

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

PROFESSIONAL OYSTER BIOLOGY SERVICES



RFP #: 2503-16-16

PROPOSAL DUE DATE/TIME: SEPTEMBER 19, 2016

STATE OF LOUISIANA

COASTAL PROTECTION AND RESTORATION AUTHORITY

AUGUST 17, 2016

TABLE OF CONTENTS

PART I. ADMINISTRATIVE AND GENERAL INFORMATION

1.1	Background	3
1.1.1	Purpose	3
1.2	Definitions	3-4
1.3	Schedule of Events	4
1.3.1	Period of Agreement.....	4
1.3.2	Blackout Period.....	4-5
1.4	Proposal Submission	5
1.4.1	Highly Desirable Qualifications for Proposer	5
1.4.2	Technical Capacity and Experience.....	6
1.5	Proposal Format.....	6-10
1.5.1	Number of Copies of Proposal	10
1.5.2	Legibility/Clarity	10
1.6	Confidential Information, Trade Secrets and Proprietary Information	11
1.7	Pre-Proposal Conference	11
1.7.1	Proposer Inquiries	11-12
1.8	Errors and Omissions in Proposal	12
1.9	Changes, Addenda, Withdrawals	12
1.10	Withdrawal of Proposal	12
1.11	Waiver of Administrative Formalities	12
1.12	Proposal Rejection/RFP Cancellation.....	12
1.13	Ownership of Proposal.....	12
1.14	Cost of Offer Preparation.....	12
1.15	Determination of Responsibility	12-13
1.16	Use of Subcontractors.....	13
1.17	Oral Discussions/Presentations	13
1.18	Acceptance of Proposal Content	13
1.19	Evaluation and Selection.....	13
1.20	Contract Award and Execution	13-14
1.21	Notice of Intent to Award	14
1.22	Right to Prohibit Award	14
1.23	Payment	14
1.24	Assignment	15
1.25	Audit of Records.....	15
1.26	Record Ownership	15
1.27	Entire Agreement/Order of Precedence.....	15
1.28	Substitution of Personnel	15
1.29	Governing Law	15
1.30	Claims or Controversies	15
1.31	Code of Ethics	16
1.32	Corporate Requirements	16
1.33	Indemnification & Limitation of Liability.....	16-17

PART II. EVALUATION

3.1 Cost Evaluation 18

3.2 Veteran-Owned and Service-Connected Disabled Veteran-Owned Small
Entrepreneurships (Veteran Initiative) and Louisiana Initiative for Small
Entrepreneurships (Hudson Initiative) Programs Participation..... 19

ATTACHMENTS

ATTACHMENT I: CERTIFICATION STATEMENT.....20

ATTACHMENT II: SCOPE OF SERVICES.....21-23

ATTACHMENT III: REQUIRED RATE SCHEDULE.....24-25

ATTACHMENT IV: SAMPLE CONTRACT.....26-50

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
FOR
PROFESSIONAL OYSTER BIOLOGY SERVICES**

PART I: ADMINISTRATIVE AND GENERAL INFORMATION

1.1 Background

The Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority (CPRA) is seeking the services of a professional oyster biologist or firm to do work throughout the coastal parishes of Louisiana. Work to be performed shall include conducting biological surveys of public and private oyster grounds potentially affected by coastal protection, conservation, or restoration projects in order to determine water bottom type and standing crop, delineating areas potentially directly impacted by coastal protection, conservation, or restoration projects, and providing consulting services regarding oyster biology, oyster cultivation, and other potential impacts on oyster grounds by coastal protection, conservation, or restoration projects on an as-needed basis.

1.1.1 Purpose

This Request for Proposals (RFP) is issued by the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority (herein referred to as the CPRA) for the purpose of conducting biological surveys of public and private oyster grounds on an as-needed basis.

1.2 Definitions

A. Shall, Will, and Must – The terms “shall”, “will”, and “must” denote mandatory requirements.

B. May and Can- The terms “may” and “can” denote an advisory or permissible action.

C. Should – The term “should” denotes a desirable action.

D. Contracting Party/Contractor– Any person having a contract with a governmental body; the selected Proposer(s).

E. Agency- Any department, commission, council, board, office, bureau, committee, institution, agency, government, corporation, or other establishment of the executive branch of this state authorized to participate in any contract resulting from this solicitation.

F. State- The State of Louisiana.

G. 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.

H. DOA – Division of Administration.

I. OSP – Office of State Procurement.

J. Proposer – A firm or individual who responds to this RFP.

K. RFP – Request for Proposal.

L. O.L.D.E.B. - Oyster Lease Damage Evaluation Board.

1.3 Schedule of Events

NOTE: The events and dates summarized below represent milestones in CPRA’s RFP process; however, CPRA reserves the right to deviate from this schedule. **Revisions, if any, before the Proposal Submission Deadline will be formalized by the issuance of an addendum to the RFP.**

Event	Date	Local Time
Begin advertisement of RFP	August 17, 2016	
Deadline for receipt of written questions	August 26, 2016	3:00 p.m. CST
Issue responses to written inquiries	August 30, 2016	
Proposal due date and time	September 19, 2016	3:00 p.m. CST
Estimated award date	Approximately September 28, 2016	
Estimated initiation of the contract period	Approximately October 14, 2016	

1.3.1 Period of Agreement

This contract shall begin on or about October 15, 2016 and shall end on or about October 14, 2017. The State shall have the right to contract for up to a total of three years with the concurrence of the Contracting Party and with all appropriate approvals.

1.3.2 Blackout Period

The Blackout Period is a specified period of time during a competitive procurement process in which any Proposer, bidder, or its agent or representative, is prohibited from communicating with any state employee or Contracting Party of the State involved in any step in the procurement process about the affected procurement. The Blackout Period shall apply not only to state employees, but also to any Contracting Party of the State. “Involvement” in the procurement process shall include but shall 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 1.7.1 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(s) are awarded.

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

Any bidder, Proposer, or state Contracting Party who violates the blackout period may be liable to the State in damages and/or subject to any other remedy allowed by law.

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; or
3. Oral presentations during the evaluation process.

1.4 Proposal Submission

Firms/individuals who are interested in providing services requested under this RFP must submit a proposal containing the mandatory information specified in this section. The proposal must be received in hard copy (printed) version by the RFP Coordinator on or before 3:00 PM Central Daylight Time on the date specified in the Schedule of Events. FAX or e-mail submissions shall not be acceptable. Proposers mailing their proposals should allow sufficient mail delivery time to ensure receipt of their proposal by the time specified. The proposal package must be delivered at the Proposer's expense to:

*Allison Richard, Coastal Resource Program Specialist
Coastal Protection & Restoration Authority
150 Terrace Avenue
Baton Rouge, LA 70802
225-342-5453*

It shall be solely the responsibility of each Proposer to ensure that its proposal is delivered at the specified place and prior to the deadline for submission. Proposals received after the deadline will not be considered.

1.4.1 Mandatory Qualifications for Proposer

Proposers must meet the following minimum qualifications:

- A. Has a college degree in a biological science, or has been accepted by a Federal or State court in Louisiana as an expert witness in the field of oyster biology or oyster ecology;
- B. Has acquired five (5) or more years of professional experience (prior to deadline for receipt of proposals) conducting oyster lease surveys and standing crop analyses.
- C. O.L.D.E.B. Certification. Certification must be active at time of proposal submission. CPRA will verify current certification on the DNR website at <http://dnr.louisiana.gov/index.cfm?md=pagebuilder&tmp=home&pid=76>.

1.4.2 Technical Capacity and Experience

Proposals should be submitted as specified in Section 1.5, and should include enough information to satisfy evaluators that the Proposer has the appropriate experience and qualifications to perform the scope of services as described herein. Proposers should respond to all requested areas.

1.5 Proposal Format

A. VOLUME I – TECHNICAL PROPOSAL AND COST RATES (FOUR COPIES)

a. Cover Letter:

A cover letter should be submitted on the Proposer's official business letterhead explaining the intent of the Proposer.

b. Table of Contents:

The proposal should include a paginated table of contents to facilitate locating the information included and be organized in the order contained herein.

c. Certification Statement:

The Proposer **shall** sign and submit the Certification Statement shown in Attachment I.

d. Executive Summary:

This section should serve to introduce the scope of the proposal. It should include administrative information including, at a minimum, Proposer contact name and phone number, and the stipulation that the proposal is valid for a time period of at least 90 calendar days from the date of submission. This section should also include a summary of the Proposer's qualifications and ability to meet the State agency's overall requirements in the timeframes set by the agency. It should include a positive statement of compliance with the contract terms. If the Proposer cannot comply with any of the contract terms, an explanation of each exception **must** be supplied. The Proposer should address the specific language in Attachment IV, Sample Contract, and submit whatever exceptions or exact contract modifications that its firm may seek. While final wording will be resolved during contract negotiations, the intent of the provisions will not be substantially altered.

e. Firm Experience:

The Proposers should give a brief description of their company including a brief history, corporate structure and organization, and number of years in business. This section should provide a detailed discussion of the Proposer's prior experience in working on projects similar in size, scope, and function to the proposed contract. Proposers should describe their experience in other states or in corporate/governmental entities of comparable size and diversity with references from previous clients, including names and telephone numbers.

Proposers should clearly describe their ability to meet or exceed the desired qualifications described in Section 1.4.1.

f. Qualifications of Individuals Assigned to the Project:

The Proposer should provide detailed information about the experience and qualifications of the Proposer's assigned personnel considered key to the success of the project. This information should include education, training, technical experience, functional experience, specific dates and names of employers, relevant and related experience, and past and present projects with dates and responsibilities and any applicable certifications. This should also specifically include the role and responsibilities of each person on this project, their planned level of effort, their anticipated duration of involvement, and their on-site availability. Customer references (name, title, company name, address, and telephone number) should be provided for the cited projects in the individual resumes.

Proposers should clearly describe their years of experience described in Section 1.4.1.

g. Approach and Methodology:

Proposals should include enough information to satisfy evaluators that the Proposer has the appropriate experience, knowledge, and qualifications to perform the scope of services as described herein.

Proposers should respond to all items specified in Attachment II, Scope of Services.

The Proposer should:

- Provide Proposer's understanding of the nature of the State's projects and how its proposal will best meet the needs of the CPRA.
- Define its functional approach in providing the services.
- Define its functional approach in identifying the tasks necessary to meet requirements.
- Describe the approach to Project Management and Quality Assurance.
- Provide a proposed project team for this work and the function and responsibilities of subcontractors.
- Provide an explanation of any additional tasks to be performed which are deemed necessary by the Proposer for successful project completion; explanation of deviation from and/or deletion of any tasks listed in the Scope of Services.
- Present innovative concepts for consideration.

h. Veteran-Owned and Service-Connected Disabled Veteran-Owned Small Entrepreneurships (Veteran Initiative) and Louisiana Initiative for Small Entrepreneurships (Hudson Initiative) Programs Participation:

Participation of Veteran Initiative and Hudson Initiative small entrepreneurship will be scored as part of the technical evaluation.

