gov.</p> <p>Applications in response to this Funding Opportunity Announcement shall be submitted by the application due date. Applications may be submitted electronically via email or through Grants.gov.</p> <p>Applicants shall have a Unique Entity Identification (UEI) number, registration with the System of Award Management (SAM), and registration with Grants.gov, if submitting application through Grants.gov.</p> <p>See Section IV of the Funding Opportunity Announcement for complete application submission information.</p>	

Section I: Funding Opportunity Description

TANANA FLATS TRAINING AREA ALL SEASON ROAD AND GRAVEL PRODUCTION FORT WAINWRIGHT, ALASKA SOW 24-108

JUNE 2024

Project Cost Ceiling: \$298,638.00

1.0 INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this Statement of Work (SOW) is to provide details of work to be performed by a Recipient in support of the 11th Airborne Division (11th ABN DIV) Training Support Activity - Alaska (TSA-AK) Integrated Training Area Management (ITAM) Sustainable Range Program through a cooperative agreement awarded and administered by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Alaska District (USACE) to implement the United States Army Garrison (USAG) Fort Wainwright Alaska (FWA) Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan (INRMP). The project will conduct vegetation clearing and maneuver trail maintenance in the Tanana Flats Training Area (TFTA).

Tasks provided 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, and/or accountability of Government officials using Recipient services or work products.

2.0 OBJECTIVES

The objectives of this scope of work are to implement the INRMP to provide healthy and resilient environments that are sustainable, high-quality settings for military training, to protect and enhance biological diversity and ecological health on all Department of Defense (DoD) lands, and to ensure compliance with all environmental laws and regulations.

2.1 Specific objectives include:

- Manage sustainable ecosystems.
- Protect and enhance wetlands and watersheds.
- Manage forest resources.
- Protect and enhance fish and wildlife habitats.
- Repair, revegetate, and enhance training areas.
- Protect soil, water, and vegetative resources by preventing or mitigating soil erosion through conservation practices.
- Improve water quality and increase long and short-term effectiveness of land use for military training purposes.
- Maintain / manage perennial vegetation to support mission requirements and enhance stewardship.

2.2 Descriptions applicable to all tasks:

2.2.1 Soil, water, and vegetation protection and repair. Conduct general land / soil stabilization and maneuver damage repair using a variety of methods including but not limited to aerial seeding, band fertilizer, broadcast fertilizer, broadcast seeding, chiseling, diversion ditches, diversion terraces, drill seeding, fabrics & netting, filter stripping, grading & shaping, grassed waterways, gravel/rock, mulch, hydro-seeding, limestone & gypsum, moldboard plowing, non-traditional material, offset disking, riprap, straw mulch, crimped straw mulch, disked sub-soiling, tandem disking, terracing, trenching, brush plowing, hydro-axing, reducing maneuver/training inhibiting vegetation, clearing other natural or manmade material, bulldozing, chaining, furrowing/shredding, applying herbicide, root plowing, or applying emulsions to control dust. Reconfigure training areas to protect sensitive areas and benefit the training mission to include but not limited to creating maneuver corridors, planting trees and shrubs, creating hard stands, developing tactical concealment areas, closing, or reducing maneuver roads or trails, and constructing tactical road and low water crossings (LWC). Reduce or thin woody vegetation to allow greater room for maneuverability. Harden lanes or trails to allow for greater accessibility and access. Prepare approaches to existing roads for tactical vehicle crossings. Project also includes but is not limited to installing signs, Seibert Stakes, posts, or other obstacles to discourage maneuver through wetlands or other sensitive areas. Create, repair, upgrade, and maintain heavy use areas to limit erosion including but not limited to bivouac areas, firing points, staging areas, and travel lanes. Create, upgrade, and maintain tactical concealment areas / islands. Plant woody vegetation to create or protect existing vegetation in and around tactical concealment islands and areas. Provide cover and concealment by planting and maintaining trees and shrubs in the training areas. Conduct road or trail closure and rehabilitation to training areas. Close range roads or range road segments and return the land to natural condition to permit maneuver and training. Reduce degraded range roads (e.g., expanded width due to vehicles bypassing) to original configuration and dimensions. Repair and maintain tactical low water vehicle crossings for tactical vehicles by improving approaches and hardening stream at crossing location. Conduct rehabilitation and maintenance of other use areas into training area and converting land used for non-training or non-maneuver purposes to maneuver area. Conduct training area closure for permanent or semi-permanent purposes. Project includes but is not limited to blocking trails or roads, developing earthen berms, emplacing markings systems, installing bollards, and emplacing other barriers to restrict access into closed areas. Minor land repair and maintenance of drop zones, landing zones, pickup zones, aircraft hover points and landing pads.

