

**CHESAPEAKE WATERSHED
COOPERATIVE ECOSYSTEM STUDIES UNIT**

**COOPERATIVE and JOINT
VENTURE AGREEMENT**

between

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

**Bureau of Indian Affairs
Bureau of Land Management
Bureau of Reclamation
Bureau of Ocean Energy Management
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
U.S. Geological Survey
National Park Service**

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Natural Resources Conservation Service**

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF WAR
Office of the Assistant Secretary of War for Energy, Installations, and
Environment
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers–Civil Works
Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency

National Aeronautics and Space Administration**

and

**THE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF MARYLAND (HOST)
University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science
University of Maryland, Baltimore County
University of Maryland, College Park
University of Maryland Eastern Shore
Bowie State University
Frostburg State University
Towson University**

Agreement Number(s)

BIA # BIA-CW-CESU-2026
BLM # BLM-CW-CESU-2026
BOEM # BOEM-CW-CESU-2026
FWS # FWS-CW-CESU-2026
USGS # USGS-CW-CESU-2026
NPS # NPS-CW-CESU-2026
DPAA # DPAA-CW-CESU-2026
NRCS # NRCS-CW-CESU-2026
NOAA # NOAA-CW-CESU-2026
NASA # NASA-CW-CESU-2026
DOW # DOW-CW-CESU-2026
USACE # USACE-CW-CESU-2026
USBR # USBR-CW-CESU-2026

American University
 Anne Arundel Community College
 Austin Peay State University
 Binghamton University
 Bryn Mawr College
 Christopher Newport University
 College of William and Mary
 Commonwealth University (former Lock Haven and Mansfield Universities)
 Delaware State University
~~Gallaudet University~~ [withdrawn]
~~Garrett College~~ [withdrawn]
 George Mason University
 George Washington University
 Georgetown University
 Harrisonburg University of Science and Technology
 Hood College
 Howard University
 Immaculata University
 Indiana University
 Indiana University of Pennsylvania
 James Madison University
 Johns Hopkins University
 Longwood University
 Maryland Institute College of Art
 Marymount University
 Monmouth University
 Morgan State University
 Ohio University
 Old Dominion University
 The Pennsylvania State University
 St. Mary's College of Maryland
 Shepherd University
 Shippensburg University
 Smithsonian Institution
 Temple University
 University of Delaware
 University of the District of Columbia
 University of Mary Washington
 University of Pennsylvania
 University of Richmond
 The Rector and Visitors of the University of Virginia
 United States Naval Academy
 Virginia Commonwealth University
 Virginia Institute of Marine Science
 Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University
 West Virginia University

**American Bird Conservancy
American Indian Higher Education Consortium
Association for the Study of African American Life and History
Association of African American Museums
Biodiversity Research Institute
Chesapeake Conservancy
Chesapeake Bay Foundation
Conservation Science Global, Inc.
DC Department of Energy and Environment
Ecological Society of America
Henry M. Jackson Foundation for the Advancement of Military Medicine, Inc.
Leave No Trace
Live It, Learn It, Inc.
Monument Lab
National Aquarium
National Council on Public History
Native Plant Trust
NatureServe
Park Rx America
Preservation Maryland
Stroud Water Research Center
The Academy of Natural Sciences
Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation
Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources
Western Pennsylvania Conservancy**

ARTICLE I. BACKGROUND AND OBJECTIVES

- A. This Cooperative and Joint Venture Agreement (hereinafter called Agreement) between the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Bureau of Land Management, Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Geological Survey, National Park Service, Natural Resources Conservation Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, U.S. Department of War—Office of the Assistant Secretary of War for Energy, Installations, and Environment, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers—Civil Works, Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency, and National Aeronautics and Space Administration (hereinafter called Federal Agencies) and the University System of Maryland (Host University) and its Partner Institutions is a continuation for a five (5) year term to provide for the operation and maintenance of the Chesapeake Watershed Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit (CESU). This continuation of the Chesapeake Watershed CESU is implemented by mutual consent of the parties and is consistent with the prior Agreement and the express intent of the request for proposals for that Agreement. The Chesapeake Watershed CESU is associated with a national network of CESUs.
- B. The objectives of the Chesapeake Watershed Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit 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, and cultural sciences needed to address resources 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.
- C. Bureau of Indian Affairs. The Bureau of Indian Affairs (hereinafter called BIA) is the oldest bureau of the United States Department of the Interior. Established in 1824, BIA currently provides services to approximately 2.5 million American Indians and Alaska Natives within the 575 Federally recognized American Indian Tribes and Alaska Native Villages of the United States. The mission of the BIA is to enhance the quality of life, promote economic opportunities, and to carry out the responsibility to protect and improve the trust assets of American Indians and Alaska Natives. BIA is responsible for the administration and management of 56 million surface acres and 59 million acres of subsurface minerals estates held in trust by the United States for individual American Indians and Tribes. BIA serves a special role in serving Tribes through trust management and by providing technical support across a broad range of topics to enhance the protection of the American Indian and Alaska Native lives, prosperity and wellbeing. The BIA is also the lead agency providing federal

management of the trust corpus held on behalf of Tribal governments and individual beneficial owners. As such, the BIA is tasked with coordinating technical education and management needs for those trust resources. The Tribes, through the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act of 1975 (Pub.L. 93-638), are authorized to contract BIA management functions and as such mission needs, research results, and education efforts serve and enable Tribal and BIA staff. The Act also authorized the federal government to follow specific contracting regulations for federally recognized Tribes and authorized Tribal Organizations, including Tribal colleges and universities.

BIA participation in the CESU Network will include support, coordination, and cooperation focused on technical assistance and education on environmental hazard preparedness and disaster response and trust resource management, as well as other areas within its range of mission-related services and activities. BIA has the authority to enter into this agreement pursuant to 25 U.S.C. § 2; Snyder Act of 1921, as amended, 25 U.S.C. § 13; and 90 Stat. 2233, Pub.L. 94-482.

- D. Bureau of Land Management. The Bureau of Land Management (hereinafter called BLM) administers public lands within a framework of numerous laws. The most comprehensive of these is the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (FLPMA). All Bureau policies, procedures, and management actions must be consistent with FLPMA and the other laws that govern use of the public lands. It is the mission of the BLM to sustain the health, diversity, and productivity of the public lands for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations (43 U.S.C. § 1701 et seq.). In accordance with 43 U.S.C. § 1737(b), the BLM is authorized to enter into contracts and cooperative agreements involving the management, protection, development, and sale of public lands; and is thereby authorized to enter into this cooperative agreement to continue the Chesapeake Watershed CESU to assist in providing research, technical assistance and education.
- E. Bureau of Reclamation. The U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (hereinafter called USBR) manages, develops, and protects water and related resources in an environmentally and economically sound manner in the interest of the American public (43 U.S.C. Chapter 12). In accordance with the authority delegated in 255 DM 14.1 (U.S. Department of the Interior, Departmental Manual), which states that the Commissioner is delegated so much of the authority of the Secretary under the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act (16 U.S.C. § 661 et seq.) as is necessary to provide assistance, through grants or cooperative agreements, to public or private organizations for the improvement of fish and wildlife habitat associated with water systems or water supplies affected by Reclamation projects; and in accordance with the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009 (Pub. L. 111-11), Subtitle F- Secure Water, §§ 9502, 9504, and 9509, the USBR is authorized to enter into a cooperative agreement to continue the Chesapeake Watershed CESU to assist in providing research, technical assistance, and education.

- F. Bureau of Ocean Energy Management. The Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (hereinafter called BOEM) oversees the exploration and development of oil, natural gas and other minerals and renewable energy alternatives on the Nation's outer continental shelf. BOEM continues to look for better ways to serve the American people and to ensure that the Nation receives the best value for its resources now and into the future. The program not only supports decisions made within the Department of the Interior, but also provides other Federal regulators, and the coastal states, and local governments with the information necessary to ensure that all stages of offshore energy and mineral activities are conducted in a manner to protect both the human and natural environments. Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act (OCSLA) (43 U.S.C. §§ 1331-1356) Section 1346 mandates the conduct of environmental and socioeconomic studies needed for the assessment and management of environmental impacts on the human, marine, and coastal environments which may be affected by oil and gas, renewable energy or mineral development. OCSLA Section 1345 authorizes the use of cooperative agreements with affected States to meet the requirements of OCSLA, including sharing of information, joint utilization of available expertise, formation of joint monitoring arrangements to carry out applicable Federal and State laws, regulations, and stipulations relevant to outer continental shelf operations both onshore and offshore. With OCSLA and additional authorities as listed BOEM can enter into cooperative agreements public colleges and universities, research scientists, Federal, State and local decision-makers, Native American Organizations, not-for-profit organizations within the affected states.

Authorities list:

- (a) The Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 661 et seq.), which authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to enter into agreements with Federal and State agencies to assist in the protection of fish and wildlife and their habitats.
- (b) The (OCSLA) Amendments of 1978, 43 U. S. C. 1346, which established a policy for the management of oil and natural gas in the Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) and for protection of the marine and coastal environment. The amendments authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct studies in areas or regions of sales to ascertain the “environmental impacts on the marine and coastal environments of the OCS and the coastal areas which may be affected by oil and gas development.” Per 43 U. S. C. 1346(c.)”...For the purpose of carrying out the responsibilities under this section, the Secretary (of the Interior) may by agreement utilize, with or without reimbursement, the services, personnel or facilities of any Federal, State or local.
- (c) [Under Section 19\(e\) of the OCS Lands Act \(Public Law 95-372\)\(43 USC 1345\)](#), it states:
“The Secretary is authorized to enter into cooperative agreements with affected States for purposes which are consistent with this Act and other applicable Federal law. Such agreements may include, but need not be limited to, the sharing of information (in accordance with the provisions of section 26 of this Act), the joint utilization of available expertise, the facilitating of permitting

procedures, joint planning and review, and the formation of joint surveillance and monitoring arrangements to carry out applicable Federal and State laws, regulations, and stipulations relevant to Outer Continental Shelf operations both onshore and offshore.”

[Section 201\(f\) of the Act \(43 USC 1331, 1335\)](#) contains this definition of “affected State.” “Affected State” is generally interpreted to be any coastal state and public universities are considered to be an extension of the state.