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 <http://smallbiz.louisianaeconomicdevelopment.com>

Ten percent (10%) of the total evaluation points on this RFP shall be reserved for proposers who are themselves a certified Veteran or Hudson Initiative small entrepreneurship or who will engage the participation of one or more certified Veteran or Hudson Initiatives small entrepreneurships as subcontractors.

Reserved points shall be added to the applicable proposer's evaluation score as follows:

Proposer Status and Reserved Points

- Proposer is a certified small entrepreneurship: Full amount of the reserved points
- Proposer is not a certified small entrepreneurship but has engaged one or more certified small entrepreneurships to participate as subcontractors or distributors.

Points will be allocated based on the following criteria:

- the number of certified small entrepreneurships to be utilized
- the experience and qualifications of the certified small entrepreneurship(s)
- the anticipated earnings to accrue to the certified small entrepreneurship(s)

If a proposer is not a certified small entrepreneurship as described herein, but plans to use certified small entrepreneurship(s), proposer shall include in its 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 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.

The statutes (La. R.S 39:2171 *et seq.*) concerning the Veteran Initiative may be viewed at <http://legis.la.gov/lss/lss.asp?doc=671504>; and the statutes (La. R.S 39:2001 *et seq.*) concerning the Hudson Initiative may be viewed <http://legis.la.gov/lss/lss.asp?doc=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 entrepreneurship may be obtained from the Louisiana Economic Development Certification System at <http://smallbiz.louisianaeconomicdevelopment.com>. Additionally, a list of Hudson and Veteran Initiative small entrepreneurship, 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 may be accessed from the State of Louisiana Procurement and Contract (LaPAC) Network <https://wwwcfprd.doa.louisiana.gov/osp/lapac/pubMain.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.

Certifications with the Louisiana Department of Economic Development must be active at the time of proposal submission in order to receive points.

i. Cost Proposal:

The Proposer shall provide an hourly rate (numerical value) for each of the staff classifications listed in the Required Rate Schedule in Attachment III. The Prime and Sub-consultants will all adhere to the "Required Rate Schedule" for the full term of the contract, so Proposers are to submit only one "Required Rate Schedule." Proposers shall not provide additional personnel or equipment categories beyond those listed in the "Required Rate Schedule." All outside expenses (third party charges, equipment and material rentals, etc.) will be reimbursed at cost. If a task requires specialized equipment or materials, the Contract Monitor or his designee may approve reimbursement at cost for such equipment or materials. Such approval must be granted by the Contract Monitor or his designee in writing prior to the Contracting Party incurring these costs. Compensation to the Contracting Party for services rendered in connection with each Task Order shall be based on negotiated work-hours using established billable rates mentioned above for the actual work performed on the Task Order..

Travel and other allowable expenses shall be reimbursed in accordance with the Division of Administration State General Travel Regulations, within the limits established for State Employees as defined in Division of Administration Policy and Procedure Memorandum No. 49 (PPM No. 49). PPM 49 can be found at the website: <http://www.doa.la.gov/Pages/osp/Travel/travelPolicy.aspx>.

j. Subcontractors:

Persons who are not full-time employees of the Proposer shall be considered as subcontractors. All subcontractors necessary to conduct the work should be identified, including the percentage of project to be accomplished. For each subcontractor, the Proposer should include letters of agreement to undertake their portion of the proposed work.

k. Insurance:

The proposal should include a certificate of insurance as proof that Proposer has in effect limits of insurance required by the Sample Contract, Attachment IV. If selected as a

Contracting Party, the Proposer shall provide certificates of insurance as proof of coverage at the time of contract negotiation.

B. VOLUME II – FINANCIAL INFORMATION (SEPARATE VOLUME) (ONE COPY)

Demonstration of Financial Capability is required for Acceptance of this Proposal. Financial information is used for determination of responsibility (See Section 1.15), and not as evaluation criteria. In Volume II, proposals **shall** include evidence demonstrating the Proposer’s financial capability to carry out this project. Evidence shall include either #1 or #2 below:

1. Financial Statements (preferably audited or reviewed by an independent CPA) for the past 3 years.
2. If three years of financial statements are not available, proposer **shall** state the reason and **shall** provide a letter from the proposer’s bank and/or other financial companies stating financial status/standing with the bank or financial company (on bank/financial company letterhead).

***Letters from proposers declaring their own financial capability will not be accepted.**

1.5.1 Number of Copies of Proposals

Four (4) hard copies of the Volume I portion of the proposal and one (1) copy of Volume II of the proposal **shall** be submitted to the RFP Coordinator at the address specified. One (1) additional copy of the Volume 1 portion of the proposal **shall** be submitted in an electronic format (i.e. CD, flash drive). At least one (1) copy of the proposal **shall** contain original signatures of those company officials or agents duly authorized to sign proposals or contracts on behalf of the organization. A certified copy of a board resolution granting such authority should be submitted if Proposer is a corporation. The copy of the proposal with original signatures will be retained for incorporation in any contract resulting from this RFP.

	Volume I	Volume II
Hard copy	4 copies	1 copy
Electronic copy	1 copy	Proposers should <u>not</u> submit any electronic copies of Volume II.

1.5.2 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 should demonstrate an understanding of the requirements. Proposals prepared simply and economically, providing a straightforward and concise description of the Proposer’s ability to meet the requirements of the RFP are also desired. Each Proposer shall be solely responsible for the accuracy and completeness of its proposal.

1.6 Confidential Information, Trade Secrets, and Proprietary Information

All financial, statistical, personal, technical, and other data and information relating to the State's operation which are designated confidential by the State and made available to the Contracting Party in order to carry out this contract, or which become available to the Contracting Party in carrying out this contract, shall be protected by the Contracting Party 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 Contracting Party. If the methods and procedures employed by the Contracting Party for the protection of the Contracting Party'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 Contracting Party shall not be required under the provisions of the paragraph to keep confidential any data or information which is or becomes publicly available, is already rightfully in the Contracting Party's possession, is independently developed by the Contracting Party outside the scope of the contract, or is rightfully obtained from third parties.

Under no circumstance shall the Contracting Party discuss and/or release information to the media concerning this project without prior express written approval of the CPRA.

Only information which is in the nature of legitimate trade secrets or non-published financial data shall be deemed proprietary or confidential. Any material within a proposal identified as such must be clearly marked in the proposal and will be handled in accordance with the Louisiana Public Records Act, R.S. 44: 1-44 and applicable rules and regulations. Any proposal marked as confidential or proprietary in its entirety shall be rejected without further consideration or recourse.

1.7 Pre-proposal Conference

Not applicable for this solicitation.

1.7.1 Proposer Inquiries

Written questions regarding RFP requirements or Scope of Services must be submitted to the RFP Coordinator as listed below.

Allison Richard, RFP Coordinator
Coastal Protection & Restoration Authority
Email: CPRACONTRACTS@LA.GOV
Fax: (225) 800-5599

The State will consider written inquiries and requests for clarification of the content of this RFP received from potential proposers. Written inquiries must be received by 3:00 PM CST on the date specified in the Schedule of Events. The State shall reserve the right to modify the RFP should a change be identified that is in the best interest of the State.

Official responses to all questions submitted by potential proposers will be posted by the date specified in the Schedule of Events at <http://www.prd1.doa.louisiana.gov/OSP/LaPAC/pubMain.cfm> and www.coastal.la.gov/resources/doing-business-with-cpra/contracts-and-grants/

Only the RFP Coordinator or her designee has the authority to officially respond to a proposer's questions on behalf of the State. Any communications from any other individuals shall be not binding to the State.

1.8 Errors and Omissions in Proposal

The State will not be liable for any errors in proposals. The State reserves the right to make corrections or amendments due to minor errors identified in proposals by State or the Proposer. The State, at its option, reserves the right to seek clarification of any proposal for the purpose of identifying and eliminating minor irregularities or informalities.

1.9 Changes, Addenda, Withdrawals

State shall reserve the right to change the schedule of events or revise any part of the RFP by issuing an addendum to the RFP at any time. Addenda, if any, will be posted at <http://www.prd1.doa.louisiana.gov/OSP/LaPAC/pubMain.cfm>, and www.coastal.la.gov/resources/doing-business-with-cpra/contracts-and-grants/

It shall be the responsibility of the Proposer to check the websites for addenda to the RFP, if any.

1.10 Withdrawal of Proposal

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

1.11 Waiver of Administrative Informalities

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

1.12 Proposal Rejection/RFP Cancellation

Issuance of this RFP in no way shall constitute a commitment by the State to award a contract. The State shall reserve the right to accept or reject, in whole or part, all proposals submitted and/or cancel this RFP if it is determined to be in the State's best interest.

1.13 Ownership of Proposal

All materials submitted in response to this RFP shall become the property of the State. Selection or rejection of a proposal shall not affect this right.

1.14 Cost of Offer Preparation

The State shall not be liable for any costs incurred by Proposers 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 this RFP shall be entirely the responsibility of the Proposer and shall not be reimbursed in any manner by the State.

1.15 Determination of Responsibility

Determination of the Proposer's responsibility relating to this RFP shall be made according to the standards set forth in LAC 34:136. The State must find that the selected Proposer:

Has adequate financial resources for performance, or has the ability to obtain such resources as required during performance;

Has the necessary experience, organization, technical qualifications, skills, and facilities, or has the ability to obtain them;

Is able to comply with the proposed or required time of delivery or performance schedule;

Has a satisfactory record of integrity, judgment, and performance; and

Is otherwise qualified and eligible to receive an award under applicable laws and regulations.

Proposers should ensure that their proposals contain sufficient information for the State to make its determination by presenting acceptable evidence of the above to perform the contracted services.

1.16 Use of Subcontractors

The State shall have a single prime Contracting Party as the result of any contract negotiation, and that prime Contracting Party shall be responsible for all deliverables specified in the RFP and proposal. This general requirement notwithstanding, Proposers may enter into subcontractor arrangements, however, shall acknowledge in their proposals total responsibility for the entire contract.

If the Proposer intends to subcontract for portions of the work, the Proposer should identify any subcontractor relationships and include specific designations of the tasks to be performed by each subcontractor. Information required of the Proposer under the terms of this RFP shall also be required for each subcontractor. The prime Contracting Party shall be the single point of contact for all subcontract work.

Unless provided for in the contract with the State, the prime Contracting Party shall not contract with any other party for any of the services herein contracted without the express prior written approval of the State.

