

## 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-24-2-0007 No.  CFDA No: 12.005  Program Authority 16 U.S.C. 670 (Sikes Act)
Issue Date: 23 July 2024	Application Due Date: 23 August 2024
<p><b>Overview:</b> Eielson AFB Central Heat and Power Plant Cooling Pond Vegetation Removal in Support of Bird Air Strike Hazard Reduction – The primary objectives of this project are to assist Eielson Air Force Base (EAFB) Natural Resources with optimal management of EAFB-managed lands, to minimize restrictions to the military mission due to natural resource related constraints, and to reduce the attraction of migratory birds to the EAFB Central Heat and Power Plant (CHPP) cooling pond. See full Funding Opportunity Description in Section I.</p>	
Estimated Total Funding: \$220,308.00	Estimated Number of Awards: 1
Contents of Full Text Announcement	
I. Funding Opportunity Description	V. Application Review Information
II. Award Information	VI. Award Administration Information
III. Eligibility Information	VII. Agency Contacts
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<p><b>Contact Information:</b> 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, <a href="mailto:casandra.a.hutchins@usace.army.mil">casandra.a.hutchins@usace.army.mil</a>.</p> <p><b>Instructions to Applicants:</b>                  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**

### **STATEMENT OF WORK VEGETATION MANAGEMENT FY24 EIELSON AIR FORCE BASE**

#### **Eielson AFB Central Heat and Power Plant Cooling Pond Vegetation Removal in Support of Bird Air Strike Hazard Reduction**

**Project Cost Ceiling: \$220,308.00**

## **1.0 INTRODUCTION**

### **1.1 Purpose**

The purpose of this Statement of Work (SOW) is to provide details of the described work to be performed by the Recipient in support of the Eielson Air Force Base (EAFB) Natural Resources Program through a cooperative agreement (CA) between the Recipient and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Alaska District.

### **1.2 Background**

The Sikes Act of 1960 requires that each Department of Defense (DoD) installation create and maintain their own Integrated Natural Resource Management Plan (INRMP) providing for “natural resource protection, enhancement, and restoration, where necessary for support of fish, wildlife, or plants”. *This project meets the requirements of the INRMP and fulfills agency responsibilities for natural resource stewardship.* Additionally, EAFB’s INRMP project, in Section 8 Objective 4 Project 4.4.2, states “remove or modify waterfowl and shorebird habitat from the airfield bird exclusion zones as outlined in the BASH plan”.

This CA is also supported through the following documents: Public Law (PL) 101-511, Sec 8120, delegation to Army by memorandum dated 21 April 1994; Title 32 – National Defense, Chapter 1 – Office of the Secretary of Defense, Part 21 – DoD Grants and Agreements (32CFR21.100-315); Title 32 – National Defense, Chapter 1 – Office of the Secretary of Defense, Part 22 – DoD Grants and Agreements – Award and Administrations (32CFR22.100-825); OMB Circular A-110, Grants and Agreements with Institutions of Higher Education, Hospitals, and other Non-Profit Organizations; the Sikes Act (16 USC 670 a through f and 10 USC 2668 through 2671), within the purview of Public Law 91-190, National Environmental Policy Act (42 USC 4321, 4331 through 4335, and 4341 through 4347), PL 74-46, (16 USC 590a.f.), Army Regulation (AR) 200-1, AR 37-27, AR 350-4, and 40 CFR Subpart 265.

## **2.0 OBJECTIVES**

The primary objectives of this project are to assist EAFB Natural Resources with optimal management of EAFB-managed lands, to minimize restrictions to the military mission due to natural resource related constraints, and to reduce the attraction of migratory birds to the EAFB Central Heat and Power Plant (CHPP) cooling pond.

Specific objectives that apply to this effort include:

- Prepare appropriate permits for submission to the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC) for herbicide application.
- Apply herbicides to remove aquatic vegetation in EAFB CHPP cooling pond.

## **3.0 MAJOR REQUIREMENTS**

### **3.1 Task 1 – Aquatic Vegetation Control at EAFB Central Heat and Power Plant Cooling Pond**

#### **3.1.1 Project Description**

The Recipient shall prepare ADEC permit application for EAFB 354 Fighter Wing Commander signature to treat vegetation in EAFB CHPP cooling pond. This project shall use pesticide application to decrease aquatic vegetation in the EAFB CHPP cooling pond.

#### **3.1.2 Objective**

The objective of this project is to significantly reduce aquatic vegetation in the EAFB CHPP Cooling Pond. This vegetation is an attractant to nesting waterfowl and shorebirds. The Cooling Pond is within the Waterfowl Exclusion Zone described in the EAFB Bird Airstrike Hazard (BASH) Plan. Vegetation also clogs cooling equipment for CHPP operations.

