

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
FORT WORTH DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS
P.O. BOX 17300
FORT WORTH, TX 76102-0300

May 16, 2024

REQUEST FOR STATEMENT OF INTEREST
W9126G-24-2-SOI-2856

*Applicants must be a member in one of the following Cooperative Ecosystem Studies
Units Regions:*

Californian / Desert Southwest / Great Basin CESU Regions

Project Title: SCI Botany Implementation, San Clemente Island, CA

A cooperative agreement is being offered ONLY to members of the Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Units (CESU) Program Region(s) identified above. Award will be made upon mutual agreement and acceptance of the terms and conditions contained in the request for proposal and the of the recipient's CESU Master Agreement. Note the established CESU Program indirect rate is 17.5%.

Responses to this Request for Statements of Interest will be used to identify potential organizations for this project. Approximately **\$445,446** is expected to be available to support this project for the **base period**. Additional funding may be available to the successful recipient for optional tasks and/or follow on work in subsequent years.

NOTE: This project will be awarded under the authority of 16 USC 670c-1, **Sikes Act**: For projects for the implementation and enforcement of integrated natural resources management plans, priority shall be given to award to Federal and State agencies having responsibility for the conservation or management of fish or wildlife.

Period of Performance. The base period of agreement will extend 18 months from date of award. There may be up to four 18-month follow-on periods based on availability of funding.

Description of Anticipated Work: See attached Statement of Objectives

NOTE: At this time we are only requesting that you demonstrate available qualifications and capability for performing similar or same type of work by submitting a Statement of Interest. A full proposal and budget are NOT requested at this time.

Preparation of your Statement of Interest: Provide the following (Maximum length: 2 pages, single-spaced, 12 pt. font):

1. Name, Organization, Cage Code, Unique Entity ID, and Contact Information (Email)
2. Brief Statement of Qualifications (including):
 - a. Biographical sketch of the Principal Investigator, to include specific experience and capabilities in areas related to this project's requirements

- b. Relevant past projects and clients with brief descriptions of these projects
- c. Staff, faculty or students available to work on this project and their areas of expertise
- d. Brief description of other capabilities to successfully complete the project: (e.g. equipment, laboratory facilities, greenhouse facilities, field facilities, etc.)

Submission of Your Statement of Interest

- 1. Statements of Interest are due by **12:00 P.M., Central Time, on 17 Jun 2024.**
- 2. Submit your Statement of Interest via e-mail attachments or direct questions to:

Sandy Justman
Grants Specialist
USACE, Fort Worth District
Email: sandra.k.justman@usace.army.mil
Office: 817-886-1073

Kathy S. Mitchell
Environmental Agreements PM
USACE, Fort Worth District
Email: kathy.s.mitchell@usace.army.mil
Office: 817-886-1709

Review of Statements Received: All statements of interest received from a member of the CESU Region(s) identified above will be evaluated by a board comprised of one or more people at the receiving installation or activity, who will determine which statement(s) best meet the program objectives: offer the most highly qualified Principal Investigator, have the most relevant experience and the highest capability to successfully meet the program objectives. Submitters whose statements are determined to best meet the program objectives will be invited to submit a full proposal.

Timeline for Review of Statements of Interest: RSOI's are required to be posted on www.Grants.gov for 30 days prior to the Government making a decision and requesting full proposals.

Thank you for your interest in our Cooperative Agreements Program.

Paige E. Poorman

PAIGE E. POORMAN
Grants Officer

Attachment: Statement of Objectives

**STATEMENT OF OBJECTIVES
for**

**SAN CLEMENTE ISLAND BOTANY PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION
(Including: Botany Program Requirements; Erosion Monitoring; Maintenance of Weather
Stations; and San Clemente Island Woodland Star Population Augmentation)
for
NALF San Clemente Island,
NAVAL BASE CORONADO, CALIFORNIA**

1.0 PURPOSE

1.1 The Commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet (PACFLT) Environmental Readiness Division and Naval Base Coronado Environmental Department environmental programs ensure military mission activities are conducted in compliance with all applicable environmental laws, regulations and policies. Article I B of the master agreement states the objectives of the CESU are to: provide research, technical assistance and education to federal land management, environmental and research agencies and their potential partners; develop a program of research, technical assistance and education that involves the biological, physical, social sciences needed to address resource issues and interdisciplinary problem-solving at multiple scales and in an ecosystem context at the local, regional, and national level; and place special emphasis on the working collaboration among federal agencies and universities and their related partner institutions.

1.2 This work requires an onsite support person located at Naval Auxiliary Landing Field (NALF) San Clemente Island (SCI), Naval Base Coronado (NBC). The work shall involve: supporting the Designated Navy Representatives through various program management duties, including propagating, installing, and maintaining native plant species at outplanting sites; treating invasive non-native plant species; monitoring erosion; monitoring vegetation; developing protocols for monitoring rare plants; and record keeping and reporting.

1.3 Implementation of the SCI Botany Program is designed to help recover the federally listed plant species on SCI and to increase the number of populations and individuals of rare non-listed plant species so that listing under ESA is no longer necessary. Implementation of the Botany Program is also designed to improve native vegetation and habitat for federally listed and sensitive wildlife species. Implementing the Botany Program is designed to satisfy requirements provided in the following:

- (a) Biological Opinion FWS- LA-09B0027-09F0040, San Clemente Island Military Operations and Fire Management Plan 2008 Naval Base Coronado
- (b) Executive Order 13112, Invasive Species, dated 3 Feb 1999, enacted to prevent the introduction of invasive species, provide for their control, and to minimize the economic, ecological and human health impacts that invasive species cause.

1.4 The recipient should follow guidelines and policies established in: (1) OPNAVINST 6250.4C, the Navy/Marine Corps Pest Management Program Instruction; and (2) OPNAVINST 5090.1D, Chapter 24, which covers pesticide compliance ashore.

2.0 AUTHORITY

2.1 This cooperative agreement will be awarded using the authorities associated with 16 U.S.C. § 670(c) – Sikes Act.

In agreement with the above stated goals, the recipient agrees to provide the necessary personnel, equipment, and materials required to implement activities to support PACFLT and NBC's commitment toward environmental stewardship to manage natural and cultural resources in a responsible way that has the least impact on military missions and is beneficial to the region. In addition, the activities performed by the recipient must be completed in a manner conducive to guidelines outlined in the Endangered Species Act (16 USC 1531 et seq.), the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (16 USC 1361 et seq.), National Historic Preservation Act (54 U.S.C. 300101 et seq.), Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (25 U.S.C. 3001 et seq.), the Archaeological Resources Protection Act (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.), the National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.), applicable implementing regulations, Army Regulations 200-1, and any other applicable regulatory guidelines. In general, cooperative agreements must carry out a public purpose of support or stimulation, however under the authority of the Sikes Act (16 USC 670c-1 (c) (2)), notwithstanding chapter 63 of Title 31 (31 U.S.C. § 6301 et seq), a cooperative agreement under this section may be used to acquire property or services for the direct benefit or use of the United States Government.

2.2 In accordance with section 6305 – *Using cooperative agreements* of the *Federal Grant and Cooperative Agreements Act of 1977* (31 U.S.C. § 6301 et seq.), all CESU projects must carry out a public purpose of support or stimulation, instead of acquiring goods or services for the exclusive direct benefit of the United States Government. Examples of carrying out a public purpose may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Project results are made available to a wide audience (including nonfederal entities)
- Project results/outputs add to the scientific literature/knowledge base, with applicability and utility beyond the scope of the project footprint/study area
- Academic and other nonfederal partner institutions (and their personnel) gain professional experience, increase knowledge, and develop skills and abilities
- Students benefit from direct interaction with federal scientists, program and technical staff, and field unit managers

2.3 In accordance with section 6305 – *Using cooperative agreements* of the *Federal Grant and Cooperative Agreements Act of 1977* (31 U.S.C. § 6301 et seq.), substantial involvement is expected between the Department of Defense and the recipient when carrying out the activity contemplated by the cooperative agreement. The DoD agrees to participate at a national level in support of the CESU program as accepted in the Master MOU for the establishment and continuation of the CESU program Article II 1-4 and Article VI 1-7.

The installation further (hence DoD) agrees to provide substantial involvement as directed under the appropriate master agreement to include, but are not limited to, the following:

- PACFLT and NBC personnel are involved in development of survey methodology, outplanting site selection, data gathering, analysis, and/or report writing.
- PACFLT and NBC personnel actively participate and collaborate in carrying out the project plan of work, review and approve activities, and help train or select project staff or trainees.
- NBC and PACFLT personnel incur in-kind or direct expenditures in carrying out the activities specified in the project agreement. These in-kind expenditures include:
 - providing air transportation, berthing, food, workspace on island, and other materials and services as detailed in Section 5.0.
 - providing staff time to collaborate and work on the project.

