

INTEGRATED RESOURCE TIMBER CONTRACT PROSPECTUS

Stewardship Contract Name :	SRSP South Westline Stewardship	Type of Contract :	Premeasured
National Forest :	Allegheny	Ranger District :	Bradford
Bidding Method :	Sealed Bid		
Location to Receive Offers :	Allegheny National Forest, Supervisor's Office, 4 Farm Colony Drive, Warren, PA 16365		
Date :	08/05/2015	Time :	02:00 PM

1. INTRODUCTION. This prospectus furnishes prospective offerors with information not contained in the published advertisement and is designed to enable offerors to decide whether or not to further investigate this stewardship project. The prospectus is not a legally binding document, but is offered to provide general information about a Stewardship Contract. The prospectus does not include descriptions, estimates, and other data that are contained in the sample contract, unless otherwise stated. In the event that the prospectus contains an error or contradicts the sample contract, the contract governs. Offerors are urged to examine the contract and make their own estimates. Contract 2400-13T will be used. Inspect the contract area and the sample contract before submitting an offer. Obtain the appraisal, other information on the contract and stewardship work items and conditions of offering at Forest Service offices listed above and in the advertisement.

This is a Stewardship End Results Contract authorized by 16 U.S.C. 2104 Note.

2. OFFERING. This is a Sealed Bid Stewardship Contract . Offerors must submit sealed offers on prepared forms they can obtain from Forest Service offices listed above and in the advertisement. The forms include instructions for offering and submission of the required certifications and technical proposals. The term "offer form" in this prospectus is the Bid for Integrated Resource Contract form. Also, the term "offeror" in this prospectus is identified as "offeror" in the Bid for Integrated Resource Contract form. **THE OFFERS WILL NOT BE PUBLICLY OPENED.**

The offeror is required to submit a technical and price proposal and comply with all other provisions stated on the offer form. The proposal should be practical and be prepared simply and economically, providing a straightforward, concise description of the Contractor's ability to meet the requirements of the contract. Upon contract award, this technical proposal will become a binding part of the contract. See Section 21, General for instructions for preparation of technical proposals and evaluation factors for award.

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

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

Payment and Project 001 units of the SRSP South Westline Contract Area are located approximately 2 miles South of Westline, PA along Forest Roads 187, 456, and 628. The Project 002 unit of the Contract Area is located in the Willow Bay Recreation Area, which is approximately 12 miles West of Bradford, PA along State Route 346. The Contract Area encompasses approximately 540 acres with timber harvest confined to 116 acres.

Individual Trees, Cut Tree Marking (CTM), KT-CT.3.5.5# (Payment Units 01 and 04)

All trees designated as Cut Tree Mark (CTM), as shown on the Contract Area Map, are designated for cutting with paint at DBH and stump. Color designations are shown in Special Provision KT-CT.3.5.5#.

Individual Trees, Leave Tree Marking (LTM), KT-CT.3.5.6# (Payment Units 02, 03, 05, and 06)

All trees designated as Leave Tree Mark (LTM), as shown on the Contract Area Map, are not to be cut when marked with indicated paint color above and below stump. Color designations are shown in Special Provision KT-CT.3.5.6#. All trees meeting Utilization Standards specified in AT.2, which are not marked as a Leave Tree or protected by KT-CT.3.0.1# (Protected Areas), are designated for cutting.

4. 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, offerors are urged to examine the contract area

and make their own estimates.

Road Construction Costs. The estimated road construction cost has been included in the appraisal as a cost that the Contractor will incur. The Contractor will be responsible for the road construction cost and WILL NOT receive credit towards stumpage costs for this expense, i.e., THIS CONTRACT DOES NOT INCLUDE STEWARDSHIP CREDIT for the construction of specified roads and Contractors should consider the cost of specified road construction when developing their offers.

