

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS #4

This document addresses **two (2)** additional questions (highlighted) that Infrastructure Canada (INFC) has received regarding RFP # INFC-2020/21-PS3031.

See questions 14 and 16 for changes to the details to be provided in the financial bid.

See question 9 for a change in the deadline for the first deliverable.

Several questions pertain to the Statement of Work.

Q16:

How does the RFP change to include the details for monitoring the use by mammals?

A16:

There are four changes.

1 & 2: Additional rows need to be added to **two tables** in the **Pricing Schedule** as follows. Bidders must include these rows in their financial proposal and the amounts in these additional rows must be included in the sum for their respective tables.

Table 2.1.1 Breakdown of Prices for Primary Services in the Initial Contract Period

PRIMARY SERVICE	Quantity (Q)	Firm all-inclusive unit price (excluding applicable taxes) (P)	Total estimated cost (Q X P)
<p><i>Note: The following table was designed to facilitate the bid's financial proposal and evaluation process. The bidder must propose a firm unit price for the monitoring described in Annex A for Year 1 of the environmental monitoring.</i></p>			
<p><u>Monitoring of use by semi-aquatic mammals</u> - To meet the requirements of section 5.3.4.4 of Annex A – Statement of Work (including all expenses)</p>	1	\$[bidder to insert]	\$[bidder to insert]

Table 2.2.1 Breakdown of Prices for Primary Services in the Option Periods

Primary Service	Monitoring Year	Quantity (Q)	Firm all-inclusive unit price (excluding applicable taxes) (P)	Total estimated cost (Q X P)
<p>Note: The following table was designed to facilitate the bid's financial proposal and evaluation process. Bidders must propose a firm unit price for the monitoring described in Annex A – Statement of Work with the approximate schedule indicated below.</p>				
<u>Monitoring of use by semi-aquatic mammals</u> - To meet the requirements of section 5.3.4.4 of Annex A – Statement of Work (including all expenses)	Year 3	1	[\$[bidder to insert]]	[\$[bidder to insert] (a)]
	Year 5	1	[\$[bidder to insert]]	[\$[bidder to insert] (b)]
	Year 7	1	[\$[bidder to insert]]	[\$[bidder to insert] (c)]

3: The Basis of Payment in Annex B now includes the following article:

1.1.1 Breakdown of Primary Services for All Monitoring Years

j) Firm, all-inclusive price for *monitoring of use by semi-aquatic mammals* (Section 5.3.4.4 of the Statement of Work [Annex A]) in:

- i. Monitoring year 1: \$ [to be taken from the firm prices provided in the Bidder's financial proposal]
- ii. Monitoring year 3, if option period 1 is exercised: \$ [to be taken from the firm prices provided in the Bidder's financial proposal]
- iii. Monitoring year 5, if option period 2 is exercised: \$ [to be taken from the firm prices provided in the Bidder's financial proposal]
- iv. Monitoring year 7, if option period 3 is exercised: \$ [to be taken from the firm prices provided in the Bidder's financial proposal]

4: The Statement of Work now includes the following article:

5.3.4.4 Monitoring of use by Semi-aquatic Mammals

Unless it is suspected that there is a species at risk, it is expected that only incidental observations of mammals will be used. The Contractor must take note of the species, the number of individuals, location, behavior, weather conditions, etc.

Signs of the presence of the species representing a risk to the vegetation present in the completed works, like beavers, for example, must also be noted, located, and counted.

Q15:

Given the lump sums for each aspect of the Work, is article 7 in Annex B required for actual total amounts or the activities with a firm price? The latter would add a large administrative burden on companies.

A15:

Article 7 in Annex B pertains only to any optional services obtained. This article does not apply to the lump sum costs for primary services. Bidders are required to be clear in their proposed methodology given that this will also have an impact on costing. Since 20% of the evaluation is based on price, Bidders accept the risk associated with balancing the cost of technical assumptions relative to offering competitive prices when developing their financial proposal, which must be full, complete, and submitted by the bid closure date and time.

Q14:

Concerning the Basis of Payment in Annex B, would it be possible to separate Milestone 3 into two milestones, 3A and 3B in order to permit payment for significant sums of money that will have been spent on data collection in the field for several aspects of the Work? These include important amounts for salaries, equipment rentals, etc. The first piece of 30% would be paid upon delivery of the preliminary report for milestone 3A and 20% payable upon delivery of the final version for milestone 3B.

