

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

May 31, 2023

## REQUEST FOR STATEMENT OF INTEREST W9126G-23-2-SOI-2158

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

Californian/Great Basin CESU Regions

**Project Title:** Beale AFB Nature Trail

A cooperative agreement is being offerred 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 \$357,000.00 is expected to be available to support this project for the **base period**. Additional funding may be available in the amount of \$300,000.00 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 two 18-month follow-on periods with an additional two 12-month periods for monitoring/maintenance 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 capabaility 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 5:00 P.M., Central Time, on 1 July 2023.
- Submit your Statement of Interest via e-mail attachments or direct questions to:

Audria Gill

**Grants Specialist** 

USACE, Fort Worth District

Email: audria.j.gill@usace.army.mil

Office: 817-886-1925

**David Leptien Project Manager** 

USACE, Fort Worth District

Email: david.b.leptien@usace.army.mil

Office: 402-889-5570

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.

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**ALICE AUSTIN** Contracting Officer

Attachment: Statement of Objectives

## STATEMENT OF OBJECTIVES for

# FOUR BRIDGES RIPARIAN RESTORATION DRY CREEK NATURE TRAIL EXPANSION for NATURAL RESOURCES PROGRAM, BEALE AIR FORCE BASE, CALIFORNIA

18 May 2023

#### 1.0 PURPOSE

- 1.1 The Beale Air Force Base (Beale AFB) environmental program ensures military mission activities are conducted in compliance with all applicable environmental laws, regulations and policies with cooperation and assistance from the Air Force Civil Engineer Center's (AFCEC) Travis Installation Support Section (ISS).
- 1.2 This work requires on-site and off-site support for a large field project at Beale AFB in order to implement the Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan (INRMP). The work will involve: nature trail implementation, field visits, reporting, coordination, travel to and from Beale AFB for off-site personnel, attendance at meetings, project management, and GIS data management.

#### 2.0 **AUTHORITY**

Authority to enter into a Cooperative Agreements (CA) for the work: Section 670c-1, Title 16 United States Code, Sikes Act.

- 2.1. In agreement with the above stated goals, the NFE agrees to provide the necessary personnel, equipment, and materials required to implement, in part, the EAFB responsibilities pursuant to the Endangered Species Act (16 USC 1531 et seq.), the Sikes Act Improvement Act, the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (16 USC 1361 et seq.), the National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.), and applicable implementing regulations, such as Air Force Manual 32-7003, *Environmental Conservation*; 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

2.2. 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.), 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 not limited to, the following:

- Beale AFB and AFCEC ISS are involved in development of study methodology, data gathering, analysis, and/or report writing
- Beale AFB and AFCEC ISS are active participates and collaborates in carrying out the project plan of work, reviews and approves activities, helps train or select project staff or trainees
- Beale AFB and AFCEC ISS incurs in-kind or direct expenditures in carrying out the activities specified in the project agreement. Examples include, but are not limited to, the following:
  - o Providing staff time to work on the project

#### 3.0 DESCRIPTION OF OBJECTIVES

Conduct tasks in accordance with this Description of Objectives, as prioritized by AFCEC ISS PM and Base NRM. Only work aligned with the original AF ACES programming and approved by the AFCEC ISS PM should be completed as part of this support.

Travel, Coordination, and Project Management for all tasks is as follows:

<u>Travel</u>: Provide transportation and fuel for all NFE staff to get to and from all field sites. Retain current proof of insurance, current registration, and REAL ID-compliant driver's licenses for all modes of transportation.

<u>Coordination</u>: Coordinate concurrently with the Base NRM, AFCEC Travis ISS, and USACE PM. All work shall be approved by the AFCEC and be consistent with the Project Schedule & Work Plan (Deliverable 9.3) approved by the Base NRM. Schedule changes can be made; trade-off decisions will be jointly made by the USACE-PM, Base NRM and AFCEC Travis ISS and align with the Sikes Act compliant INRMP and original budget programming. Any changes in scope or cost must be approved by the USACE Grants Officer. All coordination with state and federal regulators will be by the Base NRM or AFCEC ISS only.

#### 3.1 DRY CREEK NATURE TRAIL EXPANSION

Task 1 – Implement Dry Creek Natural Trail Expansion: Using a combination of experienced staff overseeing on and off-base volunteers, implement the plan for the nature trail expansion from Candy Cane Park to Camp Beale Highway.

