STATE OF ALASKA
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

CARBON OFFSET CONSULTING SERVICES
RFP 2022 1000 4963
ISSUED SEPTEMBER 14, 2021

ISSUED BY:
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
COMMISSIONER’S OFFICE

PRIMARY CONTACT:
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PROCUREMENT OFFICER
SHAWN.OLSEN@ALASKA.GOV
(907) 269-8687

OFFERORS ARE NOT REQUIRED TO RETURN THIS FORM.

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SECTION 1. INTRODUCTION & INSTRUCTIONS

SEC. 1.01 PURPOSE OF THE RFP
Department of Natural Resources, Commissioner’s Office, is soliciting proposals for a qualified contractor to provide as-needed carbon offset consulting services. The State is seeking external consulting expertise to aid the department in its investigation. Specifically, the State is seeking a consultant with experience and expertise in the assessment of carbon sequestration projects and the development and marketing of carbon offset credits. The State specifically seeks to evaluate forestry-based carbon credit opportunities, along with any other feasible carbon offset opportunities utilizing State lands (e.g., peatland, kelp, biochar, etc.). A more detailed description of services is provided in Section 3 Scope of Work & Contract Information.

SEC. 1.02 BUDGET
Department of Natural Resources, Commissioner’s Office, estimates an initial budget of $50,000 for the preliminary evaluation of carbon offset feasibility project. The budget amount is an estimate and does not represent a work commitment. The not to exceed amount for the life of the contract is $500,000.00. The State does not guarantee any minimum or maximum number of services to be provided or dollar amount to be spent under any contract resulting from this RFP. Services provided throughout the contract period will be on an as-needed basis.

Cost Proposals will be evaluated on the Total Hourly Rate listed on Attachment 3 Cost Proposal.

Approval or continuation of a contract resulting from this RFP is contingent upon legislative appropriation.

SEC. 1.03 DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT OF PROPOSALS
Proposals must be received no later than 2:00 PM prevailing Alaska Time on OCTOBER 5, 2021. Late proposals or amendments will be disqualified and not opened or accepted for evaluation.

SEC. 1.04 PRIOR EXPERIENCE
In order for offers to be considered responsive, offerors must meet these minimum prior experience requirements:

- Demonstrated experience developing approved carbon offset projects in the forestry or geology sector.
- Demonstrated experience with carbon offset registries, including verification and certification.
- Demonstrated expertise and graduate level training in natural resource sciences, such as forestry, geology, ecology.

An offeror’s failure to meet these minimum prior experience requirements will cause their proposal to be considered non-responsive and rejected.
SEC. 1.05 REQUIRED REVIEW
Offerors should carefully review this solicitation for defects and questionable or objectionable material. Comments concerning defects and questionable or objectionable material should be made in writing and received by the procurement officer at least five days before the deadline for receipt of proposals. This will allow time for the issuance of any necessary amendments. It will also help prevent the opening of a defective proposal and exposure of offeror’s proposals upon which award could not be made.

SEC. 1.06 QUESTIONS PRIOR TO DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT OF PROPOSALS
All questions must be in writing and directed to the procurement officer. The interested party must confirm telephone conversations in writing.

Two types of questions generally arise. One may be answered by directing the questioner to a specific section of the RFP, which may be answered over the telephone. Other questions may be more complex and may require a written amendment to the RFP. The procurement officer will make that decision.

Questions are due by 2:00 PM Alaska Time, September 23, 2021.

Procurement Officer: Shawn M. Olsen – Phone: (907) 269-8687 – TDD: (907) 269-8411 Email: shawn.olsen@alaska.gov.

SEC. 1.07 RETURN INSTRUCTIONS
If submitting a proposal via email, the technical proposal and cost proposal must be saved as separate PDF documents and emailed to shawn.olsen@alaska.gov as separate, clearly labeled attachments, such as “Vendor A – Technical Proposal.pdf” and “Vendor A – Cost Proposal.pdf” (Vendor A is the name of the offeror). The email must contain the RFP number in the subject line.

The maximum size of a single email (including all text and attachments) that can be received by the State is 20mb (megabytes). If the email containing the proposal exceeds this size, the proposal must be sent in multiple emails that are each less than 20 megabytes and each email must comply with the requirements described above.

Please note that email transmission is not instantaneous. Similar to sending a hard copy proposal, if you are emailing your proposal, the State recommends sending it enough ahead of time to ensure the email is delivered by the deadline for receipt of proposals.

If submitting proposals using U.S. mail, or delivery service, offerors must submit one hard copy of their proposal, in writing, to the procurement officer in a sealed package. The cost proposal included with the package must be sealed separately from the rest of the proposal and must be clearly identified. The sealed proposal package(s) must be addressed as follows:

Department of Natural Resources
Procurement Section
Attention: Shawn M. Olsen
Request for Proposal (RFP) Number: 2022 1000 4963
RFP Title: As Needed Carbon Offset Consulting Services
550 West 7th Avenue, Suite 1330
Anchorage, Alaska 99501
It is the offeror’s responsibility to contact the issuing agency at (907) 269–8687 to confirm that the proposal has been received. The State is not responsible for unreadable, corrupt, or missing attachments.

SEC. 1.08   ENROLLMENT IN IRIS
Offerors will be required to be enrolled in the State of Alaska’s Integrated Resource Information System (IRIS) database prior to award of a contract resulting from this RFP. Enrollment can be done online at the following link: https://iris-vss.alaska.gov/webapp/PRDVSS1X1/AltSelfService. Offerors who are not enrolled prior to award of a contract will be notified by DNR Procurement. Failure of an offeror to enroll in the IRIS database will delay award of the contract and may delay issuance of contract work.

SEC. 1.09   PROPOSAL CONTENTS
The following information must be included in all proposals.

(a) AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE
All proposals must be signed by an individual authorized to bind the offeror to the provisions of the RFP. Proposals must remain open and valid for at least 90-days from the date set as the deadline for receipt of proposals.

(b) OFFEROR’S CERTIFICATION
By signature on the proposal, offerors certify that they comply with the following:

A. the laws of the State of Alaska;
B. the applicable portion of the Federal Civil Rights Act of 1964;
C. the Equal Employment Opportunity Act and the regulations issued thereunder by the federal government;
D. the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and the regulations issued thereunder by the federal government;
E. all terms and conditions set out in this RFP;
F. a condition that the proposal submitted was independently arrived at, without collusion, under penalty of perjury; and
G. that the offers will remain open and valid for at least 90 days.

If any offeror fails to comply with [a] through [g] of this paragraph, the State reserves the right to disregard the proposal, terminate the contract, or consider the Contractor in default.

(c) VENDOR TAX ID
A valid Vendor Tax ID must be submitted to the issuing office with the proposal or within five days of the State’s request.
(d) CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Each proposal shall include a statement indicating whether or not the firm or any individuals working on the contract has a possible conflict of interest (e.g., currently employed by the State of Alaska or formerly employed by the State of Alaska within the past two years) and, if so, the nature of that conflict. The procurement officer reserves the right to consider a proposal non-responsive and reject it or cancel the award if any interest disclosed from any source could either give the appearance of a conflict or cause speculation as to the objectivity of the contract to be performed by the offeror.

SEC. 1.10 ASSISTANCE TO OFFERORS WITH A DISABILITY

Offerors with a disability may receive accommodation regarding the means of communicating this RFP or participating in the procurement process. For more information, contact the procurement officer no later than 10 days prior to the deadline for receipt of proposals.

SEC. 1.11 AMENDMENTS TO PROPOSALS

Amendments to or withdrawals of proposals will only be allowed if acceptable requests are received prior to the deadline that is set for receipt of proposals. No amendments or withdrawals will be accepted after the deadline unless they are in response to the State's request in accordance with 2 AAC 12.290.

SEC. 1.12 AMENDMENTS TO THE RFP

If an amendment is issued, it will be provided to all who were notified of the RFP and to those who have registered with the procurement officer after receiving the RFP from the State of Alaska Online Public Notice website.

SEC. 1.13 RFP SCHEDULE

The RFP schedule set out herein represents the State of Alaska’s best estimate of the schedule that will be followed. If a component of this schedule, such as the deadline for receipt of proposals, is delayed, the rest of the schedule may be shifted accordingly. All times are Alaska Time.

