



ENF Mosquito Restoration and Wildfire Resiliency RFP Written Response to Proposal Questions

Request for Proposal to Provide National Environmental Policy Act Services
Posting Time & Date: Friday January 26th, 2024 12:00n

GENERAL

Q1: RFP page 8: Can you explain further the role that Spatial Informatics Group will be playing in the project? It's mentioned in the RFP on page 8 that specialists in Wildlife, Archaeology and forestry may be provided by GBI so is that something Spatial Informatics Group would be performing or would it be more of an advisory role? And are you looking for proposers to also support those sections as well?

A1: Spatial Informatics Group, LLC (SIG) has been a reliable subcontractor for previous EAs and will likely provide silviculture and fire and fuels analysis and some GIS support. GBI wants consultants to propose the entire scope of work listed. GBI sees an opportunity to cover areas with internal (GBI) capacity (botany, wildlife, archeology), but we would prefer to get everything from one contractor if possible, so please provide a full proposal and GBI will negotiate the final awarded scope of work. (Please also see the response to Q3(A/B/C) below).

TASK 1: DATA COLLECTION

Q2: RFP pages 10-11: Task 1.3 is an optional Biological Assessment (for formal consultation), and the Contract Deliverables and Timelines section references informal USFWS consultation. Should informal consultation (and its associated timeframe) be used for the project schedule of six months?

A2: Currently the FS anticipates informal consultation. The BA will be provided by FS or FS with GBI help.

Q3A: RFP pages 11-12: Cost for Archaeological/Heritage Assessment (Task 1.4): Should bids [proposals] include a cost for spot checking all the 4500 acres of invalid survey or just the 347 acres of high archaeological sensitivity mentioned on page 11 of the RFP?

Q3B: RFP pages 11-12: Under Task 1.4, how many acres have no previous survey and require an archaeological resource survey?

Q3C: Is field work limited to that related to archaeological resources?

A3(A/B/C): At present the scope of work for the Archaeological/Heritage Assessment is 4,500 ac. of invalid survey needing survey (either previously survey but outdated or not previously surveyed). Mistakenly a previous detail from another RFP was left in the Mosquito RFP. At this time, we do not

have any details on the “high archaeological probability or sensitivity areas) and as shown below those details are removed from the RFP text.

~~Task 1.4: Archaeological/Heritage Assessment (Optional)~~
~~The consultant shall coordinate and verify with the FS archaeologist the final acreage and survey methodology, but in general this task encompasses project areas with no previous survey which will need survey, and areas covered by invalid survey which will need to be spot-checked (spot-checking will involve surveying areas of high archaeological probability--there is a total of approximately 4,500 acres of invalid survey, 347 of that is in high archaeological sensitivity according to FS GIS probability model).~~

At this time this is the only field work. The largest single area of field work may be archeology. GBI does not want consultants to bypass the possibility to propose because they cannot do this area - this is not a disqualifier if you cannot find an archaeological/heritage partner.

TASK 2: MEETINGS

Q4: RFP pages 12-13: Are all IDT meetings anticipated as in-person?

A4: As the RFP indicates the consultant is responsible for establishing a meeting schedule on a recurring basis and locations (methods) with FS personnel.

The FS will rely on a small liaison team to coordinate other FS personnel. Communication with the liaison team is welcome during and between regular meetings and will likely take place through Email, Phone Calls, and Microsoft Teams Calls. Direct communication between resource specialists is likely but all FS IDT members will not be required to attend all regular meetings.

The Monthly IDT meetings are to be determined (TBD). The consultant’s technical approach should elaborate how it anticipates leading these meetings and by what method. It is likely that any weekly/biweekly/monthly meetings would be via Microsoft Teams or Zoom other than the specifically called out one (1) or two (2) field-based meetings (if feasible).

TASK 5: Environmental Assessment, Conduct NEPA Scoping & Facilitate Decision Process

Q5: RFP pages 14-15: Task 5.1 references a public involvement plan. Has GBI or FS developed that plan or is that an environmental planning consultant deliverable? That public involvement plan is not on the deliverables list.

A5: Assume the public involvement plan will be provided by the FS.

SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Q6: RFP page 16: What is driving the August 15, 2024 end date, and is there any flexibility in the schedule?

A6: Timeline was set by FS.