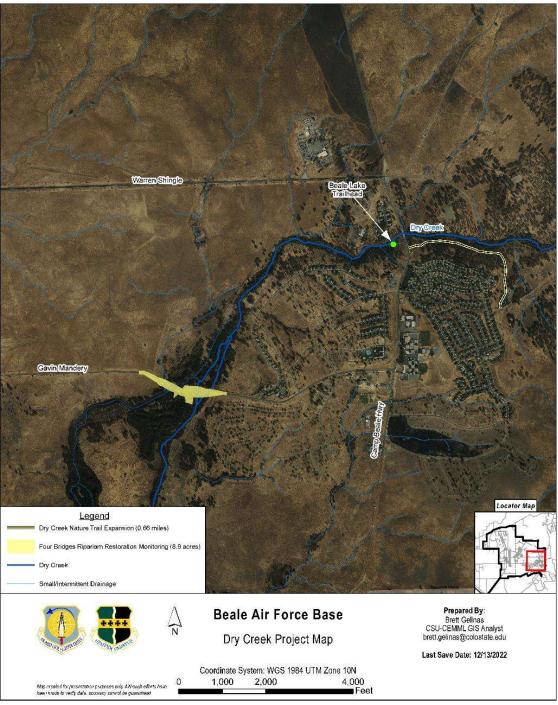
3.2.1: The project is intended to meet portions of ongoing efforts towards the following Goals and Objectives of the Beale AFB Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan (INRMP 2021):

- GOAL 5: MAINTAIN, ENHANCE, AND EXPAND OUTDOOR RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE THE NEEDS OF THE BASE POPULATION.
  - Project 5.1.2: Plan and implement nature trail renovation and expansion along Dry Creek and at Candy Cane Park (Section 7.2.3.2).
- 3.1.2: Specific tasks will be accomplished in accordance with the following documents that have been prepared for the project:
  - Nature Trail Expansion Plan (2023)
  - Environmental Impact Analysis documents (Air Force Form 813 (2023))

#### 3.1.3: Base Task:

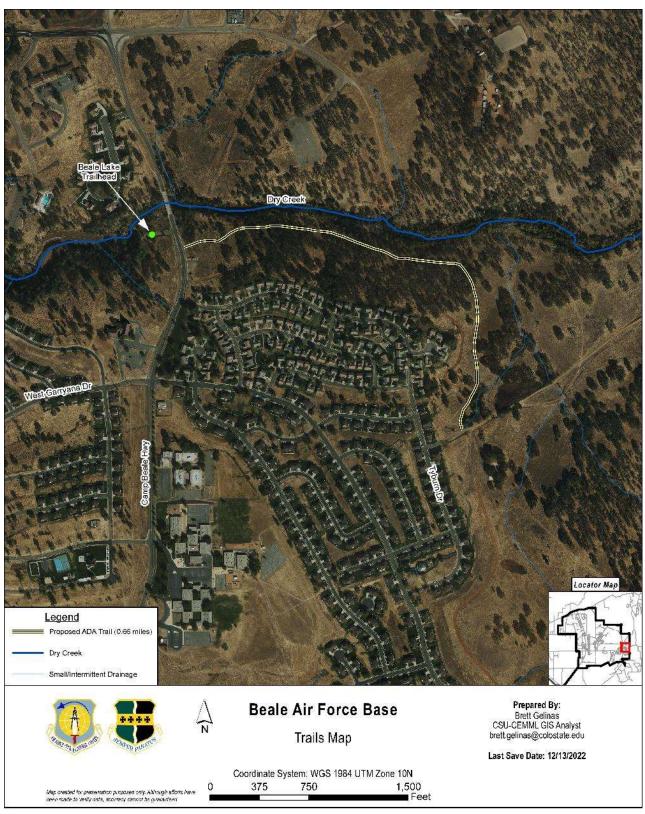
- Task 1 Nature Trail Expansion: Install the new trail (0.66 miles, 3,500 feet) on a prior abandoned, unpaved road and connect to the existing trail to the Beale Lake Trailhead.
  - Trail shall be comprised of decomposed granite
  - Trail shall be Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)-accessible wherever possible
  - Plant native grass seed and/or plugs in all areas disturbed by trail installation
  - Develop project-specific Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan; address erosion issues at the restoration site according to the plan during and after installation
  - Perform invasive plant species control within the entire project site after installation
  - Design, produce, and install up to 3 educational signs along the trail
  - Install up to 3 benches (made with recycled materials) along the trail
  - Prepare Notice of Intent under California Stormwater Construction Permit
  - Includes one small bridge (~6 ft wide) to cross a tributary to Dry Creek
  - Includes an elevated walking platform over a wetland area near Candy Cane Park
  - Install a crosswalk and rounded curbs to cross Camp Beale Highway and connect to the natural trail on the other side (previously known as the Beale Lake Nature Trail)