3.0 DESCRIPTION OF OBJECTIVES

3.1 Task 1: Botany Program Requirements

Seed Collection, Storage and Processing, and Collection of Vegetative Plant Material

To complete associated propagation and outplanting tasks in this cooperative agreement, the recipient will collect seeds from San Clemente Island and store them in the on-island seed storage facility. Depending on rainfall and temperature throughout the year, seeds of certain species may not be available for collection, so collected species may vary from year to year.

All seed will be collected when mature. The quantity of seed collected from any population should be low enough to avoid population-level impacts and should not amount to more than 10% of the year's seed output. For each collection site, data on the number of plants from which seed is collected, the site location (using GPS coordinates and/or GIS polygon), and a list of associated species will be recorded. Seed will be processed to remove chaff and non-target seeds and stored with desiccant bead under climate-controlled conditions. Seed collection quantities will be sufficient to meet propagation needs, and seed storage conditions will be appropriate to minimize loss of seed viability over the time frame needed to meet the objectives of this agreement.

Some species are propagated more easily by vegetative cuttings than seeds, and the recipient will collect these when appropriate based on the phenology of the species. Data on the number of plants from which propagules are collected, locality information, and a list of associated species at each collection site will be recorded for all collected propagules.

Acorns should be collected so they can be sown in the field or propagated for outplanting. The recipient also will harvest seed and/or vegetative propagules from federally listed species according to permit allowances. Within the work plan, the recipient will identify quantities of seed and vegetative material to be collected from each target species.

Species targeted for collection will include those needed to meet propagation requirements described under *Plant Propagation* below, those needed for erosion control, and high priority species to be deposited for conservation purposes into an off-island seed bank supporting long-term storage (as coordinated with the Designated Navy Representatives and selected seed storage facility). It is anticipated 1–3 species per year will be added to the seed bank unless otherwise agreed to by the recipient and Designated Navy Representatives.

Plant Propagation – Species Not Federally Listed

The recipient will propagate a sufficient quantity of seed and vegetative material from a sufficient variety of target species to achieve the outplanting objectives identified in this agreement as refined based on discussion between the recipient and Designated Navy Representatives following agreement award. Propagation should focus on listed, rare, or at risk taxa, as well as species useful in the creation or enhancement of habitat for listed or at risk wildlife, as determined jointly by the recipient and Designated Navy Representatives.

Within the work plan, the recipient will identify target quantities of each species to be propagated. The recipient will propagate additional plants to account for losses in the nursery and potential mortalities at outplanting sites. To accommodate unforeseen circumstances (such as higher or lower than anticipated mortality or changes in outplanting sites), these quantities may be adjusted based on mutual agreement of the recipient and the Designated Navy Representatives. Propagation will commence in the fall of 2025 and will continue for a sufficient length of time to achieve outplanting targets and allow for each species to reach sufficient maturity prior to outplanting. As propagation protocols are developed and refined, the recipient will compile and update the protocols in a manual to guide future propagation efforts.

Cuttings will be placed in a rooting medium appropriate to the species in the greenhouse as soon as possible after collection. Rooting hormones may be used depending on the established propagation protocol.

To propagate sufficient plants for outplanting, the recipient will perform all necessary greenhouse upkeep and maintenance over the course of the agreement. The recipient will purchase propagation supplies as needed and prepare them for shipment to the island on barges contracted by the Navy. Maintenance of greenhouse and nursery infrastructure will be performed as needed. The recipient will maintain a continuous presence on the island of at least one person to monitor propagation activities, water plants, and conduct pest control in the greenhouse.

Plant Propagation – Listed Species

The recipient will propagate the federally listed *Lithophragma maximum* (San Clemente Island woodland star) and *Sibara filifolia* (Santa Cruz Island rock cress) in the SCI greenhouse or other location mutually agreed to by the recipient and the Designated Navy Representatives. Propagation of these species will focus on understanding propagation and culture requirements for the species. Additionally, propagation may focus on seed bulking. Mature plants may be used to study pollination, further understand life history questions, or to support other efforts that may help with recovery

of these listed taxa. All activities will be conducted in compliance with required US Fish and Wildlife Service 10a (1) (A) permits. Within the work plan, the recipient will identify target quantities of listed species to be propagated and proposed propagation techniques. As propagation protocols are developed and refined, the recipient will compile and update the protocols in a manual to guide future propagation efforts.

Site Selection, Installation, Maintenance, and Monitoring of Outplantings

The recipient and the Designated Navy Representatives will meet each year to jointly decide the outplanting goals for that year. A total of 3 outplanting activities will be completed, and at least one of those activities will be the installation of a new outplanting. Other activities may include a large effort to refurbish an existing outplanting, or installation of an oak focused outplanting. The locations of new outplantings as well as selection of an existing outplanting for maintenance will be proposed by the recipient and approved by the Navy Representatives after a site visit. A primary objective in establishing and maintaining outplanting sites under this agreement is to augment and enhance nesting and foraging habitat for the federally endangered San Clemente loggerhead shrike, therefore the selected plant palette and maintenance activities will reflect the habitat requirements of the shrike. Another primary objective of the outplantings is to augment populations of rare or at risk taxa to prevent them from being listed under ESA. In addition, the plant palette will include a diversity of species that enhance habitat for native wildlife and attract a diversity of pollinators to promote overall ecosystem health. Outplanting sites generally will consist of 100–300 plants, but may be outside this range depending on the goals of the site. The recipient and the Navy Representatives will identify the appropriate plant palette for each site. Tables 1 and 2 list species that have commonly been used in outplantings in the past. The recipient will perform watering and maintenance visits 1–2 times per month (or as needed depending on site conditions) through the late spring, summer, and fall. Generally, half inch irrigation lines will be used for watering, though quarter inch may be used when necessary. The recipient will maintain survivorship of at least 70% through one year post-planting, which may require some replanting of mortalities and managing non-native vegetation.

TABLE 1. SPECIES COMMONLY USED IN OUTPLANTINGS

Scientific Name	Common Name
<i>Artemisia californica</i>	California sagebrush
<i>Artemisia nesiotica</i> *	Island sagebrush
<i>Ceanothus megacarpus</i>	Big pod ceanothus
<i>Constancea nevinii</i> *	Nevin’s woolly sunflower
<i>Encelia californica</i>	California brittlebush
<i>Epilobium canum</i>	California fuchsia
<i>Eriogonum giganteum</i> var. <i>formosum</i> **	San Clemente Island buckwheat
<i>Eriogonum grande grande</i>	Island buckwheat
<i>Gambelia speciosa</i> *	Showy island snapdragon
<i>Hazardia cana</i> *	San Clemente Island hazardia
<i>Heteromeles arbutifolia</i>	Toyon
<i>Isocoma menziesii</i>	Coastal goldenbush
<i>Leptosyne gigantea</i>	Giant coreopsis
<i>Lycium californicum</i>	California boxthorn

Scientific Name	Common Name
<i>Malva assurgentiflora</i> ssp. <i>glabra</i> *	Island mallow
<i>Munzothamnus blairii</i> **	Blair's munzothamnus
<i>Cleomella arborea</i>	Bladderpod
<i>Prunus ilicifolia</i> ssp. <i>lyonii</i> *	Catalina cherry
<i>Quercus tomentella</i> *	Island oak
<i>Rhus integrifolia</i>	Lemonade berry

*Channel Islands endemic; **SCI endemic

TABLE 2. RARE PLANT SPECIES USED IN OUTPLANTINGS

Scientific Name	Common Name
<i>Acmispon argophyllus</i> var. <i>adsurgens</i> **	San Clemente Island bird's-foot trefoil
<i>Acmispon dendroideus</i> var. <i>traskiae</i> **	San Clemente Island lotus
<i>Astragalus nevinii</i> **	San Clemente Island milkvetch
<i>Castilleja grisea</i> **	San Clemente Island paintbrush
<i>Crossosoma californicum</i>	Catalina crossosoma
<i>Diplacus parviflorus</i> *	Island bush monkeyflower
<i>Dissanthelium californicum</i> *	California dissanthelium
<i>Dudleya virens</i> ssp. <i>virens</i> **	Bright green dudleya
<i>Euphorbia misera</i>	Cliff spurge
<i>Galium catalinense</i> ssp. <i>acrispum</i> **	San Clemente Island bedstraw
<i>Lyonothamnus floribundus</i> ssp. <i>asplenifolius</i> *	Santa Cruz Island ironwood
<i>Malacothamnus clementinus</i> **	San Clemente Island bush mallow
<i>Malva assurgentiflora</i> ssp. <i>glabra</i> *	Island mallow
<i>Rhamnus pirifolia</i> *	Island redberry
<i>Scrophularia villosa</i> *	Santa Catalina figwort

*Channel Islands endemic; **SCI endemic

A large effort to enhance an existing outplanting may be one of the activities chosen to fulfill this task. The chosen outplanting will be at least one year old, and the goals of the enhancement activities will depend on the location of the outplanting. Potential goals include enhancing the site to better align with habitat requirements for the San Clemente Loggerhead Shrike or boosting populations of rare or at-risk species. Maintenance activities may include weed whacking, clearing thatch, control of non-native species, filling in gaps with supplemental planting, and creation of rock piles to increase lizard foraging opportunities for shrikes.

