

2. AMENDMENT/MODIFICATION NO. 0001	3. EFFECTIVE DATE 03/7/2023	4. REQUISITION/PURCHASE REQ. NO.	5. PROJECT NO. (If applicable)
6. ISSUED BY USDA FPAC Business Center Western Section FPAC-HQ-12FPC3@usda.gov	CODE FPAC-HQ-12FPC3	7. ADMINISTERED BY (If other than Item 6) FPAC BUS CNTR-ACQUISITION DIV-TX Fort Worth Federal Center 501 W. Felix St., Building 23 Fort Worth TX 76115-3404	CODE FPAC-HQ-APD-TX

8. NAME AND ADDRESS OF CONTRACTOR (No., street, county, State and ZIP Code)	(x)	9A. AMENDMENT OF SOLICITATION NO. 12FPC323Q0005
	x	9B. DATED (SEE ITEM 11) 02/14/2023
		10A. MODIFICATION OF CONTRACT/ORDER NO.
		10B. DATED (SEE ITEM 13)
CODE		FACILITY CODE

11. THIS ITEM ONLY APPLIES TO AMENDMENTS OF SOLICITATIONS

The above numbered solicitation is amended as set forth in Item 14. The hour and date specified for receipt of Offers is extended. is not extended. Offers must acknowledge receipt of this amendment prior to the hour and date specified in the solicitation or as amended, by one of the following methods: (a) By completing Items 8 and 15, and returning 1 copies of the amendment; (b) By acknowledging receipt of this amendment on each copy of the offer submitted; or (c) By separate letter or electronic communication which includes a reference to the solicitation and amendment numbers. FAILURE OF YOUR ACKNOWLEDGEMENT TO BE RECEIVED AT THE PLACE DESIGNATED FOR THE RECEIPT OF OFFERS PRIOR TO THE HOUR AND DATE SPECIFIED MAY RESULT IN REJECTION OF YOUR OFFER. If by virtue of this amendment you desire to change an offer already submitted, such change may be made by letter or electronic communication, provided each letter or electronic communication makes reference to the solicitation and this amendment, and is received prior to the opening hour and date specified.

12. ACCOUNTING AND APPROPRIATION DATA (If required)

13. THIS ITEM ONLY APPLIES TO MODIFICATION OF CONTRACTS/ORDERS. IT MODIFIES THE CONTRACT/ORDER NO. AS DESCRIBED IN ITEM 14.

CHECK ONE	A. THIS CHANGE ORDER IS ISSUED PURSUANT TO: (Specify authority) THE CHANGES SET FORTH IN ITEM 14 ARE MADE IN THE CONTRACT ORDER NO. IN ITEM 10A.
	B. THE ABOVE NUMBERED CONTRACT/ORDER IS MODIFIED TO REFLECT THE ADMINISTRATIVE CHANGES (such as changes in paying office, appropriation data, etc.) SET FORTH IN ITEM 14, PURSUANT TO THE AUTHORITY OF FAR 43.103(b).
	C. THIS SUPPLEMENTAL AGREEMENT IS ENTERED INTO PURSUANT TO AUTHORITY OF:
	D. OTHER (Specify type of modification and authority)

E. IMPORTANT: Contractor is not is required to sign this document and return _____ copies to the issuing office.

14. DESCRIPTION OF AMENDMENT/MODIFICATION (Organized by UCF section headings, including solicitation/contract subject matter where feasible.)

Fence Removal and Installation - MaryAnne Chapman Wetland Reserve Easement - Weippe, Clearwater County, Idaho.

The purpose of this amendment is to transmit Q&A notes of the site visit.

Except as provided herein, all terms and conditions of the document referenced in Item 9 A or 10A, as heretofore changed, remains unchanged and in full force and effect.

15A. NAME AND TITLE OF SIGNER (Type or print)	16A. NAME AND TITLE OF CONTRACTING OFFICER (Type or print) LAUREEN M. EIPP
15B. CONTRACTOR/OFFEROR <i>(Signature of person authorized to sign)</i>	15C. DATE SIGNED
	16B. UNITED STATES OF AMERICA <i>(Signature of Contracting Officer)</i>
	16C. DATE SIGNED

Fence Removal and Installation - MaryAnne Chapman Wetland Reserve Easement
- Weippe, Clearwater County, Idaho
February 28, 2023

12FPC323Q0005 – Weippe, ID

The items discussed at this pre-bid conference and site visit are intended to highlight certain items. Not all items are covered. Those in the solicitation that are not covered are just as important and binding as those that are. Also, any statements that are made during this meeting which conflict with or are not stated in the solicitation are not binding. Any discrepancies between information provided during the site showing and the solicitation should be raised by a prospective bidder to the contracting officer immediately for resolution. Only the contents of the solicitation (including amendments thereto) are binding upon submission of a quote and award of a contract.

A Firm Fixed Price Construction Contract will be awarded under simplified acquisition procedures. This is not a Sealed Bid – it is a **Request for Quotes**.

