

TEXAS PARKS AND WILDLIFE

Texas Parks and Wildlife Department
Purchasing and Contracting C-1
4200 Smith School Road
Austin, Texas 78744

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

RFP No. 802-25-56743

Blanket Contracts for Herbicide Application Services

NIGP Class/Items: 988-89

RFP Issue Date:	June 24, 2025
Questions Due:	July 7, 2025; 2:00 PM CT
Proposal Due Date:	July 17, 2025; 2:00 PM CT

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ATTENTION: It is the responsibility of interested parties to periodically check the Electronic State Business Daily (ESBD) website for updates to this solicitation prior to submitting a response. The Respondent's failure to periodically check the ESBD will in no way release the selected contractor from "addenda or additional information" resulting in additional cost to meet the requirements of the RFP.

Table of Contents

SECTION I – GENERAL INFORMATION AND STATEMENT OF WORK.....	4
1. Introduction.....	4
2. Background.....	4
3. Solicitation Method And Intent.....	4
4. Contract Term	4
5. Qualifications And Experience.....	5
6. Scope Of Work And Specifications	6
7. Targeted Plants And Potential Control Agents	9
8. Description Of Services & Award Of Individual Projects.....	9
9. Future Services And Project Volume	10
10. Contractor Requirements	10
11. TPWD Responsibilities	11
12. Performance Measures	11
13. Adding New Products/Services To Contract After Award	11
14. Modifications Of Contract Terms And/Or Amendments	12
15. Price Adjustments	12
16. Insurance.....	12
17. Subcontracting	13
18. Contract Administration	13
19. Invoicing And Payment.....	13
SECTION II – PROPOSAL REQUIREMENTS	15
1. Schedule of Events.....	15
2. Inquiries	15

3.	Proposal Content	16
4.	Proposal Submission	16
5.	Delivery of Proposals	17
6.	Evaluation and Award	17
SECTION III – GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS		19
EXHIBIT A – EXECUTION OF PROPOSAL		37
EXHIBIT B – PRICE SHEET		39
EXHIBIT C – COMPANY PROFILE		41
EXHIBIT D – KEY PERSONNEL		43
EXHIBIT E – PAST PROJECTS WITH CORRESPONDING REFERENCES		44
EXHIBIT F – EQUIPMENT LIST		46
EXHIBIT G – TECHNICAL PROPOSAL.....		47
EXHIBIT H – RESPONSE SUBMISSION CHECKLIST		48
ATTACHMENT 1 – SAMPLE SPECIFICATIONS FOR INDIVIDUAL PROJECTS		49
ATTACHMENT 2 – SERVICE AREA / ZONE MAP		50

SECTION I – GENERAL INFORMATION AND STATEMENT OF WORK

1. INTRODUCTION

Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) is seeking proposals to establish a blanket contract(s) for herbicide application services using tractor and hand spraying methods for the treatment and control of targeted nuisance vegetation at TPWD sites throughout Texas on an as-needed basis, in accordance with the following statement of work and terms and conditions. *TPWD reserves the right to furnish the herbicides and surfactants for individual projects or require the vendor to provide the products for reimbursement.*

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1. TPWD is responsible for managing fish and wildlife resources in the state of Texas and manages and takes measures to control nuisance vegetation in selected areas where these plants affect the quality of habitat for fish and wildlife.
- 2.2. TPWD routinely focuses on strands of plants that directly affect rangeland and forest health. TPWD's State Parks Division focuses primarily on invasive woody species invading native prairies and/or understory of forested communities.
- 2.3. Invasive species such as Honey Mesquite, Black Locust, Yaupon, Sweet Gum, American Beauty Berry, Prickly Pear, Shin Oak, Baccharis and Salt Cedar are some common nuisance vegetation that damage the ecosystem by displacing other native plants that provide food and habitat for wildlife.

3. SOLICITATION METHOD AND INTENT

- 3.1. The Request for Proposal (RFP) solicitation method allows respondents to submit a written proposal addressing pricing, qualifications, experience, location, availability, approach and other factors that will be employed to ensure successful accomplishment of the requirements set forth herein. TPWD will review, compare and evaluate responses based on the criteria identified in this RFP.