A14:

Article 1.1.a – Schedule of Milestones for All Monitoring Years in Annex B – Terms of Payment is replaced as follows:

Original Text	Revised Text
<p><u>1.1 Schedule of Milestones for All Monitoring Years</u></p> <p>a) The Schedule of Milestones according to which payments will be made under the Contract for each monitoring year is presented below. The percentages are the same for the work performed in any option period, if exercised. The percentages are based on the sum of the prices for primary services (stated in Section 1.1.1 – Breakdown of primary services for all monitoring years (below)) selected by the INFC Project Authority for that monitoring year.</p>	<p><u>1.1 Schedule of Milestones for All Monitoring Years</u></p> <p>a) The Schedule of Milestones according to which payments will be made under the Contract for each monitoring year is presented below. The percentages are the same for the work performed in any option period, if exercised. The percentages are based on the sum of the prices for primary services (stated in Section 1.1.1 – Breakdown of primary services for all monitoring years (below)) selected by the INFC Project Authority for that monitoring year.</p>

<p>i. Milestone 1: Work program: 10% of the total price of primary services for that monitoring year</p> <p>ii. Milestone 2: Health and safety plan: 5% of the total price of primary services for that monitoring year</p> <p>iii. Milestone 3: Progress report: 50% of the total price of primary services for that monitoring year</p> <p>iv. Milestone 4a: Monitoring year DRAFT report: 20% of the total price of primary services for that monitoring year</p> <p>v. Milestone 4b: Monitoring year FINAL report: 15% of the total price of primary services for that monitoring year</p>	<p>i. Milestone 1: Work program: 10% of the total price of primary services for that monitoring year</p> <p>ii. Milestone 2: Health and safety plan: 5% of the total price of primary services for that monitoring year</p> <p>iii. Milestone 3a: DRAFT Progress Report: 30% of the total price of primary services for that monitoring year</p> <p>iv. Milestone 3b: FINAL Progress Report: 20% of the total price of primary services for that monitoring year</p> <p>v. Milestone 4a: Monitoring year DRAFT report: 20% of the total price of primary services for that monitoring year</p> <p>vi. Milestone 4b: Monitoring year FINAL report: 15% of the total price of primary services for that monitoring year</p>
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Q13:

Article 5.3.1 in Annex says “In addition to the readings, surveys, field measurements and observations, the Contractor must plan to compare and analyze aerial photos of the compensation area taken annually or bi-annually”. Please state who will provide the aerial photographs, the dates those photos were taken, when they will be delivered to the Contractor, and whether will they be geo-referenced or in a digital format that permits 3D modeling (PAR file type or similar).

A13:

The Contractor is responsible for obtaining the relevant aerial photographs and in defraying the costs.

Q12:

In Annex A article 5.2, it says “the process of revising the first version of the follow-up program will take approximately four months” and that “the Contractor must submit the revised work program in an electronic version to the INFC Project Authority within five business days”. Would it be possible to revise these deadlines to the following: 3 months for the program revision period and 15 working days for the delivery of the revised program?

A12:

Given the anticipated start date of the Work and that of the monitoring activities, likewise with implications of two other government departments in the revision of the work plan, the conditions in Annex A – Statement of Work remain as is. It should be noted that the Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO) requires 90 days for the program revision period.

Q11:

To help determine accurate costing of additional meetings (Annex B article 1.2.2.e), are we correct in assuming they are held online or via videoconference due to the corona virus?

A11:

That is correct. Meetings will be held online, that is, via videoconference.

Q10:

Can the permanent landmarks be installed on the completed structures to facilitate the taking of photographs? (Annex A articles 5.3.2 and 5.3.3)

A10:

It is possible to install landmarks on the completed structures, but their nature and their position must be discussed with the INFC Project Authority and the guardian department of the National Wildlife Reserve (NWR) of the Îles-de-la-Paix as well as Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC). They cannot guarantee acceptance of such a measure with knowing the details of the landmark type proposed.

Q9:

Given the bid closure date, it seems that the preliminary version of the work plan, due on December 21, 2020 (Annex A article 7.0), is very close to potential contract award as well as the first kickoff meeting. Can the date for the preliminary work plan be postponed to early 2021?

A9:

The deadline for submitting the draft version of the work plan for year 1 is hereby changed to January 15, 2021.

