

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL**  
**DESIGN AND OPERATE A COASTWIDE NUTRIA**  
**CONTROL PROGRAM**  
**FOR THE**  
**LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE &**  
**FISHERIES**



**File Number: WLF70**

**Solicitation Number: 3000014938**

**Proposal Opening Date: May 20, 2020**

**Proposal Opening Time: 10:00 A.M. CT**

**State of Louisiana**  
**Office of State Procurement**

**April 13, 2020**

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FOR  
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**PART I: ADMINISTRATIVE AND GENERAL INFORMATION**

**1.1 Purpose**

The purpose of this Request for Proposal (RFP) is to obtain competitive proposals as allowed by Louisiana Revised Statute 39:1595 from bona fide, qualified Proposers who are interested in providing to the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries (LDWF) a Coastwide Nutria Control collection program, which, at a minimum, includes handling all tasks related to the implementation of the program as follows:

- Registration of participants in the Coastwide Nutria Control Program and maintenance of a participant database.
- Establishment of collection stations across coastal Louisiana for collection of nutria tails.
- Verification (count) of collected nutria tails and processing of a receipt/voucher for each participant.
- Delivery of tails to an approved disposal facility and receipt of documentation that ensures the tails shall be properly disposed of and shall not leave the facility.
- Payment of incentive to program participants and completion of related accounting.
- Maintenance of records pertaining to participants, number and location of origin of tails collected.
- Completion of monthly and final reports regarding the distribution of the harvest, total participants, and amount paid to participants.

**1.2 Background**

LDWF is soliciting proposals for the design and operation of a Coastwide Nutria Control Program to include, but not be limited to, the registration of participants, the collection of nutria tails, making incentive payments and maintaining records.

The nutria (*Myocastor coypus*) is a large semi-aquatic rodent indigenous to South America. The first introduction of nutria occurred in California in 1899, however it was not until the 1930's that additional animals were introduced in seven (7) states. These importations, primarily for fur farming, failed during the Second World War as a result of poor pelt prices and poor reproductive success. Sixteen (16) states now have feral populations of nutria.

The impact of nutria herbivory on Louisiana's coastal marsh has been well documented by LDWF. The decline in fur trapping activity since the mid-1980s has resulted in over population of nutria. Annual surveys have revealed that approximately 100,000 acres of Louisiana coastal wetlands can be impacted at any one point in time; nutria herbivory damage is ongoing, and many damaged sites are not likely to recover naturally. Without comprehensive management of nutria herbivory damage, the stability of the Louisiana coastal ecosystem is threatened.

The goal of comprehensive management of nutria herbivory damage in coastal Louisiana is to reestablish the ecological balance (plant and animal) that existed when nutria harvest was high. The purpose of the Coastwide Nutria Control Program is to remove about 400,000 nutria annually. The program will be conducted from early fall and continue through early spring. The Contractor working under the direction of LDWF will facilitate the incentive program that would compensate registered participants an incentive payment for each nutria tail delivered to a collection center. The incentive payment amount is set by the Coastal Wetlands Planning Protection and Restoration Act (CWPPRA) TASK FORCE and is provided from LDWF to the Contractor to pass on to program participants. The area for the program will be all of coastal Louisiana, south of Interstate 10 from the Texas border to Baton Rouge, LA, south of Interstate 12 from Baton Rouge to Slidell, and south of Interstate 10 to the Mississippi border.

State and federal agencies, reviewing the results of aerial surveys considered and approved funding for an initial five-year CWPPRA project. The project entitled "Coastwide Nutria Control Program" (LA-03b) was approved as a part of the Eleventh Priority Projects List. This project was authorized by the CWPPRA TASK FORCE on April 16, 2002. The project is now in its eighteenth year. The project is being facilitated by the LDWF and includes four major components: 1) Conduct coastwide nutria herbivory survey complete with estimates and locations of damaged acres; 2) Conduct general project operation and administration including: a) registration of participants in the Coastwide Nutria Control Program, b) establishment of collection stations across coastal Louisiana, c) verification (count) of valid nutria tails and processing a receipt/voucher for each participant, d) delivery of tails to an approved disposal facility and receive documentation that ensures the nutria tails shall be properly disposed of and shall not leave the facility, e) processing and maintenance of records regarding participants, number and location of origin of tails collected; 3) Payment of incentive to program participants; 4) Completion of a monthly and final report regarding the distribution of the harvest, total participants, and amount paid to participants. Funding for this program is through the Louisiana Department of Natural Resources Inter-Agency Transfer (LDNR (IAT)) from the CWPPRA.

Nearly 5.3 million nutria have been harvested over the course of the program, which has operated continuously for the past 17 years. This past season, 223,155 tails worth \$1.1 million were harvested largely from the southeastern parishes of Louisiana. The program typically has approximately 400 applicants register with approximately 250 participants attending collection stations to turn in tails. Since the establishment of the program, wetland damage caused by nutria herbivory has been greatly reduced from the pre-program estimates of 100,000 acres to estimates below 20,000 acres.

### **1.3 Goals and Objectives**

The LDWF desires to continue implementation of a Coastwide Nutria Control Program to encourage the harvest of up to 400,000 nutria annually from coastal Louisiana and provide an economic incentive payment per nutria tail delivered by registered participants to a collection center established in coastal Louisiana.

The LDWF intends to accomplish this goal utilizing the services of a Contractor. The tasks required to accomplish this goal are to receive, review and certify the participant's applications and notify the approved participants. Establish collection stations, schedule collections and advertise this information coastwide. Verify harvest of nutria tails by participants through collection of tails and provide a receipt/voucher to the participant. Secure collected tails and provide certified documentation of disposal. Process and maintain records of participants and provide to LDWF weekly. Process and provide incentive payments to program participants. Provide monthly reports to LDWF and an annual final report on the distribution of harvest, total participants, and amount paid to participants at the end of each season. Submit invoices for services provided to LDWF.

#### **1.4 Term of Contract**

The term of any contract resulting from this solicitation shall be for an initial period of thirty-six (36) months to begin on or about July 1, 2020 and to end June 30, 2023, unless otherwise terminated in accordance with the termination provisions of the Contract. At the option of the State of Louisiana and acceptance of the Contractor, the contract may be extended for two (2) additional twelve (12) month periods at the same prices, terms, and conditions. Total contract time may not exceed sixty (60) months.

#### **1.5 Definitions**

- A. Agency- Any department, commission, council, board, office, bureau, committee, institution, agency, government, corporation, or other establishment of the executive branch of the State of Louisiana authorized to participate in any contract resulting from this RFP.
- B. Contract – A legal binding agreement between the State and the awarded Contractor(s).
- C. Contractor – Any person having a contract with a governmental body. For sections of this RFP outlining required actions of a Contractor, the Contractor should be understood to refer to the successful Proposer responding to this RFP.
- D. Discussions- For the purposes of this RFP, a formal, structured means of conducting written or oral communications/presentations with responsible Proposers who submit proposals in response to this RFP.
- E. May - The term denotes an advisory or permissible action per La. R.S. 39:1556(33).
- F. Must - The term denotes mandatory requirements.
- G. Program – The coastwide nutria control program.
- H. Proposal – A submission by the Proposer to enter into a Contract with the State to supply and support the products and/or services described, in accordance with the RFP specifications.
- I. Proposer – A firm, venture or individual who responds to this RFP. The successful Proposer responsive to this RFP is also described as the Contractor in this document.

- J. Shall – The term denotes mandatory requirements per La. R.S. 39:1556(52).
- K. Should – The term denotes a desirable action.
- L. State- The State of Louisiana.

**1.5.1 Acronyms**

- A. CWPPRA – Coastal Wetlands Planning Protection and Restoration Act
- B. DOA – Division of Administration
- C. GIS- Geographic Information System
- D. IRS- Internal Revenue Service
- E. LDNR (IAT) – Louisiana Department of Natural Resources (Inter-Agency Transfer)
- F. LDWF – Louisiana Department of Wildlife & Fisheries
- G. OSP – Office of State Procurement
- H. RFP – Request for Proposal

**1.6 Schedule of Events**

	<u>Date</u> <u>Time (CT)</u>
1. RFP posted to LaPac and Blackout Period begins	April 13, 2020
2. Deadline to receive written inquiries	April 27, 2020
3. Deadline to answer written inquiries	May 8, 2020
4. Proposal Opening Date (Proposal Submission Deadline)	May 20, 2020 at 10:00 A.M. CT
5. Oral discussions with Proposers, if applicable	To be scheduled
6. Best and Final Offer with Proposers, if applicable	To be scheduled
7. Notice of Intent to Award to be issued	To be scheduled
8. Contract Initiation	To be scheduled

**NOTE: The State of Louisiana reserves the right to revise this schedule. Revisions before the Proposal Submission Deadline, if any, will be formalized by the issuance of an addendum to the RFP. Revisions after the Proposal Submission Deadline, if any, will be by written notification to the eligible Proposers.**

**1.7 Proposal Submittal**

This RFP is available in electronic form at the LaPAC website <https://www.cfprd.doa.louisiana.gov/osp/lapac/pubMain.cfm>. It is available in PDF format or in printed form by submitting a written request to the RFP Contracting Officer with the Office of State Procurement. Contact information for the RFP Contracting Officer is provided in **Section 1.12.2** of this RFP.



It is the Proposer's responsibility to check the Office of State Procurement LaPAC website frequently for any possible addenda that may be issued. The Office of State Procurement is not responsible for a Proposer's failure to download any addenda documents required to submit a response to this Request for Proposal.

All proposals shall be received in hard copy (printed) form by the Office of State Procurement **no later than the date and time shown in the Schedule of Events.**

**NOTE: FAX, EMAIL OR ANY OTHER ELECTRONIC SUBMISSIONS ARE NOT ACCEPTABLE.**

**Important - - Clearly mark outside of envelope, box or package with the following information and format:**

- X **Proposal Name: Design and Operate a Coastwide Nutria Control Program**
- X **File Number: WLF 70, Solicitation Number: 3000014938**
- X **Proposal Opening Date and Time: May 20, 2020 at 10:00 A.M. CT**

**Proposers are hereby advised that the U. S. Postal Service does not make deliveries to the Office of State Procurement physical location.**

Proposals may be mailed through the U. S. Postal Service to the Office of State Procurement box at:

Office of State Procurement  
P. O. Box 94095  
Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9095

If delivering by U.S. Postal Service to the P.O. Box listed above, please allow sufficient time for the mail to then be transmitted to the Office of State Procurement. The Office of State Procurement must receive the proposal at its physical location by the date and time specified in **Section 1.6 Schedule of Events**, of this RFP.

Proposals may be delivered by hand or courier service to the Office of State Procurement physical location at:

Office of State Procurement  
Claiborne Building  
1201 North 3<sup>rd</sup> St.  
Suite 2-160  
Baton Rouge, LA 70802

Proposer is solely responsible for ensuring that its courier service provider makes inside deliveries to the Office of State Procurement physical location. The Office of State Procurement is not responsible for any delays caused by the Proposer's chosen means of proposal delivery.

Proposers should be aware of security requirements for the Claiborne building and allow time to be photographed and presented with a temporary identification badge.

Proposer is solely responsible for the timely delivery of its proposal. Failure to meet the proposal opening date and time shall result in rejection of the proposal.

**PROPOSALS SHALL BE OPENED PUBLICLY AT THE PHYSICAL LOCATION IDENTIFIED ABOVE AND ONLY THE NAME OF THE PROPOSERS SUBMITTING PROPOSALS SHALL BE IDENTIFIED ALOUD. NO OTHER INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THE PROPOSAL SHALL BE RELEASED OR DISCLOSED.**

### **1.8 Proposal Response Format**

Proposals submitted for consideration should follow the format and order of presentation described below:

- A. **Cover Letter:** The cover letter should be submitted on the Proposer's official business letterhead and should exhibit the Proposer's understanding and approach to the project. It should contain a summary of Proposer's ability to perform the services described in the RFP and confirm that Proposer is willing to perform those services and enter into a contract with the State.

**ATTENTION:** Please indicate in the Cover Letter which of the following applies to the signer of the proposal. Evidence of signature authority shall be provided upon the State's request.