- (d) [The “Marine Mineral Resources Research Act of 1996” \(Public Law \(P.L.\) 104-325\)](#) gives the Secretary (DOI) the authority to “...award grants or contracts to, or enter into cooperative agreements with, eligible entities to support research...” [Section 1471\(f\) of the Act \[43 USC 1471\(f\)\]](#) lists entities eligible to receive CAs as “colleges and universities, State agencies, and nonprofit organizations.” Eligible – affected States, their agencies, and their public universities and non-profits in affected States. Not Eligible – private universities, entities in non-affected States, or their agencies and universities.
- (e) The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), 42 U. S. C.4321-4347, which requires that all Federal agencies use a systematic, interdisciplinary approach that will ensure the integrated use of the natural and social sciences in any planning and decision-making that may have an effect on the human environment.
- (f) 43 U.S.C. 1345 (e); 43 U.S.C. 1346 Section 20.
State agencies, public universities, and non-profits in affected states may apply. More than one institution may collaborate in the preparation of an application for assistance. Scientists from other institutions may participate in collaboration with a principal investigator from a State agency or public university.
 - a) Under the Use of Cooperative Agreements authority (43 U.S.C. §1457b), to enter into cooperative agreements with a state or political subdivision (including any agency thereof), or any not-for-profit organization if: (1) the agreement will serve a mutual interest of the parties to the agreement in carrying out the programs administered by BOEM; and (2) all parties will contribute resources to the accomplishment of these objectives
- (g) Under the Take Pride in America Act (16 U.S.C. §§4601-4608), to establish and maintain a public awareness campaign, in cooperation with public and private organizations and individuals, to instill in the public the importance of the appropriate use of, and appreciation for, Federal, state, and local natural and cultural resources. Research scientists, Federal, State and local decision-makers, Native American Organizations, and the general public will ultimately benefit from the program.

G. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (hereinafter called USFWS), working with others, is responsible for conserving, protecting, and enhancing fish, wildlife, plants and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people through federal programs related to migratory birds, endangered species, interjurisdictional fish and marine mammals, inland sport fisheries, and the National Wildlife Refuge System. In accordance with 16 U.S.C. § 661, 16 U.S.C. § 742(f), and 16 U.S.C. § 753(a), the USFWS is authorized to cooperate with other

agencies to assist in providing research, technical assistance, and education; and is thereby authorized to enter into this cooperative agreement to continue the Chesapeake Watershed CESU.

- H. U.S. Geological Survey. The U.S. Geological Survey (hereinafter called USGS) serves the Nation by providing reliable scientific information to describe and understand the Earth, minimize the loss of life and property from natural disasters, manage water, biological, energy, and mineral resources, and enhance and protect our quality of life. USGS has authority to enter into this Agreement pursuant to Pub. L. 99-591, that bestows permanent authority on the USGS to “prosecute projects in cooperation with other agencies, Federal, state, and private” (43 U.S.C. § 36(c)), the USGS Organic Act of March 3, 1879, as amended (43 U.S.C. § 31 et seq.), 16 U.S.C. § 1(a)(2)(j), 16 U.S.C. § 1(g), 16 U.S.C. § 5933, and 16 U.S.C. § 753(a) to continue the Chesapeake Watershed CESU to assist in providing research, technical assistance, and education.
- I. National Park Service. The National Park Service (hereinafter called NPS) manages areas of the National Park System “to conserve the scenery and the natural and historic objects and the wildlife therein and to provide for the enjoyment of the same in such manner and by such means as will leave them unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations” (54 U.S.C. § 100101 et seq.). In support of this broad mission, the Secretary of the Interior “shall ensure that management of System units is enhanced by the availability and utilization of a broad program of the highest quality science and information” (54 U.S.C. § 100702), and “shall enter into cooperative agreements with colleges and universities, including land grant schools, in partnership with other Federal and State agencies, to establish cooperative study units to conduct multi-disciplinary research and develop integrated information products on the resources of the System, or the larger region of which System units are a part” (54 U.S.C. § 100703). The NPS is authorized to enter into cooperative agreements with public or private educational institutions, States, and their political subdivisions, for the purpose of developing adequate, coordinated, cooperative research and training activities concerning the resources of the National Park System (54 U.S.C. § 101702(b)); with State, local and tribal governments, other public entities, educational institutions, and private nonprofit organizations for the public purpose of carrying out National Park Service programs (54 U.S.C. § 101702(a)); with State, local, or tribal governments, other Federal agencies, other public entities, educational institutions, private nonprofit organizations, or participating private landowners or individuals for the purpose of protecting natural resources of units of the National Park System through collaborative efforts on land inside and outside of National Park System units (54 U.S.C. § 101702(d)) or to investigate, protect, preserve, maintain, or operate any historic or archeologic building, site, or object of national significance (54 U.S.C. §§ 320101-320103); and with any State or local government, public or private agency, organization, institution, corporation, individual, or other entity for the purpose of sharing costs or services in carrying out authorized functions and responsibilities of the Secretary of the Interior with respect to any unit or program of the National Park System, any

affiliated area, or any designated National Scenic or Historic Trail (54 U.S.C. § 101701). NPS is also authorized to provide conservation, recreation, and disaster assistance to partners to help them achieve goals of mutual interest (54 U.S.C. § 200103, 16 U.S.C. § 1723(c)), and support projects to be carried out on Federal, State, local, or private lands as part of disaster prevention or relief efforts in response to an emergency or major disaster declared by the President under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. § 5121 et seq.). In accordance with the aforementioned authorities, the NPS is authorized to enter into this Agreement to continue the Chesapeake Watershed CESU to assist in providing research, technical assistance, and education.

- J. Natural Resources Conservation Service. The Natural Resources Conservation Service (hereinafter called NRCS) improves the health of our Nation's natural resources while sustaining and enhancing the productivity of American agriculture. We achieve this by providing voluntary assistance through strong partnerships with private landowners, managers, and communities to protect, restore, and enhance the lands and waters upon which people and the environment depend. As part of this assistance, NRCS scientists and technical specialists identify, acquire, develop, and coordinate technologies and transfer them to field staff for recommending to America's farmers, ranchers, private landowners, and the public. Under 16 U.S.C. 590a et. seq. and 42 U.S.C. 3271-3274, NRCS is authorized to enter into this cooperative agreement to continue the Chesapeake Watershed CESU to assist in providing research, studies, technical assistance, and educational services consistent with the mission of the NRCS and the CESU Network.
- K. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. The mission of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (hereinafter called NOAA) is to understand and predict changes in the Earth's environment and conserve and manage coastal and marine resources to meet our Nation's economic, social, and environmental needs. Specifics include 1) To understand and predict changes in climate, weather, ocean and coasts. 2) To share that knowledge and information with others 3) To conserve and manage coastal and marine ecosystems and resources. Authorities to participate in and conduct activities through the Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Units Network include 33 U.S.C. 883e, which gives NOAA the authority to enter into cooperative agreements with States, Federal Agencies, public or private organizations or individuals for authorized surveys or investigations and other specified purposes. In addition, under 16 U.S.C. 661, NOAA has the authority to provide assistance to, and cooperate with, Federal, State, and public or private agencies and organizations in the development, protection, rearing, and stocking of all species of wildlife, resources thereof, and their habitat, in controlling losses of the same from disease or other causes, in minimizing damages from overabundant species, among other things. NOAA also has the authority under 15 U.S.C. 2901 et seq., to enter into contracts, grants, or cooperative agreements for climate-related activities. Finally, the Coastal Zone Management Act at 16 U.S.C. 1451 et seq., grants NOAA the authority to coordinate with Federal Agencies and provide financial and technical assistance to

states and territories to preserve, protect, develop, and where possible, to restore or enhance, the resources of the Nation's coastal zone for this and succeeding generations, among other things. In accordance with the authorities listed above, NOAA is authorized to enter into this cooperative agreement continuing the Chesapeake Watershed CESU to assist in providing research, technical assistance, and educational services.

- L. Office of the Assistant Secretary of War for Energy, Installations, and Environment. The U.S. Department of War—Office of the Assistant Secretary of War for Energy, Installations, and Environment (hereinafter called DoW) manages nearly 27 million acres of land, and the natural and cultural resources found there, and for this Agreement includes the Office of the Secretary of War, the Military Services, the Defense Logistics Agency, the National Guard Bureaus, and the Military Reserve Components. DoW's primary mission is national defense. DoW's conservation programs support this mission by ensuring realistic training areas, and managing its resources in ways that maximize available land, air, and water for testing, training and operational opportunities. DoW environmental stewardship activities are authorized under the Sikes Act, as amended. In accordance with one or more of the following: 16 U.S.C. § 670c-1, 10 U.S.C. § 4001, 10 U.S.C. § 2694, 10 U.S.C. § 2684, and Pub. L. 103-139 (FY 94 NDAA, page 107 Stat. 1422), DoW is authorized to enter into cooperative agreements with States, nonprofit organizations, academic institutions, and other partners to support research, technical assistance, and educational services consistent with the mission of the DoW and the CESU Network. In accordance with the aforementioned authorities, the DoW is authorized to enter into this Agreement to continue the Chesapeake Watershed CESU.
- M. U.S. Army Corps of Engineers—Civil Works. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Civil Works Program (hereinafter called USACE) provides assistance in the development and management of the nation's water resources. The main missions of USACE, i.e., the Corps, are 1) to facilitate commercial navigation, 2) to protect citizens and their property from flood and storm damages, and 3) to protect and restore environmental resources. The Corps carries out most of its work in partnership with Tribal, state, and local governments and other nonfederal entities. The Corps must rely upon using the best available science in the evaluation of water resources needs and in the development of recommendations for water resources management. The university and scientific institutions that comprise the CESU Network have knowledge and expertise of the latest scientific advances that will assist the Corps in reaching sound, scientifically based decisions. In addition, by participating in the CESU, scientists within the Corps will have access to university resources within the CESU Network and be able to interact with colleagues in various scientific disciplines, and thereby further their own professional development. Corps field offices may avail themselves of support from the regional CESUs by collaborating with the Engineer Research and Development Center, who has the authority to enter into cooperative agreements with such CESUs, thus enabling these Corps offices to receive scientific support from regional CESU members. USACE is authorized to cooperate with other agencies in accordance with

Title 33 U.S.C. § 2323(a) and 10 U.S.C. § 3036(d). Additionally, USACE may enter into transactions under the authority of 10 U.S.C. § 4021 in carrying out basic, applied, and advanced research projects. In accordance with 10 U.S.C. § 4001, USACE is authorized to enter into this cooperative agreement continuing the Chesapeake Watershed CESU.