It is TPWD's intent to establish a Blanket Contract(s) to multiple Contractors as a result of this solicitation, to ensure availability when projects are identified. See Section 6 Scope of Work and Specifications.
- 3.2. Respondents may submit responses to meet contract requirements in the State Park Region and are NOT required to service all of Texas. Availability to service designed State Park Regions should be identified in their bid response.
- 3.3. **Projects:** Unless this RFP states otherwise, the resulting contract(s) awarded does not guarantee volume of projects or commitment of funds. Projects will be awarded as the need is identified and the number of projects will vary amongst regions

4. CONTRACT TERM

- 4.1. **Initial Contract Term:** The contract shall commence on Date of Award and continue through August 31, 2027 unless sooner terminated under the terms of the contract.
- 4.2. **Renewal Option:** Contract may be renewed for up to three (3) additional one (1) year periods, provided both parties agree in writing prior to the contract expiration date. Any extensions shall be in accordance with the original terms and conditions plus any approved changes.

- 4.3. **Contract Extensions:** In the event that the contract(s), if any, resulting from the award of this RFP shall terminate or be likely to terminate prior to the making of an award for a new contract for the identified products and/or services, TPWD may, with the written consent of the awarded supplier(s), extend the contract for a period of time as may be necessary to permit TPWD continued supply of the identified products and/or services (not to exceed twelve month extension period). Any extensions shall be under the same terms and conditions, plus any approved changes.
- 4.4. **Amendments:** The contract may be amended in writing by mutual consent of the parties.
- 4.5. **Extension Period Pricing:** A price escalation may be allowed upon renewal provided the vendor notifies TPWD Contracting Section, in writing. The price escalation shall correlate with an appropriate U.S. government published index. Baseline index shall be the index published in the month of award. Prices may be adjusted for each renewal period in accordance with changes in index over the preceding term. Failure to comply with these instructions may be grounds for disallowance of a price escalation as allowed herein.
- 4.6. **Price Decreases:** Price decreases will be allowed at any time. Contractor shall apply price decreases as soon as practicable following their determination. Any price reductions passed on to other customers shall be correspondingly offered at the same ratio to TPWD. Contractor's failure to promptly notify TPWD of such industry-wide price decreases may constitute a breach of contract and the contract may be canceled. TPWD reserves the right to award any canceled contract to the next lowest responsive respondent or rebid, whichever is in TPWD's best interest.

5. QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE

- 5.1. **Respondent Minimum Qualifications and Experience:** Respondent (and awarded contractor) shall meet the following minimum qualifications:
- 5.1.1. Shall be engaged in the business of providing terrestrial application of herbicides and surfactants by hand and/or with a tractor or similar device and **must have a minimum of three (3) years of professional experience** providing such services. Recent start-up businesses do not meet the requirements of this solicitation. (A start-up business is defined as a new company that has no previous operations history or expertise in the relevant business and is not affiliated with a company that has that history of expertise.)
 - 5.1.2. Shall have completed a **minimum of three (3) projects within the last three (3) years**.
 - 5.1.3. Shall have a current Commercial Pesticide Applicator's License and must maintain active license throughout the term of any resulting contract. Vendors shall adhere to state laws regarding licensure including the requirement that at least one licensed individual remains on-site at all times. Proof of certification may be required on a project-by-project basis.
 - 5.1.4. Shall have available the necessary qualified personnel, skills, qualifications, organization, facilities, equipment and supplies required to fulfill all requirements under this RFP and any resulting contract.
 - 5.1.5. Shall have experience with projects similar in size and scope of the project described herein.
 - 5.1.6. Shall have experience treating vegetation in a targeted manner to reduce impacts on native species or water quality.
 - 5.1.7. Shall have experience treating the vegetation species to be targeted, with 85% or greater kill.

- 5.1.8. Shall be in good safety, litigation, and financial standing. TPWD reserves the right to request a copy of the respondent's audited or un-audited financial statement.