1. The signer of the proposal is either a corporate officer who is listed on the most current annual report on file with the Secretary of State **or** a member of a partnership or partnership in commendam as reflected in the most current partnership records on file with the Secretary of State. **A copy of the annual report or partnership record must be submitted to the Office of State Procurement before contract award.**
2. The signer of the proposal is a representative of the Proposer authorized to submit the proposal as evidenced by documents such as, corporate resolution, certification as to corporate principal, etc. **If this applies a copy of the resolution, certification or other supportive documents should be attached to the Cover Letter.**
3. The Proposer has filed with the Secretary of State an affidavit **or** resolution **or** other acknowledged/authentic document indicating that the signer is authorized to submit proposals for public contracts. **A copy of the applicable document must be submitted to the Office of State Procurement before contract award.**
4. The signer of the proposal has been designated by the Proposer as authorized to submit proposals on the Proposer's vendor registration on file with the Office of State Procurement.

The cover letter should also:

- Identify the submitting Proposer and provide their federal tax identification number;
- Identify the name, title, address, telephone number, fax number, and email address of each person authorized by the Proposer to contractually obligate the Proposer;

- Identify the name, address, telephone number, fax number, and email address of the contact person for technical and contractual clarifications throughout the evaluation period.
- B. **Table of Contents:** Organized in the order cited in the format contained herein.
- C. **Proposer Qualifications and Experience:** Proposers should include in the proposal:

Company Background and Experience. Examples of applied science projects conducted in Coastal Louisiana to demonstrate experience and technical knowledge of the environment, and experience with data management and GIS software should be included.
- D. **Proposed Solution/Technical Response:** The Proposer should include a detailed plan with the proposal outlining how the data will be managed, how applications for participants will be handled and participants registered for the program, how the tails will be collected, and how payments will be issued to participants.

Approach and Methodology: Examples of the ability to maintain the latest versions of their software, equipment owned by the Proposer and available for use with the services identified in this RFP, and ability and experience ensuring accuracy of the data.
- E. **Innovative Concepts:** Presentation of innovative concepts, if any, for consideration.
- F. **Implementation/Orientation Plan:** Proposer must demonstrate the ability to implement the Program immediately upon signing of contract. The Coastwide Nutria Control Program begins on a set date that cannot be changed.
- G. **Financial Proposal:** Proposer's fees and other costs, if any, shall be submitted in accordance with **Appendix A: Price Schedule** of this RFP. Prices proposed shall be firm for the duration of the contract. This financial proposal shall include any and all costs the Contractor wishes to have considered in the contractual arrangement with the State.

**The Financial Proposal should be packaged and sealed separately from the Technical Proposal and should be clearly marked as "FINANCIAL PROPOSAL".**

## **1.9 Number of Response Copies**

Each Proposer shall submit one (1) signed original response.

Each Proposer should submit the following:

- Three (3) additional copies of the proposal
- One (1) redacted copy of proposal, if applicable (See **Section 1.11** of this RFP)
- One (1) "searchable" electronic copy of proposal on two (2) separate USB flash drives. The searchable electronic copy should be provided as one (1) file.

- One (1) electronic redacted copy of proposal on a USB flash drive, if applicable (See **Section 1.11** of this RFP). The electronic redacted copy should be provided as one (1) file.

### 1.10 Legibility/Clarity

Responses to the requirements of this RFP in the formats requested are desirable with all questions answered in as much detail as practicable. The Proposer's response is to demonstrate an understanding of the requirements. Proposals prepared simply and economically, providing a straightforward, concise description of the Proposer's ability to meet the requirements of the RFP is also desired. Each Proposer is solely responsible for the accuracy and completeness of its proposal.

### 1.11 Confidential Information, Trade Secrets, and Proprietary Information

The designation of certain information as trade secrets and/or privileged or confidential proprietary information shall only apply to the technical portion of the proposal. **The financial proposal will not be considered confidential under any circumstance.** Any proposal copyrighted or marked as confidential or proprietary in its entirety may be rejected without further consideration or recourse.

For the purposes of this procurement, the provisions of the Louisiana Public Records Act (La. R.S. 44.1 et. seq.) shall be in effect. Pursuant to this Act, all proceedings, records, contracts, and other public documents relating to this procurement shall be open to public inspection. Proposers are reminded that while trade secrets and other proprietary information they submit in conjunction with this procurement may not be subject to public disclosure, protections must be claimed by the Proposer at the time of submission of its Technical Proposal. Proposers should refer to the Louisiana Public Records Act for further clarification.

The Proposer shall clearly designate the part of the proposal that contains a trade secret and/or privileged or confidential proprietary information as "confidential" in order to claim protection, if any, from disclosure. The Proposer shall mark the cover sheet of the proposal with the following legend, specifying the specific section(s) of the proposal sought to be restricted in accordance with the conditions of the legend:

*"The data contained in pages \_\_\_\_\_ of the proposal have been submitted in confidence and contain trade secrets and/or privileged or confidential information and such data shall only be disclosed for evaluation purposes, provided that if a contract is awarded to this Proposer as a result of or in connection with the submission of this proposal, the State of Louisiana shall have the right to use or disclose the data therein to the extent provided in the contract. This restriction does not limit the State of Louisiana's right to use or disclose data obtained from any source, including the Proposer, without restrictions."*

Further, to protect such data, each page containing such data shall be specifically identified and marked "CONFIDENTIAL".

If the Proposer's response contains confidential information, the Proposer should also submit a redacted copy of their proposal along with their original proposal. When submitting the redacted copy, the Proposer should clearly mark the cover as such - "REDACTED COPY" - to avoid having this copy reviewed by an evaluation committee member. The redacted copy should also state which sections or information has been removed. The proposer should also submit one (1)

electronic redacted copy of its proposal on a USB flash drive. The redacted copy of the proposal will be the copy produced by the State if a competing proposer or other person seeks review or copies of the Proposer's confidential data.

**If the Proposer does not submit the redacted copy, it will be assumed that any claim to keep information confidential is waived.**

Proposers must be prepared to defend the reasons why the material should be held confidential. By submitting a proposal with data, information, or material designated as containing trade secrets and/or privileged or confidential proprietary information, or otherwise designated as "confidential", the Proposer agrees to indemnify and defend (including attorney's fees) the State and hold the State harmless against all actions or court proceedings that may ensue which seek to order the State to disclose the information.

The State reserves the right to make any proposal, including proprietary information contained therein, available to OSP personnel, the Office of the Governor, or other State Agencies or organizations for the sole purpose of assisting the State in its evaluation of the proposal. The State shall require said individuals to protect the confidentiality of any specifically identified proprietary information or privileged business information obtained as a result of their participation in these evaluations.

Additionally, any proposal that fails to follow this section and/or La. R.S. 44:3.2.(D)(1) shall have failed to properly assert the designation of trade secrets and/or privileged or confidential proprietary information and the information may be considered public records.

## **1.12 Proposal Clarifications Prior to Submittal**

### **1.12.1 Pre-Proposal Conference**

NOT REQUIRED FOR THIS RFP.

### **1.12.2 Proposer Inquiry Periods**

The State shall not and cannot permit an open-ended inquiry period, as this creates an unwarranted delay in the procurement cycle and operations of our agency customers. The State reasonably expects and requires *responsible and interested* Proposers to conduct their in-depth proposal review and submit inquiries in a timely manner.

An inquiry period is hereby firmly set for all interested Proposers to perform a detailed review of the RFP documents and to submit any written inquiries relative thereto. *Without exception*, all inquiries MUST be submitted in writing by an authorized representative of the Proposer, clearly cross-referenced to the relevant solicitation section. All inquiries must be received by the Inquiry Deadline date set forth in **Section 1.6 Schedule of Events** of this RFP. Only those inquiries received by the established deadline shall be considered by the State. Inquiries received after the established deadline shall not be entertained.

Inquiries concerning this solicitation shall be delivered to the State's contact person for this RFP, Andrew Guzzardo, by mail, express courier, e-mail, hand, or fax:

Office of State Procurement  
Attention: Andrew Guzzardo

1201 North Third St.

P. O. Box 94095  
Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9095

Claiborne Bldg., Suite 2-160  
Baton Rouge, LA 70802

E-Mail: [andrew.guzzardo@la.gov](mailto:andrew.guzzardo@la.gov)

Phone: (225) 342-8040/ Fax: (225) 342-9756

Only the person identified above or their designee has the authority to officially respond to Proposer's questions on behalf of the State, including during the Blackout Period. Any communications from any other individuals are not binding to the State.

An addendum will be issued and posted at the Office of State Procurement LaPAC website, to address all inquiries received and any other changes or clarifications to the solicitation. Thereafter, all RFP documents, including but not limited to the specifications, terms, conditions, plans, etc., will stand as written and/or amended by any addendum. No negotiations, decisions, or actions shall be executed by any Proposer as a result of any oral discussions with any State employee or State consultant. It is the Proposer's responsibility to check the LaPAC website frequently for any possible addenda that may be issued. The Office of State Procurement is not responsible for a Proposer's failure to download any addenda documents required to complete a Request for Proposal.

Any person aggrieved in connection with the solicitation or the specifications contained therein, has the right to protest in accordance with La. R.S. 39:1671. Such protest shall be made in writing to the Director of State Procurement at least two (2) days prior to the deadline for submitting proposals.

**Note:** LaPAC is the State's online electronic bid posting and notification system resident on the Office of State Procurement website [<http://www.doa.la.gov/Pages/osp/Index.aspx>]. In that LaPAC provides an immediate e-mail notification to subscribing Bidders/Proposers that a solicitation and any subsequent addenda have been let and posted, notice and receipt thereof is considered formally given as of their respective dates of posting.

To receive the e-mail notification, Vendors/Proposers must register in the LaGov portal. Registration is intuitive at the following link:  
[https://lagoverpvendor.doa.louisiana.gov/iri/portal/anonymous?guest\\_user=self\\_req](https://lagoverpvendor.doa.louisiana.gov/iri/portal/anonymous?guest_user=self_req)

Help scripts are available on OSP website under vendor center at:  
<http://www.doa.la.gov/Pages/osp/vendorcenter/regnhelp/index.aspx>

### **1.12.3 Blackout Period**

The Blackout Period is a specified period of time during a competitive sealed procurement process in which any Proposer, Bidder, or its Agent or Representative, is prohibited from communicating with any State employee or Contractor of the State involved in any step in the procurement process about the affected procurement. The Blackout Period applies not only to State employees, but also to any Contractor of the State. "Involvement" in the procurement process includes but may not be limited to project management, design, development, implementation, procurement management, development of specifications, and evaluation of proposals for a particular procurement. All solicitations for competitive sealed procurements will identify a designated contact person, as per **Section 1.12.2** of this RFP. All communications to and from potential Proposers, Bidders, Vendors and/or their representatives during the Blackout Period must be in accordance with this solicitation's defined method of communication with the

designated contact person. The Blackout Period will begin upon posting of the solicitation. The Blackout Period will end when the contract is awarded.

In those instances in which a prospective Proposer is also an incumbent Contractor, the State and the incumbent Contractor may contact each other with respect to the existing contract only. Under no circumstances may the State and the incumbent Contractor and/or its representative(s) discuss the blacked-out procurement.

Any Bidder, Proposer, or State Contractor who violates the Blackout Period may be liable to the State in damages and/or subject to any other remedy allowed by law. Further, failure to comply with these requirements may result in the Proposal's disqualification.

Any costs associated with cancellation or termination will be the responsibility of the Proposer or Bidder.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Blackout Period shall not apply to:

1. A protest to a solicitation submitted pursuant to La. R.S. 39:1671;
2. Duly noticed site visits and/or conferences for Bidders or Proposers;
3. Oral presentations during the evaluation process; or
4. Communications regarding a particular solicitation between any person and staff of the procuring agency provided the communication is limited strictly to matters of procedure. Procedural matters include deadlines for decisions or submission of proposals and the proper means of communicating regarding the procurement, but shall not include any substantive matter related to the particular procurement or requirements of the RFP.

### **1.13 Errors and Omissions in Proposal**

The State will not be liable for any errors or omissions in the proposal. Proposer will not be allowed to alter proposal documents after the deadline for proposal submission, except under the following condition: The State reserves the right to make corrections or clarifications due to patent errors identified in proposals by the State or the Proposer. The State, at its option, has the right to request clarification or additional information from the Proposer.

### **1.14 Proposal Guarantee**

NOT REQUIRED FOR THIS RFP.

### **1.15 Performance Bond**

NOT REQUIRED FOR THIS RFP.

### **1.16 Fidelity Bond Requirements**

The Contractor shall be required to provide a Fidelity Bond in the amount of \$250,000.00 to protect the State from loss resulting from acts of crime or fraud perpetrated either by the Contractor, its agents or subcontractors or against the Contractor, its agents or subcontractors. The Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries shall be the named beneficiary.