2.2.2 Erosion control. Conduct erosion control measures on and around maneuver area roads and trails. Also includes reducing a degraded maneuver trail to original configuration or dimensions to limit wet area impacts. Project can include but is not limited to grading roadway, installing fabric, installing gravel, installing culverts, and repairing, clearing, or developing ditches. Conduct dust erosion control for maneuver area roads and trails by emplacing water, oil, or other emulsion on the road or trail surface. Install erosion control measures, such as sediment basins, check dams, gabions, retaining walls, sediment barriers, sediment fences, and sediment traps. Employ techniques to prevent or reduce the effects of wind erosion and control dust on and off roads. Methods include but are not limited to windrows, revegetation, and applying water or other emulsions to exposed soil. Construct or maintain LWC or stream crossings for vehicles to prevent erosion and sedimentation. Methods include but are not limited to rip rap, interlocking cement measures, cement measures, etc. Repair firing ranges to control erosion and prevent training land

degradation by repairing or maintaining target berms, access roads, assembly areas, or any other components of firing ranges.

2.2.3 Vegetation and soil rehabilitation. Conduct soil rehabilitation by employing a number of methods including but not limited to aerial seeding, band fertilizer, broadcast fertilizer, broadcast seeding, chiseling, drill seeding, fabrics & netting, filter stripping, grassed waterways, mulching, hydro-seeding, soil amendments such as limestone & gypsum, moldboard plowing, offset disking, straw mulch, crimped straw mulch, disked sub-soiling, tandem disking, critical area treatment grass sods, grass stolons, rhizomes, or top soiling. Conduct stream bank repair or hardening. Construct or maintain hardened sites on stream banks or shoreline where bridging training habitually occurs. Harden shoreline for use during habitual amphibious training. Conduct stream bank habitat improvement. Methods to conduct stream bank repair include but are not limited to root wad stabilization, spruce tree revetment and live siltation or other techniques to secure the toe of slope of the eroded stream bank line. Biological methods of rebuilding stream banks may utilize methods such as brush layering, coir log emplacement or other techniques. Revegetation methods include willow live staking, vegetative matting methods or other techniques. Retraining the flow of the stream by utilizing methods such as stone thalweg deflectors or other methods may be utilized to manipulate the flow of water with a stream or river. Methods to harden stream banks include but are not limited to rip rap, interlocking cement measures, etc.

2.2.4 Sensitive area protection. Install and maintain protective measures, to include capping with soil, to protect archaeological sites. Install and maintain bollards, posts, or other protective measures to prevent public intrusion and/or to prevent military intrusion into environmentally sensitive areas. Includes marking systems and materials such as "Seibert Stakes".

2.2.5 Habitat management. Habitat improvement includes but is not limited to cutting woody vegetation, developing, or maintaining food plots, or planting herbaceous or woody vegetation. Wildfire prevention includes but is not limited to repair and maintenance of fire/fuel breaks, other fuels modifications, or fuel reduction. Providing cover and concealment involves planting/maintaining/removing perennial woody vegetation to support cover and concealment for military training or improved wildlife habitat.

3.0 MAJOR REQUIREMENTS

3.1 Task 1: TFTA All Season Road Gravel (Work Order # PTM-R2307-3-1J)

3.1.1 Location.

The project is located in the Tanana Flats Training Area (TFTA) along the planned all season road providing access from the Tanana River Bridge to the Blair Lakes Range Complex and training area assets in between.

3.1.2 Objective.

Develop gravel resources to support all season access to maneuver lands, trails, and assets in the TFTA.

3.1.3 Description.

Develop gravel resources in the TFTA by clearing vegetation and overburden from gravel deposits and excavating, screening (if necessary), and stockpiling gravel for future trail maintenance use.