5.2. Authorization and Consent for Disclosure of Criminal History Information:

- 5.2.1. To enhance the safety and security of TPWD employees and visitors, TPWD is required to check the criminal history for anyone providing services on TPWD property or providing services on behalf of TPWD. Upon award, Contractor will have each personnel member (including sub-contractors, if any) who will be involved in the Contract complete an ***Authorization and Consent for Disclosure of Criminal History Information*** form.
- 5.2.2. TPWD will be responsible for running criminal background checks prior to any services being performed.
- 5.2.3. TPWD reserves the right to waive any findings that do not impact the successful completion of the project and/or safety of TPWD staff or that of the public. It is TPWD's sole discretion to determine potential impact or risk.

5.3. Key Personnel – Qualifications & Experience:

- 5.2.1. Knowledgeable in identifying vegetation species and the use of GPS units to document treated areas.
- 5.2.2. Experienced in the safe use, handling, storage and application of herbicides to terrestrial and/or aquatic systems and operation of necessary pump equipment, and any other necessary equipment. TPWD reserves the right to inspect and accept equipment prior to work commencing.
- 5.2.3. All persons applying chemicals must be licensed by the Texas Department of Agriculture or must work under the direct supervision of a person so certified and present on site.

- 5.4. **Supporting Documentation:** Respondent shall complete and submit [*Exhibit C – Company Profile, Exhibit D – Key Personnel, Exhibit E – Past Projects with Corresponding References, Exhibit F – Equipment List, and Exhibit G – Technical Proposal*](#) with proposal to provide documentation to support the above qualifications. (Ref: [*Section II, Subsection 3.3.*](#)) Upon request, Respondent shall provide additional documentation regarding their qualifications, ability and capability. TPWD will be the sole judge in determining the sufficiency of the respondent's resources and ability to perform the contract or provide the service.

6. SCOPE OF WORK AND SPECIFICATIONS

- 6.1. **Contractor shall provide:** All necessary labor, transportation, equipment, supplies (*excluding herbicides and surfactants when supplied by TPWD*), and any other need necessary or incidental to successfully complete the required service in accordance with specifications contained herein. Contractor is responsible for all costs incurred in the performance of the contract.
- 6.2. **Standards:** All work shall be performed and completed in a thorough, professional manner in accordance with best modern practice, regardless of any omissions from the attached specifications and/or maps.
- 6.3. **Service Schedule:** Contractor and TPWD shall mutually agree on service schedule (dates and hours) for each project. All work shall be performed in accordance with time schedules developed or approved by TPWD. All changes to work schedules must be approved in writing in advance by the authorized TPWD representative.

- 6.4. Multiple herbicide applications may be needed as conditions warrant, when plants are actively growing. The need for multiple treatments shall be determined on a by-project basis and shall be quoted along with the total cost of the individual project.
- 6.5. **Spray Equipment:** Contractor shall furnish suitable spray equipment as needed for the habitat type and the species targeted.
- 6.5.1. Injector type herbicide delivery systems, venturi-type mixing equipment, peristaltic pumps, and/or tank mixing of herbicides and surfactants will be acceptable.
- 6.5.2. Sprayer pumps may be injector or mixer type equipment. Boom mounted sprayers will be acceptable for use in most applications.
- 6.5.3. Weekly calibration of spray equipment shall be performed to ensure proper herbicide mixture delivery.
- 6.6. **Daily Spray Log:** Contractor(s) shall submit, to the designated TPWD staff, a daily spray log detailing each day's activities. This is required by Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA) and shall be completed daily. Area treated, time of treatment, weather at time of treatment, and chemicals used for the treatment shall be included in each daily spray log (**Ref. Attachment 3.**
- 6.7. **Compliance with Laws, Ordinances, Statutes, and Regulations:** Contractor shall adhere to the following:
- 6.7.1. Contractor shall comply with all laws, ordinances, statutes, and regulations pertaining to the services requested herein and the work performed, and shall obtain such permits, licenses or other authorizations as may be required. These requirements supplement these specifications and shall take precedence in case of conflict.
- 6.7.2. All applications will be conducted under regulations specified by the TDA including the use of all Personal Protection Equipment designated by the label of the herbicide being applied.
- 6.7.3. Agriculture Code Title 5, Chapter 76 defines the Laws and Regulations of using herbicide in the State of Texas.
- 6.8. **Contractor Identification:** Contractor shall post company signs clearly and visibly stating the awarded vendor's company name on all vehicles. All employees are required to carry personal identification on their person at all times.
- 6.9. **Environmental Protection:** Contractor and employees shall always be aware of environmental protection such as the following:
- 6.9.1. Contractor shall include proper care in handling and transporting herbicides and surfactants as well as minimizing damage to non-target vegetation and private property adjacent to the treatment site.
- 6.9.2. All herbicides and surfactants will be applied in strict accordance with the respective label. Contractor will be responsible for damage to any governmental or private facilities as a result of contractor's negligence.