- N. Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency. The Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (hereinafter called DPAA) provides the fullest possible accounting for missing personnel from past conflicts to their families and the nation (10 U.S.C. § 1501 et seq.). In accordance with the authority delegated in DoD Directive 5110.10 (Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency), which states that the Director is delegated the authority of the Secretary of War to manage and execute the Department's accounting community and to develop policies for the recovery and identification of remains; and in accordance with 10 U.S.C. § 1501a, which authorizes the Secretary to enter into public-private partnerships with appropriate entities for the purposes of facilitating DPAA activities, the DPAA is authorized to enter into a cooperative agreement to continue the Chesapeake Watershed CESU to assist in providing research, technical assistance, and education related to historical research, forensic archaeology, and the identification of unaccounted-for American service members.
- O. National Aeronautics and Space Administration. The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (hereinafter called NASA) leads an innovative and sustainable program of exploration with commercial and international partners to enable human expansion across the solar system and bring new knowledge and opportunities back to Earth; and to understand the Sun, Earth, and other planetary bodies (51 U.S.C. § 20101 et seq.). In accordance with the authority delegated in 51 U.S.C. § 20113(e), the National Aeronautics and Space Act, which states that the Administration is authorized to enter into and perform such contracts, leases, cooperative agreements, or other transactions as may be necessary in the conduct of its work and on such terms as it may deem appropriate; and in accordance with 14 CFR Part 1259, which establishes the National Space Grant College and Fellowship Program to increase the understanding and utilization of space resources through a strong educational base, NASA is authorized to enter into a cooperative agreement to continue the Chesapeake Watershed CESU to assist in providing research, technical assistance, and education related to Earth science, remote sensing, and the environmental stewardship of resources under its control.
- P. Host University. The University System of Maryland (USM) (hereinafter called Host University) participates in the Chesapeake Watershed CESU through USM institutions: the University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science (UMCES), the University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC), the University of Maryland, College Park (UMCP), the University of Maryland Eastern Shore (UMES), Bowie State University (BSU), Frostburg State University (FSU), and Towson University (TU). UMCES serves as the administrative lead for the Host University with the program housed at the UMCES Appalachian Laboratory. The Appalachian Laboratory, a part of UMCES, is a unique research institution within the University

System of Maryland, specifically mandated by statute to develop and apply "predictive ecology" for the preservation of Maryland's physical environment. Celebrating its Centennial year through 2025 and 2026, the Center operates a "campus-less" network of four distinct laboratories—the Chesapeake Biological Laboratory, Horn Point Laboratory, Appalachian Laboratory (Host), and the Institute of Marine and Environmental Technology—stretching from the mountains of Western Maryland to the Atlantic coast. UMCES functions as a global leader in coastal science and watershed management, most notably through its annual Chesapeake Bay Report Card. While it does not host an undergraduate student body, its faculty mentors over 100 graduate students annually in partnership with other Maryland universities, training the next generation of scientists to tackle modern crises.

- Q. Partner Institutions. The partner institutions to the Host University are listed (and kept current) on our website at the following internet address:
<https://cwcesu.org/non-federal-partners/>

ARTICLE II. STATEMENT OF WORK

A. Each Federal Agency (except for USFS) agrees to:

1. Provide administrative assistance, as appropriate, necessary to execute this Agreement and subsequent modifications;
2. Conduct, with the Host University and Partner Institutions, a program of research, technical assistance and education related to the Chesapeake Watershed CESU objectives to the extent allowed by each Federal Agencies' authorizing legislation;
3. Provide opportunities for research on federal lands or using federal facilities in cooperation with Federal Agencies, as appropriate, and according to all applicable laws, regulations and Federal Agencies' policies;
4. Provide funds for basic support and salary for participating Host University and Partner Institution faculty, as appropriate and as available;
5. Provide project funds and/or collaboration to support specific research, technical assistance and education projects, as appropriate and as available;
6. Make available managers to serve on the Chesapeake Watershed CESU Executive Committee and Federal Managers Committee, as appropriate and as available;
7. Comply with the Host University's and Partner Institutions' rules, regulations, and policies regarding professional conduct, health, safety, use of services and facilities, use of animals, recombinant DNA, infectious agents or radioactive

substances, as well as other policies generally applied to Host University and Partner Institution personnel, to the extent permitted by each Federal Agency's authorizing legislation, regulations, and policies;

8. Ensure its employees follow the Code of Ethics for Government Service (Pub. L. 96-303) and Standards of Ethical Conduct (5 CFR Part 2635);
9. Allow Federal Agency employees to participate in the activities of the Host University and Partner Institutions, including serving on graduate committees and teaching courses, as appropriate, and as specifically determined in modifications to the Agreement; and
10. Be individually responsible for their agency's role in administering the Agreement, transferring funds, and supervision of agency employees, as appropriate.

B. The Host University agrees to:

1. Continue, in consultation with the Federal Agencies and Partner Institutions, the Chesapeake Watershed CESU;
2. Conduct, with participating Federal Agencies and Partner Institutions, a program of research, technical assistance and education related to the Chesapeake Watershed CESU objectives;
3. Allow and encourage faculty to engage in participating Federal Agencies' research, technical assistance and education activities related to the [CESU Name] CESU objectives, as appropriate;
4. Provide basic administrative and clerical support as appropriate;
5. Provide access for the Chesapeake Watershed CESU Federal Agency staff to campus facilities, including library, laboratories, computer facilities on the same basis or costs as other faculty members of the Host University to the maximum extent allowable under state laws and regulations;
6. Provide suitable office space, furniture and laboratory space, utilities, computer network access and basic telephone service for Federal Agencies' personnel to be located at the Host University, as appropriate;
7. Host the NPS Research Coordinator position for the Chesapeake Watershed CESU Network at the Appalachian Laboratory Campus in Frostburg, Maryland.
8. Offer educational and training opportunities to participating Federal Agency employees, in accordance with the respective policies of the Federal Agencies and the Host University;

9. Encourage its students to participate in the activities of the Chesapeake Watershed CESU;
10. Coordinate activities, as appropriate, with the Partner Institutions and develop administrative policies for such coordination; and
11. Maintain a Chesapeake Watershed CESU Executive Committee and convene a meeting of this committee, at least annually, to provide advice and guidance, review of the annual work and multi-year strategic plans, and assist in evaluating the Chesapeake Watershed CESU.

C. Each Partner Institution agrees to:

1. Conduct, with participating Federal Agencies and the Host University, a program of research, technical assistance, and education related to the Chesapeake Watershed CESU objectives and allow and encourage faculty to participate in the program as appropriate;
2. Offer educational and training opportunities to participating Federal Agency employees, as appropriate; and
3. Encourage students and employees to participate in the activities of the Chesapeake Watershed CESU.
4. Ensure that reports and other formal materials (including publications and presentations) resulting from financial assistance awards issued under this Agreement acknowledge the Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit and the funding agency or organization, and include the corresponding award number.
5. Provide project funds and/or in-kind collaboration to support specific research, technical assistance, and education projects, as appropriate and as available.

D. All Federal Agencies, the Host University and Partner Institutions agree to:

1. Maintain the Chesapeake Watershed CESU closely following the mission and goals of the CESU Network as described in the *CESU Network Strategic Plan*, adapting key elements to local and regional needs, as appropriate;
2. Maintain a Chesapeake Watershed CESU role and mission statement;
3. Operate under a multi-year strategic plan;
4. Issue individual financial assistance awards, in accordance with each agency's or partner institution's procedures, to this Agreement that individually include a specific "scope of work" statement and a brief explanation of the following:

- a. the proposed work;
- b. the project contribution to the objectives of the CESU;
- c. the methodology of the project;
- d. the substantial involvement of each party;
- e. the project budget and schedule;
- f. the specific project outputs or products.

Note: For BLM, FWS, USFS, and other agencies as appropriate, this Agreement is neither a fiscal nor a funds obligation document. Any endeavor to transfer anything of value involving reimbursement or contribution of funds between the parties to this Agreement will be handled in accordance with applicable laws, regulations, and procedures including those for government procurement and printing. Such endeavors will be outlined in separate task agreements that shall be made in writing by representatives of the parties and shall be independently authorized by appropriate statutory authority. This Agreement does not provide such authority. Specifically, this Agreement does not establish authority for noncompetitive award to the cooperator of any contract or other agreement.

- 5. Provide data on CESU projects to the CESU Network National Office and/or Host University in accordance with CESU Council guidelines as posted on the CESU Network National Office website;
- 6. Coordinate in obtaining all necessary state, federal, and tribal permits and/or permissions from private landowners in order to conduct projects occurring under this Agreement;
- 7. Engage in collaborative activities consistent with federal scientific and scholarly integrity directives and policies (e.g., Presidential and OSTP Scientific Integrity Memoranda; DOD Instruction 3200.20; DOI 305 DM 3; USDA DR 1074-001; NOAA AO 202-735D), as appropriate;
- 8. Follow 2 CFR 200, OMB Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards (Uniform Guidance), as appropriate; and the related federal agency regulations, as applicable, specifically 22 CFR 518 (Department of Defense), 32 CFR Parts 21, 22, 32, 33, and 34 (Department of Defense), 10 U.S.C. 4001, 10 U.S.C. 3036(d), 33 U.S.C. 2323a, DOD 3210.6-R, and Department of Defense Grant and Agreement Regulations (Department of Defense); and these documents are incorporated into this Agreement by reference.

ARTICLE III. TERM OF AGREEMENT

- A. The effective date of this Agreement shall be 15 August 2026. This Agreement shall be effective for all signatory parties for a period of five (5) years from the effective

date. Parties will have until 15 August 2026 to sign this Agreement and thereby express their intent to continue participation in the Chesapeake Watershed CESU. Parties that do not sign this Agreement by 15 August 2026 will remain in “inactive” status and ineligible to process new projects under this Agreement until their official signature page has been received.