### **Project Area Map**



CONTROLLED BY CENTER FOR ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT OF MILITARY LANDS & AIR FORCE CIVIL ENGINEER CENTER, ENVIRONMENTAL GIS PROGRAM OFFICE

Task 1 Map: Nature Trail



CONTROLLED BY CENTER FOR ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT OF MILITARY LANDS & AIR FORCE CIVIL ENGINEER CENTER, ENVIRONMENTAL GIS PROGRAM OFFICE

#### 3.1.4: Follow-on Tasks:

The Government intends to award the follow-on tasks identified in the table below based on funds availability up to a maximum total agreement cost of \$300,000. Detail objectives for the follow-on tasks will be determined upon completion of the Restoration Plans, then negotiated and awarded via modification to this agreement.

Follow-on Tasks	Follow-on to Task 1 18 Months POP	Follow-on to Tasks 1A 12 Months POP
<b>Task 1A</b> – Dry Creek Nature Trail Expansion: Implement, Maintain, Year 1	*	
Task 1B - Dry Creek Nature Trail Expansion: Maintain, Year 2		**
Task 1C - Dry Creek Nature Trail Expansion: Maintain, Year 3		**

<sup>\*</sup> Task 1A is non-recurring and may be funded up to 6 months after completion of the respective plan development (Task 1).

#### 4.0 QUALIFICATIONS

Project Managers and Field Managers require advanced experience in 1) ecological restoration projects involving riparian zones in California and 2) nature trail implementation

#### 5.0 GOVERNMENT FURNISHED MATERIALS OR PROPERTY

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

#### 6.0 PERIOD OF PERFORMANCE (PoP)

Base Period, Task 1: 18 months from date of award

Follow on Task 1A: 18 months

Follow-on recurring monitoring tasks (1B-C): 12 months each

Total estimated period of performance: five years

#### 7.0 COORDINATION

<sup>\*\*</sup> Tasks 1B-C (monitoring): These are recurring tasks. The first year may be funded any time up to one month after completion of the respective plan implementation (TASK 1A). Each subsequent year of monitoring may be awarded to start after completion of the preceding year.

**USACE POC** 

Primary: David Leptien, PM, 402-889-5570, david.b.leptien@usace.army.mil

Alternate: Kali Evans, Kali.L.Evans@usace.army.mil

AFCEC Travis Installation Support Section, Natural Resources, AFCEC/CZOW Primary: Kirsten Christopherson, 707-424-8622, <u>kirsten.christopherson@us.af.mil</u>

Alternate: Deanne Weber, 707-424-8627, deanne.weber@us.af.mil

Beale Air Force Base, Natural Resources Manager, 9 CES/CEIEC

Primary: Tamara Gallentine, 530-634-2738, tamara.gallentine.2@us.af.mil

Alternate: Eli Rose, 530-634-2382, eli.rose.1@us.af.mil

#### 8.0 DELIVERABLES

- 8.1 <u>Progress Reports</u> One (1) typed letter report describing progress on the project throughout the period of performance. The report shall be due as of the last day of the third month (quarterly) and shall be transmitted via electronic mail no later than the 10th calendar day following the end of the reporting period. Invoices for partial payment shall be submitted to coincide with receipt of the quarterly progress reports. No partial payment will be approved unless the government has received all progress reports which are due.
- 8.2 <u>Monthly Progress Agenda, Reports & Meeting Minutes</u> One (1) typed report describing progress on the project. The report shall be due two days before the scheduled monthly meeting and shall be transmitted via electronic mail. Meeting minutes are due within 2 days following the monthly meeting to include a summary of action items.
- 8.3 <u>Project Schedule and Work Plan</u> Within 30-days of award, provide an electronic copy of a work plan and project schedule in table format. Must be concise yet communicate what will be performed and when. The schedule should break down the work into sections with associated timetables. Document shall be reviewed at the monthly meetings to ensure we are on schedule.
- 8.4 <u>Annual Inventory Federally Owned Federally Owned Property</u> an annual inventory listing Federal property (to include description of the property, a serial number or other identification number) that is in the custody of the recipient and available at the request of the government.
- 8.5 <u>Annual Inventory Acquired</u> Acquired Property purchased with funding from award property records must be maintained that includes description of the property, serial number or other identification number, source of funding, who holds title, acquisition date, cost of property, percentage of Federal participation in project costs, location, use and condition of property, and ultimate disposition including date of disposal and sale price. A physical inventory must be taken and results reconciled. Copies of the inventory to be sent annually following each year of support to USACE SWF and AFCEC ISS.
- 8.6 <u>Initial Draft Riparian Monitoring Plan</u> Within 30 days of award, provide an electronic copy of draft plan for riparian monitoring. All draft deliverables shall be reviewed by an experienced editor to fix any editorial issues. Beale AFB and AFCEC Travis ISS staff will review and provide comments within 30 calendar days after receipt.
- 8.7 <u>Initial Draft Final Riparian Monitoring Plan</u> Electronic copies of final reports should be submitted within 15 days after receiving government comments. All draft deliverables shall be