6.10. **Safety:**

- 6.10.1. All applications shall be conducted according to standards and regulations established and enforced by the TDA.
- 6.10.2. Contractor shall ensure the safety of all personnel during spray operations, including the proper use of all Personal Protection Equipment and safe operation of all equipment.
- 6.10.3. Work areas and equipment will be maintained in a clean, neat, and orderly condition.
- 6.10.4. Contractor shall make every effort to ensure public safety, including the placement of warning signs, if so, specified on the herbicide label, at all areas being treated.
- 6.10.5. Contractor shall follow relevant safety rules and conduct the work in a safe manner, taking precautions necessary to protect person or property against injury or damage, and be responsible for such injury or damage.

- 6.11. **Drift Control:** Drift control of herbicides and surfactants will be a major concern during all applications. Every effort shall be made to minimize or prevent any potential damage to non-target vegetation or vegetation on private property adjacent to the treated areas. All applications of herbicides shall always be controlled to prevent drift onto agricultural, ornamental, and other non-target plants. No herbicide applications shall be made when and where drift may damage these plants.

- 6.12. **Spill Contingency Plan:** The Contractor shall have a spill contingency plan and have the plan on site in the event of an accidental herbicide spill. The plan must include an outline for the course of action, appropriate agencies to be contacted (contact persons and phone numbers), and the type and source of equipment needed for cleanup. **Submit a copy of the spill contingency plan with RFP response.** (Ref. [*Exhibit G – Technical Proposal.*](#)) **Failure to submit plan may result in proposal disqualification.**

- 6.13. **Responsibility:** TPWD shall assume no responsibility for the equipment nor for injury to employees of the Contractor, nor for damage or injury to persons or property of third parties at any time as a result of work performed under this contract. **THE CONTRACTOR SHALL HOLD AND SAVE THE STATE AND ITS OFFICERS AND AGENTS HARMLESS FROM ALL CLAIMS FOR PERSONAL INJURIES, PROPERTY DAMAGES, OR OTHER CLAIMS ARISING OUT OF THE PERFORMANCE OF THE WORK UNDER THIS CONTRACT.**

6.14. **Herbicides and Surfactants (Control Agents):**

- 6.14.1. Herbicides and surfactants may be furnished by TPWD for *some* individual projects. Alternatively, Contractor may be required to supply herbicides and/or surfactants for other individual projects (e.g., when TPWD is unable to obtain the required product(s) through an existing CPA Term Contract in a timely manner), and in such case TPWD will obtain a quote from the Contractor and will reimburse Contractor for the required products.
- 6.14.2. No substitution of herbicide or surfactants will be allowed without the permission of TPWD.
- 6.14.3. Contractors shall apply only those herbicides and surfactants (or equal) prescribed by TPWD.
- 6.14.4. All herbicides and surfactants shall be mixed and diluted with water at the application rate stipulated by TPWD in the scope of work for a specific project) and applied in strict accordance with manufacturer's product labeling.
- 6.14.5. Contractor shall be responsible for all transportation, loading, and mixing of herbicides and for proper disposal of any wastes and containers.

6.14.6. Contractor shall transport all herbicides in factory sealed, properly labeled containers. TPWD reserves the right to analyze container samples at any time to ensure product compliance.

