

**Responses to Questions
Solicitation – VA101-12-B-0034**

Question:

1. *We're missing section 014529 from the specs according to the index for the Ft. Rosecrans National Cemetery Wetlands Restoration Project Project # 892CM2022, San Diego, CA #VA10112B0034 project.*

Response:

The listing of spec Sec 01 45 29 was a typo; there is no Sec 01 45 29. The table of contents has been corrected to list spec Sec 01 42 19 - Reference Documents. 01 42 19 is already included in the RFP but was not listed on the table of contents. The corrected table of contents has been posted on FedBizOps as part of Amendment 1.

Question:

2. *After setting the scale on my takeoff software tool for sheet L-103 and measuring the scale bar the quantity was measured to be 90 LF instead of the 150 LF shown on the actual drawing scale. Could you please advise if the scale is wrong on the drawing. Also, after setting a custom scale to match the scale bar on sheet L-103 and measuring the length of the 2" main irrigation line the quantity I came up with was approximately 284 LF, but it is listed in the table of Irrigation System Pressure Requirements as only 150 LF. Could you please advise.*

Response:

All drawings are at 30 scale. The graphic scale on the sheets is labeled incorrectly and the increments from left to right should read " 0', 15', 30', 90' ". The pressure calculation worksheet has been updated. The revised worksheet is attached as a pdf file.

Question:

3. *Is this walk mandatory?*

Response:

No, attendance at pre-bid conferences is not mandatory to bid the project.

Question:

4. *Section 31-20-00 item "E"
Shall all Eucalyptus stumps to be dug out and removed? If so, will suitable equipment be allowed to perform this task?*

Response:

No. The eucalyptus trees can be cut at ground level, cut into pieces and hauled off site. The remaining stumps should be sprayed with herbicide and any resprouts treated during the regular maintenance site visits to be conducted by the maintenance contractor.

Question:

5. *Section 32-84-00 item "B"
Is the contractor responsible for monitoring and refilling the supply tank in the Eastern Restoration area during the irrigation period anticipated to be approximately 3 years after installation?*

Response:

Yes, the contractor will be responsible for monitoring and refilling the water supply tank in the eastern restoration area for the duration of the performance period. The project performance period is 15 months, not 3 years.

Question:

6. *Please post a copy of the pre-bid conference sign in sheet for the Miramar National Cemetery Wetlands Restoration onto the FedBizOpps site.*

Response:

A copy of the pre-bid conference sign-in sheet has been posted on FedBizOps as part of Amendment 1.

Question:

7. *Please provide a copy of the "Wetland Restoration plan for the Miramar National Cemetery prepared by Helix Environmental Planning, Inc. Dated February 1, 2010". As noted on Plan Sheet X-000, General Notes, Item 6B.*

Response:

A copy of the Wetlands Restoration Plan is attached as part of this amendment.

Question:

8. *Specification Section 00 01 10, Table of Contents, references Specification Section 01 45 29 – Testing Laboratory Services. This Section was not provided with the Bid Documents. Please provide section 01 45 29 and or clarify.*

Response:

See response to Question #1.

Question:

9. *Specification Section 01 42 19 – Reference Standards is provided with the Bid Documents, but is not listed on the Table of Contents. Should this section (01 42 19) be added to the Table of Contents? Please clarify.*

Response:

See response to Question #1.

Question:

10. *Plan Sheet L-102, references and indentifies the areas for remove Pampas Grass. It also states "Existing SWS habitat DO NOT DISTURB". At Job Walk, Contractor has identified Pampas Grass within the existing SWS habitat DO NOT DISTURB area (Note Attachment A). If Pampas Grass is not removed within the SWS habitat it will continue to effect the surrounding areas. Please advise as to the scope of Pampas Grass removal.*

Response:

Pampas grass occurring within the existing southern willow scrub shown on Plan Sheet L-102 should be hand removed and treated with herbicide as necessary to prevent resprouting. Impacts to willows and other native shrubs should be avoided.

