



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: April 6, 2020
TO: Prospective Respondents
FROM: Amy Lucey, Procurement Specialist
SUBJECT: Addendum #2 to Invitation for Bids #35541, Lake Apopka Submerged Aquatic Vegetation Planting Project

As a result of inquiries, the following clarifications/changes are provided for your information. Please make all appropriate changes to your bid / proposal documents. Note: changes are reflected with original language shown with strike-through and new language is underlined.

- Q1: There is no maritime longshoreman's insurance requirement listed. This would make the District liable if there was an injury during the project.
- A1: All plantings should be conducted from a boat with no need for Respondent Staff to be in the water. Lake Apopka's historic water quality, prevalence of soft flocculent sediments, and regular algal blooms are not supportive of the Respondent's Staff to be submerged in water for planting activities. Planting methods were selected based on methods that have already been successfully tested in Lake Apopka that would allow planting to occur from a boat with minimal disturbance to the area. There is no anticipated construction, thus no need for extra insurance.
- Q2: The plan lists a few planting techniques that are required but not the technical specifications for them. For instance, the plaster of paris method or non-toxic weight does not specify how much weight is needed to be approved as a planting unit.
- A2: The aquatic plants need as much as necessary to weigh the plant down and not have it float up. In the provided additional information, a standard ice cube tray was used for creating plaster of paris sinkers which should provide enough weight to sink a plant unit. There are pictures in the supplemental info. Planting techniques are based on three years of University of Florida research in Lake Apopka reviewing the success of a broad range of potential SAV planting techniques.
- Q3: The project has no performance metrics for planting unit spacing. The methods described could allow for minimal planting units installed per acre. A fully cultivated coir mat may have over 5,000 plants per unit. Is the districts intent to only use two planting units per acre?
- A3: We do not list coir mats as an approved method in the statement of work. We do list cultivated burlap bags as an approved option. Placement will be determined in the planting plan as Task 1 of the contract in coordination with the District Project Manager.
- Q4: Leaf blade height does not reflect a healthy plant. It is impractical for this to be a requirement as this severely discourages the use of true nursery grown plants being used in the bid. The time frame outlined in the bid would limit a nursery to grow the amount of plants needed and have them a minimum of six inches tall. There is a vast amount of scientific literature depicting SAV restoration, but I have not read



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one that depicted a minimum blade height of 6 inches for successful establishment. Where did this value come from?

- A4: The blade height minimum is required due to the light limited conditions of Lake Apopka as well as the large amount of flocculant sediment. The criterion was derived from field measurements of visibility, light penetration, water clarity, professional judgement, and current in-lake test site results resulting from the University of Florida research project. In Lake Apopka, a longer blade length or quick growth is advantageous to offset the issues of low light penetration and potential smothering by flocculent sediments.
- Q5: Is there a reason other successful planting methodologies are not accepted in the bid?
- A5: Yes. The Lake Apopka University of Florida research project was designed to evaluate the long term planting success of various SAV planting techniques in Lake Apopka and specific to Lake Apopka conditions. Only techniques that were the most appropriate for Lake Apopka conditions and that showed the greatest long-term success were included in the procurement.
- Q6: What are the metric(s) that determine success of the project?
- A6: The successful respondent will plant healthy plants based on the planting specifications, planting density and depth outlined in the Statement of Work. Plantings will be monitored by District Staff in the future for establishment and persistence over time.
- Q7: What will be the success rates (sustainability) of the plants after a period or periods of time?
- A7: Plantings will be monitored by District staff. Success is expected to be similar to test plantings conducted by the University of Florida using stipulated planting techniques.
- Q8: Will you allow mechanical planting?
- A8: Mechanical plantings are not recommended based on site conditions and University of Florida research results. Planting methods were selected based on methods that have already been successfully tested in Lake Apopka that would allow planting to occur from a boat with minimal disturbance to the area.

CORRECTIONS:

Page 12 and 13, Cost Schedule. Replace with the revised Cost Schedule (Addendum # 2), as attached.

Bidders are reminded to review page 6, Item 12. **DISQUALIFICATION OF RESPONDENTS:**

- a. Contacting a District employee or officer other than the procurement employee named in this solicitation about any aspect of this solicitation before the notice of intended decision is posted.

NOTE: The Bid Opening remains 2:00 p.m., Tuesday, April 21, 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



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Attachments:

Cost Schedule Revised Addendum 2

COST SCHEDULE

Include this form in the response

Bid to be opened at 2:00 p.m., April 21, 2020

To: ST. JOHNS RIVER WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

In accordance with the advertisement requesting bids for the Lake Apopka Submerged Aquatic Vegetation Planting, subject to the terms and conditions of the Agreement, the undersigned proposes to perform the Work for the price contained in the following schedule (fill in all blanks).

If said bid exceeds the estimated amount previously provided, the District expressly reserves the right to increase, decrease, or delete any class, item, or part of the Work, as may be determined by the District.

Respondents are reminded to refer to "PREPARATION AND ORGANIZATION OF BID DOCUMENTS" for information to be included with the bid package.

RESPONDENTS ARE INVITED TO SUBMIT A BID ON ANY OR ALL TASKS. Costs must include, but not be limited to, equipment, labor, supervision, and incidentals necessary to complete all activities specified. The District reserves the right to make award(s) by individual commodities, on an item by item basis, and to issue multiple awards based on any combination of the commodities listed on the Cost Schedule.

Plant Species(5000 plants per acre)	Price per Acre	Maximum Acres to be planted 10/1/20 - 9/30/21
<i>Vallisneria americana</i> (3 different cultivars or field types)	\$	
<i>Potamogeton illinoensis</i> (2 different cultivars or field types)	\$	

Cost schedule continued on the next page.

Pursuant to §287.084(2) Fla. Stat., a vendor whose principal place of business is outside the State of Florida must accompany any written bid, proposal, or reply documents with a written opinion of an attorney at law licensed to practice law in that foreign state, as to the preferences, if any or none, granted by the law of that state to its own business entities whose principal places of business are in that foreign state in the letting of any or all public contracts.

I HEREBY ACKNOWLEDGE, as Respondent's authorized representative, that I have fully read and understand all terms and conditions as set forth in this bid and upon award of such bid, shall fully comply with such terms and conditions.

Date

Respondent (firm name)

Address

E-mail address

Signature

Telephone number

Typed name and title

Fax number