An oak focused outplanting may be one of the activities chosen to fulfil this task. The methods for outplanting oaks may include sowing acorns, sowing sprouted acorns, and /or outplanting oaks grown in the greenhouse. The selected methods will consider the availability of acorns and expected rate of success. At sites where oaks grown in the greenhouse will be planted, 50–100 individuals will be planted. If either of the acorn sowing methods are used, 100–200 will be sown. These quantities may be adjusted based on mutual agreement of the recipient and the Designated Navy Representatives. The best maintenance and upkeep protocols for each method will be employed.

If unforeseen constraints arise that would jeopardize the success of any of the outplanting sites before they are installed, the recipient and the Designated Navy Representatives will coordinate to select an alternative outplanting site (or sites) that would require a similar level of effort and achieve similar goals.

Monitoring of Previously Established Outplanting Sites

Outplanting sites have been established on San Clemente Island since 2001, and over 65 sites have been planted to date. To manage the level of effort in monitoring so many sites, each will be visited with decreasing frequency as time since establishment increases. Survivorship and recruitment data will be collected at each site monthly during the first year, quarterly during the second year, then yearly until year 5, when the site will be retired. At retirement, a final measurement of survivorship will be recorded, and plots will be installed to monitor recruitment. These recruitment plots will be monitored at year 10, year 15 and year 20. No further survivorship data will be collected after year 20. For the sake of efficiency, monitoring visits may be combined with site maintenance, such as replanting of mortalities, watering in the first year, and weed control in successive years. The recipient and Navy Representatives may reevaluate the schedule for site monitoring, and any changes will be reflected in future work plans and annual reports.

Sensitive Plant Monitoring

Accurate documentation of population sizes, distributions, and demographics are essential to support land use decision making and analyses of activities under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). Monitoring data also are vital to document the recovery of federally listed species and determine appropriate management strategies for species not trending toward recovery. Additionally, monitoring data are important to support management decisions for non-listed at risk species to prevent them from becoming listed. Federally listed and at risk species the Navy has prioritized for monitoring are included in Table 3. Work done under this agreement will follow the objectives in Table 3 and prioritize annual surveys of San Clemente Island woodland star (*Lithophragma maximum*) and Santa Cruz Island rockcress (*Sibara filifolia*). The recipient will identify proposed survey areas, survey methods, and data collection protocols for these species in the work plan. Some of these species may be encountered while performing other tasks in this agreement, and those data will be recorded in the same database used for focused surveys under this task.

TABLE 3. LISTED AND PRIORITY SPECIES AND OBJECTIVES

Species	Common Name	Status	Objectives
<i>Anemopsis californica</i>	Yerba mansa	Extirpated?	Document occurrences if found
<i>Delphinium variegatum</i> ssp. <i>thornei</i>	Thorne's royal larkspur	SCI	None identified for agreement base period.
<i>Dendromecon harfordii</i>	Channel island tree poppy	SCI, SCa, SCZ, SRI	Document occurrences if found.
<i>Poa thomasii</i>	California Dissanthelium	SCI, SCa, GI	Document new "natural" occurrences if found.

<i>Lithophragma maximum</i>	SCI woodland star	SCI (fed. endangered)	Implement survey schedule in recovery plan (Priority 1 of listed plant species.)
<i>Lomatium insulare</i>	San Nicolas Island lomatium	SNI, SCI, GI (extirpated?)	Document occurrences if found.
<i>Lycium brevipes var. hassei</i>	S.Catalina Island desert-thorn	Extirpated?	Document occurrences if found.
<i>Sibara filifolia</i>	Santa Cruz Island rockcress	SCI, SCZ, SCa (fed. endangered)	Census known occurrences, document new occurrences if found. (Priority 2 of listed plant species.)

Fire Monitoring

Fire is an important process in the Mediterranean ecosystems of California and has implications for many aspects of natural resources management on San Clemente Island. Activities performed under this task will include the following: mapping and impact assessment of burns, which may include establishment of monitoring points or plots; implementation of monitoring at burns from previous years; and monthly monitoring of fuel moisture levels.

When burned areas are observed in the field or fires are reported to the Natural Resources Office, once it is safe to do so, the recipient will map the perimeter of the burn area in the field using GPS units, or from external observation points if the burn is inside the Impact Areas or a Restricted Access Area. Access to a helicopter may be available for aerial mapping of some fires. Satellite imagery may also be used to map the perimeter of the fire but will be ground-truthed to ensure accuracy. Fires may also be mapped by Navy assets with Unmanned Aerial Systems (UASs), in which case the Navy would provide the data to the recipient. Within each burn area, the recipient will determine fire severity based on the Western Region Fire Monitoring Handbook (National Park Service 1992) and map the boundaries of areas with different severities. Attributes to be included in the GIS files will include: name of the fire; ignition date (specify whether known or estimated); survey date; method of survey (ground, helicopter, UAV, estimated from external point); date fire was out; fire severity; ignition source (obtained from Navy, if known); suppression methods (if any); size of fire; plant species burned; erosion potential; and name of personnel that collected the data. A new wildland fire management plan is in preparation, and future adjustments to the fields in the attribute table may be required to maintain consistency with the plan and facilitate fire management. If listed species or their habitats are damaged by the burn or firefighting activities, monitoring plots may be established to document recovery. The recipient will include all burn areas mapped under this agreement in quarterly and annual reports.

In the spring, the recipient will visit monitoring plots established in previous years in burned areas to document post-fire conditions. The locations, number of plots, and the monitoring methods will be decided jointly by the recipient and Navy Representatives and included in the work plan. Data and analysis of each of the burn monitoring plots will be included in the annual report.

Fuel Moisture Monitoring

The recipient will collect live fuel moisture data in accordance with the adapted protocol from Countryman and Dean per the San Clemente Island Wildland Fire Management Plan. Samples will be collected from the established sites at Vista, Horse, Flasher, and Tota. If a change in circumstances necessitates moving one of these sites, the recipient will coordinate with the Navy Representatives to select a new site. Fuel moisture samples will be collected during the first week of each month as range access allows. Monitoring may be done twice per month at the request of the Navy to accurately assess the beginning and end of fire season. Results will be sent to the Navy Representatives as soon as possible after each sampling event.

Exotic Plant Management Planning and Control

The flora of San Clemente Island is composed of a total of 529 taxa, 173 (33%) of which are thought to be exotic. Non-native invasive plant species are identified as threats to many of the listed plant and wildlife species on SCI because they can outcompete native species, degrade habitats, and alter the fire regime. The Navy currently prioritizes the following exotic plants for treatment: Saharan mustard (*Brassica tournefortii*), black mustard (*B. nigra*), Short-pod mustard (*Hirschfeldia incana*), fennel (*Foeniculum vulgare*), asphodel (*Asphodelus fistulosus*), smilo grass (*Stipa milacea*), African veldt grass (*Ehrharta calycina*), buckhorn plantain (*Plantago coronopus*), salsify (*Tragopogon porrifolius*), European sea lavender (*Limonium duriusculum*), and iceplant (*Carpobrotus edulis*). New introductions of non-native invasive species not currently known from SCI may be considered high priority as well.

During the completion of other tasks being done as part of this agreement, the recipient will be accessing an extensive part of the island, often traveling to areas that are remote and difficult to reach. To gain efficiencies from those efforts, the recipient will augment the Navy's exotic plant control program through early detection and rapid response for some populations of non-native invasive species. Such populations will typically be newly detected infestations, small, isolated populations, or populations in areas that are difficult to access. The recipient will coordinate with the Navy Representatives prior to or early in the growing season to determine which species/populations they are responsible for treating and monitoring. Treatment will be done during the optimal control window for each target species. Treatment methods may include a combination of hand-pulling, cutting and bagging seed heads, mechanical removal with string trimmers, and herbicide application. The recipient will use GIS to document the location of detected infestations and treatment areas. Herbicide will be applied by Qualified Applicators, and only herbicides approved for use in the Navy Online Pesticide Reporting System (NOPRS) will be used. Regular reports will be filed in NOPRS to track pesticide usage. Post-treatment monitoring and retreatment will continue until eradication is achieved, or an alternative plan is identified by the Navy Representatives, guided by the installation invasive species management plan currently in development.