Work is set aside for Small Business - under NAICS Code 238990 - Size Standard is \$16.5 million average annual gross receipts averaged over 3 years.

The magnitude of work for the project is between \$25,000 and \$100,000.

Department of Labor, Construction Wage Rates Apply – FAR Clause 52.222-6 and must be paid to all employees working on site under the contract (attachment to solicitation) – Must submit **weekly** certified payrolls – thru COR. Employees will be interviewed to verify wages being paid.

Prospective awardee MUST be registered in the SAM database prior to award and maintain as Active throughout contract performance.

Performance Time for this project is:
42 calendar days

This time includes the entire time between the start date which is the date of the notice to proceed and all the way through completion of the work and site cleanup. The maximum workweek that will be approved is 10 hours per day, Monday through Saturday (pages 9 of solicitation package).

Liquidated Damages will not be assessed. However, the government retains the right to obtain actual damages for any harm due to failure to perform thru the Default clause.

Upon contract award, the successful offeror will have 10 calendar days to provide alternative payment protection in the form of either a payment bond (SF-25A), irrevocable letter of credit (ILC), or tripartite agreement. Contractors that elect to

provide an ILC requirements must follow the requirements as prescribed in FAR 52.228-14.

QUOTES must be received by email to – elrick.lounds@usda.gov :

3:00 p.m local time, March 15, 2023 for the MaryAnn Chapman Site – 12FPC322Q0005

Return:

SF1442 – pages 1-3

- Complete Blocks 14-20a and sign in block 20b and date in block 20c.

Schedule – page 4

- Enter an amount for each line item, unit price, extended price and total quote amount. **Do Not** round numbers.
- Enter Name of Company submitting quote and DUNS #.

Section K – pages 30-36

- Be sure to check appropriate option in FAR clause 52.204-8.

Variation in Estimated Quantities – FAR Clause 52.211-18 is included in this solicitation. For quantities that vary more than 15% more or less than the estimated quantity, the contractor or government can request an equitable adjustment in the contract price. Otherwise, accepted unit prices and actual quantities will be used to calculate final cost.

Buy American Act-Construction – This solicitation includes the provision 52.225-10 and clause 52.225-9 - all construction materials used by the contractor shall be domestic (U.S.).

A preconstruction meeting will be held with contractor prior to issuing notice to proceed to review equipment, permit requirements, safety plan, first aid certifications, construction schedule, contractor superintendent, etc.

Site of Performance:

- Safety Requirements, Including Underground Utilities

Safety is #1 priority. OSHA Regulations and in addition NRCS Supplement to OSHA is found in Section H of contract package – beginning on page 14. Please review and pay careful attention.

- Must demonstrate you have a safety program commensurate with the work to be performed. Required to submit written safety plan for approval prior to starting work.
- **MUST** have on site **at all times** an employee who has a current first aid certificate from the Red Cross, the Mine Safety & Health Administration or any

other state approved organization. Copies of certification must be supplied by successful contractor prior to issuance of Notice to Proceed.

- Items of Work for Selected Specifications (COR)
 - Construction specification 1- Clearing
 - Item 8- Items of work and construction details
 - Construction specification 6- Seeding, sprigging, and mulching
 - Item 7- Items of work and construction details
 - Construction specification 8- Mobilization and Demobilization
 - Item 4 – Items of work and construction details

- Contractor Quality Control (COR)
 - See page 7- Solicitation clause 52.246-12 Inspection of Construction
 - (a) Definition- “Work” includes, but is not limited to, materials, workmanship, and manufacture and fabrication of components.

- NRCS Quality Assurance (COR)
 - Refer to clause 52.246-12 Inspection of Construction
 - To assure quality assurance, NRCS will provide an inspector on site during the duration of the EWP project

- Erosion, Sedimentation and Pollution Control Requirements (COR)
 - Erosion, sedimentation, and pollution control (NPDES) permit is only needed if the section that is currently working on cannot be stabilized and completed within 14 days of commencement

- Surveying/Site Layout (COR)
 - NRCS has pre-marked the site’s staging areas, beginning and ending of the project’s clearing limits

- Ingress/Egress Roads (COR)
 - Refer to the construction approved drawings for access for the ingress/egress of the project

- Work Limits (COR)

Refer to the construction approved drawings for the work limits. The work limit is to allow the contractor to work around areas that they would need additional access

 - Refer to the construction approved drawings for the work limits of the project

- Clearing Limits (COR)
 - Refer to the construction approved drawings for the clearing limits. Clearing limits measurements can be determine from using a tape measure and measured from the center of the creek. Refer to the approved construction drawings for width distance from the center of the creek. Within this clearing limits, the work shall consist of clearing and disposal of trees, snags, logs, brush, shrubs, stump, and rubbish
 - For additional information see Construction Specification 1- Clearing

- Utilities (COR)
 - The Ohio Utilities Protection Service, OUPS, information that is on the approved construction drawings are that of NRCS made during the planning phase
 - When the contact is awarded, after the pre-construction meeting is held, the contractor is expected to call OUPS, and obtain a project ticket identification number, this ticket number is needed to be provided to NRCS before the project can begin (Notice to Proceed letter, NTP).