The fidelity bond furnished shall be written by a surety or insurance company that is currently licensed to do business in the State of Louisiana. This bond will be required prior to execution of the contract.

### **1.17 Changes, Addenda, Withdrawals**

The State reserves the right to change the Schedule of Events or issue Addenda to the RFP at any time. The State also reserves the right to cancel or reissue the RFP.

If the Proposer needs to submit changes or addenda, such shall be submitted in writing, signed by an authorized representative of the Proposer, cross-referenced clearly to the relevant proposal section, prior to the proposal opening, and should be submitted in a sealed envelope. Such shall meet all requirements for the proposal.

### **1.18 Withdrawal of Proposal**

A Proposer may withdraw a proposal that has been submitted at any time up to the proposal closing date and time. To accomplish this, a written request signed by the authorized representative of the Proposer must be submitted to the Office of State Procurement.

### **1.19 Material in the RFP**

Proposals shall be based only on the material contained in this RFP. The RFP includes official responses to questions, addenda, and other material, which may be provided by the State pursuant to the RFP.

### **1.20 Waiver of Administrative Informalities**

The State reserves the right, at its sole discretion, to waive administrative informalities contained in any proposal.

### **1.21 Proposal Rejection**

Issuance of this RFP in no way constitutes a commitment by the State to award a contract. The State reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposals submitted or to cancel this RFP if it is in the best interest of the State to do so. Further, the State reserves the right to cancel or decline to enter into a contract with the successful Proposer at any time after the award is made and before the contract receives final approval from the Division of Administration, Office of State Procurement.

In accordance with the provisions of La. R.S. 39:2192, in awarding contracts after August 15, 2010, any public entity is authorized to reject a proposal or bid from, or not award the contract to, a business in which any individual with an ownership interest of five percent or more, has been convicted of, or has entered a plea of guilty or nolo contendere to any State felony or equivalent federal felony crime committed in the solicitation or execution of a contract or bid awarded under the laws governing public contracts under the provisions of Chapter 10 of Title 38 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, or the Louisiana Procurement Code under the provisions of Chapter 17 of Title 39.



In accordance with Louisiana law, all corporations (see La. R.S. 12:262.1) and limited liability companies (see La. R.S. 12:1308.2) must be registered and in good standing with the Louisiana Secretary of State in order to hold a purchase order and/or a contract with the State.

### **1.22 Ownership of Proposal**

All materials submitted in response to this request become the property of the State. Selection or rejection of a response does not affect this right. All proposals submitted will be retained by the State and not returned to Proposers. Any copyrighted materials in the response are not transferred to the State.

### **1.23 Cost of Offer Preparation**

The State is not liable for any costs incurred by prospective Proposers or Contractors prior to issuance of or entering into a Contract. Costs associated with developing the proposal, preparing for oral presentations, and any other expenses incurred by the Proposer in responding to the RFP are entirely the responsibility of the Proposer, and shall not be reimbursed in any manner by the State of Louisiana.

### **1.24 Non-negotiable Contract Terms**

Non-negotiable contract terms include but are not limited to taxes, assignment of contract, audit of records, EEOC and ADA compliance, record retention, content of contract/order of precedence, contract changes, governing law, claims or controversies, and termination based on contingency of appropriation of funds.

### **1.25 Taxes**

Any taxes, other than State and local sales and use taxes, from which the State is exempt, shall be assumed to be included within the Proposer's cost.

### **1.26 Proposal Validity**

All proposals shall be considered valid for acceptance until such time an award is made, unless the Proposer provides for a different time period within its proposal response. However, the State reserves the right to reject a proposal if the Proposer's acceptance period is unacceptable and the Proposer is unwilling to extend the validity of its proposal.

### **1.27 Prime Contractor Responsibilities**

The selected Proposer shall be required to assume responsibility for all items and services offered in their proposal whether or not they produce or provide them. The State shall consider the selected Proposer to be the sole point of contact with regard to contractual matters, including payment of any and all charges resulting from the contract.

### **1.28 Use of Subcontractors**

Each Contractor shall serve as the single prime Contractor for all work performed pursuant to its contract. That prime Contractor shall be responsible for all deliverables referenced in this RFP. This general requirement notwithstanding, Contractors may enter into subcontractor arrangements. Proposers may submit a proposal in response to this RFP, which identifies

subcontract(s) with others, provided that the prime Contractor acknowledges total responsibility for the entire contract.

If it becomes necessary for the prime Contractor to use subcontractors, the State urges the prime Contractor to use Louisiana vendors, including small and emerging businesses, a small entrepreneurship or a veteran or service-connected disabled veteran-owned small entrepreneurship, if practical. In all events, any subcontractor used by the prime should be identified to the State Project Manager.

Information required of the prime Contractor under the terms of this RFP, is also required for each subcontractor and the subcontractors must agree to be bound by the terms of the contract. The prime Contractor shall assume total responsibility for compliance.

### **1.29 Written or Oral Discussions/Presentations**

The State, at its sole discretion, may require all Proposers who submit proposals determined to be reasonably susceptible of being selected for the award to provide an oral presentation of how they propose to meet the agency's objectives; however, the State reserves the right to enter into an Agreement without further discussion of the proposal submitted based on the initial offers received.

Any commitments or representations made by the Proposer during these discussions, if conducted, may become formally recorded in the final contract.

Written or oral discussions/presentations for clarification may be conducted to enhance the State's understanding of any or all of the proposals submitted. Proposals may be accepted without such discussions.

### **1.30 Acceptance of Proposal Content**

The mandatory RFP requirements shall become contractual obligations if a contract ensues. Failure of the successful Proposer to accept these obligations shall result in the rejection of the proposal.

### **1.31 Independent Price Determination**

By submitting a proposal, the Proposer certifies that the price submitted was independently arrived at without collusion.

### **1.32 Evaluation and Selection**

All responses received as a result of this RFP are subject to evaluation by the State Evaluation Committee for the purpose of selecting the Proposer most advantageous to the State with whom the State shall contract.

To evaluate all proposals, a committee whose members have expertise in various areas has been selected by the State. A consensus-based evaluation process shall be used to evaluate responses. This committee will determine which proposals are reasonably susceptible of being selected for award. If required, written or oral discussions may be conducted with any or all of the Proposers to make this determination.

The State Evaluation Committee may consult Subject Matter Expert(s) (SMEs) to serve in an advisory capacity regarding any Proposer or Proposal. Such input may include, but not limited to, analysis of Proposer financial statements, review of technical requirements, or preparation of cost score data.

Written recommendation for award shall be made to the Director of State Procurement for the responsible Proposer whose proposal, conforming to the RFP, will be the most advantageous to the State of Louisiana, price and other factors considered.

The committee may reject any or all proposals if it is considered in the best interest of the State.

### **1.33 Best and Final Offers (BAFO)**

The State reserves the right to conduct a BAFO with one or more Proposers determined by the committee to be reasonably susceptible of being selected for award. If conducted, the Proposers selected to participate will receive written notification of their selection, with a list of specific items to be addressed in the BAFO along with instructions for submittal. The BAFO negotiation may be used to assist the State in clarifying the scope of work or to obtain the most cost effective pricing available from the Proposers.

**The written invitation will not obligate the State to a commitment to enter into a contract.**

### **1.34 Contract Negotiations**

If for any reason, after final evaluation and issuance of the Intent to Award letter, the responsible Proposer whose proposal is most advantageous to the State's needs, price and other evaluation factors set forth in the RFP considered, does not agree to a contract, that proposal shall be rejected and the State may negotiate with the next most advantageous responsible Proposer.

Negotiation may include revision of any non-mandatory terms or conditions, and clarification of the scope of work and/or implementation of the most cost effective pricing available from the Proposers. OSP must approve the final contract form and issue a purchase order, if applicable, to complete the process.

### **1.35 Contract Award and Execution**

The State reserves the right to enter into a contract without further discussion of the proposal submitted based on the initial offers received.

The RFP, including any addenda, and the proposal of the selected Contractor will become part of any contract initiated by the State.

Proposers are discouraged from submitting their own standard terms and conditions with their proposals. Proposers should address the specific language in the sample generic contract in **Appendix B** of this RFP and submit any exceptions or deviations the Proposer wishes to negotiate. The proposed terms will be negotiated before a final contract is executed. The State's mandatory terms and conditions including but not limited to those contained in **Section 1.24** of this RFP are not negotiable. If applicable, a Proposer may submit or refer to a Master Agreement entered into by the Contractor and the Office of State Procurement in accordance with La. R.S. 39:198(J).

If the contract negotiation period exceeds thirty (30) days or if the selected Proposer fails to sign the contract within **seven (7) calendar** days of delivery of it, the State may elect to cancel the award and award the contract to the next most advantageous responsible Proposer.

Award shall be made to the Proposer with the highest score, whose proposal, conforming to the RFP, will be the most advantageous to the State of Louisiana, price and other factors considered.

The State intends to award to a single Proposer.

### **1.36 Notice of Intent to Award**

Upon review and approval of the evaluation committee's and agency's recommendation for award, OSP will issue a "Notice of Intent to Award" letter to the apparent successful Proposer. The "Notice of Intent to Award" letter is the notification of the award of the contract. However, the "Notice of Intent to Award" is contingent upon successful negotiation of a final contract and approval by the Division of Administration, Office of State Procurement. A contract shall be completed and signed by all parties concerned on or before the date indicated in the "Schedule of Events." If this date is not met, through no fault of the State, the State may elect to cancel the "Notice of Intent to Award" letter and make the award to the next most advantageous responsible Proposer.

OSP will also notify all unsuccessful Proposers as to the outcome of the evaluation process. The proposals received (except for that information appropriately designated as confidential in accordance with La. R.S. 44.1 et. seq.) along with the evaluation factors, points, evaluation committee member names, and the completed evaluation summary and recommendation report are public record and shall be made available, upon request, to all interested parties after the "Notice of Intent to Award" letter has been issued.

Any person aggrieved by the proposed award has the right to submit a protest in writing, in accordance with La. R.S. 39:1671, to the Director of State Procurement, within fourteen (14) days of the award/intent to award. The "Notice of Intent to Award" letter starts the protest period.

### **1.37 Debriefings**

Debriefings may be scheduled by the participating Proposers after the "Notice of Intent to Award" letter has been issued by scheduling an appointment with the Office of State Procurement. Contact may be made by phone at (225) 342-8040 or E-mail to [andrew.guzzardo@la.gov](mailto:andrew.guzzardo@la.gov).

### **1.38 Insurance Requirements**

Contractor shall furnish the State with certificates of insurance effecting coverage(s) required by this RFP in accordance with **Appendix C: Insurance Requirements for Contractors**. The certificates for each insurance policy are to be signed by a person authorized by that insurer to bind coverage on its behalf. The certificates are to be received and approved by the State before work commences. The State reserves the right to require complete certified copies of all required policies, at any time. The Contractor shall maintain the insurance as shown in **Appendix C Insurance Requirements for Contractors** for the full term of the contract. Failure to comply shall be grounds for termination of the contract.

### 1.39 Subcontractor Insurance

The Contractor shall include all subcontractors as insured's under its policies or shall insure that all subcontractors satisfy the same insurance requirements stated herein for the Contractor.

### 1.40 Indemnification and Limitation of Liability

Neither party shall be liable for any delay or failure in performance beyond its control resulting from acts of God or force majeure. The parties shall use reasonable efforts to eliminate or minimize the effect of such events upon performance of their respective duties under the contract.

Contractor shall be fully liable for the actions of its agents, employees, partners or subcontractors and shall fully indemnify and hold harmless the State from suits, actions, damages and costs of every name and description relating to personal injury and damage to property caused by Contractor, its agents, employees, partners or subcontractors in the performance of the contract, without limitation; provided, however, that the Contractor shall not indemnify for that portion of any claim, loss or damage arising hereunder due to the negligent act or failure to act of the State.

Contractor will indemnify, defend and hold the State harmless, **without limitation**, from and against any and all damages, expenses (including reasonable attorneys' fees), claims judgments, liabilities and costs which may be finally assessed against the State in any action for infringement of a United States Letter Patent with respect to the Products, Materials, or Services furnished, or of any copyright, trademark, trade secret or intellectual property right, provided that the State shall give the Contractor: (i) prompt written notice of any action, claim or threat of infringement suit, or other suit, (ii) the opportunity to take over, settle or defend such action, claim or suit at Contractor's sole expense, and (iii) assistance in the defense of any such action at the expense of the Contractor. Where a dispute or claim arises relative to a real or anticipated infringement, the State may require Contractor, at its sole expense, to submit such information and documentation, including formal patent attorney opinions, as the Commissioner of Administration shall require.