6.14.7. All herbicides shall be used in strict compliance with all label use instructions and precautions and manufacturers material safety data sheets. Safety equipment and clothing shall be provided by the Contractor and used as necessary. **NON-COMPLIANCE BY THE CONTRACTOR WITH LABEL USE INSTRUCTIONS OR TO SAFETY REQUIREMENTS MAY RESULT IN TERMINATION OF THIS CONTRACT WITHOUT NOTICE.**

6.15. **Access to and Storage of TPWD-Supplied Control Agents:**

6.15.1. Herbicides and surfactants will be provided to the Contractor on an as-needed basis, when supplied by TPWD for an individual project. Access to herbicides and surfactants will be made available through TPWD personnel at any time with sufficient prior notification. Alternatively, TPWD may have products shipped directly to Contractor's facility for individual projects.

6.15.2. Herbicides and surfactants will be stored at a TPWD facility as designated by TPWD. Contractor shall have capability to store the herbicides and surfactants at a non-TPWD facility if needed for specific project(s). **For contracts of 100 hours or more, contractor shall provide storage for at least three standard 48 inches x 48 inches shipping pallets loaded to 60 inches high, unless specifically exempted by TPWD.**

6.15.3. Contractor shall be responsible for security of TPWD-provided herbicides and surfactants in their possession.

6.16. **Pre-Treatment and Post-Treatment Surveys:** In order for treatments to follow the statewide Texas Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (TPDES) Permit, Contractors must conduct both a pre-treatment survey (unless otherwise conducted by TPWD staff) and a post-treatment survey. **Cost associated with these surveys (if applicable) is to be included in Contractor's proposal for each individual project.**

6.17. **Herbicide Storage:**

16.17.1. **Vendor Supplied Herbicide:** For projects where the Scope of Work has indicated that the vendor shall supply the herbicides, the awarded vendor shall be responsible for the transportation of all herbicide products to and from the treatment site. Secure storage for vendor-owned products shall not be guaranteed unless specified in the project's Scope of Work. The vendor shall be responsible for the accurate tracking of the herbicide used for proper invoicing and payment.

16.17.1.1. TPWD shall not be responsible for any vendor owned herbicide left unsupervised during the performance of service or after project completion. Any herbicide left on-site at a TPWD facility shall become the property of TPWD. TPWD shall not be responsible for the transportation of reimbursement for any herbicide misplaced during the performance of service or after project completion.

16.17.2. **TPWD Supplied Herbicide:** For projects where the Scope of Work indicates that TPWD has agreed to supply the herbicides for a given project, TPWD shall furnish and store the products on-site at the TPWD facility. The vendor shall only use the necessary amount of herbicide required to complete the project. The estimated amount of herbicide required shall be agreed upon at the time of project award. Any herbicide remaining after the completion of the project shall remain the property of TPWD and shall remain on-site at the TPWD facility unless otherwise specified in writing by an authorized TPWD employee.

7. TARGETED PLANTS AND POTENTIAL CONTROL AGENTS

Below is a list of invasive vegetation / potential targeted plants with related potential control agents (herbicides and surfactants) to be used in the resulting contract(s). TPWD may add or delete targeted plants and/or control agents during the contract period. Targeted plants and control agents may vary by individual treatment site.

Respondents are encouraged to provide additional information on proposed methods and/or alternate chemicals for treatments plans in the Technical Proposal.

Targeted Vegetation	Control Agent(s)	Surfactant
Honey Mesquite	Aminopyralid + Clopyralid	Non-ionic Surfactant
Prickly Pear	Picloram, or Picloram + Fluroxypyr	Non-ionic Surfactant
Yaupon	Triclopyr	Non-ionic Surfactant
American Beauty Berry	Imazapyr	Non-ionic Surfactant
Sweetgum	Triclopyr	Non-ionic Surfactant
Cedar Elm	Triclopyr	Non-ionic Surfactant
White Brush	Picloram	Non-ionic Surfactant
Red Bay	Triclopyr	Non-ionic Surfactant