1.17 Oral Discussions/Presentations

The State, at its sole discretion, may require all Proposers reasonably susceptible of being selected for the award to provide an oral presentation of how they propose to meet the agency's program objectives. Commitments made by the Proposer at the oral presentation, if any, will be considered binding. Based upon new or revised information received in the presentation, using the same criteria in initial scores, the original scores that were assigned in the initial evaluation may be adjusted.

1.18 Acceptance of Proposal Content

All proposals will be reviewed to determine compliance with administrative and mandatory requirements as specified in the RFP. Proposals that are not in compliance will be rejected from further consideration.

1.19 Evaluation and Selection

The evaluation of proposals will be accomplished by an evaluation team, to be designated by the State, which will determine the proposal(s) most advantageous to the State, taking into consideration price and the other evaluation factors set forth in the RFP.

1.20 Contract Award and Execution

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

The State shall reserve the right to contract for all or a partial list of services offered in the proposal.

The RFP and proposal of the selected Proposer shall become part of any contract initiated by the State.

The selected Proposer(s) shall be expected to enter into a contract that is substantially the same as the sample contract included in Attachment IV. In no event shall a Proposer submit its own standard contract terms and conditions as a response to this RFP. The Proposer should submit with its proposal any exceptions or exact contract deviations that its firm wishes to negotiate. Negotiations may begin with the announcement of the selected Proposer.

If the contract negotiation period exceeds (30) business days or if the selected Proposer fails to sign the final contract within (30) business days of delivery, the State may elect to cancel the award and award the contract to the next-highest-ranked Proposer.

1.21 Notice of Intent to Award

The Evaluation Team will compile the scores and make a recommendation to the head of the agency on the basis of the responsive and responsible Proposer(s) with the highest score(s).

Contract(s) will be awarded based on Technical Capacity, Experience, and Cost (as reflected in Part II: Evaluation). CPRA reserves the right to select multiple Contracting Party's from those proposing based upon needs and Proposers ability to provide the required services.

The State will notify the successful Proposer(s) in writing and proceed to negotiate terms for final contract(s). Unsuccessful Proposers will be notified in writing accordingly.

The proposals received (except for that information appropriately designated as confidential in accordance with La. R.S. 44.1 *et seq.*), selection memorandum, list of criteria used with the weight assigned each criteria, scores of each proposal considered along with a summary of scores, and a narrative justifying selection shall be made available, upon request, to all interested parties after the "Notice of Intent to Award" letter has been issued.

Any Proposer aggrieved by the proposed award has the right to submit a protest in writing to the head of the agency issuing the proposal within 14 calendar days after the award has been announced by the agency.

The award of a contract shall be subject to the approval of the Division of Administration, Office of State Procurement.

1.22 Right to Prohibit Award

In accordance with the provisions of La. R.S. 39:2192, any public entity shall be authorized to reject a proposal 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 RFP awarded under the laws governing public contracts under the provisions of Chapter 10 of Title 38 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, and all contracts under Title 39, Chapter 17 of the Louisiana Procurement Code, including contracts for professional, personal, consulting, and social services.

1.23 Payment

Payment terms shall be negotiated with the successful Proposer(s).

If specialized equipment is required for task completion (e.g., boat rental and unique field sampling equipment), rates for that equipment will be reimbursed at cost. If a rate for specialized equipment is not included in the task, it will be considered to be included in the hourly rates and will therefore not otherwise be reimbursed.

1.24 Assignment

No Contracting Party shall 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 Contracting Party from assigning to a 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.

1.25 Audit of Records

The State Legislative Auditor, agency, and/or federal auditors and internal auditors of the Division of Administration shall have the option to audit all accounts directly pertaining to the contract for a period of three (3) years from the date of the last payment made under this contract. Records shall be made available during normal working hours for this purpose.

1.26 Record Ownership

All records, reports, documents, or other material related to any contract resulting from this RFP and/or obtained or prepared by Contracting Party 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 Contracting Party to the State, at Contracting Party's expense, at termination or expiration of the contract.

1.27 Entire Agreement/ Order of Precedence

The contract, together with the RFP and addenda issued thereto by the State, the proposal submitted by the Contracting Party in response to the State's RFP, and any exhibits incorporated herein by reference, shall constitute the entire agreement between the parties with respect to the subject matter.

In the event of any inconsistent or incompatible provisions, the signed contract (excluding the RFP and the Contracting Party's proposal) shall take precedence, followed by the provisions of the RFP, and then by the terms of the Contracting Party's proposal.

1.28 Substitution of Personnel

The Contracting Party's personnel assigned to this Contract shall not be replaced without the prior written consent of the State. Such consent shall not be unreasonably withheld or delayed provided an equally qualified replacement is offered. In the event that any State or Contracting Party personnel become unavailable due to resignation, illness, or other factors, excluding assignment to project outside this contract, outside of the State's or Contracting Party's reasonable control, as the case may be, the State or the Contracting Party shall be responsible for providing an equally qualified replacement in time to avoid delays in completing tasks. The Contracting Party will make every reasonable attempt to assign the personnel listed in his proposal.

1.29 Governing Law

The 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. 39:1511-1736 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.

1.30 Claims or Controversies

Any claim or controversy arising out of the contract shall be resolved by the provisions of Louisiana Revised Statutes 39:1672.2-1672.4.

1.31 Code of Ethics

Proposers shall be responsible for determining that there will be no conflict or violation of the Ethics Code if their company would be awarded a contract. If a Proposer suspects they may be in violation of the Ethics Code, a copy of an official ruling shall be provided in their Proposal. The Louisiana Board of Ethics shall be the only entity which can officially rule on ethics issues.

1.32 Corporate Requirements

If the Contracting Party is a corporation not incorporated under the laws of the State of Louisiana, the Contracting Party shall have obtained a certificate of authority pursuant to R. S. 12:301-302 from the Secretary of State of Louisiana.

If the Contracting Party is a for-profit corporation whose stock is not publicly traded, the Contracting Party shall ensure that a disclosure of ownership form has been properly filed with the Secretary of State of Louisiana.

1.33 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 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 and its Authorized Users from suits, actions, damages and costs of every name and description relating to personal injury and damage to real or personal tangible property caused by Contractor, its agents, employees, partners or subcontractors, 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. If applicable, Contractor will indemnify, defend and hold the State and its Authorized Users 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 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 or its Authorized Users 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) Authorized User's unauthorized modification or alteration of a Product, Material or Service; ii) Authorized User's use of the Product in combination with other products not furnished by Contractor; iii) Authorized User'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 Authorized User's exclusive remedy to take action 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.

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 rendered by the Contractor under the Contract. Unless otherwise specifically enumerated herein or in the work order 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 and Authorized User 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.

PART II: EVALUATION

Proposals that pass the preliminary screening and mandatory requirements review will be evaluated based on information provided in the proposal.

The Evaluation Team will evaluate and score the proposals using the criteria and scoring as follows:

<i>CRITERIA</i>	<i>MAXIMUM SCORE</i>
1. <i>Firm Experience</i> – Experience of the firm (and subcontractors) as related to the specific requirements in this RFP. Proposing firm should submit a sampling of representative projects.	15
2. <i>Qualifications of Individuals Assigned to a Project</i> – Proposer should identify, and provide qualifications of individual(s) assigned to project and the relevant experience.	15
3. <i>Approach and Methodology/Scope of Services</i>	30
4. <i>Hudson/Veteran Small Entrepreneurship Program</i>	10
5. <i>Cost</i>	30
<i>TOTAL MAXIMUM SCORE</i>	100

3.1 Cost Evaluation

Cost ratings (CR) will be determined using the following formula:

For cost evaluation purposes, the labor category hourly rates provided in Attachment III will be averaged. The Proposer with the lowest rate schedule average (LRSA) will receive 30 points. All other proposals will be rated by multiplying the maximum possible points (30) by a fraction that consists of the lowest rate schedule average (LRSA) as numerator and the rate schedule average of the Proposer being evaluated (PRSA) as the denominator.

$$CR = (LRSA/PRSA) \times 30$$

Where: CR = Computed cost score (points) for Proposer being evaluated
LRSA = Lowest rate schedule average
PRSA = Rate schedule average of Proposer being evaluated

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

Ten percent (10%) of the total evaluation points on this RFP shall be reserved for proposers who are themselves a certified Veteran or Hudson Initiative small entrepreneurship or who will engage the participation of one or more certified Veteran or Hudson Initiatives small entrepreneurships as subcontractors.

Reserved points shall be added to the applicable proposers' evaluation score as follows:

Proposer Status and Reserved Points

- Proposer is a certified small entrepreneurship: Full amount of the reserved points
- Proposer is not a certified small entrepreneurship but has engaged one or more certified small entrepreneurships to participate as subcontractors or distributors. Points will be allocated based on the following criteria:
 - the number of certified small entrepreneurships to be utilized
 - the experience and qualifications of the certified small entrepreneurship(s)
 - the anticipated earnings to accrue to the certified small entrepreneurship(s)

ATTACHMENT I: CERTIFICATION STATEMENT

The undersigned hereby acknowledges she/he has read and understands all requirements and specifications of the Request for Proposals (RFP), including attachments.

OFFICIAL CONTACT. The State requests that the Proposer designate one person to receive all documents and the method in which the documents are best delivered. The Proposer should identify the Contact name and fill in the information below: (Print Clearly)

Date _____ Official Contact Name: _____

A. E-mail Address: _____

B. Phone Number with area code: () _____

C. US Mail Address: _____

Proposer shall certify that the above information is true and shall grant permission to the State or Agencies to contact the above named person or otherwise verify the information provided.

By its submission of this proposal and authorized signature below, Proposer shall certify that:

1. The information contained in its response to this RFP is accurate;
2. Proposer shall comply with each of the mandatory requirements listed in the RFP and will meet or exceed the functional and technical requirements specified therein;
3. Proposer shall accept the procedures, evaluation criteria, mandatory contract terms and conditions, and all other administrative requirements set forth in this RFP.
4. Proposer’s quote shall be valid for at least 90 calendar days from the date of proposal’s signature below;
5. Proposer understands that if selected as the successful Proposer, he/she will have **30** business days from the date of delivery of final contract in which to complete contract negotiations, if any, and execute the final contract document. (
6. Proposer shall certify, by signing and submitting a proposal for \$25,000 or more, that their company, any subcontractors, or principals are not suspended or debarred by the General Services Administration (GSA) in accordance with the requirements in 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> .)