The Contractor shall not be obligated to indemnify that portion of a claim or dispute based upon: (i) State's unauthorized modification or alteration of a Product, Material, or Service; (ii) State's use of the Product, Material, or Service in combination with other products, materials, or services not furnished by Contractor; (iii) State's use in other than the specified operating conditions and environment.

In addition to the foregoing, if the use of any item(s) or part(s) thereof shall be enjoined for any reason or if Contractor believes that it may be enjoined, Contractor shall have the right, at its own expense and sole discretion as the state's exclusive remedy to take action no later than six (6) months after the issuance of an injunction in the following order of precedence: (i) to procure for the State the right to continue using such item(s) or part(s) thereof, as applicable; (ii) to modify the component so that it becomes non-infringing equipment of at least equal quality and performance; or (iii) to replace said item(s) or part(s) thereof, as applicable, with non-infringing components of at least equal quality and performance, or (iv) if none of the foregoing is commercially reasonable, then provide monetary compensation to the State up to the dollar amount of the Contract. Any injunction that is issued against the State which prevents the State from utilizing the Contractor's product in excess of six (6) months and for which the Contractor has not obtained for the State or provided to the State one of the alternatives set forth in the foregoing sentence is cause for the State to terminate the Contract. In the event of such

termination, the State will not be obligated to compensate the Contractor for any costs incurred by the Contractor.

For all other claims against the Contractor where liability is not otherwise set forth in the contract as being “without limitation”, and regardless of the basis on which the claim is made, Contractor’s liability **for direct damages, shall be the greater of \$100,000, the dollar amount of the Contract, or two (2) times the charges for products, materials, or services rendered by the Contractor under the Contract.** Unless otherwise specifically enumerated herein mutually agreed between the parties, neither party shall be liable to the other for special, indirect or consequential damages, including lost data or records (unless the Contractor is required to back-up the data or records as part of the work plan), even if the party has been advised of the possibility of such damages. Neither party shall be liable for lost profits, lost revenue or lost institutional operating savings.

The State may, in addition to other remedies available to them at law or equity and upon notice to the Contractor, retain such monies from amounts due Contractor, or may proceed against the performance and payment bond, if any, as may be necessary to satisfy any claim for damages, penalties, costs and the like asserted by or against them.

## **1.41 Payment**

### **1.41.1 Payment for Services**

LDWF shall pay the Contractor in accordance with the Pricing Schedule set forth in **Appendix A**, of this RFP. The Contractor may invoice the agency weekly at the billing address designated by the agency. Payments will be made by the Agency within approximately thirty (30) days after receipt of a properly executed invoice, and approval by the Agency. Invoices shall include the contract and order number, using department and services provided. Invoices submitted without the referenced documentation will not be approved for payment until the required information is provided.

### **1.41.2 Late Payments**

Interest due by a State Agency for late payments shall be in accordance with La. R.S. 39:1695 at the rates established in La. R.S. 13:4202.

### **1.41.3 Electronic Vendor Payment Solutions**

The State desires to make payment to the awarded Contractor(s) electronically. The methods of payment may be via the State’s LaCarte card (procurement card), or EFT payments sent directly from the State’s bank directly to the payee’s bank. Please see **Appendix D: Electronic Vendor Payment Solution** of this RFP for additional information regarding electronic payment methods.

## **1.42 Termination**

The State of Louisiana has the right to terminate the contract immediately for any of the following reasons: (a) misrepresentation by the Contractor; (b) Contractor’s fraud, collusion, conspiracy or other unlawful means of obtaining any contract with the State of Louisiana; (c) conflict of contract provisions with constitutional or statutory provisions of State or Federal Law; (d) abusive or belligerent conduct by the Contractor towards an employee or agent of the State; (e) Contractor’s

intentional violation of the Louisiana Procurement Code (La. R.S. 39:1551 et seq.) and its corresponding regulations; or, (f) any listed reason for debarment under La. R.S. 39:1672.

#### **1.42.1 Termination of the Contract for Cause**

The State may terminate the contract for cause based upon the failure of the Contractor to comply with the terms and/or conditions of the contract, or failure to fulfill its performance obligations pursuant to the contract, provided that the State shall give the Contractor written notice specifying the Contractor's failure. If within thirty (30) days after receipt of such notice, the Contractor shall not have corrected such failure or, in the case of failure which cannot be corrected in thirty (30) days, begun in good faith to correct such failure and thereafter proceeded diligently to complete such correction, then the State may, at its option, place the Contractor in default and the contract shall terminate on the date specified in such notice.

The Contractor may exercise any rights available to it under Louisiana law to terminate for cause upon the failure of the State to comply with the terms and conditions of the contract, provided that the Contractor shall give the State written notice specifying the State's failure and a reasonable opportunity for the State to cure the defect.

#### **1.42.2 Termination of the Contract for Convenience**

The State of Louisiana may terminate the contract for convenience at any time (1) by giving thirty (30) days written notice to the Contractor of such termination; or (2) by negotiating with the Contractor an effective date. The State shall pay the Contractor for, if applicable: (a) deliverables in progress; (b) the percentage that has been completed satisfactorily; and, (c) for transaction-based services up to the date of termination, to the extent work has been performed satisfactorily.

#### **1.42.3 Termination for Non-Appropriation of Funds**

The continuance of the contract is contingent upon the appropriation of funds to fulfill the requirements of the contract by the legislature. If the legislature fails to appropriate sufficient monies to provide for the continuation of the contract, or if such appropriation is reduced by the veto of the Governor or by any means provided in the appropriations act or Title 39 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950 to prevent the total appropriation for the year from exceeding revenues for that year, or for any other lawful purpose, and the effect of such reduction is to provide insufficient monies for the continuation of the contract, the contract shall terminate on the date of the beginning of the first fiscal year for which funds are not appropriated.

#### **1.43 Assignment**

The Contractor shall not assign any interest in the contract by assignment, transfer, or novation, without prior written consent of the State. This provision shall not be construed to prohibit the Contractor from assigning his bank, trust company, or other financial institution any money due or to become due from approved contracts without such prior written consent. Notice of any such assignment or transfer shall be furnished promptly to the State.

#### **1.44 No Guarantee of Quantities**

The quantities referenced in the RFP are estimated to be the amount needed. In the event a greater or lesser quantity is needed, the right is reserved by the State of Louisiana to increase or decrease the amount, at the unit price stated in the proposal.

Neither the State nor Agency obligates itself to contract for or accept more than their actual requirements during the period of the contract, as determined by actual needs and availability of appropriated funds.

#### **1.45 Audit of Records**

The State legislative auditor, federal auditors and internal auditors of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Division of Administration, or others so designated by the DOA, shall have the option to audit all accounts directly pertaining to the resulting contract for a period of five (5) years from the date of final payment or as required by applicable State and Federal law. Records shall be made available during normal working hours for this purpose.

#### **1.46 Civil Rights Compliance**

The Contractor agrees to abide by the requirements of the following as applicable: Title VI and Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 as amended by the Equal Employment Opportunity Act of 1972, Federal Executive Order 11246 as amended, the Federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973 as amended, the Vietnam Era Veteran's Readjustment Assistance Act of 1974, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, the Fair Housing Act of 1968 as amended, and Contractor agrees to abide by the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990.

Contractor agrees not to discriminate in its employment practices, and will render services under the contract without regard to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, national origin, veteran status, political affiliation, disability, or age in any matter relating to employment. Any act of discrimination committed by Contractor, or failure to comply with these statutory obligations when applicable shall be grounds for termination of the contract.

#### **1.47 Record Retention**

The Contractor shall maintain all records in relation to the contract for a period of at least five (5) years after final payment.

#### **1.48 Record Ownership**

All records, reports, documents, or other material related to any contract resulting from this RFP and/or obtained or prepared by Contractor in connection with the performance of the services contracted for herein shall become the property of the State and shall, upon request, be returned by Contractor to the State, at Contractor's expense, at termination or expiration of the contract.

#### **1.49 Content of Contract/ Order of Precedence**

In the event of an inconsistency between the contract, the RFP and/or the Contractor's Proposal, the inconsistency shall be resolved by giving precedence first to the final contract, then to the RFP and subsequent addenda (if any) and finally, the Contractor's Proposal.

#### **1.50 Contract Changes**

No additional changes, enhancements, or modifications to any contract resulting from this RFP shall be made without the prior written approval of OSP.



Changes to the contract include any change in: compensation; beginning/ ending date of the contract; scope of work; and/or Contractor change through the Assignment of Contract process. Any such changes, once approved, will result in the issuance of an amendment to the contract.

### **1.51 Substitution of Personnel**

The State intends to include in any contract resulting from this RFP the following condition:

Substitution of Personnel: If, during the term of the contract, the Contractor or subcontractor cannot provide the personnel as proposed and requests a substitution, that substitution shall meet or exceed the requirements stated herein. A detailed resume of qualifications and justification is to be submitted to the State for approval prior to any personnel substitution. It shall be acknowledged by the Contractor that every reasonable attempt shall be made to assign the personnel listed in the Contractor's proposal.

The State shall reserve the right to require removal and replacement of any contract personnel whose performance it considers unacceptable.

### **1.52 Governing Law**

All activities associated with this RFP process shall be interpreted under Louisiana Law, including but not limited to La. R.S. 39:1551-1736 (Louisiana Procurement Code) and La. R.S. 39:196-200 (Information Technology Procurement Code), if applicable; purchasing rules and regulations; executive orders; standard terms and conditions; special terms and conditions; and specifications listed in this RFP. Venue of any action brought with regard to all activities associated with this RFP process shall be in the Nineteenth Judicial District Court, Parish of East Baton Rouge, State of Louisiana.

### **1.53 Claims or Controversies**

Any claims or controversies shall be resolved in accordance with the Louisiana Procurement Code, La. R.S. 39:1671-1673.

### **1.54 Proposer's Certification of No Federal Suspension or Debarment**

By signing and submitting any proposal for \$25,000 or more, the Proposer certifies that their company, any subcontractors, or principals are not suspended or debarred by the General Services Administration (GSA) in accordance with the requirements in "Audit Requirements in Subpart F of the Office of Management and Budget's Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards" (formerly OMB Circular A-133).

A list of parties who have been suspended or debarred can be viewed via the internet at <https://www.sam.gov>.

#### **1.54.1 Proposer's Eligibility**

A statement of the Proposer's involvement in litigation and any suspension or debarment proceedings which could affect this work shall also be included in the Proposal. A suspension or debarment proceeding which could affect this work is any proceeding, whether pending or

concluded, that involves a governmental body or governmental entity. If no such litigation, suspension or debarment exists, proposer shall so state.

#### **1.54.2 Continuing Obligation**

Contractor has a continuing obligation to disclose any suspensions or debarment by any government entity, including but not limited to General Services Administration (GSA). Failure to disclose may constitute grounds for suspension and/or termination of the Contract and debarment from future contracts.

#### **1.55 Anti-Kickback Clause**

The Contractor hereby agrees to adhere to the mandate dictated by the Copeland "Anti-Kickback" Act which provides that each Contractor or subgrantee shall be prohibited from inducing, by any means, any person employed in the completion of work, to give up any part of the compensation to which he is otherwise entitled.

#### **1.56 Clean Air Act**

The Contractor hereby agrees to adhere to the provisions which require compliance with all applicable standards, orders or requirements issued under Section 306 of the Clean Air Act which prohibits the use under non-exempt federal contracts, grants or loans of facilities included on the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) list of Violating Facilities.

#### **1.57 Energy Policy and Conservation Act**

The Contractor hereby recognizes the mandatory standards and policies relating to energy efficiency which are contained in the State energy conservation plan issued in compliance with the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (P.L. 94-163).

#### **1.58 Clean Water Act**

The Contractor hereby agrees to adhere to the provisions which require compliance with all applicable standards, orders, or requirements issued under Section 508 of the Clean Water Act which prohibits the use under non-exempt federal contracts, grants or loans of facilities included on the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) List of Violating Facilities.

#### **1.59 Anti-Lobbying and Debarment Act**

The Contractor will be expected to comply with federal statutes required in the Anti-Lobbying Act and the Debarment Act.

#### **1.60 Warranties**

Contractor warrants that all services shall be performed in good faith, with diligence and care, by experienced and qualified personnel in a professional, workmanlike manner, and according to its current description (including any completion criteria) contained in the scope of work.

