



United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

Forest  
Service

Western Montana  
Acquisition Zone  
(406) 329-3709

Building 24  
Fort Missoula  
Missoula, MT 59804

File Code: 6320

Date: March 23, 2012

Route To:

Subject: **2012 NOTICE – Contracting for Fire**

To: EERA Contractors / Interested Contractors

A national solicitation plan for preseason incident blanket purchase agreements (I-BPAs) was developed in 2007 to comply with requirements of an United States Department of Agriculture, Office of Inspector General Audit to follow Federal Acquisition Regulations (FAR) and to identify an acquisition cycle for competing equipment that is commonly used to support incidents. In compliance with the requirement to compete all pre-season agreements utilizing the Virtual Incident Procurement (VIPR) program, Region 1 has determined the following five equipment types will be competed in 2012: feller bunchers, skidders, graders, coach buses, and crew buggies. The Forest Service is phasing-in competition for pre-season agreements using standardized national templates to solicit equipment and services. **Therefore, all pre-season Emergency Equipment Rental Agreements (EERA's) are hereby cancelled, effective immediately.**

**Equipment competed through VIPR and placed on an Incident Blanket Purchase Agreement (I-BPA) becomes the first source of equipment to be used on an incident.** Only after all VIPR contracted equipment sources (I-BPAs) are exhausted, and the incident has a need for additional equipment, can the Forest Service contract for 'incident only' use.

The following resources are currently being competitively solicited: feller bunchers, skidders, and graders. Solicitation No. AG-0343-S-12-7000 has been publicly posted on FedBizOpps and available to interested Contractors at [www.fbo.gov](http://www.fbo.gov). Once at the website, type the solicitation number (AG-03R6-S-12-7000) in the "Keyword/Solicitation#" box at the top of the page and click on the "Search" button. The search results will bring up the project, click on it and the solicitation will be on the right-hand side. The scheduled closing date for this solicitation is April 20, 2012.

**For specific questions regarding the VIPR solicitation, please contact Debby Wesselius, Contracting Officer, at (406) 329-3333 or LeRoy Schmitz, Procurement Technician, at (406) 329-3325.**

The Western Montana Acquisition Zone will compile and maintain a Resource Availability List containing equipment **not** under a current I-BPA. These resources will be maintained on a spreadsheet for consideration in the event of emergency situations which exceed the equipment awarded under the I-BPAs. Enclosed is a sheet entitled "Equipment Information", please complete it in its entirety and return it to us at your earliest convenience. **At the time of need**, we may enter into an "incident only" agreement set to expire at the end of the specific incident. At that time, you will be required to furnish all appropriate and legal proof of ownership





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(buy/sell agreement or lease agreement); current motor vehicle registrations; drivers' licenses; current Fireline Safety Training certificates; Work Capacity Test (WCT) certificates (if required); insurance policies; proof of Worker's Compensation Insurance coverage/Exemption Certificate; and be registered in the Central Contractors Registration (CCR) and Online Representations and Certifications (ORCA) databases. Information pertaining to the fire training classes, CCR, ORCA, and the PTAC offices are outline below.

**Information – Fireline Safety Training/Work Capacity Test:** Fireline Safety Training is a mandatory annual requirement for all individuals working at an incident. Approved providers who teach the classes or provide work capacity testing can be found at:  
[http://www.fs.fed.us/r1/fire/nrcg/training\\_mou\\_index.htm](http://www.fs.fed.us/r1/fire/nrcg/training_mou_index.htm).

**Information – CCR/DUNS:** Contractors providing equipment or services are required to be properly registered and active in the Central Contractor Registration (CCR) system. If you registered last year, you may click on “update/renew” box and provide what information is required. If you changed bank information from last year, then you need to change your CCR to prevent payment problems. You can go in and make your corrections on your own in CCR at <http://www.ccr.gov/>. If you need additional help or do not have internet access, you can call 1-888-227-2423 or 1-269-961-5757.