3.2 Task 2: Erosion Monitoring

The recipient will monitor erosion from military training events in areas of off-road use and areas of tracked vehicle use, including the Assault Vehicle Maneuver Areas (AVMAs), Artillery Firing Points (AFPs), Artillery Maneuver Points (AMPs), and Assault Vehicle Maneuver Road (AVMR) (which collectively constitute the Assault Vehicle Maneuver Corridor [AVMC]). Monitoring for erosion from military activities will include

installing erosion pins and photo monitoring points in areas where erosion is expected, collecting baseline (pre-operation) data, and conducting annual erosion monitoring. The recipient will coordinate with the Navy Representatives and may assist with installing marking devices (such as signs or cones) or barriers (such as large rocks) to keep Navy operations within the boundaries of designated training areas. Specific erosion monitoring protocols will be developed collaboratively by the recipient and the Navy Representatives and will be included in the work plan.

3.3 Task 3: Maintenance of Weather Stations

To meet the Navy's obligation under the 2008 Biological Opinion (FWS- LA-09B0027-09F0040) on San Clemente Island Military Operations and Fire Management Plan, the Navy will continue to manage its network of six weather stations on San Clemente Island. To support implementation of the SCI Wildland Fire Management Plan, the recipient will assist in the maintenance of these weather stations. Associated work will include: checking the stations for damage following high wind events, maintaining vegetation clearance under the stations, and assisting other contractors or Navy personnel with minor repairs and maintenance. Minor repairs and maintenance will be coordinated through the Navy Representatives.

3.4 Task 4: San Clemente Island Woodland Star Population Augmentation

To promote the recovery of San Clemente Island woodland star (*Lithophragma maximum*) and attempt to meet pending recovery goals for the species that are now in draft format, the Navy may decide to augment existing populations of the species and eventually outplant it in canyons it no longer occupies. Before this is done, additional basic information about the species is needed, along with the development of protocols to support outplanting, including crossing and seed germination trials to assess viability and the importance of pollinators, seed and bulbil increase, and field planting trials. The recipient will identify the steps needed to support implementation of the outplanting/augmentation strategies developed by UCLA under a separate cooperative agreement, summarize methods, and collaborate with the Designated Navy Representatives to identify which elements to implement. Following concurrence from the Designated Navy Representatives, the recipient will implement the identified elements of the selected strategy. This task will partly be informed by successful propagation efforts detailed in section 3.1.

3.5 Task 5: Record Keeping – supporting Tasks 1 through 4

All data collected under the tasks described here will be maintained in MS Excel spreadsheets, ArcGIS shapefiles and geodatabases, or Access database format, as appropriate. Field data will be quality checked and entered into databases in a timely manner and retained in field data files. All electronic data will be added into long-term cumulative databases where appropriate. All electronic data will be backed up quarterly and be made available to the Designated Navy Representatives upon request.

3.6 Task 6: Coordination and Support of Other Botany Program Elements – supporting Tasks 1 through 4

As needed or requested by the Navy, short-term botanical projects by other contractors or cooperative agreement recipients may be supported with logistics coordination,

provision of local knowledge, and/or field assistance. Site visits may also be requested by the Navy for evaluation of vegetation and soil conditions in support of project reviews (for example, review of sites where new military training or infrastructure is proposed). The anticipated level of effort to be spent on this task will be identified in the work plan.

3.7 Task 7: Attendance of Meetings and Site Visits – supporting Tasks 1 through 4

As requested by the Navy Representatives, recipient will attend meetings and site visits either on the Mainland or San Clemente Island to support SCI botanical or wildlife programs. The anticipated level of effort to be spent on this task will be identified in the work plan.

4.0 QUALIFICATIONS

- 4.1 The recipient is expected to have the following qualifications and experience: (1) ability to accurately identify all native and non-native plant species that occur or have the potential to occur on SCI; (2) at least five years of experience successfully restoring habitats in coastal Southern California; (3) at least five years of experience propagating plant species native to coastal San Diego County; (4) proper state of California certification to apply herbicides to treat non-native plant species on site; (5) ability to implement the botanical monitoring techniques identified in the Post-Delisting Monitoring Plan for Five San Clemente Island Taxa ; (6) experience designing and implementing soil erosion control projects; and (7) demonstrated ability to successfully work in close proximity to sensitive species and their habitats.
- 4.2 On-island recipient staff will have at a minimum a Bachelor's degree in Botany, Biology, or a closely related field; general knowledge of habitat restoration and vegetation monitoring techniques; previous experience conducting fieldwork.

5.0 GOVERNMENT FURNISHED MATERIALS OR PROPERTY

- 5.1 Air Transportation: The US Navy will provide the recipient and/or their staff with no-cost air transportation to and from SCI on a regularly scheduled air carrier.
- 5.2 Barge Transportation: recipient vehicles, equipment, supplies, and materials may be shipped to and from SCI on a regularly scheduled barge. These barge costs are paid by the government.
- 5.3 Fuel: The Navy will provide fuel to support the recipient's vehicles on SCI.
- 5.4 Medical Emergencies: If immediate medical attention is required, trained personnel with the Federal Fire Department are authorized to treat civilians and call in an air ambulance if necessary.
- 5.5 Berthing: The Navy will provide limited berthing space for Recipient personnel. Laboratory, workbench, office, and storage areas are available at the Natural Resources Facility and will be available to the recipient 365 days per year 24 hours per day.

- 5.6 Food: Bulk food supplies are provided for one meal/person/day at the Natural Resources Facility ready room.
- 5.7 Data and Documents: The U.S. Navy will provide electronic and/or hard copies of relevant natural resources management program documents, including the Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan, survey and monitoring reports, and GIS files of SCI natural resources and general base mapping data.

Government furnished materials or property is governed by 2 C.F.R. Part 200.312 which states that a) Title to federally-owned property remains vested in the Federal government. The non-Federal entity must submit annually an inventory listing of federally-owned property in its custody to the Federal awarding agency. Upon completion of the Federal award or when the property is no longer needed, the non-Federal entity must return the property to the Federal awarding agency for further Federal agency utilization.

6.0 BASE PERIOD and OPTIONS

This agreement includes a Base Period and 4 Option Periods. The period of performance for the Base Period and Option Periods will be 18 months from the date of award. The period of performance includes time to collect and process seed, propagate material, produce plants, out-plant at restoration sites, conduct erosion control, conduct surveys and support other projects on San Clemente Island (SCI) to support the SCI Botany and Wildlife Programs. Maintenance, monitoring, data analysis, and reporting will be conducted throughout the period of performance. All project elements are non-severable.

This agreement includes optional tasks that may have different periods of performance. Optional tasks and associated periods of performance are detailed in section 7.3.

7.0 PERIOD OF PERFORMANCE

7.1 Base Effort

The period of performance for the base period will be 18 months from the date of award.

7.2 Follow-On Periods

Option Period 1: Option Period 1 extends the work described under this agreement with a period of performance of 18 months beginning one year after award of the Base Year.

Option Period 2: Option Period 2 extends the work described under this agreement with a period of performance of 18 months beginning one year after award of Option Period 1.

Option Period 3: Option Period 3 extends the work described under this agreement with a period of performance of 18 months beginning one year after award of Option Period 2.

Option Period 4: Option Period 3 extends the work described under this agreement with a period of performance of 18 months beginning one year after award of Option Period 3.

Base 18 Months	Months 1,2,3	Months 4,5,6	Months 7,8,9	Months 10,11,12	Months 13,14,15	Months 16,17,18																				
Option Period 1 - 18 months					Months 1,2,3	Months 4,5,6	Months 7,8,9	Months 10,11,12	Months 13,14,15	Months 16,17,18																
Option Period 2 - 18 months									Months 1,2,3	Months 4,5,6	Months 7,8,9	Months 10,11,12	Months 13,14,15	Months 16,17,18												
Option Period 3 - 18 months													Months 1,2,3	Months 4,5,6	Months 7,8,9	Months 10,11,12	Months 13,14,15	Months 16,17,18								
Option Period 4 - 18 months																			Months 1,2,3	Months 4,5,6	Months 7,8,9	Months 10,11,12	Months 13,14,15	Months 16,17,18		

7.3 Optional Tasks

7.3.1 Optional Task 1: Post Delisting Plant Monitoring

The recipient will implement the botanical species portion of the US Fish and Wildlife Service Post-Delisting Monitoring Plan for Five San Clemente Island Taxa (Dec 2022). This monitoring plan concerns the four taxa that were removed from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Species in January 2023. Specifically, the recipient will monitor 23 sentinel plots and 22 rotating plots during the growing season as laid out in Table C.6-1 of the plan. Monitoring under this task focuses on the San Clemente Island lotus, San Clemente Island paintbrush, San Clemente Island larkspur, and San Clemente Island bush mallow (referred to as “Focal Plant Species”). With the exception of Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS) monitoring, which is being conducted by the Navy, the recipient will be responsible for all aspects of the Focal Plant Species plot monitoring, including: area occupied, rapid assessment/Relevé, stressor assessment, and post-fire monitoring. The recipient will be responsible for locating, establishing, and precisely documenting the plot locations using GIS. The recipient will also be responsible for associated data analysis and reporting requirements. The recipient will coordinate closely with the Designated Navy Representatives and the UAS Project Manager throughout planning, implementation, and report preparation. Additional coordination may be needed between the recipient, the Navy Representatives, the UAS Project Manager, and US Fish and Wildlife Service to refine/adjust plot locations and/or monitoring methods and/or discuss data analysis methods. The recipient will prepare a preliminary draft report for Navy review and a revised draft report that addresses Navy comments. The Navy will submit the draft report to the US Fish and Wildlife Service, and the recipient will revise the report to address US Fish and Wildlife Service comments (as adjudicated by the Designated Navy Representatives) and prepare the final report. The recipient will submit all GIS files, photos, database, and spreadsheet files to the Designated Navy Representatives in electronic format with the submittal of the final report.