Authorized Signature: _____

Typed or Printed Name: _____

Title: _____

Company Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

SIGNATURE of Proposer’s Authorized Representative	DATE
---------------------------------------------------	------

ATTACHMENT II: SCOPE OF SERVICES

Professional Oyster Biology Services for the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority

1. Introduction and Background

The Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority (CPRA) is seeking the services of up to two (2) professional oyster biologists or firms to do work throughout the coastal parishes of Louisiana. Work to be performed includes conducting biological surveys of public and private oyster grounds potentially affected by coastal protection, conservation, or restoration projects in order to determine water bottom type and standing crop, delineating areas potentially directly impacted by coastal protection, conservation, or restoration projects, and providing consulting services regarding oyster biology, oyster cultivation, and other potential impacts on oyster grounds by coastal protection, conservation, or restoration projects on an as-needed basis.

The CPRA will provide to the Contracting Party a site location showing the approximate location and size of each project area to be reviewed. The CPRA will also designate a Contract Manager who will coordinate with the Contracting Party throughout the full contract period. Upon request of the Contracting Party, any technical information pertaining to specific project features, project maps, plans and specifications, or monitoring plans which are required to successfully accomplish the tasks below will be provided by the CPRA.

2. Performance of Task Order

The Contracting Party shall perform all work required to accomplish the intent of the task order provided by the CPRA. The Contracting Party shall be required to commence work on each written task order within fourteen (14) calendar days from receiving the CPRA written Notice to Proceed, with the exception of inclement weather impeding field work. The Contracting Party must also notify the CPRA Contract Manager if any problems arise with meeting the deadlines set forth in the Notice to Proceed. To perform the required work, the Contracting Party shall provide all professional staff, support staff, and specialists necessary to plan, supervise, perform, and report the required work. The Contracting Party shall furnish all labor, transportation, fuel, equipment, and materials necessary to perform the services required by each task order.

3. Scope of Work

A. Biological Oyster Surveys

Conduct field surveys of private and/or public oyster grounds to determine water bottom type, standing crop, physiology, and percent oyster mortality. For large scale projects, the use of side-scan sonar technology may be required. In cases where the use of side scan sonar is deemed necessary, the Contracting Party shall provide interpretation of lease-specific side scan mosaic, including percent and total acreage of surface shell/reef in accordance with the CPRA Oyster Lease Acquisition and Compensation Program regulations and protocols. Estimates of shell area will be conducted using high-resolution image processing software calibrated to previously collected ground truth measurements of surface sediment shell content and type.

Surveys shall be conducted using GPS capable of sub-meter accuracy. All data provided must be geographically referenced.

- B. Delineation of Coastal Protection, Conservation or Restoration Project Impacts
Determine, using best professional judgment and data collected by the Contracting Party and/or provided by the CPRA, the most probable areas of direct impact to oyster grounds resulting from individual coastal protection, conservation or restoration projects. Participate in field reconnaissance and design meetings, on an as-needed basis, of projects containing private and/or public oyster grounds.
- C. Consultation Services
Provide consulting services regarding oyster biology, oyster cultivation, and other potential impacts on oyster grounds by coastal protection, conservation or restoration projects on an as-needed basis

4. Specific Deliverables

- A. Oyster Survey Reports
Reports shall include all data sheets, maps, procedures utilized; survey transects and coordinates, as well as results, discussions, and original photographs. Final reports shall be delivered in both hard copy and digital formats in a timely manner for all survey work completed.
- B. Delineation of Coastal Restoration Project Impacts
Deliverables shall include final oyster survey reports showing all field work conducted, engineering data used, notes and other information collected from project managers, project and oyster lease maps utilized, and conclusions drawn regarding most probable areas of individual coastal protection, conservation or restoration project's direct impacts to oyster grounds. A map corresponding to these areas of direct impact shall be included in the report. Project field trips, design meetings, and correspondence with project managers shall be conducted by the Contracting Party on an as-needed basis.
- C. Consultation Services
Provide consultation services on an as-needed basis in the form of data collection and/or meeting attendance regarding issues involving coastal protection, conservation or restoration impacts to oyster grounds, oyster biology, and/or oyster cultivation.

5. Professional Requirements

Lead biologists completing these duties must meet the following minimum requirements:

- A. College degree in a biological science, or accepted by a federal or state court in Louisiana as an expert witness in the field of oyster biology or oyster ecology, and
- B. Acquired five (5) or more years of professional experience conducting oyster lease surveys and standing crop analyses.
- C. O.L.D.E.B. Certified. Certification must be active at time of proposal submission. CPRA will verify current certification on the DNR website at <http://dnr.louisiana.gov/index.cfm?md=pagebuilder&tmp=home&pid=76>.

Furthermore, criteria such as prior experience, prior performance, demonstrated expert knowledge in the field of oyster biology, and the ability to perform concurrent task orders while maintaining high quality work will be considered when evaluating solicitations. CPRA may request the submittal of a sample oyster survey report prior to the contract being awarded which will remain confidential upon request by the submitting Party.

ATTACHMENT III: REQUIRED RATE SCHEDULE

PERSONNEL	OFFICE RATE PER HOUR
Senior Professional	\$ / HOUR
Professional	\$ / HOUR
Professional Land Surveyor	\$ / HOUR
Certified Scientific Diver	\$ / HOUR
Expert Witness	\$ / HOUR
Technician	\$ / HOUR
Administrative/Clerical	\$ / HOUR

The Proposer **shall** provide an hourly rate (a numerical value) for **each** of the staff classifications listed in the Required Rate Schedule. For cost evaluation purposes, the labor category hourly rates provided will be averaged.

EQUIPMENT	RATE PER DAY
Global Positioning System (sub-meter accuracy)	\$ / DAY
Side Scan Sonar (including mobilization and demobilization)	\$ / DAY
Survey-grade, dual frequency, digital fathometer	\$ / DAY

The Proposer **shall** provide a day rate (a numerical value) for **each** of the equipment classifications listed in the Required Rate Schedule. The equipment rates provided will not be used to calculate the cost evaluation.

Personnel Classification Descriptions:

Senior Professional- Duties include, but are not limited to, responsible for providing support and knowledge to Professionals in the development and completion of environmental projects. Ensures project documents and deliverables meet the scope of work in accordance with contract terms.

Professional- Duties include, but are not limited to, responsible for providing advanced technical support in the development and completion of assigned environmental projects, collection of project field data, and for carrying out the scope of work in accordance with the contract terms.

Professional Land Surveyor – Duties include, but are not limited to, a Licensed Professional Land Surveyor (PLS) responsible for planning, performing and directing survey projects through the independent application of the principles and practices of surveying on land and water. Responsible for creating, reviewing, and certifies survey documents and legal records.

Certified Scientific Diver – Duties include, but are not limited to, a certified open water diver responsible for the collection of square meter samples to verify the presence or absence of resource; provides observations of specific bottom conditions and resource conditions.

Expert Witness – Duties include, but are not limited to, a subject matter specialist who presents his/her expert opinion based on expertise, training, and special knowledge, with past experience in litigation support, testimony, and legal proceedings.

Technician – Duties include, but are not limited to, responsible for providing technical support by calculating, analyzing, organizing, coordinating, researching information, preparing drawings, assisting in the collection of field data, and generally providing assistance with any other tasks necessary to complete the project.

Administrative/Clerical – Duties include, but are not limited to, provide administrative and clerical support to ensure the efficient execution of the entire effort performed under this contract.

ATTACHMENT IV: SAMPLE CONTRACT

**STATE OF LOUISIANA
CONTRACT FOR CONSULTING SERVICES**

ON THIS ____ day of _____ 2016, the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority (CPRA) of the State of Louisiana, hereinafter sometimes referred to as the "State", and <Contracting Party> officially domiciled at <address>, <city>, <state> <zip> hereinafter sometimes referred to as the "Contracting Party", do hereby enter into a contract under the following terms and conditions.

1. SCOPE OF SERVICES

Contracting Party shall provide the necessary personnel, materials, services and facilities to perform the work as set forth in the RFP (Appendix A) and the Proposal (Appendix B), attached hereto and made a part hereof.

2. GOAL

Implementation of coastal restoration projects were authorized by the Coastal Wetland Planning, Protection and Restoration Act of 1990 (Public Law 101-646, Title III), by La. R.S. 49:213.6, and establishment of the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority (Implementation) also established by Act 8 enacted by the Louisiana Legislature at the Second Extraordinary Session of 2005 (November), to protect and restore Louisiana's coastal wetlands to alleviate further land and revenue loss.

3. OBJECTIVES

To provide oyster biology services that will enhance the capability, efficiency, and responsiveness of the CPRA to the State's coastal protection and restoration needs.

4. PERFORMANCE MEASURES

The performance of the contract will be measured by the State Project Manager, authorized on behalf of the State, to evaluate the Contracting Party's performance against the criteria in the Scope of Services.

The submission of satisfactory monthly Monitoring Reports is required. Performance measures for this contract shall include Contracting Party's timely and successful completion, submission, and performance of any work product being sought and provided through this agreement, consistent with the provisions, goals and objectives of this contract.

5. CONTRACT MONITOR

_____ of CPRA, or her designee, will act as the Contract Monitor (hereinafter sometimes referred to as "Contract Monitor") for this project, to provide liaison between Contracting Party and CPRA, and to perform various duties which are specifically provided for in this Contract and Appendix A.

- (1) A Monitoring Report shall be submitted by the Contracting Party with each invoice for payment on a CPRA Monitoring Report (Appendix C).
- (2) A final summary report shall be submitted by the Contracting Party on a CPRA Monitoring Report (Appendix C) with the final invoice for payment.

6. DELIVERABLES

The Contract will be considered complete when Contracting Party has delivered and State has accepted all deliverables specified in the Scope of Services. The Contracting Party shall provide to the State the

items specified in Appendices A (RFP) and B (Proposal) as products of the services rendered under this contract.

7. SUBSTITUTION OF KEY PERSONNEL

The Contracting Party's personnel assigned to this Contract shall not be replaced without the prior written consent of the State. Such consent shall not be unreasonably withheld or delayed provided an equally qualified replacement is offered. In the event that any State or Contracting Party personnel become unavailable due to resignation, illness, or other factors, excluding assignment to project outside this contract, outside of the State's or Contracting Party's reasonable control, as the case may be, the State or the Contracting Party, shall be responsible for providing an equally qualified replacement in time to avoid delays in completing tasks. The Contracting Party will make every reasonable attempt to assign the personnel listed in his proposal.

8. TERM OF CONTRACT

The term for the fulfillment of services to be performed pursuant to this contract shall be from <begin_date> through <end_date>.

9. STATE FURNISHED RESOURCES

The Executive Director of the State will designate one or more persons on his staff to act as project manager(s) and the State will provide the following to assist the Contracting Party in the performance of the Scope of Services:

- a. Appropriate personnel for consultation, as required; and
- b. Access to relevant material required in the performance of the work.

