

Performance Work Statement Natural Resources

The United States Army Installation Management Command's (IMCOM) mission is to enable Soldier and Family readiness and provide a quality of life that matches the quality of service they provide to the Nation. IMCOM provides equitable, effective and efficient management of Army installations worldwide to support mission readiness and execution, enable the well-being of Soldiers, civilians and family members, improve infrastructure, and preserve the environment. As part of this mission, IMCOM meets the environmental requirements at its garrisons/installations, headquarters organizations, regions, and US Army Environmental Command (USAEC) through a combination of government employees and contracted environmental service support. Contractor support has been an important factor in the IMCOM management of environmental services and generally, the types and levels of environmental services support are similar across IMCOM.

The objective of this performance work statement (PWS) is to provide a vehicle for performance based environmental services support to meet environmental requirements throughout IMCOM. The contract will provide contract support services to satisfy the requirements of IMCOM Headquarters, IMCOM Regional Offices, IMCOM garrisons/installations, the USAEC, and other organizations (to include the US Army Corps of Engineers) that may require support under this contract.

The Contractor shall provide technical assistance to the Army and other military components with natural resources requirements to include two broad categories of services: (1) Survey, inventory, or investigation of natural resources and (2) Program and execution of natural resources management activities.

1) SURVEY, INVENTORY, OR INVESTIGATION

- a. **Conduct Literature Searches.** Literature searches shall be performed to determine what natural resources are known or likely to be located on an installation and to assess the type, extent, and validity of previous natural resources studies in or pertinent to the project area. Research may include comprehensive library and archival research; interviews with individuals knowledgeable about the natural history of the area; field checks of site locations; examination of photographs and maps of natural areas; obtaining copies of primary data from national, state, and local clearinghouses, state or local museums, and other pertinent institutions; preparation of overviews; and the preparation and production of reports summarizing the results of the literature search.
- b. **Conduct Flora/Fauna Inventories and prepare reports.** The Contractor shall conduct research into published and gray matter flora/fauna inventories completed on and around the installation. Working with local

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and regional experts, contractor shall identify habitats and plant communities, select representative areas on the installation, hire competent field workers knowledgeable in the plant and animal guilds to be studied, submit all relevant safety plans before field work, supervise all field work, brief installation staff before during and after inventories, and prepare a report with findings within 90 days of field work completion. The Contractor will support preparation of ecological or biological studies to include species habitat use and biological impact analysis associated with measuring management success.

- c. **Prepare Endangered Species Management Plans (ESMPs).** Conduct a thorough search of other pertinent ESMPs that may have been prepared for other installations. Compile appropriate literature: surveys, research, reports, conference proceedings, etc., that may be useful in writing ESMP. Work with installation staff and under their direction, federal, state and local government agencies. Perform necessary field work to verify published research. Coordinate with installation staff and federal, state and local governments on ESMP draft. Provide final ESMP to installation staff. Participate in meetings as requested with federal, state and local government agencies and the public.
- d. **Assist in preparation of other documents for natural resources management needs.** Work with installation staff to determine staff needs for document support. Scope document, gather appropriate information, produce and staff draft, incorporate comments, present final to installation staff.
- e. **Provide construction or project monitoring.** Work with range managers and public works staff as early as possible in design process to minimize or eliminate construction-related natural resource impacts. Alert project designers early about potential wetlands or sensitive habitat/listed species impacts from projects. Conduct periodic site tours to ensure impacts are avoided or minimized. Work with project staff on mitigation as necessary. Assist in public affairs work to keep interested nongovernmental organizations informed on planning/building progress. When practical and appropriate, suggest ways construction activities could improve installation natural resources.
- f. **Evaluate Natural Resources compliance of all installation activities.** The Contractor will work with installation natural resources staff to stay cognizant of installation activities with greatest potential for natural resources damage or impacts. Contractor will monitor installation operations to forestall wetlands, stormwater, listed species and sensitive habitats impacts. As requested by installation natural resources staff, Contractor help train installation trainers, public works staff and others to understand potential natural resources impacts and how to avoid or minimize those impacts.

