



STATE OF MONTANA REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)

RFP Number: HWY-310080-NP	RFP Title: WATERSHED #9 – FEASIBLE WETLAND MITIGATION SITE		
RFP Response Due Date and Time: JULY 15, 2011 3:00 p.m., Mountain Time		Number of Pages: 31	Issue Date: June 7, 2011

ISSUING AGENCY INFORMATION

Procurement Officer: NICOLE PALLISTER	PURCHASING SERVICES SECTION MONTANA DEPARTEMENT OF TRANSPORTATION Phone: (406) 444-6365 Fax: (406) 444-5411 TTY Users: 1-800-335-7592 or (406) 444-7696
Website: http://vendor.mt.gov/	

INSTRUCTIONS TO OFFERORS

Return Sealed Proposal to:		Mark Face of Envelope/Package with: RFP Number: HWY-310080-NP RFP Response Due Date: JULY 15, 2011
PHYSICAL ADDRESS: Purchasing Services Section Montana Department of Transportation 2701 Prospect Avenue Helena, MT 59620-1001	MAILING ADDRESS: Purchasing Services Section Montana Department of Transportation P.O. Box 201001 Helena, MT 59620-1001	
Special Instructions: Attachment #1 – Boundary Map; Attachment #2 – Sample Wetland Credit Figure; Attachment #3 – Conservation Easement Document.		

OFFERORS MUST COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING

Offeror Name/Address:	(Name/Title)
	(Signature) Print name and title and sign in ink. By submitting a response to this RFP, offeror acknowledges it understands and will comply with the RFP specifications and requirements.
Type of Entity (e.g., corporation, LLC, etc.)	Offeror Phone Number:
Offeror E-mail Address:	Offeror FAX Number:

OFFERORS MUST RETURN THIS COVER SHEET WITH RFP RESPONSE

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INSTRUCTIONS TO OFFERORS

It is the responsibility of each offeror to:

Follow the format required in the RFP when preparing your response. Provide responses in a clear and concise manner.

Provide complete answers/descriptions. Read and answer **all** questions and requirements. Proposals are evaluated based **solely** on the information and materials provided in your written response.

Use any forms provided, e.g., cover page, budget form, certification forms, etc.

Submit your response on time. Note all the dates and times listed in the Schedule of Events and within the document. Late proposals are **never** accepted.

The following items MUST be included in the response.
Failure to include ANY of these items may result in a nonresponsive determination.

- ☒ Signed Cover Sheet
- ☒ Signed Addenda (if appropriate) in accordance with Section 1.4.3
- ☒ Correctly executed State of Montana "Affidavit for Trade Secret Confidentiality" form, if claiming information to be confidential or proprietary in accordance with Section 2.3.1.
- ☒ In addition to a detailed response to all requirements within Sections 3, 4, and 5, offeror must acknowledge that it has read, understands, and will comply with each section/subsection listed below by initialing the line to the left of each. If offeror cannot meet a particular requirement, provide a detailed explanation next to that requirement.

- _____ Section 1, Introduction and Instructions
- _____ Section 2, RFP Standard Information
- _____ Section 3, Scope of Services
- _____ Section 3.1, Specifications for Work
- _____ Section 3.2, Project Location and Limitations
- _____ Section 3.3, Wetland Mitigation Site Requirements
- _____ Section 3.4, Right of Way Requirements
- _____ Section 3.5, Deliverable
- _____ Section 3.6, Post-Selection Applicant Meeting
- _____ Section 4.1, State's Right to Investigate and Reject
- _____ Section 5, Cost Proposal
- _____ Section 6, Evaluation Process
- _____ Appendix A, Standard Terms and Conditions
- _____ Appendix B, Contract
- _____ Appendix C, Client Reference Form

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

EVENT

DATE

RFP Issue Date.....	June 7, 2011
Deadline for Receipt of Written Questions	June 21, 2011
Deadline for Posting Written Responses to the State's Website	June 28, 2011
RFP Response Due Date	July 15, 2011
Intended Date for Contract Award	July 29, 2011*

*The dates above identified by an asterisk are included for planning purposes. These dates are subject to change.

SECTION 1: INTRODUCTION AND INSTRUCTIONS

1.1 INTRODUCTION

The STATE OF MONTANA, Department of Transportation ("State") is seeking a contractor to provide site(s) that the contractor will document to be feasible wetland mitigation site(s). A more complete description of the services to be provided is found in Section 3.

1.2 CONTRACT PERIOD

The contract period begins upon execution of the contract, and ends upon approval by the Department of Transportation's Environmental Services Bureau of the final project report submitted by September 15, 2011.

1.3 SINGLE POINT OF CONTACT

From the date this Request for Proposal (RFP) is issued until an offeror is selected and announced by the procurement officer, **offerors shall not communicate with any State staff regarding this procurement, except at the direction of Nicole Pallister**, the procurement officer in charge of the solicitation. Any unauthorized contact may disqualify the offeror from further consideration. Contact information for the single point of contact is:

Procurement Officer: **Nicole Pallister**
Telephone Number: **(406) 444-6365**
Fax Number: **(406) 444-5411**
E-mail Address: **npallister@mt.gov**

1.4 REQUIRED REVIEW

1.4.1 Review RFP. Offerors shall carefully review the entire RFP. Offerors shall promptly notify the procurement officer identified above via e-mail or in writing of any ambiguity, inconsistency, unduly restrictive specifications, or error which they discover. In this notice, the offeror shall include any terms or requirements within the RFP that preclude the offeror from responding or add unnecessary cost. Offerors shall provide an explanation with suggested modifications. The notice must be received by the deadline for receipt of inquiries set forth below. The State will determine any changes to the RFP.

1.4.2 Form of Questions. Offerors having questions or requiring clarification or interpretation of any section within this RFP must address these issues via e-mail or in writing to the procurement officer listed above on or before **June 21, 2011**. Offerors are to submit questions using the Vendor RFP Question and Answer Form available on the OneStop Vendor Information website at: <http://svc.mt.gov/gsd/OneStop/GSDDocuments.aspx> or by calling (406) 444-6365. Clear reference to the section, page, and item in question must be included in the form. Questions received after the deadline may not be considered.

1.4.3 State's Response. The State will provide a written response by **June 28, 2011** to all questions received by **June 21, 2011**. The State's response will be by written addendum and will be posted on the State's website with the RFP at <http://svc.mt.gov/gsd/OneStop/SolicitationDefault.aspx> by the close of business on the date listed. Any other form of interpretation, correction, or change to this RFP will not be binding upon the State. **Offerors must sign and return with their RFP response an Acknowledgment of Addendum for any addendum issued.**

1.5 GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

1.5.1 Acceptance of Standard Terms and Conditions/Contract. *By submitting a response to this RFP, offeror accepts the standard terms and conditions and contract set out in Appendices A and B, respectively. Much of the language included in the standard terms and conditions and contract reflects requirements of Montana law.*

Offerors requesting additions or exceptions to the standard terms and conditions, contract terms, shall submit them to the procurement officer listed above by the date in Section 1.4.2. A request must be accompanied by an explanation why the exception is being sought and what specific effect it will have on the offeror's ability to respond to the RFP or perform the contract. The State reserves the right to address nonmaterial requests for exceptions to the standard terms and conditions and contract language with the highest scoring offeror during contract negotiation.

The State shall identify any revisions to the standard terms and conditions and contract language in a written addendum issued for this RFP. The addendum will apply to all offerors submitting a response to this RFP. The State will determine any changes to the standard terms and conditions and/or contract.

1.5.2 Resulting Contract. This RFP and any addenda, the offeror's RFP response, including any amendments, a best and final offer (if any), and any clarification question responses shall be incorporated by reference in any resulting contract.