- B. By mutual consent and at the end of this Agreement, a new Agreement, for a separate and distinct five (5) year period, can be entered into to continue the activities of the Chesapeake Watershed CESU.
- C. Amendments to this Agreement shall be made according to the following provisions:
 - 1. For the purposes of this Agreement, Amendments are changes (edits, deletions, or additions) to the Agreement that do not involve the transfer of funds. Amendments may be proposed by any of the Federal Agencies, the Host University, or by the Host University on behalf of any of the Partner Institutions. Amendments shall be executed in writing by the CESU Network National Office. Amendments shall be signed by all signatories to this Agreement, except in cases described in Sections C.2. and C.3. (below). Unless otherwise specified, all terms and conditions of the CESU Agreement apply to the Amendment, and once fully executed the Amendment is made part of the Agreement.
 - 2. For Amendments for which the sole purpose is to add a Partner Institution and/or Federal Agency to this Agreement, the Partner Institution and/or Federal Agency being added to the Agreement and the Host University shall sign the Amendment. New Partner Institutions and/or Federal Agencies shall be approved and added in accordance with the CESU Council guidance, as posted on the CESU Network website (www.cesu.org). All partners shall receive prior notification of amendments.
 - 3. For amendments for which the sole purpose is to incorporate administrative changes that do not affect the intent, execution, and implementation of the terms of this Agreement, such as partner name changes or modifications as required by federal (e.g., OMB) financial assistance regulations, the Partner Institution and/or Federal Agency requesting the administrative change and the Host University shall sign the amendment. Such amendments shall be made at the discretion of the CESU Council and all partners shall receive prior notification of amendments.
- D. For the purposes of this Agreement, modifications or task agreements are specific two-party Agreements between one of the Federal Agencies and the Host University and/or a Partner Institution in support of the goals of this broad Agreement. Modifications or task agreements will be issued by a Federal Agency, will transfer funds to support the statement of work, and will conform to each Federal Agency's respective procedures.

- E. A separate Interagency Agreement is required to facilitate transfer of funds from one federal agency to another federal agency.
- F. The expiration of this Agreement will not affect the validity or duration of projects which have been initiated under this Agreement prior to such expiration.

ARTICLE IV. KEY OFFICIALS

- A. The representatives for the Federal Agencies are listed (and kept current) on our website at the following internet address: <https://cwcesu.org/federal-partners/>
- B. The representatives for the Partner Institutions/Organizations are listed (and kept current) on our website at the following internet address: <https://cwcesu.org/non-federal-partners/>

ARTICLE V. AWARD

- A. Upon signature of all parties to this Agreement, the CESU Network National Office shall administer support funding to the Chesapeake Watershed CESU Host University in furtherance of the Agreement, to be authorized and executed by a modification to the Agreement. The amount of funding shall be determined in accordance with CESU Council annual Host University support guidelines.
- B. Payments will be made by the Federal Agencies for work in accordance with 2 CFR 200, as appropriate, and the related federal agency regulations, as applicable, specifically, 22 CFR Part 518 (Department of Defense), 10 U.S.C. § 4001, 33 U.S.C. § 2323(a), 10 U.S.C. § 3036(d), DOD 3210.6-R, and Department of Defense Grant and Agreement Regulations (U.S. Army Corps of Engineers-Civil Works).
- C. A maximum 17.5% indirect cost rate will be paid on work covered by the Agreement and all its modifications or task agreements, with exceptions listed in Article V. paragraphs C.1., C.2., and C.3. (below). Refer to agency-specific policy and guidance for additional information regarding approval and implementation under 2 CFR 200, as appropriate (e.g., DOI-AAAP-0007 [Department of the Interior]; FAM-2015-02 [Department of Commerce]).
 - 1. For NRCS, the indirect cost rate is limited to 10% of total direct costs for colleges, universities, and other nonprofit organizations pursuant to Section 704 of Pub. L. 116-260.
 - 2. No indirect cost will be charged by the Host University for funds transferred directly from a participating Federal Agency to a Partner Institution via modification to the Agreement.

- D. Award of additional funds or in-kind resources will be made through modifications to the Agreement subject to the rules, regulations, and policies of the individual Federal Agency proposing the modification.
- E. Nothing herein shall be construed as obligating the Federal Agencies to expend, or as involving the Federal Agencies in any contract or other obligation for the future payment of money, in excess of appropriations authorized by law and administratively allocated for specific work.

ARTICLE VI. PRIOR APPROVAL

Prior approvals are in accordance with 2 CFR 200, as appropriate, and the related federal agency regulations, as applicable, specifically 22 CFR Part 518 (Department of Defense), 10 U.S.C. § 4001, 33 U.S.C. § 2323(a), 10 U.S.C. § 3036(d), DOD 3210.6-R, and Department of Defense Grant and Agreement Regulations (U.S. Army Corps of Engineers–Civil Works).

ARTICLE VII. REPORTS AND/OR DELIVERABLES

- A. Reports in accordance with 2 CFR 200, as appropriate, and the related federal agency regulations, as applicable, specifically 22 CFR Part 518 (Department of Defense), 10 U.S.C. § 4001, 33 U.S.C. § 2323(a), 10 U.S.C. § 3036(d), DOD 3210.6-R, and Department of Defense Grant and Agreement Regulations (U.S. Army Corps of Engineers–Civil Works) establish uniform reporting procedures for financial and technical reporting.
- B. As appropriate, the Host University will convene periodic meetings of the Chesapeake Watershed CESU Federal Agencies and Partner Institutions for the purpose of collaboration and coordination of CESU activities. Copies of the meeting minutes will be available to all parties to the Agreement.
- C. A current role and mission statement for the Chesapeake Watershed CESU will be agreed to and maintained by all Chesapeake Watershed CESU cooperators. Copies of the role and mission statement will be available to all parties to the Agreement.
- D. Annual work plans will be developed to guide the specific activities of the Chesapeake Watershed CESU and will:
 - 1. Describe the Chesapeake Watershed CESU's ongoing and proposed research, technical assistance, and education activities;
 - 2. Describe anticipated projects and products; and

3. Identify faculty, staff, and students involved in the Chesapeake Watershed CESU during the year.

Copies of the annual work plan will be available to all parties to the Agreement.

- E. A current multi-year strategic plan will be maintained to generally guide the Chesapeake Watershed CESU. Copies of the strategic plan will be available to all parties to the Agreement.

ARTICLE VIII. PROPERTY UTILIZATION AND DISPOSITION

Property utilization and disposition is in accordance with 2 CFR 200, as appropriate, and the related federal agency regulations, as applicable, specifically 22 CFR Part 518 (Department of Defense), 10 U.S.C. § 4001, 33 U.S.C. § 2323(a), 10 U.S.C. § 3036(d), and DOD 3210.6-R, Department of Defense Grant and Agreement Regulations (U.S. Army Corps of Engineers-Civil Works).

ARTICLE IX. TERMINATION

Termination of this Agreement is in accordance with 2 CFR 200, as appropriate, and the related federal agency regulations and terms and conditions, as applicable, including those of the U.S. Department of Commerce for awards administered by NOAA, and specifically 22 CFR Part 518 (Department of Defense), 10 U.S.C. § 4001, 33 U.S.C. § 2323(a), 10 U.S.C. § 3036(d), DOD 3210.6-R, and Department of WarGrant and Agreement Regulations (U.S. Army Corps of Engineers-Civil Works). Any party to this Agreement may terminate its participation by delivery of ninety (90) days advance written notice to each of the Federal Agencies and the Host University.

ARTICLE X. REQUIRED/SPECIAL PROVISIONS

A. REQUIRED PROVISIONS:

1. **RESOLUTION OF DISAGREEMENTS:** Should disagreements arise on the interpretation of the provisions of this agreement or amendments and/or revisions thereto, that cannot be resolved at the operating level, the area(s) of disagreement shall be stated in writing by each party and presented to the other party for consideration. If agreement or interpretation is not reached within 30 days, the parties shall forward the written presentation of the disagreement to respective higher officials for appropriate resolution.
2. **NON-DISCRIMINATION:** All activities pursuant to this Agreement shall be in compliance with applicable requirements of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (78 Stat. 252 42 U.S.C. § 2000d et seq.); Title V, Section 504 of the

Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (87 Stat. 394; 29 U.S.C. § 794); the Age Discrimination Act of 1975 (89 Stat. 728; 42 U.S.C. § 6101 et seq.); and with all other applicable Federal laws and regulations prohibiting discrimination on grounds of race, color, national origin, disability, religion, or sex in providing of facilities and services to the public.

3. **CONSISTENCY WITH PUBLIC LAWS:** Nothing herein contained shall be deemed to be inconsistent with or contrary to the purpose of or intent of any Act of Congress establishing, affecting, or relating to the Agreement.
4. **APPROPRIATIONS (Anti-Deficiency Act, 31 U.S.C. § 1341):** Nothing herein contained in this Agreement shall be construed as binding the Federal Agencies to expend in any one fiscal year any sum in excess of appropriations made by Congress, for the purposes of this Agreement for that fiscal year, or other obligation for the further expenditure of money in excess of such appropriations.
5. **OFFICIALS NOT TO BENEFIT:** No Member of, Delegate to, or Resident Commissioner in, Congress shall be admitted to any share or part of this Agreement or to any benefit to arise therefrom.
6. **LOBBYING RESTRICTIONS:** The parties shall comply with the lobbying restrictions set forth in 31 U.S.C. § 1352, 2 CFR § 200.450, and the Department of Commerce regulations at 15 CFR Part 28, as applicable. Costs associated with lobbying activities are unallowable as provided in 2 CFR § 200.450(b) and (c).

Any recipient or subrecipient that receives more than \$100,000 in Federal funding and conducts lobbying with non-Federal funds relating to a covered Federal action shall submit a completed Form SF-LLL (Disclosure of Lobbying Activities) in accordance with applicable Federal requirements.

7. **LIABILITY PROVISION:**

a) **Governmental Parties**

- (1) The Federal Agencies, Host University, and Partner Institutions which are governmental parties, each accept responsibility for any property damage, injury, or death caused by the acts or omissions of their respective employees, acting within the scope of their employment, to the fullest extent permitted by their respective applicable laws, including laws concerning self-insurance, and for the University of Maryland, College Park, an appropriation of funds by the Maryland General Assembly.
- (2) Nothing in this Agreement shall be construed as creating an agency relationship between the United States and any non-Federal party. The

United States expressly disclaims all responsibility or liability to the Recipient, and subrecipient, or any third party for the actions of the Recipient, subrecipient, or third parties (including contractors or subcontractors) resulting in death, bodily injury, property damage, or any other losses arising from the performance of this Agreement or any award, subaward, contract, or subcontract issued pursuant to this Agreement, to the extent permitted by law.