- g. **Provide oversight for development and implementation of conservation plans, impact of laws and policies, including Installation Natural Resource Management Plan (INRMP).** Track, working with installation natural resource staff, existing and newly required conservation plans on the installation. Participate in rewrites of installation guidance, orders and other regulatory instruments that affect installation natural resources. Update INRMP as needed, in consultation with installation staff. Additionally, provide support for land management permitting to include wetlands, floodplain, stream encroachment, stormwater, and soil erosion/sediment controls.
- h. **Support Biological Assessment preparation.** The Contractor will work with installation natural resources staff to identify the need for a Biological Assessment, scope the effort, collect data, write and staff a draft and incorporate comments into the final assessment. The contractor will coordinate and assist with public participation as requested by installation staff.

2) PROGRAM AND EXECUTION OF NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES

- a. **Support Wetland Management.** The Contractor will work with installation natural resources staff, National Wetland Inventory maps and other spatial data to predict wetland impacts of installation construction and operations. As requested by staff, the Contractor will explore and report on potential wetland avoidance, monitoring permits, minimization, and mitigation.
- b. **Support National Environmental Policy Act document Preparation.** The Contractor will assist installation staff in providing natural resources input and review for Environmental Assessments, Environmental Baseline Studies, Environmental Impact Statements, Records of Decisions, Notices of Availability and other documents that are part of the NEPA process.
- c. **Prepare annual natural resources Workplan.** The Contractor will, as requested by installation staff, develop workplan requirements for following fiscal year including non-recurring and recurring requirements, in cooperation with environmental managers and other organizations requiring natural resource support.
- d. **Provide natural resource input to planning activities and the installation Master Plan.** The Contractor will provide technical input, attend meetings and provide general technical support to all installation planning activities including development or revision of the Installation Master Plan, INRMP, Military Construction activities, mission operations, and other plans.
- e. **Coordinate work schedule and workplan with Range Control, DPW, Operations, and DMWR (Outdoor Recreation).** The Contractor will

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identify issues and projects and additional natural resource activities such as investigations, inventories, evaluations and mitigation projects to ensure these activities do not impact mission requirements or scheduling. Coordinate these activities with other installation organizations, as required.

- f. **Evaluate effectiveness of the natural resource management program and develop measures to improve it.** The Contractor will develop metrics for evaluating the effectiveness of the installation's natural resources management program and identify improvements. Utilize existing Environmental Management Systems (EMS), Environmental Auditing System (EAS) Program or Internal Assessment tools of the Environmental Performance Assessment System (EPAS) to evaluate the effectiveness and performance of the installation's natural resource management and compliance objectives and program. Develop improvements and identify mechanisms for implementing necessary changes to improve performance of the CRM program. Identify to leadership results of evaluations and proposed improvements.
- g. **Promote environmental awareness and provides enhanced quality of life for users through outreach and education.** The Contractor will develop internet- based information for dissemination on natural resources and programs at the installation. Develop publications and education programs to promote awareness of natural resources and their stewardship in the military and at the installation. Support awareness programs such as Earth day or Armed Services Day open houses and local conferences to promote natural resource awareness to the public, soldiers, their families and installation personnel. Develop and provide guidance documents to installation tenants, contractors, soldiers and their families, civilian personnel and visitors on cultural resource stewardship responsibilities.
- h. **Provide support and oversight to natural resource volunteer programs.** The Contractor will provide guidance, oversight, technical and logistical support for natural resource volunteer programs such as docent tours, archeological field exercises, research and outreach programs.
- i. **Provide support for Conservation and Reimbursable Programs (forestry, agricultural/grazing outleasing, and hunting and fishing fee collections) as related to natural resource.** The Contractor will provide technical support to other Conservation programs including reimbursable programs and Natural Resource programs. Provide technical expertise and guidance on consultation with Tribes regarding other conservation issues such as access to native plant species and other issues that might arise.

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- j. Provide support for collection and maintenance of natural resources related Geographic Information System (GIS) data to support natural resources impact assessments, planning, and management for all natural resource related program areas. This support will include field collection, as well as data entry and database management and operation.