8. DESCRIPTION OF SERVICES AND AWARD OF INDIVIDUAL PROJECTS

- 8.1. TPWD will determine which, if any, areas require treatment, exact location and approximate area and percent cover of targeted vegetation.
 - 8.1.1. As specific projects are identified , TPWD will develop a project Scope of Work and select a contractor for each project by one of the following methods: (a) select Contractor from based on experience, location, or availability for the designated treatment area as determined to be in the best interest of TPWD , or; (b) request project quote from one or more awarded Contractor(s) for a specific project. Each project will be awarded to the Contractor determined to provide best value to TPWD. It is TPWD's sole discretion to determine best value.
 - 8.1.2. Contractor(s) may, in some cases, be required to conduct site inspection prior to submitting quote for a specific project to confirm they are capable of meeting TPWD objectives and able to avoid non-target vegetation.
 - 8.1.3. If TPWD determines that Contractor must furnish herbicide/surfactant for a specific project, Contractor shall furnish quote for such products with their response submission for the specific project.
 - 8.1.4. TPWD will issue a detailed work order for each assigned project to the selected Contractor(s), to include the following documentation:
 1. Purchase Order
 2. Map(s) showing areas to be treated

3. Project Scope of Work (Refer to *Attachment 1* for sample Scope of Work, also referred to as Prescribed Control Specification for Individual Treatment Site.)

- 8.1.5. The size, scale, and volume of individual contracts issued to a contractor will vary depending on agency needs, availability of funding and project schedule.
- 8.1.6. TPWD intends to use the awarded contractors, while reserving the right to obtain service from other sources.

9. FUTURE SERVICES AND PROJECT VOLUME

- 9.1. Climate, biological controls present in the environment, and other varying factors affect invasive vegetation growth, and thus the amount of service needed to control such vegetation may vary each year, making it difficult to predict future quantities and treatment locations.
- 9.2. Any quantities specified herein shall not be construed as a minimum or a maximum quantity that TPWD may order. The resulting contract award does not guarantee volume or a commitment of funds.

10. CONTRACTOR REQUIREMENTS

- 10.1. Contractor agrees to conduct all its services under the awarded contract by and through appropriate communications with TPWD. No work, installation or other services shall be undertaken by Contractor except with the prior written authorization by TPWD. Contractor understands and agrees that work, installation or other service performed without prior written authorization of the TPWD is work outside the scope of this contract and shall be performed exclusively at Contractor's risk.
- 10.2. Contractor shall provide service in accordance with requirements specified herein and the resulting contract(s) and adhere to the TPWD Terms and Conditions.
- 10.3. Contractor shall provide all labor, materials and equipment necessary to meet requirements of the specified services throughout the term of the contract.
- 10.4. Contractor is responsible for all costs incurred in the performance of the contract.
- 10.5. Contractor shall comply with all laws, ordinances, statutes and regulations pertaining to the services requested herein, and shall obtain such permits, licenses or other authorizations as may be required.
- 10.6. Contractor shall follow relevant safety rules and conduct the work in a safe manner.

11. TPWD RESPONSIBILITIES

- 11.1. TPWD will designate a Contract and Project Manager upon contract award.
- 11.2. TPWD will furnish no material, labor, equipment, or facilities unless otherwise provided in this contract. (TPWD may furnish herbicides and surfactants for some individual projects.)
- 11.3. TPWD will inspect and accept services in accordance with Section III General Terms and Conditions, Subsection 7 Inspection of Services. Should TPWD determine services performed do not conform with the contract requirements based upon manufacturer written instruction for type of herbicide applied and/or produce 85% effectiveness control of target species, TPWD will provide written notice to Contractor, advising them to correct the issue within a specified timeline (e.g., two weeks from written notice).

12. PERFORMANCE MEASURES

- 12.1. Contractor will be responsible for the performance of any contractual obligations that may result from an award based on this RFP and shall not be relieved due to non-performance of any or all subcontractor(s). By submitting a proposal, the Respondent commits to providing the goods and services required in the RFP. The successful Respondent(s) will be required to abide by TPWD policies, procedures, standards and guidelines relevant to the execution of this contract.
- 12.2. TPWD will measure and evaluate the Contractor's and/or subcontractor's performance under the contract. If the Contractor or subcontractor does not meet any standards for deliverables and/or performance incentives (if applicable), TPWD may impose remedies if the Contractor or subcontractor(s) fails to meet their responsibilities as outlined in the RFP and the terms and conditions of the contract. All services and deliverables under the contract shall be provided at an acceptable quality level and in a manner consistent with acceptable industry standards, customs, and practices. In the event TPWD deems that the Contractor's performance does not meet an acceptable quality level of service and deliverables, TPWD may seek or negotiate remedies with the Contractor.
- 12.3. The Contractor shall make the necessary corrections and revisions to the satisfaction of TPWD. These corrections and revisions shall be made at the Contractor's expense. TPWD may at its discretion withhold final payment until all errors are corrected.

