

INTEGRATED RESOURCE TIMBER CONTRACT PROSPECTUS

Stewardship Contract Name :	Southbound Stewardship	Type of Contract :	Scaled
National Forest :	Kootenai	Ranger District :	Three Rivers
Bidding Method :	Sealed Bid		
Location to Receive Offers :	Supervisor's Office, Libby, MT		
Date :	09/17/2013	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 2400-13 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 subdivisions, 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.

LOCATION OF SALE: Portions of Sections 29, 30, 31, 32, T36N, R31W; Sections 5, 6, 8, 18, 19, 29, 30, T35N, R31W; Sections 2, 12, 13, 24, 25, 35, 36; T35N, R32W; Section 2, T34N, R32W; Lincoln County, Montana, PMM. This timber sale contains an estimated 22,993 Tons (7713 CCF) of Sawtimber (Live and Dead) consisting primarily of Lodgepole Pine and Other Species. In addition, this sale contains an estimated 14,760 Tons (5359 CCF) of non-sawtimber consisting of all live and dead species. Primary non-sawtimber products are those trees less than the minimum sawtimber specifications included in Section A2 of the timber sale contract. Refer to section A2 of the timber sale contract for a description of the non-sawtimber products that have been included in this sale. The sawtimber component of this sale has been appraised to Moyie Springs, ID. The haul distance is 52.1 weighted miles. The non-sawtimber component has been appraised to Bonners Ferry, ID. The haul distance is 61.1 weighted miles.

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 :

Lodgepole Pine & Other Species	Sawtimber	Ton	22,993.00	\$.82	\$4.75	\$2.00	\$0.58
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Minimum Acceptable Total Bid for Mandatory Timber Cutting Units : \$109,216.75

Only the Fixed Rate Applies :

Combined Softwood	Non-Saw	Ton	14,760.00	\$.36	\$0.36	\$2.00	\$0.58
TOTAL		Ton	37,753.00			\$75,506.00	\$21,896.74

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

Total Value Bidding:

Prospective Contractors must submit bids for the timber portion of the contract in terms of the minimum acceptable total contract value. The Bid for Integrated Resource Contract (FS-2400-14BV) states minimum acceptable bid rates and estimated quantities of timber, together with the minimum acceptable total timber value. The advertised minimum acceptable total timber value is only for the biddable species, as listed on the offer form in the upper section of block 14. It does not include any non-biddable, fixed rate species listed in the middle section of block 14 titled "Only the Fixed Rate Applies." The offeror should enter the offer on the offer form only in terms of the total timber value. The Forest Service shall establish timber 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 offeror's total timber value bid rate divided by the minimum acceptable total timber value. 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.

If the contract includes optional timber cutting units and offeror elects to bid on those units, bids for optional units are entered on the lower section of block 14. By entering bids for optional timber cutting units on the lower section of the offer form, offeror is agreeing to harvest the optional timber units. Procedures for distributing bid premium are as described in the previous paragraph and total timber value becomes the sum of mandatory and optional timber units.

Estimated Knutson-Vandenberg deposit for contract area improvement work in a total amount of \$18,906.00 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)
Refer to Solicitation and Offer Form for a complete listing of Mandatory and Optional Stewardship Projects.			

5. PERIOD OF CONTRACT. The normal operating season covers the period between 06/16 and 09/30 and between 12/01 and 02/28.

Contract termination date is 09/30/2016. 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-2400-13 provides for collecting the estimated public works road construction cost as timber is scaled, 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 \$11500, 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 *
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6074	BEAVER TAIL	C	1.08 / 1.74	\$6,184.79	R
472A	BURNT CREEK DUTCH CREEK A	C	0.56 / 0.9	\$7,622.67	R
472	BURNT CREEK/DUTCH CREEK	C	1.95 / 3.14	\$7,648.35	R
6114	FLATAIL CLAY MTN	C	1.6 / 2.57	\$9,844.75	R
6065	FOWLER CREEK	C	0.87 / 1.4	\$2,369.85	R
6065B	FOWLER CREEK B	C	0.68 / 1.09	\$3,121.45	R
6114D	LAKE RENE VIEW	C	0.75 / 1.21	\$1,586.76	R
68	PIPE CR S FORK YAAK	A	6.87 / 11.06	\$31,242.93	R
7460	ROCKY ROAD	C	0.15 / 0.24	\$1,224.50	R
6812	SOUTH 40	C	0.57 / 0.92	\$2,579.25	R
746	VINAL LAKE	C	5.09 / 8.19	\$3,845.87	R
7467	VINE HILL	C	0.41 / 0.66	\$3,443.70	R
6062	YODKIN CREEK	C	2.07 / 3.33	\$6,363.62	R

* C = Construction
R = Reconstruction

The required specified road completion date for all roads is 10/31/2014. 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 \$87,078.49

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 FORCE ACCOUNT. 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 \$96,074.87. 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" K-C.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 K-C.3.2.3 - Construction Clearing.
- Add K-E.1.2# - Amount Payable for Timber.
- Add K-I.4.1 - Limitation of Performance by Other Than Contractor.

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. The contract requires domestic processing of included timber except for species declared to be surplus, and prohibits the use of such included timber in substitution for unprocessed private timber exported. The offeror, by signing the offer for advertised timber, certifies compliance with the applicable prohibitions against export and substitution prescribed in the Forest Resources Conservation and Shortage Relief Act of 1990, as amended (16 U.S.C. 620, et seq.) with each offer.