THE MINIMUM ACCEPTABLE BID RATE FOR THE MANDATORY TIMBER CUTTING UNITS IS STATED IN THE ATTACHED OFFER FORM. THESE RATES ARE EFFECTIVE AT THE TIME OF ADVERTISEMENT.

Mandatory Estimated Quantities and Rates per Unit of Measure

Species	Product	Unit of Measure	Estimated Quantities	Rates Per Unit of Measure			
				Base Rate	Advertised Rate	Additional Deposits for Slash Disposal	Road Maintenance
Mandatory Timber Cutting Units :							
Black Cherry	Sawtimber	CCF	520.00	\$127.90	\$465.52	\$0.00	\$12.64
Eastern Hemlock	Sawtimber	CCF	21.00	\$1.00	\$1.00	\$0.00	\$12.64
Hardwood - Other	Sawtimber	CCF	20.00	\$2.89	\$7.90	\$0.00	\$12.64
Red Maple	Sawtimber	CCF	213.00	\$24.20	\$85.92	\$0.00	\$12.64
Sugar Maple	Sawtimber	CCF	25.00	\$37.99	\$136.39	\$0.00	\$12.64
Yellow Poplar	Sawtimber	CCF	76.00	\$7.50	\$24.78	\$0.00	\$12.64
Softwood - Other	Pulpwood	CCF	73.00	\$1.00	\$1.00	\$0.00	\$12.64
Hardwood - Other	Pulpwood	CCF	1,223.00	\$1.00	\$1.00	\$0.00	\$12.64
	TOTAL	CCF	2,171.00			\$0.00	\$27,441.44

Optional Estimated Quantities and Rates per Unit of Measure

Species	Product	Unit of Measure	Estimated Quantities	Rates Per Unit of Measure			
				Base Rate	Advertised Rate	Additional Deposits for Slash Disposal	Road Maintenance
Not Applicable							

Estimated Knutson-Vandenberg deposit for contract area improvement work in a total amount of \$119,468.00 is included in total value.

All of the mandatory stewardship work items, as shown in A.4.3 or AT.4.4 of the sample contract, shall be performed. Optional stewardship work items, as shown in A.4.3 or AT.4.4 of the sample contract, shall be performed when authorized in writing by Contracting Officer. Such authorization may be for all or a portion of the quantity shown. Optional stewardship work items may be selected and authorized in any order. Upon written request of Contractor, additional stewardship work items shall be considered and authorized; however, Contracting Officer shall not be obligated to authorize additional stewardship work items if three or more authorized optional stewardship work items or any of the mandatory stewardship work items remain uncompleted. Contracting Officer shall not be obligated to authorize additional stewardship work items at any time if Contracting Officer determines that there is insufficient value of remaining designated timber to cover the value of additional stewardship work items.

Stewardship Schedule of Work Items			
Item Number (a)	Work Activity Description (b)	Unit of Measure (c)	Estimated Quantity (d)
Mandatory Stewardship Work Items			
001	Manual Site Preparation	Acres	21.00
002	Manual Non-native Invasive Plant Treatment	Acres	130.00

5. PERIOD OF CONTRACT. The normal operating season covers the period between 10/01 and 03/01.

Contract termination date is 06/30/2018. Extensions of this contract may be granted only when the contractor has met specified conditions.

Upon acceptance by the Forest Service, the technical proposal is a binding part of the contract and shall include, but is not limited to, plan periods for and methods of work activities. The Contractor must also submit an annual schedule of operations before commencing operations. This schedule will include the anticipated major activities and needs for harvest. This annual schedule of operations 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. Contractor may earn stewardship credits or provide an acceptable payment guarantee prior to cutting. "Stewardship Credits" are credits that are earned and established when work described in K(T)-G(T).9# of the sample contract has been performed and accepted. Stewardship Credits shall be earned at the offer rate as shown in the awarded contract. Earned Stewardship Credits may be used to pay for Included Timber value in excess of Base Rates and Required Deposits. Base Rates and Required Deposits must be paid in cash.

