

**STATEMENT OF WORK**  
**TORCH OIL SPILL SNOWY PLOVER HABITAT RESTORATION**  
**YEAR 3**  
**JON IGN010RN**  
**VANDENBERG AFB, CA**

## **Project Description**

The Western Snowy Plover, dune restoration area extends from the Santa Ynez River mouth southward approximately 0.62 mile to a point approximately 164 feet south of the public access trail at Surf Station in Area D. This project would remove non-native plants which have significantly reduced available nesting habitat. The area contains invasive species that, when restored, would create large areas free of invasive species, or join other existing, relatively undisturbed, dune vegetation types, to create a large continuous area of available breeding habitat. The restoration area comprises approximately 52 acres of snowy plover breeding habitat. The infestation of beachgrass in this area covers approximately 22 acres. Iceplant is found in isolated patches (less than one acre) throughout this section and in dense mats at the southern end. Acacia covers approximately six acres. The project would also restore native vegetation to the treated areas especially associated with special status plant species such as Beach layia. The goal of the restoration project over five years is to achieve 95 percent eradication of beachgrass, iceplant, and other non-native plants over the project area, and successfully establish self-sustaining native vegetation over 15 percent of the same area. Established photo points will document and monitor progress. Quarterly reports will include a summary of activities for the quarter and include funds expended for the quarter and cumulatively. A final report will be submitted summarizing the results of the weed removal, planting, and restoration tasks and include GIS data. The following are activities to be completed for the restoration year:

### **YEAR 3 (2011-12)**

- Survey and flagging special status plant species – October
- Herbicide treatment – October to February; year-round in open areas only
- Monitoring of re-infestation and native species – October to February
- Revegetation– None
- Seed collection and propagation – March to September
- Reporting – as described below and in Appendix A

## **Tasking**

**Plan of Action:** This project site would be accessed during periods of low tides through Wall Beach, when the sand bar at the Santa Ynez River is still in place, at the railroad tracks with railroad coordination, or at Ocean Beach Park. Equipment access from Wall Beach would occur by driving south below the high tide line from

the Wall Beach parking lot, located approximately one mile north of the project site. The Wall Beach parking lot would also serve as an equipment staging area for this site. Access via Ocean Beach Park to the restoration area may be needed when the Santa Ynez River is breached. As a last option, coordination with Vandenberg staff and Southern Pacific Railroad may be necessary for access at Surf Station.

*Survey and flagging special status plant species* - Qualified biologists will conduct a follow-up survey for special status plants. From Oct to Feb flagging of special status plants in areas selected for restoration/terrestrial wildlife surveys to note the presence of special status species would occur.

*Herbicide treatment* – Herbicide treatment will occur in October to February and year-round in open areas. USFWS approved treatment in closed areas with minimization measures including accompaniment of a plover monitor so that plovers will not be affected. Plover monitors will ensure that if nesting plovers are present, no treatment will occur. Small patches of beachgrass infestations, windward faces of beachgrass ridges, and beachgrass sprouts would be treated. Iceplant, acacia stumps, and these seedlings would be treated. Rodeo would be the herbicide used and where applicable, the surfactant Agridex would be combined and a biodegradable marker dyed applied. Application would use a backpack sprayer or ATV mounted spray equipment avoiding native plants. Herbicides will only be used on large areas with less than 40% native plant cover. Only DOD-approved herbicides will be used and applied as specified targeted on non-native plants.

*Monitoring of re-infestation and native species* – Monitoring will involve a maximum of eight photo points in key locations. Mapping areas of non-native plant cover and native cover prior to treatment would be accomplished to include estimates of coverage. Each year's goal is to reduce cover of non-native plants to a maximum of 50 percent of the year's initial non-native cover such that 95 percent eradication may be accomplished by the end of Year 5. Each year's goal for native plants is to achieve a minimum increase of five percent of the years initial cover such that successful establishment of self-sustaining native vegetation of over 15 percent may be accomplished by the end of Year 5. Monitoring strategies and goals may be adapted to best accommodate conditions in order to attain the Year 5 goals.

*Seed collection and propagation* - From 1 Mar to 30 Sept, follow-up surveys for special status plants will be conducted and native seeds will be collected where heavy equipment will be used or in nearby areas. Seeds shall be cleaned as necessary and appropriately stored for use next year. Propagation may be necessary depending on conditions of up to 1000 seedlings.

**Herbicide/Pesticide use Requirement:** For herbicide management, all herbicides applied are to comply with the Armed Forces Pest Management Board (AFPMB) list of Approved herbicides and a list of those herbicides requested to be used must be submitted to the entomology shop prior to application or at the beginning of the contract. If another herbicide is preferred, AFSPC Form 38 is to be provided prior to

application. All herbicides to be applied are to be provided to the VAFB pest program manager 15 calendar days prior to application. Any non-standard herbicides need to have command approval prior to use and will require a longer approval period.

Only certified personnel shall apply herbicides as described under Special Conditions, Qualified personnel to perform contract tasks section below.

Monthly herbicide use reports will be submitted to VAFB herbicide manager at the Entomology shop and CEANC botanist/biologist 5 calendar days after the last herbicide application of the month. Request contract use DD Form 1532 or approved state reporting form. Quarterly reports will document the amount of sensitive species areas treated as specified in coordination with CEANC.

**Site Visit and Data Acquisition:** Qualified biologists familiar with dune restoration and the flora and fauna of the area will be performing the site visits to determine conditions and assess retreatment and required plantings for the following year and 5-year period. The contractors will meet with the base botanist and wildlife biologist to assess the site.