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 Billings Area Office, 2900 4th Avenue North, Suite 303 Billings, MT 59101, (406) 247-7494.

20. GENERAL.

The environmental document that approved this project is the South Fork Fuels HFRA project.

Logging systems required by percent of Sawlog volume: 94% tractor, 6% skyline.

Tractor skidding is planned for distances of up to 1800 feet from planned landing locations. Skyline yarding is planned for distances of up to 800 feet from planned landing locations.

Base rate value, road maintenance and brush disposal deposits must be paid in cash. Costs will be paid on a per Ton basis.

This sale has 22.7 miles of road reconstruction which is to be performed by the purchaser prior to haul.

The conversion factor for sawlogs from CCF to MBF equals .04951.

Weight scale is the specified method for volume determination for this sale. Products will be weighed on a state certified scales at locations agreed to by the Purchaser and the Forest Service. The advertised rate, base rate and deposits are expressed in a rate per ton. All bidding and payment on this sale will be on a per ton basis. Contract provisions pertaining to Weight Scale are included in the timber sale contract and should be reviewed prior to bidding.

No downpayments for periodic payments are required.

Non-sawtimber products are included in this contract. Refer to K-C.2#. ~~Payment will be made under K-E.2.2.5.~~

This contract includes provision K-G.8.4.8, Weight Accountability for Split Pricing. Under this provision, a purchaser shall sort sawtimber and non-sawtimber into separate decks on the landing. All non-sawtimber will not be hauled until inspected and released by the Sale Administrator. With split pricing, purchasers will bid on the sawtimber on a per ton basis; non-sawtimber is advertised at a fixed rate per ton and is non-biddable. Both sawtimber and non-sawtimber loads will be weight scaled. Payment for sawtimber will be at the bid rate per ton; payment for non-sawtimber will be at the fixed rate per ton.

This project includes provision K-F.4.1# - Closure to Use by Others. Bidders should review all requirements of this provision.

In accordance with K-G.3.5.1#, to prevent the spread of noxious weeds the Contractor shall be required to clean all off road logging and construction equipment and have these pieces of equipment inspected prior to moving onto the contract area.

Contractor shall be required to seed and fertilize all landings and skid trails following completion of harvest activities with the seed mix specified in K-G.6.0.1#.

As per provision K-G.1.0, a pre-work conference will be required. The Contractor, or designated representative is responsible for arranging the meeting with the Contracting Officer.

Contractor shall obliterate temporary roads constructed for use with this timber sale as per K-G.6.3.2#. Obliteration shall consist of recontouring the road prism including all cut and fill slopes to natural ground contour.

Contractors should refer to and review K-G.9# - Stewardship Projects - for a listing of mandatory and optional projects.

Upon execution of the contract, as per the terms of the solicitation, all elements of the technical proposal accepted by Forest Service became binding parts of the contract. Refer to - G.3.1.1 - Inclusion of Technical Proposal.

Public notification of ongoing logging activity shall be done in accordance with signs meeting Montana State Highway specifications as noted in the contract.

Contractor will be required to comply with the State of Montana Forest Fire Regulations.

Bidders must provide their Tax Identification Number in order for their bid to be considered for award.

Primary non-sawlog material is not included in Cutting Units 30A and 31A.

Reconstruction of specified roads shall be completed no later than 10/31/2014. K-F.1.3#.

When conditions are such that dust would result in hazardous driving conditions or there would be a loss of road surface binder, dust abatement will be required on Road #746 and Road #6062. K-F.3.1.4#, K-F-3.1#.

This contract contains Limited Operating Periods - K-G.3.1.6#. For all Cutting Units, no mechanized operations will be allowed 4/1 to 6/15. For Cutting Units 23E, 27, 28, 30, 30A, 30B, 30C, 30D, 31, 31A, 32, 40, 40A, 41, 41A, 42, 43, 45, 46, and F-14 and F-15. No logging operations are allowed 4/1 to 11/30. In Cutting Units 11, 11A and 12, no operations are allowed 3/1 to 8/15.

Tractor logging will be allowed only over frozen ground in Cutting Units 2, 6, 7, 12, 23E, 25, 26, 27, 28, 30, 30A, 30B, 30C, 30D, 31, 31A, 32, 35, 37, 40, 40A, 41, 41A, 42, 43 and 45. K-G.4# Skyline logging is limited to winter Normal Operating Season.

This contract includes provision K-G.2.4# - Site Specific Special Protection Measures.

This timber sale includes a Special Treatment Area. No skidding or yarding equipment is allowed to operate within the area. Merchantable products shall be winched from outside the Special Treatment Area. K-G.4#

~~This contract includes provision K-E.2.25 - Advance Payment for Non-sawtimber. Purchaser must notify the Forest Service of their decision to remove or deck non-sawtimber products. If purchaser selects to deck in lieu of removal, advance cash deposit for stumpage plus the required slash disposal deposits shall be billed as a lump sum amount.~~

This contract includes provision K-E.2.2.8# - Slash Disposal Deposit Schedule. Purchaser shall make a lump sum payment upon completion of skidding in each unit for brush disposal activities to be performed by the Forest Service.

Portions of this timber sale are located behind locked gates on Road #6114 and Road #6065B. Prospective purchasers interested in reviewing this sale must obtain the combination and a road use permit prior to visiting the sale area.

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	15%
1. Key Personnel	
2. Subcontractors	
3. Past Contacts	
D. Utilization of Local Workforce	15%
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 _____ 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.