Question:

11. *Plan Sheet L-102, references to provide an Access Road for the work to be performed at the Eastern Mitigation Area, Plan Note states "No clearing or vegetation should occur between Feb 15 and August 31". Also Feb 15 through Aug 31 is the breeding season for the local Raptors, Gnatcatchers and Fairy Shrimp that have been identified in the Bid Documents. Project documents state the all work for Option No. 1 will be completed in 90 Days. Please confirm and or clarify that the construction phase for this project will not start until after August 31.*

Response:

Eastern Mitigation Area - Habitat along the access route to the Eastern Mitigation Area is not considered suitable gnatcatcher breeding habitat and therefore clearing of vegetation can occur at any time. However, a pre-clearing nesting survey must be conducted within 3 to 5 days (preferably 3 days) if vegetation clearing would occur between Feb 15 and August 31 (the breeding season for gnatcatchers and raptors). This is to avoid impacts to any species of nesting migratory birds that are present. If there are nesting birds then vegetation clearing would need to be postponed until the

nestlings fledge or the nest is otherwise abandoned. All clearing must occur within 3 to 5 days of this survey, otherwise another survey would be required. There are no reporting requirements for this survey. Without a current nesting survey no clearing of vegetation should occur until after bird breeding season (i.e. clearing of vegetation is limited to September 1 through February 14). **Note:** Felling of eucalyptus trees from the Eastern Mitigation Area should occur outside of the breeding season because of the difficulty in locating nests in these dense stands.

However, fairy shrimp hatching and breeding occur during the winter/spring rainy season when vernal pools hold water for sufficient time for this species to complete their life cycle. The rainy season in San Diego is typically October through May. Because access to the eastern mitigation area is partially through the existing vernal pool preserve and restoration area, no vehicle access to the eastern mitigation area is allowed when the soils along the access route are wet, which can occur at any time between October and May. If sufficient rains begin in October to wet the soils along the eastern access route, the construction window for the eastern mitigation area is then limited to September 1 through the date in October when rains began. It is therefore recommended to complete construction of the eastern mitigation area first since the rain schedule cannot be accurately predicted.

Western Mitigation Area – Habitat along the access route to the Western Mitigation Area is considered suitable gnatcatcher breeding habitat and therefore no clearing of vegetation can occur between February 15 and August 31 for this western area. No gnatcatcher survey is required and there is no wiggle room on the window of vegetation clearing. Access to the western mitigation area can occur at any time of year as long as clearing of vegetation is not conducted between February 15 and August 31.

Question:

12. *Plan Sheet L-102, Cross Section A-A, references to fill bottom of trench (as shown) with Rock and Sand. Specification Section 31 20 00, paragraph 2.1, states “ No Additional soil shall be imported to the site”. Will contractor use only the raven existing soil for the reconstruction or will a soil site source be provided? Please clarify.*

Response:

The intention is that grading for the site balances cut and fill. However, clean rock and sand, but not soil potentially containing a seed source is permissible for import as needed.

Question:

13. *Plan Sheet L-102 references to create a new Access Road along the vernal pool fence. New Access Road is for the Eastern Mitigation Area and will cross a major drainage swale. The following RFI's pertain to the creation of the new access road.*

Response:

The plans identify an access route rather than an access road. The access route should be a temporary, low-impact path for access to the site during construction. It is not meant to be an engineered permanent feature. No change of grade or fill should be brought in for the access route. Clearing of vegetation can occur as needed to create the minimum width required for small equipment access.

Question:

14. *Provide a Soils Report that identifies the underlying material or is contractor tasked for a soils report for the Eastern Mitigation Area. Please advise.*

Response:

Soils information for the project may be found in the Final Environmental Impact Statement – Fort Rosecrans National Cemetery Annex dated July 2007, and the Geotechnical Investigation, Proposed Fort Rosecrans Miramar Annex National Cemetery dated April 20, 2009. These documents are available to bidders on FedBizOps.

