United States
Department of Agriculture

Forest Service Hiawatha
Rapid River Ranger District

8181 Highway 2
Rapid River, Michigan 49878

Reply to: 2430
Date: 04/08/2016

Dear Prospective Bidder:

On 05/10/2016, at 02:00 PM, sealed bids will be opened in the Rapid River Ranger District, 8181 Highway 2, Rapid River, MI 49878 for the Bills Pine TPPS sale. This sale is located in T40N, R21W, Sec. 5; T41N, R21W, Sec. 1, 2, 10, 11, 15, 16, 21, 22, 23, 26, 27, 34; T42N, R21W, Sec. 36. Timber sale Contract 2400-6T will be used. The termination date for this sale is 11/09/2018.

There are 1.80 miles (2.90 kilometers) of specified road reconstruction, and 0.19 miles (0.31 kilometers) of specified road construction. A specified road construction cost of $12,209.59 has been allowed in the appraisal for this work.

The estimated quantities in this contract have been determined prior to felling. The total estimated quantity on this sale is 2,532 CCF. The Forest Service encourages potential bidders to make their own inspection and estimate prior to bid submission. The Forest Service makes no representation, warranty, or guarantee of the accuracy of the following quantity estimates:

Estimated Quantities and Rates per Unit of Measure

Species	Product	Unit of Measure	Estimated Quantities	Average DBH	Advertised Rates	Base Rates	Required Deposits: Slash Disposal	Required Deposits: Road Maintenance
Jack Pine	Sawtimber	CCF	27.00	10.90	$48.31	$3.00	$0.00	$0.00
Red Pine	Sawtimber	CCF	973.00	10.80	$50.91	$3.00	$0.00	$0.00
Jack Pine-Other	Pulpwood	CCF	179.00	7.30	$51.38	$2.90	$0.00	$0.00
Red Pine	Pulpwood	CCF	1,353.00	7.30	$63.84	$3.00	$0.00	$0.00
	Total	CCF	2,532.00				$0.00	$0.00

There is a $14,700.00 bid guarantee required on this sale.

If you wish further information on this sale, the prospectus and bid form, please write or call the Rapid River Ranger District, 8181 Highway 2, Rapid River, MI 49878 (906) 474-6442. Advertisement information, Sample Timber Sale Contract, Prospectus, Bid Form, and Sale Maps can be found at http://www.fs.usda.gov/land/hiawatha/landmanagement..

Sincerely,

Joanne M. Sanfilippo

JOANNE M SANFILIPPO
District Ranger

Enclosure

TIMBER SALE PROSPECTUS

Sale Name :	Bills Pine TPPS	**Type of Sale :**	Premeasured
National Forest :	Hiawatha	**Ranger District :**	Rapid River
Bidding Method :	Sealed Bid	**Bid Guarantee :**	$14,700.00

Location of Bid Opening : Rapid River Ranger District, 8181 Highway 2, Rapid River, MI 49878

Date : 05/10/2016 **Time :** 02:00 PM

1. INTRODUCTION. This prospectus furnishes prospective bidders with information not contained in the published advertisement and is designed to enable bidders to decide whether or not to further investigate the sale. The prospectus is not a legally binding document, but is offered to provide general information about a sale. The contract does not include descriptions, estimates, and other data in this prospectus, unless otherwise stated. In the event that the prospectus contains an error or contradicts the sample contract, the contract governs. Bidders are urged to examine the timber sale and make their own estimates. Timber sale Contract 2400-6T will be used. Inspect the sale area and the sample contract before submitting a bid. Obtain the appraisal, other information on the timber, and conditions of sale and bidding at Forest Service offices listed above and in the named attached advertisement.

2. BIDDING. This is a Sealed Bid sale. Bidders must submit sealed bids on prepared forms they can obtain from Forest Service offices listed above and in the attached advertisement. The forms include instructions for bidding and submission of the required certifications. A bid guarantee must be included with the bid in the form of cash, a bid bond on form FS-6500-13 (4/82) or later, certification of annual bid bond allocation on form FS-6500-13a (4/82) or later, an irrevocable letter of credit, a certified check, bank draft, cashiers check, official bank check, or bank or postal money order payable to the Forest Service, USDA in the amount specified above and in the bid form. The bid guarantee shall be returned to each bidder whose bid is not accepted.

3. LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION OF TIMBER. Refer to the sample contract and sale area map attached to the sample contract for legal location of sale area, location of payment units, location of cutting units, the acreage of sale area, and the cutting unit acreage.

THE FOLLOWING GENERAL LOCATION, ROUTES OF ACCESS, ACREAGES, AND OTHER SPECIAL LOCATION DATA DO NOT SUPERSEDE THE SALE AREA MAP OR SAMPLE CONTRACT.

The Bills Pine TPPS Timber Sale is located in Township 40 North, Range 21 West, Section 5; Township 41 North, Range 21 West, Sections 1, 2, 10, 11, 15, 16, 21, 22, 23, 26, 27, and 34; and Township 42 North, Range 21 West Section 36; approximately 3 air miles northeast of Rapid River, MI. The Sale Area consists of 1197 gross acres with cutting confined to approximately 195 acres.

The sale volume consists of 973 ccf Red Pine Sawtimber, 27 ccf Jack Pine Sawtimber, 1,353 ccf Red Pine Pulpwood, and 179 ccf Jack Pine-Other Pulpwood (consisting of approximately 94% jack pine, 5% quaking aspen, and less than 1% black cherry and black spruce).

There are a total of 8 Payment Units on the sale including the ROW unit. All Payment Units, including the ROW, are Cut Tree Marked (CTM). Trees marked with spots of blue paint at breast height and on the stump are designated for cutting. The ROW unit contains trees that are marked with spots of green paint at breast height and on the stump. This unit contains trees that will be cleared from the right-of-way of roads to be constructed or reconstructed with the timber sale.

All boundary line trees are marked with three spots of orange paint and vertical stripes at breast height, and spots on the stump. These trees are reserved and shall not be cut unless designated by the Forest Service.

4. TIMBER QUANTITIES AND RATES. The quality, size, cut per acre, and product suitability of the timber are estimates based on detailed cruise information on file and available for inspection at the Forest Service offices listed above and in the advertisement. VOLUME QUANTITIES LISTED HEREIN ARE MADE AVAILABLE WITH THE UNDERSTANDING THAT VALUES SHOWN ARE FOREST SERVICE ESTIMATES AND ARE NOT GUARANTEED. For these reasons, bidders are urged to examine the timber sale area and make their own estimates.

Road Construction Costs. The advertised rate does not include the estimated cost of specified road construction. The estimated road construction cost has been included in the appraisal as a cost that the purchaser will incur. The purchaser will be responsible for the road construction cost and WILL NOT receive credit towards stumpage costs for this expense, i.e., THIS SALE DOES NOT INCLUDE PURCHASER CREDIT and bidders should consider the cost of road construction when developing their bids.

THE MINIMUM ACCEPTABLE BID RATE IS STATED IN THE ATTACHED BID FORM. THESE RATES ARE EFFECTIVE AT THE TIME OF ADVERTISEMENT.

Estimated Quantities and Rates per Unit of Measure

							Required Deposits	
Species	Product	Unit of Measure	Estimated Quantities	Average DBH	Advertised Rates	Base Rates	Slash Disposal	Road Maintenance
Jack Pine	Sawtimber	CCF	27.00	10.9	$48.31	$3.00	$0.00	$0.00
Red Pine	Sawtimber	CCF	973.00	10.8	$50.91	$3.00	$0.00	$0.00
Jack Pine-Other	Pulpwood	CCF	179.00	7.3	$51.38	$2.90	$0.00	$0.00
Red Pine	Pulpwood	CCF	1,353.00	7.3	$63.84	$3.00	$0.00	$0.00
	TOTAL	CCF	2,532.00				$0.00	$0.00

5. PERIOD OF CONTRACT. The normal operating season covers the period between 06/01 and 02/28. Contract termination date is 11/09/2018. Extensions of this contract may be granted only when the purchaser has met specified conditions.