10. TAXES

Contracting Party is responsible for payment of all applicable taxes from the funds to be received under this contract. Contracting Party's federal tax identification number is: _____ .

11. PAYMENT TERMS

In consideration of the services required by this contract, State hereby agrees to pay to Contracting Party a maximum fee of <total_amt_wording>.

Payments are predicated upon successful completion and written approval by the State of the described tasks and deliverables as provided in Appendices A and B. Payments will be made to the Contracting Party after written acceptance by the State of the payment task and approval of an invoice. Payment will be made only on approval of Contract Monitor, _____, or her designee.

During the execution of tasks contained in the Scope of Services, the Contracting Party may submit invoices, not more frequently than monthly. The payment terms are as follows:

Monthly invoice for actual costs incurred in accordance with the rate schedule in Appendix B (Proposal). Invoices for progress payments, with supporting documentation, detailing the fees charged and allowable costs to be reimbursed as set forth in Appendices A and B shall be based upon actual costs incurred and shall be submitted monthly with progress reports.

The final invoice shall be submitted within thirty (30) days following expiration of the Contract.

Contracting Party will not be paid more than the maximum amount of the Contract.

Travel and other allowable expenses shall be reimbursed in accordance with the Division of Administration State General Travel Regulations, within the limits established for State Employees, as defined in Division of Administration Policy and Procedure Memorandum No. 49. Travel and other

allowable expenses shall constitute part of the maximum payable under the terms of this contract. All out of state travel will be subject to prior written approval of the Executive Director of CPRA.

12. TERMINATION FOR CAUSE

State may terminate this Contract for cause based upon the failure of Contracting Party to comply with the terms and/or conditions of the Contract; provided that the State shall give the Contracting Party written notice specifying the Contracting Party's failure. If within thirty (30) days after receipt of such notice, the Contracting Party shall not have either corrected such failure or, in the case of failure which cannot be corrected in thirty (30) days, begun in good faith to correct said failure and thereafter proceeded diligently to complete such correction, then the State may, at its option, place the Contracting Party in default and the Contract shall terminate on the date specified in such notice. Failure to perform within the time agreed upon in the contract may constitute default and may cause cancellation of the contract.

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

13. TERMINATION FOR CONVENIENCE

State may terminate the Contract at any time without penalty by giving thirty (30) calendar days written notice to the Contracting Party of such termination or negotiating with the Contracting Party an effective date.

Contracting Party shall be entitled to payment for deliverables in progress, to the extent work has been performed satisfactorily.

14. TERMINATION FOR NON-APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS

The continuation of this contract is contingent upon the appropriation of funds by the legislature 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 of 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 have not been appropriated.

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 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 and its Authorized Users from suits, actions, damages and costs of every name and description relating to personal injury and damage to real or personal tangible property caused by Contractor, its agents, employees, partners or subcontractors, 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. If applicable, Contractor will indemnify, defend and hold the State and its Authorized Users 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 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 or its Authorized Users 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) Authorized User's unauthorized modification or alteration of a Product, Material or Service; ii) Authorized User's use of the Product in combination with other products not furnished by Contractor; iii) Authorized User'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 Authorized User's exclusive remedy to take action 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.

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 rendered by the Contractor under the Contract. Unless otherwise specifically enumerated herein or in the work order 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 and Authorized User 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. REMEDIES FOR DEFAULT

Any claim or controversy arising out of the contract shall be resolved by the provisions of Louisiana Revised Statutes 39:1672.1-1672.4

17. FUND USE

Contracting Party 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.

18. ASSIGNMENT

No Contracting Party shall 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 Contracting Party from assigning to a 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.

19. AUDITORS

It is hereby agreed that the Legislative Auditor of the State of Louisiana, and/or the Office of the Governor, the Office of the Louisiana Inspector General, and/or Division of Administration auditors shall have the authority to audit all records and accounts of the Contracting Party which relate to this Agreement in accordance with La. R.S. 24:513. The period of retention shall be for no less than three (3) years from the date of the last payment made under this contract, unless any task is funded with money from CDBG in which case the period shall be for no less than five (5) years.

20. CONTRACT MODIFICATION

No amendment or variation 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 the contract is binding on any of the parties.

21. CONFIDENTIALITY OF DATA

All financial, statistical, personal, technical and other data and information relating to the State's operation which are designated confidential by the State and made available to the Contracting Party in order to carry out this contract, or which become available to the Contracting Party in carrying out this contract, shall be protected by the Contracting Party 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 Contracting Party. If the methods and procedures employed by the Contracting Party for the protection of the Contracting Party'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 Contracting Party shall not be required under the provisions of the paragraph to keep confidential any data or information which is or becomes publicly available, is already rightfully in the Contracting Party's possession, is independently developed by the Contracting Party outside the scope of the contract, or is rightfully obtained from third parties.

22. SUBCONTRACTORS

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

23. HUDSON & VETERANS INITIATIVES

The Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority (CPRA) fully participates and encourages contractor participation in the Hudson Initiative. The State of Louisiana Veteran and Hudson Initiatives are designed to provide additional opportunities for Louisiana-based small entrepreneurship (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 contractors are encouraged to become certified. Eligible contractors are also required to make it clear in their proposal that they are certified by attaching a certification document. Qualification requirements and online certification are available at <https://smallbiz.louisianaforward.com>.

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.

24. COMPLIANCE WITH CIVIL RIGHTS LAWS

The Contracting Party agrees to abide by the requirements of the following as applicable: Title VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended by the Equal Opportunity Act of 1972, Federal Executive Order 11246, 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 Act of 1972, and the Contracting Party agrees to abide by the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, the Davis-Bacon Act (40 USC 276a *et seq.*), and the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency (FFATA) (<https://www.frs.gov>).

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

25. DISADVANTAGED BUSINESS ENTERPRISES

The Contracting Party agrees to ensure that Disadvantaged Business Enterprise ("DBE's") have the maximum opportunity to participate in the performance of this contract and any subcontracts for supplies, equipment, construction, or services that may be let. In this regard, the Contracting Party shall take all necessary steps to ensure that Disadvantaged Business Enterprises have the maximum opportunity to compete for and perform services relating to this Contract.

The following good faith efforts for utilizing DBE's are required:

1. Solicitations for products or services shall be sent to firms/individuals listed as DBE's.
2. Where feasible, divide total requirements into smaller tasks to permit maximum DBE participation.
3. Where feasible, establish delivery schedules which will encourage DBE participation.
4. Encourage use of the services of the U.S. Department of Commerce's Minority Business Development Agency (MBD) and the U.S. Small Business Administration to identify DBE's.
5. Encourage contracting with a consortium of DBE's when a contract is too large for one of these firms to handle individually.
6. Require that each party to a subcontract tasks the affirmative steps outlined here.

The Contracting Party shall submit to the Project Manager a quarterly procurement summary detailing purchases from DBE vendors. This report shall be made using the Procurement Summary Form attached hereto as Appendix D, and submitted within fifteen (15) days following the end of each calendar quarter for the duration of the Contract.

Furthermore, for the full term of the Contract, the Contracting Party agrees to abide by all regulatory requirements which are issued pursuant to these laws by any federal agency whose funds have been used to finance this Contract, and which is in effect as of the beginning date of the Contract term. Additionally, the Contracting Party agrees to abide by all applicable State and Federal laws, policies, and regulations that govern the use of Disadvantaged Business Enterprises.

26. INSURANCE

Insurance shall be placed with insurers with an A.M. Best's rating of no less than A-: VI.

This rating requirement shall be waived for Worker's Compensation coverage only.

Contractor's Insurance: The Contractor shall not commence work under this contract until he has obtained all insurance required herein. Certificates of Insurance, fully executed by officers of the Insurance Company written or countersigned by an authorized Louisiana State agency, shall be filed with the State of Louisiana for approval. The Contractor shall not allow any sub-contractor to commence work on his subcontract until all similar insurance required for the subcontractor has been obtained and approved. If so requested, the Contractor shall also submit copies of insurance policies for inspection and approval of the State of Louisiana before work is commenced. Said policies shall not hereafter be canceled, permitted to expire, or be changed without thirty (30) days' notice in advance to the State of Louisiana and consented to by the State of Louisiana in writing and the policies shall so provide.

Compensation Insurance: Before any work is commenced, the Contractor shall maintain during the life of the contract, Workers' Compensation Insurance for all of the Contractor's employees employed at the site of the project. In case any work is sublet, the Contractor shall require the subcontractor similarly to provide Workers' Compensation Insurance for all the latter's employees, unless such employees are covered by the protection afforded by the Contractor. In case any class of employees engaged in work under the contract at the site of the project is not protected under the Workers' Compensation Statute, the Contractor shall provide for any such employees, and shall further provide or cause any and all subcontractors to provide Employer's Liability Insurance for the protection of such employees not protected by the Workers' Compensation Statute.

Commercial General Liability Insurance: The Contractor shall maintain during the life of the contract such Commercial General Liability Insurance which shall protect him, the State, and any subcontractor during the performance of work covered by the contract from claims or damages for personal injury, including accidental death, as well as for claims for property damages, which may arise from operations under the contract, whether such operations be by himself or by a subcontractor, or by anyone directly or indirectly employed by either of them, or in such a manner as to impose liability to the State. Such insurance shall name the State as additional insured for claims arising from or as the result of the operations of the Contractor or his subcontractors. In the absence of specific regulations, the amount of coverage shall be as follows: Commercial General Liability Insurance, including bodily injury, property damage and contractual liability, with combined single limits of \$1,000,000.

Insurance Covering Special Hazards: Special hazards as determined by the State shall be covered by rider or riders in the Commercial General Liability Insurance Policy or policies herein elsewhere required to be furnished by the Contractor, or by separate policies of insurance in the amounts as defined in any Special Conditions of the contract included therewith.

Licensed and Non-Licensed Motor Vehicles: The Contractor shall maintain during the life of the contract, Automobile Liability Insurance in an amount not less than combined single limits of \$1,000,000 per occurrence for bodily injury/property damage. Such insurance shall cover the use of any non-licensed motor vehicles engaged in operations within the terms of the contract on the site of the work to be performed there under, unless such coverage is included in insurance elsewhere specified.

If watercraft is engaged and/or utilized in any operations performed under this Contract, the Contractor shall maintain Watercraft Liability Insurance in an amount not less than combined single limits of \$1,000,000 per occurrence for bodily injury/property damage. Such insurance shall be maintained during the life of this Contract, and cover the use of any licensed and non-licensed watercraft engaged in operations within the terms of the Contract on the site of the work to be performed, unless such coverage is included in insurance elsewhere specified. If the watercraft engaged and/or utilized in any operations performed under this Contract is not owned and/or operated by the Contractor, then the Contractor shall require that any and all such subcontractors take and maintain the Watercraft Liability Insurance as prescribed and required by this Paragraph.

