

## 1.0 FUNDING OPPORTUNITY ANNOUNCEMENT (FOA)

Funding Agency:  U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Alaska District PO Box 6898 JBER AK 99506	Funding Instrument: Cooperative Agreement  Funding Opportunity W911KB-25-2-0003 No.:  CFDA No: 12.005  Program Authority: 16 U.S.C. 670 (Sikes Act)
Issue Date: 20 March 2025	Application Due Date: 20 May 2025
<b>Overview:</b> Management, Species, Nuisance Wildlife Management (RAM Number: FXSBA53256122) and Management, Species, Black and Brown Bear Study (RAM Number: FXSBA53256120), Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson (JBER), Alaska - The goal of this work is to continue supporting the projects under the Nuisance Wildlife Section of the Wildlife Program on JBER and to meet goals and objectives established in the 2023 JBER Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan (INRMP).	
Estimated Total Funding: \$190,000.00	Estimated Number of Awards: 1
<b>Contents of Full Text Announcement</b>	
I. Funding Opportunity Description	V. Application Review Information
II. Award Information	VI. Award Administration Information
III. Eligibility Information	VII. Agency Contacts
IV. Application Information	VIII. Other Information
<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:pamela.iverson@usace.army.mil">pamela.iverson@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**

**Management, Species, Nuisance Wildlife Management (RAM Number: FXSBA53256122) and Management, Species, Black and Brown Bear Study, (RAM Number: FXSBA53256120), Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson (JBER), Alaska  
20 March 2025**

**Project Ceiling: \$190,000.00**

#### **1.0 GENERAL**

The purpose of this Statement of Work (SOW) is to provide details of the described work to be performed to support the U.S. Air Force (USAF) involving the Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson (JBER) Conservation Wildlife Program, through a cooperative agreement (CA) between the Recipient, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), and JBER. The goal of this work is to continue supporting the projects under the Nuisance Wildlife Section of the Wildlife Program on JBER and to meet goals and objectives established in the 2023 JBER Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan (INRMP).

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 CA activities as outlined by this SOW must be coordinated through the Grants Officers Representative (GOR) and approved by the Grants Officer (GO) prior to Recipient implementation.

##### **1.1 Regulatory and Legal Drivers**

Legal Drivers: Sikes Act (Public Law [PL] 105-85, as amended through 2004 including PL 108-136; Title 16 USC 670 et seq.); Department of Defense (DoD) Instruction 4715.03, *Natural Resources Conservation Program* (February 14, 2011), and Air Force Manual (AFMAN) 32-7003, *Environmental Conservation*. This project is in the signed INRMP with Compliance Date of 2021; Air Base Wing Instruction (ABWI) 32-7001; and Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Municipality of Anchorage, Alaska: *A Comprehensive Wildlife Management Plan, Living with Wildlife in Anchorage*.

This project will directly address and contribute to the following JBER INRMP Goals and Objectives:

- Goal 1: Minimize conflicts between military mission, wildlife, natural resources, and land use.
- Objective 1.3: Identify areas at high risk of wildlife conflict based on wildlife response calls and use this information to effectively implement monitoring and mitigation of wildlife conflict.
- Objective 1.5: Provide environmental education and outreach. Work to establish better working relationships with neighboring communities and federally recognized tribes.
- Goal 2: Manage JBER natural resources under the guidelines and principles of adaptive ecosystem management, which aim to maintain functional ecosystems and natural diversity including sustainable populations, native species, and ecological communities.

- Objective 2.7: Establish/sustain functional partnerships with land management agencies, non-governmental organizations, universities, and the public to fulfill JBER natural resource objectives.
- Goal 3: Manage human use of resources for long-term sustainability, by offering products and services at levels compatible with the military mission and ecosystem diversity, health, and productivity and placing equal emphasis on consumptive and non-consumptive use and conservation and preservation of natural resources on JBER consistent with Sikes Act requirements.
- Objective 3.4: Provide consistent and effective enforcement of all federal, state, and local natural resource laws and regulations.

