Wild Horse and Burro Off-Range Corral and Pasture Contracting

Informational Webinar January 24, 2024

NATIONAL SYSTEM OF PUBLIC LANDS U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT





Agenda

- Panelist Introductions
- Mission and Goals
- Off-Range Pastures
- Off-Range Corrals
- Acquisitions (Contracting) Overview
- Questions





Panelists

Webinar Host: Jason Lutterman, Public Affairs Specialist

Panelists:

Lisa Turner, HQ Acquisitions WH&B Team Lead and Contracting Officer

Rob Sharp, HQ Wild Horse and Burro Specialist

Paul McGuire, HQ Deputy Division Chief, Off-Range



Mission and Goals

- The BLM manages wild horses and burros as part of a "thriving natural ecological balance on public lands" as envisioned by the Wild Free-Roaming Horses and Burros Act.
- To this end, the BLM periodically removes excess animals from public rangelands to maintain healthy herds on healthy lands.
- Off-range pastures and corrals provide necessary capacity to receive animals from the range, prepare and offer them for adoption, and care for unadopted and unsold animals.





Off-Range Pasture Requirements

The BLM is seeking services to pasture horses in the following 13 states: Colorado, Idaho, Kansas, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Oregon, South Dakota, Utah, Washington (east of the Cascade Mountains), and Wyoming to:

- Provide year-round care for 200 10,000 excess wild horses for a 5- or 10-year performance period.
- Provide a pasture environment to allow free-roaming behavior and minimize animal handling by humans.
- Care for horses on private land owned or controlled by the contractor for the life of the contract (federal land must be excluded)





Off-Range Pasture Contractor Responsibilities

Provide all land, forage/mineral, water, equipment, labor, and infrastructure necessary to maintain horses in good condition (Henneke Body Condition Score of 4 or better).

Pasture Requirements:

- Sufficient forage to sustain horses for at least 8 months.
- Supplemental feed (e.g. hay or cubes) to sustain horses during periods of dormancy, environmental extremes, and when holding horses in corral/acclimation pens.
- Sufficient rock to promote natural hoof wear.
- Adequate shelter from the elements.
- No excess tree or shrub cover to enable accurate inventory.
- Free of unfenced hazards (e.g. major roads, debris).
- Horses shall be maintained on offered lands.
- Continuous access to clean water, at all times.





Off-Range Pasture Contractor Responsibilities

Facility Requirements:

- Adequate corral facility and loading chute for loading/unloading, sorting, holding, and working groups of horses (6' high, constructed of stout materials).
- Small pastures or drylots attached to corrals for acclimating newly arrived horses as well as holding horses prior to shipping.
- Perimeter and interior pasture fences minimum of 48" tall, four strand, barbed wire.
- Continuous supply of clean water available to all horses, at all times.





Off-Range Pasture Contractor Responsibilities

Management & Monitoring Requirements:

- Oversight by individuals knowledgeable with livestock management, equine behavior and nutritional requirements, and grazing management for sustained forage production.
- At least weekly observation of animals to observe body condition, injuries, deaths, and forage/water conditions.
- Maintain a monthly inventory of horses on pasture to submit with invoices.
- Provide personnel and equipment in response to emergency situations (e.g. fire, extreme weather events).





Off-Range Pasture Proposal Evaluation





Off-Range Corral Requirements

The BLM is seeking proposals for Off-Range Corrals:

- Receive, prepare and maintain excess wild horses and burros removed from western rangelands.
- Enable opportunities for the public to view and/or adopt or purchase animals in holding.
- Provide training services to enhance the adoptability of excess animals (optional).
- Facilitate shipment of excess animals to Off-Range Pasture facilities.





Off-Range Corral Requirements

Exact services to be provided and min/max capacities may vary by target region and will be specified in the solicitation and task orders.

All facilities must comply with the BLM's Comprehensive Animal Welfare Program (CAWP) in regards to design and care, treatment and handling procedures.

Animals must be maintained in suitable body condition (typically BCS 4 on the Henneke scale) as determined by the Contracting Officers Representative (COR).



