

Title: Installation and decommissioning of telemetry receiver stations in the Maritime Provinces

Advance Contract Award Notice (ACAN)

An ACAN is a public notice indicating to the supplier community that a department or agency intends to award a contract for goods, services or construction to a pre-identified supplier, thereby allowing other suppliers to signal their interest in bidding, by submitting a statement of capabilities. If no supplier submits, a statement of capabilities that meets the requirements set out in the ACAN, on or before the closing date stated in the ACAN, the contracting officer may then proceed with the award to the pre-identified supplier.

Definition of the requirement

The Department of the Environment, represented by Environment and Climate Change Canada has a requirement to install, assess and decommission telemetry receiver stations across Maritime Provinces, which will be linked to the Motus Wildlife Tracking System (Motus). The Motus Wildlife Tracking System (Motus) is an international collaborative research network that uses coordinated automated radio telemetry to facilitate research and education on the ecology and conservation of migratory animals. Researchers fit small lightweight radio-transmitters on animals such as birds, bats and large insects, and their signal is detected by receivers scattered around the landscape. The data from these receivers is then filtered, analysed, archived, and disseminated to all researchers and organizations in the network by the data custodian (Birds Canada). Each tag emits a unique signature so researchers can determine where animals go, how fast they transit between points (migration ecology), and how long they stay in an area (stopover ecology), and many other aspects of their behavior and conservation. The purpose of Motus is to facilitate landscape-scale research and education on the ecology and conservation of migratory animals.

The work will involve the following:

1. Gather necessary wildlife telemetry receiver station components (antennae, tripods, masts, guy wires, solar panels, batteries, coax cables, totes and rebar) and receivers (Sensorgnomes) from ECCC's Canadian Wildlife Service (CWS) office in Sackville, New Brunswick (17 Waterfowl Lane, Sackville, NB E4L 1G6),
2. Deploy the automated wildlife telemetry receiver stations at the sites specified in Table 1 (ECCC will provide a detailed description of the selected locations, contact information for land-owners, and suggested orientation of receiver station antennae) unless directed to alternate sites by ECCC,
3. Collect the following information for each deployed wildlife telemetry receiver station and enter deployment data online on the Motus Wildlife Tracking System database (instructions will be provided):
 - a. Name of site and geo-coordinates of tower;
 - b. Bearing, height and port connection of each antenna;
 - c. Sensorgnome Receiver ID (SG-#####XX#####);
 - d. Deployment date and time;
 - e. Battery voltage reading;
 - f. Problems with the installation or the location (if any) + site details;
 - g. Other points of interest or concern;
4. Activate all Sensorgnome receivers following accepted Motus receiver station and solar power system set-up procedures;

5. Decommission all wildlife telemetry receiver stations listed in Table 1 and remove all infrastructure from all sites by 30 November of each year;
6. Collect the following information for each decommissioned wildlife telemetry receiver station and enter decommissioning data online on the Motus Wildlife Tracking System database (instructions will be provided):
 - a. Name of site and geo-coordinates of tower;
 - b. Bearing, height and port connection of each antenna;
 - c. Sensorgnome Receiver ID (SG-####XX#####);
 - d. Decommissioning date and time;
 - e. Battery voltage reading;
 - f. Problems with the decommissioning (if any); and,
 - g. Other points of interest or concern (theft, vandalism, damage by wildlife or other, etc.);

And,

7. Return all wildlife telemetry receiver station components (tripods, masts, guy wires, solar panels, batteries, coax cables, totes and rebar) and receivers (Sensorgnomes) to Environment Canada's Canadian Wildlife Service office in Sackville, New Brunswick (17 Waterfowl Lane, Sackville, NB E4L 1G6) by December 15th, yearly.

