

2017
Northern Rockies Pre-proposal Meetings
Q&A

When do the Solicitations close? The Forest Service solicitations are open until March 27th, 2017.

BLM solicitations are due April 28th, 2017. NPS are due by noon April 12, 2017.

How long before you get an answer back from VIPR when you send offer?

Should receive confirmation email shortly after.

Where can I find BLM Solicitations? They are available on the web at fedconnect.net

If we make mistake in VIPR we have time to fix? Yes, but only if you make an offer.

Is LSA –Labor Surplus Area given points? No points are given. (D.6.2.1)

What is needed for inspections and when is it due? Due March 31st, 2017. For the Heavy Equipment- Dozer & Excavators is submittal of clear photos- Right rear corner and Left front corner. For transports submit proof of Carrier or Cargo insurance within last 24 months. (D.16 Pre-Season Inspections)

What training do we need? Reference D.3.1 and Exhibit I

Can obtain training from MOU Training Providers. You also need to meet State and Federal laws.

https://gacc.nifc.gov/nrcc/dispatch/equipment_supplies/agree-contract/agree-contract.htm

Do you have to do the RT-130 training every year?

Yes it is required annually. Not required for award but completed before time of hire.

Do you have to have health card -DOT medical card to drive a transport? In the State of Idaho not required to carry card. Will need to clarify but required for Interstate travel.

If we go to Montana do we need to have health card?

Interstate travel -If you cross state line you need card.

If they call for an assignment and we don't answer how long do we get or will they call back? The center may or may not leave a message but depends on time frame for the incident and ability to meet D&T needed. (D.6.5.1 Dispatching Procedures)

On phone numbers, will they go thru all numbers listed?

Generally dispatch will call all numbers. In VIPR suggest listing the primary/cell number first.

The solicitation doesn't state what Insurance the FEDs require. Is it ok to have Broad form? Standard contract language to maintain adequate liability. Certain Logging Sales may require specific type of coverage. The Solicitations are under the Service Contract Act for Commercial Items. It is a business decision as to how much coverage you get. (C.7 Contractor Liability for Personal Injury and/ or Personal Damage.)

Who are the people who inspect the equipment?

The 3 companies are listed on NRCG website. (C.16 Pre-Award Inspection)

Was this meeting posted on the NRCG Website? Yes

Can a contractor lease equipment? They have to have contractual control over it- tied to a VIN number. If leased pre award and based on VIN it has to be the same number when you get an order and pre-use inspection.

What PTAC is? PTAC stands for Procurement Technical Assistance Centers and located in every state. Funded by tax payer dollars and services are free. If you need help with any type of Government contracts, city, county, state, federal, or military contracts we help all aspects. (B.7 Summary (b))

I can't get into 'interested vendor' online to get updates on contracts? PTAC can assist & need an account for FedBizops. Fedconnect you just look up solicitation.

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What happened to Marty Schmidt? Can he still help me with signing up my equipment?

Yes he will still be writing agreements.

So you can still get an out of area assignment if you're not in VIPR? Yes.

When are you going to solicit for Masticators? We are not soliciting this year. You can sign your equipment up thru Jeff Gardner. The NRCG board and Operations decide as to when it may be solicited.

What is Double shift ability? In VIPR you define if you have ability to provide double shift coverage.

How is double shift defined? Must be documented on the order that double shift is required. Two operators 165 % of rate & ordered as double shift. Two operational periods in 24 hour period whatever calendar day it pays a double shift.

Is a shift based on 16 hour?

Normally 12 hour shift but could be 16 hours. Maximum work for individual is 16 hrs.

If ordered and a few days later the incident decides double shift needed? On schedule of items double shift is marked. Vendor has ability to do it or not. Operator maybe added if it is marked for double shift.

We order double shift then go back to single how does that work?

Next calendar day will reflect single shift.

Can someone explain Dispatch Priority List (DPL) vs Resource List (RL)? DPL is more of a formal process, factors in advantage points, attributes like a 6-way blade, gallons, horse power, etc. along with price and develops the DPL from #1, 2, and 3 so on. When #1 is released and available they may go out again. RL typically is the closest, cheapest to the incident.

Is the Dispatch Priority List using the closest to the incident? No

T2 Crews in the Region? Can contact Wanemah Hulett of The MT-DNRC if you have a crew.

How do we sign up for Rental Vehicles? Sign up in Vendor section on DNRC website to get notification when it opens. [websitehttp://dnrc.mt.gov/divisions/forestry/fire-and-aviation/fire-business/vendor-bulletin-board-informational-update](http://dnrc.mt.gov/divisions/forestry/fire-and-aviation/fire-business/vendor-bulletin-board-informational-update)

Is Hand wash and Toilets open yet? No. They are on 3 year agreements now.

What are the requirements for the Faller? Resume showing experience, 3 years of commercial experience or on wildfire incidents, RT-130, and arduous WCT. (D3.1 Training/Experience & D.16 Inspections)

For Ambulance/EMT resources can we status them nationally in ROSS?

No- only available to State of Montana.

For the Weed Wash is there an inspection if we had an agreement? There will be an inspection.

All Equipment not on an agreement that we offered last year do we need to resubmit the information to Jeff Gardner? Jeff has all information until you let him know it is no longer available.

Mechanic w/service truck what is definition of qualified mechanic? Submit a resume. Based on level and years of experience. (D.3.1 Training/Experience and Exhibit J.)

Why is it not in solicitation to have tire changing ability? How do we know to have that as an option? Tire changing is not required in the solicitation.