If an appeal or lawsuit is filed challenging the decision to award this contract or upon determination by the Regional Forester that conditions existing on this timber sale are the same as, or nearly the same as, conditions existing on other timber sale(s) in appeal or litigation, Contracting Officer may delay award or reject all bids. If delay in award is for 30 days or more during Normal Operating Season after bid opening, Contracting Officer shall, upon award, adjust the contract term to include additional calendar days in one or more Normal Operating Seasons equal to the time award is delayed during Normal Operating Season.

The purchaser must submit a Plan of Operations to the Contracting Officer for approval before operations begin or within 60 days of sale award, whichever is earlier. The plan must show how the purchaser plans to complete the contract by the termination date. In addition to the Plan of Operations, the purchaser must submit an annual Operating Schedule before commencing operations. This schedule will include the anticipated major activities and needs for harvest. This annual Operating Schedule does not require concurrence of the Forest Service.

6. PAYMENT. Payment for timber and any required deposits for slash disposal or road maintenance are required in advance of cutting. The Purchaser may transfer purchaser credit into the contract, or provide an acceptable payment guarantee prior to cutting. Payment for required deposits must be a cash payment. The purchaser shall make advance deposits in accordance with provision B(T)4.212 - Advance Deposits.

The high bidder whose bid is accepted shall, at the time the contract is signed and returned by the bidder, make a downpayment pursuant to Title 36, Section 223.49, of the Code of Federal Regulations. The Contracting Officer will notify the high bidder of the amount necessary to make this payment. In no case shall the downpayment be less than 10 percent of the total advertised value plus 20 percent of the bid premium. After receipt of the downpayment and a satisfactory performance bond and upon execution of the timber sale contract, the Forest Service will return the bid guarantee. A cash bid guarantee may be applied to the downpayment at the request of the purchaser. The purchaser cannot apply the amount deposited as a downpayment to cover other obligations due on the sale until conditions stated in the contract for release of downpayment have been met. Refer to the sample contract for the specific conditions.

By the midpoint between award date and the termination date, the purchaser shall have paid for, or in lieu thereof, deposited cash in the greater amount of: (1) 50 percent of the total estimated bid premium, or (2) 35 percent of the total estimated sale value at bid date, exclusive of required deposits, rounded up to the next $100.

7. PERFORMANCE BOND. A performance bond is required. The penal sum of the bond will be 10 percent of the total bid value of the sale, rounded up to the nearest $100 when the total bid value is $10,000 or less; and rounded up to the nearest $1,000 when the total bid value exceeds $10,000 or $15,000.00 whichever is greater. If an irrevocable letter of credit is used to secure the performance bond, the termination of the letter of credit must be at least 6 months past the contract termination date.

8. SPECIFIED ROADS. The Forest Service has determined that the following National Forest System roads shall be constructed or paid for, in whole or in part, by the timber sale purchaser. Sufficient information to permit a prospective bidder to calculate the likely cost to be incurred for road construction is available at the Forest Supervisor's Office. See the sample contract for verification of specific details and information concerning construction specifications. CONSTRUCTION ESTIMATES AND INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN, TOGETHER WITH RELATED SPECIFICATIONS, ARE NOT GUARANTEED. The following roads are those that Forest Service considers necessary to remove the timber from this sale.

Road Number	Road Name	Traffic Service	Approximate Miles/Kilometers	Estimated Road Construction Cost	Type of Work *
8012	RAPID SCHOOL	D	0.19 / 0.31	$3,439.80	C
2814	BILLS CREEK	D	0.13 / 0.21	$1,498.31	R
8008	GREAT LAKES	D	0.23 / 0.37	$1,581.23	R
2803	PETERSON LAKE	D	0.13 / 0.21	$436.68	R
2803E	PETERSON LAKE SPUR E	D	0.29 / 0.47	$1,413.08	R
2798	RAPID CEMETARY	D	0.57 / 0.92	$998.49	R
8015	SOUTH TEN DOLLAR	D	0.45 / 0.72	$579.00	R

* C = Construction
R = Reconstruction

Total estimated construction cost allowed in appraisal is $12,209.59

The estimated road construction cost includes the cost of road reconstruction engineering services, pursuant to Public Law 88-657, 78 Stat. 1089, 16 U.S.C. 532-537. Refer to provision C(T)5.213# - Deposit for Reconstruction Engineering Services in the sample contract for additional information.

