Project Title: Support for Marine Mammal Surveys in Gulf of Alaska

Responses to this Request for Statements of Interest (RSOI) will address measures in support of acoustic hydrophone analysis in the Gulf of Alaska and the Navy’s Northwest Operation Area. Approximately $121,583.00 is expected to be available to support the base requirements of this project. Approximately $72,305.00 would support Option Item One (1), $2,552.00 for Option Item Two (2), and $2,552.00 for Option Item Three (3).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Anticipated Funding</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Base Period</td>
<td>$121,583.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Option Item 1</td>
<td>$72,305.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Option Item 2</td>
<td>$2,552.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Option Item 3</td>
<td>$2,552.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL POTENTIAL VALUE</td>
<td>$198,992.00</td>
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</tbody>
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Type of Assistance Instrument Anticipated: Cooperative Agreement

**Authority:** Cooperative Agreement under 16 USC §670c-1

**Eligible Applicants:** Any Pacific Northwest or Alaska Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit cooperative partner who qualifies under the DoDGARS Part 34 or 2 Code of Federal Regulations 200 is eligible to apply.

**Cost Sharing:** Not required

**Background:**
The Gulf of Alaska (GOA) provides critical military training space, including the Navy’s Temporary Maritime Activities Area (TMAA) and Western Maneuver Area (WMA). Very limited cetacean occurrence, seasonality and density information is available in the region overlapping the Navy’s WMA study area. The GOA provides important habitat for many cetaceans, both as a migratory thoroughfare and as an important feeding ground. Multiple species are targeted for research to support understanding of species occurrence and habitat usage for key cetacean stocks, including North Pacific right, blue, sperm and fin whales, which are listed under the Endangered Species Act (ESA), along with unlisted stocks of beaked whales. The Navy is seeking acoustic analyses of marine mammal occurrence and spatial and temporal information in the WMA to support the preparation of environmental planning documentation, including National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA), and ESA documents and consultations.

**Brief Description of the Anticipated Work:**
The Department of the Navy (DoN) is seeking statements of interest that address the Navy’s request for hydrophone acoustic analysis of marine mammals in the Gulf of Alaska. The project
will support the collection of new acoustic monitoring data and address a backlog of collected acoustic hydrophone data and newly collected data, which will be analyzed and incorporated into a synthesized report. Data analysis and reporting requirements of the project include, but are not limited to, the reporting of marine mammal (and anthropogenic source) occurrence, distribution, and seasonal timing, classification of species, habitat preferences, and abundance, when practicable, within the study area.

The proposed project will have one Base Period and three (3) Option Items. Please see Enclosure 1 for full scope of work and Enclosure 2 for applicable terms and conditions.

**Period of Performance:**
The Base period of performance covered by this agreement is date of award through 30 September 2025. However, the parties may extend the term of this Cooperative Agreement by written modification. The exercise of any Option Item is subject to the availability of funds and may be awarded unilaterally at any time during the Base Period of performance. The end date is the anticipated date that the Final Report is accepted by the Government.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Period of Performance</th>
<th>Anticipated Award Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Base Period</td>
<td>Date of Award – 30 Sept 2025</td>
<td>June 1, 2023</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Option Item 1</td>
<td>Date of Award – 30 Sept 2025</td>
<td>Fall 2023</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Option Item 2</td>
<td>Date of Award – 30 Sept 2025</td>
<td>Winter 2023/2024</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Option Item 3</td>
<td>Date of Award – 30 Sept 2025</td>
<td>Winter 2024/2025</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Materials Requested for Statement of Interest/Qualifications:**

Please provide the following via e-mail attachment to: Veolette Nasrawi (veolette.t.nasrawi.civ@navy.mil) and Kevin Magennis (kevin.e.magennis.civ@us.navy.mil).

1) SF 424 (Enclosure 3)

2) Research & Related Senior/Key Personnel Form (Enclosure 4). Please see Factor 1 for additional submittal requirements.

3) Research and Related Budget Form (Enclosure 5)

4) SF-LLL Disclosure of Lobbying Activities (Enclosure 6). If applicable, complete SF-LLL Applicability: If any funds other than Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with the grant/cooperative agreement, you must complete and submit Standard Form - LLL, "Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying."

Reimbursement of pre-award costs will not be allowed.

**Review of Statements Received:** Proposals will be evaluated based on the following three factors: 1) Credentials of Key Personnel, 2) Scientific Approach, and 3) Reasonableness of Cost.
NOTE: All requirements listed are minimum requirements. Offerors will be assessed on their ability to adhere to the listed requirements, follow directions, comply with restrictions, and provide quality control on their submittals, and also on their completeness of responses. All page limits refer to 12 point font and single spaced one-sided pages.

**Factor 1 - Credentials of Key Personnel**

A. Principal Investigator: The Recipient shall designate one person as responsible for ensuring that provisions are in place, project and personnel supervision, quality control and meeting of reporting requirements on a daily basis. This person shall have, at the minimum:

   i. A PhD in Aquatic and Fisheries Science or related science;

   ii. Demonstrates at least 15 years of experience marine mammal acoustic analysis and research; and

   iii. Demonstrates authorship on peer-reviewed publications.

