

2018
Northern Rockies Pre-proposal Meetings
Q&A

Can we upload our photos in VIPR? No. Submittals are due by listed date & time and may be mailed to Contacting Officer at the address listed in Block 9 of the cover or scanned and emailed.
(D.16-Pre-Season Inspections)

Is email acceptable? Yes (D.16-Pre-Season Inspections)

How long does it take to get HUBZone Certified? Contact your local SBA office. Will not be able to offer the certification unless you have been certified. May submit in the yearly roll-over if certified late.

Is there any way of getting around an employee signing for the final payment? Work with your operator to communicate with the Incident finance for options– options maybe email or fax invoice for final signature. (D.13 –Contractor’s Representative)

Is the Road graders pricing available? 2017 awards are posted on NRCG website.

For HETF does saw type matter on the Buncher? For HETF the saw may be either bar saw equipped or rotating disc equipped. Must be capable of bunching several stems in a bundle.
(D2.1.1.2-Minimum Equipment Requirements)

HETF-Is the Foreman included in the 4 to 6 pieces? No

HETF- What if we are ordered and they want a excavator and we don’t have one, can we still go? No. If you do not have the option items and the order is for option you wouldn’t qualify.

HETF- Are all pieces required to have pictures sent in? No. Submit Company experience documentation and identify HETF Foreman.
(D.2.1.1.11 Offer instructions and Submittals: C) Hard-copy Pre-award Submittals: 1.)

HETF-Is inspections done on each piece? Yes- Pre- Use at arranged site.
(D.17-Incident Pre-use Inspection)

Is only a T2 Dozer the only type acceptable type on the HETF? Yes. The pricing and capability is based on a T2 Dozer.

Dozer Blade required for HETF? 6 way blade (PAT) or manual angle with hydraulic tilt.
(D2.1.1 Norther Rockies Heavy Equipment Task Force)

HETF-Is there a button in VIPR we can pick to add the HETF as a resource? In the Resources wizard you must select the Generic resource group. Follow instructions under D.2.2.22 Offer Instructions and Submittals

Is there a gallon capacity for the skidgine? Minimum of 200 gallons
(D.2.1.1.2-Minimum Equipment requirements)

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HETF- is there a time limit for Ops to call for a substitution of the equipment? There is no time frame specified.

Can equipment from Region 4 put in for HETF? Designated City and state has to be located within 450 miles to selected dispatch center. (D.5.1- Host Dispatch Center Selection)

Will RT-130 be recognized from another Region? R1 accepts other regional certification documents (Exhibit I)

Will Masticators go out of region? Yes -under VIPR agreement they can be.

Is there a specification for grinding with the masticator? No specs given for grinding material. Based on operational needs.

If masticator has Poly protection do they also need the guards? It will need to meet the ISO standards. If it is a construction based machine it will require guarding or be able to demonstrate that the polycarbonate provides comparable protection if not used in combination with bars and or screens.

On the boom mounted Masticator are you looking at disc or rotary drum style? Not specified.

Can you have lexan instead of screens? If you can show it meets standards required for feller buncher.

Is there more than one type for the masticators? Yes 3 types.
(D.2.1.1-Minimum Equipment Requirements)

What paper work should our resources carry with them? Copy of current agreement, payment-finance copies. Workmen's comp documentation, insurance etc.

Where are the BLM Solicitations? They are posted on FedConnect. The info is also posted on NRCG site- Contracting updates.

Would you post ceiling limits for equipment prices? Government is required to determine a fair and reasonable price through a government estimate process for all new awards; the government estimate is not public information. Past award prices for equipment have been posted for NR.

How is pricing established? Government estimate considers commercial rate/cost. Estimate is fair and reasonable price. The Government estimate as well as past pricing data establishes the basis for a fair and reasonable price.

When my equipment is being used for something different should notation be made on shift ticket? A resource should never be used outside of the scope of Section D of the award (resource specifications) If an incident would like to use a resource differently an incident only agreement would need to be entered into establishing the new specification; a new resource order should be issued also.

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When we are asked to park our equipment at night usually they ask if I feel comfortable parking it there for the night and I ask them if I should feel comfortable parking it who is liable if it gets burned over? The government should direct equipment to park in a reasonably protected, fire safe area.