1.5.3 Understanding of Specifications and Requirements. By submitting a response to this RFP, offeror acknowledges it understands and will comply with the RFP specifications and requirements.

1.5.4 Offeror's Signature. Offeror's proposal must be signed in ink by an individual authorized to legally bind the offeror. The offeror's signature guarantees that the offer has been established without collusion. Offeror shall provide proof of authority of the person signing the RFP upon State's request.

1.5.5 Offer in Effect for 120 Calendar Days. Offeror agrees that it may not modify, withdraw, or cancel its proposal for a 120-day period following the RFP due date, or receipt of best and final offer, if required.

1.6 SUBMITTING A PROPOSAL

1.6.1 Organization of Proposal. Offerors must organize their proposal into sections that follow the format of this RFP. Proposals should be bound, and must include tabbed dividers separating each section. Proposal pages must be consecutively numbered.

All subsections not listed in the "Instructions to Offerors" on page 3 require a response. Restate the section/subsection number and the text immediately prior to your written response.

Unless specifically requested in the RFP, an offeror making the statement "Refer to our literature..." or "Please see www.....com" may be deemed nonresponsive or receive point deductions. If making reference to materials located in another section of the proposal, specific page numbers and sections must be noted. **The Evaluator/Evaluation Committee is not required to search through the proposal or literature to find a response.**

The State encourages offerors to use materials (e.g., paper, dividers, binders, brochures, etc.) that contain post-consumer recycled content. Offerors are encouraged to print/copy on both sides of each page.

1.6.2 Failure to Comply with Instructions. Offerors failing to comply with these instructions may be subject to point deductions. Further, the State may deem a proposal nonresponsive or disqualify it from further

consideration if it does not follow the response format, is difficult to read or understand, or is missing requested information.

1.6.3 Multiple Proposals. Offerors may, at their option, submit multiple proposals. Each proposal shall be evaluated separately.

1.6.4 Copies Required and Deadline for Receipt of Proposals. Offerors must submit **one original proposal and three copies** to the Purchasing Services Section. The State reserves the right to request an electronic copy of the RFP response.

EACH PROPOSAL MUST BE SEALED AND LABELED ON THE OUTSIDE OF THE PACKAGE clearly indicating it is in response to **RFP #HWY-310080-NP. *Proposals must be received at the Purchasing Services Section, Administration Division, prior to 3:00 p.m., Mountain Time, July 15, 2011. Offeror is solely responsible for assuring delivery to the Purchasing Services Section by the designated time.***

1.6.5 Facsimile Responses. A facsimile response to an RFP will ONLY be accepted on an exception basis with prior approval of the procurement officer and only if it is received in its entirety by the specified deadline. Responses to RFPs received after the deadline will not be considered.

1.6.6 Late Proposals. ***Regardless of cause, the State shall not accept late proposals. Such proposals will automatically be disqualified from consideration.*** Offeror may request the State return the proposal at offeror's expense or the State will dispose of the proposal if requested by the offeror. (See Administrative Rules of Montana (ARM) 2.5.509.)

1.7 COSTS/OWNERSHIP OF MATERIALS

1.7.1 State Not Responsible for Preparation Costs. Offeror is solely responsible for all costs it incurs prior to contract execution.

1.7.2 Ownership of Timely Submitted Materials. The State shall own all materials submitted in response to this RFP.

SECTION 2: RFP STANDARD INFORMATION

2.1 AUTHORITY

The RFP is issued under 18-4-304, Montana Code Annotated (MCA) and ARM 2.5.602. The RFP process is a procurement option allowing the award to be based on stated evaluation criteria. The RFP states the relative importance of all evaluation criteria. The State shall use only the evaluation criteria outlined in this RFP.

2.2 OFFEROR COMPETITION

The State encourages free and open competition to obtain quality, cost-effective services and supplies. The State designs specifications, proposal requests, and conditions to accomplish this objective.

2.3 RECEIPT OF PROPOSALS AND PUBLIC INSPECTION

2.3.1 Public Information. Subject to exceptions provided by Montana law, all information received in response to this RFP, including copyrighted material, is public information. Proposals will be made available for public viewing and copying shortly after the proposal due date and time. The exceptions to this requirement are: (1) bona fide trade secrets meeting the requirements of the Uniform Trade Secrets Act, Title 30, chapter 14, part 4, MCA, that have been properly marked, separated, and documented; (2) matters involving individual safety as determined by the State; and (3) other constitutional protections. See 18-4-304, MCA. The State provides a copier for interested parties' use at \$0.25 per page. The interested party is responsible for the cost of copies and to provide personnel to do the copying.

2.3.2 Procurement Officer Review of Proposals. Upon opening the proposals in response to this RFP the procurement officer reviews the proposals for information that meets the exceptions in Section 2.3.1, providing the following conditions have been met:

- Confidential information (including any provided in electronic media) is clearly marked and separated from the rest of the proposal.
- The proposal does not contain confidential material in the cost or price section.
- An affidavit from the offeror's legal counsel attesting to and explaining the validity of the trade secret claim as set out in Title 30, chapter 14, part 4, MCA, is attached to each proposal containing trade secrets. Counsel must use the State of Montana "Affidavit for Trade Secret Confidentiality" form in requesting the trade secret claim. This affidavit form is available on the OneStop Vendor Information website at: <http://svc.mt.gov/gsd/OneStop/GSDDocuments.aspx> or by calling (406) 444-6365.

Information separated out under this process will be available for review only by the procurement officer, the evaluator/evaluation committee members, and limited other designees. Offerors shall pay all of its legal costs and related fees and expenses associated with defending a claim for confidentiality should another party submit a "right to know" (open records) request.

2.4 CLASSIFICATION AND EVALUATION OF PROPOSALS

2.4.1 Initial Classification of Proposals as Responsive or Nonresponsive. The State shall initially classify all proposals as either "responsive" or "nonresponsive" (ARM 2.5.602). The State may deem a proposal nonresponsive if: (1) any of the required information is not provided; (2) the submitted price is found to be excessive or inadequate as measured by the RFP criteria; or (3) the proposal does not meet RFP requirements and specifications. The State may find any proposal to be nonresponsive at any time during the procurement process. If the State deems a proposal nonresponsive, it will not be considered further.

2.4.2 Determination of Responsibility. The procurement officer will determine whether an offeror has met the standards of responsibility consistent with ARM 2.5.407. An offeror may be determined nonresponsible at any time during the procurement process if information surfaces that supports a nonresponsible determination. If an offeror is found nonresponsible, the procurement officer will notify the offeror by mail. The determination will be made a part of the procurement file.

2.4.3 Evaluation of Proposals. An evaluator/evaluation committee will evaluate all responsive proposals based on stated criteria and recommend award to the highest scoring offeror. The evaluator/evaluation committee may initiate discussion, negotiation, or a best and final offer. In scoring against stated criteria, the evaluator/evaluation committee may consider such factors as accepted industry standards and a comparative evaluation of other proposals in terms of differing price and quality. These scores will be used to determine the most advantageous offering to the State. If an evaluation committee meets to deliberate and evaluate the proposals, the public may attend and observe the evaluation committee deliberations.

2.4.4 Completeness of Proposals. Selection and award will be based on the offeror's proposal and other items outlined in this RFP. Proposals may not include references to information such as Internet websites, unless specifically requested. Information or materials presented by offerors outside the formal response or subsequent discussion, negotiation, or best and final offer, if requested, will not be considered, will have no bearing on any award, and may result in the offeror being disqualified from further consideration.