3.1.4 Environmental documentation, permitting, and consultation.

Repair, maintenance, and recovery projects such as these were analyzed in the 2020 INRMP, 2013 INRMP Programmatic Environmental Assessment (PEA), and the 2009 U.S. Army Garrison Alaska's Range Complex and Training Land Upgrades PEA. An environmental checklist was submitted and reviewed by FWA NEPA Program Manager in accordance with the provisions of the PEA. Cultural resources sites will be marked, and soil disturbing activities will be prohibited in these areas. Likewise, every effort has been made to locate all disturbances away from cultural resources to the extent practicable and not realizing a detriment to training. The area has been delineated for wetlands and all ground disturbing activities will occur entirely in uplands. Wetland boundaries will be delineated to avoid inadvertent fill. Best Management Practices (BMPs) will be utilized in order to minimize sedimentation of adjacent vegetated areas and drainage systems. Vegetation clearing would be conducted outside the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) nesting window of 1 May – 15 July, as recommended by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USF&WS) or use of other BMPs approved by FWA Directorate of Public Works (DPW). Coverage under the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC) General Construction Permit (GCP) and a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) would be required if ground disturbance is greater than one (1) acre. There are no known contamination or Unexploded Ordnance (UXO) concerns.

3.1.5 Treatment.

Clearing:

1. Clear vegetation from the site footprint.
2. Vegetation may be hydroaxed in place or bermed up at the edge of the project site.

Grubbing:

1. Organic materials and soils shall be stockpiled on the edge of the site for future remediation.
2. Material shall be shaped to facilitate future maintenance and not impede drainage.
3. Berms shall be placed to avoid impounding water due to flooding or alter floodplain flows.

Access Hardening:

1. Install one-to-two (1-2) feet (ft) of three-inch (3") minus gravel. Class C compaction required.
2. Top driving surface to be eighteen (18) ft wide.
3. Install geotextile in areas of poor soil strength and/or over excavate down to suitable soils.
4. Side slopes no greater than two-to-one (2:1) installed straight and neat.

Drainage:

1. Install culverts or LWCs as needed.
2. Ditches installed to facilitate drainage.

3. Driving surface to have a two (2) percent (%) crown or out-sloped as appropriate.

Salvageable Timber:

1. All salvageable timber shall be stacked in decks between one (1) and ten (10) cords in size.
2. Salvageable timber includes all birch, spruce, and aspen greater than six-inch (6") in diameter.
3. Tops and stumps shall be ground to a debris size consistent with project requirements.

All compaction will be Class C: a minimum of three (3) passes with a smooth vibrator drum roller with a minimum weight of 24,000 pounds (lbs.), minimum vibration of 1,800 vibrations per minute (VPM), and a centrifugal force of 55,000 lbs. or greater.

4.0 GENERAL SPECIFICATIONS

4.1 Recipient's General Notes:

- The Recipient is responsible for coordinating with the appropriate Range Control before beginning activities in the training lands.
- The Recipient may be asked to suspend activities because of heightened Force Protection Condition (FPCON) levels. These FPCON actions may include delays in accessing Post and even denial of access.
- The Recipient is responsible for ensuring sub-recipients/sub-contractors all possess all the necessary documents to gain access to FWA or Donnelly Training Area (DTA) as needed. The list may include but is not limited to a valid Alaska driver's license, current vehicle registration, proof of insurance, and Commercial Driver's License with endorsements appropriate to the equipment being operated.
- The Recipient and their sub-recipients/sub-contractors are responsible for all damages incurred during and throughout the execution of this action. Examples include but are not limited to repairing damage caused by repeated trips to the construction areas by heavy equipment; repairing areas damaged by turn-around points, staging areas, and/or maintenance and refuel areas.
- Project sites shall be marked prior to initiation of fieldwork.

4.2 Recipient Employee Government Access Requirements:

4.2.1 AT Level I Training. *This standard language is for Recipient employees with an area of performance within an Army controlled installation, facility, or area.* All Recipient employees, to include sub-recipient/sub-contractor employees, requiring access Army installations, facilities and controlled access areas shall complete AT Level I awareness training within 60 calendar days after agreement start date or effective date of incorporation of this requirement into the agreement, whichever is applicable. The Recipient shall submit certificates of completion for each affected Recipient employee and sub-recipient/sub-contractor employee, to the Grants Officer Representative (GOR) or to the Grants Officer (GO), if a GOR is not assigned, within 60 calendar days after completion of training by all employees and sub-recipient/sub-contractor personnel. AT level I awareness training is available at the following website: <http://jko.jten.mil>.