## 1.2 Background

Wildlife is protected under several statutes, such as the Endangered Species Act (ESA), Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA), State of Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) laws, and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act. JBER is located within the Municipality of Anchorage in Southcentral Alaska, with abundant wildlife. Most species indigenous to southcentral Alaska can be found on JBER, including moose, wolves, and both black and brown bears. Extensive natural areas in and around JBER provide habitat for these and other species. Conflicts routinely arise with animals that occasionally pose a health or safety hazard to Base residents, training military, and recreationists. INRMP Goal 2 is to minimize conflicts between the military mission, wildlife, natural resources, and land use.

In 1996 the State of Alaska recognized the unique nature of human-wildlife conflicts within the greater Anchorage area (including JBER lands) and began a planning program designed to mitigate human-wildlife interactions. The program publishes a guide entitled “Living with Wildlife” and JBER staff are participants in the planning group responsible for the document and its revision. In 2000 JBER became a signatory to the 2000 Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) Regarding a Comprehensive Wildlife Management Plan, Living with Wildlife in Anchorage: A Cooperative Planning Effort for Anchorage, Alaska (FWS70181-9-K235). Other key signatories included ADF&G, the Municipality of Anchorage, US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), and other land and natural resource management agencies. Two of the stated goals of this program are to “Minimize opportunities for conflicts between wildlife and people.” and “Foster a sense of stewardship for wildlife and their habitats among the public, non-governmental organizations, and local governmental agencies.”

Monitoring the distribution and relative abundance of wildlife species can be important for documenting the effects of harvest, habitat change, and environmental variability on populations. However, many mammals are highly secretive, difficult to repeatedly capture, and naturally occur at low to moderate densities, making it difficult to estimate abundance over large areas using traditional methods (e.g. mark-recapture, distance sampling, etc.).

A species of concern for human-wildlife conflict is bears. Over the years, wildlife response calls by the JBER Conservation Law Enforcement have increased for Black Bears, with an increase of severity of calls. Since 2010, there have been seven bear maulings at JBER which have included both Black and Brown Bears. After the fatal bear mauling in 2022, this data is critical for wildlife management decisions. The project will give a better understanding as to what and why animals are coming into conflict and be able to use that information for management decisions to reduce and hopefully stop the negative behavior and prevent human-wildlife conflicts. Without this project’s information, poorly informed management could lead to an increase in human-wildlife interactions and ultimately escalate to a mauling

Another species of top concern on JBER is wolves. In addition, understanding the wolf population in Game Management Unit (GMU) 14C is important as this population has previously

been deemed a risk to public safety. Since 1995, individual wolves in the vicinity of JBER, Eagle River, and Birchwood displayed increasingly habituated and aggressive behavior toward humans and pets. Starting in 2007, negative human/wolf encounters increased and during the winter of 2007 through 2008, several dogs were killed or injured by wolves in this area. In May **2010**, two female runners were pursued until forced to climb a tree by two wolves on Artillery Road on JBER. The runners were accompanied by a dog, but these two wolves reportedly ignored the dog and focused their attention on the humans. During the winter of 2010 through 2011, ADF&G and JBER Conservation personnel removed nine wolves from JBER via trapping and ground-based shooting efforts. This operation was deemed successful due to the removal of specific wolves thought to be involved in aggressive incidents and the reduction of wolf numbers in the area, but there was no way to determine whether all aggressive wolves were removed. Although wolf attacks on humans are rare, previous wolf attacks in Alaska by individual wolves which exhibited similar habituated and aggressive behaviors have occurred (McNay 2002, Butler et al, 2011). The only known aerial wolf survey conducted in GMU 14C was in **1995**. This survey documented four packs using GMU 14C. A fifth pack is believed to have formed shortly after the survey was flown (Sinnott 1996). Of these estimated packs, there were  $\geq 2$  packs who utilized JBER as part of their territory.

