



St. Johns River Water Management District

Ann B. Shortelle, Ph.D., Executive Director

4049 Reid Street • P.O. Box 1429 • Palatka, FL 32178-1429 • 386-329-4500
On the internet at www.sjrwmd.com.

DATE: June 11, 2020

TO: Prospective Respondents

FROM: Amy Lucey, Procurement Specialist

SUBJECT: Addendum #2 to Invitation for Bids #35541-1, Second Call: Lake Apopka Submerged Aquatic Vegetation Planting Project

As a result of inquiries, the following clarifications/changes are provided for your information.

Q1: In the cost schedule is the maximum number of acres to be planted based upon the 300k budget? Or is this just an arbitrary number that can range from 1-infinity if funding was not a factor?

A1: As it reads, the maximum acreage to be planted is the number of acres that the Respondent can be planted at the Price per Acre provided and within the District's expected estimated budgeted amount.

Q2: What are the field types UF has been using in the study (both Va and Pi)?

A2: The current UF project has used multiple sources from Central and North Florida in their studies. These sources varied based on nursery availability, field harvesting water levels, and propagation facility capacity. Some field sources have included Lake Maude, Lake Tennessee, Ichetucknee, Lake Butler, Lake Jessamine, Lake Hartridge, Lake Mariana, Lake Conway, Santa Fe River, and Kirby Pit.

Q3: Of the ecotypes used in the study which were the most successful?

A3: The success of the plants varied based on the experiment being done, whether they were controlled or field conditions, timing of planting, which treatment was being applied, field site they were planted at and water levels. In general, plants from similar conditioned lakes are preferred, however it has been found that diversity of sourcing is most important to allow for adapting conditions.

Q4: Does SJRWMD have a preferred group of ecotypes you are looking to use?

A4: While plants from similarly conditioned areas are preferred, they are not required for this project. Diversity of sourcing materials is preferred in order to maximize potential performance under varying conditions in Lake Apopka.

Q5: Can ecotypes be as simple as from different areas on the same waterbody?

A5: No. Ecotypes should be from different waterbodies.

Q6: Is there peer reviewed published information on the different ecotypes being more successful?

A6: There are several manuscripts that are underway from the current UF project and are in the process of submission to peer reviewed journals.

Q7: What has been the source methods for the UF study project?



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A7: Source methods currently used have been field harvest and transplantation, field harvest and propagation, and use of straight nursery stock. These have been dependent upon sourcing availability, field conditions and water levels, timing, and experimental design.

Q8: Is there a requirement for Florida Registered Nursery or Aquaculture facility? If not why?

A8: All nursery, propagation facility, and/or field harvest operations must have all licenses and/or permitting required by the State of Florida for its operation.

Q9: Is a plant collection permit part of the bid requirement? If not why?

A9: Plant collection and transport permitting is the responsibility of the Awarded Respondent. ACOE, DEP and county planting permits for Lake Apopka will be acquired by SJRWMD.

Q10: Is the selection process based on the bid price or is SJRWMD weighing the responses on certain grass ecotypes?

A10: Bid price.

Q11: Is there a price per unit cost from the UF study? What was the cost per acre for the study?

A11: Price per unit varied by species and plant availability.

Q12: Are both species (Va, Pi) going to be planted in the same acre or different areas?

A12: The plant density is constant at 5000 plants per acre, regardless of species composition. It is undetermined if *Potamogeton illinoensis* will be planted at this time or in what amounts. Some areas may have both species planted, but would maintain the same plant density per acre regardless of species. Some areas may be planted with one species.

Q13: Is the combined price per acre and maximum acres based on the 300k budget as well?

A13: See response to question 1.

Q14: How will you certify each ecotype?

A14: There will be a chain of custody form to be filled out for all plantings. In addition, copies of all harvesting and transport permits are required to be provided

Q15: Does the funding have any Small Business requirements?

A15: No. This solicitation/contract does not have any local or other set-asides for small or disadvantaged businesses.

Q16: Per Addendum 1 SJRWMD can also contract the 2nd lowest bidder, can the majority of the contract be given to the 2nd place bidder at the discretion of SJRWMD?



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A16: If the lowest respondent is deemed non-responsive, the District may award to the second lowest respondent, in whole or in part depending on the ability to plant all acreage the District requires. Also, the award to the second lowest respondent is dependent upon the respondent meeting the minimum requirements stated in the solicitation.

Q17: Are the bids going to be placed by lowest price per acre or combination of qualifications and response/price?

A17: Respondents must provide all required qualifications and additional information to be considered. If a respondent has provided all requested information, then the bid will be awarded based on lowest price.

Q18: Can all project references be in the same waterbody or different to show success outside the same waterbody?

A18: Project references are at the discretion of the Responded so long as the guidelines provided are followed and requirements are met.

NOTE: The Bid Opening remains 2:15 p.m., Thursday, June 25, 2020

Please acknowledge receipt of this Addendum on the BID FORM provided in the bid package.

If you have any questions, please e-mail me at alucey@sjrwmd.com