Are we required to have photos for Mechanic truck? Can submit photos if you want. Not required. Resume, experience, transcripts required (D.16 inspections, Pre-Award Submittal)

Can I submit a website for my experience documentation? You must submit documentation for experience. Evaluations, resume etc. that will go into your file.

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BLM terms of agreement would it be 1 or 3 years? Good for 1 year for now so CO can get warrant.

Do photos need to be redone for this year? For the BLM If they were from last year they are still good.

Is last year's solicitations over? Yes. BLM decided not to utilize the option years and resolicit this year.

Those who have had inspection in 2016 can submit inspections from last year. Anything modified or new requires inspection. (C.16 Pre-Award Inspection)

For Fuel Tenders if we had the inspection last year can we still use that? Yes.

For T3 Caterer are there changes to the fire extinguisher suppression requirements on the exhaust hood? No changes this year. (C.2.1.1 Mobile Food Service Unit, 5. Ventilation Equipment, C.)

For Gray Water what do you mean GVWR/GAWR on 6 page 6 TANK CAPACITY SHALL BE PERMANENTLY MODIFIED TO MEET MANUFACTURERS GVWR/GAWR AND OVERFLOW DEVICES SHALL

NOT BE ALLOWED? Basically when the tank is permanently mounted and full you don't exceed any of the DOT or manufacture ratings. We are not allowing over flow pipe to be at 60% capacity to keep under axle rating.

Is the Potable Water a best value contract? It is based on best value and an agreement not a contract.

Is Potable Water Trucks on VIPR? Not in the Northern Region. It is BLM. In the Region the work load is split among agencies. Forest Service has tactical resources, BLM, FWP and MT-DNRC have logistical equipment. All agencies accept the others resources.

How is best value determined and how is the DPL generated?

For Potable Water it is price driven because there are no attributes.

My 3,600 gallon potable water truck is cheaper gallons than a 2,200 gallon truck so there is no advantage to having a bigger T2 potable water truck?

No the priority list is priced at a daily rate and that rate sets the DPL.

On Potable Water – pertaining to Pumps- wording of food grade pumps should be changed to something like 'suitable for potable us' or something? Pumps listed as food grade the company will not certify pumps as food grade. They will certify for potable use. All materials on pumps are good for food grade. Can someone take on this issue about pumps? Can add pumps to list- amendment

Food grade tank has no baffles? The language mirrors the wording in the VIPR Solicitation. The wording in the BLM Solicitation states food grade materials. (C.2.2 Contractor Provided Equipment 4.Pumps)The issue needs to be addressed nationally but will take longer then they cycle of this solicitation.

Last year there was baffles required in the tank for PWT. Do we need those? No baffle language in this solicitation. They are not required.

Can transport that is with equipment be on stand-alone solicitation? Yes- must meet requirements of solicitation. Required to have Carrier and Cargo Insurance and VIN/Serial number identified for the trailer.

For Transports that haul piece of equipment- is there not inspection for the transport?

Generally do OF-296 if kept on the incident.

How about value of cargo insurance? Should cover value of what is being hauled.

2017
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Q&A

Once transport is on scene does it stay the whole time? If it comes w/Heavy Equipment it is one package. Incident will decide to keep the transport or not. With standalone transport on an incident it will haul other pieces of equipment.

Is a transport used specifically for the dozer?

You can use any transport & pass inspection- legally able to transport the piece of equipment.

After we get awarded what if we change trailer? Has to be like or better and do a mod. Cannot change Type. Transport is awarded on weight. (D.22 replacement of Resources)

Do excavators have to have thumb? Either clamshell bucket or thumb. (D.2.1.2, Excavators, 3)

If have photos for our equipment from in 2014 will that work? New solicitation so new photos.

Do Excavators require screens? Required to have screens or bars over the front of the cab. (D.2.1.2 Equipment Requirements – Excavators)

Excavators attach screens or bars to certified structure? Forestry packages are available that attach.

How do you determine 'qualified' operator?

It is up to owner of company to provide experienced operators.

Can we submit our evaluations with the photos? Yes

Is Dozer tied to transport? You can use any transport that can legally transport the piece of equipment and pass inspections –Safety/DOT. (D.2.2 Transportation)

Are we required to have screens on dozer? Must have Falling Object Protection (FOPS) and Roll-Over Protection Structures (ROPS) that meet OSHA requirements. . Back window screened and sides must come up over the shoulder of the operator. (D.2.1.2 Equipment Requirements) No cutting, welding or drilling on the canopy. Recommend clamping or brackets around the structure

If you have Dozer with closed cab do you still need screens? Yes

On my dozer I leave screens on back but take sides off for other jobs do I need to have them on?

Have them showing in the photos.

Can the Fire extinguisher be bungeed to canopy? It must not rattle around. States must be securely mounted and annual inspection tag. (D.2.1.2 Equipment Requirements)

Do we need to have both bars and screens? One or the other is required.

Are Radios required? Only required for tractor plows which are not solicited for in the Northern Rockies.

With an enclosed cab on dozers are sweeps or upright guards required? Pillars required forward of operator. Forward pillar will be considered deflector. Sweeps are additional and not required.

Any Fabrication on a cab has to be signed off? If attaching screens no cutting, welding, look to clamp on. Technically if you do you have to get recertified.

Older machines have welded bars on canopy for chains does that kick you out? There were also hand held added for safety of operator getting in and out.

Advise not to weld or cut on ROPS. There are a few that do exist.

Typing on Dozers may change in the future is that also with excavators?

No. But doesn't mean it may not happen. NWCG is looking at dozer typing.