If an offeror elects to have the Forest Service construct specified roads, the contract shall provide for collection of not less than the full estimated cost of the roads stated in this prospectus, in addition to the current contract rate value and required deposits. Contract Form FS-2400-13T provides for collecting the estimated public works road construction cost as each payment unit is released for cutting, at a rate accelerated on 80 percent of the estimated volume.

If offeror elects the road option, payment for right-of-way timber will be made in advance of cutting. The timber will be decked by the road contractor and will be made available to the Contractor when notified by Forest Service of location and availability. If Contractor and road contractor agree, Contractor may cut and remove right-of-way timber as part of the specified road construction.

7. PERFORMANCE BOND. A performance bond is required. The penal sum of the bond will be 10 percent of the total offer value for included timber, rounded up to the nearest \$100 when the total offer value is \$10,000 or less; and rounded up to the nearest \$1000 when the total offer value exceeds \$10,000; or \$26800, whichever is greater.

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 Contractor. Sufficient information to permit a prospective offeror 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 contract.

Road Number	Road Name	Traffic Service Level	Approximate Miles/Kilometers	Estimated Road Construction Cost	Type of Work *
456D	KINMEADE - D	D	0.3 / 0.48	\$4,918.00	R
628	PLATEAU	C	2.17 / 3.49	\$111,507.00	R

* C = Construction
R = Reconstruction

The required specified road completion date for all roads is 09/30/2016. If provision K(T)-F(T).1.3# - Road Completion Date has different dates for projects, this is the final road completion date.

Total estimated road construction cost allowed in appraisal is \$119,725.00

An offeror qualifying as a small business concern may elect to have the Forest Service construct the specified roads listed above. Completion dates for construction apply whether construction is performed by the Contractor or by the Forest Service. If the offeror elects Forest Service construction, it is the Forest Service's intent to perform construction through CONTRACT. The Forest Service shall not award the contract unless either it receives a satisfactory road construction bid or, if it fails to receive such a bid within 120 days of tentative award, the offeror agrees to perform road construction.

If Contractor elects Forest Service construction, the total estimated public works construction cost that would be paid in addition to current contract rates is \$129,804.00. See provision K(T)-E(T).1.2# - Amount Payable for Timber in the sample contract for additional information.

The following changes will be made to the sample contract when the Forest Service constructs specified roads:

A(T)3 - Timber Designations: "Specified Road Clearing" will be changed to "Construction Clearing" KT-CT.3.2.3

A(T)7 - Change the title to "Permanent Roads To Be Constructed by Forest Service."

A22 or AT19 - Make the following changes in A22 or AT19:

- Add KT-CT.3.2.3 - Construction Clearing.
- Add KT-ET.1.2# - Amount Payable for Timber.
- Add KT-IT.4.1 - Limitation of Performance by Other Than Contractor.

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 K(T)-F(T).2.1.3# - Deposit for Reconstruction Engineering Services in the sample contract for additional information.

Contractor shall make a cash deposit in the amount \$3,300.00 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 Number	Termini From -To(MP or Sta.)	Engineering Services Completion Date
456D	0 - .3	05/20/2015
628	0 - 2.17	05/20/2015

9. ROAD MAINTENANCE. Contractor shall perform or pay for road maintenance work, commensurate with Contractor's use, on roads controlled by Forest Service, and used by Contractor in connection with this contract. Road maintenance requirements are based on the predicted haul route. Any change in the Contractor'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 provision K(T)-F(T).3.2# 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 CONTRACTS. Not Applicable.

13. LOG EXPORT AND SUBSTITUTION RESTRICTIONS. Not Applicable.

14 . EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY COMPLIANCE REVIEW. If the total contract value for this contract exceeds \$10 million, before award, the Forest Service shall request an equal employment opportunity compliance review of the Contractor 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 Contractor responsibility as stated in Title 36, Section 223.101, of the Code of Federal Regulations.