Subcontractor's Insurance: The Contractor shall require that any and all subcontractors, which are not protected under the Contractor's own insurance policies, take and maintain insurance of the same nature and in the same amounts as required of the Contractor.

Errors & Omissions: It will be the Contractor's responsibility to maintain Errors and Omissions coverage with limits of \$1,000,000. This Errors and Omissions coverage must be maintained throughout the period of this Contract.

27. APPLICABLE 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. 39:1511-1736. 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.

28. CODE OF ETHICS

The Contracting Party acknowledges that Chapter 15 of Title 42 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes (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 Contracting Party 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.

29. CERTIFICATE OF DEBARMENT/SUSPENSION STATUS

Contractor certifies with its execution of this agreement that it is not suspended, debarred or ineligible from entering into contracts with any department or agency of the Federal Government or the State of Louisiana, or in receipt of notice of proposed debarment or suspension.

Contractor agrees to secure from any contractor(s) and subcontractor(s) for the captioned project certification that such contractor(s) and subcontractor(s) are not suspended, debarred or declared ineligible from entering into contracts with any department or agency of the Federal Government or of the State of Louisiana, or in receipt of a notice of proposed debarment or suspension.

Contractor shall provide immediate notice to the CPRA in the event of it or its contractor(s) or any subcontractor(s) being suspended, debarred or declared ineligible by any department or agency of the Federal Government or of the State of Louisiana, or upon receipt of a notice of a proposed debarment or suspension, either prior to or after execution of this agreement.

Upon receipt of notice of suspension, debarment, or declaration that Contractor or its contractor(s) or any subcontractor(s) is/are ineligible to enter into contracts with any department or agency of the Federal Government or of the State of Louisiana, either prior to or after execution of this agreement, CPRA reserves the right to review cause for said debarment, suspension, or declaration of ineligibility, and to terminate this Contract pursuant to the terms of the article in this agreement entitled TERMINATION FOR CAUSE, or take such other action as it deems appropriate under this Contract.

30. 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.

31. 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.

32. ENTIRE AGREEMENT & ORDER OF PRECEDENCE

This contract, together with the RFP and addenda issued thereto by the State, the proposal submitted by the Contracting Party in response to the State's RFP, and any exhibits incorporated herein by reference, shall constitute the entire agreement between the parties with respect to the subject matter.

In the event of any inconsistent or incompatible provisions, this signed agreement (excluding the RFP and the Contracting Party's proposal) shall take precedence, followed by the provisions of the RFP, and then by the terms of the Contracting Party's proposal.

33. DISPUTES

Before any party to this Contract may bring suit in any court concerning any issue relating to this Contract, such party must first seek in good faith to resolve the issue through negotiation or other forms of non-binding alternative dispute resolution mutually acceptable to the parties. The exclusive venue for any suit arising out of this Contract shall be in the Nineteenth Judicial District Court for the Parish of East Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

34. COMPLIANCE WITH STATE AND FEDERAL LAW

The Contractor and any subcontractors must comply with applicable Federal labor laws covering non-Federal construction, including but not limited to, the Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act (formerly 40 USC 327 *et seq.*) and the Copeland Anti-Kickback Act (formerly 40 USC 276a *et seq.*). Contractor further agrees, in the case of any equipment and/or product authorized to be purchased under this Contract, to comply with the Buy American Act 41 USC 8301-8305 (formerly 40 USC 10a-10c).

Further, the Contractor and its employees, subcontractors and agents shall agree to comply with all applicable Federal, State, and Local laws, policies, and ordinances, in carrying out all provisions of this Contract.

35. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) ACTIVITIES:

The Contracting Party shall comply with the provisions set forth in Appendix E, when performing work on CDBG related activities.

36. OWNERSHIP OF DOCUMENTS:

Upon completion or termination of this contract, all data collected by the Contracting Party and all documents, notes, drawings, tracings and files collected or prepared specifically in connection with this work, except the Contracting Party's personnel and administrative files, shall become and be the property of the State and the State shall not be restricted in any way whatever in its use of such material. No other person shall have a property interest therein. In addition, at any time during the contract period, the State shall have the right to require the Contracting Party to furnish copies of any or all data and all documents, notes and files collected or prepared by the Contracting Party specifically in connection with this contract within five (5) days of receipt of written notice issued by the State.

37. CONTRACTING PARTY EMPLOYEE WHISTLEBLOWER RIGHTS AND REQUIREMENT TO INFORM

This Contract and employees working on this Contract will be subject to the whistleblower rights and remedies in the pilot program on Contracting Party employee whistleblower protections established at 41 U.S.C. 4712 by Section 828 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2013 (Pub. L. 112-239) and Federal Acquisition Regulation ("F.A.R.") 3.908.

The Contracting Party shall inform its employees in writing, in the predominant language of the workforce, of employee whistleblower rights and protections under 41 U.S.C. 4712, as described in Section 3.908 of the F.A.R.

The Contracting Party shall insert the substance of this clause, including this paragraph, in all subcontracts over the simplified acquisition threshold.

THE STATE AND THE CONTRACTING PARTY REPRESENT THAT THIS AGREEMENT SUPERSEDES ALL PROPOSALS, ORAL AND WRITTEN, ALL PREVIOUS CONTRACTS, AGREEMENTS, NEGOTIATIONS AND ALL OTHER COMMUNICATIONS BETWEEN THE PARTIES WITH RESPECT TO THE SUBJECT MATTER HEREOF.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have caused these presents to be executed by their respective officers thereunto duly authorized as of the day and year first above written.

WITNESSES:	<officehead>, TITLE CPRA
	<contracting_party>

APPENDIX C
Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority
Monitoring Report

Date _____ Contracting Party: _____ Contract No. _____

Contract Title: "Professional Oyster Biology Services"

Project No:

Project Name: _____ Invoice No. _____ Invoice Amount: _____

Total Contract Amount: _____ Balance: _____ Total Invoiced to Date: _____

I. WORK COMPLETED TO DATE (ACCORDING TO TYPE CONTRACT):

A. Percentage of work completed (include percentage completed and/or milestones accomplished).

B. Hourly (includes services performed and number of hours worked).

C. Scope of Services Outlined by Tasks (include tasks completed or portion of task completed to date).

D. Actual Costs Incurred

E. Fee Schedule

II. FOR EACH PROJECT A NARRATIVE OF IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS INCLUDING:

A. Tasks and/or milestones accomplished (give dates):

B. Tasks and/or milestones not accomplished with explanation or assessment of:

1. Nature of problems encountered:

2. Remedial action taken or planned:

3. Whether minimum criteria for measure can still be met:

4. Likely impact upon achievement:

III. DELIVERABLES:

IV. OTHER DISCUSSIONS OF SPECIAL NOTE:

Contracting Party

Signature: _____ Date _____

Approval: _____ Date _____

CPRA Project Manager

APPENDIX D

DBE PROCUREMENTS MADE DURING QUARTER

PERIOD ENDING (March, June, September, or December) **Month:** _____ **Year:** _____

REPORTS DUE: Fifteen (15) days following the end of each calendar quarter for the duration of the Agreement.

Procurement Made By		Business Enterprise		\$ Value of Procurement	Date of Procurement MM/DD/YY	Type of Product or Services [^] (Enter Code)	Name/Address/Phone Number of DBE Contracting Party or Vendor
Recipient	Other	Minority	Women				

¹Type of product or service codes:

1=Construction

2=Supplies

3=Services

4=Equipment

APPENDIX E
CDBG COMPLIANCE PROVISIONS

CONTENTS

1. EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY (Equal Opportunity Clause)
2. CERTIFICATION OF NONSEGREGATED FACILITIES
3. CIVIL RIGHTS
4. SECTION 109 OF THE HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 1974
5. SECTION 3 OF THE HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 1968 - COMPLIANCE IN THE PROVISION OF TRAINING, EMPLOYMENT AND BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES
6. SECTION 503 OF THE REHABILITATION ACT OF 1973 (29 USC 793)
7. SECTION 504 OF THE REHABILITATION ACT OF 1973, AS AMENDED
8. AGE DISCRIMINATION ACT OF 1975
9. CERTIFICATION OF COMPLIANCE WITH AIR AND WATER ACTS
10. FLOOD DISASTER PROTECTION
11. ACCESS TO RECORDS - MAINTENANCE OF RECORDS
12. INSPECTION
13. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS
14. CONFLICT OF INTEREST
15. ACTIVITIES AND CONTRACTS NOT SUBJECT TO EXECUTIVE ORDER 11246, AS AMENDED
16. PATENTS
17. COPYRIGHT
18. TERMINATION FOR CAUSE
19. TERMINATION FOR CONVENIENCE

20. ENERGY EFFICIENCY
21. SUBCONTRACTS
22. DEBARMENT, SUSPENSION, AND INELIGIBILITY
23. BREACH OF CONTRACT TERMS
24. PROVISIONS REQUIRED BY LAW DEEMED INSERTED
25. CHANGES
26. PERSONNEL
27. ANTI-KICKBACK RULES
28. ASSIGNABILITY
29. INTEREST OF CONTRACTOR
30. POLITICAL ACTIVITY
31. COMPLIANCE WITH THE OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET
32. DISCRIMINATION DUE TO BELIEF
33. CONFIDENTIAL FINDINGS
34. LOBBYING

1. EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY (Equal Opportunity Clause)

(applicable to contracts and subcontracts above \$10,000)

During the performance of this contract, the Contractor agrees as follows:

- A. The Contractor will not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, color, religion, sex, or national origin. The Contractor will take affirmative action to ensure that applicants are employed, and that employees are treated during employment, without regard to their race, color, religion, sex, or national origin. Such action shall include, but not be limited to, the following: employment, upgrading, demotion, or transfer; recruitment or recruitment advertising; layoff or termination; rates of pay or other forms of compensation; and selection for training, including apprenticeship. The Contractor agrees to post in conspicuous places, available to employees and applicants for employment, notices to be provided setting forth the provisions of this nondiscrimination clause.
- B. The Contractor will, in all solicitations or advertisements for employees placed by or on behalf of the Contractor, state that all qualified applicants will receive consideration without regard to race, color, religion, sex, or national origin.
- C. The Contractor will send to each labor union or representative of workers with which he has a collective bargaining agreement or other contract or understanding, a notice to be provided by the Contract Compliance Officer advising the said labor union or workers' representatives of the Contractor's commitment under this section, and shall post copies of the notice in conspicuous places available to employees and applicants for employment.
- D. The Contractor will comply with all provisions of Executive Order 11246 of September 24, 1965, as amended, and the rules, regulations, and relevant orders of the Secretary of Labor.
- E. The Contractor will furnish all information and reports required by Executive Order 11246 of September 24, 1965, as amended, and by rules, regulations, and orders of the Secretary of Labor, or pursuant thereto, and will permit access to his books, records, and accounts by the Department and the Secretary of Labor for purposes of investigation to ascertain compliance with such rules, regulations, and others.
- F. In the event of the Contractor's noncompliance with the non-discrimination clauses of this contract or with any of the said rules, regulations, or orders, this contract may be cancelled, terminated, or suspended in whole or in part and the Contractor may be declared ineligible for further Government contracts in accordance with procedures authorized in Executive Order 11246 of September 24, 1965, as amended, or by rule, regulation, or order of the Secretary of Labor, or as otherwise provided by law.
- G. The Contractor will include the provisions of the sentence immediately preceding paragraph A and the provisions of paragraphs A through G in every subcontract or purchase order unless exempted by rules, regulations, or orders of the Secretary of Labor issued pursuant to Section 204 of Executive Order 11246 of September 24, 1965, as amended, so that such provisions will be binding upon each subcontractor or vendor. The Contractor will take such action with respect to any subcontract or purchase order as the Department may direct as a means of enforcing such provisions, including sanctions for noncompliance. Provided, however, that in the event a contractor becomes involved in, or is threatened with, litigation with a subcontractor or vendor as a result of such direction by the Department, the Contractor may request the United States to enter into such litigation to protect the interest of the United States.