Purchaser shall make a cash deposit in the amount $2,263.00 for engineering services completed by Forest Service in preparation of this contract. The Forest Service shall complete reconstruction related engineering services on the following schedule:

Road or Facility No.	Termini From -To (MP or Sta.)	Engineering Services Completion Date
2798	0 – .57	11/18/2016
2803	0 – .13	11/18/2016
2803E	0 – .29	11/18/2016
2814	0 – .13	11/18/2016
8008	0 – .23	11/18/2016
8012	0 – .19	11/18/2016
8015	0 – .45	11/18/2016

9. ROAD MAINTENANCE. Purchaser shall perform or pay for road maintenance work, commensurate with purchaser's use, on roads controlled by Forest Service, and used by purchaser in connection with this sale. Road maintenance requirements are based on the predicted haul route. Any change in the purchaser's actual haul route may necessitate a change in the roads to be maintained and/or in the amount of required deposit for road maintenance. Required deposits for road maintenance are listed in Section 4 and in the sample contract. Maintenance specifications are in the sample contract.

10. INAPPLICABLE STANDARD PROVISIONS. See sample contract.

11. SPECIAL PROVISIONS. See sample contract.

12. SET-ASIDE SALES. Not Applicable.

13. LOG EXPORT AND SUBSTITUTION RESTRICTIONS. Not Applicable.

14. EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY COMPLIANCE REVIEW. If the total bid value plus required deposits for this contract exceeds $10 million, before award, the Forest Service shall request an equal employment opportunity compliance review of the high bidder to determine compliance with the provisions of Executive Order 11246 of September 24, 1965, as amended by Executive Order 11375 of October 13, 1967 and Executive Order No. 12086 of October 5, 1978.

15. AWARD. The Contracting Officer is required to make a determination of bidder responsibility as stated in Title 36, Section 223.101, of the Code of Federal Regulations.

To determine a purchaser to be responsible, a Contracting Officer must find that:

a. The purchaser has adequate financial resources to perform the contract or the ability to obtain them;

b. The purchaser is able to perform the contract within the contract term taking into consideration all existing contracts and Governmental business commitments;

c. The purchaser has a satisfactory performance record on timber sale contracts. A prospective purchaser that is or recently has been seriously deficient in contract performance shall be presumed not to be responsible, unless the Contracting Officer determines that the circumstances were beyond the purchaser's control and were not created through improper actions by the purchaser or affiliate, or that the purchaser has taken appropriate corrective action. Past failure to apply sufficient tenacity and perseverance to perform acceptably under a contract is strong evidence that a purchaser is not a responsible contractor. The Contracting Officer shall consider the number of contracts involved and extent of deficiency of each in making this evaluation;

d. The purchaser has a satisfactory record of integrity and business ethics;

e. The purchaser has or is able to obtain equipment and supplies suitable for logging the timber and for meeting the resource protection provisions of the contract;

f. The purchaser is otherwise qualified and eligible to receive an award under applicable laws and regulations.

Bidders, by signing the bid form, certify that, to the best of bidder's knowledge the bidder will meet the requirements in 36 CFR 223.101, determination of purchaser responsibility, and, if awarded this contract, that bidder will complete the timber sale contract and any modifications thereof in accordance with its terms including requirements to purchase, cut, and remove included timber.

16. FALSE STATEMENTS ACT. Bidders, by signing the bid form, certify that they are aware that bidder is subject to the penalties prescribed in 18 U.S.C. 1001, Chapter 47, Fraud and False Statements (P.L. 104-45). The Act states "whoever, in any matter within the jurisdiction of any department or agency of the United States knowingly and willfully falsifies, conceals or covers up by any trick, scheme, or device a material fact, or makes any false, fictitious or fraudulent statements or representations, or makes or uses any false writing or document knowing the same to contain any false, fictitious or fraudulent statement or entry, shall be fined under this title or imprisoned not more than 5 years, or both."

