



Procurement Hub – Fredericton
301 Bishop Drive
Fredericton, NB E3C 2M6

June 20, 2018

F5211-180214

ADVANCED CONTRACT AWARD NOTICE

TITLE: Ecosystem Study in Tremblay Sound – 2018

INTRODUCTION:

The purpose of this Advance Contract Award Notice (ACAN) is to signal the government's intention to award a contract for these services to Mittimatalik Hunters' and Trappers' Organization, P.O. Box 189, Pond Inlet, NU, X0A 0S0. Before awarding a contract, however, the government would like to provide other suppliers with the opportunity to demonstrate that they are capable of satisfying the requirements set out in this Notice, by submitting a statement of capabilities during the ACAN posting period.

If other potential suppliers submit a statement of capabilities during this ACAN posting period that meets the requirements set out in the ACAN, the government will proceed to a full tendering process on either GETS or through traditional means, in order to award the contract.

If no other supplier submits, on or before the closing date, a statement of capabilities meeting the requirements set out in the ACAN, a contract will be awarded to the pre-selected supplier.

BACKGROUND:

Science Stock Assessment and their partner's require increased knowledge of narwhal migration, fidelity to summer aggregations, and mixed stock structure with possible proportions of mixing in each summer aggregation of the Baffin Bay population, as well as how narwhal are reacting to increased vessel traffic in the preferred habitat. Science advice supports Integrated Fisheries Management of Commercial Fisheries by providing crucial biological information that will help the sustainable management of the fishery. This in turn assists the Inuit in developing better strategies for their subsistence fishery which may involve better economic and cultural gain for themselves. The results of this study will support the following priorities: (1) determine the degree of stock segregation between Admiralty Inlet and Eclipse Sound summer management stocks; (2) determination of critical habitat; (3) determine reactions and effects of increasing vessel traffic and industrial development all through their seasonal migrations to their prefer habitats (4) to examine the influence of Killer Whale presence and movements on narwhal behaviour.

OBJECTIVES:

Scientific instruments will be placed on land, in the water and in/on animals (i.e. fish, sharks and narwhal) in the Tremblay Sound area between July 15th and September 15th. The objective of this work is to understand the presence and movements of narwhal in their summering grounds. This information will be used to inform management of stock delineation areas and stock mixing, as well as environmental and ecosystem stressors (e.g. shipping) that may affect narwhal presently and in the future. The field operations will be considered completed when all instruments have been deployed and recovered (for those that require recovery), when the DFO project lead in consultation with local participants determines that conditions do not allow for further field operations.

WORK REQUIREMENT:

The Contractor will be responsible for providing and coordinating 240 person days, up to 15 boat trips (Pond Inlet to Tremblay and Return), and HTO large boat rental with captain for up to 20 days of project support on a schedule to be finalized once contract is in place.



Field assistant duties will be to:

- Assist in establishing and maintaining the field camp(s)
- Participate in all aspects of narwhal tagging on a daily basis
- Assist in determining where and when narwhal may be found and tags may be deployed
- Scan for approaching marine mammals, including polar bears
- Assist in deployment and recovery of scientific instruments on land, in the water and in/on animals (fish, sharks and narwhal)
- Participate in all aspects of daily research planning and coordination
- Advise in determining appropriate modifications to project methods to ensure the ecosystem is not disturbed beyond acceptable levels outlined by approval bodies and organizations (e.g. Pond Inlet HTO)
- Maintain appropriate logs and communications for project requirements and reporting (Contractor responsible for logging Inuit observations, concerns, actions taken and communications with any other Inuit (e.g. local hunters or residents of Pond Inlet).

Field Camp Schedule: 15th July – September 10th 2017

Field schedule within this time period is flexible due to weather and environmental conditions, and the presence and behaviour of narwhal. This contract is setup for a maximum of 240 full working days. The field operations will be considered completed when all instruments have been deployed and recovered (for those that require recovery), when the DFO project lead in consultation with local participants determines that conditions do not allow for further field operations.