Contractor further warrants that it has the right to provide and or license its product to the State and that it will operate in accordance with this solicitation. In the event of a material failure of Contractor's product to function and operate, and/or failure by the Contractor to perform its

obligations, in accordance with the terms and conditions of the contract that results in the termination of the contract for cause by the State, the State will not be obligated to compensate the Contractor of any costs incurred by Contractor.

#### **1.61 Code of Ethics**

The Contractor acknowledges that Chapter 15 of Title 42 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes (La. R.S. 42:1101 et. seq., Code of Governmental Ethics) applies to the Contracting Party in the performance of services called for in the Contract. The Contractor agrees to immediately notify the State if potential violations of the Code of Governmental Ethics arise at any time during the term of the Contract.

#### **1.62 Proposer's Cooperation**

Any Proposer has the duty to fully cooperate with the State and provide any and all requested information, documentation, etc. to the State when requested. This applies even if an eventual contract is terminated and/or a lawsuit is filed. Specifically, the Proposer shall not limit or impede the State's right to audit or to withhold State owned documents.

#### **1.63 Security**

Contractor's personnel shall comply with all security regulations in effect at the State's premises, the Information Security Policy at <http://www.doa.la.gov/Pages/ots/InformationSecurity.aspx> and externally for materials and property belonging to the State or to the project. Where special security precautions are warranted (e.g., correctional facilities), the State shall provide such procedures to the Contractor, accordingly. Contractor is responsible for promptly reporting to the State any known breach of security.

#### **1.64 Prohibition of Discriminatory Boycotts of Israel**

In accordance with La. R.S. 39:1602.1, the following applies to any Proposal with a value of \$100,000 or more and to Proposers with five (5) or more employees:

By submitting a response to this solicitation, the Proposer certifies and agrees that the following information is correct: In preparing its response, the Proposer has considered all proposals submitted from qualified, potential subcontractors and suppliers, and has not, in the solicitation, selection, or commercial treatment of any subcontractor or supplier, refused to transact or terminated business activities, or taken other actions intended to limit commercial relations, with a person or entity that is engaging in commercial transactions in Israel or Israeli-controlled territories, with the specific intent to accomplish a boycott or divestment of Israel. The Proposer has also not retaliated against any person or other entity for reporting such refusal, termination, or commercially limiting actions. The State reserves the right to reject the response of the Proposer if this certification is subsequently determined to be false, and to terminate any contract awarded based on such a false response.

#### **1.65 Key Internal Control Outsourcing**

NOT REQUIRED FOR THIS RFP.

## **PART II: SCOPE OF WORK/SERVICES**

### **2.1 Scope of Work/Services**

The LDWF desires to continue to implement a Coastwide Nutria Control Program utilizing the services of a Contractor. The Proposer should propose a method that will insure that the following tasks be accomplished:

- Receive and review applications and certify the registration of participants in the Program; Notify approved participants and provide a Nutria Control Program Registration Number and Card; LDWF will provide application forms to all interested parties; Approved applicants and associated information will be entered into an electronic database maintained by the Contractor.
- Establish weekly collection stations, schedule of collections across coastal Louisiana after consultation with LDWF and provide this information to participants at the time of notification of participants.
- Verify harvest of nutria at designated collection stations by participants through collection of tails and provide a receipt/voucher. These transaction records will be entered into an electronic database maintained by the Contractor.
- Secure collected tails until disposal, deliver tails to an approved disposal facility, and provide documentation of certified disposal to LDWF.
- Process and maintain records regarding participants, number and location of origin of tails collected. Maps showing harvest should be in Geographic Information System (GIS) software. Records of take are to be entered into an electronic database maintained by the Contractor and provided to LDWF weekly to provide for reimbursements and payment to participants.
- Receive funds from LDWF and provide payments to program participants.
- Provide required reports to the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) regarding income paid to participants.
- Provide monthly reports along with a final summary regarding, total participants, total amount paid, and distribution of the harvest.
- Submit invoices for services provided to LDWF.

Each season of the program follows the schedule below:

The application should be prepared in August and be ready for approval by September 1<sup>st</sup>. The Contractor is expected to mail applications to participants that have registered with the program for the previous two (2) seasons.

Applications from participants will be sent to LDWF for initial review and then forwarded to the Contractor for secondary review, acceptance or denial, and data entry. Notification of acceptance will be handled by the Contractor.

The trapping season begins on November 20<sup>th</sup> with tail collections expected to begin within seven (7) calendar days of the start of the trapping season. Collections should be conducted weekly at a variety of locations to better serve the participants of the program.

Weekly reports with details on the registered participants, locations of take of nutria as part of the program, transactions with each trapper, maps of take, and invoices for payments are expected within seven (7) calendar days of the close of each week of the program. The program encompasses roughly twenty (20) weeks.

The trapping season closes on March 31<sup>st</sup> with tail collections expected to continue the week directly following the close of the season.

A detailed data package with end of season results is expected within sixty (60) calendar days of the close of the trapping season.

## **2.2 Deliverables**

The deliverables listed in this section are the minimum desired from the successful Proposer. Every Proposer should describe what deliverables will be provided per their proposal and how the proposed deliverables will be provided.

- A list of participants accepted into the program and the locations where they have permission to take nutria.
- Transactions from the tail collection station that include the number of nutria turned in and by whom.
- Detailed invoices.
- Transfer of records to LDWF for payment reimbursement to participants.
- Report to LDWF regarding the distribution of the harvest, total participants, total amount paid to participants.

## **2.3 Price Schedule**

Prices proposed by the Proposers shall be submitted on the price schedule furnished herein on **Appendix A**. Prices submitted shall be firm for the term of the contract. Prices shall include delivery of all items F.O.B. destination.

## **2.4 Location**

The location(s) the service is to be performed, completed and managed is within the Project boundary. The project boundary encompasses all of coastal Louisiana south of I-10 from the Texas border to Baton Rouge, LA, south of I-12 from Baton Rouge, LA to Slidell, LA, and south of I-10 to the Mississippi border.

## **2.5 Proposal Elements**

### **2.5.1 Financial**

Proposal shall include prices per the schedule furnished in **Appendix A**, as well as other potential charges (if any) for proposed services associated with the RFP program implementation and administration that you wish the State to consider.

### **2.5.2 Technical**

Each Proposer should address how the firm will meet all the requirements of this RFP, with particular attention to:

- Plans for implementation of the Coastwide Nutria Control Program.
- Information demonstrating Proposer's financial stability, including the three (3) previous years of audited or reviewed financial statements, annual reports, or other data acceptable to the Agency.
- References from at least three (3) state agencies, other government agencies or private firms for whom similar or larger scope services are currently being provided. Include a contact person and telephone number for each reference.
- Disclose in detail if, at any time during the previous five (5) years, you or any related entity have failed to perform under, breached or terminated a contract which provides for similar services or for which you or any related entity has been assessed liquidated damages for non-performance of contractual obligations.
- Describe any innovative technology that the Proposer intends to employ.
- Include a definition of all terms, abbreviations and acronyms used in the proposal response. The definition of any term expressed elsewhere in this document shall not be changed.
- Explain Proposer's experience and technical capabilities, in sufficient detail to clearly demonstrate the ability to successfully meet at a minimum the terms of this RFP, as evidenced by successful completion and operation of projects of similar nature and complexity.
- Describe the response time and performance guarantees that will be given to LDWF.
- Information demonstrating the Proposer's understanding of the nature and scope of this project.

Any other information deemed pertinent by the Proposer including terms and conditions which the Proposer wishes the State to consider.

### **2.5.3 Veteran-Owned and Service-Connected Disabled Veteran-Owned Small Entrepreneurships (Veteran Initiative) and Louisiana Initiative for Small Entrepreneurships (Hudson Initiative) Programs Participation**

Each Proposer should address how the firm will meet the following:

The State of Louisiana Veteran and Hudson Initiatives are designed to provide additional opportunities for Louisiana-based small entrepreneurships (sometimes referred to as LaVet's and SE's respectively) to participate in contracting and procurement with the State. A certified Veteran-Owned and Service-Connected Disabled Veteran-Owned small entrepreneurship (LaVet) and a Louisiana Initiative for Small Entrepreneurships (Hudson Initiative) small entrepreneurship are businesses that have been certified by the Louisiana Department of Economic Development. All eligible vendors are encouraged to become certified. Qualification requirements and online certification are available at:

<https://smallbiz.louisianaeconomicdevelopment.com>

If a Proposer is not a certified small entrepreneurship as described herein, but plans to use certified small entrepreneurship(s), Proposer shall include in their proposal the names of their certified Veteran Initiative or Hudson Initiative small entrepreneurship subcontractor(s), a description of the work each will perform, and the dollar or percentage value of each subcontract.

During the term of the contract and at expiration, the Contractor will also be required to report Veteran-Owned and Service-Connected Disabled Veteran-Owned and Hudson Initiative small entrepreneurship subcontractor or distributor participation and the dollar amount of each.

In RFP's requiring the compliance of a good faith subcontracting plan, the State may require Proposers to submit information on their business relationships and arrangements with certified LaVet or Hudson Initiative subcontractors at the time of proposal review. Agreements between a Proposer and a certified LaVet or Hudson Initiative subcontractor in which the certified LaVet or Hudson Initiative subcontractor promises not to provide subcontracting quotations to other Proposers shall be prohibited.

In performing its evaluation of proposals, the State reserves the right to require a non-certified Proposer to provide documentation and information supporting a good faith subcontracting plan. Such proof may include contracts between proposer and certified Veteran Initiative and/or Hudson Initiative subcontractor(s).

If a contract is awarded to a Proposer who proposed a good faith subcontracting plan, the using agency, the Louisiana Department of Economic Development (LED), or the Office of State Procurement (OSP) may audit Contractor to determine whether Contractor has complied in good faith with its subcontracting plan. The Contractor must be able to provide supporting documentation (i.e., phone logs, fax transmittals, letter, e-mails) to demonstrate its good faith subcontracting plan was followed. If it is determined at any time by the using agency, LED, or the OSP Director that the Contractor did not in fact perform in good faith its subcontracting plan, the contract award or the existing contract may be terminated.

The statutes (La. R.S. 39:2171 *et. seq.*) concerning the Veteran Initiative may be viewed at:

<http://www.legis.la.gov/Legis/Law.aspx?d=671504>

The statutes (La. R.S. 39:2001 *et. seq.*) concerning the Hudson Initiative may be viewed at:

<http://www.legis.la.gov/Legis/Law.aspx?d=96265>

The rules for the Veteran Initiative (LAC 19:VII. Chapters 11 and 15) and for the Hudson Initiative (LAC 19:VIII Chapters 11 and 13) may be viewed at:  
<http://www.doa.la.gov/pages/osp/se/secv.aspx>

A current list of certified Veteran-Owned and Service-Connected Disabled Veteran-Owned and Hudson Initiative small entrepreneurships may be obtained from the Louisiana Economic Development Certification System at:  
<https://smallbiz.louisianaeconomicdevelopment.com>

Additionally, a list of Hudson and Veteran Initiative small entrepreneurships, which have been certified by the Louisiana Department of Economic Development and who have opted to register in the State of Louisiana LaGov Supplier Portal:  
[https://lagoverpvendor.doa.louisiana.gov/irj/portal/anonymous?guest\\_user=self\\_reg](https://lagoverpvendor.doa.louisiana.gov/irj/portal/anonymous?guest_user=self_reg)

This may be accessed from the State of Louisiana Procurement and Contract (LaPAC) Network:  
<https://wwwcfprd.doa.louisiana.gov/OSP/LaPAC/vendor/VndPubMain.cfm>

When using this site, determine the search criteria (i.e. alphabetized list of all certified vendors, by commodities, etc.) and select SmallE, VSE, or DVSE.



## **PART III: EVALUATION**

The evaluation committee shall assign points to its evaluation of each Proposal as follows:

<b>Evaluation Criteria</b>	<b>Possible Points</b>
Technical Proposal ( <b>Section 3.1</b> )	49
Financial Proposal ( <b>Section 3.2</b> )	39
Veteran and Hudson Initiative ( <b>Section 3.3</b> )	12
Total Possible Points	100

The proposal will be evaluated in light of the material and the substantiating evidence presented to the State, not on the basis of what may be inferred.

**For a Proposer to proceed to the Financial Proposal and Veteran and Hudson Initiative evaluation, the Proposer shall achieve a minimum score equivalent to fifty percent (50%) of the possible points assigned to the Technical Proposal. Any Proposal failing to receive the minimum score at the completion of the detailed evaluation of the technical proposals will not be evaluated further and will be ineligible for award.**

The scores for the Financial Proposals, Technical Proposals and Veteran and Hudson Initiative will be combined to determine the overall score. The Proposer with the highest overall score will be recommended for award.