**Provide Expected Outcome:** Surveys, GIS maps, and a biannual and annual report will be produced based on the *Plan for the Removal of Selected Invasive Plants from Western Snowy Plover Habitat at Vandenberg Air Force Base* (Restoration Plan) and updated documents. Improvement of snowy plover habitat and a reduction on invasive plants is expected in compliance with the Restoration Plan.

Expected deliverables include: Monthly reports as described above. A draft report (2 hard copies + 1 electronic CD copy) provided 01 May; following receipt of comments from 30 CES/CEANC a final report will be provided (3 hard copies + 2 electronic CD copies) with GIS digital maps (2 electronic CD copies).

**Deliverable format(s):** GIS data will be formatted with metadata attribute fields specified by the CEANC botanist and CES Planning to provide consistency with all submitted GIS plant species coverage and to provide data that is accurate, usable, and effective for endangered species management and recovery analysis. Hard copies and electronic copies of the draft and final report are specified below.

**Milestones**

ECD	Action (include deliverables)	OPR (Last name /Office symbol)
31 July 2011	<b>Torch Oil Spill Snowy Plover Habitat Restoration, Year 2</b> <b>Draft survey report</b> <b>Final survey report</b>	Lum/CEANC

	GIS digital map coverage	
--	--------------------------	--

### Deliverables

Deliverable	# hard copies	# e-copies (include format types)	Estimated pages/layers	Date Due or Days after award
Site Visit Personnel				Within 30 days after award
Herbicide Monthly Reports (as needed)	1	1	10 max pgs	5 calendar days after last day of herbicide application for the month
Quarterly Reports	1	1	10 max pgs	05 Jan 12 , Apr 12, Jul 12, Oct 11
Draft Document Title	2	1	30 max pgs	10 July 12
Government Review				20 July 12
Final Document Title	3	2	40 max pgs	31 July 12
GIS data		2 CD copies GIS coverage for each species	3 layers (1 per species)	With Final

### Points of Contact

Name	Organization	Mailing address	Phone number	Fax number	E-mail address
Luanne Lum	CEANC		805-606-5299		Luanne.lum@vandenberg.af.mil

### Special Conditions

**Government furnished information/materials.** CEANC will provide any existing information and metadata format for GIS coverage.

**Qualified personnel to perform contract tasks.** The contractor shall ensure that only qualified, competent personnel carry out the tasks outlined in this SOW. Competent is defined as registered professional or, where registration is not applicable, trained and certified with a degree in a related field of study. Exceptions are administrative and support personnel who participate in document publication. Certified personnel performing herbicide application are:

REGINA BUTALA, MANTECH SRS Technolgies, QAL 39318,  
MORGAN BALL, MANTECH SRS Technolgies, QAC 94463,  
GREGORY WALLIS, MANTECH SRS Technolgies, QAL 39318

ALICE ABELA, MANTECH SRS Technologies, QAC 125563

Any additional certified applicators will submit their certification information and coordinate with the VAFB Pest Manager.

**All deliverables are USAF property.** All materials gathered and/or developed in the performance of these tasks listed shall be returned to and become property of the AF; and shall not be used and/or distributed by the contractor without specific written permission of the Project Manager. Certificate copies are to be provided to the Pest manager at the beginning of the contract and with every renewal.

**Deliverable Formats.** All electronic documents are to be in Microsoft Office (or whatever format is compatible with installation IT system). All documents, including photographs and maps, are to be dated. Final electronic deliverables are to be in MS Word (\*.doc) and Adobe Acrobat (\*.pdf), unless otherwise specified.

**Data Standards.**

**GeoSpatial Data. Coordinated with CEANC and Base Planning.**

**Public disclosure.** Neither the contractor nor staff shall give news releases or conduct media interviews concerning the work performed or results thereof. All information for public release will be released by the installation Public Affairs Office (PAO); all requests for information, including Freedom of Information Act, shall be directed to the PAO and installation project manager.

**Contract Type**

- Firm Fixed Price
- Time and Materials

**Period of Performance**

All tasks must be completed over a period of five years. Period of Performance for Year 3 will begin on August 1, 2011 and end no later than July 31, 2012.

## APPENDIX A

### Quarterly Invasive Plants Reports For all Projects Requiring Invasive Plants Removal

- Report due dates for:

Quarter 1     Jan 5  
Quarter 2     April 5  
Quarter 3     July 5  
Quarter 4     October 5

- Quarterly reports for Quarters 1, 2, & 3 will include the following for each quarter:

1. Total acres of invasive species controlled.
2. Total acres within a T&E species habitat (of #1).
3. Total acres within a wetland habitat (of #1).
4. How were they controlled: mowed, pulled, sprayed, burned, biocontrol, other (specify)?
5. List by invasive species, the area controlled and what needs to be done to control.
6. Describe all activities accomplished including funds expended for the quarter and cumulatively.

- Quarterly reports for Quarter 4 will include:

1. Numbers 1-6 above for the 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter.
2. List by threatened or endangered species for the year: Method of removal and total acres treated by that method. Example:
  - Iceplant, manual removal of pampas grass, 1 acre
  - Iceplant, chemical removal of pampas grass, 5 acres
  - European beachgrass chemical removal, 2 acres

### Monthly Invasive Plants Reports

At a minimum, include the following per location:

DATE,  
LOCATION/Site  
OPERATION TYPE,  
TOTAL UNITS TREATED (ACRE),  
TARGET PEST,  
APPLICATOR'S INITIALS,  
LABOR TIME hr,  
TRADE NAME (PRODUCT),  
EPA NUMBER,  
CONCENTRATE AMOUNT (lbs),  
TOTAL AMT OF APPLIED PRODUCT (gallons)