2.4.5 Opportunity for Discussion/Negotiation and/or Oral Presentation/Product Demonstration. After receipt of proposals and prior to the recommendation of award, the procurement officer may initiate discussions with one or more offerors should clarification or negotiation be necessary. Offerors may also be required to make an oral presentation and/or product demonstration to clarify their RFP response or to further define their offer. In either case, offerors should be prepared to send qualified personnel to Helena Montana, to discuss technical and contractual aspects of their proposal. Oral presentations and product demonstrations, if requested, shall be at the offeror's expense.

2.4.6 Best and Final Offer. Under Montana law, the procurement officer may request a best and final offer if additional information is required to make a final decision. The State reserves the right to request a best and final offer based on price/cost alone. Please note that the State rarely requests a best and final offer on cost alone.

2.4.7 Evaluator/Evaluation Committee Recommendation for Contract Award. The evaluator/evaluation committee will provide a written recommendation for contract award to the procurement officer that contains the scores, justification, and rationale for the decision. The procurement officer will review the recommendation to ensure its compliance with the RFP process and criteria before concurring with the evaluator's/evaluation committee's recommendation.

2.4.8 Request for Documents Notice. Upon concurrence with the evaluator's/evaluation committee's recommendation, the procurement officer will request from the highest scoring offeror the required documents and information, such as insurance documents, contract performance security, an electronic copy of any requested material (e.g., proposal, response to clarification questions, and/or best and final offer), and any other necessary documents. Receipt of this request does not constitute a contract and **no work may begin until a contract signed by all parties is in place.** The procurement officer will notify all other offerors of the State's selection.

2.4.9 Contract Execution. Upon receipt of all required materials, a contract (Appendix B) incorporating the Standard Terms and Conditions (Appendix A), as well as the highest scoring offeror's proposal, will be provided to the highest scoring offeror for signature. The highest scoring offeror will be expected to accept and agree to all material requirements contained in Appendices A and B of this RFP. If the highest scoring offeror does not accept all material requirements, the State may move to the next highest

scoring offeror, or cancel the RFP. Work under the contract may begin when the contract is signed by all parties.

2.5 STATE'S RIGHTS RESERVED

While the State has every intention to award a contract resulting from this RFP, issuance of the RFP in no way constitutes a commitment by the State to award and execute a contract. Upon a determination such actions would be in its best interest, the State, in its sole discretion, reserves the right to:

- Cancel or terminate this RFP (18-4-307, MCA);
- Reject any or all proposals received in response to this RFP (ARM 2.5.602);
- Waive any undesirable, inconsequential, or inconsistent provisions of this RFP that would not have significant impact on any proposal (ARM 2.5.505);
- Not award a contract, if it is in the State's best interest not to proceed with contract execution (ARM 2.5.602); or
- If awarded, terminate any contract if the State determines adequate state funds are not available (18-4-313, MCA).

SECTION 3: SCOPE OF SERVICES

3.1 SPECIFICATIONS FOR WORK – WATERSHED # 9 – FEASIBLE WETLAND MITIGATION SITE

All subsections of Section 3 not listed in the "Instructions to Offerors" on page 3 require a response. Restate the subsection number and the text immediately prior to your written response.

NOTE: Each item must be thoroughly addressed. Offerors taking exception to any requirements listed in this section may be found nonresponsive or be subject to point deductions.

The Montana Department of Transportation (MDT) is in need of feasible wetland mitigation sites that will compensate for unavoidable impacts to wetlands caused by transportation projects within the Watershed # 9 – Middle Missouri River Basin in east-central Montana (See Attached Figure). Watershed #9 includes portions of Blaine, Fergus, Garfield, Hill, Judith Gap, Petroleum, Phillips, and Valley Counties.

MDT is seeking applicants to provide a site or sites the contractor will document to be feasible wetland mitigation site(s) and which can be acquired by MDT in fee or where the landowner is willing to execute the attached perpetual conservation easement. MDT may choose not to select any of the sites presented, or may select more than one based on MDT's determination of sites deemed to be cost-effective for the wetland mitigation program. MDT will perform design, permitting and construction activities on the selected site(s). Please note that although MDT may have a future need for stream mitigation credits in this watershed, the Department is only interested in wetland credits at this time.

3.2 PROJECT LOCATION AND LIMITATIONS

- Project can be located anywhere within the geographic boundaries of Watershed #9– Middle Missouri River Basin in East-Central Montana.
- It is preferable for mitigation to occur at a single location or parcel(s) under a single ownership.

3.3 WETLAND MITIGATION SITE REQUIREMENTS

- Provide MDT with a wetland mitigation site that will satisfy COE requirements under either Restoration (Re-establishment or Rehabilitation) or Creation (Establishment) for compensatory wetland mitigation in Watershed # 9. Suitable projects may include the restoration or creation of wetlands impacted by drainage ditches, tile drains, etc.
 - Any preservation components must be <10% of the overall wetland credit acres.
 - Any open water components greater than 3 feet in depth must be limited to <10% of overall wetland credit acres.
 - Upland buffer widths of 100–150' should be assumed around all wetland credit acres.
- Potential site(s) must have a hydrologic source from either groundwater or surface water drainage. Hydrologic sources for sites should not consist entirely of irrigation water or require artificial manipulation or maintenance.

- Potential site(s) must maximize aquatic, emergent, and scrub/shrub wetland vegetation community development, associated wildlife habitat improvements, nutrient/toxicant removal functions, surface water storage functions and expansion of floodplain areas (if applicable).
- Potential site(s) must generate 20-30 acres of wetland credits using COE mitigation crediting requirements;
- The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (COE) requires that DNRC Water Rights be secured for all wetland mitigation sites to protect the hydrology of the sites. Therefore, the applicant must provide MDT with evidence of existing water rights that will be transferred with the property for dedication to the site(s) or demonstrate that new water rights are available in the watershed.

3.4 RIGHT OF WAY REQUIREMENTS

- Property must be available for fee acquisition or include a commitment letter signed by the landowner indicating an understanding and acceptance of the terms of the attached MDT Wetland Mitigation Easement.
- The fee acquisition or easement area will need to include the wetland mitigation area and a 100-150' upland buffer area, while minimizing excess property acquisition.
- The acquisition or easement area will be appraised and negotiated by MDT Right-of-Way staff.

3.5 DELIVERABLE

The deliverable will be a report that contains the full evaluation of the elements included in Sections 3.2, 3.3 and 3.4 and rationale for the site to be developed by MDT for compensatory wetland mitigation consideration. The report must contain a thorough review of the following items along with any other relevant site details.

INTRODUCTION
 DESCRIPTION OF MITIGATION AREA
 EXISTING WETLANDS
 VEGETATION
 SOILS
 HYDROLOGY
 WATER RIGHTS
 SITE PROTECTION IN FEE OR EASEMENT
 DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS
 COST ESTIMATE FOR DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION

Figure #1: Project Location Map

Figure #2: Mitigation Area

Table #1: Potential Mitigation Credits and Ratios

APPENDIX A: GEOTECHNICAL DATA

APPENDIX B: HYDROLOGY/HYDRAULICS DATA

APPENDIX C: PHOTOS

Draft report is to be submitted by August 30, 2011.

Final project report is to be submitted by September 15, 2011.

A boundary map for Watershed #9 – Middle Missouri River Basin is included as Attachment #1, a sample Wetland Credit Figure is included as Attachment #2, and a Conservation Easement Document is included as Attachment #3 to RFP #HWY-310080-NP.

3.6 POST-SELECTION APPLICANT MEETING

Following selection, a mandatory on-site meeting will be held between the selected applicant, landowner and MDT personnel within 2 weeks of contract award to review the site and discuss project details and expectations.

SECTION 4: OFFEROR QUALIFICATIONS

All subsections of Section 4 not listed in the "Instructions to Offerors" on page 3 require a response. Restate the subsection number and the text immediately prior to your written response.

