

Applicant Questions and Answers

Related to the NFWF Engineering Support Services Request for Proposals

May 17, 2022

Application Process and Contracting

Q. Is it envisioned that the work covered under the Engineering Support Services will overlap and /or require any interplay with the work awarded for the Technical Field Liaison Support contract?

A. There may be some overlap in that we will be asking the contractor providing Engineering Support Services to review and provide an evaluation of Restoration-Implementation proposals and engineering and design documents. The field liaison contractors may also be asked to provide some proposal review support, but that support will not include the more complex Restoration-Implementation projects where NFWF requires specialized engineering expertise to help us evaluate the technical merits, cost effectiveness, and feasibility of implementing those proposals, as described in the RFP. We do not anticipate that much if any “interplay” will be required between the Field Liaison contractors and the Engineering Support Services contractors, with the exception of training or meetings to discuss proposal review.

Q. Would NFWF entertain award of both the Engineering Support Services contract and the Field Liaison contract to the same firm?

A. Yes – if a firm brought both the qualifications and expertise needed to support the Scope of Work in both solicitations the same firm could be considered for both contracts.

Scope of Work

Q. Is this solicitation to result in a multi-year contract?

A. Yes, we anticipate the period of performance for this contract will be approximately 2 years with an option to renew if available funds permit.

Q. Can any additional detail be provided as to the anticipated workload / number of hours under the contract?

A. Offerors should develop technical proposals that will successfully implement the Scope of Work included in the RFP. In the description of Task 1, we include a description of the anticipated workload to support proposal review. Offerors should include key staff that will be engaged to successfully implement the Scope of Work detailed in their technical approach, including job classifications and hourly rates. This contract will be managed on a Task Order basis. Where NFWF needs engineering support services, a Task Order will be generated and appropriate documentation will be provided for the contractor to estimate the required time and budget needed to complete that task under the contract.

Qualifications

Q. Would you prefer to have a single firm, or a team that has broader national experiences?

A. The NCRF is a national program and the most competitive offers will be able to support the needs of the program across all U.S. coastal areas.

Budget

Q. Can you provide additional guidance on completing the budget on the required template? We are not sure how to provide pricing with not knowing the location (“travel may be required to project location”) and complexity of the project. Did you want any actual “budget” based on the maximum anticipated workload, i.e., “15 projects per year” or just rates by personnel category types?

A. Offerors should develop technical proposals that will successfully implement the Scope of Work included in the RFP. In the description of Task 1, we include a description of the anticipated workload to support proposal review. Offerors should include key staff that will be engaged to successfully implement the Scope of Work detailed in their technical approach, including job classifications and hourly rates. Offeror should assume that some travel will be required and include some budget to cover time for approximately 5 site visits. This contract will be managed on a Task Order basis. Where NFWF needs engineering support services, a Task Order will be generated and appropriate documentation will be provided for the contractor to estimate the required time and budget needed to complete that task under the contract. As an alternative to completing a detailed budget, Offeror could include a rate sheet with job classifications and hourly rate and an estimated range of hours per task based upon the estimated workload included in the RFP.

Q. For the submission of Evidence of Financial Stability information, will NFWF allow for this information to be treated as confidential?

A. Yes, all information the offeror considers proprietary or confidential should be clearly labeled or marked as “Proprietary” and/or “Confidential”

Q. The Contractor budget Template contains a total of five tasks, while the RFP indicates that there are only two tasks associated with the solicitation. Are there additional tasks beyond the two contained in the RFP to which we should be providing pricing?

A. No, please include rates and personnel category types that will be needed to successfully complete the two tasks listed in the Scope of Work.

Conflict of Interest Policies

Q. Are conflicts of interest evaluated for each project?

A. Yes. As we issue Task Orders, we will ask contractors to evaluate any conflicts of interest that may arise in the evaluation of any specific project or projects. See “Eligible Offerors & Conflict of Interest Statement” from RFP for more information.

Q. If we had a subcontractor who has a current NFWF funded project would that constitute a conflict of interest?

A. Not necessarily. Offerors should disclose any potential conflicts in the response to this solicitation. See “Eligible Offerors & Conflict of Interest Statement” from RFP for more information.

Q. If we have clients who have NFWF funded projects, but we are NOT involved would that constitute a conflict of interest?

A. Not necessarily. Offerors should disclose any potential conflicts in the response to this solicitation. See “Eligible Offerors & Conflict of Interest Statement” from RFP for more information.

Q. Once the contract is complete would there be any sort of delay in being able to work on NCRF funded project?

A. A delay is not likely; however, additional information would be needed to properly assess this type of scenario and any potential conflicts of interest. See “Eligible Offerors & Conflict of Interest Statement” from RFP for more information.