Additional Information in the Development of Technical Proposals

The attached Technical Proposal template provides prospective Offerors with additional information on how to develop their technical proposal and what specific items to address or emphasize. These items cover areas of special concern to the Forest Service and the community collaborative which has participated in the development of this project. They are areas where tradeoffs between price and quality will be considered. You may use the attached template or use your own format, however all items listed in the following technical proposal template are to be addressed in your Technical Proposal.

Remember!

- What you put down in your Technical Proposal becomes a binding part of the Contract (see G.3.1.1 Inclusion of Technical Proposal). **Do not include items you do not intend to do!**
- If it fits, include adaptive approaches. These might help to make sure you are not tied into actions that may become unnecessary. They can also be used to describe to the Forest Service how operations will be done differently if problems arise.
- We understand that what you put in your Technical Proposal may have a price tradeoff. The government is looking for the offer that is both technically acceptable and whose technical/price relationship is the most advantageous to the Government.

Also, to further assist you in completing the technical proposal, ***the italicized text*** provide contractors with details on information to provide in response to the evaluation criteria. Suggestions listed are not all inclusive and the contractors should add other information as appropriate.

Technical Proposal

Westside Plantation Stew Integrated Resource Contract

PREPARED FOR THE HAYFORK RANGER DISTRICT
SHASTA-TRINITY NATIONAL FOREST(S)

NOTE:
SUBMISSION OF OFFERS AND TECHNICAL PROPOSALS ARE DUE BY
August 13, 2015

This Technical Proposal is being submitted in response to the advertisement of the Westside Plantation Stew Integrated Resource Contract advertised on June 29, 2015 in the *Record Searchlight*. A Price Proposal is submitted on the enclosed "Offer For Integrated Resource Contract" form FS-2400-14BV.

I understand that the Westside Plantation Stew Integrated Resource Contract will be awarded based on a Best Value determination. 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.

This Technical Proposal, along with the FS-2400-14BV Price Proposal, constitutes a firm offer and binds this company to accept award under the terms of the sample contract, the offer form, and any of the accepted terms of this Technical Proposal. Contractors need to be aware of E.2.2 Stewardship Credits applicable to above base rate value in relation to the FS-2400-14BV Price Proposal.

Name of Offeror:

_____

By: (signature)

_____

Date:

_____

PRICE PROPOSAL

Price Proposal (complete, sign, and enclose form FS-2400-14BV)

NOTE: For the Westside Plantation Stew Integrated Resource Timber Contract, all technical factors, when combined, are of equal importance when evaluating offers.

TECHNICAL PROPOSAL

In preparing your Technical Proposal, the contractor is to keep in mind the following end results, specifications and objectives that are to be met with the how-to's of meeting them described in your technical proposal. The contractor is to develop specific responses to individual units to describe how the end results, specifications and objectives are to be achieved.

LIST OF END RESULTS, SPECIFICATIONS AND OBJECTIVES TO BE MET WITH THE HOW-TO'S DESCRIBED BY THE CONTRACTOR IN THEIR TECHNICAL PROPOSAL	select either - PAYMENT UNITS, SUBDIVISIONS, OR CUTTING UNITS
Effective implementation of the Designation by Spacing provision to meet prescription criteria.	**Contract Area**
Avoid compaction, rutting, gullying, and the resulting long-term damage to the productivity of the soil resources.	**Contract Area**
How your operations would prevent the spread of noxious weeds.	**Contract Area**
Achieve effective sorting of limbs and tops	**Designated Areas**
Deck tops to achieve access safely for interested parties of the decked product.	**Designated Areas**

Contractor is advised to review provisions K-G.3.1.5#, K-G.4.1#, K-G.4.2#, and K-G.9# in the sample contract for additional operational requirements and restrictions.

(i). Technical Approach

A. Operating Schedule - provide an operating schedule showing how you plan to complete contract activities within the contract term. Identify needed work activities, logical sequence of activities, and timing of activities for each mandatory work item listed in A.4.3 of the sample contract. Contract provision(s) to consider in completing the Operating Schedule include, but are not limited to:
   - G.3 - Control of Operations
     K-G.3.1.5# - Project Operation Schedule
   - G.4 - Conduct of Logging
   - G.6 - Erosion Prevention and Control
   - G.7 - Slash Disposal
     K-G.7# - Slash Disposal
   - G.9 - Stewardship Projects
     K-G.9# - Stewardship Projects
   - F.0 – Transportation Facilities
     K-F.1.3# - Road Completion Date
   - F.1.2 - Use of Roads by Contractor
     K-F.1.2# - Use of Roads by Contractor
   - F.3 - Road Maintenance
     K-F.3.1# - Road Maintenance Requirements (prehaul, during haul, post haul)

Some things to consider when developing your schedule and that you could include as part of your response include;

- *the sequence of work – correctly recognizing the order and timing in which things are required to be done, i.e. mastication, summer logging, whether subsoiling after logging will be done seasonally or after all logging is complete, if a waiver to allow winter logging is approved would you choose to winter log?*
- *cash flow issues associated with doing the stewardship work before you are able to begin haul of sawtimber? (stewardship work will earn stewardship credits that can only be used to pay for timber above base value).*

- *Flat rate timber prices – How does your schedule address the risk associated with a flat rate timber price over a 3 year contract period (or less, not escalated). Have you taken possible price increases into account for the service type stewardship projects in the price entered on the offer form to complete the work?… or is one not needed?*

B. Quality Control Plan - attach your General Quality Control Plan

C. Methods - describe what logging methods, e.g. tractor, whole tree yarding, CTL, etc. will be used and how these will meet requirements. Describe how the selection of equipment will meet contract specifications.