#### **3.1.3 Project Area**

The project area is the EAFB CHPP cooling pond.

#### **3.1.4 Treatment and Vegetation Management**

- Prepare ADEC permit application for 354 Wing Commander signature to be submitted to ADEC for aquatic herbicide application to EAFB CHPP cooling pond. This includes Alaska Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (APDES) and Aquatic Pesticide Application Permits and annual permit reporting, if no application is made for 5-year life of permit.
- Application of Recipient provided SonarOne® (active ingredient florodine) or similar Air Force and ADEC approved herbicide – two (2) treatments over one (1) season to upstream (southern) half of cooling pond. Including FastEST® (to test herbicide concentration), post application survey of results, and ADEC required reporting.
- Application of Recipient provided Littora® (active ingredient diquat dibromide) or similar Air Force and ADEC approved herbicide. One (1) treatment to entire cooling pond. Includes ADEC required post application survey of results and reporting.
- If needed and funding is available, Recipient shall apply additional herbicide in option years.

## **4.0 GENERAL SPECIFICATIONS**

### **4.1 General Notes**

- The Recipient is responsible for contacting EAFB (as appropriate) for access before beginning work.
- The Recipient may be asked to suspend work because of heightened Threat Condition (THREATCON) levels. These THREATCON actions may include delays in accessing EAFB and/or denial of access.
- The Recipient is responsible for ensuring that they and their sub-recipients/sub-contractors all possess the necessary documents to gain access to EAFB. 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 endorsements appropriate to the equipment being operated.

- The Recipient shall provide supplies and materials, as necessary, to accomplish tasks in field and office settings, as defined in Section 3, to include but not limited to herbicides, necessary equipment to apply herbicides, and cell phones.

## **5.0 RECIPIENT EMPLOYEE GOVERNMENT ACCESS REQUIREMENTS**

**5.1** All Recipient and all associated sub-recipient/sub-contractor employees shall comply with applicable installation, facility, and area commander installation/facility access and local security policies and procedures. The Recipient shall also provide all information required for background checks to meet installation access requirements to be accomplished by the installation Security Forces Squadron.

**5.2** The Recipient shall ensure that its employees entering Air Force-controlled installations or facilities have obtained access badges and passes, in accordance with facility regulations and that these badges and passes are obtained in advance so as not to delay the accomplishment of scopes.

### **5.2.1 Government Furnished Material**

EAFB shall provide necessary access to Air Force lands for project development and implementation. The Government shall not furnish any facilities or equipment for any work that needs to be accomplished in this scope of work. The Recipient shall furnish all supplies needed to perform this cooperative agreement according to all its terms.

**HAZARDOUS MATERIALS:** The Recipient shall comply with base regulations regarding Hazardous Material (HAZMAT) for all issues of hazardous material and ensure procedures meet all applicable policies, publications, and protocols in this cooperative agreement. Provide Bio-Environmental Engineer Service with a Safety Data Sheet (SDS) on all first-time purchases of hazardous items obtained through local sources of supply and obtain approval prior to purchase.

**EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICE:** The Government shall provide emergency medical treatment and emergency patient transportation service for Recipient personnel who are injured or become critically ill while at EAFB. Treated personnel shall be responsible for reimbursing the Government for the cost of medical treatment and patient transportation at the current inpatient or outpatient treatment rate.

**HOURS OF OPERATION:** Services shall typically be performed Monday thru Friday from 7:00 am to 5:00pm, local time, or in coordination with the EAFB point of contact (POC).

**SECURITY REQUIREMENTS:** The Recipient shall ensure each employee obtains pass and identification items, as applicable, for recipient personnel and recipient-owned vehicles. The Security Forces Pass and Identification office is located at 2677 Wabash Ave (bldg. 3125).

## **6.0 REPORTS AND DELIVERABLES**

### **6.1 Reporting Requirements for Draft and Final Deliverables**

The Recipient shall prepare all reports required by ADEC, in the format required by ADEC, for the life of the permit and submit the reports to the EAFB Natural Resource Manager and ADEC.

Deliverables shall include an end of season report of work completed and results from the application of herbicides. The end of season report(s) shall be provided as one (1) hard copy and one (1) electronic copy via email or DoD SAFE containing the report, digitized imagery, photos,

and any other data provided in appropriate usable format. The end of season report should also include best management practices going forward and discuss changes as to how areas should be treated and/or monitored.

Develop Work Plan to include survey methods and timetable work is to be completed, submission of draft report, and submission of final report. Work Plan shall be submitted 30 days prior to the start of the project for review by the EAFB Natural Resources Manager.