Off-Range Corral Requirements

CAWP Standards include (but are not limited to):

- Adequate space for animals to move freely and rest in dry areas within enclosures.
- Sufficient number of pens to sort animals.
- Fences, gates, alleys, tubs, and working chutes constructed of stout materials and maintained in proper working condition to reduce risk of injury to animals.
- Fences in pens, alleys and working chute systems must be at least 6 feet high for horses, 5 feet high for burros (bottom rail not be more than 12 inches from the ground).
- Ground surfaces must be maintained to promote drainage and allow for routine manure removal.
- Watering systems must provide unlimited access to clean water at all times.
- Feeding areas must be accessible to all animals.





Agenda-Acquisitions

- Tentative Plan for Calendar Year 2024
- Request for Proposal Process
- Summary of SAM Requirements
- Questions





Tentative Plan for Calendar Year 2024

- RFP No. 140L0123R0005 for WHBP Off Range Corral (ORC) Support Services: February 2024
- RFP No. 140L0123R0007 for WHBP Off Range Pasture (ORP) in the Western States: Spring 2024
- RFP No. TBD for WHBP ORC Support Services: Winter 2024



Acquisition for services/supplies via

Solicitation/Procurement

Code of Federal Regulations (C.F.R) Title No. 48, Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR), DIAR, BLM

Direct BLM Benefit

Purchase/Lease/Barter of property/supplies or services

RFQ, RFP, or IFB posted at SAM.gov

Awardee is a Contractor of BLM Contract

Financial Assistance

Code of Federal Regulations (C.F.R) Title No. 2

Direct Public Benefit

Transfer anything of value to a Recipient to accomplish a public purpose

Program Announcement, Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO), Research Announcement etc.

Awardee is a Recipient of BLM Cooperative Agreement



Request for Proposal (RFP) Milestones

Sources Sought Notice (SSN)

- FAR 5.201, open approximately 5-15 days
- Use in Market Research

Pre-Solicitation Notice /Synopsizing

- FAR 5.203 and 5.204
- Publicize at least 15 days before issuance of a solicitation

Solicitation

• <u>FAR 5.204</u> open for approximately 30-60 days

Award

• Award Notice FAR 5.303.



Request for Proposal (RFP) Format

Part I-The Schedule

• Sections A through H

Part II-Contract Clauses

• Section I

Part III-List of Documents, Exhibits, and Other Attachments

• Section J

Part IV – Representations and Instructions

• Sections K through M



Request for Proposal (RFP) Critical Items

Section B
Section K & L
Section M
Performance Work Statement (PWS) & Performance Requirements Summary (PRS)

RFP General Info

Best and Final Offer (BAFO)

- No additional opportunities to sharpen your pencil
- Offer stands as submitted
- Actions which maybe considered as a non-responsive Offeror:
 - IF RFP states no exclusions to be included in Proposal, then don't include exclusions.
 - If Offeror doesn't provide pricing for each line item in Schedule B.

Miscellaneous

- ALL Questions during solicitation to be posted in Amendment.
- Page Numbers, margins, etc.
- Pricing shall be provided in format as required in Section /Schedule B. Offerors maybe required to provide additional
- Options



Registering with SAM

The System for Award Management (SAM) is a government-wide registry for vendors doing business with the Federal government, and SAM registration requires annual renewal. SAM centralizes information about vendors and provides a central location for awardees/contractors to change organizational information. Federal Government uses SAM to establish roles and IDs for electronic Offerors.

Once the SAM Registration is complete, you must return to SAM.gov to review and apply to individual solicitations.

How to Register with SAM

- Visit the System for Award Management website at http://www.sam.gov/.
- Follow SAM's online instructions in their Help tab to create a user account and register or update your entity's SAM account.

Note: Once your SAM registration is active, you can return to SAM.gov to review and apply to announcements. It takes 24 hours for SAM Registration to activate after SAM has received all required information from registrants. SAM registration must be renewed annually. If you are updating or renewing your registration, it takes approximately 24 hours to activate.

Live Q&A

Panelists:

Lisa Turner, HQ Acquisitions WH&B Team Lead and Contracting Officer Rob Sharp, HQ Wild Horse and Burro Specialist Paul McGuire, Deputy Division Chief for Off-Range

Visit BLM.gov/WHB/FundingOpportunities for more information.

Additional programmatic questions can be submitted to <u>wildhorse@blm.gov</u> with the subject "Off-Range Corral/Pasture Contracting"