4.1 STATE'S RIGHT TO INVESTIGATE AND REJECT

The State may make such investigations as deemed necessary to determine the offeror's ability to perform the services specified. The State reserves the right to reject a proposal if the information submitted by, or investigation of, the offeror fails to satisfy the State that the offeror is properly qualified to perform the obligations of the contract. *This includes the State's ability to reject the proposal based on negative references.*

4.2 OFFEROR QUALIFICATIONS

To enable the State to determine the capabilities of an offeror to perform the services specified in the RFP, the offeror shall respond to the following regarding its ability to meet the State's requirements. **THE RESPONSE, "(OFFEROR'S NAME) UNDERSTANDS AND WILL COMPLY," IS NOT APPROPRIATE FOR THIS SECTION.**

NOTE: Each item must be thoroughly addressed. Offerors taking exception to any requirements listed in this section may be found nonresponsive or be subject to point deductions.

4.2.1 References. Offeror shall provide a minimum of **three** references that are using or have used services of the type proposed in this RFP. The references may include state governments or universities for whom the offeror, preferably within the last **five** years, has successfully provided a site(s) to be feasible wetland mitigation site(s) that can be acquired by MDT. At a minimum, the offeror shall provide the company name, location where the services were provided, contact person(s), contact telephone number, e-mail address, and a complete description of the services provided, and dates of service. These references may be contacted to verify offeror's ability to perform the contract. The State reserves the right to use any information or additional references deemed necessary to establish the ability of the offeror to perform the contract. Negative references may be grounds for proposal disqualification.

4.2.2 Company Profile and Experience. Offeror shall provide documentation establishing the individual or company submitting the proposal has the qualifications and experience to provide the services specified in this RFP, including, at a minimum:

- a detailed description of any similar past projects, including the service type and dates the services were provided;
- the client for whom the services were provided; and
- a general description of the firm including its primary source of business, organizational structure and size, number of employees, years of experience performing services similar to those described within this RFP.

4.2.3 Resumes. A resume or summary of qualifications, work experience, education, and skills must be provided for all key personnel, including any subcontractors, who will be performing any aspects of the contract. Include years of experience providing services similar to those required; education; and certifications where applicable. Identify what role each person would fulfill in performing work identified in this RFP.

SECTION 5: COST PROPOSAL

All subsections of Section 5 not listed in the "Instructions to Offerors" on page 3 require a response. Restate the subsection number and the text immediately prior to your written response.

Applicant will provide the items in Section 3.5 for initial review and selection by MDT.

- A maximum, 5-page submittal highlighting the components in Sections 3.2, 3.3, & 3.4 and justification for proposing the site as a cost-effective project for MDT wetland mitigation consideration.
- An aerial photograph of the site illustrating the size and potential location of both the easement/acquisition area and the estimated acreages and areas of the various types of compensatory wetland mitigation credit areas (preservation, restoration, creation), similar to Attachment #2, will also be required.
- Commitment letter from landowner.

MDT may choose not to select any of the sites presented, or may select more than one based on MDT determination of the sites deemed to be the most cost-effective, the likelihood of long-term success, and projected costs of the proposed sites.

MDT will perform design, permitting and construction activities.

LUMP SUM TOTAL \$ _____

SECTION 6: EVALUATION PROCESS

6.1 BASIS OF EVALUATION

The evaluator/evaluation committee will review and evaluate the offers according to the following criteria based on a **total number of 100 points**.

The **Provision of Services, References, Company Profile and Experience, and Resumes** portions of the proposal will be evaluated based on the following Scoring Guide. The **Cost Proposal** will be evaluated based on the formula set forth below.

SCORING GUIDE

In awarding points to the evaluation criteria, the evaluator/evaluation committee will consider the following guidelines:

Superior Response (95-100%): A superior response is a highly comprehensive, excellent reply that meets all of the requirements of the RFP. In addition, the response may cover areas not originally addressed within the RFP and/or include additional information and recommendations that would prove both valuable and beneficial to the agency.

Very Good Response (85-94%): A very good response will provide useful information, while showing experience and knowledge within the category. The proposal is well thought out and addresses all requirements set forth in the RFP. The offeror provides insight into their expertise, knowledge and understanding of the subject matter.

Good Response (75-84%): A good response meets all the requirements of the RFP and demonstrates in a clear and concise manner a thorough knowledge and understanding of the project, with no deficiencies noted.

Fair Response (65-74%): A fair response minimally meets most requirements set forth in the RFP. The offeror demonstrates some ability to comply with guidelines and requirements of the project, but knowledge of the subject matter is limited.

Poor Response (60-64%): A poor response minimally meets most requirements set forth in the RFP. The offeror has demonstrated knowledge of the subject matter only.

Failed Response (59% or less): A failed response does not meet the requirements set forth in the RFP. The offeror has not demonstrated sufficient knowledge of the subject matter.

6.2 EVALUATION CRITERIA

Category	Section of RFP	Point Value
Scope of Services	50% of points for a possible 50 points	
1. Specifications for Work		3.1
2. Project Location and Limitation		3.2
3. Wetland Mitigation Site Requirements		3.3
4. Right of Way Requirements		3.4
5. Deliverable		3.5

Category	Section of RFP	Point Value
References		
10% of points for a possible 10 points		
6. References (Complete contact information provided)	4.2.1	
Company Profile and Experience		
10% of points for a possible 10 points		
7. Years of Relevant Experience	4.2.2	
8. Relevant Past Projects	4.2.2	
Resumes		
10% of points for a possible 10 points		
9. Staff Qualifications	4.2.3	
Cost Proposal		
20% of points for a possible 20 points		
10. Cost Proposal	5.0	

Lowest overall cost receives the maximum allotted points. All other proposals receive a percentage of the points available based on their cost relationship to the lowest. Example: Total possible points for cost are 200. Offeror A's cost is \$20,000. Offeror B's cost is \$30,000. Offeror A would receive 200 points. Offeror B would receive 134 points ($\$20,000/\$30,000 = 67\% \times 200 \text{ points} = 134$).

$$\frac{\text{Lowest Responsive Offer Total Cost}}{\text{This Offeror's Total Cost}} \times \text{Number of available points} = \text{Award Points}$$

APPENDIX A: STANDARD TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Standard Terms and Conditions

By submitting a response to this invitation for bid, request for proposal, limited solicitation, or acceptance of a contract, the vendor agrees to acceptance of the following Standard Terms and Conditions and any other provisions that are specific to this solicitation or contract.

ACCEPTANCE/REJECTION OF BIDS, PROPOSALS, OR LIMITED SOLICITATION RESPONSES: The State reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids, proposals, or limited solicitation responses, wholly or in part, and to make awards in any manner deemed in the best interest of the State. Bids, proposals, and limited solicitation responses will be firm for 30 days, unless stated otherwise in the text of the invitation for bid, request for proposal, or limited solicitation.

ACCESS AND RETENTION OF RECORDS: The contractor agrees to provide the department, Legislative Auditor, or their authorized agents, access to any records necessary to determine contract compliance. (Section 18-1-118, MCA). The contractor agrees to create and retain records supporting the services rendered or supplies delivered for a period of three years after either the completion date of the contract or the conclusion of any claim, litigation, or exception relating to the contract taken by the State of Montana or third party.

ALTERATION OF SOLICITATION DOCUMENT: In the event of inconsistencies or contradictions between language contained in the State's solicitation document and a vendor's response, the language contained in the State's original solicitation document will prevail. Intentional manipulation and/or alteration of solicitation document language will result in the vendor's disqualification and possible debarment.

ASSIGNMENT, TRANSFER AND SUBCONTRACTING: The contractor shall not assign, transfer or subcontract any portion of the contract without the express written consent of the department. (Section 18-4-141, MCA.)