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

- a. The Contractor has adequate financial resources to perform the contract or the ability to obtain them;
- b. The Contractor is able to perform the contract within the contract term taking into consideration all existing contracts and Governmental business commitments;
- c. The Contractor has a satisfactory performance record on similar type contracts. A prospective Contractor 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 Contractor's control and were not created through improper actions by the Contractor or affiliate, or that the Contractor has taken appropriate corrective action. Past failure to apply sufficient tenacity and perseverance to perform acceptably under a contract is strong evidence that a Contractor is not responsible. The Contracting Officer shall consider the number of contracts involved and extent of deficiency of each in making this evaluation;
- d. The Contractor has a satisfactory record of integrity and business ethics;
- e. The Contractor has or is able to obtain equipment and supplies suitable for completing the requirements of the contract;
- f. The Contractor is otherwise qualified and eligible to receive an award under applicable laws and regulations.

Offerors, by signing the offer form, certify that, to the best of offeror's knowledge, the offeror will meet the requirements in 36 CFR 223.101, determination of Contractor responsibility, and if awarded this contract, that offeror will complete the contract and any modifications thereof in accordance with its terms including requirements to purchase, cut, and remove included timber or forest products and complete stewardship projects by the termination date.

16 . FALSE STATEMENTS ACT. Offerors, by signing the offer form, certify that they are aware that offeror 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 if: 1) Contractor fails to execute this stewardship contract or furnish a satisfactory performance bond by the date required in the award letter, if required; or 2) offeror is found to have violated the False Statements Act in making any statement or certification on the offer form including not meeting responsibility requirements, and offeror has made a false statement.

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 contractor, to submit a certification for itself, its principals, and its affiliates when submitting an offer on

stewardship contracts. The offeror must designate its status regarding debarment, suspension, and other matters as specified on the offer form. The offeror, by signing the offer, 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 competition. Also, as a Contractor 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 the offer. Contractor must keep these subcontractor certification forms on file for review by the Forest Service, if requested.

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

19. OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH ADMINISTRATION (OSHA) REGULATIONS. Conduct of operations on this contract is subject to compliance with all OSHA requirements related to the various work activities. Inspection by OSHA may include inspection for compliance with the logging operations regulations at 29 CFR 1910.266. This standard is applicable to the entire logging industry wherever logging operations occur. Information is available to assist Contractors to ensure compliance with the logging operations regulations during conduct of this contract from the U.S. Department of Labor, Occupational Safety and Health Administration, OSHA, 1128 State ST, STE 200 Erie, PA 16501, (814) 461-1492.

20. GENERAL. Corporations submitting an offer under this solicitation must include form AD-3030-FS, 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>.

U. S. Department of Agriculture Quarantines: Quarantines of forest products against the spread of emerald ash borer (EAB) (entire states of Pennsylvania, Ohio, Michigan, and West Virginia, and southern New York, pine shoot beetle (entire state) and gypsy moth (entire state) are now in effect. Timber from this contract comes from within the quarantined area for emerald ash borer, gypsy moth and pine shoot beetle. The Contractor is responsible for understanding and complying with all applicable quarantines, including those in effect in other states. Please contact the regional office of U.S. Department of Agriculture, P.O. Box 1554, Williamsport, PA 17701, telephone 570-322-5784 or see their website: http://www.aphis.usda.gov/plant_health/plant_pest_info/emerald_ash_b/downloads/multistateeab.pdf for further information on regulations, inspections, and certification to move regulated articles out of quarantined areas.

Equipment Cleaning: This contract contains standard provision GT.3.5 - Equipment Cleaning. Off road equipment used on this contract (such as skidders, forwarders, and construction equipment) shall be free of noxious weeds of concern, and free of soil, seeds, vegetative matter, or other debris that could contain or hold such seeds, prior to moving onto the Contract Area, and for subsequent moves to other payment units on contract. An appraisal adjustment has been made for the cleaning of such equipment. The Contract Area Map depicts units infested with specific noxious weed species of concern. Maps of known locations are available for inspection at the Forest Supervisor's office in Warren, PA. A list of noxious weeds of concern to the Forest Service is available for inspection at the same location.