4.2.2 Access and general protection/security policy and procedures. *This standard*

language is for Recipient employees with an area of performance within an Army controlled installation, facility, or area. Recipient and all associated sub-recipient/sub-contractor employees shall provide all information required for background checks to meet installation access requirements to be accomplished by installation Provost Marshal Office, Director of Emergency Services or Security Office. Recipient workforce must comply with all personal identity verification requirements as directed by DoD, Head Quarters Department of the Army (HQDA) and/or local policy. In addition to the changes otherwise authorized by the terms and conditions of this agreement, should the Force Protection Condition (FPCON) at any individual facility or installation change, the Government may require changes in Recipient security matters or processes.

4.2.3 For Recipients that do not require CAC but require access to a DoD facility or installation. Recipient and all associated sub-recipient/sub-contractor employees shall comply with adjudication standards and procedures using the National Crime Information Center Interstate Identification Index (NCIC-III) and Terrorist Screening Database (TSDB) (Army Directive 2014-05/AR 190-13), applicable installation, facility and area commander installation/facility access and local security policies and procedures (provided by Government representative), or, at OCONUS locations, in accordance with status of forces agreements and other theater regulations.

4.2.4 iWATCH Training. *This standard language is for Recipient employees with an area of performance within an Army controlled installation, facility, or area.* The Recipient and all associated sub-recipients/sub-contractors shall brief all employees on the local iWATCH program (training standards provided by the requiring activity Army Antiterrorism Officers [ATO]). This local developed training shall be used to inform employees of the types of behavior to watch for and instruct employees to report suspicious activity to the GOR. This training shall be completed within 60 calendar days of agreement award and within 60 calendar days of new employees commencing performance with the results reported to the GOR no later than 90 calendar days after agreement award.

4.2.5 For cooperative agreements that require OPSEC Training. Per AR 530-1 *Operations Security*, the Recipient employees must complete Level I OPSEC Awareness training. New employees must be trained within 30 calendar days of their reporting for duty and annually thereafter.

5.0 GOVERNMENT FURNISHED MATERIAL

The Government shall supply access to Army-managed lands, as necessary, to complete the activities outlined above. The Government may supply use of government-provided fixed or rotary wing aircraft to support efforts when available and deemed appropriate and after Recipient personnel acquire proper training.

6.0 REPORTS AND DELIVERABLES

Task 1: Complete project requirements within eighteen (18) months from date of award and provide a report detailing the types and number of equipment used; type and number of supplies; before, during, and after photos of the project areas; and site maps of the areas.

7.0 MEETINGS, REVIEWS AND COORDINATION

A post award planning meeting shall take place within one (1) month of award between the Army, the GOR or designee, and the Land Rehabilitation and Maintenance (LRAM) Coordination Program representative.

8.0 POINTS OF CONTACT

Technical Representative Points of Contact are:

Task 1

Josh Buzby
FWA ITAM Coordinator
Phone: (907) 353-3016
Email: joshua.v.buzby.civ@army.mil

The QA/QC Technical Representative for this project is Steven Tucker, TSA-AK ITAM Program Coordinator:

Steven Tucker
ITAM Program Coordinator
Training Support Activity-Alaska
Phone: (907) 384-2058
Email: steven.l.tucker2.civ@army.mil

The POC for USACE Project Management is Katie Russell, USACE. Cooperative agreement questions should be addressed to Tammy Davis. Correspondence should be addressed as follows:

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9.0 PERIOD AND PLACE OF PERFORMANCE

This project will be completed on FWA and DTA. The time for service is eighteen (18) months from date of award.

Section II: Award Information

This Funding Opportunity Announcement is for a competed cooperative agreement. This project will be completed on Fort Wainwright Alaska (FWA) and Donnelly Training Area (DTA). The time for service is eighteen (18) months from date of award. The total Project Cost Ceiling is \$298,638.00. The Government will have substantive involvement throughout the execution of this requirement.

Announcement Issue Date: 19 July 2024

Application Due Date: 20 August 2024

Estimated Award Date: On or About 29 August 2024

Section III: Eligibility Information

1. Eligible Applicants – Open to all that meet the criteria of this announcement. Award shall be limited to States, local governments, Indian tribes, non-governmental organizations, and individuals, pursuant to the authority of 16 U.S.C. 670c-1(a).
2. Cost Sharing – This action will be 100% funded by USACE.
3. Other Information – None noted.

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. 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 the Grants Specialist, Casandra Hutchins, casandra.a.hutchins@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. SF 424 B – Assurances – Non-Construction Programs
- d. Program Narrative – Brief program description illustrating applicant's ability to meet the goals and objectives described in Section VI Scope of Work of this announcement.

3. Application shall be submitted **NO LATER THAN 20 August 2024; 2:00 PM (Alaska Time)** via email or through Grants.gov.

