

TIMBER SALE PROSPECTUS

Sale Name :	Compartment 4 Salvage	Type of Sale :	Scaled
National Forest :	NFS In Mississippi	Ranger District :	Holly Springs
Bidding Method :	Sealed Bid	Bid Guarantee :	\$7,600.00

Location of Bid Opening : District Office, Oxford

Date : 06/08/2016

Time : 10:00 AM

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 2400-6 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.

Weighted Average Stumpage Rate Bidding:

Prospective purchasers must submit bids in terms of the weighted average stumpage rate. The bid form states minimum acceptable rates and estimated quantities of timber together with the minimum acceptable weighted average rate. The advertised minimum acceptable weighted average rate is only for the biddable species, as listed on the bid form in the upper section of block 14. It does not include any non-biddable, fixed rate species listed in the lower section of block 14 titled "Required Removal at Fixed Rate. Only the Fixed Rate Applies." The bidder should enter the offer on the bid form only in terms of weighted average stumpage. The Forest Service shall establish bid rates by species in the contract by multiplying each species' minimum acceptable bid rate by the bid increase percentage. Such rates will be rounded to the nearest cent. The bid increase percentage is the bidder's weighted average bid rate divided by the minimum acceptable weighted average rate. The total amount for stumpage is the volume of each biddable species multiplied by its bid rate, plus the volume of each fixed rate species multiplied by its fixed rate.

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 subdivisions, 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 Sale Area is approximately 2 miles southwest of Camp Hill on US Highway 72, Benton County, Mississippi. The Sale Area includes approximately 420 acres of which an estimated 230 are designated for cutting. The method of cutting is salvage clearcutting on the estimated 230 acres. THIS IS A WEIGHT SCALED TIMBER SALE. The following listing of Included Timber is for information only. Refer to the Sample Contract for specific requirements. All trees that meet Utilization Standards in Contract section A2 within clearcutting Subdivision 1 (CC as shown on the Sale Area Map) are designated for cutting. The Subdivision 1 boundary is marked with ORANGE

paint. Boundary trees are to remain uncut. Additional individual salvage trees outside the Subdivision 1 boundary and within the Sale Area Boundary and within the area to receive a post sale archeological survey may be designated for cutting with tree marking paint at the option of the Purchaser and 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.

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

**Estimated Quantities and Minimum Acceptable Rates
per Unit of Measure**

Species	Product	Unit of Measure	Estimated Quantities	Average DBH	Minimum Acceptable Bid Rates	Base Rates	Required Deposits	
							Slash Disposal	Road Maintenance
Combined Softwoods	Misc-Conv.	Ton	25,399.00	N/A	\$2.99	\$.70	\$0.00	\$0.00
Required Removal at Fixed Rates								
Hardwoods	Sawtimber	Ton	unestimated	N/A	\$2.56	\$.84	\$0.00	\$0.00
Southern Yellow Pine	Sawtimber	Ton	unestimated	N/A	\$7.85	\$.86	\$0.00	\$0.00
Hardwoods	Pulpwood	Ton	unestimated	N/A	\$0.28	\$.28	\$0.00	\$0.00
Softwood - Other	Pulpwood	Ton	unestimated	N/A	\$4.18	\$.29	\$0.00	\$0.00
TOTAL		Ton	25,399.00				\$0.00	\$0.00

The minimum acceptable weighted average bid rate is \$2.99 per Ton for the biddable species. It does not include any non-biddable, fixed rate species listed on the bid form in the lower section of block 14 titled "Required Removal at Fixed Rate. Only the Fixed Rate Applies." The total amount for stumpage is the volume of each biddable species multiplied by its bid rate, plus the volume of each fixed rate species multiplied by its fixed rate.

This rate has been established by appraisal, with a cost allowance for the roads specified by the contract, if any. Required deposits for slash disposal and road maintenance are in addition to the advertised rates for timber.

5. PERIOD OF CONTRACT. The normal operating season covers the period between 01/01 and 12/31. Contract termination date is 04/01/2017. 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.

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.

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 \$8,000.00 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. Not Applicable.

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, 3780 I-55 North Suite 210, Jackson, MS 39211, (601) - 956-4606.

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>.

Purchaser will furnish, install, and maintain all temporary traffic control devices necessary to provide forest users with adequate warning of hazardous or potentially hazardous conditions associated with the purchaser's operations.

The Purchaser or its representative shall have a pre-operations meeting with the Forest Service Representative before operations begin. This meeting is to provide each party an opportunity to discuss the details of the contract, billing procedures, logging plans, roads to be used for hauling, and other matters pertinent to the sale.

Erosion Control: Purchaser shall revegetate, normally by seeding or planting with grasses or other suitable plant material, areas where soil disturbance by Purchaser's operations will result in soil losses from erosion. Purchaser shall vegetate areas designated by the Forest Service in accordance with the specifications listed in the Contract, including temporary roads, skid trails, and landings. \$2,470 has been allowed in the appraisal for Purchaser performance of this work. Refer to the sample contract for specific requirements.

Topwood from both pine and hardwood sawtimber trees is included in the Misc-Conv volume estimate.

This is a weight scaled timber sale with only 1 product. All loads will be weighed at Forest Service approved scale locations.

The apparent high bidder will furnish the Contracting Officer with an annual operating (logging) plan prior to award of the sale from which the Contracting Officer can then evaluate the Purchaser's ability to perform the sale in a timely manner.

Purchaser is responsible for obtaining any necessary permits from local county officials for county road use.

Trees must be cut from the stump before being skidded to log landings.

ALL HAUL ROUTES AND TRUCKS MUST BE APPROVED BY THE CONTRACTING OFFICER PRIOR TO HAULING.

Road maintenance on Forest Service Road 635D is the responsibility of the Purchaser. This road also leads to 2 cemeterys on small private tracts within the sale area. No activity will be allowed on these tracts and care must be taken to protect any visitors to these cemeterys.

Show Me Trip: There will be a Show Me Trip to the sale area on May 25, 2016 leaving the Holly Springs District office at 9:00 a.m.