### **3.1 Technical Proposal- 49 Points**

The following criteria are of importance and relevance to the evaluation of this RFP and will be used by the State Evaluation Committee in the evaluation of the technical proposal. Such factors include:

- **Company Background and Experience (20 points)**
- **Approach and Methodology (15 points)**
- **Implementation/Orientation Plan (10 points)**
- **Innovative Concepts (4 points)**

### **3.2 Financial Proposal- 39 Points**

**The Financial Proposal should be packaged and sealed separately from the Technical Proposal and should be clearly marked as “FINANCIAL PROPOSAL”.**

The following financial criteria will be evaluated: The Three (3) Year Total cost across all harvest quantities.

Prices proposed by the Proposers shall be submitted on the price schedule furnished in **Appendix A**. Prices proposed shall be firm.

The information provided in response to this section will be used in the Financial Evaluation to calculate lowest evaluated cost.

A Proposer's base cost score will be based on the cost information provided in **Appendix A** and computed as follows:

$$\text{BCS} = (\text{LPC}/\text{PC} \times \text{FPP})$$

Where:        BCS = Computed cost score (points) for Proposer being evaluated  
                  LPC = Lowest proposed cost of all Proposers  
                  PC = Total cost of Proposer being evaluated  
                  FPP = Financial Proposal Points

### **3.3 Veteran-Owned and Service-Connected Disabled Veteran-Owned Small Entrepreneurships (Veteran Initiative) and Louisiana Initiative for Small Entrepreneurships (Hudson Initiative) Programs Participation – 12 Points**

Twelve percent (12%) of the total evaluation points in this RFP are reserved for Proposers who are certified small entrepreneurship or who will engage the participation of one or more certified small entrepreneurship as subcontractors. Reserved points shall be added to the applicable Proposers' evaluation score as follows:

#### Proposer Status and Allotment of Reserved Points

- i. If the Proposer is a certified Veterans Initiative small entrepreneurship, the Proposer shall receive points equal to twelve percent (12%) of the total evaluation points in this RFP.
- ii. If the Proposer is a certified Hudson Initiative small entrepreneurship, the Proposer shall receive points equal to ten percent (10%) of the total evaluation points in this RFP.
- iii. If the Proposer demonstrates its intent to use certified small entrepreneurship(s) in the performance of contract work resulting from this solicitation, the Proposer shall receive points equal to the net percentage extent of contract work which is projected to be performed by or through certified small entrepreneurship subcontractors, multiplied by the appropriate number of evaluation points.
- iv. The total number of points awarded pursuant to this Section shall not exceed twelve percent (12%) of the total number of evaluation points in this RFP.

## **PART IV: PERFORMANCE STANDARDS**

### **4.1 Performance Requirements**

- Acceptance and processing of each Coastwide Nutria Control Participant Application.
- Issuance of Nutria Control Program Registration Number and Card to each participant.
- Establishment of collection stations and collection schedule.
- Collection of nutria tails and processing of receipt / vouchers.
- Payment of incentive to program participants.
- Transfer of records (hard copy and electronic) to LDWF for payment reimbursement to participants.
- Report to LDWF regarding the distribution of the harvest, total participants, total amount paid to participants.

### **4.2 Performance Measurement**

LDWF will measure the Contractor's progress and evaluate performance by use of the following methods:

- Oversee the application process and issuance of the Nutria Control Program Number
- Evaluation of the weekly and monthly reports provided by the Contractor
- Review of records pertaining to reimbursement payments to participants
- Monitoring the collection of tails and processing of receipt/vouchers
- Review report provided to LDWF regarding the distribution of the harvest, total participants, total amount paid to participants

### **4.3 Veteran-Owned and Service-Connected Disabled Veteran-Owned Small Entrepreneurships (Veteran Initiative) and Louisiana Initiative for Small Entrepreneurships (Hudson Initiative) Programs Reporting Requirements**

During the term of the contract and at expiration, the Contractor will be required to report Veteran-Owned and Service-Connected Disabled Veteran-Owned and Hudson Initiative small entrepreneurship subcontractor or distributor participation and the dollar amount of each.

If a contract is awarded to a Proposer who proposed a good faith subcontracting plan, the using agency, the Louisiana Department of Economic Development (LED), or the Office of State Procurement (OSP) may audit Contractor to determine whether Contractor has complied in good faith with its subcontracting plan. The Contractor must be able to provide supporting documentation (i.e., phone logs, fax transmittals, letter, e-mails) to demonstrate its good faith subcontracting plan was followed. If it is determined at any time by the using agency, LED, or the OSP Director that the Contractor did not in fact perform in good faith its subcontracting plan, the contract award or the existing contract may be terminated.

## APPENDIX A: PRICE SCHEDULE

### Coastwide Nutria Control Program

The Proposer must provide a fixed price for the term of the contract. The prices shall include any/all costs related to the service. This will be used in the evaluation to determine the overall points awarded for cost. The incentive payment amount is set by the CWPPRA TASK FORCE and is provided from LDWF to the Contractor to pass on to program participants.. Incentive payments shall not be a part of the Price Schedule.

Item	Description	Average Annual Harvest	Average Three (3) Year Total Harvest	Unit Price	Total Per Three (3) Years
1	Firm, Fixed price for Nutria tails from qty. 1-199,999	199,999	599,997		
2	Firm, Fixed price for Nutria tails from qty. 200,000-299,999	100,000	300,000		
3	Firm, Fixed price for Nutria tails from qty. 300,000 and above	14,162	42,486		
				Three (3)Year Total	

- For the purpose of evaluating the cost proposal, LDWF will use the average annual harvest for the first seventeen (17) years of the program.
- The State makes no guarantee of the quantity of harvested tails to be received by the Contractor.

#### Required

The cost will be based on a per-transaction basis determined by the number of tails collected. It is the intent of the state of Louisiana to award line items for the following:

1. Cost per transaction, per tail, from quantity 1 through 199,999.
2. Cost per transaction, per tail, from quantity 200,000 through 299,999.
3. Cost per transaction, per tail, from quantity 300,000 and above.

The Three (3) Year Total cost will be used as Proposers Cost (PC).

## **APPENDIX B: SAMPLE GENERIC CONTRACT**

STATE OF LOUISIANA  
PARISH OF \_\_\_\_\_

File No. \_\_\_\_\_  
Solicitation No. \_\_\_\_\_

**(NAME OF CONTRACT)**

### **1. CONTRACT**

Be it known, that effective upon approval by the Director of State Procurement, as evidenced by the Director's signature on this document, the (*Agency Name*) (hereinafter sometimes referred to as "State") and (*Contractor's name and legal address including zip code*) (hereinafter sometimes referred to as "Contractor") do hereby enter into this Contract under the following terms and conditions.

### **2. SCOPE OF SERVICE**

Contractor hereby agrees to furnish the following services:

*(If the Scope of Services is lengthier than will fit here, it may be attached separately, referenced and incorporated herein.)*

#### **2.1. PERFORMANCE REQUIREMENTS**

#### **2.2. PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT/EVALUATION**

#### **2.3. VETERAN-OWNED AND SERVICE-CONNECTED DISABLED VETERAN-OWNED SMALL ENTREPRENEURSHIPS (VETERAN INITIATIVE) AND LOUISIANA INITIATIVE FOR SMALL ENTREPRENEURSHIPS (HUDSON INITIATIVE) PROGRAMS REPORTING REQUIREMENTS**

During the term of this Contract and at expiration, the Contractor will be required to report Veteran-Owned and Service-Connected Disabled Veteran-Owned and Hudson Initiative small entrepreneurship subcontractor or distributor participation and the dollar amount of each.

If the Contractor proposed a good faith subcontracting plan, the Using Agency, the Louisiana Department of Economic Development (LED), or the Office of State Procurement (OSP) may audit the Contractor to determine whether the Contractor has complied in good faith with its subcontracting plan. The Contractor must be able to provide supporting documentation (i.e., phone logs, fax transmittals, letter, e-mails) to demonstrate its good faith subcontracting plan was followed. If it is determined at any time by the Using Agency, LED, or the OSP Director that the Contractor did not in fact perform in good faith its subcontracting plan, the contract award or the existing Contract may be terminated.

### **3. CONTRACT MODIFICATIONS**

No amendment or modification of the terms of this Contract shall be valid unless made in writing, signed by the parties and approved as required by law. No oral understanding or agreement not incorporated in this Contract is binding on any of the parties.

Changes to this Contract include any change in a) compensation; b) beginning/ending date of this Contract; c) scope of work; and/or d) Contractor change through the assignment of contract process. Any such changes, once approved, will result in the issuance of an amendment to this Contract.

### **4. FUND USE**

Contractor agrees not to use Contract proceeds to urge any elector to vote for or against any candidate or proposition on an election ballot nor shall such funds be used to lobby for or against any proposition or

matter having the effect of law being considered by the Louisiana Legislature or any local governing authority. This provision shall not prevent the normal dissemination of factual information relative to a proposition on any election ballot or a proposition or matter having the effect of law being considered by the Louisiana Legislature or any local governing authority.

## **5. HEADINGS**

Descriptive headings in this Contract are for convenience only and shall not affect the construction of this Contract or meaning of contractual language.

## **6. PAYMENT TERMS**

The State Agency shall pay the Contractor in accordance with the Pricing Schedule set forth in **APPENDIX “\_”** to this Contract. The Contractor may invoice the State Agency monthly at the billing address designated by the State Agency. Payments will be made by the State Agency within approximately thirty (30) days after receipt of a properly executed invoice, and approval by the State Agency. Invoices shall include the contract and order number, using department and product purchased. Invoices submitted without the referenced documentation will not be approved for payment until the required information is provided.

## **7. LATE PAYMENTS**

Interest due by the State Agency for late payments shall be in accordance with La. R.S. 39:1695 at the rates established in La. R.S. 13:4202.

## **8. DELIVERABLES**

The Contractor will deliver the item(s) or service(s) as described below (or per the attached) per the following schedule.

## **9. TAXES**

The Contractor agrees that all applicable taxes are included in the Pricing Schedule set forth in **APPENDIX “\_”** to this Contract. State agencies are exempt from all State and local sales and use taxes.

## **10. TERMINATION**

The State of Louisiana has the right to terminate this Contract immediately for any of the following reasons: (a) misrepresentation by the Contractor; (b) Contractor's fraud, collusion, conspiracy or other unlawful means of obtaining any contract with the State of Louisiana; (c) conflict of contract provisions with constitutional or statutory provisions of State or Federal Law; (d) abusive or belligerent conduct by the Contractor towards an employee or agent of the State; (e) Contractor's intentional violation of the Louisiana Procurement Code (La. R.S. 39:1551 et seq.) and its corresponding regulations; or, (f) any listed reason for debarment under La. R.S. 39:1672.

### **10.1. TERMINATION OF THIS CONTRACT FOR CAUSE**

The State may terminate this Contract for cause based upon the failure of Contractor to comply with the terms and/or conditions of this Contract, or failure to fulfill its performance obligations pursuant to this Contract, provided that the State shall give the Contractor written notice specifying the Contractor's failure. If within thirty (30) days after receipt of such notice, the Contractor shall not have corrected such failure or, in the case of failure which cannot be corrected in thirty (30) days, begun in good faith to correct such failure and thereafter proceeded diligently to complete such correction, then the State may, at its option, place the Contractor in default and this Contract shall terminate on the date specified in such notice.

The Contractor may exercise any rights available to it under Louisiana law to terminate for cause upon the failure of the State to comply with the terms and conditions of this Contract, provided that the Contractor

shall give the State written notice specifying the State's failure and a reasonable opportunity for the State to cure the defect.

## **10.2. TERMINATION OF THIS CONTRACT FOR CONVENIENCE**

The State of Louisiana may terminate this Contract for convenience at any time (1) by giving thirty (30) days written notice to the Contractor of such termination; or (2) by negotiating with the Contractor an effective date. The State shall pay the Contractor for, if applicable: (a) deliverables in progress; (b) the percentage that has been completed satisfactorily; and, (c) for transaction-based services up to the date of termination, to the extent work has been performed satisfactorily.