AUTHORITY: The attached bid, request for proposal, limited solicitation, or contract is issued under authority of Title 18, Montana Code Annotated, and the Administrative Rules of Montana, Title 2, chapter 5.

COMPLIANCE WITH LAWS: The contractor must, in performance of work under the contract, fully comply with all applicable federal, state, or local laws, rules and regulations, including the Montana Human Rights Act, the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. Any subletting or subcontracting by the contractor subjects subcontractors to the same provision. In accordance with section 49-3-207, MCA, the contractor agrees that the hiring of persons to perform the contract will be made on the basis of merit and qualifications and there will be no discrimination based upon race, color, religion, creed, political ideas, sex, age, marital status, physical or mental disability, or national origin by the persons performing the contract.

CONFORMANCE WITH CONTRACT: No alteration of the terms, conditions, delivery, price, quality, quantities, or specifications of the contract shall be granted without prior written consent of the State Procurement Bureau. Supplies delivered which do not conform to the contract terms, conditions, and specifications may be rejected and returned at the contractor's expense.

DEBARMENT: The contractor certifies, by submitting this bid or proposal, that neither it nor its principals are presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this transaction (contract) by any governmental department or agency. If the contractor cannot certify this statement, attach a written explanation for review by the State.

DISABILITY ACCOMMODATIONS: The State of Montana does not discriminate on the basis of disability in admission to, access to, or operations of its programs, services, or activities. Individuals who need aids, alternative document formats, or services for effective communications or other disability related accommodations in the programs and services offered are invited to make their needs and preferences known to this office. Interested parties should provide as much advance notice as possible.

FACSIMILE RESPONSES: Facsimile responses will be accepted for invitations for bids, small purchases, or limited solicitations ONLY if they are completely received by the State Procurement Bureau prior to the time set for receipt. Bids, or portions thereof, received after the due time will not be considered. Facsimile responses to requests for proposals are ONLY accepted on an exception basis with prior approval of the procurement officer.

FAILURE TO HONOR BID/PROPOSAL: If a bidder/offeror to whom a contract is awarded refuses to accept the award (PO/contract) or fails to deliver in accordance with the contract terms and conditions, the department may, in its discretion, suspend the bidder/offeror for a period of time from entering into any contracts with the State of Montana.

FORCE MAJEURE: Neither party shall be responsible for failure to fulfill its obligations due to causes beyond its reasonable control, including without limitation, acts or omissions of government or military authority, acts of God, materials shortages, transportation delays, fires, floods, labor disturbances, riots, wars, terrorist acts, or any other causes, directly or indirectly beyond the reasonable control of the nonperforming party, so long as such party is using its best efforts to remedy such failure or delays.

HOLD HARMLESS/INDEMNIFICATION: The contractor agrees to protect, defend, and save the State, its elected and appointed officials, agents, and employees, while acting within the scope of their duties as such, harmless from and against all claims, demands, causes of action of any kind or character, including the cost of defense thereof, arising in favor of the contractor's employees or third parties on account of bodily or personal injuries, death, or damage to property arising out of services performed or omissions of services or in any way resulting from the acts or omissions of the contractor and/or its agents, employees, representatives, assigns, subcontractors, except the sole negligence of the State, under this agreement.

LATE BIDS AND PROPOSALS: Regardless of cause, late bids and proposals will not be accepted and will automatically be disqualified from further consideration. It shall be solely the vendor's risk to ensure delivery at the designated office by the designated time. Late bids and proposals will not be opened and may be returned to the vendor at the expense of the vendor or destroyed if requested.

PAYMENT TERM: All payment terms will be computed from the date of delivery of supplies or services OR receipt of a properly executed invoice, whichever is later. Unless otherwise noted in the solicitation document, the State is allowed 30 days to pay such invoices. All contractors will be required to provide banking information at the time of contract execution in order to facilitate State electronic funds transfer payments.

RECIPROCAL PREFERENCE: The State of Montana applies a reciprocal preference against a vendor submitting a bid from a state or country that grants a residency preference to its resident businesses. A reciprocal preference is only applied to an invitation for bid for supplies or an invitation for bid for nonconstruction services for public works as defined in section 18-2-401(9), MCA, and then only if federal funds are not involved. For a list of states that grant resident preference, see <http://gsd.mt.gov/ProcurementServices/preferences.mcp.x>.

REDUCTION OF FUNDING: The State must terminate this contract if funds are not appropriated or otherwise made available to support the State's continuation of performance in a subsequent fiscal period. (See section 18-4-313(4), MCA.)

REFERENCE TO CONTRACT: The contract or purchase order number MUST appear on all invoices, packing lists, packages, and correspondence pertaining to the contract.

REGISTRATION WITH THE SECRETARY OF STATE: Any business intending to transact business in Montana must register with the Secretary of State. Businesses that are incorporated in another state or country, but which are conducting activity in Montana, must determine whether they are transacting business in Montana in accordance with sections 35-1-1026 and 35-8-1001, MCA. Such businesses may want to obtain the guidance of their attorney or accountant to determine whether their activity is considered transacting business.

If businesses determine that they are transacting business in Montana, they must register with the Secretary of State and obtain a certificate of authority to demonstrate that they are in good standing in Montana. To obtain registration materials, call the Office of the Secretary of State at (406) 444-3665, or visit their website at <http://sos.mt.gov>.

SEPARABILITY CLAUSE: A declaration by any court, or any other binding legal source, that any provision of the contract is illegal and void shall not affect the legality and enforceability of any other provision of the contract, unless the provisions are mutually dependent.

SHIPPING: Supplies shall be shipped prepaid, F.O.B. Destination, unless the contract specifies otherwise.

SOLICITATION DOCUMENT EXAMINATION: Vendors shall promptly notify the State of any ambiguity, inconsistency, or error which they may discover upon examination of a solicitation document.

TAX EXEMPTION: The State of Montana is exempt from Federal Excise Taxes (#81-0302402).

TECHNOLOGY ACCESS FOR BLIND OR VISUALLY IMPAIRED: Contractor acknowledges that no state funds may be expended for the purchase of information technology equipment and software for use by employees, program participants, or members of the public unless it provides blind or visually impaired individuals with access, including interactive use of the equipment and services, that is equivalent to that provided to individuals who are not blind or visually impaired. (Section 18-5-603, MCA.) Contact the State Procurement Bureau at (406) 444-2575 for more information concerning nonvisual access standards.

TERMINATION OF CONTRACT: Unless otherwise stated, the State may, by written notice to the contractor, terminate the contract in whole or in part at any time the contractor fails to perform the contract.

U.S. FUNDS: All prices and payments must be in U.S. dollars.

VENUE: This solicitation is governed by the laws of Montana. The parties agree that any litigation concerning this bid, request for proposal, limited solicitation, or subsequent contract, must be brought in the First Judicial District in and for the County of Lewis and Clark, State of Montana, and each party shall pay its own costs and attorney fees. (Section 18-1-401, MCA.)

WARRANTIES: The contractor warrants that items offered will conform to the specifications requested, to be fit and sufficient for the purpose manufactured, of good material and workmanship, and free from defect. Items offered must be new and unused and of the latest model or manufacture, unless otherwise specified by the State. They shall be equal in quality and performance to those indicated herein. Descriptions used herein are specified solely for the purpose of indicating standards of quality, performance, and/or use desired. Exceptions will be rejected.

Revised 2/10

APPENDIX B: CONTRACT

WATERSHED #9 – FEASIBLE WETLAND MITIGATION SITE(S) CONTRACT #310080

1. PARTIES

THIS CONTRACT is entered into by and between the State of Montana Department of Transportation, (hereinafter referred to as “the State”), whose address and phone number are 2701 Prospect Ave, (406) 444-9205 and (insert name of contractor), (hereinafter referred to as the “Contractor”), whose address and phone number are (insert address) and (insert phone number).