Road Bonding: State and Township roads are subject to weight limit restrictions and may require bonding. Bonding of Township or State roads is the responsibility of Contractor.

Protection of Improvements (GT.2.2) - All Forest System Roads and Trails.

Protection of Improvements Not Owned by FS (GT.2.2.1) - There are oil and gas wells, pipelines, and roads across the Contract Area. The Contractor is required to identify actions necessary to prevent damage to these facilities prior to operations. The cost to install bridge pads in Payment Units 01 and 02 has been considered in the advertised minimum rates.

Showing: A field visit is planned to representative Project 002 sites at Willow Bay on July 7, 2015. Please meet at the entrance to the Willow Bay Recreation Area at 10:00 AM if you wish to attend. A formal showing of timber harvest units and Project 001 sites is not planned. If prospective offerors have specific questions regarding these activities, please call the Bradford District Office at 814-363-6000. Office hours are 8:00 AM - 4:30 PM, Monday - Friday, except holidays.

Temporary Developments: It is estimated that the Contractor will have to construct a landing for Payment Unit 5, install and maintain up to 5 logging and traffic control signs, and plow snow on Forest Roads. All temporary development costs have been considered in the advertised minimum rates.

Seed, Lime, Fertilize, and Mulch Requirements (KT-GT.6#): The estimated total area to be treated is approximately 2 acres.

Cutting Schedule (KT-GT.3.1.3#) - Payment Unit 05 shall be cut by 03/01/2016. Payment Units 02 and 06 shall be cut by 03/01/2017. The

order of release of the remaining Payment Units shall be determined upon approval of the Contract operating plan (Silviculture).

Operating Restrictions (KT-GT.3.1.4#) - Within Payment Units 01, 02, 03, and 05, cutting and skidding is only permitted during dry or frozen conditions from 10/01 to 03/01 (Soils & Silviculture).

Operating Restrictions (KT-GT.3.1.4#) - Within Payment Unit 06, cutting and skidding is only permitted during frozen conditions (Soils & Silviculture).

Operating Restrictions (KT-GT.3.1.4#) - Within Payment Unit 04, cutting and skidding is only permitted during dry or frozen conditions (Soils & Silviculture).

Operating Restrictions (KT-GT.3.1.4#) - Within Payment Unit 06, cutting and skidding is prohibited from 03/01 to 08/31 (Resource Protection).

Skidding and Yarding Requirements (KT-GT.4.2#) - Within Payment Units 01, 02, 03, 04, 05, and 06, skidding equipment must stay on approved skid trail locations. Trees shall be directionally felled to the lead and products yarded to approved trails by cable. Existing trails should be utilized where possible (Soils & Silviculture).

Slash Disposal Measures (KT-GT.7#) - Within all Payment Units, slash resulting from the Contractor's operation shall be removed from private land, right-of-away clearings for powelines, pipelines, ogm wells, roads, and other authorized facilities, concurrent with operations.

Specific Slash Disposal Measures (KT-GT.7#) - Within Payment Unit 05, all slash resulting from the Contractor's operation shall be treated within 100 feet of FR 187. Slash shall be removed within 50 feet of the ditchlines of the road, then lopped and scattered to lie within 3 feet of the ground for an additional 50 feet, concurrent with operations (Scenery).

Use of Roads by Contractor (KT-FT.1.2#) - Hauling is not permitted on Forest Roads 150 and 187 on weekends and legal holidays during the established Allegheny National Forest snowmobile season.

Use of Roads by Contractor (KT-FT.1.2#) - Hauling is prohibited on Forest Road 456B.