The wolf population on JBER and surrounding area is important, as this population was deemed a risk to public safety in 2010. It is difficult to determine the total number of wolves on JBER; however, based on preliminary data documented, in a collaborative study between ADF&G and JBER in winter 2021, four wolves (based on aerial surveys and game cameras). It's important to continue this study and monitor the activity of the Ship Creek pack, as they have increasingly been observed utilizing the training areas and small arms complex on JBER.

## **2.0 SCOPE**

This scope of work is designed to be a multi-year survey in conjunction with the ADF&G study, while providing beneficial information on natural resources on JBER.

Effective management of bears and wolves requires information on species numbers, habitat use, and movements within JBER lands. The purpose of the project will support the military mission by providing necessary wildlife information to support minimizing human-wildlife conflicts on JBER lands, particularly near military operations and the cantonment areas.

### **2.1 Objectives and Tasks**

The tasks outlined in this SOW are intended as a collaborative multi-year project. This SOW describes the work under the first (base) period of 18 months.

- 1) Assess Black Bear (*Ursus americanus*) use of anthropogenic food resources throughout JBER through game cameras, genetics, and previously deployed camera collars. (FXSBA53256122).
- 2) Identify habitat utilization of wildlife in particular Brown and Black Bears on JBER to ensure an intact training environment. This will include information on wildlife movements in relation to human activities and structures on JBER, and a determination of high traffic travel corridors. (FXSBA53256120).
- 3) Bear minimum population: Determine feasible methods to conduct a minimum population estimate of Black and Brown Bears using JBER lands. (FXSBA53256120).
- 4) Brown Bear Presence: Investigate the feasibility of camera traps for determining presence of Brown Bears. (FXSBA53256120).
- 5) Document presence/absence of Gray Wolves (*Canis lupus*) on JBER via game cameras and tracking collared animals. (FXSBA53256122).
- 6) Estimate behavior, home ranges, movements, and habitat use of gray wolves on JBER in relation to training areas, ranges, and other military infrastructure. (FXSBA53256122).

- 7) Wildlife habitat use: Characterize the range of habitat selected by various wildlife species on JBER in relation to training areas, ranges, housing, and other military infrastructure. (FXSBA53256122).

## 2.2 Kick-off meeting

A kick-off meeting will be held within the first quarter of award and shall discuss priorities and components of the SOW and details of the deliverables and schedules. Attendees at the kick-off meeting will include at a minimum: the JBER Technical Point-of-Contact (POC) and other coordinating agency representatives. Other interested parties may include other JBER environmental staff.

## 3.0 DELIVERABLES

Analysis of the objectives of tasks 1, 5, 6, & 7 outlined in Section 2.1 Report to include at a minimum figures and maps of habitat utilization of the species of concerned outlined in this SOW. (FXSBA53256122)

- Develop an Investigation Plan (IP) for the Black and Brown Bear study to include addressing the objectives and tasks 1, 2, 3 4 & 7. (FXSBA53256120)

## 3.1 Estimated Schedule

Deliverable	Period of Performance
Analysis of Objectives/Tasks Outlined in 2.1 (FXSBA53256122)	Draft Report due – 60 days prior to the end of the Period of Performance Final Report due – within 30 days of receiving comments from the government
Bear Investigative Plan (FXSBA53256120)	Draft Plan due – 60 days prior to the end of the Period of Performance Final Plan due – within 30 days of receiving comments from the government

## 3.2 Data Collection and Spatial Data Requirements

Data will be transferred from the field notebook or data forms to an electronic database, Global Positioning System (GPS) information will be downloaded and converted into ArcGIS shapefile format, and photos will be downloaded and saved to Site location folders. Data will be reviewed for completeness and accuracy. Data shall be presented in data form format provided by the JBER Technical POC. During the field season, data shall be managed so that it is available upon request for management decisions.

GPS waypoints will be submitted electronically using any Environmental Systems Research Institute's (ESRI) compatible GIS format or Garmin GPS exchange format (.gpx). Any Government issued GPS /sensitive equipment will be turned into the JBER-Natural Resources Program Manager immediately after field work is completed.