THE PARTIES AGREE AS FOLLOWS:

2. EFFECTIVE DATE, DURATION, AND RENEWAL

2.1 Contract Term. This contract shall take effect upon contract execution and terminate upon approval by the Department of Transportation’s Environmental Services Bureau of the final project report submitted by September 15, 2011, unless terminated earlier in accordance with the terms of this contract. (Section 18-4-313, MCA)

3. SERVICES AND/OR SUPPLIES

Contractor agrees to provide to the State a site or sites that the contractor will document to be feasible wetland mitigation site(s) and which can be acquired by MDT in fee or where the landowner is willing to execute the attached perpetual conservation easement.

4. CONSIDERATION/PAYMENT

4.1 Payment Schedule. In consideration for the mitigation sites to be provided, the State shall pay according to the following schedule: monthly progress payments submitted to the Environmental Services Bureau.

4.2 Withholding of Payment. The State may withhold payments to the Contractor if the Contractor has not performed in accordance with this contract. Such withholding cannot be greater than the additional costs to the State caused by the lack of performance.

5. ACCESS AND RETENTION OF RECORDS

5.1 Access to Records. The Contractor agrees to provide the State, Legislative Auditor or their authorized agents access to any records necessary to determine contract compliance. (Section 18-1-118, MCA)

5.2 Retention Period. The Contractor agrees to create and retain records supporting the mitigation sites provided for a period of three years after either the completion date of this contract or the conclusion of any claim, litigation, or exception relating to this contract taken by the State of Montana or a third party.

6. ASSIGNMENT, TRANSFER, AND SUBCONTRACTING

The Contractor shall not assign, transfer, or subcontract any portion of this contract without the express written consent of the State. (Section 18-4-141, MCA) The Contractor shall be responsible to the State for the acts and omissions of all subcontractors or agents and of persons directly or indirectly employed by such

subcontractors, and for the acts and omissions of persons employed directly by the Contractor. No contractual relationships exist between any subcontractor and the State.

7. HOLD HARMLESS/INDEMNIFICATION

The Contractor agrees to protect, defend, and save the State, its elected and appointed officials, agents, and employees, while acting within the scope of their duties as such, harmless from and against all claims, demands, causes of action of any kind or character, including the cost of defense thereof, arising in favor of the Contractor's employees or third parties on account of bodily or personal injuries, death, or damage to property arising out of services performed or omissions of services or in any way resulting from the acts or omissions of the Contractor and/or its agents, employees, representatives, assigns, subcontractors, except the sole negligence of the State, under this agreement.

8. REQUIRED INSURANCE

8.1 General Requirements. The Contractor shall maintain for the duration of the contract, at its cost and expense, insurance against claims for injuries to persons or damages to property, including contractual liability, which may arise from or in connection with the performance of the work by the Contractor, agents, employees, representatives, assigns, or subcontractors. This insurance shall cover such claims as may be caused by any negligent act or omission.

8.2 Primary Insurance. The Contractor's insurance coverage shall be primary insurance with respect to the State, its officers, officials, employees, and volunteers and shall apply separately to each project or location. Any insurance or self-insurance maintained by the State, its officers, officials, employees or volunteers shall be excess of the Contractor's insurance and shall not contribute with it.

8.3 Specific Requirements for Commercial General Liability. The Contractor shall purchase and maintain occurrence coverage with combined single limits for bodily injury, personal injury, and property damage of \$1,000,000 per occurrence and \$2,000,000 aggregate per year to cover such claims as may be caused by any act, omission, or negligence of the Contractor or its officers, agents, representatives, assigns, or subcontractors.

The State, its officers, officials, employees, and volunteers are to be covered and listed as additional insureds; for liability arising out of activities performed by or on behalf of the Contractor, including the insured's general supervision of the Contractor; products, and completed operations; premises owned, leased, occupied, or used.

8.4 Specific Requirements for Professional Liability. The Contractor shall purchase and maintain occurrence coverage with combined single limits for each wrongful act of \$1,000,000 per occurrence and \$2,000,000 aggregate per year to cover such claims as may be caused by any act, omission, negligence of the Contractor or its officers, agents, representatives, assigns, or subcontractors. Note: if "occurrence" coverage is unavailable or cost prohibitive, the Contractor may provide "claims made" coverage provided the following conditions are met: (1) the commencement date of the contract must not fall outside the effective date of insurance coverage and it will be the retroactive date for insurance coverage in future years; and (2) the claims made policy must have a three-year tail for claims that are made (filed) after the cancellation or expiration date of the policy.

8.5 Deductibles and Self-Insured Retentions. Any deductible or self-insured retention must be declared to and approved by the state agency. At the request of the agency either: (1) the insurer shall reduce or eliminate such deductibles or self-insured retentions as respects the State, its officers, officials, employees, or volunteers; or (2) at the expense of the Contractor, the Contractor shall procure a bond guaranteeing payment of losses and related investigations, claims administration, and defense expenses.

8.6 Certificate of Insurance/Endorsements. A certificate of insurance from an insurer with a Best's rating of no less than A- indicating compliance with the required coverages, has been received by the Purchasing Services Section, P.O. Box 201001, Helena, MT 59620-1001. The Contractor must notify the State immediately, of any material change in insurance coverage, such as changes in limits, coverages, change in status of policy, etc. The State reserves the right to require complete copies of insurance policies at all times.

9. COMPLIANCE WITH WORKERS' COMPENSATION ACT

Contractors are required to comply with the provisions of the Montana Workers' Compensation Act while performing work for the State of Montana in accordance with sections 39-71-401, 39-71-405, and 39-71-417, MCA. Proof of compliance must be in the form of workers' compensation insurance, an independent contractor's exemption, or documentation of corporate officer status. Neither the contractor nor its employees are employees of the State. This insurance/exemption must be valid for the entire term of the contract. A renewal document must be sent to the Purchasing Services Section, P.O. Box 201001, Helena, MT 59620-1001, upon expiration.

10. COMPLIANCE WITH LAWS

The Contractor must, in performance of work under this contract, fully comply with all applicable federal, state, or local laws, rules, and regulations, including the Montana Human Rights Act, the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. Any subletting or subcontracting by the Contractor subjects subcontractors to the same provision. In accordance with section 49-3-207, MCA, the Contractor agrees that the hiring of persons to perform the contract will be made on the basis of merit and qualifications and there will be no discrimination based upon race, color, religion, creed, political ideas, sex, age, marital status, physical or mental disability, or national origin by the persons performing the contract.

11.0 FEDERAL AID REQUIREMENTS

Some of the product of this contract may be purchased with Federal Aid Funds. Therefore, the following provisions will apply to this contract.

A. MONTANA PREFERENCES

The Montana bid preferences will not apply.

B. FALSE STATEMENTS CONCERNING HIGHWAY PROJECTS

In order to assure high quality performance in conformity with approved plans and specifications and a high degree of reliability on statements and representations made by engineers, contractors, suppliers, and workers on Federal-aid highway projects, it is essential that all persons concerned with the project perform their functions as carefully, thoroughly, and honestly as possible. Willful falsification, distortion, or misrepresentation with respect to any facts related to the project is a violation of Federal law.