**Information – ORCA:** Contractors providing equipment or services are also required to be currently registered in the ORCA database. ORCA is an e-Government initiative that was designed by the Integrated Acquisition Environment (IAE) to replace the paper-based Representations and Certifications (Reps and Certs) process. ORCA can be found at:  
<http://orca.bpn.gov>.

**Information – Procurement Technical Assistance Centers (PTAC):** Contractor assistance is available at no cost through Procurement Technical Assistance Centers (PTAC). PTAC offices are located nationwide, including several in Idaho and Montana (visit <http://www.aptac-us.org/new> to locate the nearest center). PTAC provides valuable information to businesses seeking to compete successfully in Federal, State, and local government contracting. For Montana, call Paulette Drozda at (406) 728-9234, ext. 218 (located in Missoula) or Doug Bolender at (406) 755-4221 (located in Kalispell).

We appreciate your past support and look forward to your participation in the 2012 and future fire seasons. Please call Martin Schmidt at (406) 329-3988 with any questions or concerns.

EDWARD W. HODGES  
Field Unit Lead  
Western Montana Acquisition Zone

Enclosure



## Equipment Information

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_

Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_ TIN/SSN No: \_\_\_\_\_

DUNS No: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone No (day & night): \_\_\_\_\_

Cell: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax No: \_\_\_\_\_

### Equipment Description

	TYPE OF EQUIPMENT	MAKE	MODEL / SIZE / and Flywheel Horsepower (see reverse side)	YEAR	SERIAL/LIC NO.
1					
Accessories					
2					
Accessories					
3					
Accessories					
4					
Accessories					
5					
Accessories					

Have you attended Fireline Safety Refresher? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Have you taken the Physical Fitness Test (Pack Test):  
 Yes \_\_\_\_\_ Arduous \_\_\_\_\_ Light \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

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(Signature and Title)

(Date)

Please provide type and size information in the following terms:

Type of equipment	Size measurement per <i>MANUFACTURER</i> 's specifications
Dozer	Flywheel horsepower, lights, blade type, ROPS
Skidder	Flywheel horsepower, lights
Grader	Flywheel horsepower, lights
Backhoe	Nominal digging depth, lights
Excavator	Weight class in lbs. <i>and</i> Thumb or No Thumb, lights
Sedan	Must be mid-size or larger
Passenger Van	GVW in lbs. <i>and</i> # of seatbelts
Pickup	4X2 or 4X4; Compact, ½, ¾ or 1 ton; Ext, Club, or King Cab
Utility (Bronco or Blazer)	4X2 or 4X4 <i>and</i> Compact or ½ or ¾ + tons
Truck, Stakeside/Stock	GVW in lbs. <i>and</i> platform length in feet
Lowboy, Enclosed Van or Flatbed	Size, Tons
Gray Water Truck	Gallons
Shop Truck	"Heavy Equip/Diesel" or "Automotive/Light Truck"
Fuel Truck	Gallons
Ambulance	4X2 or 4X4
Refrigerator Trailer	Trailer length in feet
Portable Pump	Gallons per minute <i>and</i> purchase price
Portable Water Storage Tank	Gallons <i>and</i> purchase price
Pack and Saddle Stock	Only one rate
All Terrain Vehicle	Number of wheels
All other equipment	Enter what you believe to be the standard measurement

- For passenger vehicles, the GVW is usually found on a sticker in the seal of the driver's door (must be open to be visible) and is generally listed as "GVWR."

Reference NRCG Supplement for equipment classification and all terms and condition of the NWCG and NRCG, FSH5109.34 Interagency Incident Business Management Handbook, Chapter 20, are located at:

[http://www.fs.fed.us/r1/fire/nrcg/Committees/Business/supplements/2011/NRCG\\_2011\\_Chapter20.pdf](http://www.fs.fed.us/r1/fire/nrcg/Committees/Business/supplements/2011/NRCG_2011_Chapter20.pdf)