## **7.0 COORDINATION AND MEETINGS**

### **7.1 Meetings**

A kick-off meeting shall be held within thirty (30) days of award to discuss the project, address concerns, and provide details of the tasks required for this project. Schedule for remaining deliverables shall be defined during the project kick-off meeting. Attendees at the kick-off meeting shall include at a minimum: the EAFB Technical POC, the Recipient and coordinating agency representatives (if applicable).

Coordinate with 354 Civil Engineer Squadron/Communications-Electronics Operating Instructions (CES/CEOI) prior to application to ensure screening is properly in place, to avoid vegetation from clogging the CHPP pumps and boilers.

The EAFB Technical POC and the Recipient shall hold regular meetings to discuss needs, priorities, and updates, as deemed necessary by the parties to this agreement. The timing and frequency of the meetings shall be determined by the project needs and EAFB staff. Quarterly Progress Status Reports shall be provided to the USACE Project Manager.

### **7.2 Security**

The following actions must be coordinated with the EAFB Technical POC:

- Access to the installation
- All photography
- All fieldwork shall be scheduled with and approved by the EAFB Technical POC.
- The Recipient shall not make available to the news media or publicly disclose any data generated or reviewed under this project. When approached by the news media, the Recipient shall refer them to the EAFB Technical POC for response. Project reports and data generated under this award shall become the property of the Government and distribution to any other source, by the Recipient, is prohibited.

### **7.3 Hazard Information**

This project does not require the Recipient or its personnel to handle sensitive items or information, hazardous materials/wastes, surety materials, or microbiological or biomedical materials.

### **7.4 Sharing of Information**

The Government shall retain all ownership of data gathered throughout the course of this project. Any public dissemination and/or financial gain endeavor utilizing information obtained through this project requires mutual agreement and approval by U.S. Army Garrison- Alaska (USAG-AK).

## **8.0 PERIOD OF PERFORMANCE**

The period of performance for this requirement is twelve (12) months from date of award with the option to extend for up to four (4) option periods subject to the availability of funding. Each option period shall be for an additional twelve (12) months.

## **9.0 POINTS OF CONTACT (POC)**

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

### **USACE POCs:**

Katie Russell, P.E.  
Grant Officer's Representative  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers - Alaska District  
PO Box 6898, JBER, Alaska 99506  
Phone: (907) 753-2535  
Email: kathryn.russell@usace.army.mil

Tammy Davis  
Grants Officer  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers - Alaska District  
ATTN: CEPOA-CT  
P.O. Box 6898, JBER, Alaska 99506  
Phone: (907) 753-5592  
Email: tammy.davis@usace.army.mil

### **EAFB POCs:**

John Haddix  
Natural Resources Chief (Acting)  
2310 Central Ave  
Eielson Air Force Base, AK 99702  
Phone: (907) 377-5182  
Email: john.haddix@us.af.mil

354 CES/CEOI  
Adolph Tallman  
2310 Central Ave.  
Eielson Air Force Base, AK 99702  
Phone: (907) 377-2184  
Email: adolph.tallman.2@us.af.mil

## **Section II: Award Information**

This Funding Opportunity Announcement is for a competed, potentially multiyear, cooperative agreement. The period of performance for this requirement is twelve (12) months from date of award with the option to extend for up to four (4) option periods subject to the availability of funding and at the Government's discretion. Each option period shall be for an additional twelve (12) months. This does not obligate the Government to extend this agreement beyond the initial 12-month period of performance. The total Project Cost Ceiling for the base period of performance is \$220,308.00. **Provide proposed cost information for the base and each option period.** The Government will have substantive involvement throughout the execution of this requirement.

Announcement Issue Date: 23 July 2024

Application Due Date: 23 August 2024

**Estimated Award Date: On or About 3 September 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](mailto: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 23 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](mailto: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**

**VEGETATION MANAGEMENT  
FY24 EIELSON AIR FORCE BASE  
ALASKA**

**Eielson AFB Central Heat and Power Plant  
Cooling Pond Vegetation Removal in Support of  
Bird Air Strike Hazard Reduction**

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 (2<sup>nd</sup> most important technical factor)
- Factor 3: Cost (3<sup>rd</sup> 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:

<b>Adjectival Rating</b>	<b>Description</b>
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 military lands 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, seeding/re-vegetation, fertilization, aquatic herbicide application, and trail maintenance on military lands.
3. Experience with nesting waterfowl and shorebirds and their habitats on Air Force installations.
4. Experience with Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC) permit requirements to meet requirements of the SOW.
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 each period of performance, to include optional periods 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.