All GIS data must be accepted and approved to be compatible by the 673 CES GeoBase GIS office to ensure compliance with AF GIS format. Data for this project will be collected using in compliance with Spatial Data Standards for Facilities, Infrastructure, and Environment (SDSFIE). The latest version should be used for data collection. Maps generated from GIS data will be reduced and included in reports. Data collection will be accurate enough to ensure reasonable accuracy on large scale maps. The collected data will be made available in layers as agreed by the Recipient and the JBER-Natural Resources Program Manager. All original and AF formatted GIS information and data shall be delivered in the required format to the JBER-Natural Resources Program Manager.

All geospatial data must be delivered in the following format:

The horizontal coordinate system shall be Universal Transverse Mercator (UTM) coordinate system, Transverse Mercator projection, Geodetic Reference System 1980 (GRS80) spheroid, World Geodetic System 1984 (WGS84) datum, (WGS84 UTM Zone 6 North) and use metric coordinate units.

The vertical datum will be the North American Vertical Datum 1988 (NAVD 88). Further guidance on mapping units, coordinate systems, and projections are available from the Installation GIO (673 CES GeoBase section).

#### **4.0 GENERAL REQUIREMENTS**

The following requirements are common to all tasks listed above in Section 3.0.

##### **1.1 4.1 Preparation**

Provide professional report preparation, editing, and printing which present study findings for future JBER planning purposes.

##### **1.2 4.2 Equipment, Supplies, and Materials**

Provide supplies and materials as necessary for this study and prepare reports. Provide computers with GIS mapping capabilities and hard drives, to collect, analyze, and report on data collected. For safety reasons, cellular phones are required for Recipient personnel to operate in the field on JBER-managed lands. Recipients are required to have a cellular phone and bear spray on their person when operating in the field on JBER-managed lands.

##### **4.3 Transportation**

If needed, provide 4X4 vehicle, ATV, snow machine, and air (rotary or fixed wing) support as necessary to complete surveys and monitoring studies.

##### **1.3 4.4 Travel**

Travel on JBER is required to accomplish some of the tasks identified in this SOW. In addition, travel is required to meet with various consulting agencies and stakeholders. Recipient personnel may be required to travel on government-provided fixed or rotary wing aircraft during the execution of their studies on JBER-managed land.

##### **1.4 4.5 Recipient Employee Government Access Requirements**

**4.5.1** All Recipients shall comply with applicable installation, facility and area commander installation/facility access, and local security policies and procedures. The Recipients shall also provide all information required for background checks to meet installation access requirements to be accomplished by installation Provost Marshall Office, Director of Emergency services, or Security Office.

**4.5.2** The Recipient will ensure that its employees entering JBER 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 services.

**4.5.3** The Recipient will return all issued US Government Common Access Cards (CAC), installation badges, and/or access passes to the Government Representative when the agreement is completed or when a Recipient employee no longer requires access to the installation or facility.

##### **4.6 Sharing of Information**

The Recipients shall be free to publish, permit to be published, or distribute for public consumption, any information, oral or written, concerning the results from fundamental research,

provided that it shall provide copies of any such publication or release of information to the Government for review and comment at least sixty (60) days prior to any such release. If no response is received within thirty (30) days of the date submitted, it will be conclusively presumed that that publication and/or dissemination may proceed without delay. If the Government determines that proposed publication and/or dissemination contains confidential and/or classified information, it will be removed. Fundamental research, as used in this clause, means basic and applied research in science and engineering, the results of which ordinarily are published and shared broadly within the scientific community, as distinguished from proprietary research and from industrial development, design, production, and product utilization, the results of which ordinarily are restricted for proprietary national security reason. A portion of the scope, data collected, and availability under this agreement is restricted under Alaska Statute 16.05.815(d). Data for this project can be made available upon reasonable request from the Alaska Department of Fish and Game and is subject to a data sharing agreement.