Does the choice of logging system meet contract requirements? Are you going to use a method that will produce better results?

1. *Road Maintenance*
   a. *How will the selection of road maintenance equipment meet contract specifications?*
   b. *Will road maintenance be completed in the timeframe required in the contract?*
   c. *Are there other significant details of your plan?*

2. *Timber Harvest*
   a. *Felling System (e.g. chainsaw, mechanized) and Method (e.g. wedging, jacking, lining, feller-buncher, single-grip harvester, combination of one or more).*
   b. *Where and when will these be used?*
   c. *Are there other systems or methods you will propose? Describe how they will produce a better result than the planned/appraised system?*
   d. *Yarding System (e.g. horse, rubber-tired or tracked skidder with cable/grapple, live/running/standing/multispan skyline, log forwarder, swing system) and Method (e.g. whole tree yard, yard tops attached, tree length yard, cut-to-length, etc).*
      1. *Where and when will these be used?*
      2. *Operational procedures related to; average distance between skid trails, forwarder roads, skyline corridors, minimizing damage to residual trees, size of landings, contractor marking of trees in DxD and DxP units prior to starting operations, etc.*
      3. *Are there other systems or methods you will propose? Describe the advantages of their use in meeting stated end results and objectives.*
      4. *What method(s) and system will be used to keep detimental soil disturbance to less than 15% of a subdivision acreage? Winter log, only use equipment with low ground pressure, etc? If detimental soil disturbance is exceeded, what method(s) will be used to reduce it to less than 15%?*
   e. *Are there other significant details of your plan?*

3. *Stewardship Projects*
   a. *Project Number 1.0 – Limb tops of whole trees yarded, cut top boles, sort limbs and top boles seperately, and deck top boles.*
      1. *What equipment will be used?*
      2. *How will the decking of top boles be achieve to promote a safe area for potential interested parties of the decked product left at specified areas?*
   b. *Are there other significant details of your plan for the mandatory project(s)?*

(ii). <u>Capability and Past Performance</u>

D. Fill out the following Capability and Past Performance Information Sheet for each of your key supervisory personnel and for each subcontractor you intend to use.

(iii). <u>Utilization of Local Work Force</u>

E. On each of the attached Capability and Past Performance Information Sheets list the physical address of each subcontractor and whether they have historically done contracts within the Shasta, Trinity, Siskiyou, Humboldt, and Tehama Counties.

F. How does your hiring, training, or subcontracting help to develop a multi-skilled local workforce and provide greater opportunities for year-round work in Shasta, Trinity, Siskiyou, Humboldt, and Tehama Counties?

Capability and Past Performance Information Sheet

Name and Location of Company - (physical address of company)

Work Activities - (list applicable supervision, harvest, rd construction, or stewardship projects)

Key Personnel - (list owner, field reps, etc.)

Past Contracts - (list contracts within past 3 years which involve similar work)

Equipment - (list specific equipment that will be used to accomplish the contract activity)

Methods - (indicate specific methods if appropriate)

Production Capability - (list production capability in terms of work activity unit of measure)

Special qualifications, experience, or education

General Quality Control Plan

Quality Control is an important emphasis item for the Westside Plantation Stew Integrated Resource Contract. Offerors are encouraged to develop an effective plan for ensuring that their operations are in compliance with all contractual requirements. Offerors should develop a General Quality Control Plan that addresses the following four questions:

1. How will quality be monitored to assure performance standards are met?

Example: Break down the response into major work areas. For example, tree marking, logging, limbing, cutting tops, sorting, and decking top boles. For all items, you might mention whether you want a pre-work in the field to discuss quality before activities begin.

Logging: list examples of the types of things that will be monitored, e.g. residual tree damage, soil displacement and compaction, determining whether appropriate logging conditions are met, cutting only designated trees (no orange), landing size, etc. Indicate whether there is a separate quality control process and how often it will occur, i.e. is your field representative going to take some extra time every day/once a week to review all aspects of quality control? (or, do you just rely on every worker to do their job properly?) Will he be documenting the results of monitoring or just reporting problems verbally to the Contractor's Rep and Forest Service?

Limbing: Indicate the process you will use to determine whether you are meeting the limbing, cutting top and sorting of products.

2. How will the quality control work be supervised?

This is the next higher level of supervision, i.e. how will the Contractor's Rep type supervise the Field Rep's work? How often can we expect the CR to be there? Will the CR do a sample inspection as well, e.g. "once a week the Contractor's Rep will review the results of the quality monitoring for that week (written or verbal) with the Field Rep and do a walk through sample inspection of the completed area to discuss and verify quality control inspections. If there are problems that were not identified by the Field Rep what will be done? (the FR says "everything looks great" and you find that an obvious problem with orange painted trees cut… someone's not doing their quality control job)

3. How will results of the monitoring be used to ensure quality performance?

If the inspections indicate a problem, how will that be addressed? For example, "The Field Rep will review the problem with those that did the work, require that it be reworked before further work is done (if it can be corrected), and inspect the next batch of work more frequently until it is determined that the problem is corrected. The Field Rep will report quality issues to the next higher level (Contractor's Rep) and to the Forest Service contract administrator".

4. Identify, by work activity, the personnel responsible for performing quality control?

As described above the Contractor's Rep supervising quality control will be _____. The Field Rep responsible for quality control monitoring of logging will be _____. The Field Rep for <name of work item> will be _____. The Field rep for <name of work item> will be _____.

or

Name of person will be the contractor's representative supervising quality control and all work items included in this contract.

or

Something similar to these.