Question:

15. *Specification Section 31 20 00, paragraph 2.1, States "No Additional soil shall be imported to the site". Will a site source be provided. Please clarify.*

Response:

The intention is that grading for the site balances cut and fill. Clean rock and sand, but not soil potentially containing a seed source, is permissible for import as needed. Contractor is to locate source of any imported rock and sand.

Question:

16. *Will contractor be required to provide a Designer of Record (DOR) for the Civil Engineering. Also if so please provide Submittal time line (60%, 100% final submittal).*

Response:

No.

Question:

17. *Must the Designer of Record prepare/stamp/sign more detailed grading plans?*

Response:

No.

Question:

18. *Is there a requirement to have the 12-foot wide access road surveyed/staked during construction?*

Response:

The route does not need to be surveyed. The alignment of the access route shown on the plans is diagrammatic. Align the path in the field to minimize impacts and stake/flag to mark the route for construction personnel.

Question:

19. *The new road will be crossing a major drainage swale. How permanent must the road be? Must the drainage pattern be maintained?*

Response:

The route is intended to be a low-impact at-grade path to necessitate access during construction. It is not intended to be a permanent road. No fill is to be placed for the access route and drainage patterns must be maintained. Temporary erosion control/stabilization measures/BMPs should be implemented along the route as needed.

Question:

20. *Does the tree removal include the removal of the tree root or can the tree root be ground down?*

Response:

Eucalyptus trees are to be cut at ground level with the stumps and roots left in place. See response to Question # 4.

Question:

21. *Does the tree removal include clearing and grubbing the Northern and Southern Stand. In some areas it appears the leaves piles are 1 ½ ft. thick. Please clarify.*

Response:

Include clearing and grubbing with tree removal.

Question:

22. *Will the drawing files be made available in electronic format to the Designer of Record?*

Response:

Yes

Question:

23. *What is the basis of the topography? (Horizontal and vertical control)*

Response:

The Basis of Bearings is the California Coordinate System, CCS83, Zone 6, 1991.35 Epoch, and is determined by G.P.S. Measurements taken in September 2008 at GPS stations 132 and 138 per ROS 14492. I.E. N 46°08'16" E.

The Benchmark is a brass plug at the North East intersection of Miramar Road and Miramar Place as published in the City of San Diego Vertical Control Book. Elev. + 402.161 (NVD29) Index No. 2600-17153.

Question:

24. *Has the rail road company been contacted regarding the work along their property? Will the contractor have to obtain an encroachment from the company to perform the grading work? Does the contractor have to coordinate his work with the train schedule during tree harvest operations?*

Response:

The rail road company has not been contacted. All work is intended to be conducted within the boundaries of the Miramar National Cemetery and to not impact rail operations. It is the contractor's responsibility to coordinate with the rail road company if there is concern that the tree harvest would potentially affect rail operations.

Question:

25. *After completed of work for Options 1 and 2. Will the new Access Roads to the Western & Eastern Mitigation work areas have to be re-established to pre-construction conditions, or can they remain as constructed? Please advise.*

Response:

As stated in the response to Question #13, the access routes are intended to be temporary, at-grade, low-impact paths that require only clearing of vegetation and are not to be permanent or engineered roads. No change of grade or fill should be brought in for the access routes. Clearing of vegetation can occur as needed to create the minimum width required for small equipment access. Following completion of work, it is anticipated that the access routes can be left as is. However, if there are erosion or stabilization issues associated with the routes then these would need to be addressed by the contractor.

Question:

26. *Due to the requested information and submitted RFI's, contractor is requesting to extend the bid date by two weeks. Please advise.*

Response:

Amendment 1 has extended the bidding period until Feb. 2, 2012.

Notes to Bidders:

A. There are two existing 500 gallon water tanks available in the maintenance yard, which can be used in lieu of the water tank shown on the drawings. We've been advised by Van Dyke that the existing tanks are adequate for the use specified however more frequent filling will be required.