Q8:

Annex A article 5.3.4.3 states “In all cases, this plan and these methods must make it possible to obtain data comparable to the data from the 2017 survey (Hémisphères, 2017), as well as the data obtained for each previous follow-up year”. However, fishing was used well before mid-August during this study, thereby making it difficult to see how objectives of the study can be met when documenting the use of the works built strictly by visual observations before mid-August. Are we correct with the understanding that, given these restrictions, egg collecting cannot be used during reproduction periods and only visual observations are permitted? We also understand that no fishing gear, even non-lethal, cannot be used before mid-August.

A8:

No fishing may be undertaken before mid-August. The comparison with data from the Hemisphere (2017) study must take this restriction into account. That said, it is possible to use egg collecting during reproduction periods.

Q7:

In regards to Annex A article 4.2, the following is stated, “The Contractor must demonstrate the creation or not of these functions through direct observations, inferences, comparisons with similar environments, etc.” If a Bidder conducts an inventory in an undeveloped area in order to qualitatively compare the resulting concerning the functions created by installations yet another Bidder does not conduct such an inventory, there will be repercussions on costs as well as points received. Will any technical points be attributed to compensating for this cost?

A7:

It is not expected that the Contractor conduct any inventories in any environments other than those mentioned in Annex A – Statement of Work. The comparison with similar environments is only one example of an approach that the Contractor could take in order to show the creation or not of functions that Infrastructure Canada (INFC) is looking to create. It is expected that such a comparison, case depending, would be done with the study reports or the data available in the literature, for example.

Q6:

Would we be correct in saying that the authorised number of pages excluding the CVs for Bidders are: 2 pages for the Director; 2 pages for the Project Lead; 2 pages for the rest of the team; 10 pages for the description of the work, approach, scheduling, org chart, and the support team; and 3 pages for the company’s expertise? This would result in 19 pages excluding CVs, correct?

A6:

The maximum number of pages for each technical criteria is correct. The technical bid could effectively include a maximum of 19 pages excluding CVs so long as the maximum number of pages for each criterion is respected. Pages in excess of the maximum number of pages for each criterion will not be considered in the technical bid evaluation.

Q5:

May the CVs for the proposed team of professionals be attached to the technical bid or are only the CVs of the Director and Project Lead required?

A5:

The CVs of the proposed team members can be included as attachments to the technical bid.

Q4:

In order to determine the costs for meetings involving the Director and Project Lead, are those meetings to be held online or via videoconference due to the corona virus?

A4:

Yes. As indicated in article 5.1 of Annex A – Statement of Work, meeting are expected to be held online. This means meetings will be held via videoconferencing.

Q3:

May Infrastructure Canada provide the most recent orthophotos?

A3 :

No, Infrastructure Canada will not provide orthophotos. Bidders must forecast the costs of various tools they will use to carry of the Work in the firm prices in their financial bids.

Q2:

In order to properly plan out the required surveys, is it possible:

- a) To know by which method the bathymetric surveys were done, both before and after the arrangements were made?

- b) To obtain the bank survey carried out before and after the construction was done?
- c) If not, to at least obtain a cross section of the site in order to see the natural terrain elevations, dikes, and other works?

A2:

Bathymetric surveys were carried out during the work using a single-beam echosounder with transects two meters apart perpendicular to the shore. A few secondary lines parallel to the shore were followed to validate the accuracy of the survey. For breakwaters, data from hydraulic excavators equipped with a positioning system operating with RTK GPS are used for as-built plans. This method was also used for beach recharging by combining it with the bathymetric survey and with a topometric survey.

During the Groupe Hémisphère (2017) study, only one bank survey was carried out. The methodology used for that bank survey is describe in section 2.8 and the results are shown in figure 7 of annexe II of the report.

As-built plans are not available at this time. The plans for construction with cross sections of the structures are attached to this amendment. Although the beach nourishment structures have undergone modifications due to the banks shape and the obstacles encountered, the elevation of the structures and the slopes have not been significantly modified.

Q1:

Can a project done by a sub-contractor be included for the mandatory and point-rated corporate criteria MC-4 and PRC-4?

A1:

A subcontractor's project may be presented for the mandatory corporate/rated criteria MC-4/PRC-4 as long as the Bidder demonstrates that this project was carried out in whole or in part by one or more members of the team proposed by the Bidder. For this purpose, the Bidder must ensure that the key resource(s) who participated in the realization of said project are (a) identified in the description for criteria MC-4 and PRC-4 and (b) at least one of these resources is included in the team proposed by the Bidder for at least one of the mandatory technical criteria.

ALL OTHER TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THIS BID SOLICITATION REMAIN UNCHANGED

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