

Gulf County Board of County Commissioners

Request for Qualifications and Proposals (RFQ) # 1314-08

Consultant Services for Development of a Multi-Species Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP)

VENDOR INQUIRY AND TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE RESPONSES

The Gulf County Board of County Commissioners (GCBC) hereby through its Habitat Conservation Plan Technical Advisory Committee provides the following informational updates and responses to vendor inquiries:

1. **Vendor request for HCP grant specifications and agreement with Gulf County to be made available.**
 - The Gulf County Habitat Conservation Planning Assistance Grant Agreement and Attachments with the required Specifications have been posted on the Gulf County website and can be found by going to
 - <http://www.gulfcounty-fl.gov/forms.cfm?id=1349>
2. **Section 1.1 requires respondents to be firms permitted by law to practice “architecture, engineering, or surveying in the State of Florida.” If a firm has extensive practical experience in preparing HCPs and Incidental Take Permits, but does not meet the above requirement, would they be excluded from consideration? Section 2.1 indicates that a qualified “Environmental firm” will be selected to perform the work.**
 - “Environmental firms” will also be considered acceptable firms to submit their RFQ for the Consultant Services. Expanding upon Section 1.1 of the Gulf County RFQ, firms that do not possess permits for architecture, engineering, or surveying in the State of Florida will also be considered, most notably Environmental firms are encouraged to submit a qualified proposal to Gulf County.
3. **Under Section 2.2, No. 6, throughout the bulleted list and thereafter the RFQ references “coastal.” Does this mean coastal properties?, or are you referring to the coastline in general?**
 - References to coastal through the RFQ shall also be interpreted to reference the following: coastal habitats, coastal environments as they pertain to the unique coastal areas throughout Gulf County, Florida.
4. **Under Section 2.2, No. 6, 6th bullet (Sand Surveys). What is specifically meant by sand surveys?**
 - Bullet No. 6 under Section 2.2 was to be deleted and is a clerical error and is hereby stricken from the RFQ and all vendors and proposals my disregard this reference as it is deleted hereinafter.
5. **Under the last bullet of Section 2.2, No. 6 is amended to read as follows:**
 - All federally protected species in coastal habitats and/or environments
6. **Section 2.5 section title is amended to read as follows :**
 - HCP COST DOCUMENTS

7. Section 2.2, No. 7 is the final subsection for that Section and the word “and” is hereby deleted
8. Sections 2.3 and 2.4 have been intentionally deleted and are not missing from the RFQ.
9. Sections 5 and 6 of the RFQ are hereby combined and the contact information for the Project Management Staff as well as the RFQ contact are the same and as follows:

- Gulf County Board of County Commissioners Administration Office
1000 Cecil Costin Blvd., Room 302, Port St. Joe, Florida 32456
Phone: 850-229-6106
Lynn Lanier, Deputy Administrator at llanier@gulfcountry-fl.gov

10. “Price Proposal” (Section 7.2, No. 11). Is this just an initial estimate based on the applicant’s understanding and approach to the project?

-No. 11 under Section 7.2 is an estimate for the proposal from the vendor. The RFQ is a multi level scoring evaluation by the TAC that takes into consideration both estimated price proposals as well as qualifications

11. Section 7.1 TAB-A(c) “Index” may be interchanged with the term and interpretation of “Table of Contents”

12. Can the County further describe what field work might be expected?

- The County cannot further describe until the RFQ is awarded and final scope of services is defined for the field work.

13. Is the preliminary species list the same as the described in the FWS award? Specifically St. Andrews beach mouse, loggerhead, green, Kemp’s ridley, leatherback, and hawksbill sea turtles, and wintering piping plovers?

- At this initial stage of the HCP development and seeking to award the Technical Consulting services that is all the list entails at this time and may expand as the RFQ is awarded and scope of services defined by the service agreement (ie. piping plovers “not” wintering etc.). No further detail can be provided until a technical advisor is selected and these details are finalized such as species list.

14. Is the scope of this RFP limited to the preparation and planning process for an HCP? Thereby excluding the writing/development of the HCP and related services. Is this correct?

- No this is incorrect. Please note it is an RFQ and not an RFP with distinct differences as noted by the detailed request for qualifications and scoring provided by the Gulf County TAC. Also the RFQ is for both the planning and preparation process as well as the writing and development and the TAC and Gulf County will evaluate the firms that demonstrate the strongest ability to complete all of these technical services.

15. Is there a predetermined budget for the scope of work?

- The TAC refers each vendor to the posted Gulf County Habitat Conservation Planning Assistance Grant Agreement and Attachments posted on the Gulf County website at <http://www.gulfcounty-fl.gov/forms.cfm?id=1349>

***** Please also note *****

Gulf County BOCC and its Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) have extended the submission deadline for the above RFQ as follows:

Bids and proposals must be submitted to the Gulf County Clerk's Office at 1000 Cecil G. Costin, Sr., Blvd., Room 148, Port St. Joe, Florida, 32456 by 12:00 p.m., EST on Friday, January 17th, 2013.

Bids will be opened at this same location on Monday, January 20th, at 10:00 a.m., EST.

Specifications for these technical and consulting services may be obtained from, the Gulf County Clerk's Office at 1000 Cecil G. Costin, Sr., Blvd., Room 148, Port St. Joe, Florida, 32456. Specifications may also be viewed at www.gulfcounty-fl.gov.

Please refer to the website or contact Lynn Lanier, Deputy Administrator at llanier@gulfcounty-fl.gov and a copy of your correspondence to ksummers@gulfclerk.com for the additional RFQ information.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
GULF COUNTY., FLORIDA
/s/ Tynalin Smiley, Chairman