#### 4.7 Government Furnished Information and Equipment

JBER will provide access to the installation, training on how to access training areas, how to identify and report ordnance, and how to avoid negative interactions with wildlife. Additional government furnished material includes:

- Installation access for Recipients (all personnel must be eligible for base access).
- Orientation to installation and coordination of range training.
- Bear safety and food-conditioned bear procedure training.
- Nuisance wildlife responding procedure training.
- Historical and current aerial imagery, if needed.
- Current installation and natural resources GIS data.
- Technical guidance and fieldwork support (fieldwork support only if JBER personnel are available).
- Military radio for field communication with Range Control, if available.

#### 4.9 Recipient Supplied Training and Materials

All other equipment and/or training necessary to complete the work described in the SOW shall be provided by the Recipient.

- If a military radio is not available, a cell phone will be necessary to contact Range Control.
- Any training and safety equipment required by Recipient agency.
- All tools, equipment, and project materials purchased with project dollars, shall become government property at the end of the project.
- One four-wheel drive vehicle for the duration of the field portion of this project
- All other equipment or training necessary to complete the work described in the SOW shall be provided by the Recipient.

### 5.0 MEETINGS, REVIEWS, AND COORDINATION

#### 5.1 Points of Contact

JBER technical POC and Recipient shall hold regular meetings to discuss needs, priorities, and updates as deemed necessary by parties to this agreement. The timing and frequency of the meetings will be determined by the project needs and JBER POC staff.

The following actions must be coordinated with the JBER Technical POCs:

- Access to the installation.
- Any/All photography and video.
- All fieldwork shall be scheduled with and approved by the JBER Technical POC in

writing and coordinated with Range Control and others as appropriate.  
The Recipient shall interact with the JBER POC listed below. Correspondence should be addressed as follows: TBD

#### **6.0 PERIOD OF PERFORMANCE**

The period of performance is 18 months from date of award.



## **Section II: Award Information**

This Funding Opportunity Announcement is for a competed cooperative agreement. The period of performance is 18 months from date of award. The total Project Cost Ceiling for this requirement is \$190,000.00. Provide proposed cost information. The Government will have substantive involvement throughout the execution of this requirement.

Announcement Issue Date: 20 March 2025

Application Due Date: 20 May 2025

Estimated Award Date: On or About 30 May 2025

### **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, Pamela Iverson, [pamela.iverson@usace.army.mil](mailto:pamela.iverson@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 May 2025; 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, Pamela Iverson at [pamela.iverson@usace.army.mil](mailto:pamela.iverson@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**

### **Proposal Submission Evaluation Criteria and Basis of Award Management, Species, Nuisance Wildlife Management, and Management, Species, Black and Brown Bear Study**

**MARCH 2025**

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	Proposal indicates an exceptional approach and understanding of the requirements and contains multiple strengths.
Good	Proposal indicates a thorough approach and understanding of the requirements and contains at least one strength.
Acceptable	Proposal indicates an adequate approach and understanding of the requirements.
Marginal	Proposal has not demonstrated an adequate approach and understanding of the requirements or contains an element of risk.
Unacceptable	Proposal does not meet requirements of the solicitation and, thus contains one 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 Statement of Work (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 involving nuisance wildlife management. Additional consideration may be provided for Recipients with experience working Natural Resource Wildlife Management programs on military installations. Offeror(s) may receive greater consideration for previous experience partnering with the Government in an aforementioned capacity.
2. Experience conducting aerial surveys and working with game cameras for tracking collared animals as discussed in the SOW.
3. Experience working with Black Bear, Brown Bears, and wolf populations to include behaviors, habitats, and food sources.
4. Experience planning and managing time critical work, documentation and recommendations, updating maps, logs, and data inventories, and producing final reports and GIS layers.
5. Experience working around unexploded ordnance. Strong preference for Recipient with experience working in active impact area and military ranges.

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.

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 during the 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).

Allowable costs incurred by States, local governments, Indian tribes, non-governmental organizations, and individuals are determined in accordance with OMB’s Cost Principles ONR negotiated rates and institutional policies. OMB’s cost principles are contained in 2 CFR 200.400-.475 et seq.

**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.