

BACKGROUND

CFIA is mandated to respond to various animal health emergencies. In the event of an animal disease outbreak, the CFIA response involves a number of different activities. Among these activities is the depopulation of infected animals. This requirement entails ensuring compliance with biocontainment protocols for the purposes of Occupational Safety and Health (OSH) and to prevent the spread of disease. CFIA is seeking to have work associated with this part of the response contracted to a private vendor.

OBJECTIVE

Use firearms or captive-bolt devices, according to CFIA approved procedure, to humanely kill animals that have been ordered to destruction on infected premises.

SCOPE OF WORK

The vendor will provide firearm operators, range safety officers and/or captive bolt operators. The operators and officers will work in a task force, under the supervision of a CFIA Destruction crew leader.

A specific destruction plan will be written for each facility within an infected premise. Determined on various factors, including safety considerations, the plan will outline the method and location of destruction, which can be located inside or outside the building.

Personnel requirements:

Exact personnel requirements will be determined upon completion of the site-specific plan. Personnel are expected to be physically and mentally fit for the activity and able to work with applicable personal protective equipment (described in the constraint section).

Firearm operators will be required to:

- have passed the Canadian Firearms Safety Course (or equivalent).
- respect Canadian, provincial, territorial and municipal legislation on possession and use of firearms.
- The operators are not expected to handle animals.

Captive-bolt operators will be required to:

- be experienced in working with farm animals such as swine or cattle.
- be experienced in the placement and use of captive-bolt devices on such animals.

Range safety officers will be required to:

- have passed recognised training acceptable to the CFIA and have ability to work as a firearms range safety officer.
- the range safety officers are not expected to handle animals.

Tasks:

Firearm or Captive-bolt Operators' tasks:

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- The operators will collaborate with the CFIA to complete a site-specific assessment, determine the appropriate caliber or model of device to use, and review the safe and humane use of the chosen mechanical device.
- Following the Destruction plan for the given premises, and upon signal from the Destruction crew leader, the operator will position and proceed with destroying animals one by one, by targeting the appropriate landmarks as described in Appendix 1, to ensure humane kill.

Firearm Range Safety Officers' tasks:

- The Firearm Range Safety Officer will supervise the design of the destruction area (shooting range) and ensure compliance with all applicable safety legislation and respect of firearm safety procedures at all time.

TRAVEL

The service might be needed anywhere in Canada and may involve travel from the vendor.

CONSTRAINTS

This work takes place during an emergency response and time is of the utmost importance. Work is to be completed in a timely fashion, 7 days a week.

Biocontainment and safety procedures must meet or exceed those required by the CFIA [and/or provincial regulations]. These involve:

- All personnel will need to wear appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) at all time when entering contaminated zone and decontaminate following CFIA's protocol when exiting the zone. The PPE may include respirator, eye protection, ear protection, 2 layers of nitrile gloves, disposable coveralls and steel-toe rubber boots. CFIA must approve PPE and can provide some if required.
- Operators will receive specific training for adequate placement of shot from CFIA or other veterinary authority.
- All material (including firearms and captive bolt devices) exiting the contaminated zone will be cleaned and decontaminated as per CFIA protocols.
- Firearm safety procedures will have to be strictly followed by the firearm operators.

CFIA SUPPORT

CFIA will provide the Destruction Plan and Destruction crew leader to supervise its delivery.

CFIA will provide Biocontainment Protocols and will ensure compliance to it onsite.

The access to the site will be restricted and guarded.

MEETINGS

If required, further discussions following this process are possible to provide further details on Statement of Work, or other requirements.

OUTPUT/DELIVERABLES

As per the destruction plan decided by CFIA, humane destruction of specified livestock within a specific timeframe.

In order to engage in further discussion, the vendor will provide the CFIA, within its response to this Letter of Interest, the following information:

- Name of organisation
- Location of its resources
- Type(s) and model(s) of devices the organisation is licensed to use and/or currently uses and/or have in stock.
- Describe the experience the organisation, or its employees, have with
 - Working with farmed animals and/or
 - Animal euthanasia and/or
 - Biosecurity
 - Working with personal protective equipment
- List any license or permit the organisation or individuals it employs, detain with respect to firearms (as applicable).
- List any training and/or certification the organisation's employees who would provide the service have, with respect to the use, the handling or the storage of the device. The vendor may also include any other training or certification that would assist in the service delivery as described.

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