- Deadline for Receipt of Question – 2:00 PM Alaska Time, September 23, 2021.
- Deadline for Receipt of Proposals – 2:00 PM Alaska Time, October 5, 2021.
- ANTICIPATED Contract start November 1, 2021.

This RFP does not, by itself, obligate the State. The State's obligation will commence when the contract is approved by the Commissioner of the Department of Natural Resources, or the Commissioner's designee. Upon written notice to the Contractor, the State may set a different starting date for the contract. The State will not be responsible for any work done by the Contractor, even work done in good faith, if it occurs prior to the contract start date set by the State.
SEC. 1.14  ALTERNATE PROPOSALS
Offerors may only submit one proposal for evaluation.

In accordance with 2 AAC 12.830 alternate proposals (proposals that offer something different than what is asked for) will be rejected.

SEC. 1.15  NEWS RELEASES
News releases related to this RFP will not be made without prior approval of the project manager.
SECTION 2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

SEC. 2.01 BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Forests in Alaska cover 129 million acres and fall into two main forest types: the 15-million-acre coastal temperate rainforest of Southeast and coastal Southcentral, and the 114-million-acre boreal forest of inland Southcentral and the Interior. The coastal forest is made up primarily of western hemlock and Sitka spruce and is renewed through small gap disturbances created by wind. The boreal forest is made up primarily of paper birch, white spruce, and black spruce. The cycle of succession in the boreal forest is driven by fire, and, particularly in the transitional forest of Southcentral, bark beetle outbreaks. Alaska’s forests provide key habitat for all five species of Pacific salmon as well as moose, Sitka black-tailed deer, and other wildlife. These fish and wildlife resources are integral to the subsistence way of life that is economically and culturally vital, especially to rural communities. Forest threats include wildland fire, forest insects, disease, abiotic stressors, reduced forestry infrastructure, invasive species, forest conversion and fragmentation, and more.

The Commissioner of Department of Natural Resources, in partnership with the Alaska Department of Revenue, seeks to investigate the potential for a carbon offset credit program based on carbon sequestration on State lands. Carbon emissions can be offset by carbon sequestration on State lands; sequestered carbon can be measured, valued, and sold in public markets as carbon offset credits.
SECTION 3. SCOPE OF WORK & CONTRACT INFORMATION

SEC. 3.01 SCOPE OF WORK
The Contractor shall evaluate the potential for State lands to support carbon sequestration and carbon offset credits, and to formulate a proposal for the development of a carbon offset pilot program. Specifically, the consultant shall assist to:

A. Identify areas of State lands with high carbon sequestration potential;
B. Establish criteria for the per-acre valuation of carbon sequestration on State lands with high carbon sequestration potential;
C. Evaluate carbon registry program criteria for different carbon registries that would support carbon offset credits developed from State lands;
D. Identify marketing opportunities for carbon offset credits, both in verified and voluntary markets, and criteria that will enhance the marketability of the credits;
E. Establish purchasing price guidelines for carbon offset credits based on a dollar value for each ton of sequestered carbon;
F. Identify and develop detailed scopes of work for pilot projects and potential commercial structures for State development of carbon offset credit programs;
G. Evaluate different options for carbon offset projects and recommend the most promising options for generating revenue for the State;
H. Identify statutory and regulatory amendments necessary to implement a carbon offset credit program;

Offerors shall describe how A. – H. above will be accomplished. Proposals will be evaluated based on the extent offeror’s answer this section in conjunction with Section 4. Proposal Format and Content, and Section 5. Evaluation Criteria and Contractor Selection.

SEC. 3.02 CONTRACT TERM AND WORK SCHEDULE
The length of the contract will be from the date of award, for approximately five years until approximately OCTOBER 31, 2026.

Unless otherwise provided in this RFP, the State and the successful offeror/Contractor agree: (1) that any extension of the contract excluding any exercised renewal options, will be considered as a month-to-month extension, and all other terms and conditions shall remain in full force and effect and (2) the procurement officer will provide notice to the Contractor of the intent to cancel such month-to-month extension at least 30 days before the desired date of cancellation. A month-to-month extension may only be executed by the procurement officer via a written contract amendment.
SEC. 3.03 DELIVERABLES
The Contractor shall provide the following deliverables:

A. Detailed description of three carbon offset pilot projects with sufficiently detailed scope of work to enable on-the-ground implementation by the State;

B. A carbon inventory estimate for the Division of Forestry’s three State Forests (Tanana Valley, Haines and Southeast) using best available inventory data such as Forest Inventory and Analysis (FIA) and other data sources.

C. An evaluation of the adequacy of existing data sources, including FIA data, to serve as carbon inventories for carbon offset projects, and an analysis of what additional data could be developed for use in producing more accurate carbon inventories.

D. A Procedure Guide for developing carbon offset projects on Forest lands and approval by a major Carbon Registry.

E. A Procedure Guide for developing geologic carbon offset projects and approval by a major Carbon Registry.

F. An evaluation and recommendation(s) for the most promising opportunities for carbon offsets in Alaska. This should evaluate different carbon offset project types (geologic, forestry, marine, soil, other) and reach a conclusion as to the most promising option(s) for generating revenue for the State.

All presentations or documents will become the property of the State. The first project deliverable due date shall be December 31, 2021. Future deliverable due dates for as-needed services will be negotiated.

SEC. 3.04 CONTRACT TYPE
The resulting contract will be a **FIRM FIXED PRICE** Master Agreement (MA). The dollar amount shown on the MA will be the maximum dollar amount to be spent for all services provided under the agreement. The State does not guarantee a minimum or maximum number of services to be provided, or dollar amount to be spend under any contract resulting from this RFP.

SEC. 3.05 PROPOSED PAYMENT PROCEDURES
The State will make payments based on a negotiated payment schedule. Each billing must consist of an invoice and progress report. No payment will be made until the progress report and invoice has been approved by the project manager.

SEC. 3.06 CONTRACT PAYMENT
No payment will be made until the contract is approved by the Commissioner of the Department of Natural Resources or the Commissioner’s designee. Under no conditions will the State be liable for the payment of any interest charges associated with the cost of the contract. The State is not responsible for and will not pay federal, state, or local, taxes. All costs associated with the contract must be stated in U.S. currency.
Contract pricing for the contract shall be the Fully Burdened (a single rate that includes all of the Contractors costs to provide goods and services, to include overhead) Hourly Billable Rates for the positions required herein and as proposed in an Offeror’s Attachment 3 Cost Proposal.

Actual services rendered includes time spent in preparation and performance of the scope of work and deliverables in the contract. These labor costs shall be a Fully Burdened billable labor rate for each position providing services for a specific Task.

Direct costs include, without limitation, actual costs and expenses incurred to purchase, rent, use, provide, and consume materials, equipment, and supplies for a specific project; and other incidental costs such as shipping, printing, lodging, and transportation. These costs shall be invoiced without any mark up.

Any single contract payment of $1 million or higher must be accepted by the Contractor via Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT).

SEC. 3.07 LOCATION OF WORK

The locations where field work is to be performed for pilot projects or other deliverables include southeast Alaska, south central Alaska and interior Alaska (north of the Alaska Range).

The State WILL NOT provide workspace for the Contractor. The Contractor must provide its own workspace.

Travel associated costs to Alaska in the performance of carbon offset consulting services will be paid by the State, if approved. Travel costs include airfare, transportation, lodging, and per diem only (per diem is capped at $60 per day, per person). Travel must be approved by the DNR Project Manager prior to executing travel services. The Contractor must provide the DNR Project Manager line item pricing for airfare, transportation, lodging, and per diem, at least two weeks prior to travel. Airfare, transportation, lodging, and per diem shall be in accordance with Alaska Administrative Manual (AAM) 60. Travel. Travel to other locations will not be required.

By signature on their proposal, the offeror certifies that all services provided under this contract by the Contractor and all subcontractors shall be performed in the United States.

If the offeror cannot certify that all work will be performed in the United States, the offeror must contact the procurement officer in writing to request a waiver at least 10 days prior to the deadline for receipt of proposals.

The request must include a detailed description of the portion of work that will be performed outside the United States, where, by whom, and the reason the waiver is necessary.

Failure to comply with these requirements may cause the State to reject the proposal as non-responsive or cancel the contract.

SEC. 3.08 SUBCONTRACTORS

Subcontractors will not be allowed.