## **10.3. TERMINATION FOR NON-APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS**

The continuation of this Contract is contingent upon the appropriation of funds to fulfill the requirements of this Contract by the legislature. If the legislature fails to appropriate sufficient monies to provide for the continuation of this Contract or if such appropriation is reduced by the veto of the Governor or by any means provided in the appropriations act or Title 39 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950 to prevent the total appropriation for the year from exceeding revenues for that year, or for any other lawful purpose, and the effect of such reduction is to provide insufficient monies for the continuation of this Contract, this Contract shall terminate on the date of the beginning of the first fiscal year for which funds are not appropriated.

## **11. OWNERSHIP**

All records, reports, documents, or other material related to this Contract and/or obtained or prepared by the Contractor in connection with the performance of the services contracted for herein shall become the property of the State, and shall, upon request, be returned by the Contractor to the State, at the Contractor's expense, at termination or expiration of this Contract.

All records, reports, documents and other material delivered or transmitted to the Contractor by the State shall remain the property of the State, and shall be returned by the Contractor to the State at the Contractor's expense, at termination or expiration of this Contract.

## **12. USE OF AGENCY'S FACILITIES**

Any property of the State furnished to the Contractor shall, unless otherwise provided herein, or approved by the State and/or Agency, be used only for the performance of this Contract.

The Contractor shall be responsible for any loss or damage to property of the State and/or State Agency which results from willful misconduct or lack of good faith on the part of the Contractor or which results from the failure on the part of the Contractor to maintain and administer that property in accordance with sound management practices, to ensure that the property will be returned to the State and/or State Agency in like condition, except for normal wear and tear, to that in which it was furnished to the Contractor. Upon the happening of loss, or destruction of, or damage to property of the State, the Contractor shall notify the State thereof and shall take all reasonable steps to protect that property from further damage.

The Contractor shall surrender to the State and/or State Agency all property of the State and/or State Agency prior to settlement upon completion, termination, or cancellation of this Contract. All reference to the Contractor under this section shall include any of its employees, agents, or subcontractors.

## **13. WAIVER**

Waiver of any breach of any term or condition of this Contract shall not be deemed a waiver of any prior or subsequent breach. No term or condition of this Contract shall be held to be waived, modified or deleted except by the written consent of both parties.

## 14. WARRANTIES

Contractor warrants that all services shall be performed in good faith, with diligence and care, by experienced and qualified personnel in a professional, workmanlike manner, and according to its current description (including any completion criteria) contained in the scope of work.

Contractor further warrants that it has the right to provide and or license its product to the State and that it will operate in accordance with this Contract. In the event of a material failure of Contractor's product to function and operate, and/or failure by the Contractor to perform its obligations, in accordance with the terms and conditions of this Contract that results in the termination of this Contract for cause by the State, the State will not be obligated to compensate the Contractor of any costs incurred by Contractor.

Extent of Warranty: THESE WARRANTIES REPLACE ALL OTHER WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE.

## 15. INDEMNIFICATION AND LIMITATION OF LIABILITY

Neither party shall be liable for any delay or failure in performance beyond its control resulting from acts of God or force majeure. The parties shall use reasonable efforts to eliminate or minimize the effect of such events upon performance of their respective duties under this Contract.

Contractor shall be fully liable for the actions of its agents, employees, partners or subcontractors and shall fully indemnify and hold harmless the State from suits, actions, damages and costs of every name and description relating to personal injury and damage to property caused by Contractor, its agents, employees, partners or subcontractors in the performance of this Contract, without limitation; provided, however, that the Contractor shall not indemnify for that portion of any claim, loss or damage arising hereunder due to the negligent act or failure to act of the State.

Contractor will indemnify, defend and hold the State harmless, **without limitation**, from and against any and all damages, expenses (including reasonable attorneys' fees), claims judgments, liabilities and costs which may be finally assessed against the State in any action for infringement of a United States Letter Patent with respect to the Products, Materials, or Services furnished, or of any copyright, trademark, trade secret or intellectual property right, provided that the State shall give the Contractor: (i) prompt written notice of any action, claim or threat of infringement suit, or other suit, (ii) the opportunity to take over, settle or defend such action, claim or suit at Contractor's sole expense, and (iii) assistance in the defense of any such action at the expense of Contractor. Where a dispute or claim arises relative to a real or anticipated infringement, the State may require Contractor, at its sole expense, to submit such information and documentation, including formal patent attorney opinions, as the Commissioner of Administration shall require.

The Contractor shall not be obligated to indemnify that portion of a claim or dispute based upon: (i) State's unauthorized modification or alteration of a Product, Material, or Service; (ii) State's use of the Product, Material, or Service in combination with other products, materials, or services not furnished by Contractor; (iii) State's use in other than the specified operating conditions and environment.

In addition to the foregoing, if the use of any item(s) or part(s) thereof shall be enjoined for any reason or if Contractor believes that it may be enjoined, Contractor shall have the right, at its own expense and sole discretion as the State's exclusive remedy to take action no later than six (6) months after the issuance of an injunction in the following order of precedence: (i) to procure for the State the right to continue using such item(s) or part (s) thereof, as applicable; (ii) to modify the component so that it becomes non-infringing equipment of at least equal quality and performance; or (iii) to replace said item(s) or part(s) thereof, as applicable, with non-infringing components of at least equal quality and performance, or (iv) if none of the foregoing is commercially reasonable, then provide monetary compensation to the State up to the dollar amount of this Contract. Any injunction that is issued against the State which prevents the State from utilizing the Contractor's product in excess of six (6) months and for which the Contractor has not obtained



for the State or provided to the State one of the alternatives set forth in the foregoing sentence is cause for the State to terminate this Contract. In the event of such termination, the State will not be obligated to compensate the Contractor for any costs incurred by the Contractor.

For all other claims against the Contractor where liability is not otherwise set forth in this Contract as being "without limitation", and regardless of the basis on which the claim is made, Contractor's liability **for direct damages, shall be the greater of \$100,000, the dollar amount of this Contract, or two (2) times the charges for services rendered by the Contractor under this Contract.** Unless otherwise specifically enumerated herein mutually agreed between the parties, neither party shall be liable to the other for special, indirect or consequential damages, including lost data or records (unless the Contractor is required to back-up the data or records as part of the work plan), even if the party has been advised of the possibility of such damages. Neither party shall be liable for lost profits, lost revenue or lost institutional operating savings.

The State may, in addition to other remedies available to them at law or equity and upon notice to the Contractor, retain such monies from amounts due Contractor, or may proceed against the performance and payment bond, if any, as may be necessary to satisfy any claim for damages, penalties, costs and the like asserted by or against them.

## **16. INSURANCE AND BONDS**

### **16.1. INSURANCE**

Contractor will be required to provide the State of Louisiana with Certificates of adequate insurance indicating coverage required, in accordance with Sections 1.38, 1.39 of the RFP and APPENDIX " " of this Contract. The Contractor shall maintain the insurance for the full term of this Contract. Failure to comply shall be grounds for termination of this Contract.

### **16.2. FIDELITY BOND**

The Contractor shall be required to provide a Fidelity Bond in the amount of \$250,000 to protect the State from loss resulting from acts of crime or fraud perpetrated either by the Contractor, its agents or subcontractors or against the Contractor, its agents or subcontractors. The Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry shall be the named beneficiary.

The fidelity bond furnished shall be written by a surety or insurance company that is currently licensed to do business in the State of Louisiana. The Contractor shall maintain the performance bond for the full term of this contract. Failure to comply shall be grounds for termination of this contract.

## **17. LICENSES AND PERMITS**

Contractor shall secure and maintain all licenses and permits, and pay inspection fees required to do the work required to complete this Contract, if applicable.

## **18. SEVERABILITY**

If any term or condition of this Contract or the application thereof is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other terms, conditions or applications which can be given effect without the invalid term, condition or application; to this end the terms and conditions of this Contract are declared severable.

## **19. SUBCONTRACTORS**

The Contractor may enter into subcontracts with third parties for the performance of any part of the Contractor's duties and obligations. In no event shall the existence of a subcontract operate to release or reduce the liability of the Contractor to the State and/or State Agency for any breach in the performance of the Contractor's duties. The Contractor will be the single point of contact for all subcontractor work.

## **20. SUBSTITUTION OF PERSONNEL**

If, during the term of this Contract, the Contractor or subcontractor cannot provide the personnel as proposed and requests a substitution, that substitution shall meet or exceed the requirements stated herein. A detailed resume of qualifications and justification is to be submitted to the State for approval prior to any personnel substitution. It shall be acknowledged by the Contractor that every reasonable attempt shall be made to assign the personnel listed in the Contractor's proposal.

The State shall reserve the right to require removal and replacement of any Contract personnel whose performance it considers unacceptable.

## **21. ASSIGNMENT**

Contractor shall not assign any interest in this Contract by assignment, transfer, or novation, without prior written consent of the State. This provision shall not be construed to prohibit the Contractor from assigning his bank, trust company, or other financial institution any money due or to become due from approved contracts without such prior written consent. Notice of any such assignment or transfer shall be furnished promptly to the State.

## **22. CODE OF ETHICS**

The Contractor acknowledges that Chapter 15 of Title 42 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes (La. R.S. 42:1101 et. seq., Code of Governmental Ethics) applies to the Contracting Party in the performance of services called for in this Contract. The Contractor agrees to immediately notify the State if potential violations of the Code of Governmental Ethics arise at any time during the term of this Contract.

## **23. CONFIDENTIALITY**

The following provision will apply unless the State agency statement of work specifically indicates that all information exchanged will be non-confidential:

All financial, statistical, personal, technical and other data and information relating to the State's operations which are designated confidential by the State and made available to the Contractor in order to carry out this Contract, shall be protected by the Contractor from unauthorized use and disclosure through the observance of the same or more effective procedural requirements as are applicable to the State. The identification of all such confidential data and information as well as the State's procedural requirements for protection of such data and information from unauthorized use and disclosure shall be provided by the State in writing to the Contractor. If the methods and procedures employed by the Contractor for the protection of the Contractor's data and information are deemed by the State to be adequate for the protection of the State's confidential information, such methods and procedures may be used, with the written consent of the State, to carry out the intent of this paragraph. The Contractor shall not be required under the provisions of this paragraph to keep confidential any data or information, which is or becomes publicly available, is already rightfully in the Contractor's possession, is independently developed by the Contractor outside the scope of this Contract, or is rightfully obtained from third parties.

## **24. CONTRACT CONTROVERSIES**

Any claim or controversy arising out of this Contract shall be resolved by the provisions of Louisiana Revised Statute 39:1671-1673.

## **25. RIGHT TO AUDIT**

The State Legislative auditor, federal auditors and internal auditors of the Dept. of \_\_\_\_\_, Division of Administration, or others so designated by the DOA, shall have the option to audit all accounts directly pertaining to this Contract for a period of five (5) years from the date of final payment or as required by

applicable State and Federal Law. Records shall be made available during normal working hours for this purpose.

## **26. CONTRACTOR'S CERTIFICATION OF NO FEDERAL SUSPENSION OR DEBARMENT**

Contractor has a continuing obligation to disclose any suspensions or debarment by any government entity, including but not limited to General Services Administration (GSA). Failure to disclose may constitute grounds for suspension and/or termination of this Contract and debarment from future contracts.

## **27. CONTRACTOR'S COOPERATION/CLOSE-OUT**

The Contractor has the duty to fully cooperate with the State and provide any and all requested information, documentation, etc. to the State when requested. This applies even if this Contract is terminated and/or a lawsuit is filed. Specifically, the Contractor shall not limit or impede the State's right to audit or to withhold State owned documents.

## **28. SECURITY**

Contractor's personnel will comply with all security regulations in effect at the State's premises, the Information Security Policy at <http://www.doa.la.gov/Pages/ots/InformationSecurity.aspx> and externally for materials and property belonging to the State or to the project. Where special security precautions are warranted (e.g., correctional facilities), the State shall provide such procedures to the Contractor, accordingly. Contractor is responsible for promptly reporting to the State any known breach of security.

## **29. TERM OF CONTRACT**

This Contract is effective upon OSP approval and will end no later than thirty-six (36) months, unless otherwise terminated in accordance with the Termination provision of this Contract. At the option of the State of Louisiana and acceptance of the Contractor, this Contract may be extended for two (2) additional twelve (12) month periods at the same prices, terms, and conditions. Total contract time may not exceed sixty (60) months.

## **30. COMMENCEMENT OF WORK**

No work shall be performed by Contractor and the State shall not be bound until such time as this Contract is fully executed between the State and the Contractor and all required approvals are obtained.