To prevent any misunderstanding regarding the seriousness of these and similar acts, the following notice applies to all activities under this contract. It shall be posted on each Federal-aid highway project (23 CFR 635) in one or more places where it is readily available to all persons concerned with the project:

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONNEL ENGAGED ON FEDERAL-AID HIGHWAY PROJECTS

18 U.S.C. 1020 reads as follows:

"Whoever, being an officer, agent, or employee of the United States, or of any State or Territory, or whoever, whether a person, association, firm, or corporation, knowingly makes any false statement, false representation, or false report as to the character, quality, quantity, or cost of the material used or to be used, or the quantity or quality of the work performed or to be performed, or the cost thereof in connection with the submission of plans, maps, specifications, contracts, or costs of construction on any highway or related project submitted for approval to the Secretary of Transportation; or

Whoever knowingly makes any false statement, false representation, false report or false claim with respect to the character, quality, quantity, or cost of any work performed or to be performed, or materials furnished or to be furnished, in connection with the construction of any highway or related project approved by the Secretary of Transportation; or

Whoever knowingly makes any false statement or false representation as to material fact in any statement, certificate, or report submitted pursuant to provisions of the Federal-aid Roads Act approved July 1, 1916, (39 Stat. 355), as amended and supplemented;

Shall be fined under this title or imprisoned not more than 5 years or both."

C. CERTIFICATION REGARDING DEBARMENT, SUSPENSION, INELIGIBILITY AND VOLUNTARY EXCLUSION

Instructions for Certification - Primary Covered Transactions:

(Applicable to all Federal-aid contracts - 49 CFR 29)

1. By submitting the proposal and signing this contract, the Contractor provides the certification set out below.
 - a. The inability of a person to provide the certification set out below will not necessarily result in denial of participation in this covered transaction. The Contractor shall submit an explanation of why it cannot provide the certification set out below. The certification or explanation will be considered in connection with the department or agency's determination whether to enter into this transaction. However, failure of the Contractor to furnish a certification or an explanation shall disqualify such a person from participation in this transaction.
 - b. The certification in this section is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when the department or agency determined to enter into this transaction. If it is later determined that the Contractor knowingly rendered an erroneous certification, such contractor shall be in default of this contract. In addition to other remedies available to the Federal Government or the State may, in its sole discretion, terminate this contract for cause of default.
 - c. If any time the Contractor learns that its certification was erroneous when submitted or has become erroneous by reason of changed circumstances, the Contractor shall provide immediate written notice to the State.
 - d. The terms "covered transaction," "debarred," "suspended," "ineligible," "lower tier covered transaction," "participant," "person," "primary covered transaction," "principal," "proposal," and "voluntarily excluded," as used in this clause, have the meanings set out in the Definitions and Coverage sections of rules implementing Executive Order 12549. You may contact the procurement officer for assistance in obtaining a copy of those regulations.
 - e. Unless specifically authorized in writing by the procurement officer, the Contractor shall not knowingly enter into any lower tier covered transaction with a person who is debarred, suspended, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in any affected program.

- f. In all lower tier covered transactions and in all solicitations for lower tier covered transactions Contractor shall include without modification the section titled "Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, Ineligibility and Voluntary Exclusion-Lower Tier Covered Transaction".
- g. Unless it knows that the certification is erroneous, a participant in a covered transaction may rely upon the Contractor's certification that a prospective participant in a lower tier covered transaction that is not debarred, suspended, ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from any affected program. A participant may decide the method and frequency by which it determines the eligibility of its principals. Each participant shall check the nonprocurement portion of the "Lists of Parties Excluded From Federal Procurement or Nonprocurement Programs" (Nonprocurement List) which is compiled by the General Services Administration.
- h. Nothing contained in the foregoing shall be construed to require establishment of a system of records in order to render in good faith the certification required by this clause. The knowledge and information of participant is not required to exceed that which is normally possessed by a prudent person in the ordinary course of business dealings.
- i. Except for transactions authorized under paragraph f of these instructions, a participant in a covered transaction who knowingly enters into a lower tier covered transaction with a person who is suspended, debarred, ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in any affected program is in default of this contract. In addition to other remedies available to the federal government, the State may terminate this transaction for cause.

D. CERTIFICATION REGARDING DEBARMENT, SUSPENSION, INELIGIBILITY AND VOLUNTARY EXCLUSION--PRIMARY COVERED TRANSACTIONS

The Contractor certifies to the best of its knowledge and belief, for itself and for each of its principals that:

1. None are not presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from covered transactions by any the State or any federal department or agency;
2. Within a 3-year period preceding the submission of the proposal, none has been convicted of or has had a civil judgment rendered against it/him/her for commission of fraud or a criminal offense in connection with obtaining, attempting to obtain, or performing a public (federal, state or local) transaction or contract under a public transaction; violation of Federal or State antitrust statutes or commission of embezzlement, theft, forgery, bribery, falsification or destruction of records, making false statements, or receiving stolen property;
3. None is presently indicted for or otherwise criminally or civilly charged by a governmental entity (federal, state or local) with commission of any of the offenses enumerated in paragraph 2 of this certification; and
4. Within a 3-year period preceding the proposal, none has been in default of one or more public (federal, state or local) transaction.
5. Within a 3-year period preceding submission of the proposal, none has had one or more public (federal, state or local) transactions terminated for cause.

E. INSTRUCTIONS FOR CERTIFICATION - LOWER TIER COVERED TRANSACTIONS

(Applicable to all subcontracts, purchase orders and other lower tier transactions of \$25,000 or more - 49 CFR 29)

1. By signing and submitting the proposal, the prospective lower tier is providing the certification set out below.
 - a. The certification in this clause is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when this transaction was entered into. If it is later determined that the prospective lower tier participant knowingly rendered an erroneous certification, in addition to other remedies available to the Federal Government, the department, or agency with which this transaction originated may pursue available remedies, including suspension and/or debarment.
 - b. The prospective lower tier participant shall provide immediate written notice to the person to which the proposal was submitted if at any time the prospective lower tier participant learns that its certification was erroneous by reason of changed circumstances.
 - c. The terms "covered transaction," "debarred," "suspended," "ineligible," "primary covered transaction," "participant," "person," "principal," "proposal," and "voluntarily excluded," as used in this clause, have the meanings set out in the Definitions and Coverage sections of rules implementing Executive Order 12549. You may contact the procurement officer for assistance in obtaining a copy of these regulations.
 - d. The prospective lower tier participant agrees by submitting the proposal that, should the proposed covered transaction be entered into, it shall not knowingly enter into any lower tier covered transaction with a person who is debarred, suspended, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this covered transaction, unless authorized by the department or agency with which this transaction originated.
 - e. The prospective lower tier participant further agrees by submitting the proposal that it includee this clause titled "Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, Ineligibility and Voluntary Exclusion-Lower Tier Covered Transaction," without modification, in all lower tier covered transactions and in all solicitations for lower tier covered transactions.
 - f. A participant in a covered transaction may rely upon a certification of a prospective participant in a lower tier covered transaction that is not debarred, suspended, ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from the covered transaction, unless it knows that the certification is erroneous. A participant may decide the method and frequency by which it determines the eligibility of its principals. Each participant may, but is not required to, check the Nonprocurement List.
 - g. Nothing contained in the foregoing shall be construed to require establishment of a system of records in order to render in good faith the certification required by this clause. The knowledge and information of participant is not required to exceed that which is normally possessed by a prudent person in the ordinary course of business dealings.
 - h. Except for transactions authorized under paragraph e of these instructions, if a participant in a covered transaction knowingly enters into a lower tier covered transaction with a person who is suspended, debarred, ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this transaction, in addition to other remedies available to the Federal Government, the department or agency with

which this transaction originated may pursue available remedies, including suspension and/or debarment.

F. CERTIFICATION REGARDING DEBARMENT, SUSPENSION, INELIGIBILITY AND VOLUNTARY EXCLUSION--LOWER TIER COVERED TRANSACTIONS

1. The prospective lower tier participant certifies, by submission of this proposal, that neither it nor its principals is presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this transaction by any federal department or agency.
2. Where the prospective lower tier participant is unable to certify to any of the statements in this certification, such prospective participant shall attach an explanation to the proposal.