Table 1. List of locations to install telemetry receiver stations

Province	County	Site name	Latitude	Longitude
New Brunswick	Westmorland	Baie Verte	TBD	TBD
New Brunswick	Westmorland	Tintamarre	TBD	TBD
New Brunswick	Westmorland	Johnson's Point II	TBD	TBD
New Brunswick	Westmorland	Johnson's Point I	TBD	TBD
New Brunswick	Westmorland	Barachois (Cap Bimet)	TBD	TBD
Nova Scotia	Pictou	Big Island (Merigomish)	TBD	TBD
Nova Scotia	Cumberland	Linden	TBD	TBD
Nova Scotia	Cumberland	Pugwash	TBD	TBD
Nova Scotia	Colchester	Brule Point	TBD	TBD
Nova Scotia	Antigonish	Cape George	TBD	TBD
PEI	Prince	Salutation Cove	TBD	TBD

Criteria for assessment of the Statement of Capabilities (Minimum Essential Requirements)

Any interested supplier must demonstrate by way of a statement of capabilities that it meets the following requirements:

1. Extensive experience (at least 10 years), knowledge and understanding of Motus methods of tracking including a demonstration the following:
 - access to Motus tracking networks;
 - knowledge of the Motus wildlife tracking system and online receiver data entry procedures to properly log receiver and tower data in the Motus online system and ensure proper tracking of tagged wildlife (improves data quality) ability to enter data to the Motus wildlife tracking system.
2. Demonstrated understanding of what makes a receiver station site function operationally, including a demonstration of the following:
 - micro-siting and adapting receiver installations to local conditions in order to optimize receiver function and safety from environmental conditions improving data collection and reduce equipment losses;
 - understanding of the technical aspects of receiver tower installation that allows them to troubleshoot installation issues independently and efficiently to ensure properly functioning receiver stations without needing ECCC involvement or oversight;

Applicability of the trade agreement(s) to the procurement

This procurement is NOT subject to trade agreement(s):

Set-aside under the Procurement Strategy for Aboriginal Business

This procurement is NOT set-aside for an Aboriginal supplier in accordance with the government Procurement Strategy for Aboriginal Business (PSAB).

Comprehensive Land Claims Agreement(s)

This procurement is NOT subject to Comprehensive Land Claims Agreement.

Justification for the Pre-Identified Supplier

The pre-identified supplier maintains ownership of the Motus tracking system, are the original developer of the MOTUS tracking methodology and best practices in site management. Previous competitive solicitations for this work this pre-identified supplier was the sole bidder.

Government Contracts Regulations Exception(s)

The following exception(s) to the Government Contracts Regulations is (are) invoked for this procurement under *subsection 6(d) where only one person is capable of performing the work.*

Ownership of Intellectual Property

Ownership of any Foreground Intellectual Property arising out of the proposed contract will vest in the Contractor.

Period of the proposed contract or delivery date

The proposed contract is for a period of 5 years, from Contract signing to December 31, 2026.

Cost estimate of the proposed contract

Travel costs have been included and are in accordance with Treasury Board Travel Directives.

The estimated value of the contract, including option(s), is approximately \$60,000.00 (taxes extra).

Name and address of the pre-identified supplier

Birds Canada
Motus Wildlife Tracking System
115 Front St.
PO Box 160
Port Rowan, ON, N0E 1M0

Suppliers' right to submit a statement of capabilities

Suppliers who consider themselves fully qualified and available to provide the goods, services or construction services described in the ACAN may submit a statement of capabilities in writing to the contact person identified in this notice on or before the closing date of this notice. The statement of capabilities must clearly demonstrate how the supplier meets the advertised requirements.

Closing date for a submission of a statement of capabilities

The closing date and time for accepting statements of capabilities is August 12, 2021 at 2:00 pm Atlantic Daylight Time (ADT).

Inquiries

Inquiries must be sent to contact shown below, at least two (2) days prior to closing date:

Procurement Authority

Tim Pelletier
Senior Procurement Officer
Environment and Climate Change Canada
Telephone: 902-920-4479
Email is preferred method: timothy.pelletier@ec.gc.ca

Submissions

Statements of capabilities are to be sent to ec.soumissions-bids.ec@ec.gc.ca