This project requires Inuit research participation in the form of 240 person days, local boat support (up to 15 trips to Tremblay) and Rental of the HTO large boat with Captain for 20 days. Inuit researchers are seen as collaborators on this project and thus the team of Inuit needs to be well balanced in experience, leadership, youth (for training and mentorship from senior participants), and should allow opportunities to both genders (male and female). The project is being planned for July 15th to September 15th. Camp setup and take down may operate with less research participants (both Inuit and southern Canadian participants). Once camp is established and research activities have begun (anticipate July 20th to September 10th) typically 4 Inuit participants should be working based from camp in Tremblay Sound. Boat support from Pond would be arranged through the HTO to meet changing project needs which may include; i) supply runs and people exchanges between camp and Tremblay, ii) short term hires (e.g. for a weekend) to boat out to locations in Tremblay or Eclipse Sound to check on equipment or download data from instruments. Use of the HTO large aluminum boat with a Captain (certified boat driver) would be needed for 20 days between August 3rd and August 30th. A First Mate to assist the Captain will be provided via one of the 4 Inuit research participants stationed in Tremblay camp. Coordination of all of the above with project leaders from DFO needs to be considered by the Inuit Contract Authority and their capacity to deal with this project requirements.

CONSTRAINTS

Data generated during this contract are the property of DFO and cannot be shared or published without written consent of the Project Authority.

The Supplier may need to sub-contract expertise of external scientists/taxonomists. Sub-Suppliers are held to the same constraints as the Supplier regarding publication and sharing of material and data stipulated in this contract.

The Supplier will return specimens to DFO that are too small or damaged to identify. DFO is responsible for the associated shipping costs.

DEPARTMENTAL SUPPORT

DFO will supply all food items for the full length of the field work; all required fuels for outboard motors, heaters and generator; and basic safety clothing such as dry suits, floater suits and gloves; as well as all of the specialised equipment associated with the tagging of the whales. Inuit research participants are responsible for regular camping and survival equipment (tents, stoves, clothing etc.) that are not specific to science operations.



CONTRACTORS RESPONSIBILITIES

- The Contractor will ensure that field technicians supply their own camping items and appropriate clothing essential working on the water and land and camping for the duration of the field study.
- The Contractor will ensure that the Pond Inlet research participants are responsible for all tools and parts needed to maintain their boats and other field equipment in good operating condition.
- The Contractor will coordinate support boats as per the schedule provided by DFO and/or upon request (from DFO authority).
- The Contractor will authorize and track gas purchases made using DFO account.

MINIMUM MANDATORY REQUIREMENTS

Knowledge of and experience in/on the lands and waters of the North Baffin/Eclipse Sound area.
Project participants are to be skilled in boat operation and/or fishing with nets, and/or hunting large (bigger than birds) game. (Valid Licenses available upon request by DFO for the duration of the contact)
Project participants are to be skilled in firearms use. (Valid Licenses available upon request by DFO for the duration of the contact)
Project participants are able to see and hear clearly (aids are allowable)
Project participants are able to communicate orally in English.

WORK ENVIRONMENT/LOCATION

Work will be conducted at the Tremblay Sound and Pond Inlet in Nunavut.

LANGUAGE OF WORK

Some knowledge of the English language is required

USE OF ASSETS

Work in a Fisheries and Oceans Canada research camp (including) use of DFO assets will be done only under the supervision of a DFO employee.

DELIVERABLES & TIME SCHEDULE

Project participants will be placed on a schedule and provided with duties matching their skills and knowledge.

Schedule and duties will be discussed and arranged prior to beginning work and will be agreeable to both parties.

Project participants must be available for a minimum of 21 days during the period of July 14th 2018 and September 15th 2018.

Transportation to and from the project camp (work site) are arranged by DFO. While DFO will attempt to accommodate participants schedule needs, DFO does not guarantee transportation dates and times. Mutually agreed schedule prior to start of work may vary due to weather and logistical factors and DFO cannot be held to schedule due to changes in weather or logistics (i.e. boat or aircraft availability).

Deliverables of project participants are 1) work agreed days and hours as arranged prior to start of work, 2) perform duties as arranged prior to start of work, 3) be a positive team member and contribute to a safe and professional field camp.