SEC. 3.09 JOINT VENTURES

Joint ventures will not be allowed.
SEC. 3.10  RIGHT TO INSPECT PLACE OF BUSINESS
At reasonable times, the State may inspect those areas of the Contractor's place of business that are related to the performance of a contract. If the State makes such an inspection, the Contractor must provide reasonable assistance.

SEC. 3.11  CONTRACT PERSONNEL
Any change of the project team members or subcontractors named in the proposal must be approved, in advance and in writing, by the project manager or procurement officer. Changes that are not approved by the State may be grounds for the State to terminate the contract.

SEC. 3.12  INSPECTION & MODIFICATION - REIMBURSEMENT FOR UNACCEPTABLE DELIVERABLES
The Contractor is responsible for the completion of all work set out in the contract. All work is subject to inspection, evaluation, and approval by the project manager. The State may employ all reasonable means to ensure that the work is progressing and being performed in compliance with the contract. The project manager or procurement officer may instruct the Contractor to make corrections or modifications if needed in order to accomplish the contract’s intent. The Contractor will not unreasonably withhold such changes.

Substantial failure of the Contractor to perform the contract may cause the State to terminate the contract. In this event, the State may require the Contractor to reimburse monies paid (based on the identified portion of unacceptable work received) and may seek associated damages.

SEC. 3.13  CONTRACT CHANGES - UNANTICIPATED AMENDMENTS
During the course of this contract, the Contractor may be required to perform additional work. That work will be within the general scope of the initial contract. When additional work is required, the project manager will provide the Contractor a written description of the additional work and request the Contractor to submit a firm time schedule for accomplishing the additional work and a firm price for the additional work. Cost and pricing data must be provided to justify the cost of such amendments per AS 36.30.400.

The Contractor will not commence additional work until the procurement officer has secured any required State approvals necessary for the amendment and issued a written contract amendment, approved by the Commissioner of the Department of Natural Resources or the Commissioner’s designee.

SEC. 3.14  NONDISCLOSURE AND CONFIDENTIALITY
The Contractor agrees that all confidential information shall be used only for purposes of providing the deliverables and performing the services specified herein and shall not disseminate or allow dissemination of confidential information except as provided for in this section. The Contractor shall hold as confidential and will use reasonable care (including both facility physical security and electronic security) to prevent unauthorized access by, storage, disclosure, publication, dissemination to and/or use by third parties of, the confidential information. “Reasonable care” means compliance by the Contractor with all applicable federal and state law, including the Social Security Act and HIPAA. The Contractor must promptly notify the State in writing if it becomes aware of any storage, disclosure, loss, unauthorized access to or use of the confidential information.
Confidential information, as used herein, means any data, files, software, information or materials (whether prepared by the State or its agents or advisors) in oral, electronic, tangible or intangible form and however stored, compiled or memorialized that is classified confidential as defined by State of Alaska classification and categorization guidelines provided by the State to the Contractor or a contractor agent or otherwise made available to the Contractor or a contractor agent in connection with this contract, or acquired, obtained or learned by the Contractor or a contractor agent in the performance of this contract. Examples of confidential information include, but are not limited to: technology infrastructure, architecture, financial data, trade secrets, equipment specifications, user lists, passwords, research data, and technology data (infrastructure, architecture, operating systems, security tools, IP addresses, etc.).

If confidential information is requested to be disclosed by the Contractor pursuant to a request received by a third party and such disclosure of the confidential information is required under applicable federal or state law, regulation, governmental or regulatory authority, the Contractor may disclose the confidential information after providing the State with written notice of the requested disclosure (to the extent such notice to the State is permitted by applicable law) and giving the State opportunity to review the request. If the Contractor receives no objection from the State, it may release the confidential information within 30 days. Notice of the requested disclosure of confidential information by the Contractor must be provided to the State within a reasonable time after the Contractor’s receipt of notice of the requested disclosure and, upon request of the State, shall seek to obtain legal protection from the release of the confidential information.

The following information shall not be considered confidential information: Information previously known to be public information when received from the other party; information freely available to the general public; information which now is or hereafter becomes publicly known by other than a breach of confidentiality hereof; or information which is disclosed by a party pursuant to subpoena or other legal process and which as a result becomes lawfully obtainable by the general public.

SEC. 3.15 INDEMNIFICATION
The Contractor shall indemnify, hold harmless, and defend the State from and against any claim of, or liability for error, omission, or negligent act of the Contractor under this agreement. The Contractor shall not be required to indemnify the State for a claim of, or liability for, the independent negligence of the State. If there is a claim of, or liability for, the joint negligent error or omission of the Contractor and the independent negligence of the State, the indemnification and hold harmless obligation shall be apportioned on a comparative fault basis. “Contractor” and “State”, as used within this and the following article, include the employees, agents and other contractors who are directly responsible, respectively, to each. The term “independent negligence” is negligence other than in the State’s selection, administration, monitoring, or controlling of the Contractor and in approving or accepting the Contractor’s work.

SEC. 3.16 INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS
Without limiting Contractor’s indemnification, it is agreed that Contractor shall purchase at its own expense and maintain in force at all times during the performance of services under this agreement the following policies of insurance. Where specific limits are shown, it is understood that they shall be the minimum acceptable limits. If the Contractor’s policy contains higher limits, the State shall be entitled to coverage to the extent of such higher limits.
Certificates of Insurance must be furnished to the contracting officer prior to beginning work and must provide for a notice of cancellation, non-renewal, or material change of conditions in accordance with policy provisions. Failure to furnish satisfactory evidence of insurance or lapse of the policy is a material breach of this contract and shall be grounds for termination of the Contractor’s services. All insurance policies shall comply with and be issued by insurers licensed to transact the business of insurance under AS 21.

**Workers' Compensation Insurance:** The Contractor shall provide and maintain, for all employees engaged in work under this contract, coverage as required by AS 23.30.045, and; where applicable, any other statutory obligations including but not limited to Federal U.S.L. & H. and Jones Act requirements. The policy must waive subrogation against the State.

**Commercial General Liability Insurance:** Covering all business premises and operations used by the Contractor in the performance of services under this agreement with minimum coverage limits of $300,000 combined single limit per claim.

**Commercial Automobile Liability Insurance:** Covering all vehicles used by the Contractor in the performance of services under this agreement with minimum coverage limits of $300,000 combined single limit per claim.

**Professional Liability Insurance:** Covering all errors, omissions or negligent acts in the performance of professional services under this agreement with minimum coverage limits of $300,000 per claim /annual aggregate.

**SEC. 3.17 TERMINATION FOR DEFAULT**

If the project manager or procurement officer determines that the Contractor has refused to perform the work or has failed to perform the work with such diligence as to ensure its timely and accurate completion, the State may, by providing written notice to the Contractor, terminate the Contractor’s right to proceed with part or all of the remaining work.

This clause does not restrict the State’s termination rights under the contract provisions of Appendix A, attached in SECTION 8. ATTACHMENTS.
SECTION 4. PROPOSAL FORMAT AND CONTENT

SEC. 4.01 PROPOSAL FORMAT AND CONTENT
The State discourages overly lengthy and costly proposals, however, in order for the State to evaluate proposals fairly and completely, offerors must follow the format set out in this RFP and provide all information requested.

SEC. 4.02 INTRODUCTION
Proposals must include the complete name and address of offeror’s firm and the name, mailing address, and telephone number of the person the State should contact regarding the proposal.

Proposals must confirm that the offeror will comply with all provisions in this RFP; and, if applicable, provide notice that the firm qualifies as an Alaskan bidder. Proposals must be signed by a company officer empowered to bind the company. An offeror’s failure to include these items in the proposals may cause the proposal to be determined to be non-responsive and the proposal may be rejected.

SEC. 4.03 UNDERSTANDING OF THE PROJECT
Offerors must provide comprehensive narrative statements that illustrate their understanding of the requirements of the project and the project schedule.

SEC. 4.04 METHODOLOGY USED FOR THE PROJECT
Offerors must provide comprehensive narrative statements that set out the methodology they intend to employ and illustrate how the methodology will serve to accomplish the work and meet the State’s project schedule.

SEC. 4.05 MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE PROJECT
Offerors must provide comprehensive narrative statements that set out the management plan they intend to follow and illustrate how the plan will serve to accomplish the work and meet the State’s project schedule.