Stewardship Projects (KT-GT.9#) - All projects are mandatory and include specific requirements, refer to project documents and specifications for detailed information (Sample Contract Attachments #3 and #4). Mandatory projects in this contract include:

Project #001, which involves manual site preparation (felling work) and any resulting slash disposal on 21 acres of timber harvest units on FR 456 and FR 187A (Payment Units 03 and 06). Manual site preparation work is not permitted from 04/01 to 6/30 in any unit. Site preparation work must be completed as timber is being cut or up to 6 months prior to the harvest.

Project 002#, which involves searching for and treating target plants within a 130 acre area. The primary mode of treatment will be mastication with equipment. Hand felling will also be required in areas that are inaccessible with equipment, around buildings/infrastructure, and within 10 feet of any wetland. Treatment shall be conducted after 10/01 and prior to 4/01 with less than one foot of snow cover present. Cutting of target plants is prohibited on weekends and legal holidays.

The Contracting Officer may waive the Performance Bond if the contractor has sufficiently proven prior experience.

NOTICE: Prospective bidders are not permitted to cut ANY timber within a payment unit or sale area of an advertised timber sale, whether designated or non-designated, standing, or downed. Felling or cutting of trees, other than included timber under contract, is a violation of Title 36 of the Code of Federal Regulations Sections 261.6(a) and 261.9(a) and punishable by fines of up to \$5,000.00 and/or six months imprisonment per offense charged.

NOTICE: In accordance with Pennsylvania State Law under Chapter 102 of the Clean Streams Act, all operators conducting timber harvest activities must complete and have available on-site a copy of the E&S Plan provided by the Pennsylvania DEP at: <http://www.elibrary.dep.state.pa.us/dsweb/View/Collection-8747>.

Information regarding this offering can be found on the Allegheny National Forest website at: <http://www.fs.usda.gov/main/allegheny/workingtogether/contracting>

Contract Value: Total contract value based on advertised rates is \$267,139.39.

Due to changes in the Forest Service financial system, the successful offeror shall register at www.sam.gov. Please disregard the following sentence, it is no longer applicable.

The successful offeror shall register in the Central Contractor Registration (CCR) at www.ccr.gov.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE PREPARATION OF TECHNICAL AND PRICE PROPOSALS

(a) General Instructions. Proposals submitted shall be furnished in the following format with the numbers of copies as specified below.

(1) - The proposal must include a technical proposal and price proposal. Each of the parts shall be separate and complete so that evaluation of one may be accomplished independently from evaluation of the other. The technical proposal must not contain reference to cost.

(2) - Offerors may, at their discretion, submit alternate proposals or proposals which deviate from the requirement; provided, that an offeror also submit a proposal for performance of the work as specified in the statement of work. Any "alternate" proposal may be considered if overall performance would be improved or not compromised, and if it is in the best interest of the Government. Alternate proposals, or deviations from any requirement of this Request for Proposal (RFP), must be clearly identified.

OR

(2) Offerors must submit a proposal that meets all requirements specified in the sample contract. No alternate proposals will be accepted.

(3) - The Government will evaluate proposals in accordance with the evaluation criteria set forth below.

(4) - Offerors shall submit their proposal(s) in the following format and the quantities specified:

(i.) One copy of the completed, signed offer form FS-2400-14BV or FS-2400-14BVU provided by the Forest Service for this contract.

(ii.) Three copies of the technical proposal.

(iii.) One copy of the business/cost proposal.

(b) Technical Proposal Instructions. Technical proposals will be evaluated to determine the ability of the Contractor to meet the requirements of the Government. As a minimum, the proposal must clearly provide the following: See the attached Technical Proposal Form for the Evaluation Factors and Subfactors.

EVALUATION, NEGOTIATION AND AWARD PROCESS

Proposals will be evaluated and rated to determine which offerors are within a competitive range, price and other factors considered. Award may be made without further negotiations. Proposals should be submitted initially on the most favorable terms that the offeror can submit to the Government, from both price and technical standpoints. However the Government may, after evaluation of proposals, conduct further oral or written discussions as appropriate, with all offerors whose proposals are within a competitive range. Proposals that do not address one or more criteria or subfactors, may not be considered further for award.