Failure to deliver on the above will result in (shown in escalating order)

- 1) discussion with field supervisor,
- 2) verbal notification of failure to deliver on contract obligations,
- 3) written notification of failure to deliver on contract obligations,
- 4) dismissal of participant from project participation.



TRADE AGREEMENTS APPLICABILITY OR OTHER OBLIGATIONS:

No Trade Agreements apply. This requirement is subject to the Nunavut Land Claim Agreement.

GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS REGULATIONS EXCEPTION AND LIMITED TENDERING REASONS:

Article 5 of the Nunavut Land Claim Agreement identifies responsibilities and authority of designated wildlife organizations of which the Hunters and Trappers Organizations (HTO) and Regional Wildlife Organizations (RWO) are the main stake holders. Regional offices were set up to administer funds to the communities and support the regional Boards and the Nunavut Inuit Wildlife Secretariat was proposed as a means of managing regional budgets and supporting regional Boards and community HTOs

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY:

The Department of Fisheries and Oceans has determined that any intellectual property rights arising from the performance of the Work under the resulting contract will belong to Canada on the following grounds:

Exception 6.4.1 – The main purpose of the contract, or the deliverables contracted for, is to generate knowledge and information for public dissemination.

CONTRACT PERIOD:

The contract period is estimated to be from the date of contract award to March 1, 2019

ESTIMATED VALUE:

Pond Inlet Research Participants – number of participants to be determined by the contractor in consultation with the DFO Field Supervisor to meet the project schedule and needs. Rates of pay – to be coordinated in consultation with DFO field supervisor but equal to or less than an average of \$300 per day totaling not more than \$72,000. Average salary is determined by various rates for pay determined by role and level of experience. Local researchers may choose to keep their boat at camp, if use of the boat is mutually agreed, researchers will be paid \$200 per use (where 'use' is a 24hr period). Boat support from Pond Inlet is to be organized by the contractor in coordination the DFO Field Supervisor, but will not exceed 15 TRIPS at \$600 per trip totaling \$9,000.00 (gas provided by DFO). Contact Total = Maximum \$85,000.00 (pay and boat trips) + HTO boat rental with Captain (max \$20,000) + maximum \$10,500.00 (10% admin fee for coordination) = \$115,500.00

****Up to quantity (days) of services specified above is only an approximation of the requirement, and Canada will only pay for the number of days utilized.***

Definitions:

TRIPS : A return journey by boat from Pond Inlet to Tremblay Sound (or Milne Inlet). DFO will have equipment and people ready (at a designated spot) for transport within 3 hrs of confirmation of trip. Capacity of boat should be based on needs of the trip and will be coordinated by DFO and the HTO. Boat operator is responsible for safe operation of the boat (this includes if necessary supplying a First Mate at no additional cost – presence of a First Mate is assumed and is accounted in the \$600/Trip rate).

INSURANCE

The Contractor is responsible for deciding if insurance coverage is necessary to fulfill its obligation under the Contract and to ensure compliance with any applicable law. Any insurance acquired or maintained by the Contractor is at its own expense and for its own benefit and protection. It does not release the Contractor from or reduce its liability under the Contract.

SUPPLIER'S RIGHT TO SUBMIT A STATEMENT OF CAPABILITIES:

Suppliers who consider themselves fully qualified and available to provide the services described herein, may submit a Statement of Capabilities in writing to the Contracting Officer identified in this Notice on or before closing date. The Statement of Capabilities must clearly demonstrate how the supplier meets the advertised requirements.



**CLOSING DATE FOR SUBMITTING STATEMENT OF CAPABILITIES:
Friday, July 6, 2018 at 2:00 p.m. (Atlantic Time)**

Inquiries and statements of capabilities are to be directed to:

Kimberly Walker

Senior Contracting Officer

Procurement Hub – Fredericton

Telephone: (506) 452-3624

Facsimile: (506) 452-3676

Email: DFOtenders-soumissionsMPO@dfo-mpo.gc.ca