SEC. 4.06 EXPERIENCE AND QUALIFICATIONS
Offerors must provide an organizational chart specific to the personnel assigned to accomplish the work called for in this RFP; illustrate the lines of authority; designate the individual responsible and accountable for the completion of each component and deliverable of the RFP.

Offerors must provide a narrative description of the organization of the project team and a personnel roster that identifies each person who will actually work on the contract and provide the following information about each person listed:

- title,
- resume,
- location(s) where work will be performed,
- itemize the total cost and the number of estimated hours for each individual named above.
Offerors must provide reference names and phone numbers for similar projects the offeror's firm has completed.

Offeror must also state if the firm has completed forest inventory projects or carbon offset projects in Alaska. If so, when, and provide a summary of the project.

**SEC. 4.07  COST PROPOSAL**
Cost proposals must include an itemized list of all direct and indirect costs associated with the performance of the contract, including, but not limited to, total number of hours at various hourly rates, direct expenses, payroll, supplies, overhead assigned to each person working on the project, percentage of each person's time devoted to the project, and profit.

**SEC. 4.08  EVALUATION CRITERIA**
All proposals will be reviewed to determine if they are responsive. Proposals determined to be responsive will be evaluated using the criterion that is set out in SECTION 5. EVALUATION CRITERIA AND CONTRACTOR SELECTION.

An evaluation may not be based on discrimination due to the race, religion, color, national origin, sex, age, marital status, pregnancy, parenthood, disability, or political affiliation of the offeror.
SECTION 5. EVALUATION CRITERIA AND CONTRACTOR SELECTION

THE TOTAL NUMBER OF POINTS USED TO SCORE THIS PROPOSAL IS 100

SEC. 5.01 UNDERSTANDING OF THE PROJECT (10%)
Proposals will be evaluated against the questions set out below:

1) How well has the offeror demonstrated a thorough understanding of the purpose and scope of the project?
2) How well has the offeror identified pertinent issues and potential problems related to the project?
3) To what degree has the offeror demonstrated an understanding of the deliverables the State expects it to provide?
4) Has the offeror demonstrated an understanding of the State's time schedule and can meet it?

SEC. 5.02 METHODOLOGY USED FOR THE PROJECT (10%)
Proposals will be evaluated against the questions set out below:

1) How comprehensive is the methodology and does it depict a logical approach to fulfilling the requirements of the RFP?
2) How well does the methodology match and achieve the objectives set out in the RFP?
3) Does the methodology interface with the time schedule in the RFP?

SEC. 5.03 MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE PROJECT (20%)
Proposals will be evaluated against the questions set out below:

1) How well does the management plan support all of the project requirements and logically lead to the deliverables required in the RFP?
2) How well is accountability completely and clearly defined?
3) Is the organization of the project team clear?
4) How well does the management plan illustrate the lines of authority and communication?
5) To what extent does the offeror already have the hardware, software, equipment, and licenses necessary to perform the contract?
6) Does it appear that the offeror can meet the schedule set out in the RFP?
7) Has the offeror gone beyond the minimum tasks necessary to meet the objectives of the RFP?
8) To what degree is the proposal practical and feasible?
9) To what extent has the offeror identified potential problems?
**SEC. 5.04 EXPERIENCE AND QUALIFICATIONS (10%)**
Proposals will be evaluated against the questions set out below:

1) *Questions regarding the personnel:*
   a) Do the individuals assigned to the project have experience on similar projects?
   b) Are resumes complete and do they demonstrate backgrounds that would be desirable for individuals engaged in the work the project requires?
   c) How extensive is the applicable education and experience of the personnel designated to work on the project?

2) *Questions regarding the firm and subcontractor (if used):*
   a) How well has the firm demonstrated experience in completing similar projects on time and within budget?
   b) How successful is the general history of the firm regarding timely and successful completion of projects?
   c) Has the firm provided letters of reference from previous clients?
   d) If a subcontractor will perform work on the contract, how well do they measure up to the evaluation used for the offeror?
   e) Has the firm completed forest inventory projects or carbon offset projects in Alaska? If so, to what extent did the firm discuss and provide a summary of the project?"

**SEC. 5.05 CONTRACT COST (40%)**
Overall, a minimum of 40% of the total evaluation points will be assigned to cost. The cost amount used for evaluation may be affected by one or more of the preferences referenced under Section 6.10.

*Converting Cost to Points*

The lowest cost proposal will receive the maximum number of points allocated to cost. The point allocations for cost on the other proposals will be determined through the method set out in Section 6.14 – 6.15.

**SEC. 5.06 ALASKA OFFEROR PREFERENCE (10%)**
If an offeror qualifies for the Alaska Bidder Preference, the offeror will receive an Alaska Offeror Preference. The preference will be 10% of the total available points. This amount will be added to the overall evaluation score of each Alaskan offeror.
SECTION 6. GENERAL PROCESS INFORMATION

SEC. 6.01 ALASKA BUSINESS LICENSE AND OTHER REQUIRED LICENSES
Prior to the award of a contract, an offeror must hold a valid Alaska business license. However, in order to receive the Alaska Bidder Preference and other related preferences, such as the Alaska Veteran Preference and Alaska Offeror Preference, an offeror must hold a valid Alaska business license prior to the deadline for receipt of proposals. Offerors should contact the Department of Commerce, Community and Economic Development, Division of Corporations, Business, and Professional Licensing, PO Box 110806, Juneau, Alaska 99811-0806, for information on these licenses. Acceptable evidence that the offeror possesses a valid Alaska business license may consist of any one of the following:

- Copy of an Alaska business license;
- Certification on the proposal that the offeror has a valid Alaska business license and has included the license number in the proposal;
- A canceled check for the Alaska business license fee;
- A copy of the Alaska business license application with a receipt stamp from the State’s occupational licensing office; or
- A sworn and notarized statement that the offeror has applied and paid for the Alaska business license.

You are not required to hold a valid Alaska business license at the time proposals are opened if you possess one of the following licenses and are offering services or supplies under that specific line of business:

- Fisheries business licenses issued by Alaska Department of Revenue or Alaska Department of Fish and Game,
- Liquor licenses issued by Alaska Department of Revenue for alcohol sales only,
- Insurance licenses issued by Alaska Department of Commerce, Community and Economic Development, Division of Insurance, or
- Mining licenses issued by Alaska Department of Revenue.

Prior the deadline for receipt of proposals, all offerors must hold any other necessary applicable professional licenses required by Alaska Statute.

SEC. 6.02 SITE INSPECTION
The State may conduct on-site visits to evaluate the offeror’s capacity to perform the contract. An offeror must agree, at risk of being found non-responsive and having its proposal rejected, to provide the State reasonable access to relevant portions of its work sites. Individuals designated by the procurement officer at the State’s expense will make site inspection.
SEC. 6.03 CLARIFICATION OF OFFERS
In order to determine if a proposal is reasonably susceptible for award, communications by the procurement officer or the Proposal Evaluation Committee (PEC) are permitted with an offeror to clarify uncertainties or eliminate confusion concerning the contents of a proposal. Clarifications may not result in a material or substantive change to the proposal. The evaluation by the procurement officer or the PEC may be adjusted as a result of a clarification under this section.

SEC. 6.04 DISCUSSIONS WITH OFFERORS
The State may conduct discussions with offerors in accordance with AS 36.30.240 and 2 AAC 12.290. The purpose of these discussions will be to ensure full understanding of the requirements of the RFP and proposal. Discussions will be limited to specific sections of the RFP or proposal identified by the procurement officer. Discussions will only be held with offerors who have submitted a proposal deemed reasonably susceptible for award by the procurement officer. Discussions, if held, will be after initial evaluation of proposals by the procurement officer or the PEC. If modifications are made as a result of these discussions, they will be put in writing. Following discussions, the procurement officer may set a time for best and final proposal submissions from those offerors with whom discussions were held. Proposals may be reevaluated after receipt of best and final proposal submissions.

If an offeror does not submit a best and final proposal or a notice of withdrawal, the offeror’s immediate previous proposal is considered the offeror’s best and final proposal.

Offerors with a disability needing accommodation should contact the procurement officer prior to the date set for discussions so that reasonable accommodation can be made. Any oral modification of a proposal must be reduced to writing by the offeror.