4. Submission Instructions

Applications may be submitted by email or via the internet through Grants.gov. Choose ONE (1) of the following submission methods:

Via Email: Format all documents to print on Letter (8 ½ x 11") paper. E-mail proposal to the Grants Specialist, Casandra Hutchins, at casandra.a.hutchins@usace.army.mil.

Via Grants.gov: Applicants are not required to submit proposals through Grants.gov. However, if applications are submitted via the internet, applicants are responsible for ensuring that their Grants.gov proposal submission is received in its entirety and within the date and time required. 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 choosing to use Grants.gov to submit proposals must be registered and have an account with Grants.gov. ***It may take up to three (3) weeks to complete Grants.gov registration.*** For more information on registration, go to <http://www.grants.gov/ForApplicants>.

Section V: Application Review Information

Offer Submission Evaluation Criteria and Basis of Award

TANANA FLATS TRAINING AREA ALL SEASON ROAD AND GRAVEL PRODUCTION FORT WAINWRIGHT, ALASKA SOW 24-108

July 2024

The Government will evaluate technical submissions in accordance with the criteria described herein and award a cooperative agreement to the responsible offeror whose submission is determined to represent the best overall value to the Government. The Government will not award a cooperative agreement to an offeror whose submission contains a deficiency.

The evaluation factors for this action are:

- Factor 1: Experience (most important technical factor)
- Factor 2: Technical Approach (2nd most important technical factor)
- Factor 3: Cost (3rd most important factor)

After listing submission 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 submission, to perform the requirements stated in the Statement of Work (SOW). The adjectival ratings shall be assigned, using the following criteria, which incorporate a submission risk assessment:

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

OFFER EVALUATION AND SELECTION CRITERIA

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

Factor 1 Experience

The offeror shall demonstrate prior project experience relevant to the attached SOW, completed within the last five (5) years of this Funding Opportunity Announcement, and other qualifications and technical competence in all of the following areas:

1. Experience supporting Department of Defense (DoD) Natural resource management programs and understanding conservation elements necessary to monitor, manage, protect, and conserve training areas and range facilities for optimal management of public lands under military control. Offeror(s) may receive greater consideration for previous experience partnering with the Government in an aforementioned capacity.
2. Experience with management/treatment of vegetation control/modification, erosion control/soil stabilization, fuel breaks, seeding/re-vegetation, fertilization, culvert management, and trail maintenance on military lands.
3. Experience maintaining quality training lands by repairing training areas and sites that have been damaged and provide improved soldier training environments for sustainability.
4. Experience improving water quality and short and long-term effectiveness of land use for military training purposes.
5. Experience planning and managing time critical work, performing studies, projects or plans in accordance with applicable guidance and regulations.

The offeror 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 50% complete or were completed within the past five (5) 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 offeror shall provide a brief narrative of their technical approach and a milestone schedule. The narrative shall be no more than two (2) pages per main task and must include:

- A discussion of the technical approach to accomplish the SOW requirements.
- 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 inclusion of numerous assumptions that significantly “assume away” offeror risk regarding major issues or problems that may be encountered on the project will be considered unacceptable.

Recipient personnel must be able to comply with all applicable regulations to obtain a Common Access Card (CAC). Personnel are required, at a minimum, to complete a NACI/SF85 and successfully pass a federal background check. The Recipient shall employ no foreign nationals without prior approval of the Government.

The offeror 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-recipients. The Government will review, evaluate, and compare the technical approach documentation received from each offeror to determine best value.

Factor 3 Cost

Provide proposed cost to the Government for the 18-month period of performance as this data must be reviewed and evaluated to aid in determining fairness, reasonableness, and best value. In accordance with Title 2 of the Code of Federal Regulations, non-Federal entities may not earn or keep any profit (or comparable fees) resulting from Federal Financial Assistance actions. Therefore, any offers that contain profit and/or fees will be excluded from consideration because the Government cannot compensate for profit or fees on Federal Financial Assistance awards (i.e., Grants and Cooperative Agreements).

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 (1) offer is rated as having equal non-cost factors, the lowest cost tender of the offers received would be granted as the preferred tender unless there are extraordinary reasons for not doing so.

Section VI: Award Administration Information

Reserved.

Section VII: Agency Contacts

Reserved.

Section VIII: Other Information

Reserved.

All questions or inquiries regarding this Funding Opportunity Announcement shall be directed to the agency contact(s) noted in Section IV.