7.3.2 Optional Task 2: Sensitive and Listed Plant Species Surveys and Monitoring

This optional task will include additional survey effort focused on species included in Table 2 but beyond the level of effort identified in Section 3.1 Sensitive Plant Monitoring. Surveys will be scoped in 5-field-day increments and will include post-field data quality control and management. Up to four increments may be exercised during the base period and/or each of the option periods. This optional task will require 18 months to cover a full year to span the life cycle of each species and to allow 6 months for data analysis, mapping and reporting.

7.3.3 Optional Task 3: Unexploded Ordnance Avoidance Support

San Clemente Island is part of the Southern California (SOCAL) Range Complex, which is the most capable and heavily used Navy range complex in the eastern Pacific region. The island's military use has resulted in the potential for encountering unexploded ordnance (UXO) during field activities performed under this agreement. Some areas, including the high explosive impact areas, are off-limits to natural resources activities, and activities in others require escort by qualified Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) Technicians to avoid UXO hazards. In addition, activities that involve ground disturbance require on-site support of UXO technicians regardless of location. The Navy generally has provided contracted UXO technicians to support San Clemente Island Botany Program requirements; however, contracting and coordinating with multiple parties may be better streamlined by having contractors and cooperative agreement recipients provide qualified UXO technicians to support their activities. This optional task entails the recipient providing qualified Senior UXO Technician III support for UXO avoidance needed for work done under this agreement. Technicians must meet requirements detailed in Department of Defense Explosives Safety Board Minimum Qualifications for Personnel Conducting Munitions and Explosives of Concern-Related Activities Technical Paper 18, 16 July 2015 (or requirements current at the time this option is exercised). This optional task will be scoped in increments of three consecutive days of on-island support, and up to four increments may be exercised during the base period and/or each of the option periods. This effort will require 12 months of effort.

7.3.4 Optional Task 4: Sensitive Plant Species Status Change Evaluation and Support

Following the removal of feral grazing, browsing, and rooting ungulates from San Clemente Island, the island's vegetation rebounded, as did a majority of its federally listed species. In 2013, after decades of work to promote the recovery of federally listed species on San Clemente Island, the Navy began making a concerted effort to evaluate the status of the island's listed plant taxa, document their recovery, and promote status changes for species that warrant it. Much of this effort currently is directed toward the Navy's support of the 2018 Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Department of Defense and Department of the Interior Establishing a Recovery and Sustainment Partnership Initiative. This optional task will further the Navy's efforts under the MOU and help the Navy support recovery and promote status changes, as warranted, by supporting in-depth assessments of factors affecting the status of listed plant species on San Clemente Island. Basic components of this task include: (1) review of published and gray literature, including documents and reports in preparation, and providing review comments and edits on documents in preparation; (2) coordination with Designated Navy Representatives and technical experts on San Clemente Island species and/or ecosystems; (3) review of geospatial data and identification of geospatial data and other analyses important in assessing species status and threats; (4) preparation of documentation to support status evaluations; and (5) attendance of meetings, conference calls, and/or site visits to support recovery efforts. This optional task will be scoped in 80-hour increments, and up to four increments may be exercised during the base period and/or each of the option periods. The Period of performance will be 12 months.

7.3.5 Optional Task 5: General Technical Assistance

In recognition that the San Clemente Island Botany Program is dynamic and support needs are constantly evolving, this optional task allows for technical support that exceeds that in Tasks 1 through 7. This support includes 18 months of effort that includes 12 months of data collection activities and 6 months of reporting activities.

This includes 12 months for technical research activities associated with native plant recovery to include: attending regional planning and update meetings, coordination and execution of field observations, and data entry necessary to further assess vulnerability of out planting areas, burn areas and erosion sites. This effort also includes 6 months for reporting activities such as data analysis, preparing reports, technical editing; and response to data requests.

7.3.6 Optional Task 6: Category 1 Small Research Projects

Research projects investigating ecological questions can often be vital but overlooked aspects of any natural resources management program, thus the Navy would like to incorporate small, medium, and large research projects into this proposal. These projects may or may not occur on San Clemente Island, but will occur on one or more military held lands and will provide a direct benefit to San Clemente Island species.

A Small Research Project will entail any combination of labor hours and material no greater than \$15,000 and up to 12 months. Up to 2 small research project may be exercised during the base period and/or each of the option periods.

7.3.6.1 Optional Task 6A Small Research Project for Testing Project Population Monitoring Protocols for Listed and/or Sensitive Plants

Up to 6 months for data collection of any new innovative population monitoring protocols to determine distribution of rare, sensitive or invasive species, and up to 6 months of data analysis and reporting activities.

7.3.6.2 Optional Task 6B Small Research Project for Investigation into Pollination Ecology or Fuel Moisture Studies

Up to 6 months for data collection for investigation pollination ecology for listed and/or sensitive plants, and up to 6 months of data analysis and reporting activities.

7.3.6.3 Optional Task 6C Small Research Project for Experimental Restoration Techniques

Up to 6 months for data collection for investigation for experimental restoration techniques for sensitive plants, and up to 6 months of data analysis and reporting activities.

7.3.7 Optional Task 7: Medium Research Project

A Medium Research Project will entail any combination of labor hours and material no greater than \$30,000 and up to 14 months for data collection and reporting activities to assess specific seasonal attributes. Up to two Medium Research Projects may be exercised during the base period and/or each of the option periods.

7.3.7.1 Optional Task 7A Medium Research Project for Testing Project Population Monitoring Protocols for Listed and/or Sensitive Plants

Up to 8 months for data collection of any new innovative population monitoring protocols to determine distribution of rare, sensitive or invasive species, and up to 6 months of data analysis and reporting activities.

7.3.7.2 Optional Task 7B Medium Research Project for Investigation into Pollination Ecology or Fuel Moisture Studies

Up to 8 months for data collection for investigation pollination ecology for listed and/or sensitive plants, and up to 6 months of data analysis and reporting activities.

7.3.7.3 Optional Task 7C Medium Research Project for Experimental Restoration Techniques

Up to 8 months for data collection for investigation for experimental restoration techniques for sensitive plants, and up to 6 months of data analysis and reporting activities.

7.3.8 Optional Task 8: Large Research Project

A Large Research Project will entail any combination of labor hours and material no greater than \$50,000 and up to 18 months for data collection and reporting activities across multiple seasons. Up to two Large Research Projects may be exercised during the base period and/or each of the option periods.

7.3.8.1 Optional Task 8A Large Research Project for Testing Project Population Monitoring Protocols for Listed and/or Sensitive Plants

Up to 12 months for data collection of any new innovative population monitoring protocols to determine distribution of rare, sensitive or invasive species, and up to 6 months of data analysis and reporting activities.

7.3.8.2 Optional Task 8B Large Research Project for Investigation into Pollination Ecology or Fuel Moisture Studies

Up to 12 months for data collection for investigation pollination ecology for listed and/or sensitive plants, and up to 6 months of data analysis and reporting activities.

7.3.8.3 Optional Task 8C Large Research Project for Experimental Restoration Techniques

Up to 12 months for data collection for investigation for experimental restoration techniques for sensitive plants, and up to 6 months of data analysis and reporting activities.

Period of Performance for Optional Tasks:

- Optional Tasks 1, 2 and 5 will be 18 months from the date of award.
- Optional Tasks 3 and 4 will be 12 months from the date of award.
- Optional Tasks 6A, 6B and 6C for Small Research Tasks will be 12 months from date of award.
- Optional Tasks 7A, 7B and 7C for Medium Research Tasks will be 14 months from date of award.
- Optional Task 8A, 8B and 8C for Large Research Tasks will be 18 months from date of award.