SEC. 6.05 EVALUATION OF PROPOSALS
The procurement officer, or an evaluation committee made up of at least three state employees or public officials, will evaluate proposals. The evaluation will be based solely on the evaluation factors set out in SECTION 5. EVALUATION CRITERIA AND CONTRACTOR SELECTION.

After receipt of proposals, if there is a need for any substantial clarification or material change in the RFP, an amendment will be issued. The amendment will incorporate the clarification or change, and a new date and time established for new or amended proposals. Evaluations may be adjusted as a result of receiving new or amended proposals.

SEC. 6.06 CONTRACT NEGOTIATION
After final evaluation, the procurement officer may negotiate with the offeror of the highest-ranked proposal. Negotiations, if held, shall be within the scope of the request for proposals and limited to those items which would not have an effect on the ranking of proposals. If the highest-ranked offeror fails to provide necessary information for negotiations in a timely manner, or fails to negotiate in good faith, the State may terminate negotiations and negotiate with the offeror of the next highest-ranked proposal. If contract negotiations are commenced, they may be held via teleconference.

If the contract negotiations take place the procurement officer will provide a dial in teleconference number.
SEC. 6.07    FAILURE TO NEGOTIATE
If the selected offeror:

- fails to provide the information required to begin negotiations in a timely manner; or
- fails to negotiate in good faith; or
- indicates they cannot perform the contract within the budgeted funds available for the project; or
- if the offeror and the State, after a good faith effort, simply cannot come to terms,

the State may terminate negotiations with the offeror initially selected and commence negotiations with the next highest ranked offeror.

SEC. 6.08    OFFEROR NOTIFICATION OF SELECTION
After the completion of contract negotiation, the procurement officer will issue a written Notice of Intent to Award (NIA) and send copies to all offerors. The NIA will set out the names of all offerors and identify the proposal selected for award.

SEC. 6.09    PROTEST
AS 36.30.560 provides that an interested party may protest the content of the RFP.

An interested party is defined in 2 AAC 12.990(a) (7) as "an actual or prospective bidder or offeror whose economic interest might be affected substantially and directly by the issuance of a contract solicitation, the award of a contract, or the failure to award a contract."

If an interested party wishes to protest the content of a solicitation, the protest must be received, in writing, by the procurement officer at least 10 days prior to the deadline for receipt of proposals.

AS 36.30.560 also provides that an interested party may protest the award of a contract or the proposed award of a contract.

If an offeror wishes to protest the award of a contract or the proposed award of a contract, the protest must be received, in writing, by the procurement officer within ten days after the date the Notice of Intent to Award the contract is issued.

A protester must have submitted a proposal in order to have sufficient standing to protest the proposed award of a contract. Protests must include the following information:

- the name, address, and telephone number of the protester;
- the signature of the protester or the protester’s representative;
- identification of the contracting agency and the solicitation or contract at issue;
- a detailed statement of the legal and factual grounds of the protest including copies of relevant documents; and the form of relief requested.
Protests filed by telex or telegram are not acceptable because they do not contain a signature. Fax copies containing a signature are acceptable.

The procurement officer will issue a written response to the protest. The response will set out the procurement officer’s decision and contain the basis of the decision within the statutory time limit in AS 36.30.580. A copy of the decision will be furnished to the protester by certified mail, fax or another method that provides evidence of receipt.

All offerors will be notified of any protest. The review of protests, decisions of the procurement officer, appeals, and hearings, will be conducted in accordance with the State Procurement Code (AS 36.30), Article 8 “Legal and Contractual Remedies.”

SEC. 6.10 APPLICATION OF PREFERENCES
Certain preferences apply to all contracts for professional services, regardless of their dollar value. The Alaska Bidder, Alaska Veteran, and Alaska Offeror preferences are the most common preferences involved in the RFP process. Additional preferences that may apply to this procurement are listed below. Guides that contain excerpts from the relevant statutes and codes, explain when the preferences apply and provide examples of how to calculate the preferences are available at the Department of Administration, Division of Shared Service’s web site:


- Alaska Products Preference - AS 36.30.332
- Recycled Products Preference - AS 36.30.337
- Local Agriculture and Fisheries Products Preference - AS 36.15.050
- Employment Program Preference - AS 36.30.321(b)
- Alaskans with Disabilities Preference - AS 36.30.321(d)

The Division of Vocational Rehabilitation in the Department of Labor and Workforce Development keeps a list of qualified employment programs and individuals who qualify as persons with a disability. As evidence of a business’ or an individual’s right to the Employment Program or Alaskans with Disabilities preferences, the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation will issue a certification letter. To take advantage of these preferences, a business or individual must be on the appropriate Division of Vocational Rehabilitation list prior to the time designated for receipt of proposals. Offerors must attach a copy of their certification letter to the proposal. An offeror’s failure to provide this certification letter with their proposal will cause the State to disallow the preference.

Sec. 6.11 ALASKA BIDDER PREFERENCE
An Alaska Bidder Preference of 5% will be applied to the price in the proposal. The preference will be given to an offeror who:
1) Holds a current Alaska business license prior to the deadline for receipt of proposals;
2) Submits a proposal for goods or services under the name appearing on the offeror’s current Alaska business license;
3) Has maintained a place of business within the state staffed by the offeror, or an employee of the offeror, for a period of six months immediately preceding the date of the proposal;
4) Is incorporated or qualified to do business under the laws of the state, is a sole proprietorship and the proprietor is a resident of the state, is a Limited Liability Company (LLC) organized under AS 10.50 and all members are residents of the state, or is a partnership under AS 32.06 or AS 32.11 and all partners are residents of the state; and
5) If a joint venture, is composed entirely of ventures that qualify under (1)-(4) of this subsection.

**Alaska Bidder Preference Certification Form**
In order to receive the Alaska Bidder Preference, the proposal must include the Alaska Bidder Preference Certification Form attached to this RFP. An offeror does not need to complete the Alaska Veteran Preference questions on the form if not claiming the Alaska Veteran Preference. An offeror’s failure to provide this completed form with their proposal will cause the State to disallow the preference.

**SEC. 6.12 ALASKA VETERAN PREFERENCE**
An Alaska Veteran Preference of 5%, not to exceed $5,000, will be applied to the price in the proposal. The preference will be given to an offeror who qualifies under AS 36.30.990(2) as an Alaska bidder and is a:

A. Sole proprietorship owned by an Alaska veteran;
B. Partnership under AS 32.06 or AS 32.11 if a majority of the partners are Alaska veterans;
C. Limited Liability Company organized under AS 10.50 if a majority of the members are Alaska veterans; or
D. Corporation that is wholly owned by individuals, and a majority of the individuals are Alaska veterans.

In accordance with AS 36.30.321(i), the bidder must also add value by actually performing, controlling, managing, and supervising the services provided, or for supplies, the bidder must have sold supplies of the general nature solicited to other state agencies, other government, or the general public.

**Alaska Veteran Preference Certification**
In order to receive the Alaska Veteran Preference, the proposal must include the Alaska Bidder Preference Certification Form attached to this RFP. An offeror’s failure to provide this completed form with their proposal will cause the State to disallow the preference.

**SEC. 6.13 ALASKA OFFEROR PREFERENCE**
2 AAC 12.260(e) provides Alaska offerors a 10% overall evaluation point preference. Alaska bidders, as defined in AS 36.30.990(2), are eligible for the preference. An Alaska offeror will receive 10 percent of the total available points added to their overall evaluation score as a preference.
SEC. 6.14  FORMULA USED TO CONVERT COST TO POINTS
The distribution of points based on cost will be determined as set out in 2 AAC 12.260(c). The lowest cost proposal will receive the maximum number of points allocated to cost. The point allocations for cost on the other proposals will be determined using the formula:

\[
\text{[(Price of Lowest Cost Proposal) x (Maximum Points for Cost)] ÷ (Cost of Each Higher Priced Proposal)}
\]

SEC. 6.15  EXAMPLES: CONVERTING COST TO POINTS & APPLYING PREFERENCES

(a) FORMULA USED TO CONVERT COST TO POINTS
STEP 1
List all proposal prices, adjusted where appropriate by the application of applicable preferences claimed by the offeror.

| Offeror #1  | $40,000 |
| Offeror #2  | $42,750 |
| Offeror #3  | $47,500 |

STEP 2
In this example, the RFP allotted 40% of the available 100 points to cost. This means that the lowest cost will receive the maximum number of points.