2. CERTIFICATION OF NONSEGREGATED FACILITIES

(applicable to contracts and subcontracts over \$10,000)

By the submission of this bid, the bidder, offeror, applicant or subcontractor certifies that he/she does not maintain or provide for his/her establishments, and that he/she does not permit employees to perform their services at any location, under his/her control, where segregated facilities are maintained. He/she certifies further that he/she will not maintain or provide for employees any segregated facilities at any of his/her establishments, and he/she will not permit employees to perform their services at any location under his/her control where segregated facilities are maintained. The bidder, offeror, applicant or subcontractor agrees that a breach of this certification is a violation of the equal opportunity clause of this contract.

As used in this certification, the term "segregated facilities" means any waiting rooms, work areas, rest rooms and wash rooms, restaurants and other eating areas, time clocks, locker rooms, and other storage or dressing areas, parking lots, drinking fountains, recreation or entertainment areas, transportation and housing facilities provided for employees which are segregated by explicit directive or are, in fact, segregated on the basis of race, color, religion, or national origin because of habit, local custom, or any other reason.

He/she further agrees that (except where he/she has obtained for specific time periods) he/she will obtain identical certification from proposed subcontractors prior to the award of subcontracts exceeding \$10,000 which are not exempt from the provisions of the equal opportunity clause; that he/she will retain such certifications in his/her files; and that he/she will forward the following notice to such proposed subcontractors (except where proposed subcontractors have submitted identical certifications for specific time periods).

3. CIVIL RIGHTS

The Contractor shall comply with the provisions of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. No person shall, on the grounds of race, color, or national origin, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving federal financial assistance.

4. SECTION 109 OF THE HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 1974

The Contractor shall comply with the provisions of Section 109 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974. No person in the United States shall on the grounds of race, color, national origin, or sex be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity funded in whole or in part with funds made available under this title. Section 109 further provides that discrimination on the basis of age under the Age Discrimination Act of 1975 or with respect to an otherwise qualified handicapped individual as provided in Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, is prohibited.

5. SECTION 3 OF THE HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 1968 - COMPLIANCE IN THE PROVISION OF TRAINING, EMPLOYMENT AND BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

- A. The work to be performed under this contract is subject to the requirements of Section 3 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968, as amended, 12 U.S.C. 1701u (section 3). The purpose of section 3 is to ensure that employment and other economic opportunities generated by HUD assistance or HUD-assisted projects covered by Section 3, shall, to the greatest extent feasible, be directed to low- and very low-income persons, particularly persons who are recipients of HUD assistance for housing.
- B. The parties to this contract agree to comply with HUD's regulations in 24 CFR part 135, which implement Section 3. As evidenced by their execution of this contract, the parties to this contract certify that they are under no contractual or other impediment that would prevent them from complying with the part 135 regulations.
- C. The contractor agrees to send to each labor organization or representative of workers with which the contractor has a collective bargaining agreement or other understanding, if any, a notice advising the labor organization or workers' representative of the contractor's commitments under this Section 3 clause, and will post copies of the notice in conspicuous places at the work site where both employees and applicants for training and employment positions can see the notice. The notice shall describe the Section 3 preference, shall set forth minimum number and job titles subject to hire, availability of apprenticeship and training positions, the qualifications for each, and the name and location of the person(s) taking applications for each of the positions, and the anticipated date the work shall begin.
- D. The contractor agrees to include this Section 3 clause in every subcontract subject to compliance with regulations in 24 CFR part 135, and agrees to take appropriate action, as provided in an applicable provision of the subcontract or in this Section 3 clause, upon a finding that the subcontractor is in violation of the regulations in 24 CFR part 135. The contractor will not subcontract with any subcontractor where the contractor has notice or knowledge that the subcontractor has been found in violation of the regulations in 24 CFR part 135.
- E. The contractor will certify that any vacant employment positions, including training positions, that are filled (1) after the contractor is selected but before the contract is executed, and (2) with persons other than those to whom the regulations of 24 CFR part 135 require employment opportunities to be directed, were not filled to circumvent the contractor's obligations under 24 CFR part 135.
- F. Noncompliance with HUD's regulations in 24 CFR part 135 may result in sanctions, termination of this contract for default, and debarment or suspension from future HUD assisted contracts.
- G. With respect to work performed in connection with Section 3 covered Indian housing assistance, Section 7(b) of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 450e) also applies to the work to be performed under this contract. Section 7(b) requires that to the greatest extent feasible (i) preference and opportunities for training and employment shall be given to Indians, and (ii) preference in the award of contracts and subcontracts shall be given to Indian organizations and Indian-owned Economic Enterprises. Parties to this contract that are subject to the provisions of Section 3 and section 7(b) agree to comply with Section 3 to the maximum extent feasible, but not in derogation of compliance with Section 7(b).

6. SECTION 503 OF THE REHABILITATION ACT OF 1973 (29 USC 793)

(applicable to contracts and subcontracts over \$10,000)

- A. The contractor will not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of physical or mental handicap in regard to any position for which the employee or applicant for employment is otherwise qualified. The contractor agrees to take affirmative action to employ, advance in employment and otherwise treat qualified handicapped individuals without discrimination based upon their physical or mental handicap in all employment practices such as the following: employment upgrading, demotion or transfer, recruitment, advertising, layoff or termination, rates of pay or other forms of compensation, and selection for training, including apprenticeship.
- B. The Contractor agrees to comply with the rules, regulations, and relevant orders of the Secretary of Labor issued pursuant to the Act.
- C. In the event of the Contractor's noncompliance with the requirements of this clause, actions for noncompliance may be taken in accordance with the rules, regulations, and relevant orders of the Secretary of Labor issued pursuant to the Act.
- D. The Contractor agrees to post in conspicuous places, available to employees and applicants for employment, notices in a form to be prescribed by the Director, provided by or through the contracting officer. Such notices shall state the Contractor's obligation under the law to take affirmative action to employ and advance in employment qualified handicapped employees and applicants for employment, and the rights of applicants and employees.
- E. The Contractor will notify each labor union or representative of workers with which it has a collective bargaining agreement or other contract understanding, that the Contractor is bound by the terms of Section 503 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and is committed to take affirmative action to employ and advance in employment physically and mentally handicapped individuals.
- F. The Contractor will include the provisions of this clause in every subcontract or purchase order of \$10,000 or more unless exempted by rules, regulations, or orders of the Secretary issued pursuant to Section 503 of the Act, so that such provisions will be binding upon each subcontractor or vendor. The Contractor will take such action with respect to any subcontract or purchase order as the Director of the Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs may direct to enforce such provisions, including action for noncompliance.

7. SECTION 504 OF THE REHABILITATION ACT OF 1973, AS AMENDED

The Contractor agrees that no otherwise qualified individual with disabilities shall, solely by reason of his disability, be denied the benefits, or be subjected to discrimination including discrimination in employment, any program or activity that receives the benefits from the federal financial assistance.

8. AGE DISCRIMINATION ACT OF 1975

The Contractor shall comply with the provisions of the Age Discrimination Act of 1975. No person in the United States shall, on the basis of age, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under, any program or activity receiving federal financial assistance.

9. CERTIFICATION OF COMPLIANCE WITH AIR AND WATER ACTS

(applicable to contracts and subcontracts exceeding \$100,000)

The Contractor and all subcontractors shall comply with the requirements of the Clean Air Act, as amended, 42 USC 1857 *et seq.*, the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, as amended, 33 USC 1251 *et seq.*, and the regulations of the Environmental Protection Agency with respect thereto, at 40 CFR Part 15, as amended.

In addition to the foregoing requirements, all nonexempt contractors and subcontractors shall furnish to the owner, the following:

- A. A stipulation by the Contractor or subcontractors, that any facility to be utilized in the performance of any nonexempt contract or subcontract, is not listed on the List of Violating Facilities issued by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) pursuant to 40 CFR Part 15, as amended.
- B. Agreement by the Contractor to comply with all the requirements of Section 114 of the Clean Air Act, as amended, (42 USC 1857 c-8) and Section 308 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, as amended, (33 USC 1318) relating to inspection, monitoring, entry, reports and information, as well as all other requirements specified in said Section 114 and Section 308, and all regulations and guidelines issued thereunder.
- C. A stipulation that as a condition for the award of the contract, prompt notice will be given of any notification received from the Director, Office of Federal Activities, EPA, indicating that a facility utilized, or to be utilized for the contract, is under consideration to be listed on the EPA List of Violating Facilities.
- D. Agreement by the Contractor that he will include, or cause to be included, the criteria and requirements in paragraph (1) through (4) of this section in every nonexempt subcontract and requiring that the Contractor will take such action as the government may direct as a means of enforcing such provisions.

10. FLOOD DISASTER PROTECTION

This contract is subject to the requirements of the Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973 (P.L. 93-234). Nothing included as a part of this contract is approved for acquisition or construction purposes as defined under Section 3(a) of said Act, for use in an area identified by the Secretary of HUD as having special flood hazards which is located in a community not then in compliance with the requirements for participation in the National Flood Insurance Program pursuant to Section 201(d) of said Act; and the use of any assistance provided under this contract for such acquisition for construction in such identified areas in communities then participating in the National Flood Insurance Program shall be subject to the mandatory purchase of flood insurance requirements or Section 102(a) of said Act.