8.0 COORDINATION

- USACE Fort Worth District POC
Kathy Mitchell
817 886-1709
kathy.s.mitchell@usace.army.mil
- Designated Navy Representatives. Collectively, the representatives specified in this section are referred to as “Designated Navy Representatives.” All work done under Section 3.0 of this agreement is to be coordinated with the Commander Pacific Fleet Conservation Program Manager, Kimberly O’Connor (808-864-5938, kimberly.a.oconnor16.civ@us.navy.mil) and the Naval Base Coronado Installation Representative and Botany Program Manager, Nicole Desnoyers, (619-524-9058, nicole.j.desnoyers.civ@us.navy.mil). All reports and deliverables are to be provided to the Designated Navy Representatives.

9.0 Post Award & Invoice Processes

9.1. Payment Requests and Progress Reports (Invoice Package) - Submit Payment Request and additional required documents to: swf-cesu-invoice@usace.army.mil. Carbon Copy the assigned USACE Project Manager as well as your organization’s point of contacts (POCs) for the additional required documents and for delinquent accounts.

9.1.1. Frequency: Quarterly plus 30-day grace period (except for the final invoice package noted below). If the coverage dates are not quarterly or preapproved by the PM (or the first/last submittal), the invoice package will be **rejected**.

Quarters	Invoice pkgs due No Later Than (NLT):
Q1: Oct-Dec	Q1: 31 Jan
Q2: Jan-Mar	Q2: 30 Apr
Q3: Apr-Jun	Q3: 30 Jul
Q4: Jul-Sep	Q4: 31 Oct

9.1.2. Payment Requests **must** be submitted on form SF270 Request for Advance or Reimbursement **with the accompanying Standard Form-Performance Progress Report (SF-PPR), otherwise the SF270 will be rejected.**

9.1.3. SF270 Request for Advance or Reimbursement

9.1.3.1 Block 9, Recipient Organization. **For successful set up of Electronic Transfer of Funds (EFT), the Recipient’s name and address shall reflect the exact name and physical address that appears in the System for Award Management (SAM), <https://sam.gov/>.**

9.1.3.2. Blocks 11, (a), (b), & (c) are for the description of funds. Preferred description is: CLIN/POP Type, POP start and end dates, amount awarded (see example below); at minimum include the CLIN. If the description or the minimum CLIN information is missing, the **SF270 and SF-PPR will be rejected.**

Example:

CLIN 0001 / Base

22SEP23 – 21SEP24
\$100,000.00

Funding must be separated as specified on the Award document. Sub-CLINs that specify “*for funding only*” (e.g., numbered 000101, 000102, etc.) may be rolled into the primary CLIN (e.g., 0001) unless otherwise instructed. All others required PM approval.

The SF270 may have multiple pages. An SF270 in Excel format may be requested at: swf-cesu-invoice@usace.army.mil, however, **must be submitted in pdf format otherwise will be rejected.**

9.1.4. SF-PPR Standard Form-Performance Progress Report : The Recipient shall tailor the SF-PPR to include, at minimum, the following information:

- Separate details by CLIN as applicable
- Achievements (must detail work during quarter associated with the invoice)
- Percent Completion
- Project Status
- Problems encountered and impact of activities and personnel on schedule.
- Anticipated work in next reporting period.

If the SF-PPR is incomplete, the SF-PPR and SF270 will be rejected.

A tailored SF-PPR form may be requested at: swf-cesu-invoice@usace.army.mil.

9.2. The **Final** invoice package is due no later than 90 days from final (funded/exercised) POP end date and must include the following documents: If any of the required information below is missing, the final invoice package will be **rejected**.

Final SF270
SF-PPR
Final SF425
DD882
SF428 plus attachment B (C&S if applicable)
SF298
Final Report

Forms may be requested from the district office at swf-cesu-invoice@usace.army.mil or found at: <https://www.grants.gov/forms>.

9.3 Work Plan

Within 30 days of award of this agreement, a work plan will be submitted to the Designated Navy Representatives listed in Section 8.2. The work plan will include:

- (1) Description and methods of how and where each task will be implemented
- (2) A coordination plan to ensure that project activities avoid adverse impacts to federally listed avian species and sensitive habitat;
- (3) Success criteria;

- (4) Monitoring methods, including data collection and statistical analysis;
- (5) A schedule of all major tasks to be completed as part of this agreement;
- (6) A list of all personnel and who will be working on SCI under this agreement and their respective roles
- (7) An accident prevention plan, which will be produced concurrently with the work plan but presented under a separate cover. Copies of the accident prevention plan will be made accessible to the Site Safety Officer and Installation Technical Representative at all times during the project, and a copy will be available in every vehicle utilized for work under the agreement.
- (8) Detailed description of GIS data to be collected under this agreement, including fields in attribute tables, types of shapefiles (i.e., point, line, polygon), geographic and projected coordinate systems used for data analysis and report preparation, and information to be included in metadata for each shapefile.

The work plan will be submitted as an electronic draft in Microsoft Word format for review by the Navy. Comments on the draft work plan will be discussed during a document review meeting between the Navy and recipient, and the work plan will be finalized within two weeks of the meeting. Work done under this agreement will follow the final work plan. Changes to the final work plan may be made based on mutual agreement between the Navy and the recipient.

9.4 Draft Annual Report

All work performed under this agreement will be summarized in a draft annual report submitted electronically in Microsoft Word format not later than 1 February 2026 (for Option Periods 1, 2, 3, and 4, the draft reports will be submitted in 2027, 2028, 2029, and 2030, respectively). The annual report will cover the period 1 January–31 December of the previous year. The report will summarize all work conducted during the reporting period, describe methods used in data collection and task implementation, describe statistical methods used to analyze data, present results of task implementation and a discussion of the significance. Reports will be submitted in Microsoft Word format and will include maps and photos of the project area, present data using graphs, tables, and/or charts, and include appendices with all monitoring data. Specifically, the report will include the following for each task:

- (1) Background information- all necessary context for the work that was performed.
- (2) Methods- detailed description of methods used for project design and data collection.
- (3) Results- presentation of results including analytical methods used. Tables, figures, charts, graphs, and GIS data will be presented as appropriate.
- (4) Discussion- scientific discussion of the meaning of the results and how they relate to long-term trends and success criteria.
- (5) Recommendations- A discussion of any actions the Navy could take in future work that will help in achieving success criteria or proactively prevent the degradation of current habitat conditions.

9.5 Final Annual Report

The Navy will review and comment on the draft annual report. Comments will be discussed during a document review meeting between the Navy and recipient, and the final annual report is expected to be submitted no later than 31 March 2026 (for

Option Periods 1, 2, 3, and 4, the final annual report will be submitted in 2027, 2028, 2029, and 2030, respectively). The final report will be delivered to the Navy Representatives and USACE POC in MS Word and PDF formats. Electronic appendices that include all data collected as part of this agreement (merged into long-term databases whenever possible) and source files for all graphs, tables, and figures in the report will be delivered the Designated Navy Representatives with the final report. Electronic appendices will be delivered on a CD or via DOD Safelink as coordinated with the Navy representatives.

- 10.0 This cooperative agreement may be administered through a CESU only upon mutual agreement and official authorization by both parties of the acceptance of the application of the CESU Network IDC rate (17.5%).

Any resulting cooperative agreement will be subject to, and recipient shall comply with 2 CFR 200.313 "Equipment", 200.314 "Supplies", and 200.315 "Intangible Property" which includes use of research data.

- 11.0 General Requirements and Information for Naval Base Coronado.

Additional requirements for working on the base, data and publications, safety, insurance, and other miscellaneous items are contained within Appendix A.

Appendix A. General Requirements and Information

The recipient is to visit the study areas as often as necessary to accomplish the purpose of the Agreement as detailed further in this Statement of Objectives. The recipient will provide the Naval Base Coronado (NBC) Representative with a list of all personnel and their work and cellular telephone numbers who will be carrying out this Agreement. It is the recipient's responsibility to obtain all necessary security and entrance clearances for themselves and their personnel and equipment into NBC. Study areas under this Agreement include: 1) Naval Auxiliary Land Field San Clemente Island (NALF SCI), excluding Impact Area I and Impact Area II.