G. CERTIFICATION REGARDING USE OF CONTRACT FUNDS FOR LOBBYING

(Applicable to all Federal-aid construction contracts and to all related subcontracts which exceed \$100,000 - 49 CFR 20)

1. The Contractor certifies, by signing and submitting the proposal, to the best of his or her knowledge and belief, that:
 - a. No Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid, by or on behalf of the undersigned, to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any federal agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with the awarding of any federal contract, the making of any federal grant, the making of any federal loan, the entering into of any cooperative agreement, and the extension, continuation, renewal, amendment, or modification of any federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement.
 - b. If any funds other than federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any federal agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with this federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement, the undersigned shall complete and submit Standard Form-LLL, "Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying," in accordance with its instructions.
2. This certification is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when this transaction was made or entered into. Submission of this certification is a prerequisite for making or entering into this transaction imposed by 31 U.S.C. 1352. Any person who fails to file the required certification shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$10,000 and not more than \$100,000 for each such failure.
3. The Contractor also agrees by submitting the proposal that he or she shall require that the language of this certification be included in all lower tier subcontracts, which exceed \$100,000 and that all such recipients shall certify and disclose accordingly.

12. CONTRACT TERMINATION

12.1 Termination for Cause. The State may, by written notice to the Contractor, terminate this contract in whole or in part at any time the Contractor fails to perform this contract.

12.2 Reduction of Funding. The State must terminate this contract if funds are not appropriated or otherwise made available to support the State's continuation of performance of this contract in a subsequent fiscal period. (See section 18-4-313(4), MCA.)

13. LIAISON AND SERVICE OF NOTICES

All project management and coordination on behalf of the State shall be through a single point of contact designated as the State's liaison. Contractor shall designate a liaison that will provide the single point of contact for management and coordination of Contractor's work. All work performed pursuant to this contract shall be coordinated between the State's liaison and the Contractor's liaison.

Bonnie Gundrum will be the liaison for the State.
PO Box 201001
Helena, MT 59620-1001
(406) 444-9205
(406) 444-7245
bgundrum@mt.gov

_____ will be the liaison for the Contractor.

(Address):
(City, State, ZIP):
Telephone:
Cell Phone:
Fax:
E-mail:

The State's liaison and Contractor's liaison may be changed by written notice to the other party. Written notices, requests, or complaints will first be directed to the liaison.

14. MEETINGS

The Contractor is required to meet with the State's personnel, or designated representatives, to resolve technical or contractual problems that may occur during the term of the contract or to discuss the progress made by Contractor and the State in the performance of their respective obligations, at no additional cost to the State. Meetings will occur as problems arise and will be coordinated by the State. The Contractor will be given a minimum of three full working days notice of meeting date, time, and location. Face-to-face meetings are desired. However, at the Contractor's option and expense, a conference call meeting may be substituted. Consistent failure to participate in problem resolution meetings two consecutive missed or rescheduled meetings, or to make a good faith effort to resolve problems, may result in termination of the contract.

15. TRANSITION ASSISTANCE

If this contract is not renewed at the end of this term, or is terminated prior to the completion of a project, or if the work on a project is terminated, for any reason, the Contractor must provide for a reasonable period of time after the expiration or termination of this project or contract, all reasonable transition assistance requested by the State, to allow for the expired or terminated portion of the services to continue without interruption or adverse effect, and to facilitate the orderly transfer of such services to the State or its designees. Such transition assistance will be deemed by the parties to be governed by the terms and conditions of this contract, except for those terms or conditions that do not reasonably apply to such transition assistance. The State shall pay the Contractor for any resources utilized in performing such transition assistance at the most current rates provided by the contract. If there are no established contract rates, then the rate shall be mutually agreed upon. If the State terminates a project or this contract for cause, then the State will be entitled to offset the cost of paying the Contractor for the additional resources the Contractor utilized in providing transition assistance with any damages the State may have otherwise accrued as a result of said termination.

16. CHOICE OF LAW AND VENUE

This contract is governed by the laws of Montana. The parties agree that any litigation concerning this bid, proposal or subsequent contract must be brought in the First Judicial District in and for the County of Lewis and Clark, State of Montana and each party shall pay its own costs and attorney fees. (See section 18-1-401, MCA.)

17. SCOPE, AMENDMENT, AND INTERPRETATION

17.1 Contract. This contract consists of **(insert number)** numbered pages, any Attachments as required, RFP #HWY-310080-NP, as amended and the Contractor's RFP response as amended. In the case of dispute or ambiguity about the minimum levels of performance by the Contractor the order of precedence of document interpretation is in the same order.

17.2 Entire Agreement. These documents contain the entire agreement of the parties. Any enlargement, alteration or modification requires a written amendment signed by both parties.

18. EXECUTION

The parties through their authorized agents have executed this contract on the dates set out below.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
PO BOX 201001
HELENA, MT 59620-1001

(INSERT CONTRACTOR'S NAME)
(Insert Address)
(Insert City, State, Zip)
FEDERAL ID #

BY: _____
(Name/Title)

BY: _____
(Name/Title)

(Signature)

(Signature)

DATE: _____

DATE: _____

Approved as to Legal Content:

Legal Counsel (Date)

Approved as to Form:

Procurement Officer (Date)

APPENDIX C: CLIENT REFERENCE FORM

- A complete and separate Client Reference Form must be provided for each reference.
- Offeror must complete the first part of the Client Reference Form, filling in the information for Company (Offeror) Name, Company (Offeror) Address, and the Name of Project.
- A responsible party of the organization for which the services were provided (the Customer) must provide the reference information.
- The person providing the reference must sign and date the form.
- The Client Reference Form(s) must be submitted with the Offeror's proposal.
- The State may contact the reference to verify the information given within the Client Reference Form and within the proposal. If the State finds erroneous information, points may be deducted or the proposal may be rejected.
- If all questions are not answered on the Client Reference Form, if information is missing, or if the form is not signed, points may be deducted or the proposal may be rejected.
- If a proposal is submitted without a Client Reference Form, points may be deducted or the proposal may be rejected.
- The State reserves the right to use other known references for the project other than those provided by the Offeror. In this event, references will be scored using same method as Appendix C.

Client Reference Form

Offeror Information

Company Name (Offeror):	Name of Project:
Company (Offeror) Address:	

Client Information

Organization Name (Client):	Organization Address:
Person Providing the Reference:	Title:
Phone Number:	Email address:
Reference <u>Signature</u> & Date:	

The person providing the reference, as identified above, must provide the following information. This person must be a responsible party of the organization for which the work was performed. This person should have comprehensive knowledge about the project and the Offeror's role and responsibilities within the project.

Your response will be used as part of the Offeror's. A maximum of ten points are available based on your ratings.

- 1. Briefly describe the services provided by the company identified above.**
- 2. Rate each of the following concerning this company's performance using the ratings from 0-5 below:**
 - 4 – Strongly Agree/Very Positive
 - 3 – Agree/Positive
 - 2 – Neutral
 - 1 – Disagree/ Negative
 - 0 – Failed

Rating

- _____ A. The Offeror ensured the project deliverables were completed on time and within the agreed budget.
- _____ B. The Offeror provided the appropriate resources to the project.
- _____ C. The Offeror was knowledgeable in providing the services.
- _____ D. The business relationship with the Offeror was positive and cooperative, versus negative and adversarial.
- _____ E. The Offeror provided open, timely communications, and was responsive to our needs and requirements.
- _____ F. I would choose to work with the Offeror again.