Any contract or agreement for the sale, lease, or other transfer of land acquired, cleared or improved with assistance provided under this Contract shall contain, if such land is located in an area identified by the Secretary as having special flood hazards and in which the sale of flood insurance has been made available under the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968, as amended, 42 U.S.C. 4001 *et seq.*, provisions obligating the transferee and its successors or assigns to obtain and maintain, during the ownership of such land, such flood insurance as required with respect to financial assistance for acquisition or construction purposes under Section 102(a) of Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973.

11. ACCESS TO RECORDS - MAINTENANCE OF RECORDS

The State of Louisiana, the Department of Housing and Urban Development, the Comptroller General of the United States, or any of their duly authorized representatives, shall have access to any books, documents,

papers and records of the Contractor which are directly pertinent to this specific contract, for the purpose of audits, examinations, and making excerpts and transcriptions. All records connected with this contract will be maintained in a central location by the unit of local government and will be maintained for a period of five (5) years from the official date of the State's final closeout of the grant.

12. INSPECTION

The authorized representative and agents of the State of Louisiana and the Department of Housing and Urban Development shall be permitted to inspect all work, materials, payrolls, records of personnel, invoices of materials, and other relevant data and records.

13. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

The Contractor shall complete and submit all reports, in such form and according to such schedule, as may be required by the Owner.

14. CONFLICT OF INTEREST

A. No officer or employee of the local jurisdiction or its designees or agents, no member of the governing body, and no other public official of the locality who his/her tenure or for one year thereafter, shall have any interest, direct or indirect, in any contract or subcontract, or the proceeds thereof, for work to be performed. Further, the Contractor shall cause to be incorporated in all subcontracts the language set forth in this paragraph prohibiting conflict of interest.

B. No member of or delegate to Congress, or Resident Commissioner, shall be admitted to any share or part of this contract or to any benefit that may arise therefrom, but this provision shall not be construed to extend to this contract if made with a corporation for its general benefit.

15. ACTIVITIES AND CONTRACTS NOT SUBJECT TO EXECUTIVE ORDER 11246, AS AMENDED

(applicable to contracts and subcontracts of \$10,000 and under)

During the performance of this contract, the Contractor agrees as follows:

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

B. The Contractor shall post in conspicuous places, available to employees and applicants for employment, notices to be provided by Contracting Officer setting forth the provisions of this non-discrimination clause. The Contractor shall state that all qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, or national origin.

C. Contractors shall incorporate foregoing requirements in all subcontracts.

16. PATENTS

- A. The Contractor shall hold and save the Owner and its officers, agents, servants, and employees harmless from liability of any nature or kind, including cost and expenses for, or on account of any patented or unpatented invention, process, article, or appliance manufactured or used in the performance of the contract including its use by the Owner, unless otherwise specifically stipulated in the Contract Document.
- B. License or Royalty Fees: License and/or Royalty Fees for the use of a process which is authorized by the Owner of the project must be reasonable, and paid to the holder of the patent, or his authorized license, direct by the Owner and not by or through the Contractor.
- C. If the Contractor uses any design device or materials covered by letters, patent or copyright, he shall provide for such use by suitable agreement with the owner of such patented or copy-righted design device or material. It is mutually agreed and understood, that without exception the contract prices shall include all royalties or costs arising from the use of such design, device or materials, in any way involved in the work. The Contractor and/or his Sureties shall indemnify and save harmless the Owner of the project from any and all claims for infringement by reason of the use of such patented or copy-righted design, device or materials or any trademark or copy-right in connection with work agreed to be performed under this contract, and shall indemnify the Owner for any cost, expense, or damage which it may be obliged to pay by reason of such infringement at any time during the prosecution of the work or after completion of the work.

17. COPYRIGHT

No materials, to include but not limited to reports, maps, or documents produced as a result of this contract, in whole or in part, shall be available to the Contractor for copyright purposes. Any such materials produced as a result of this contract that might be subject to copyright shall be the property of the Owner and all such rights shall belong to the Owner.

18. TERMINATION FOR CAUSE

If, through any cause, the Contractor shall fail to fulfill in a timely and proper manner his obligations under this contract, or if the Contractor shall violate any of the covenants, agreements, or stipulations of this contract, the Owner shall thereupon have the right to terminate this contract by giving written notice to the Contractor of such termination and specifying the effective date thereof, at least five (5) days before the effective date of such termination. In such event, all finished or unfinished documents, data, studies, surveys, drawings, maps, models, photographs, and reports prepared by the Contractor under this contract shall, at the option of the Owner, become the Owner's property and the Contractor shall be entitled to receive just and equitable compensation for any work satisfactorily completed hereunder. Notwithstanding the above, the Contractor shall not be relieved of liability to the Owner for damages sustained by the Owner by virtue of any breach of the contract by the Contractor, and the Owner may withhold any payments to the Contractor for the purpose of set-off until such time as the exact amount of damages due the Owner from the Contractor is determined.

19. TERMINATION FOR CONVENIENCE

The Owner may terminate this contract at any time by giving at least ten (10) days notice in writing to the Contractor. If the contract is terminated by the Owner as provided herein, the Contractor will be paid for the time provided and expenses incurred up to the termination date.

20. ENERGY EFFICIENCY

The Contractor shall comply with 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 (Public Law 94-163).

21. SUBCONTRACTS

- A. The Contractor shall not enter into any subcontract with any subcontractor who has been debarred, suspended, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participating in contracting programs by any agency of the United States Government or the State of Louisiana.
- B. The Contractor shall be as fully responsible to the Owner for the acts and omissions of the Contractor's subcontractors, and of persons either directly or indirectly employed by them, as he is for the acts and omissions of persons directly employed by the Contractor.
- C. The Contractor shall cause appropriate provisions to be inserted in all subcontracts relative to the work to bind subcontractor to the Contractor by the terms of the contract documents insofar as applicable to the work of subcontractors and to give the Contractor the same power as regards terminating any subcontract that the Owner may exercise over the Contractor under any provision of the contract documents.
- D. Nothing contained in this contract shall create any contractual relation between any subcontractor and the Owner.

22. DEBARMENT, SUSPENSION, AND INELIGIBILITY

The Contractor represents and warrants that it and its subcontractors are not debarred, suspended, or placed in ineligibility status under the provisions of 24 CFR 24 (government debarment and suspension regulations).

23. BREACH OF CONTRACT TERMS

Any violation or breach of terms of this contract on the part of the Contractor or the Contractor's subcontractors may result in the suspension or termination of this contract or such other action that may be necessary to enforce the rights of the parties of this contract. The duties and obligations imposed by the contract documents and the rights and remedies available thereunder shall be in addition to and not a limitation of any duties, obligations, rights and remedies otherwise imposed or available by law.

24. PROVISIONS REQUIRED BY LAW DEEMED INSERTED

Each and every provision of law and clause required by law to be inserted in this contract shall be deemed to be inserted herein and the contract shall be read and enforced as though it were included herein, and if through mistake or otherwise any such provision is not inserted, or is not correctly inserted, then upon the application of either party the contract shall forthwith be physically amended to make such insertion or correction.

25. CHANGES

The Owner may, from time to time, request changes in the scope of the services of the Contractor to be performed hereunder. Such changes, including any increase or decrease in the amount of the Contractor's compensation which are mutually agreed upon by and between the Owner and the Contractor, shall be incorporated in written and executed amendments to this Contract.

26. PERSONNEL

The Contractor represents that it has, or will secure at its own expense, all personnel required in performing the services under this Contract. Such personnel shall not be employees of or have any contractual relationship with the Owner.

All the services required hereunder will be performed by the Contractor or under its supervision, and all personnel engaged in the work shall be fully qualified and shall be authorized or permitted under State and local law to perform such services.

No person who is serving sentence in a penal or correctional institution shall be employed on work under this Contract.

27. ANTI-KICKBACK RULES

Salaries of personnel performing work under this Contract shall be paid unconditionally and not less often than once a month without payroll deduction or rebate on any account except only such payroll deductions as are mandatory by law or permitted by the applicable regulations issued by the Secretary of Labor pursuant to the "Anti-Kickback Act" of June 13, 1934 (48 Stat. 948; 62 Stat. 740; 63 Stat. 108; Title 18 U.S.C. 874; and Title 40 U.S.C. 276c). The Contractor shall comply with all applicable "Anti-Kickback" regulations and shall insert appropriate provisions in all subcontracts covering work under this contract to insure compliance by the subcontractors with such regulations, and shall be responsible for the submission of affidavits required of subcontractors thereunder except as the Secretary of Labor may specifically provide for variations of or exemptions from the requirements thereof.

28. ASSIGNABILITY

The Contractor shall not assign any interest in this Contract, and shall not transfer any interest in the same (whether by assignment or novation) without prior written approval of the Owner provided that claims for money due or to become due the Contractor from the Owner under this Contract may be assigned to a bank, trust company, or other financial institution, or to a Trustee in Bankruptcy, without such approval. Notice of any such assignment or transfer shall be furnished promptly to the Owner.

29. INTEREST OF CONTRACTOR

The Contractor covenants that he presently has no interest and shall not acquire any interest direct or indirect in the above described project or any parcels therein or any other interest which would conflict in any manner or degree with the performance of his services hereunder. The Contractor further covenants that in the performance of this Contract no person having any such interest shall be employed.

30. POLITICAL ACTIVITY

The Contractor will comply with the provisions of the Hatch Act (5 U.S.C. 1501 *et seq.*), which limits the political activity of employees.

31. COMPLIANCE WITH THE OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET

The parties agree to comply with the regulations, policies, guidelines, and requirements of the Office of Management and Budget, Circulars A-95, A-102, A-133, and A-54, as they relate to the use of Federal funds under this contract.

32. DISCRIMINATION DUE TO BELIEFS

No person with responsibilities in operation of the project to which this grant relates will discriminate with respect to any program participant or any applicant for participation in such program because of political affiliation or beliefs.

33. CONFIDENTIAL FINDINGS

All of the reports, information, data, etc., prepared or assembled by the Contractor under this Contract are confidential, and the Contractor agrees that they shall not be made available to any individual or organization without prior written approval of the Owner.

34. LOBBYING

The Contractor certifies, to the best of his or her knowledge and belief that:

1. No federally appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid, by or on behalf of the contractor, to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a member of Congress in connection with the awarding of any federal contract, the making of any federal grant, the making of any federal loan, the entering into of any cooperative agreement, and the extension, continuation, renewal, amendment, or modification of any federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement.

If any funds other than federally appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a member of Congress in connection with this federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement, the contractor shall complete and submit Standard Form-LLL, "Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying," in accordance with its instructions.