INSTALLATION ACCESS, LOGISTICS, AND REQUIREMENTS

1. Application for and use of identification badges will be as specified herein and as otherwise directed by the Contracting Officer or his/her authorized representative. DBIDS cards are used for personnel identification and installation access. DBIDS passes for recipient personnel may be obtained by completing the SECNAV 5512 form and additional sponsor and badge type information available and processed through the Natural Resources Operations Manager (NROM) on SCI. Completed forms are submitted to the respective installation Pass and Identification (ID) offices (Naval Base Coronado and Naval Base San Diego). Applicants will need to take two of the required identification sources and a hard copy of the SECNAV 5512 form to the Pass and ID office to receive their DBIDS cards. Processing time for DBIDS cards is typically 14 days but may take longer. The Pass and ID Office normal hours of operation are Monday thru Friday 0630-1600. Saturdays, Sundays, and Holidays are generally unavailable. Hours are subject to change. Check for current hours before visiting. The recipient must provide evidence of a valid state driver's license, and vehicle insurance and current registration, required by California state law, for each non-government vehicle used on the installation.
 - a. Recipient personnel without a DBIDS card or personnel visiting the installation for a single visit may arrange for and obtain an escort from US government civilian employees or active duty personnel.
2. Identification badges must be carried by all Agreement personnel while on U.S. Navy property and leased areas.
3. The recipient will comply with NALF SAN CLEMENTE ISLAND INSTRUCTION (NALFSCIINST) 3120.1 (2023) (or latest version) NALF San Clemente Island Standard Operating Procedures and the Southern California Offshore Operating Area And Range Manual FACSFACSDINST 3120.1M (or latest version). Natural Resources personnel employing weapons in the course of their work will comply by all US Navy, Base Security, and NALF SCI Officer in Charge guidance.
4. The recipient will not utilize ATVs or other off-road vehicles in areas not specifically approved by the SCI Natural Resources Specialist and depicted in the Work Plan.
5. Individuals driving vehicles on SCI shall have a valid driver's license.

6. The recipient will coordinate with and utilize information from the U.S. Navy, as well as other professionals who are experienced in the project objective subject matter as directed by the Designated Navy Representatives. However, the Recipient will not involve themselves in negotiations with the regulators concerning matters addressed within this Agreement nor provide data to the regulators (or any other entity) without permission from the Designated Navy Representatives. If information or data is needed to support a formal ESA consultation, it will be requested by the Navy Representatives, who will then discuss with the regulator(s). All requests for data sharing from any entity will be directed to the Designated Navy Representatives.

7. The recipient will have access to review pertinent files at NALF SCI and should be familiar with San Clemente Island Integrated Natural Resources Management and regulatory requirements (i.e., understand requirements of the applicable Biological Opinions and Conservation Agreements), and work closely with the installation representative in planning and carrying out field work.

8. The recipient will inform SCI Security by radio immediately or as soon as feasible and will inform the Installation Representative via electronic mail within twenty-four hours, of any unusual activity observed while conducting surveys in the field (e.g., trespassers). Information should include (1) location, (2) date, (3) time, and (4) any detailed facts regarding the activity. Any unauthorized range activity or range safety concerns will be reported to both SCI Security and SCI Range Coordination by radio or phone as soon as signal (radio or phone) supports reporting. The SCI NROM will be made aware of any unusual activity or range safety violations reports via in-person, phone, or email communication within 12 hours of the report.

9. The recipient will inform the Installation Representative via telephone and electronic mail, of any unusual animal or plant species observed while conducting surveys in the field (e.g., species not known to be native or naturalized to SCI or species which are federally listed or are State of California Species of Special Concern) within twenty-four hours of the observation. Information should include (1) location, (2) date, (3) time and (4) photos, as well as detailed facts about the sighting.

10. Smoking is not allowed in the non-developed areas of the Installation.

11. The Recipient will not respond to any inquiries about this Agreement from the news media or non-governmental organizations or other persons during the term of this Agreement unless they have first consulted with the Department of the Navy and a determination has been made that the California Public Records Act, California Government Code §6250, et seq., is applicable, and no exemption exists under the federal Freedom of Information Act or other federal or state law or regulation, which would exempt the records from disclosure under the Government Code, including, but not limited to §6254 (k). All inquiries will be directed to the NBC Public Affairs Officer (PAO), coordinated through the Installation Representative.

12. The recipient shall manage generated electronic waste (including alkaline batteries), bio-medical waste, hazardous material, hazardous waste, and hazardous waste residues in accordance with federal, state, and NBC regulations and policies. Questions on proper disposal and management shall be coordinated through the NROM. It is the responsibility of the recipient to properly dispose of all trash/waste generated in fulfillment of this agreement.

13. Prior to entering the field each day, the recipient shall confirm range access on the range schedule provided by the NROM or other point of contact and record in the SCI NR Log Book the personnel entering the field, the grid location of fieldwork, time entering the field, estimated time of return, and vehicle. Upon returning from the field, the recipient shall record time of return.

14. Staff working on this Agreement shall carry a functioning ELMR radio while conducting fieldwork on SCI. Staff shall check in and out of range areas by calling SCI Range Coordination personnel at call sign "Starburst" upon entry and exit of mapped range areas with the number of vehicles, passengers, and the range schedule event number.

15. No ground disturbing activities may take place at SCI without approval from the Installation Representative. Additionally, to avoid impacts to federally listed, rare, or endemic plants the Recipient and/or their representatives must coordinate all vegetation disturbing activities with the SCI Natural Resource Specialist/Botany Program Manager. Under no circumstances are any federally protected plants to be disturbed and/or destroyed when completing the work required in this Agreement.

16. If any objects are found that appear to be cultural or archeological resources the recipient must contact the CNRSW Cultural Resources Program Manager at (619) 705-5664 and make the SCI NROM aware.)

17. Prior to conducting any fieldwork at SCI, the recipient and their staff shall complete the current UXO training as provided by the NROM or Range Coordination personnel. Unexploded ordnance may be encountered while conducting fieldwork. recipient shall not touch or attempt to pick-up any suspected ordnance. recipient shall place flagging in the general area of the ordnance and notify Range Coordination and/or FACSFAC.

18. The primary use of SCI is for its military mission. Without prior notice, designated areas may become closed to the activities of the recipient. In some cases, due to operations or other circumstances, it may be necessary to deny the recipient access to portions of SCI for short periods of time. In such cases, the recipient will be provided notification of such as soon as possible. Cancellation of range access with less than 24-hours notice, repeated cancellations, or repeated exclusion shall be reported to the NROM for deconfliction with Range Coordination and/or FACSFAC. It is the responsibility of the recipient to reschedule this work as feasible, working with the NROM (if not precluded by long-term access restrictions). If access restrictions will preclude achieving Agreement objectives, notice shall be given to the Installation Representative and CPF Natural Resources Manager.

19. The NALF SCI Training Areas (TAs), Shore Bombardment Area (SHOBA), Training and Range Areas (TARs), Special Warfare Training Areas (SWATs, formerly Special Weapons and Tactics), and Artillery Vehicle Maneuver Areas (AVMAs) are accessed in coordination with the NROM and/or the Installation Representative.

a. Access requests to range areas must be made through the NROM and/or Installation Representative, who will route the request to FACSFAC scheduling.

b. The recipient is restricted from entering the SHOBA Impact Areas (I and II) and other areas designated by the SCI OIC as Restricted Access Areas due to

the presence of unexploded ordnance. The following areas are Restricted Access Areas, which require SCI OIC approval and EOD Technician escort to access: BLU-97 area, Eel Point 40mm Range, and Site 14. If access to these areas is necessary to fulfil this agreement, it will be coordinated through the NROM and Installation Representative. Coordinates or maps of these areas are to be carried by all staff working under this Agreement while conducting fieldwork near the boundaries of these areas to ensure the boundaries are not crossed.

20. The SHOBA gate key may be obtained from the lockbox at NRO (building 60258) or from SCI Security at Building 60151. Keys shall be returned to the lockbox or SCI Security upon completion of the scheduled range access period for that day.

21. Naval Special Warfare (NSW) Basic Underwater Demolition/SEAL (BUD/S) and Maritime Operations (MAROPS) in SWATS 1 & 2 shall not be accessed unless they are scheduled for use by the recipient through the NROM or Installation Representative and access is confirmed within 24-hours on the Range schedule. The recipient shall check in at the quarter deck at MAROPS at the start of scheduled access. India flags (yellow) will be raised at the entry points to the ranges where work will be conducted. If there is a Bravo flag (red) already raised, the recipient will return to the quarterdeck and contact range control.

22. Due to the classified nature of some activities at SCI, only those areas directly associated with the specifications of this Agreement may be visited. Restricted areas will only be entered with special permission.

23. Gates have been installed on various roads. When closed or a road block has been placed, they are not to be ignored or circumvented for any reason. If Agreement work is required behind a locked gate, the recipient will coordinate through the NROM or Installation Representative so that appropriate arrangements can be made to gain access.