- (3) To the extent work by governmental parties is to be performed through sub-contract by non-governmental entities or persons, the governmental party sub-contracting work will require that subcontracted entity or person to meet provisions (1), (2), and (3) for non-governmental parties stated below.
 - (4) USDA does hereby recognize potential liability for payment of claims for injury or loss of property of personal injury or death caused by the Government, or any officer, agent or employee thereof, while acting within the scope of his/her office of employment under circumstances when the United States, if a private person, would be liable to the claimant in accordance with the law of the place where the act or omission occurred (28 U.S.C. §§1346 (b), 2672 et seq.).
- b) Non-governmental Parties: Work provided by non-governmental entities or persons, will require that entity or person to:
- (1) Have public and employee liability insurance from a responsible company or companies with a minimum limitation of one million dollars (\$1,000,000) per person for any one claim, and an aggregate limitation of three million dollars (\$3,000,000) for any number of claims arising from any one incident. In subsequent modifications, the parties may negotiate different levels of liability coverage, as appropriate. The policies shall name the United States as an additional insured, shall specify that the insured shall have no right of subrogation against the United States for payments of any premiums or deductibles due thereunder, and shall specify that the insurance shall be assumed by, be for the account of, and be at the insured's sole risk; and
 - (2) Pay the United States the full value for all damages to the lands or other property of the United States caused by such person or organization, its representatives, or employees; and
 - (3) Indemnify, save and hold harmless, and defend the United States against all fines, claims, damages, losses, judgments, and expenses arising out of, or from, any omission or activity of such person or organization, its representatives, or employees.

(4) Non-governmental Partner Institutions shall provide the Federal Agencies confirmation of such insurance coverage, prior to beginning specific work authorized herein and specified in subsequent modifications.

8. TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS: This Agreement and its subsequent modifications and task agreements are subject to requirements of section 106(g) of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000, as amended (22 U.S.C. § 7104); now located at 2 CFR Part 175: Trafficking in Persons.

a) Provisions applicable to a recipient that is a private entity.

(1) You as the recipient, your employees, subrecipients under this award, and subrecipients' employees may not—

(a) Engage in severe forms of trafficking in persons during the period of time that the award is in effect;

(b) Procure a commercial sex act during the period of time that the award is in effect; or

(c) Use forced labor in the performance of the award or subawards under the award.

(2) We as the Federal awarding agency may unilaterally terminate this award, without penalty, if you or a subrecipient that is a private entity—

(a) Is determined to have violated a prohibition in paragraph (a) (1) of this award term; or

(b) Has an employee who is determined by the agency official authorized to terminate the award to have violated a prohibition in paragraph (a) (1) of this award term through conduct that is either—

(i) Associated with performance under this award; or

(ii) Imputed to you or the subrecipient using the standards and due process for imputing the conduct of an individual to an organization that are provided in 2 CFR part 180, "OMB Guidelines to Agencies on Government wide

Debarment and Suspension (Nonprocurement),” as implemented by each respective federal agency partner at: 2 CFR Part 1125 (Department of Defense), 2 CFR Part 1326 (Department of Commerce), 2 CFR 1400 (Department of the Interior), and 7 CFR Part 3017 (Department of Agriculture).

- b) Provision applicable to a recipient other than a private entity. We as the Federal awarding agency may unilaterally terminate this award, without penalty, if a subrecipient that is a private entity—

(1) Is determined to have violated an applicable prohibition in paragraph (a) (1) of this award term; or

(2) Has an employee who is determined by the agency official authorized to terminate the award to have violated an applicable prohibition in paragraph (a) (1) of this award term through conduct that is either—

(a) Associated with performance under this award; or

(b) Imputed to the subrecipient using the standards and due process for imputing the conduct of an individual to an organization that are provided in 2 CFR part 180, “OMB Guidelines to Agencies on Government wide Debarment and Suspension (Nonprocurement),” as implemented by our agency at 2 CFR Part 1125 (Department of Defense), 2 CFR Part 1326 (Department of Commerce), 2 CFR 1400 (Department of the Interior), and 7 CFR Part 3017 (Department of Agriculture).

- c) Provisions applicable to any recipient.

(1) You must inform us immediately of any information you receive from any source alleging a violation of a prohibition in paragraph (a) (1) of this award term.

(2) Our right to terminate unilaterally that is described in paragraph (a) (2) or (b) of this section:

(a) Implements section 106(g) of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (TVPA), as amended (22 U.S.C. § 7104(g)), and

(b) Is in addition to all other remedies for noncompliance that are available to us under this award.

(3) You must include the requirements of paragraph (a) (1) of this award term in any subaward you make to a private entity.

d) *Definitions.* For purposes of this award term:

(1) “*Employee*” means either:

(a) An individual employed by you or a subrecipient who is engaged in the performance of the project or program under this award; or

(b) Another person engaged in the performance of the project or program under this award and not compensated by you including, but not limited to, a volunteer or individual whose services are contributed by a third party as an in-kind contribution toward cost sharing or matching requirements.

(2) “*Forced labor*” means labor obtained by any of the following methods: the recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, or obtaining of a person for labor or services, through the use of force, fraud, or coercion for the purpose of subjection to involuntary servitude, peonage, debt bondage, or slavery.

(3) “*Private entity*” means any entity other than a State, local government, Indian tribe, or foreign public entity, as those terms are defined in 2 CFR 175.25. Includes:

(a) A nonprofit organization, including any nonprofit institution of higher education, hospital, or tribal organization other than one included in the definition of Indian tribe at 2 CFR 175.25(b).

(b) A for-profit organization.

(4) “*Severe forms of trafficking in persons*,” “*commercial sex act*,” and “*coercion*” have the meanings given at section 103 of the TVPA, as amended (22 U.S.C. § 7102).

9. TEXT MESSAGING WHILE DRIVING. In accordance with Executive Order (EO) 13513, “Federal Leadership on Reducing Text Messaging While Driving,” the following actions by Federal employees are banned: a) any and all text messaging by while driving a Government owned vehicle (GOV) or driving a privately owned vehicle (POV) while on official Government business; or b) using any electronic equipment supplied by the Government when driving any vehicle at any time. All cooperators, their employees, volunteers, and contractors are encouraged to adopt and enforce policies that ban text messaging when driving company owned, leased or rented vehicles, POVs or GOVs when driving while on official Government business or when performing any work for or on behalf of the Government.

10. MINIMUM WAGES UNDER EXECUTIVE ORDER 13658

a) *Definitions*. As used in this clause—

“*United States*” means the 50 states and the District of Columbia.

“*Worker*”—

(1) Means any person engaged in performing work on, or in connection with, an agreement covered by Executive Order 13658, and

- i Whose wages under such agreements are governed by the Fair Labor Standards Act (29 U.S.C. chapter 8), the Service Contract Labor Standards statute (41 U.S.C. chapter 67), or the Wage Rate Requirements (Construction) statute (40 U.S.C. chapter 31, subchapter IV),
- ii Other than individuals employed in a bona fide executive, administrative, or professional capacity, as those terms are defined in 29 C.F.R. § 541,
- iii Regardless of the contractual relationship alleged to exist between the individual and the employer.

(2) Includes workers performing on, or in connection with, the agreement whose wages are calculated pursuant to special certificates issued under 29 U.S.C. § 214(c).

- (3) Also includes any person working on, or in connection with, the agreement and individually registered in a bona fide apprenticeship or training program registered with the Department of Labor's Employment and Training Administration, Office of Apprenticeship, or with a State Apprenticeship Agency recognized by the Office of Apprenticeship.

b) *Executive Order Minimum Wage Rate.*

- (1) The Recipient shall pay to workers, while performing in the United States, and performing on, or in connection with, this agreement, a minimum hourly wage rate of \$13.30 per hour beginning January 1, 2025.
- (2) The Recipient shall adjust the minimum wage paid, if necessary, beginning January 1, 2025 and annually thereafter, to meet the Secretary of Labor's annual E.O. minimum wage. The Administrator of the Department of Labor's Wage and Hour Division (the Administrator) will publish annual determinations in the Federal Register no later than 90 days before the effective date of the new E.O. minimum wage rate. The Administrator will also publish the applicable E.O. minimum wage on www.wdol.gov (or any successor Web site) and on all wage determinations issued under the Service Contract Labor Standards statute or the Wage Rate Requirements (Construction) statute. The applicable published E.O. minimum wage is incorporated by reference into this agreement.
- (3)
 - (i) The Recipient may request a price adjustment only after the effective date of the new annual E.O. minimum wage determination. Prices will be adjusted only if labor costs increase as a result of an increase in the annual E.O. minimum wage, and for associated labor costs and relevant subaward costs. Associated labor costs shall include increases or decreases that result from changes in social security and unemployment taxes and workers' compensation insurance, but will not otherwise include any amount for general and administrative costs, overhead, or profit.
 - (ii) Subrecipients may be entitled to adjustments due to the new minimum wage, pursuant to paragraph (b)(2). Recipients shall consider any Subrecipient requests for such price adjustment.
 - (iii) The Awarding Officer will not adjust the agreement price under this clause for any costs other than those identified in paragraph (b)(3)(i) of this clause, and will not provide duplicate price adjustments with any price adjustment under clauses implementing the Service Contract Labor Standards statute or the Wage Rate Requirements (Construction) statute.

- (4) The Recipient warrants that the prices in this agreement do not include allowance for any contingency to cover increased costs for which adjustment is provided under this clause.
 - (5) The Recipient shall pay, unconditionally to each worker, all wages due free and clear without subsequent rebate or kickback. The Recipient may make deductions that reduce a worker's wages below the E.O. minimum wage rate only if done in accordance with 29 C.F.R. § 10.23, Deductions.
 - (6) The Recipient shall not discharge any part of its minimum wage obligation under this clause by furnishing fringe benefits or, with respect to workers whose wages are governed by the Service Contract Labor Standards statute, the cash equivalent thereof.
 - (7) Nothing in this clause shall excuse the Recipient from compliance with any applicable Federal or State prevailing wage law or any applicable law or municipal ordinance establishing a minimum wage higher than the E.O. minimum wage. However, wage increases under such other laws or municipal ordinances are not subject to price adjustment under this subpart.
 - (8) The Recipient shall pay the E.O. minimum wage rate whenever it is higher than any applicable collective bargaining agreement(s) wage rate.
 - (9) The Recipient shall follow the policies and procedures in 29 C.F.R. § 10.24(b) and 10.28 for treatment of workers engaged in an occupation in which they customarily and regularly receive more than \$30 a month in tips.
- c) (1) This clause applies to workers as defined in paragraph (a). As provided in that definition—
- i Workers are covered regardless of the contractual relationship alleged to exist between the Recipient or Subrecipient and the worker;
 - ii Workers with disabilities whose wages are calculated pursuant to special certificates issued under 29 U.S.C. § 214(c) are covered; and
 - iii Workers who are registered in a bona fide apprenticeship program or training program registered with the Department of Labor's Employment and Training Administration, Office of Apprenticeship, or with a State Apprenticeship Agency recognized by the Office of Apprenticeship, are covered.
- (2) This clause does not apply to—