17. DAMAGES. This contract shall be terminated for breach pursuant to paragraph 16, 19, and/or 21 of the bid form and the terms of the sample contract if: 1) bidder fails to execute a timber sale contract, furnish a downpayment, or furnish a satisfactory

performance bond within 30 days of the award letter's date; or 2) bidder is found to have violated the False Statements Act in making any statement or certification on the bid form including not meeting purchaser responsibility requirements, and bidder has made a false statement. The bid guarantee shall be retained, in whole or in part, by the Forest Service to satisfy any damages that may be assessed.

18. SUSPENSION AND DEBARMENT CERTIFICATION. Non-procurement debarments and suspensions are governed by the Government-wide common rules (7 CFR 3017).

These rules require each timber sale purchaser, to submit a certification for itself, its principals, and its affiliates when bidding on sales. The bidder must designate its status regarding debarment, suspension, and other matters as specified on the bid form. The bidder, by signing the bid form, certifies this status. An explanation for not submitting a certification may be submitted. The Contracting Officer will determine whether the explanation provides sufficient reason for permitting participation in the bidding. Also, as a timber sale purchaser enters into transactions with subcontractors, these subcontractors must certify their eligibility. The certification titled "Subcontractor Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, Ineligibility, and Voluntary Exclusion" must be provided to subcontractors, but completed certifications are not required to be submitted with bid forms. Purchaser must keep these subcontractor certification forms on file for review by the Forest Service, if requested.

The certification forms and instructions for subcontractor transactions are provided as an addendum to the bid form.

19. OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH ADMINISTRATION (OSHA) LOGGING REGULATIONS. Conduct of operations on this timber sale is subject to inspection for compliance with the logging operations regulations at 29 CFR 1910.266 by OSHA. This standard is applicable to the entire logging industry wherever logging operations occur. Information is available to assist purchasers to ensure compliance with the logging operations regulations during conduct of this timber sale from the U.S. Department of Labor, Occupational Safety and Health Administration, OSHA, 7150 Harris DR PO BOX 30644 Lansing, MI 48909, 517-322-1814.

20. GENERAL. Corporations submitting an offer under this solicitation must include form AD-3030, Representations Regarding Felony Conviction and Tax Delinquent Status For Corporate Applicants. Copies of this form may be obtained from the Forest Service office shown on page 1 of this prospectus or electronically at:
http://www.ocio.usda.gov/policy-directives-records-forms/forms-management/approved-computer-generated-forms.

Pursuant to item #7, Performance Bonds will be made effective for one year past the termination date.

BT6.81 Product Identification is not applicable for this sale and will be waived for the purpose of this contract.

The Softwood Lumber Index #0811 will be used for this sale. Prior to sale award, the apparent high bidder will be given the opportunity to provide input as to which index they feel best represents the products of this sale.

The Letter of Credit must be issued by a federally insured financial institution such as a Production Credit Association or insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC), Federal Savings and Loan Insurance Corporation (FSLI), or National Credit Union Association (NCUA).

Please refer to Special Provision CT5.12#-Use of Roads by Purchaser in the Sample Timber Sale Contract for road restrictions.

Please refer to Special Provision CT6.24#-Site Specific Special Protection Measures in the Sample Timber Sale Contract for Special Management Area restrictions.

Please refer to Special Provision CT 6.314#-Operating Requirements in the Sample Timber Sale Contract for operating restrictions.

Please refer to Special Provision CT 6.7#-Slash Disposal Measures in the Sample Timber Sale contract for slash disposal zones.

Flagmen, in accordance with the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices, will be necessary for operations adjacent to US Highway 2, within Payment Unit 7. An appraisal allowance has been made for this work item.

Char is present in the southern portion of Payment Unit 7, affecting a small amount of the designated trees in this area.

A Sample Timber Sale Contract, Prospectus, Bid Form and Bidder Instructions, and Sale Maps can be found by going to the Hiawatha National Forest home page at http://www.fs.usda.gov/hiawatha. These items can be found by selecting Land & Resources Management

and selecting Timber Sales under the Features heading.

Prospective bidders are reminded that sealed bids will be opened at the Rapid River District Office, 8181 Highway 2, Rapid River, Michigan, on May 10, 2016 at 2:00 PM local time. Phone 906-474-6442 for further information.