Offeror #1 receives 40 points.

The reason they receive that amount is because the lowest cost proposal, in this case $40,000, receives the maximum number of points allocated to cost, 40 points.

Offeror #2 receives 37.4 points.

\[
\text{$40,000 lowest cost x 40 maximum points for cost = 1,600,000 ÷$42,750 cost of Offeror #2’s proposal = 37.4}
\]

Offeror #3 receives 33.7 points.

\[
\text{$40,000 lowest cost x 40 maximum points for cost = 1,600,000 ÷$47,500 cost of Offeror #3’s proposal = 33.7}
\]

(b) ALASKA OFFEROR PREFERENCE
STEP 1
Determine the number of points available to qualifying offerors under this preference.

100 Total Points Available in RFP x 10% Alaska offerors preference = 10 Points for the Preference.
STEP 2
Determine which offerors qualify as Alaska Bidders and thus, are eligible for the Alaska Offerors preference. For the purpose of this example, presume that all of the proposals have been completely evaluated based on the evaluation criteria in the RFP. The scores at this point are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Offeror #1</th>
<th>83 points</th>
<th>No Preference</th>
<th>0 points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Offeror #2</td>
<td>74 points</td>
<td>Alaska Offerors Preference</td>
<td>10 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Offeror #3</td>
<td>80 points</td>
<td>Alaska Offerors Preference</td>
<td>10 points</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

STEP 3
Add the applicable Alaska offerors preference amounts to the offeror’s scores:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Offeror #1</th>
<th>83 points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Offeror #2</td>
<td>84 points (74 points + 10 points)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Offeror #3</td>
<td>90 points (80 points + 10 points)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

STEP 4
Offeror #3 is the highest scoring offeror and would get the award, provided their proposal is responsible and responsive.
SECTION 7. GENERAL LEGAL INFORMATION

SEC. 7.01 STANDARD CONTRACT PROVISIONS
The Contractor will be required to sign and submit the State's Standard Agreement Form for Professional Services Contracts (form SAF.DOC/Appendix A). This form is attached in SECTION 8. EXHIBITS for your review. The Contractor must comply with the contract provisions set out in this attachment. No alteration of these provisions will be permitted without prior written approval from the Department of Law. Objections to any of the provisions in Appendix A must be set out in the offeror’s proposal in a separate document. Please include the following information with any change that you are proposing:

1. Identify the provision the offeror takes exception with.
2. Identify why the provision is unjust, unreasonable, etc.
3. Identify exactly what suggested changes should be made.

SEC. 7.02 QUALIFIED OFFERORS
Per 2 AAC 12.875, unless provided for otherwise in the RFP, to qualify as an offeror for award of a contract issued under AS 36.30, the offeror must:

1) Add value in the contract by actually performing, controlling, managing, or supervising the services to be provided; or
2) Be in the business of selling and have actually sold on a regular basis the supplies that are the subject of the RFP.

If the offeror leases services or supplies or acts as a broker or agency in providing the services or supplies in order to meet these requirements, the procurement officer may not accept the offeror as a qualified offeror under AS 36.30.

SEC. 7.03 PROPOSAL AS PART OF THE CONTRACT
Part of all of this RFP and the successful proposal may be incorporated into the contract.

SEC. 7.04 ADDITIONAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS
The State reserves the right to add terms and conditions during contract negotiations. These terms and conditions will be within the scope of the RFP and will not affect the proposal evaluations.

SEC. 7.05 HUMAN TRAFFICKING
By signature on their proposal, the offeror certifies that the offeror is not established and headquartered or incorporated and headquartered in a country recognized as Tier 3 in the most recent United States Department of State’s Trafficking in Persons Report.

The most recent United States Department of State’s Trafficking in Persons Report can be found at the following website: https://www.state.gov/trafficking-in-persons-report/

Failure to comply with this requirement will cause the state to reject the proposal as non-responsive, or cancel the contract.
SEC. 7.06  RIGHT OF REJECTION
Offerors must comply with all of the terms of the RFP, the State Procurement Code (AS 36.30), and all applicable federal, state, and local laws, codes, and regulations. The procurement officer may reject any proposal that does not comply with all of the material and substantial terms, conditions, and performance requirements of the RFP.

Offerors may not qualify the proposal nor restrict the rights of the State. If an offeror does so, the procurement officer may determine the proposal to be a non-responsive counter-offer and the proposal may be rejected.

Minor informalities that:

- Do not affect responsiveness;
- Are merely a matter of form or format;
- Do not change the relative standing or otherwise prejudice other offers;
- Do not change the meaning or scope of the RFP;
- Are trivial, negligible, or immaterial in nature;
- Do not reflect a material change in the work; or
- Do not constitute a substantial reservation against a requirement or provision;

may be waived by the procurement officer.

The State reserves the right to refrain from making an award if it determines that to be in its best interest.

A proposal from a debarred or suspended offeror shall be rejected.

SEC. 7.07  STATE NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR PREPARATION COSTS
The State will not pay any cost associated with the preparation, submittal, presentation, or evaluation of any proposal.

SEC. 7.08  DISCLOSURE OF PROPOSAL CONTENTS
All proposals and other material submitted become the property of the State of Alaska and may be returned only at the State's option. AS 40.25.110 requires public records to be open to reasonable inspection. All proposal information, including detailed price and cost information, will be held in confidence during the evaluation process and prior to the time a Notice of Intent to Award is issued. Thereafter, proposals will become public information.
The Office of Procurement and Property Management (OPPM) recognizes that some information an offeror submits might be confidential under the United States or the State of Alaska Constitution, a federal statute or regulation, or a State of Alaska statute: i.e., might be Confidential Business Information (CBI). See, e.g., article 1, section 1 of the Alaska Constitution; AS 45.50.910 – 45.50.945 (the Alaska Uniform Trade Secrets Act); DNR v. Arctic Slope Regional Corp., 834 P.2d 134, 137-39 (Alaska 1991). For OPPM to treat information an offeror submits with its proposal as CBI, the offeror must do the following when it submits its proposal: (1) mark the specific information it asserts is CBI; and (2) for each discrete set of such information, identify, in writing, each authority the offeror asserts make the information CBI. If the offeror does not do these things, the information will become public after the Notice of Intent to Award is issued. If the offeror does these things, OPPM will evaluate the offeror’s assertion upon receiving a request for the information. If OPPM rejects the assertion, it will, to the extent permitted by federal and State of Alaska law, undertake reasonable measures to give the offeror an opportunity to object to the disclosure of the information.

**SEC. 7.09 ASSIGNMENTS**
Per 2 AAC 12.480, the Contractor may not transfer or assign any portion of the contract without prior written approval from the procurement officer. Proposals that are conditioned upon the State’s approval of an assignment will be rejected as non-responsive.

**SEC. 7.10 DISPUTES**
A contract resulting from this RFP is governed by the laws of the State of Alaska. If the Contractor has a claim arising in connection with the agreement that it cannot resolve with the State by mutual agreement, it shall pursue the claim, if at all, in accordance with the provisions of AS 36.30.620 – AS 36.30.632. To the extent not otherwise governed by the preceding, the claim shall be brought only in the Superior Court of the State of Alaska and not elsewhere.

**SEC. 7.11 SEVERABILITY**
If any provision of the contract is found to be invalid or declared by a court to be illegal or in conflict with any law, the validity of the remaining terms and provisions will not be affected; and, the rights and obligations of the parties will be construed and enforced as if the contract did not contain the particular provision held to be invalid.

**SEC. 7.12 SUPPLEMENTAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS**
Proposals must comply with **SEC. 7.06 RIGHT OF REJECTION**. However, if the State fails to identify or detect supplemental terms or conditions that conflict with those contained in this RFP or that diminish the State's rights under any contract resulting from the RFP, the term(s) or condition(s) will be considered null and void. After award of contract:

If a conflict arises between a supplemental term or condition included in the proposal and a term or condition of the RFP, the term or condition of the RFP will prevail; and

If the State's rights would be diminished as a result of application of a supplemental term or condition included in the proposal, the supplemental term or condition will be considered null and void.