- i Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) – covered individuals performing in connection with contracts covered by the E.O., i.e. those individuals who perform duties necessary to the performance of the agreement, but who are not directly engaged in performing the specific work called for by the agreement, and who spend less than 20 percent of their hours worked in a particular workweek performing in connection with such agreements;
- ii Individuals exempted from the minimum wage requirements of the FLSA under 29 U.S.C. § 213(a) and 214(a) and (b), unless otherwise covered by the Service Contract Labor Standards statute, or the Wage Rate Requirements (Construction) statute. These individuals include but are not limited to—
 - (a) Learners, apprentices, or messengers whose wages are calculated pursuant to special certificates issued under 29 U.S.C. § 214(a).
 - (b) Students whose wages are calculated pursuant to special certificates issued under 29 U.S.C. § 214(b).
 - (c) Those employed in a bona fide executive, administrative, or professional capacity (29 U.S.C. § 213(a)(1) and 29 C.F.R. § part 541).
- d) *Notice.* The Recipient shall notify all workers performing work on, or in connection with, this agreement of the applicable E.O. minimum wage rate under this clause. With respect to workers covered by the Service Contract Labor Standards statute or the Wage Rate Requirements (Construction) statute, the Contractor may meet this requirement by posting, in a prominent and accessible place at the worksite, the applicable wage determination under those statutes. With respect to workers whose wages are governed by the FLSA, the Recipient shall post notice, utilizing the poster provided by the Administrator, which can be obtained at www.dol.gov/whd/govcontracts, in a prominent and accessible place at the worksite. Recipients that customarily post notices to workers electronically may post the notice electronically provided the electronic posting is displayed prominently on any Web site that is maintained by the Recipient, whether external or internal, and customarily used for notices to workers about terms and conditions of employment.
- e) *Payroll Records.*
 - (1) The Recipient shall make and maintain records, for three years after completion of the work, containing the following information for each worker:
 - i Name, address, and social security number;

- ii The worker's occupation(s) or classification(s);
 - iii The rate or rates of wages paid;
 - iv The number of daily and weekly hours worked by each worker;
 - v Any deductions made; and
 - vi Total wages paid.
- (2) The Recipient shall make records pursuant to paragraph (e) (1) of this clause available for inspection and transcription by authorized representatives of the Administrator. The Recipient shall also make such records available upon request of the Contracting Officer.
- (3) The Recipient shall make a copy of the agreement available, as applicable, for inspection or transcription by authorized representatives of the Administrator.
- (4) Failure to comply with this paragraph (e) shall be a violation of 29 C.F.R. § 10.26 and this agreement. Upon direction of the Administrator or upon the Awarding Officer's own action, payment shall be withheld until such time as the noncompliance is corrected.
- (5) Nothing in this clause limits or otherwise modifies the Recipient's payroll and recordkeeping obligations, if any, under the Service Contract Labor Standards statute, the Wage Rate Requirements (Construction) statute, the Fair Labor Standards Act, or any other applicable law.
- f) *Access.* The Recipient shall permit authorized representatives of the Administrator to conduct investigations, including interviewing workers at the worksite during normal working hours.
- g) *Withholding.* The Awarding Officer, upon his or her own action or upon written request of the Administrator, will withhold funds or cause funds to be withheld, from the Recipient under this or any other Federal agreement with the same Recipient, sufficient to pay workers the full amount of wages required by this clause.
- h) *Disputes.* Department of Labor has set forth in 29 C.F.R. § 10.51, Disputes concerning Recipient compliance, the procedures for resolving disputes concerning a Recipient's compliance with Department of Labor regulations at 29 C.F.R. § 10. Such disputes shall be resolved in accordance with those. This includes disputes between the Recipient (or any of its Subrecipients) and the contracting agency, the Department of Labor, or the workers or their representatives.
- i) *Antiretaliation.* The Recipient shall not discharge or in any other manner discriminate against any worker because such worker has filed any complaint or instituted or caused to be instituted any proceeding under or related to

compliance with the E.O. or this clause, or has testified or is about to testify in any such proceeding.

- j) *Subcontractor compliance.* The Recipient is responsible for Subrecipient compliance with the requirements of this clause and may be held liable for unpaid wages due Subrecipient workers.
- k) *Subawards.* The Recipient shall include the substance of this clause, including this paragraph (k) in all subawards, regardless of dollar value, that are subject to the Service Contract Labor Standards statute or the Wage Rate Requirements (Construction) statute, and are to be performed in whole or in part in the United States.

ARTICLE XI: DOCUMENTS INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE

The following are to be incorporated into this Agreement:

- A. [SF-LLL – Disclosure of Lobbying Activities](#) or Grants.gov Lobbying Form certification, identified in the agencies Funding Opportunity Announcement.
- B. Specific project award documents will incorporate the required Standard Forms for Application for Financial Assistance, as appropriate:
 - [SF-424 – Application for Financial Assistance](#)
 - [SF-424A – Budget for Non-Construction](#)
 - [SF-424B – Assurances for Non-Construction](#)

ARTICLE XII. ATTACHMENTS/LINKS

The following documents are attached for use per agency requirements, as appropriate:

- [Request for Advance or Reimbursement, SF-270](#)
- [Federal Financial Report, SF-425](#)

ARTICLE XIII. AUTHORIZING SIGNATURES

The following authorizing signatures are attached:

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

- A. Bureau of Indian Affairs
- B. Bureau of Land Management
- C. Bureau of Reclamation
- D. Bureau of Ocean Energy Management
- E. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- F. U.S. Geological Survey
- G. National Park Service

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

- H. Natural Resources Conservation Service

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

- I. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF WAR

- J. Office of the Assistant Secretary of War for Energy, Installations, and Environment
- K. U.S. Army Corps of Engineers—Civil Works
- L. Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency

- M. National Aeronautics and Space Administration

- N. UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF MARYLAND (HOST)
 - University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science
 - University of Maryland, Baltimore County
 - University of Maryland, College Park
 - University of Maryland Eastern Shore
 - Bowie State University
 - Frostburg State University
 - Towson University

- O. American University
- P. Anne Arundel Community College
- Q. Austin Peay State University
- R. The Research Foundation for SUNY obo Binghamton University
- S. Bryn Mawr College
- T. Christopher Newport University
- U. College of William and Mary
- V. Commonwealth University (former Lock Haven and Mansfield Universities)
- W. Delaware State University
- X. Gallaudet University [withdrawn]

Y. Garrett College [withdrawn]
 Z. George Mason University
 AA. George Washington University
 BB. Georgetown University
 CC. Harrisonburg University of Science and Technology
 DD. Hood College
 EE. Howard University
 FF. Immaculata University
 GG. Indiana University
 HH. Indiana University of Pennsylvania
 II. James Madison University
 JJ. Johns Hopkins University
 KK. Longwood University
 LL. Maryland Institute College of Art
 MM. Marymount University
 NN. Monmouth University
 OO. Morgan State University
 PP. Ohio University
 QQ. Old Dominion University
 RR. The Pennsylvania State University
 SS. St. Mary's College of Maryland
 TT. Shepherd University
 UU. Shippensburg University
 VV. Smithsonian Institution
 WW. Temple University
 XX. University of Delaware
 YY. University of the District of Columbia
 ZZ. University of Mary Washington
 AAA. University of Pennsylvania
 BBB. University of Richmond
 CCC. The Rector and Visitors of the University of Virginia
 DDD. United States Naval Academy
 EEE. Virginia Commonwealth University
 FFF. Virginia Institute of Marine Science
 GGG. Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University
 HHH. West Virginia University
 III. American Bird Conservancy
 JJJ. American Indian Higher Education Consortium
 KKK. Association for the Study of African American Life and History
 LLL. Association of African American Museums
 MMM. Biodiversity Research Institute
 NNN. Chesapeake Conservancy
 OOO. Chesapeake Bay Foundation
 PPP. Conservation Science Global, Inc.
 QQQ. DC Department of Energy and Environment
 RRR. Ecological Society of America

SSS. Henry M. Jackson Foundation for the Advancement of Military Medicine, Inc.
TTT. Leave No Trace
UUU. Live It, Learn It, Inc.
VVV. Monument Lab
WWW. National Aquarium
XXX. National Council on Public History
YYY. Native Plant Trust
ZZZ. NatureServe
AAAA. Park Rx America
BBBB. Preservation Maryland
CCCC. Stroud Water Research Center
DDDD. The Academy of Natural Sciences
EEEE. Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation
FFFF. Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources
GGGG. Western Pennsylvania Conservancy

ARTICLE XIII. AUTHORIZING SIGNATURES (cont.)

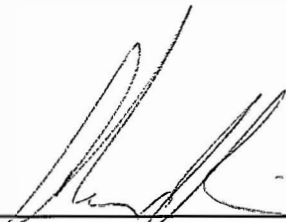
A. Bureau of Indian Affairs



Digitally signed by
BRYAN MERCIER
Date: 2026.05.20
17:07:29 -04'00'

Bryan K. Mercier
Director, Bureau of Indian Affairs
U.S. Department of the Interior

Date

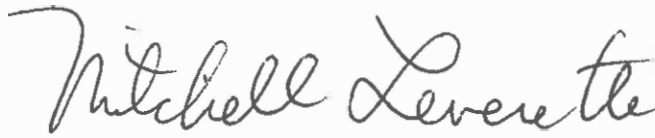


Andrea Wilson
Grant Officer
Division of Acquisition Management

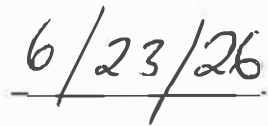
5/28/2026
Date

ARTICLE XIII. AUTHORIZING SIGNATURES (cont.)

B. Bureau of Land Management

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mitchell Leverette". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Mitch Leverette
Director
Bureau of Land Management, Eastern States

A handwritten date "6/23/26" in cursive script, positioned above a horizontal line.

Date

ARTICLE XIII. AUTHORIZING SIGNATURES (cont.)

ARTICLE XIII. AUTHORIZING SIGNATURES (cont.)

Bureau of Reclamation

Heidi Morrow

Heidi Morrow (May 4, 2026 07:00:10 MDT)

05/04/2026

Heidi Morrow

Director

ARTICLE XIII. AUTHORIZING SIGNATURES (cont.)

Bureau of Ocean Energy Management

Desray Reeb

Desray Reeb (May 1, 2026 02:40:14 PDT)

05/01/2026

Desray Reeb

Science Coordinator

ARTICLE XIII. AUTHORIZING SIGNATURES (cont.)