Payment will be made within 14 days - upon completion and final inspection/acceptance of work by Government, submission of all weekly certified payrolls and proper invoice.

Quoters will be notified of results as soon as possible. Award is anticipated right away with work to begin just as soon as possible.

All questions should be presented in writing to the contracting specialist, Elrick Lounds, at elrick.lounds@usda.gov by 3:00 pm Local Time on March 3, 2023. All Q&A and notes from this site visit and project will be posted with an amendment to the solicitation as soon as possible.

Remarks and explanations at this conference **SHALL NOT** qualify the terms of the solicitation.

12FPC323Q0005 - MARYANN CHAPMAN WRP FENCE REPAIR

Questions and Answers

1. Question about the post sizes – discrepancies between documents – by clicking on the link above and attached – the document titled “S01 - Attachment 2 Specs 12FPC323Q0005.pdf” contains the practice standard for the fence installation.

Wood Posts. Line posts shall have a minimum top diameter of 3 inches and shall be a minimum of 6 feet in length. Corner, gate and brace posts shall have a minimum top diameter of 5 inches and shall be a minimum of 7 feet in length. Braces shall have a minimum top diameter of 4 inches and shall be a minimum of 6 feet in length.
2. Wire requirement – A question was asked if we required a certain brand of wire. The Practice Standard only requires the following:

Barbed Wire. Barbed wire shall be composed of two strands of 12.5-gauge zinc coated wire wrapped around each other, with 2-point 14 gauge barbs spaced no more than 5 inches apart conforming to ASTM A 121. Smooth Wire. Smooth wire shall be a single steel wire of 9-gauge or heavier, two wrapped strands of 12.5-gauge or heavier wire or 12.5-gauge or heavier hi-tensile wire. Wire shall have a minimum tensile strength of 45,000 psi. Wire Panel Fasteners. Staples shall be 9-gauge or heavier and have a minimum length of 1.5 inches, except 1.0 inch staples are allowed on very hard woods. Fasteners for use with steel posts shall be 12- gauge or heavier zinc coated wire.
3. Disturbance – what are the requirements for soil disturbance? In the same document for the two above questions it states:

Work shall be completed at a time when site conditions are dry enough to allow for minimal soils disturbance from equipment and construction activities. If large areas of bare mineral soil are exposed, contractor will be responsible for remediating such damage. It is understood that some disturbance will be unavoidable as a part of construction activities.

Attached is a recommended seed mix suitable for broadcast seeding over bare mineral soil
4. H Brace removal was stated as a per hour contract item.

We have spoken to our grants specialist and they are going to make the correction to per unit.
5. Davis Bacon wage determination – there was no fence installation as a job
We have confirmed that it is Laborer: Common or General.
6. Stream Crossings Distances approximate
 - a. North Side
 - i. West 26 feet
 - ii. East 30 feet
 - b. South Side
 - i. West 55 feet
 - ii. South 30 feet
7. In the solicitation, it keeps referring to "field fence" generally speaking field fence is woven net wire....So I just want to make sure it's removing barbed/smooth wire as it states in other parts of the solicitation.

The solicitation is referring to the removal of barbed/smooth wire fence.
8. Is partial payment available on this project as it's pretty tough for an actual small business to carry 30-60k in material costs these days during the project?

No, partial payment is not available for this project. Each bid item will be separately measured and certified by NRCS staff upon completion of all work to ensure that work complies with the specifications.

9. Besides the stream crossings, is there solid ground access to the rest of the fence line with a tracked machine? When reading the solicitation it sounds like it's a marshy area, but google earth shows a more solid ground/timbered-type area with small creek crossings.

Work shall be completed at a time when site conditions are dry enough to allow for minimal soils disturbance from equipment and construction activities. This is a wetland easement but conditions should dry enough for minimal disturbance.

10. It states that the current fence has been sinking to where cattle can easily cross the fence line now, how far down below the ground surface has the wire/posts sunk? Should they still be able to be removed with machinery?

Unknown as to how far some fence posts have sunk down. All T-posts will be removed from the fence line. It is recommended that replacement of any structure this is deteriorated enough so as to prevent adequate support and tightening of wires.

11. Is it possible for pictures to be taken of the area/fence when the site visit is being conducted and to have those added to the solicitation?

Pictures will be sent in a separate email

12. Is there semi-truck access in the work area to be able to unload 800+ wood posts etc?

Musselshell Rd seems adequate.

13. I saw where there was a question asked about if posts can be pushed in with an excavator, I assume they can also be driven with a hydraulic post pounder?

The method in which you choose to install the posts is up to the contractor. As long as it meets the practice standard mentioned above.

14. Can the contractor camp onsite during construction?

No

15. I didn't see any mention of gates, just creek crossings. Are there any gates to be installed?

No gates are to be installed. There are 5 gates between the north and south properties for access.