DATA AND PUBLICATIONS

1. This Cooperative Agreement is subject to, and recipient shall comply with, 32 CFR Subpart 32.6 concerning "Intangible Property," which includes use of research data. Any information or data protected by federal law will be identified by the Government prior to being provided to recipient and the Government will notify the recipient in advance of applicable limitations on such information. Except as to information so identified and limited, there are no restrictions on reporting or publishing reports based upon the fundamental research that is the subject of this Cooperative Agreement.
2. The Federal Government has the right to obtain, reproduce, publish or otherwise use the data first produced under this Agreement and authorize others to receive, reproduce, publish, or otherwise use such data for Federal purposes. The DoN acknowledges and agrees that the recipient's fundamental consideration in performing the research under this Agreement shall be recipient's right to publish the results of such research for academic and scientific purposes. The recipient shall submit, for review and comment, any proposed professional, scientific, or non-scientific report, paper or note, whether it will be published or unpublished or be part of any technical or non-technical presentation or be provided to anyone not a party to this Agreement to the DoN thirty (30) days prior to the submission of the work mentioned above.
3. The acknowledgements for any paper, note, article, or presentation resulting from this work shall include the following statement: "*This research was funded by the Department of the Navy on behalf of the Commander Pacific Fleet and Naval Base Coronado.*"
4. Any publications resulting from this work shall be provided at no cost to the Department of the Navy in quantities jointly determined by the Department of the Navy representative and the recipient at the time of publication.
5. The U.S. Navy, at its discretion, may subject draft work plans, draft reports or draft manuscripts to external peer review.
6. Any presentation, publication, scientific paper, or poster shall be submitted in draft form to the US Navy (NBC Representative/POC and NBC PAO) for review and comment prior to finalization and release.
7. Samples, specimens, and data collected under this agreement or while on SCI to execute this agreement shall not be provided to other entities, researchers, or depositories without written approval of the US Navy Installation Representative.

SAFETY

1. The recipient will be required to develop a site-specific Health and Safety Plan and Accident Prevention Plan (APP) if the work is potentially hazardous. Potentially hazardous activities include, but are not limited to:
 - a. soil boring or digging test pits (excludes manual collection of *de minimis* surface soil samples)
 - b. all field work on hazardous waste or munitions response sites
 - c. work on, in, or near bodies of water where there a danger from drowning
 - d. use of heavy equipment, e.g. backhoes, excavators, bulldozers, etc.

- e. excavation, backfilling, and compaction
 - f. use of man lifts, ladders, and other climbing apparatus
 - g. use of weight handing equipment, e.g. crane, forklifts, and hoists
 - h. well drilling and/or well pump repair or replacement
 - i. construction, demolition, or repair of site improvements
 - j. remediation of hazardous material or waste, i.e. asbestos, paint with lead, and PCB
 - k. work within 10 ten feet of high voltage lines, or high pressure gas, steam, or water lines
 - l. exposure to harmful plants, animals, and insects
 - m. exposure to inclement weather, unstable soil, greater than 15% ground slope
2. An abbreviated APP can be prepared in lieu of a standard APP for projects that are limited in scope. These are: study, survey, observation, or other activities where an employee is exposed only to inclement weather, harmful plants, animals and insects or effects of injury or illness, if an incident occurs, is minor to moderate. If the project involves a potentially hazardous activity, the recipient shall develop an APP, Activity Hazardous Analysis (AHA) and site-specific Health & Safety Plan (HASP), and submit the AHA and HASP as attachments to the APP to the NBC Representative.
 3. As a minimum, references used to develop the site-specific APP are: the latest edition of the EM 385-1-1 US Army Corps of Engineers Safety & Health Requirements Manual, and Local Activity safety plans and standard operating procedures. When developing the APP, address all sections that are deemed appropriate for performing the work in this Cooperative Agreement, while ensuring a safe work environment for all personnel involved.
 4. The APP will provide a safe and healthful environment for all personnel involved as well as personnel working near the sites for the DoN. The recipient shall certify to US Navy that the Final APP has been reviewed with each recipient employee working on this Cooperative Agreement prior to mobilization and start of fieldwork activities.

HOLD HARMLESS

1. The Government shall not be responsible for the loss of or damage to property of the recipient and/or his/her representatives, or for personal injuries to the recipient and/or his/her representatives arising from or incident to the use of government facilities or equipment. Recipient shall indemnify, hold harmless, defend and save Government harmless and shall pay all costs, expenses, and reasonable attorney's fees for all trial and appellate levels and post-judgment proceedings in connection with any fines, suits, actions, damages, liability and causes of action of every nature whatsoever arising or growing out of, or in any manner connected with, the occupation or use of Government Premises by Recipient, its employees, servants, agents, guests, invitees, and contractors. This includes, but is not limited to, any fines, claims, demands and causes of action of every nature whatsoever that may be made upon, sustained or incurred by the Government by reason of any breach, violation, omission or non-performance of any term, covenant or condition hereof on the part of the Recipient, its employees, servants, agents, guests, invitees, or contractors. This indemnification also applies to claims arising out of the furnishings of any utilities or services by the Government or any interruption therein or failure thereof, occasioned by the negligence or lack of diligence of Recipient or its respective officers, agents, servants or employees. However, this

indemnity shall not extend to damages due to the sole fault of the Government or its employees, agents, servants, guests, invitees or contractors. This covenant shall survive the termination of this Cooperative Agreement.

2. In the event of damage, including damage by contamination, to any Government property by the Recipient, its officers, agents, servants, employees, or invitees, the recipient, at the election of the Government, shall promptly repair, replace, or make monetary compensation for the repair or replacement of such property to the satisfaction of the Government.

INSURANCE

1. At the commencement of this Cooperative Agreement, the recipient shall obtain, from a reputable insurance company or companies satisfactory to the Government, comprehensive general liability insurance. The insurance shall provide an amount not less than a minimum combined single limit of \$ 1,000,000.00 for any number of persons or claims arising from any one incident with respect to bodily injuries or death resulting there from, property damage or both, suffered or alleged to have been suffered by any person or persons resulting from or related to the presence or operations of the recipient, its employees, agents or contractors under this Cooperative Agreement. The recipient shall require the insurance company or companies to furnish the Government with a certified copy of the policy or policies, or certificates of insurance evidencing the purchase of such insurance. Each policy of insurance required under this Paragraph shall contain an endorsement reading as follows: "*The insurer waives any right of subrogation against the United States of America which might arise by reason of any payment made under this policy.*"
2. All insurance required of the recipient hereunder shall be in such form, for such periods of time and with such insurers as the Government may require or approve. All policies or certificates issued by the respective insurers for public liability and property insurance shall name the United States of America as an additional insured, and shall provide that no cancellation, reduction in amount or any material change in coverage thereof shall be effective until at least 30 calendar days after receipt by the Government of written notice thereof, regardless of any prior act or failure to act or negligence of the recipient or the Government or any other person concerning such amount or change in coverage.
3. The recipient at its sole cost and expense, may ensure its activities in connection with this Cooperative Agreement by maintaining a program of self-insurance that complies with the requirements of Section XIV, including coverages specified in Attachment A hereof. Recipient shall also provide a copy of the exempting statute cited in support of its claim of self-insurance. (The self-insurance clause is applicable only to appropriate state and local governments and qualifying institutions of higher education.)
4. During the entire period the Cooperative Agreement shall be in effect, the recipient shall require its contractors or agents or any contractor performing work at the recipient's or agent's request on the affected Government Premises to carry and maintain the insurance required as follows: "**Comprehensive general liability insurance in the amount of \$1,000,000.00.**"

5. The recipient and any of its contractors or agents shall deliver or cause to be delivered promptly to the Cooperative Agreement Administrator, a certificate of insurance or a certified copy of each renewal policy evidencing the insurance required by this Cooperative Agreement and shall also deliver no later than thirty (30) calendar days prior to expiration of any such policy, a certificate of insurance evidencing each renewal policy covering the same risks.

6. In the event that any item or part of the premises or facilities shall require repair, rebuilding, or replacement resulting from loss or damage, the risk of which is assumed under this paragraph, the recipient shall promptly give notice thereof to the Government and, to the extent of its liability as provided in this paragraph, shall, upon demand, either compensate the Government for such loss or damage, or rebuild, replace or repair the item or items of the premises or facilities so lost or damaged, as the Government may elect. If the cost of such repair, rebuilding, or replacement exceeds the liability of the recipient for such loss or damage, the recipient shall effect such repair, rebuilding, or replacement if required so to do by the Government, and such excess of cost shall be reimbursed to the recipient by the Government. In the event the recipient shall have effected any repair, rebuilding, or replacement which the recipient is required to effect pursuant to this paragraph, the Government shall direct payment to the recipient of so much of the proceeds of any insurance carried by the recipient and made available to the Government on account of loss of or damage to any item or part of the premises or facilities as may be necessary to enable the recipient to effect such repair, rebuilding or replacement. In event the recipient shall not have been required to effect such repair, rebuilding, or replacement, and the insurance proceeds allocable to the loss or damage which has created the need for such repair, rebuilding or replacement have been paid to the recipient, the recipient shall promptly refund to the Government the amount of such proceeds.