**SEC. 7.13 SOLICITATION ADVERTISING**
Public notice has been provided in accordance with 2 AAC 12.220.
SEC. 7.14  FEDERALLY IMPOSED TARIFFS

Changes in price (increase or decrease) resulting directly from a new or updated Federal Tariff, excise tax, or duty, imposed after contract award may be adjusted during the contract period or before delivery into the United States via contract amendment.

- **Notification of Changes:** The Contractor must promptly notify the Procurement Officer in writing of any new, increased, or decreased Federal excise tax or duty that may result in either an increase or decrease in the contact price and shall take appropriate action as directed by the Procurement Officer.

- **After-imposed or Increased Taxes and Duties:** Any Federal excise tax or duty for goods or services covered by this contract that was exempted or excluded on the contract award date but later imposed on the Contractor during the contract period, as the result of legislative, judicial, or administrative action may result in a price increase provided:
  
a) The tax or duty takes effect after the contract award date and isn’t otherwise addressed by the contract;

b) The Contractor warrants, in writing, that no amount of the newly imposed Federal excise tax or duty or rate increase was included in the contract price, as a contingency or otherwise.

- **After-relieved or Decreased Taxes and Duties:** The contract price shall be decreased by the amount of any decrease in Federal excise tax or duty for goods or services under the contract, except social security or other employment taxes, that the Contractor is required to pay or bear, or does not obtain a refund of, through the Contractor’s fault, negligence, or failure to follow instructions of the Procurement Officer.

- **State’s Ability to Make Changes:** The State reserves the right to request verification of Federal excise tax or duty amounts on goods or services covered by this contract and increase or decrease the contract price accordingly.

- **Price Change Threshold:** No adjustment shall be made in the contract price under this clause unless the amount of the adjustment exceeds $250.
SECTION 8. ATTACHMENTS

SEC. 8.01 ATTACHMENTS
Attachments:

1) Standard Agreement Form (SAF) - Appendix A

2) Certification of Entitlement to the Alaska Bidder Preference

3) Cost Proposal
ATTACHMENT 1

STANDARD AGREEMENT FORM FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

The parties’ contract comprises this Standard Agreement Form, as well as its referenced Articles and their associated Appendices

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<th>5. Vendor Number</th>
<th>6. IRIS GAE Number (if used)</th>
<th>7. Alaska Business License Number</th>
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This contract is between the State of Alaska,

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<th>Hereafter the State, and</th>
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10. **ARTICLE** 1. Appendices: Appendices referred to in this contract and attached to it are considered part of it.

**ARTICLE** 2. Performance of Service:

2.1 Appendix A (General Provisions), Articles 1 through 16, governs the performance of services under this contract.

2.2 Appendix B sets forth the liability and insurance provisions of this contract.

2.3 Appendix C sets forth the services to be performed by the Contractor.

**ARTICLE** 3. Period of Performance: The period of performance for this contract begins ______________________, and ends ______________________.

**ARTICLE** 4. Considerations:

4.1 In full consideration of the Contractor’s performance under this contract, the State shall pay the Contractor a sum not to exceed $____________________ in accordance with the provisions of Appendix D.

4.2 When billing the State, the Contractor shall refer to the Authority Number or the Agency Contract Number and send the billing to:

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<th>11. Department of</th>
<th>Attention: Division of</th>
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<th>Attention:</th>
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12. **CONTRACTOR**

Name of Firm

Signature of Authorized Representative

Typed or Printed Name of Authorized Representative

Title

14. **CERTIFICATION**: I certify that the facts herein and on supporting documents are correct, that this voucher constitutes a legal charge against funds and appropriations cited, that sufficient funds are encumbered to pay this obligation, or that there is a sufficient balance in the appropriation cited to cover this obligation. I am aware that to knowingly make or allow false entries or alternations on a public record, or knowingly destroy, mutilate, suppress, conceal, remove or otherwise impair the verity, legibility or availability of a public record constitutes tampering with public records punishable under AS 11.56.815–.820. Other disciplinary action may be taken up to and including dismissal.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>13. <strong>CONTRACTING AGENCY</strong></th>
<th>Signature of Head of Contracting Agency or Designee</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Typed or Printed Name</th>
<th>Typed or Printed Name of Project Manager</th>
<th>Title</th>
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**NOTICE**: This contract has no effect until signed by the head of contracting agency or designee.
APPENDIX A
GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article 1. Definitions.

1.1 In this contract and appendices, "Project Manager" or "Agency Head" or "Procurement Officer" means the person who signs this contract on behalf of the Requesting Agency and includes a successor or authorized representative.

1.2 "State Contracting Agency" means the department for which this contract is to be performed and for which the Commissioner or Authorized Designee acted in signing this contract.

Article 2. Inspections and Reports.

2.1 The department may inspect, in the manner and at reasonable times it considers appropriate, all the Contractor's facilities and activities under this contract.

2.2 The Contractor shall make progress and other reports in the manner and at the times the department reasonably requires.

Article 3. Disputes.

3.1 If the Contractor has a claim arising in connection with the contract that it cannot resolve with the State by mutual agreement, it shall pursue the claim, if at all, in accordance with the provisions of AS 36.30.620 – 632.


4.1 The Contractor may not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, religion, color, national origin, or because of age, disability, sex, marital status, changes in marital status, pregnancy or parenthood when the reasonable demands of the position(s) do not require distinction on the basis of age, disability, sex, marital status, changes in marital status, pregnancy, or parenthood. The Contractor shall take affirmative action to insure that the applicants are considered for employment and that employees are treated during employment without unlawful regard to their race, color, religion, national origin, ancestry, disability, age, sex, marital status, changes in marital status, pregnancy or parenthood. This action must include, but need not be limited to, the following: employment, upgrading, demotion, transfer, recruitment or recruitment advertising, layoff or termination, rates of pay or other forms of compensation, and selection for training including apprenticeship. The Contractor shall post in conspicuous places, available to employees and applicants for employment, notices setting out the provisions of this paragraph.

4.2 The Contractor shall state, in all solicitations or advertisements for employees to work on State of Alaska contract jobs, that it is an equal opportunity employer and that all qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, religion, color, national origin, age, disability, sex, marital status, changes in marital status, pregnancy or parenthood.
4.3 The Contractor shall send to each labor union or representative of workers with which the Contractor has a collective bargaining agreement or other contract or understanding a notice advising the labor union or workers' compensation representative of the Contractor's commitments under this article and post copies of the notice in conspicuous places available to all employees and applicants for employment.

4.4 The Contractor shall include the provisions of this article in every contract and shall require the inclusion of these provisions in every contract entered into by any of its subcontractors, so that those provisions will be binding upon each subcontractor. For the purpose of including those provisions in any contract or subcontract, as required by this contract, “Contractor” and “subcontractor” may be changed to reflect appropriately the name or designation of the parties of the contract or subcontract.

4.5 The Contractor shall cooperate fully with State efforts which seek to deal with the problem of unlawful discrimination, and with all other State efforts to guarantee fair employment practices under this contract, and promptly comply with all requests and directions from the State Commission for Human Rights or any of its officers or agents relating to prevention of discriminatory employment practices.

4.6 Full cooperation in paragraph 4.5 includes, but is not limited to, being a witness in any proceeding involving questions of unlawful discrimination if that is requested by any official or agency of the State of Alaska; permitting employees of the Contractor to be witnesses or complainants in any proceeding involving questions of unlawful discrimination, if that is requested by any official or agency of the State of Alaska; participating in meetings; submitting periodic reports on the equal employment aspects of present and future employment; assisting inspection of the Contractor’s facilities; and promptly complying with all State directives considered essential by any office or agency of the State of Alaska to insure compliance with all federal and state laws, regulations, and policies pertaining to the prevention of discriminatory employment practices.

4.7 Failure to perform under this article constitutes a material breach of contract.

Article 5. Termination.
The Project Manager, by written notice, may terminate this contract, in whole or in part, when it is in the best interest of the State. In the absence of a breach of contract by the Contractor, the State is liable only for payment in accordance with the payment provisions of this contract for services rendered before the effective date of termination.

Article 6. No Assignment or Delegation.
The Contractor may not assign or delegate this contract, or any part of it, or any right to any of the money to be paid under it, except with the written consent of the Project Manager and the Agency Head.
Article 7. No Additional Work or Material.
No claim for additional services, not specifically provided in this contract, performed or furnished by the Contractor, will be allowed, nor may the Contractor do any work or furnish any material not covered by the contract unless the work or material is ordered in writing by the Project Manager and approved by the Agency Head.