B. Senior Scientist: The Recipient shall designate a Senior Scientist, responsible for overseeing all acoustical analysis, statistical analysis, and report writing. The person(s) shall have, or have immediate access to personnel that have, at the minimum:

   i. A Bachelor’s or Master’s Degree in Biology or related science;

   ii. Demonstrates at least 10-years previous experience supporting acoustic analysis for marine mammals;

   iii. Demonstrates authorship on resulting peer-reviewed publication; and

   iv. Demonstrates experience in acoustic detections of Alaskan and Artic species is desired, but not required.

C. Acoustic Analyst: The Recipient shall designate one or more people as Acoustic Analysts, responsible for overseeing all acoustical analysis. The person(s) shall have, or have immediate access to personnel that have, at the minimum:

   i. A Bachelor’s Degree in Biology or related science;

   ii. Demonstrates previous experience conducting acoustic analysis for marine mammals, utilizing established scientific methods; and

   iii. Co-authorship on resulting peer-reviewed publication and reports is desired, but not required.

With the Research & Related Senior/Key Personnel Form, the Applicant shall provide type written resumes, not to exceed 3 pages, single spaced with 12pt font for the Principal Investigator, Senior
Scientist, and Acoustic Analyst. Resumes must state qualifications, experience with this type of project, professional registration and certificates.

**Factor 2 – Scientific Approach**
Not to exceed 3 pages, the Offeror shall develop an outline for their approach to addressing the anticipated work stated above. The Offeror shall be evaluated as to the soundness of the overall approach and use of any innovative techniques to accomplish project objectives.

**Factor 3 - Reasonableness of Cost**
After technical evaluation of the proposal, the Offers shall be analyzed to determine whether they are materially/mathematically balanced with respect to prices or separately priced items, and for fair and reasonable pricing. A clear cost breakdown of work elements to be accomplished detailing quantities for the various work items, unit, unit prices and extended prices will be required and will be evaluated. Evaluation will include an analysis to determine the Offeror’s comprehension of the requirements of the proposed agreement as well as to assess the validity of the Offeror’s approach. Please be sure to provide a proposal for the Option Items as listed within the statement of work.

The proposed budget is to be provided using the pdf titled, “Research and Related Budget” form* (Enclosure 5).

*Form: RESEARCH AND RELATED BUDGET (Enclosure 3)

Complete the Research and Related Budget form in accordance with the instructions on the form. You must provide a detailed cost breakdown of all costs, by cost category, by the funding periods described below, and by task/sub-task corresponding to the task number in the proposed Statement of Work. The Option Items must be separately priced. The form will generate a cumulative budget for the total project period/items. You must complete all the mandatory information on the form before the NEXT PERIOD button is activated. You may request funds under any of the categories listed as long as the item and amount are necessary to perform the proposed work and meet all the criteria for allow ability under the applicable Federal cost principles. The budget should adhere to the following guidelines:

The budget should be driven by program requirements. Elements of the budget shall include:

- **Direct Labor** - Individual labor category or person, with associated labor hours and unburdened direct labor rates.
- **Indirect Costs** - Fringe benefits, overhead, G&A, COM, etc. (must show base amount and rate). Justify in appropriate field.
- **Travel** - Number of trips, destination, duration, etc. Justify in appropriate field (on the form).
- **Subcontract** - A cost proposal as detailed as the applicant's cost proposal will be required to be submitted by the subcontractor. If applicable, include in Research & Related Subaward Budget Attachment Form.
- **Consultant** - Provide consultant agreement or other document that verifies the proposed loaded daily/hourly rate. Include a description of the nature of and the need for any consultant's participation. Strong justification must be provided, and consultants are to be used only under exceptional circumstances where no equivalent expertise can be
found at a participating university. Provide budget justification in appropriate field.

- **Materials** - Specifically itemized with costs or estimated costs. An explanation of any estimating factors, including their derivation and application, shall be provided. Include a brief description of the applicant's procurement method to be used (competition, engineering estimate, market survey, etc.). Justify in appropriate field.

- **Other Direct Costs** - Particularly any proposed items of equipment or facilities. Equipment and facilities generally must be furnished by the cooperator/recipient (justifications must be provided when Government funding for such items is sought). Include a brief description of the applicant's procurement method to be used (competition, engineering estimate, market survey, etc.). Justify in appropriate field.

- **Budget Justification**: Provide the required supporting information for the cost elements as shown above (see Research & Related Budget instructions) and listed as follows: indirect cost, travel, consultant, materials, and other direct costs. Provide any other information you wish to submit to justify your budget request.

**NOTE**: Every deviation from the scope of work requirement must be identified. Proposer must identify the paragraph in the scope of work that is applicable and provide sufficient information to justify why the deviation is in the best interest of the government.

**RELATIVE IMPORTANCE OF EVALUATION FACTORS** – Factor 1, 2, and 3 are of equal importance.

**Please send electronic responses and questions to:**
Veolette Nasrawi, Contract Specialist ECOMP vegotte.t.nasrawi.civ@us.navy.mil

Kevin Magennis, Contract Specialist ECOMP kevin.e.magennis.civ@us.navy.mil

**Point of Contact Information:**
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Naval Facilities Engineering Systems Command Southwest
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619.705.5657

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Naval Facilities Engineering Systems Command Southwest
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619.705.5566

**Timeline for Review of Statements of Interest:**
We request that Statements of Interest be submitted by May 16, 2023 2:00 PM PDT. This Request for Statements of Interest will remain open for two weeks until an investigator team is selected. Statements of Interest received after May 16, 2023 2:00 PM PDT will be deemed “late” and may not be considered. Please submit requests for information/questions no later than May 11, 2023 2:00 PM PDT.