Firms lacking a past performance record (e.g., new firms or those with no relevant experience within their organization) will be treated as an unknown performance risk, receiving a neutral score in this criteria. A neutral score will be established as the average of all other competing offerors, or the average of the total score available, whichever is less.

EVALUATION CRITERIA

The evaluation factors for this contract and their relative importance are listed below in descending order of priority. All subfactors within a factor are equal in weight.

<u>Factor</u>	<u>Approximate Weight</u>
A. Price	50%
B. Technical Approach	20%
1. Plan of Operations	
2. Quality Control	
3. Contract Manager and On-the-Ground Supervisor(s)	
4. Equipment	
5. Production Capability	
C. Capability and Past Performance	20%
1. Key Personnel	
2. Subcontractors	
3. Past Contacts	
D. Utilization of Local Workforce	10%
E. Other	0%

Award Statement. One award will be made to the offeror (a) whose proposal is technically acceptable and (b) whose technical/price relationship is the most advantageous to the Government. All technical evaluation factors (B-D), when combined, are approximately equal to price (A). The critical factor in making any technical/price trade-off is not the spread between the technical ratings, but rather the significance of that difference. The significance of the spread in ratings will be determined on the basis of what that difference might mean in terms of performance and what it would cost the Government to take advantage of it. Award may not necessarily be made for technical capabilities that would appear to exceed those needed for fulfilling the requirements of this contract. The Government reserves the right to make cost/technical trade-offs that are in the best interest and to the advantage of the Government.

Price proposals will not be scored.

POSTAWARD DEBRIEFING OF OFFERORS

- (a) (1) An offeror, upon its written request received by the agency within 3 days after the date on which that offeror has received notification of contract award in shall be debriefed and furnished the basis for the selection decision and contract award.
- (2) To the maximum extent practicable, the debriefing should occur within 5 days after receipt of the written request.
- (3) An offeror that was notified of exclusion from the competition, but failed to submit a timely request, is not entitled to a debriefing.
- (4) (i) Untimely debriefing requests may be accommodated.
- (ii) Government accommodation of a request for delayed debriefing, or any untimely debriefing request, does not automatically extend the deadlines for filing protests. Debriefings delayed could affect the timeliness of any protest filed subsequent to the debriefing.
- (b) Debriefings of successful and unsuccessful offerors may be done orally, in writing, or by any other method acceptable to the Contracting Officer.
- (c) The Contracting Officer should normally chair any debriefing session held. Individuals who conducted the evaluations shall provide support.
- (d) At a minimum, the debriefing information shall include-
- (1) The Government's evaluation of the significant weaknesses or deficiencies in the offeror's proposal, if applicable;
- (2) The overall evaluated cost or price (including unit prices) and technical rating, if applicable, of the successful offeror and the debriefed offeror, and past performance information on the debriefed offeror;
- (3) The overall ranking of all offerors, when any ranking was developed by the agency during the source selection;
- (4) A summary of the rationale for award;
- (5) For acquisitions of commercial items, the make and model of the item to be delivered by the successful offeror; and
- (6) Reasonable responses to relevant questions about whether source selection procedures contained in the solicitation, applicable regulations, and other applicable authorities were followed.
- (e) The debriefing shall not include point-by-point comparisons of the debriefed offeror's proposal with those of other offerors. Moreover, the debriefing shall not reveal any information prohibited from disclosure by Federal Acquisitions Regulations 24.202 or exempt from release under the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552) including-
- (1) Trade secrets;
- (2) Privileged or confidential manufacturing processes and techniques;
- (3) Commercial and financial information that is privileged or confidential, including cost breakdowns, profit, indirect cost rates, and similar information; and
- (4) The names of individuals providing reference information about an offeror's past performance.
- (f) An official summary of the debriefing shall be included in the contract file.