Article 8. Independent Contractor.
The Contractor and any agents and employees of the Contractor act in an independent capacity and are not officers or employees or agents of the State in the performance of this contract.

Article 9. Payment of Taxes.
As a condition of performance of this contract, the Contractor shall pay all federal, state, and local taxes incurred by the Contractor and shall require their payment by any subcontractor or any other persons in the performance of this contract. Satisfactory performance of this paragraph is a condition precedent to payment by the State under this contract.

Article 10. Ownership of Documents.
All designs, drawings, specifications, notes, artwork, and other work developed in the performance of this agreement are produced for hire and remain the sole property of the State of Alaska and may be used by the State for any other purpose without additional compensation to the Contractor. The Contractor agrees not to assert any rights and not to establish any claim under the design patent or copyright laws. Nevertheless, if the Contractor does mark such documents with a statement suggesting they are trademarked, copyrighted, or otherwise protected against the State’s unencumbered use or distribution, the Contractor agrees that this paragraph supersedes any such statement and renders it void. The Contractor, for a period of three years after final payment under this contract, agrees to furnish and provide access to all retained materials at the request of the Project Manager. Unless otherwise directed by the Project Manager, the Contractor may retain copies of all the materials.

This contract is governed by the laws of the State of Alaska. To the extent not otherwise governed by Article 3 of this Appendix, any claim concerning this contract shall be brought only in the Superior Court of the State of Alaska and not elsewhere.

Unless specifically amended and approved by the Department of Law, the terms of this contract supersede any provisions the Contractor may seek to add. The Contractor may not add additional or different terms to this contract; AS 45.02.207(b)(1). The Contractor specifically acknowledges and agrees that, among other things, provisions in any documents it seeks to append hereto that purport to (1) waive the State of Alaska’s sovereign immunity, (2) impose indemnification obligations on the State of Alaska, or (3) limit liability of the Contractor for acts of Contractor negligence, are expressly superseded by this contract and are void.

Article 13. Officials Not to Benefit.
Contractor must comply with all applicable federal or state laws regulating ethical conduct of public officers and employees.
Article 14. Covenant Against Contingent Fees. 
The Contractor warrants that no person or agency has been employed or retained to solicit or secure this contract upon an agreement or understanding for a commission, percentage, brokerage or contingent fee except employees or agencies maintained by the Contractor for the purpose of securing business. For the breach or violation of this warranty, the State may terminate this contract without liability or in its discretion deduct from the contract price or consideration the full amount of the commission, percentage, brokerage or contingent fee.

Article 15. Compliance. 
In the performance of this contract, the Contractor must comply with all applicable federal, state, and borough regulations, codes, and laws, and be liable for all required insurance, licenses, permits and bonds.

The parties to this contract are not liable for the consequences of any failure to perform, or default in performing, any of their obligations under this Agreement, if that failure or default is caused by any unforeseeable Force Majeure, beyond the control of, and without the fault or negligence of, the respective party. For the purposes of this Agreement, Force Majeure will mean war (whether declared or not); revolution; invasion; insurrection; riot; civil commotion; sabotage; military or usurped power; lightning; explosion; fire; storm; drought; flood; earthquake; epidemic; quarantine; strikes; acts or restraints of governmental authorities affecting the project or directly or indirectly prohibiting or restricting the furnishing or use of materials or labor required; inability to secure materials, machinery, equipment or labor because of priority, allocation or other regulations of any governmental authorities.
ATTACHMENT 2
CERTIFICATION OF ENTITLEMENT TO THE ALASKA BIDDER PREFERENCE

I am the offeror or a duly authorized agent of the offeror, and I certify that the offeror is entitled to the Alaska Bidder Preference. I know and understand that the Alaska Bidder Preference provides for substantial benefits which could be favorable to the offeror and which could affect the award of the Request for Proposals to the offeror’s benefit. I am aware that falsely claiming the Alaska Bidder Preference is a violation of the State of Alaska Procurement Code (AS 36.30) and may be cause for felony prosecution and conviction.

I offer the following evidence or statements in support of my Certification of Entitlement to the Alaska Bidder Preference:

1. As of the deadline for receipt of the proposal, the offeror possesses a valid Alaska business license in any one of the following forms:
   - a copy of an Alaska business license;
   - certification on the proposal that the offeror has a valid Alaska business license and has included the license number in the proposal;
   - a canceled check for the Alaska business license fee;
   - a copy of the Alaska business license application with a receipt stamp from the State’s occupational licensing office; OR
   - a sworn notarized affidavit that the offeror has applied and paid for the Alaska business license.

2. In addition to holding a current Alaska business license prior to the deadline for receipt of proposals, the offeror:
   - (a) is submitting a proposal for goods or services under the name appearing on the offeror’s current Alaska business license;
   - (b) has maintained a place of business within the state staffed by the offeror, or an employee of the offeror, for a period of six months immediately preceding the date of the bid;
   - (c) is incorporated or qualified to do business under the laws of the state, is a sole proprietorship, and the proprietor is a resident of the state, is a Limited Liability Company (LLC) organized under AS 10.50 and all members are residents of the state, or is a partnership under AS 32.06 or AS 32.11 and all partners are residents of the state; AND
   - (d) if a joint venture, is composed entirely of ventures that qualify under items (a)-(c) of this subsection.

__________________________________________________________  ____________________________
Signature of Offeror or Offeror’s Authorized Agent                  Date
ATTACHMENT 3
COST PROPOSAL FORM
CARBON OFFSET CONSULTING SERVICES

Offerors are to submit their cost using this Cost Proposal Form. Costs offered are to remain firm for the duration of the contract and are to include all costs associated with providing required services, including, but not limited to, direct and indirect costs, payroll, supplies, equipment, overhead, and profit. The Total Hourly Rate shown on this form is the cost that will be used for evaluation and award purposes for this RFP.

As stated in this RFP, the quantities of services are as needed. The State will only pay for actual services provided. The amount of services needed may vary based upon the actual needs of the State. The State does not guarantee a minimum or maximum amount of services under any contract resulting from this RFP. If services are required, hourly rates for listed positions will be paid at the Hourly Rate shown on the offeror’s Cost Proposal Form.

Travel associated costs to Alaska in the performance of a resulting contract for as need carbon offset consulting services will be paid by the State, if approved. Travel costs include airfare, transportation, lodging, and per diem only (per diem is capped at $60 per day, per person). Travel must be approved by the DNR project manager prior to executing travel services. The Contractor must provide the DNR project manager line item pricing for airfare, transportation, lodging, and per diem, at least two weeks prior to travel for review/approval. Airfare, transportation, lodging, and per diem shall be in accordance with Alaska Administrative Manual (AAM) 60, Travel.

1. COSTS OFFERED FOR AS NEEDED CARBON OFFSET CONSULTING SERVICES:

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<th>Item No.</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Hourly Rate</th>
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<td>1.</td>
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<td>2.</td>
<td>As Needed Carbon Offset Consulting Services in Alaska Enter Position Title:</td>
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<td>3.</td>
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<td>10.</td>
<td>As Needed Carbon Offset Consulting Services in Alaska Enter Position Title:</td>
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<tr>
<td>11.</td>
<td>Total Hourly Rate (add hourly rates of Items 1 - 10)</td>
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2. PREFERENCE CERTIFICATION:

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<th>QUESTION</th>
<th>YES</th>
<th>NO</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Does your company qualify for the Alaska Bidder’s Preference?</td>
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<td>2.</td>
<td>Does your company qualify for the Alaska Veteran’s Preference? If yes, provide a copy of your DD 214 with your service/social security number, date of birth, and other Privacy Act protected information redacted or “inked” out.</td>
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<td>3.</td>
<td>Does your company qualify for the Alaskans with Disabilities preference? If yes, you must provide a copy of your certification letter issued by the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation to receive this preference.</td>
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<td>4.</td>
<td>Does your company qualify for the Employment Program Preference? If yes, you must provide a copy of your certification letter issued by the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation to receive this preference.</td>
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3. OFFEROR CERTIFICATION:

- **Company Name:**
- **Authorized Representative’s Printed Name:**
- **Authorized Representative’s Signature:**
- **Date Cost Proposal Signed:**