

Sources Sought Notice

Date: April 27, 2015

Project: Seed Increase for Taylor's Checkerspot Butterfly Host and Nectaring Plants

This is a sources sought notice issued for the purpose of identifying sources for the work described below. It is not a Request for Quotes (RFQ), nor does it obligate the government to issue an RFQ at a later date. The information requested will be used for market research purposes. In particular, information received will be considered in determining whether to set aside a prospective RFQ for small business concerns or issue it on an unrestricted basis. Interested and capable vendors are encouraged to respond, but a response is not required. Vendors that fail to respond to this notice may still respond to the RFQ, if one is issued.

The NAICS code applicable to this acquisition is 111998 – All Other Miscellaneous Crop Farming. The corresponding business size standard is \$750,000.

Note that the description of work provided is merely a brief overview of the project based on the government's anticipated requirements. It is not a complete statement of work and the work requirements and terms are subject to change.

Project Description

The U.S. Forest Service Olympic National Forest is seeking sources for seed increase services for Taylor's checkerspot butterfly nectaring and host plants. Seed of up to five different species shall be produced from plants grown by the contractor over three growing seasons, beginning in 2016. Beds for each species shall be established the first year foundation seed is available and shall remain in production each growing season within the contract period (2016 – 2018). Final delivery of cleaned seed shall be made by September 30, 2018.

Seed shall be produced from wild-collected foundation seed provided by the Olympic National Forest. The initial foundation seed will be provided in the fall of 2015. Additional seed may be provided by the government in years two and three at the government's option. Only wild-collected foundation seed may be used to grow these plants, unless wild-collected seed is not provided by the government in years two and three, in which case seed the contractor produces from the foundation seed may be used for grow out (up to 1 oz of each species per year, except for *Castilleja hispida*, for which a maximum of 0.5 oz of contractor grown seed may be used each year). The wild-collected foundation seed will be tested for viability (TZ test) prior to delivery to the contractor; however, a smaller number of seeds than is standard for this test (200 seeds) may be used. The number of seeds tested will be noted in the TZ test report.

The types and quantities of seed to be produced are listed below:

Scientific Name	Common Name	Minimum quantity by 9/30/2018	Quantity of foundation seed provided by government in fall 2015
<i>Plectritis congesta</i>	Sea blush	12 lbs	1 oz.
<i>Castilleja hispida</i>	Harsh paintbrush	4 lbs	1 oz.
<i>Eriophyllum lanatum</i>	Oregon sunshine	11 lbs	1 oz.
<i>Lomatium utriculatum</i>	Common lomatium	3 lbs*	1 oz. comprised of one or both (a combination) of these two species
<i>Collinsia parviflora</i>	Blue eyed Mary	10 lbs*	

* These quantities represent the quantities that must be produced if 1 oz. of foundation seed of either species is provided. (i.e., If 1 oz. of *Lomatium utriculatum* is provided, the minimum production quantity would be 3 lbs. If 1 oz. of *Collinsia parviflora* is provided, the minimum production quantity would be 10 lbs.)

Requested Information

Interested vendors are requested to provide the following information:

- Company name, address, DUNS number, point of contact, and contact information;
- Business size and whether they qualify as a small business under NAICS code 111998;
- A statement of capability demonstrating proven ability to produce the specified amount of viable seed from the specified amount of foundation seed within the period of time indicated. Experience must be with all species indicated above, not with related genera. Respondents are requested to document experience performing such work along with other relevant information demonstrating their qualifications. Specificity, including contract numbers, project titles, and project descriptions, is encouraged. General capability statements that do not address the specific requirements of this project should not be submitted.

Submissions should not exceed 10 pages in length.

The due date for responses is 3:00 p.m. Pacific on May 12, 2015. Responses shall be submitted to Eric Neckel by e-mail to eneckel@fs.fed.us or by mail to:

Olympic National Forest
 Attn: Eric Neckel, AQM
 1835 Black Lake Blvd., STE A
 Olympia, WA 98512

Questions about this notice should be directed to Eric Neckel at eneckel@fs.fed.us or 360-956-2273. E-mail is the preferred method for submitting questions.