What about a feller buncher -if has a quick change and you can throw a masticating head on it? It would be out of the scope of the agreement if you're ordered on a feller buncher agreement. You would have to be ordered under a new E#/agreement. EERA or Masticator agreement.

Can you switch back & forth? Yes if you have an agreement that covers the operation of both functions.

The vehicle towing chipper or towing a truck behind-will inspections not done on that vehicle? Should have an OF-296 safety inspection if it is part of the operation.

Can chipper be self-propelled? Yes also can be boom fed. (D2.11 Minimum Equipment Requirements)

If my chipper is 300+ HP will I be out of pricing? Submit your offer and will see what the govt. estimate is. You may or may not be able to operate at the price. You would then go on the source list.

Are self-feeding chippers required to have 2 operators? 2-person crew is an OSHA requirement, and is required for award. (D.2.1.1 Minimum Equipment Requirements)

Are chipper operators fireline qualified? RT-130 & WCT-light are required.
(D.3.1-training/Experience & D.16 Personnel requirements)

Does Chipper include truck to haul it? Yes that should be included in your pricing

Do chippers require saws/sawyers? Nothing in solicitation requires sawing or sawyer operation. Expectation of the government is your operating as a chipper and they should provide saw operations.

Send photos of chipper safety bars in? Photo submission required. (D.16-PreSeason Inspections)

Will chipper be inspected? Yes (D.17-Incident Pre-Use Inspection)

Are ROPS & FOPS required on Heavy Equipment? Yes. OSHA requirements. Specifications in the solicitation. No welding cutting or modify original frame. (D.2.1.1 Minimum Equipment Requirements)

Does guarding have to be certified? No. It cannot comprise the original structure, cut or modify.

On Heavy Equipment solicitation do we have to submit exhibit M? D.16 lists the submittal requirements.

Any consideration for Forestry Tractors-grinding heads? Everything in the NR has to be tracked machine.
(D.2.1.1-Minimum Equipment Requirements)

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Do you want to see the drug & alcohol policy for the company? Government is recommending you have one in place for your employees. If you have a problem the discussion will be what your company policy is. Not asking for it unless there is a problem.

Employees are drug tested and pass, then go on a fire. What happens if they are tested by the incident and comes back dirty and we have done what we were supposed to do?

In Section C there is additional protocol to deal drug and alcohol issues that occur on an incident. Personnel behavior on incident is the responsibility of the company. It is your company owner's responsibility for behavior. (C.12-NRCG Drug and Alcohol Protocol & D.19.1-Incident Behavior also Exhibit H-Geographic Area Terms)

The inspections done last year for the T3 caterers are they good this year? If no changes were made to the previous equipment on agreement then the previous inspection will be accepted. Brand new contractors need inspections completed.

Last year Potable Water Trucks were weighed. Will previous weights be accepted?

New vendors or equipment changes will have to have new weight.

For weights is it still GVWR rating? Yes- both GVWR and axle ratings must be adhered to.

Are PPE required for gray & potable water? No. Not a fireline resource 99% of time is in camp. Must meet OSHA regs.

Can we start inspecting resources for the BLM solicitations or do we have to wait until after the closing dates? Inspections can begin 3/1/18.

How can I get my resource signed up? If your resource is not already on a current agreement you can send in the info to get on the source list. The Vendor Source List Memo is on the website. You can also go to your local MT-DNRC office and get on their list.

Any Pump changes on Potable Water? Nationally- required to be certified pump. If a Pacer pump they are trying to get certified and if you can get Pacer to say it is food grade quality. We can no longer give approval on pumps.

Is there approved list of food grade pumps? Not at this time.

BLM Potable Water Solicitation asks for photos of impeller. On my pump any dismantling will void the warranty but have paperwork saying it is food grade pump. Submit the documentation for food grade pump and inspection makes note of pump condition.

Is this paper work on the pumps going to be given to inspectors? No. Submit to CO.

If I sign up as T 1 or 2 grader & sell one & pull it can unit be sold with the agreement?

Individual equipment can be replaced on an agreement; it must be "like for like or better". A novation of an agreement is possible with the sale of the company, but an agreement cannot be transferred to a new company with just the sale of an individual piece of equipment.