US Fish and Wildlife Service

Lowell Whitney

Lowell Whitney (Jun 12, 2026 08:28:05 EDT)

06/12/2026

Lowell Whitney

Acting Fish and Aquatic Conservation Assistant Regional Direc

ARTICLE XIII. AUTHORIZING SIGNATURES (cont.)

U.S. Geological Survey

Thomas J. O'Connell

Thomas J. O'Connell (May 28, 2026 11:11:26 EDT)

05/28/2026

Thomas J. O'Connell

Director, USGS Eastern Ecological Science Center

ARTICLE XIII. AUTHORIZING SIGNATURES (cont.)

National Park Service



06/18/2026

Jennifer T. Nersesian (Jun 18, 2026 09:03:11 EDT)

Jennifer T. Nersesian

Regional Director, National Capital Region, National Park Service



04/30/2026

Bret H Meldrum (Apr 30, 2026 12:15:02 MDT)

Bret H Meldrum

Acting CESU National Program Coordinator

ARTICLE XIII. AUTHORIZING SIGNATURES (cont.)

Natural Resources Conservation Service- Department of Agriculture

Colton L. Buckley
Chief

Date

ARTICLE XIII. AUTHORIZING SIGNATURES (cont.)

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Julie Whitaker

Julie Whitaker (May 22, 2026 05:40:59 HST)

05/22/2026

Julie Whitaker

Chief, Acquisitions, Grants, and Agreements

ARTICLE XIII. AUTHORIZING SIGNATURES (cont.)

OASW (EI&E) - Department of War

Forrest Cobb

Forrest Cobb

Natural Infrastructure Coordinator

Office of the Deputy Assistant Secretary of War (ODASW) for Environmental
Management and Restoration (EMR)

06/15/2026

Date

J. Foiles

Jessica J. Foiles (May 26, 2026 11:06:57 CDT)

Jessica J. Foiles

Deputy Branch Chief, Military Interagency and Environmental

05/26/2026

ARTICLE XIII. AUTHORIZING SIGNATURES (cont.)

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers–Civil Works

Zavien Beal

Zavien Beal (May 5, 2026 10:33:18 CDT)

05/05/2026

Zavien Beal

Grants Officer

ARTICLE XIII. AUTHORIZING SIGNATURES (cont.)

Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency

Stephanie Colby

Stephanie Colby (Apr 30, 2026 09:12:50 HST)

04/30/2026

Stephanie Colby

Partnerships & Innovation Chief of Integration

ARTICLE XIII. AUTHORIZING SIGNATURES (cont.)

National Aeronautics and Space Administration

Date

ARTICLE XIII. AUTHORIZING SIGNATURES (cont.)

University System of Maryland



Michele Masucci, Ph.D.
Vice Chancellor for Research and Economic Development

7-15-2026

Date

ARTICLE XIII. AUTHORIZING SIGNATURES (cont.)

UMCES (host)

Kiscia Cannon
Kiscia Cannon (Apr 30, 2026 09:20:18 EDT)

04/30/26

Kiscia Cannon

UMCES Director of OSP

ARTICLE XIII. AUTHORIZING SIGNATURES (cont.)

University of Maryland, Baltimore County

Taylor Shortt
Taylor Shortt (May 29, 2026 10:41:01 EDT)

05/29/26

Taylor Shortt

Grants and Contracts Manager

ARTICLE XIII. AUTHORIZING SIGNATURES (cont.)

University of Maryland College Park

 Digitally signed by Stephanie Swann
DN: cn=Stephanie Swann, o=University of
Maryland, ou=VPR-Office of Research
Administration, email=sbrack@umd.edu, c=US
Date: 2026.06.16 14:32:26 -04'00'

Stephanie Swann
Assistant Director, Office of Research Administration

06/16/2026

Date

ARTICLE XIII. AUTHORIZING SIGNATURES (cont.)

MEEC - University of Maryland - Eastern


Joseph Pitula (Apr 30, 2026 09:14:40 EDT)

04/30/26

Joseph Pitula

Director of Research

ARTICLE XIII. AUTHORIZING SIGNATURES (cont.)

MEEC - Bowie State University

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Yvonne Harris".

06/15/26

Yvonne Harris

Vice President, Research and Innovation

ARTICLE XIII. AUTHORIZING SIGNATURES (cont.)

MEEC - Frostburg State University

Tamara Lowry

05/06/26

Tamara Lowry

Director, Office of Research and Sponsored Programs

ARTICLE XIII. AUTHORIZING SIGNATURES (cont.)

Towson University

Rebecca O'Brien
Rebecca O'Brien (Apr 30, 2026 09:24:06 EDT)

04/30/26

Rebecca O'Brien

Assistant Vice President for Research

ARTICLE XIII. AUTHORIZING SIGNATURES (cont.)

American University

Julie Marie Baldwin
Julie Marie Baldwin (May 1, 2026 16:21:13 EDT)

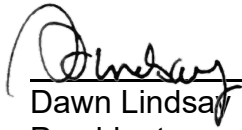
05/01/26

Julie Marie Baldwin

Vice Provost of Research

ARTICLE XIII. AUTHORIZING SIGNATURES (cont.)

Anne Arundel Community College


Dawn Lindsay
President

5/12/2026

Date

ARTICLE XIII. AUTHORIZING SIGNATURES (cont.)

AUSTIN PEAY STATE UNIVERSITY.

Chad Brooks
Chad Brooks (May 29, 2026 12:24:59 CDT)

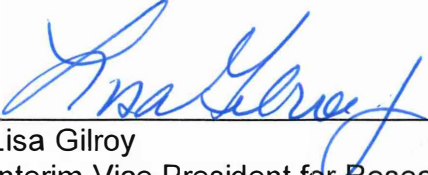
05/29/26

Chad Brooks

Vice Provost for Research

ARTICLE XIII. AUTHORIZING SIGNATURES (cont.)

The Research Foundation for SUNY obo Binghamton University



Lisa Gilroy
Interim Vice President for Research

25 June 2020
Date

ARTICLE XIII. AUTHORIZING SIGNATURES (cont.)

Bryn Mawr College

A. Dee Matthews

A. Dee Matthews (May 21, 2026 15:05:43 EDT)

05/21/26

A. Dee Matthews

Provost

ARTICLE XIII. AUTHORIZING SIGNATURES (cont.)

CHRISTOPHER NEWPORT UNIVERSITY

Nicole Guajardo

05/25/26

Nicole Guajardo

Vice Provost for Research and Academic Success &

ARTICLE XIII. AUTHORIZING SIGNATURES (cont.)

College of William & Mary



05/22/26

Katherine Davis Small

Executive Director of Sponsored Programs

ARTICLE XIII. AUTHORIZING SIGNATURES (cont.)

Commonwealth University of Pennsylvania

Heather S. Feldhaus
Heather S. Feldhaus (May 8, 2026 13:32:06 EDT)

05/08/26

Heather S. Feldhaus

Associate Provost and Dean of Graduate Studies

ARTICLE XIII. AUTHORIZING SIGNATURES (cont.)

Delaware State University

DocuSigned by:

D376D41850D1489...

Gulnihal Ozbay
Associate Dean of Cooperative Extension & Applied Research

6/18/2026

Date

ARTICLE XIII. AUTHORIZING SIGNATURES (cont.)

George Mason University

Eileen Gallagher

05/01/26

Eileen Gallagher

Director of Contracts, Office of Sponsored Programs

ARTICLE XIII. AUTHORIZING SIGNATURES (cont.)

George Washington University



06/17/26

Sylvia Ezekilova

Assistant Vice Provost, Sponsored Projects

ARTICLE XIII. AUTHORIZING SIGNATURES (cont.)

Georgetown University

Melissa Layman
Melissa Layman (May 22, 2026 09:56:54 EDT)

05/22/26

Melissa Layman
Sr Director, JORA

ARTICLE XIII. AUTHORIZING SIGNATURES (cont.)

Harrisburg University

Julia H. Dunst, PhD

04/30/26

julia dunst

Director of Research

ARTICLE XIII. AUTHORIZING SIGNATURES (cont.)

MEEC - Hood College

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'RKL'.

05/31/26

Robert Klinedinst

Vice President for Finance

ARTICLE XIII. AUTHORIZING SIGNATURES (cont.)

Howard University

Lauren Ferrell
Assistant Vice President for Sponsored Programs

Date

ARTICLE XIII. AUTHORIZING SIGNATURES (cont.)

Immaculata University

Barbara Lettiere

Barbara Lettiere (Jun 30, 2026 13:51:51 EDT)

06/30/26

Barbara Lettiere

President

ARTICLE XIII. AUTHORIZING SIGNATURES (cont.)

Indiana University

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Steven Allen Martin".

05/08/26

Steve Martin

Assoc. V.P. for Research Administration

ARTICLE XIII. AUTHORIZING SIGNATURES (cont.)

Indiana University of Pennsylvania



05/28/26

Hilliary Creely

Vice Provost for Research & Innovation

ARTICLE XIII. AUTHORIZING SIGNATURES (cont.)

JAMES MADISON UNIVERSITY

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brent Arehart".

05/04/26

Brent Arehart

Assoc. Director, Sponsored Programs

ARTICLE XIII. AUTHORIZING SIGNATURES (cont.)

Johns Hopkins University



Marcy DeSantis, JD, MBA
Director, Research Administration

08/06/2026

Date

ARTICLE XIII. AUTHORIZING SIGNATURES (cont.)

Longwood University

Larissa Smith
Larissa Smith (May 8, 2026 11:53:35 EDT)

05/08/26

Larissa Smith

Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

ARTICLE XIII. AUTHORIZING SIGNATURES (cont.)

Maryland Institute College of Art

Dr. Raymond Barclay
Dr. Raymond Barclay (May 8, 2026 10:47:21 EDT)

05/08/26

Dr. Raymond Barclay
Provost & Vice-President

ARTICLE XIII. AUTHORIZING SIGNATURES (cont.)

Marymount University

LaVonne Diallo

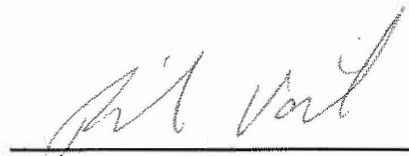
04/30/26

LaVonne Diallo

Director, Office of Sponsored Programs

ARTICLE XIII. AUTHORIZING SIGNATURES (cont.)

Monmouth University

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Richard Veit", written in dark ink.

Richard Veit, Ph.D.
Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs

June 2, 2026
Date

ARTICLE XIII. AUTHORIZING SIGNATURES (cont.)

Morgan State University

Matthew Lee
Matthew Lee (May 20, 2026 10:14:42 EDT)

05/20/26

Matthew Lee

Senior Grants and Contract Manager

ARTICLE XIII. AUTHORIZING SIGNATURES (cont.)