## **31. COMPLIANCE WITH CIVIL RIGHTS LAWS**

The Contractor agrees to abide by the requirements of the following as applicable: Title VI and Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended by the Equal Employment Opportunity Act of 1972, Federal Executive Order 11246 as amended, the Federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973 as amended, the Vietnam Era Veteran's Readjustment Assistance Act of 1974, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, the Fair Housing Act of 1968 as amended, and Contractor agrees to abide by the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990.

Contractor agrees not to discriminate in its employment practices, and will render services under this Contract without regard to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, national origin, veteran status, political affiliation, disability or age in any matter relating to employment. Any act of discrimination committed by Contractor, or failure to comply with these statutory obligations when applicable shall be grounds for termination of this Contract.

## **32. RECORD RETENTION**

The Contractor shall maintain all records in relation to this Contract for a period of at least five (5) years after final payment.

### **33. ANTI-KICKBACK CLAUSE**

The Contractor hereby agrees to adhere to the mandate dictated by the Copeland "Anti-Kickback" Act which provides that each Contractor or subgrantee shall be prohibited from inducing, by any means, any person employed in the completion of work, to give up any part of the compensation to which he is otherwise entitled.

### **34. CLEAN AIR ACT**

The Contractor hereby agrees to adhere to the provisions which require compliance with all applicable standards, orders or requirements issued under Section 306 of the Clean Air Act which prohibits the use under non-exempt Federal contracts, grants or loans of facilities included on the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) list of Violating Facilities.

### **35. ENERGY POLICY AND CONSERVATION ACT**

The Contractor hereby recognizes the mandatory standards and policies relating to energy efficiency which are contained in the State energy conservation plan issued in compliance with the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (P.L. 94-163).

### **36. CLEAN WATER ACT**

The Contractor hereby agrees to adhere to the provisions which require compliance with all applicable standards, orders, or requirements issued under Section 508 of the Clean Water Act which prohibits the use under non-exempt Federal contracts, grants or loans of facilities included on the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) List of Violating Facilities.

### **37. ANTI-LOBBYING AND DEBARMENT ACT**

The Contractor will be expected to comply with Federal statutes required in the Anti-Lobbying Act and the Debarment Act.

### **38. PROHIBITION OF DISCRIMINATORY BOYCOTTS OF ISRAEL**

In accordance with La. R.S. 39:1602.1, for any contracts with a value of \$100,000 or more and for any Contractor with five (5) or more employees, the Contractor certifies that it is not engaging in a boycott of Israel and it will, for the duration of its contractual obligations, refrain from a boycott of Israel.

### **39. GOVERNING LAW**

This Contract shall be governed by and interpreted in accordance with the laws of the State of Louisiana, including but not limited to La. R.S. 39:1551-1736 (Louisiana Procurement Code) and La. R.S. 39:196-200 (Information Technology Procurement Code), if applicable; purchasing rules and regulations; executive orders; standard terms and conditions; special terms and conditions; and specifications listed in the RFP; and this Contract. Venue of any action brought with regard to this Contract shall be in the Nineteenth Judicial District Court, Parish of East Baton Rouge, State of Louisiana.

### **40. COMPLETE CONTRACT**

This is the complete Contract between the parties with respect to the subject matter and all prior discussions and negotiations are merged into this Contract. This Contract is entered into with neither party relying on any statement or representation made by the other party not embodied in this Contract and there are no other agreements or understanding changing or modifying the terms. This Contract shall become effective upon final statutory approval.

**41. ORDER OF PRECEDENCE**

The Request for Proposals (RFP), dated \_\_\_\_\_, and the Contractor's Proposal dated \_\_\_\_\_, are attached hereto and, incorporated into this Contract as though fully set forth herein. In the event of an inconsistency between this Contract, the RFP and/or the Contractor's Proposal, unless otherwise provided herein, the inconsistency shall be resolved by giving precedence first to this Contract, then to the RFP and finally, the Contractor's Proposal.

THUS DONE AND SIGNED AT \_\_\_\_\_ on this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_, and, IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have executed this Contract.

WITNESSES' SIGNATURES:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

CONTRACTOR SIGNATURE:

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

THUS DONE AND SIGNED AT Baton Rouge, Louisiana on this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_, and, IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have executed this Contract.

WITNESSES' SIGNATURES:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

STATE AGENCY SIGNATURE:

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Title \_\_\_\_\_

Approved by:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Director of State Procurement

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## **APPENDIX C: INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS FOR CONTRACTORS**

The Contractor shall purchase and maintain for the duration of the Contract insurance against claims for injuries to persons or damages to property which may arise from or in connection with the performance of the work hereunder by the Contractor, its agents, representatives, employees or subcontractors.

### **A. MINIMUM SCOPE AND LIMITS OF INSURANCE**

#### **1. Workers Compensation**

Workers Compensation insurance shall be in compliance with the Workers Compensation law of the State of the Contractor's headquarters. Employers Liability is included with a minimum limit of \$1,000,000 per accident/per disease/per employee. If work is to be performed over water and involves maritime exposure, applicable LHWCA, Jones Act, or other maritime law coverage shall be included. A.M. Best's insurance company rating requirement may be waived for workers compensation coverage only.

#### **2. Commercial General Liability**

Commercial General Liability insurance, including Personal and Advertising Injury Liability and Products and Completed Operations, shall have a minimum limit per occurrence of \$1,000,000 and a minimum general annual aggregate of \$2,000,000. The Insurance Services Office (ISO) Commercial General Liability occurrence coverage form CG 00 01 (current form approved for use in Louisiana), or equivalent, is to be used in the policy. Claims-made form is unacceptable.

#### **3. Automobile Liability**

Automobile Liability Insurance shall have a minimum combined single limit per accident of \$1,000,000. ISO form number CA 00 01 (current form approved for use in Louisiana), or equivalent, is to be used in the policy. This insurance shall include third-party bodily injury and property damage liability for owned, hired and non-owned automobiles.

### **B. DEDUCTIBLES AND SELF-INSURED RETENTIONS**

Any deductibles or self-insured retentions must be declared to and accepted by the Agency. The Contractor shall be responsible for all deductibles and self-insured retentions.

### **C. OTHER INSURANCE PROVISIONS**

The policies are to contain, or be endorsed to contain, the following provisions:

#### **1. Commercial General Liability and Automobile Liability Coverages**

a. The Agency, its officers, agents, employees and volunteers shall be named as an additional insured as regards negligence by the Contractor. ISO Forms CG 20 10 (for ongoing work) AND CG 20 37 (for completed work) (current forms approved for use in Louisiana), or equivalents, are to be used when applicable. The coverage shall contain no special limitations on the scope of protection afforded to the Agency.

b. The Contractor's insurance shall be primary as respects the Agency, its officers, agents, employees and volunteers for any and all losses that occur under the Contract. Any insurance or self-insurance maintained by the Agency shall be excess and non-contributory of the Contractor's insurance.

#### **2. Workers Compensation and Employers Liability Coverage**

To the fullest extent allowed by law, the insurer shall agree to waive all rights of subrogation against the Agency, its officers, agents, employees and volunteers for losses arising from work performed by the Contractor for the Agency.

3. All Coverages

- a. All policies must be endorsed to require 30 days written notice of cancellation to the Agency. Ten-day written notice of cancellation is acceptable for non-payment of premium. Notifications shall comply with the standard cancellation provisions in the Contractor's policy. In addition, Contractor is required to notify Agency of policy cancellations or reductions in limits.
- b. The acceptance of the completed work, payment, failure of the Agency to require proof of compliance, or Agency's acceptance of a non-compliant certificate of insurance shall release the Contractor from the obligations of the insurance requirements or indemnification agreement.
- c. The insurance companies issuing the policies shall have no recourse against the Agency for payment of premiums or for assessments under any form of the policies.
- d. Any failure of the Contractor to comply with reporting provisions of the policy shall not affect coverage provided to the Agency, its officers, agents, employees and volunteers.

**D. ACCEPTABILITY OF INSURERS**

1. All required insurance shall be provided by a company or companies lawfully authorized to do business in the jurisdiction in which the Project is located. Insurance shall be placed with insurers with an A.M. Best's rating of **A-:VI or higher**. This rating requirement may be waived for workers compensation coverage only.
2. If at any time an insurer issuing any such policy does not meet the minimum A.M. Best rating, the Contractor shall obtain a policy with an insurer that meets the A.M. Best rating and shall submit another Certificate of Insurance within 30 days.

**E. VERIFICATION OF COVERAGE**

1. Contractor shall furnish the Agency with Certificates of Insurance reflecting proof of required coverage. The Certificates for each insurance policy are to be signed by a person authorized by that insurer to bind coverage on its behalf. The Certificates are to be received and approved by the Agency before work commences and upon any Contract renewal or insurance policy renewal thereafter.
2. The Certificate Holder Shall be listed as follows:  
  
State of Louisiana  
Its Officers, Agents, Employees and Volunteers  
P.O Box 94095, Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9095  
Project or Contract #: Design and Operate a Coastwide Nutria Control Program
3. In addition to the Certificates, Contractor shall submit the declarations page and the cancellation provision for each insurance policy. The Agency reserves the right to request complete certified copies of all required insurance policies at any time.
4. Upon failure of the Contractor to furnish, deliver and maintain required insurance, this Contract, at the election of the Agency, may be suspended, discontinued or terminated. Failure of the Contractor to purchase and/or maintain any required insurance shall not relieve the Contractor from

any liability or indemnification under the Contract.

**F. SUBCONTRACTORS**

Contractor shall include all subcontractors as insureds under its policies OR shall be responsible for verifying and maintaining the Certificates provided by each subcontractor. Subcontractors shall be subject to all of the requirements stated herein. The Agency reserves the right to request copies of subcontractor's Certificates at any time.

**G. WORKERS COMPENSATION INDEMNITY**

In the event Contractor is not required to provide or elects not to provide workers compensation coverage, the parties hereby agree that Contractor, its owners, agents and employees will have no cause of action against, and will not assert a claim against, the State of Louisiana, its departments, agencies, agents and employees as an employer, whether pursuant to the Louisiana Workers Compensation Act or otherwise, under any circumstance. The parties also hereby agree that the State of Louisiana, its departments, agencies, agents and employees shall in no circumstance be, or considered as, the employer or statutory employer of Contractor, its owners, agents and employees. The parties further agree that Contractor is a wholly independent contractor and is exclusively responsible for its employees, owners, and agents. Contractor hereby agrees to protect, defend, indemnify and hold the State of Louisiana, its departments, agencies, agents and employees harmless from any such assertion or claim that may arise from the performance of this Contract.



## **APPENDIX D: ELECTRONIC VENDOR PAYMENT SOLUTION**

In an effort to increase efficiencies and effectiveness as well as be strategic in utilizing technology and resources for the State and Contractor, the State intends to make all payments to Contractors electronically. The LaCarte Procurement Card will be used for purchases of \$5,000 and under, and where feasible, over \$5,000. Contractors will have a choice of receiving electronic payment for all other payments by selecting the Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT). If you receive an award and do not currently accept the LaCarte card or have not already enrolled in EFT, you will be asked to comply with this request by choosing either the LaCarte Procurement Card and/or EFT. You may indicate your acceptance below.

The **LaCarte** Procurement Card uses a Visa card platform. Contractors receive payment from state agencies using the card in the same manner as other Visa card purchases. Contractors cannot process payment transactions through the credit card clearinghouse until the purchased products have been shipped or received or the services performed.

For all statewide and agency term contracts:

- Under the LaCarte program, purchase orders are not necessary. Orders must be placed against the net discounted products of the contract. All contract terms and conditions apply to purchases made with LaCarte.
- If a purchase order is not used, the Contractor must keep on file a record of all LaCarte purchases issued against this contract during the contract period. The file must contain the particular item number, quantity, line total and order total. Records of these purchases must be provided to the Office of State Procurement on request.

**EFT** payments are sent from the State's bank directly to the payee's bank each weekday. The only requirement is that you have an active checking or savings account at a financial institution that can accept Automated Clearing House (ACH) credit files and remittance information electronically. Additional information and an enrollment form is available at: [DOA-OSRAP-EFT@la.gov](mailto:DOA-OSRAP-EFT@la.gov).

To facilitate this payment process, you will need to complete and return the EFT enrollment form.

If an award is made to your company, please check which option you will accept or indicate if you are already enrolled.

<u>Payment Type</u>	<u>Will Accept</u>	<u>Already Enrolled</u>
LaCarte	_____	_____
EFT	_____	_____

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name of Individual Authorized

\_\_\_\_\_  
Authorized Signature for payment type chosen

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Email address and phone number of authorized individual