reviewed by an experienced editor to fix any editorial issues. Beale AFB and AFCEC Travis ISS staff will review and provide comments within 30 calendar days after receipt.

- 8.8 <u>Initial Final Riparian Monitoring Plan</u> Deliverable shall be reviewed by an experienced editor to fix any editorial issues. Electronic copies of the final report, incorporating Beale and AFCEC Travis ISS review comments on the draft final and shall be submitted no later than 15 calendar days after receipt of the government comments.
- 8.9 <u>Draft Annual Updates to Riparian Monitoring Plan</u> On an as needed basis and within 30 days of award of each monitoring year (Follow-On Tasks), provide an electronic copy of an updated draft plan for riparian monitoring. All draft deliverables shall be reviewed by an experienced editor to fix any editorial issues. Beale AFB and AFCEC Travis ISS staff will review and provide comments within 30 calendar days after receipt.
- 8.10 <u>Final Annual Updates to Riparian Monitoring Plan</u> Deliverable shall be reviewed by an experienced editor to fix any editorial issues. Electronic copies of the final report, incorporating Beale and AFCEC Travis ISS review comments on the draft final and shall be submitted no later than 15 calendar days after receipt of the government comments.
- 8.11 <u>Draft Annual Monitoring Report</u> Within 60 days of monitoring completion each year, provide an electronic copy of draft plan. All draft deliverables shall be reviewed by an experienced editor to fix any editorial issues. Beale AFB and AFCEC Travis ISS staff will review and provide comments within 30 calendar days after receipt.
- 8.12 <u>Draft Final Annual Monitoring Report</u> Electronic copies of final reports should be submitted within 30 days after receiving government comments. All draft deliverables shall be reviewed by an experienced editor to fix any editorial issues. Beale AFB and AFCEC Travis ISS staff will review and provide comments within 30 calendar days after receipt.
- 8.13 <u>Final Annual Monitoring Reports</u> Final deliverable shall be reviewed by an experienced editor to fix any editorial issues. Electronic copies of the final report, incorporating Beale and AFCEC Travis ISS review comments on the draft and shall be submitted no later than 30 calendar days after receipt of the government comments.
- 8.14 <u>Draft Comprehensive Report</u> Electronic copies of draft reports should be submitted no later than four months before end of the period of performance. All draft deliverables shall be reviewed by an experienced editor to fix any editorial issues. At a minimum, the reports shall contain an executive summary, introduction, methods, results, discussion, and recommendations section. Report should summarize all work accomplished over the 3 to 5-year effort. Beale AFB and AFCEC Travis ISS staff will review and provide comments within 30 calendar days after receipt.
- 8.15 <u>Final Comprehensive Report</u> Final deliverable shall be reviewed by an experienced editor to fix any editorial issues. Electronic copies of the final report, incorporating Beale and AFCEC Travis ISS review comments on the draft and shall be submitted no later than 30 calendar days after receipt of the government comments.
- 8.16 <u>PowerPoint Presentations</u> prepare a PowerPoint presentation for each project including project background from prior task orders for presentation at professional conferences. This should be submitted no later than four months before end of the period of performance.
- 8.17 <u>GIS Deliverables</u> All tasks shall have at least one and likely several GIS deliverables that include all data layers used to create all maps within submitted deliverables. GIS deliverables shall

include all new data collected throughout the course of the project. Draft GIS deliverables shall be submitted with draft reports that include their data, with final reports and GIS info submitted together. GIS deliverables must follow Air Force geospatial data standards, an adaptation of the SDSFIE 3.1x data model, as described in the data layer specifications (DLS)). Deliverables must comply with the latest version which are updated annually. All metadata associated with data layers must meet the Federal Geographic Data Committee (FGDC) Content Standard for Digital Geospatial Metadata (CSDGM) revised in June 1998. Metadata must also include all content stated in the metadata section of each layer's DLS, which includes layer specific verbiage for attribute fields and definitions. Additional requirements include:

8.17.1 All submitted data must use at least one of the pre-defined 52 Natural Resource DLS listed below and most likely at least two. NFE shall review the complete list before field work begins to identify which layers are needed and identify them in the Annual Work Plan. Note that the collection of "negative" data is as important as "positive" data. Survey areas are a key part of the data set even if target species are not detected. A =area, L = line, P = point

r	
P = point.	
8.17.1.1	AgricultrlAndGrazingOutlease
8.17.1.2	CoastalZoneMgtArea_A
8.17.1.3	DispersedRecBoundary_A
8.17.1.4	EssentialFishHabitat_A
8.17.1.5	FaunaIncidentPoint P
8.17.1.6	WildlandFire_A
8.17.1.7	FireBreakLine L
8.17.1.8	Inundation_A
8.17.1.9	ForestCompartment_A
8.17.1.10	ForestManagementArea_A
8.17.1.11	ForestProductHarvest_A
8.17.1.12	ForestStand_A
8.17.1.13	HabitatDisturbance_A
8.17.1.14	HabitatProtectiveZone_A
8.17.1.15	HazardousSuppressionArea_A
8.17.1.16	HistoricRiverAlignment_L
8.17.1.17	HuntingFeature_P
8.17.1.18	LandCover_A
8.17.1.19	NatResRecFeature_P
8.17.1.20	NaturalResourceResRecProject_A
8.17.1.21	NaturalResourceResRecProject_P
8.17.1.22	NaturalResourceSurvey_A
8.17.1.23	NaturalResourceSurvey_L
8.17.1.24	NaturalResourceSurvey_P
8.17.1.25	NoxiousOrInvasiveSpecies_A
8.17.1.26	NoxiousOrInvasiveSpecies_L
8.17.1.27	NoxiousOrInvasiveSpecies_P
8.17.1.28	ObservationLookout_P
8.17.1.29	PrescribedBurnUnit_A
8.17.1.30	RecNatureTrailFeature_P

8.17.1.31	RecreationNatureTrail L
8.17.1.32	RiparianArea A
8.17.1.33	SoilMapUnit_A
8.17.1.34	SpecialManagementArea_A
8.17.1.35	SpecialStatusSpecies A
8.17.1.36	SpecialStatusSpecies L
8.17.1.37	SpecialStatusSpecies P
8.17.1.38	SpeciesLocation A
8.17.1.39	SpeciesLocation_P
8.17.1.40	SpeciesSpecificHabitat_A
8.17.1.41	SpeciesSpecificHabitat_L
8.17.1.42	SpeciesSpecificHabitat_P
8.17.1.43	SurfaceRiparianArea_A
8.17.1.44	Vegetation_A
8.17.1.45	WaterFeature_L
8.17.1.46	WaterFeature_P
8.17.1.47	Watershed_A
8.17.1.48	Wetland_A
8.17.1.49	Wetland_L
8.17.1.50	Wetland_P
8.17.1.51	WildlandUrbanInterfaceArea_A
8.17.1.52	WildlifeManagementArea_A
8.17.1.53	WildlifeManagementArea_P

- 8.17.2 An empty, SDSFIE 4.0.3.1compliant ArcGIS geodatabase is available for use as is an excel data dictionary. Absolutely no changes may be made to the structure. All formatting and attributes must align with the current template in order to be accepted by the AF and transferred to the official geodatabase. NFE shall discuss any concerns with the Base Geodatabase Manager and Travis ISS before work begins to find work-arounds where fields aren't available to collect needed data.
- 8.17.3 NFE shall submit a geodatabase that includes only new data rows or existing data rows that have been changed so that they may easily be added to the official geodatabase.
- 8.17.4 NFE shall populate all fields within the tables. All data should comply with the DLS which often includes tables of available choices for each field. An excel data dictionary is also available.
- 8.17.5 NFE shall identify data errors for any DLS that they use and submit them with the final deliverables so that the AFCEC Travis ISS may work to change them in the next standards update. This shall include formatting restrictions that limited usefulness of existing fields or missing fields.
- 8.17.6 NFE shall ensure that any interrelated data layers are updated for any newly created data. For instance, if new wetlands are identified (Wetland\_A) and suitability for listed branchiopods is determined during the survey, the corresponding data needs to be updated in the species layer as well (SpecialStatusSpecies\_A). Even if suitability is not determined, the

new wetland needs to be added to the species layer and noted as unknown suitability.

9.0 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/cooperator shall comply with 2 CFR 200.313 "Equipment", 200.314 "Supplies", and 200.315 "Intangible Property" which includes use of research data.