OHIO UNIVERSITY.



05/29/26

Bethany Spurrier

Director of Sponsored Programs

ARTICLE XIII. AUTHORIZING SIGNATURES (cont.)

Old Dominion University


Kenneth Fridley (Jun 1, 2026 14:43:34 EDT)

06/01/26

Kenneth Fridley

Vice President for Research and Economic Development

ARTICLE XIII. AUTHORIZING SIGNATURES (cont.)

The Pennsylvania State University

Jody Murawski
Jody Murawski (Jul 23, 2026 12:41:03 EDT)

Name: Jody Murawski
Title: Assistant Treasurer

07/23/2026
Date

ARTICLE XIII. AUTHORIZING SIGNATURES (cont.)

St. Mary's College of Maryland

Eileen E. Petula

Eileen E. Petula (Jun 1, 2026 13:19:48 EDT)

06/01/26

Eileen E. Petula

Vice President for Business and CFO

ARTICLE XIII. AUTHORIZING SIGNATURES (cont.)

Shepherd University


Emily Samide (Apr 30, 2026 12:06:49 EDT)

04/30/26

Emily Samide

Director for the Office of Sponsored Programs

ARTICLE XIII. AUTHORIZING SIGNATURES (cont.)

Shippensburg University

Jolinda Wilson
Jolinda Wilson (May 1, 2026 08:02:43 EDT)

05/01/26

Jolinda Wilson

Vice President for Administration and Finance

ARTICLE XIII. AUTHORIZING SIGNATURES (cont.)

Smithsonian Institution

Karen Otiji
Karen Otiji (Apr 30, 2026 15:14:29 EDT)

04/30/26

Karen Otiji

Director of Office of Sponsored Projects

ARTICLE XIII. AUTHORIZING SIGNATURES (cont.)

YY. Temple University

DocuSigned by:



67E09EF2DF464D8...

Jaison Kurichi Sr. Associate VP of Budget & Planning

5/6/2026

Date

ARTICLE XIII. AUTHORIZING SIGNATURES (cont.)

University of Delaware

MEREDITH SCHOENFELD

Meredith Schoenfeld
Interim VP of Research Regulatory Affairs

6/18/26

Date

ARTICLE XIII. AUTHORIZING SIGNATURES (cont.)

UNIVERSITY OF DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Kelly Russo-Petrack

04/30/26

Kelly Russo-Petrack

Project Specialist in Urban Ecology

ARTICLE XIII. AUTHORIZING SIGNATURES (cont.)

University of Mary Washington

Julie Smith
Julie Smith (May 4, 2026 09:16:49 EDT)

05/04/26

Julie Smith

Associate Vice President for Finance

ARTICLE XIII. AUTHORIZING SIGNATURES (cont.)

The Trustees of the University of Pennsylvania

Elizabeth Peloso

04/30/26

Elizabeth Peloso

Sr. Associate Vice president/Vice Provost, Research

ARTICLE XIII. AUTHORIZING SIGNATURES (cont.)

University of Richmond

Jeanine Larson
Jeanine Larson (Apr 30, 2026 09:47:35 EDT)

04/30/26

Jeanine Larson

Director of Grant Support

ARTICLE XIII. AUTHORIZING SIGNATURES (cont.)

The Rector and Visitors of the University of Virginia

William J. Schoelwer
William J. Schoelwer (May 29, 2026 07:56:37 EDT)

05/29/26

William J. Schoelwer

Associate Director of Agreements and Subawards

ARTICLE XIII. AUTHORIZING SIGNATURES (cont.)

United States Naval Academy

Jean Decker
Jean Decker (May 8, 2026 15:34:50 EDT)

05/08/26

Jean Decker

Grants Specialist

ARTICLE XIII. AUTHORIZING SIGNATURES (cont.)

Virginia Commonwealth University



[Andrea J. Publow \(Jun 10, 2026 13:32:41 EDT\)](#)

06/10/26

Andrea J. Publow

Senior Director of Sponsored Programs

ARTICLE XIII. AUTHORIZING SIGNATURES (cont.)

Virginia Institute of Marine Sciences

Maddie Eaton
Maddie Eaton (May 29, 2026 16:04:18 EDT)

05/29/26

Maddie Eaton

Interim Director of Sponsored Programs

ARTICLE XIII. AUTHORIZING SIGNATURES (cont.)

Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University

Linda Duffy
Linda Duffy (May 8, 2026 11:00:09 EDT)

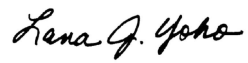
05/08/26

Linda Duffy

AVP Research and Innovation

ARTICLE XIII. AUTHORIZING SIGNATURES (cont.)

WEST VIRGINIA UNIVERSITY

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Lana J. Yoho". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "L" and "Y".

06/01/26

Lana Yoho

Director, Office of Sponsored Programs

ARTICLE XIII. AUTHORIZING SIGNATURES (cont.)

American Bird Conservancy


Shawn Graff (Apr 30, 2026 14:16:09 CDT)

04/30/26

Shawn Graff

Vice President U.S. & Canada

ARTICLE XIII. AUTHORIZING SIGNATURES (cont.)

AIHEC


Ahniwake Rose (May 29, 2026 18:21:31 EDT)

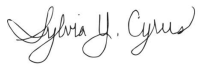
05/29/26

Ahniwake Rose

CEO

ARTICLE XIII. AUTHORIZING SIGNATURES (cont.)

ASALH

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sylvia H. Cyrus". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

04/30/26

Sylvia Cyrus

Executive Director

ARTICLE XIII. AUTHORIZING SIGNATURES (cont.)

Association of African American Museums


Vedet Coleman-Robinson (May 21, 2026 15:38:41 EDT)

05/21/26

Vedet Coleman-Robinson

President and CEO

ARTICLE XIII. AUTHORIZING SIGNATURES (cont.)

Biodiversity Research Institute


Lucas Savoy (May 1, 2026 10:45:59 EDT)

05/01/26

Lucas Savoy

Deputy Director

ARTICLE XIII. AUTHORIZING SIGNATURES (cont.)

Chesapeake Conservancy



04/30/26

Susan Shingledecker

CEO

ARTICLE XIII. AUTHORIZING SIGNATURES (cont.)

Chesapeake Bay Foundation


William Agee (May 5, 2026 09:44:28 EDT)

05/05/26

William Agee

Vice President for Operations

ARTICLE XIII. AUTHORIZING SIGNATURES (cont.)

Conservation Science Global

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Trish Miller".

04/30/26

Trish Miller

Executive Director

ARTICLE XIII. AUTHORIZING SIGNATURES (cont.)

Department of Energy and Environment


richard.jackson2@dc.gov richard.jackson2@dc.gov (Apr 30, 2026 10:41:46 EDT)

04/30/26

richard.jackson2@dc.gov richard.jackson2@dc.gov

Director

ARTICLE XIII. AUTHORIZING SIGNATURES (cont.)

Ecological Society of America

Adrienne Sponberg

04/30/26

Adrienne Sponberg

Executive Director

ARTICLE XIII. AUTHORIZING SIGNATURES (cont.)

The Henry M. Jackson Foundation for the Advancement of Military Medicine

Mai Apriyanto

05/12/26

Mai Apriyanto

Director - Office of Sponsored Programs

ARTICLE XIII. AUTHORIZING SIGNATURES (cont.)

Leave No Trace Center for Outdoor Ethics

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "K. Achtenhagen".

Kurt Achtenhagen

Chief Financial Officer

05/04/26

ARTICLE XIII. AUTHORIZING SIGNATURES (cont.)

Live It Learn It

Erin McSpadden

Erin McSpadden (May 8, 2026 11:00:51 EDT)

05/08/26

Erin McSpadden

Co-Executive Director

ARTICLE XIII. AUTHORIZING SIGNATURES (cont.)

Monument Lab

Paul Farber
Paul Farber (Jun 18, 2026 14:32:58 EDT)

06/18/26

Paul Farber

Director

ARTICLE XIII. AUTHORIZING SIGNATURES (cont.)

National Aquarium

Laura Bankey
Laura Bankey (May 29, 2026 22:09:16 EDT)

05/29/26

Laura Bankey

Vice President of Conservation Programs

ARTICLE XIII. AUTHORIZING SIGNATURES (cont.)

National Council on Public History

Stephanie Rowe
Stephanie Rowe (Apr 30, 2026 09:35:36 EDT)

04/30/26

Stephanie Rowe

Executive Director, NCPH

ARTICLE XIII. AUTHORIZING SIGNATURES (cont.)

Native Plant Trust



Lea Johnson
Director of Conservation

6/23/26

Date

ARTICLE XIII. AUTHORIZING SIGNATURES (cont.)

NatureServe

Anne Bowser
Anne Bowser (May 7, 2026 10:50:29 EDT)

05/07/26

Anne Bowser

CEO

ARTICLE XIII. AUTHORIZING SIGNATURES (cont.)

Park Rx America


Robert Zarr (May 29, 2026 22:02:07 CDT)

05/29/26

Robert Zarr

Founder and Medical Director

ARTICLE XIII. AUTHORIZING SIGNATURES (cont.)

Preservation Maryland

Nicholas Redding

04/30/26

Nicholas Redding

President & CEO

ARTICLE XIII. AUTHORIZING SIGNATURES (cont.)

Stroud Water Research Center

David B. Arscott
David B. Arscott (Apr 30, 2026 14:36:12 EDT)

04/30/26

David B. Arscott
Executive Director

ARTICLE XIII. AUTHORIZING SIGNATURES (cont.)

The Academy of Natural Sciences of Drexel University

Meghan Bucci

05/19/26

Meghan Bucci

Chief Financial Officer

ARTICLE XIII. AUTHORIZING SIGNATURES (cont.)

Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation

Jonathan Jackson
Jonathan Jackson (Apr 30, 2026 09:40:32 EDT)

04/30/26

Jonathan Jackson
Business Manager

ARTICLE XIII. AUTHORIZING SIGNATURES (cont.)

Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources

Ryan Brown
Ryan Brown (May 11, 2026 09:19:17 EDT)

05/11/26

Ryan Brown
Executive Director

ARTICLE XIII. AUTHORIZING SIGNATURES (cont.)

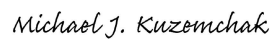
Western Pennsylvania Conservancy



05/14/2026

Elizabeth Cuthbert

VP/CFO



05/12/2026

Mike Kuzemchak

Associate VP, Govt. & Community Relations