13. ADDING NEW PRODUCTS/SERVICES TO CONTRACT AFTER AWARD

Following the contract award, additional products/services of the same general category that could have been encompassed in the award of this contract, and that are not already on the contract, may be added. A formal written request will be sent to successful respondent to quote on the proposed additional products/services. Respondent shall submit proposals to TPWD as instructed. All prices are subject to negotiation with the Best and Final Offer ("BAFO"). TPWD may accept or reject any or all proposals and may issue a separate solicitation for the products/services after rejecting some or all of the responses. The products/services covered under this provision shall conform to the specifications as outlined in the request.

14. MODIFICATIONS OF CONTRACT TERMS AND/OR AMENDMENTS

- 14.1. The terms and conditions of the Contract shall govern all transactions under the Contract.
- 14.2. The Contract may only be modified or amended upon mutual written agreement of TPWD Purchaser(s) and the Contractor.
- 14.3. Terms and conditions that do not conflict with the Contract and are acceptable to the Contractor(s) may be added in a Purchase Order and given effect. No additional term or condition added in a Purchase Order can conflict with or diminish a term or condition of the Contract. In the event of a conflict between Purchase Order and the Contract, the Contract term shall control.

15. INSURANCE

- 15.1. Contractor shall procure and maintain during the entire period of their performance under this contract the following minimum insurance.

Type of Insurance	Each Occurrence/Aggregate
Workers Compensation	STATUTORY LIMITS

Employer's Liability Bodily Injury by Accident Bodily Injury by Disease Bodily Injury by Disease	\$1,000,000 Ea. Accident \$1,000,000 Ea. Employee \$1,000,000 Policy Limit
Commercial General Liability General Aggregate Applies Per Project	\$2,000,000 Aggregate \$5,000 Medical Expense each person \$50,000 Damage to Premises Rented to You \$2,000,000 Products Completed Operations \$1,000,000 Personal & Advertising Liability \$1,000,000 Each Occurrence
Automobile Liability All Owned, Hired and Non-Owned Vehicles Pesticide/Herbicide Applicator Coverage	\$1,000,000 Combined Single Limit Endorsement containing wording equivalent to CG 01 56 (Note: CG 01 56 is a copyrighted insurance form published by the Insurance Services Office, related to pesticide or herbicide applicator coverage.)

- 15.2. Policy must contain an additional insured endorsement: *The State of Texas, acting through Texas Parks and Wildlife Department and its officers and employees, is listed as an additional insured and loss payee.*
- 15.3. The required coverage is to be with companies licensed in the state of Texas, with an "A" rating from A.M. Best, and authorized to provide the corresponding coverage.
- 15.4. Prior to the commencement of the job and not later than ten (10) days following award, the Contractor shall furnish to TPWD, for approval, a certificate of insurance as proof that the required insurance is in full force and effect. The certificate of insurance shall be sent to: Allye Potter / Purchasing & Contracting, Texas Parks & Wildlife Department, 4200 Smith School Road, Austin, Texas 78744; purchasing.bidbox@tpwd.texas.gov or may be faxed to 512-389-4677.

16. SUBCONTRACTING

Refer to Section III – General Terms and Conditions, Paragraph 56 – Subcontractors.

17. CONTRACT ADMINISTRATION

TPWD will maintain on-going review and status of Contractor's progress toward completion of services and will certify whether contractor's billings are reasonably comparable with the work completed. Payment(s) will not be made until all work has been reviewed and accepted by TPWD.

Administration of the contract is a joint responsibility of TPWD State Parks Division and the TPWD Purchasing & Contracting Branch. TPWD purchasing staff will be responsible for administering the contractual business relationship with the contractor. Upon issuance of contract, TPWD will designate an individual who will serve as the contract manager and point-of-contact between the agency and the contractor. The contract manager does not have any express or implied authority to vary the terms of the contract, amend the contract in any way or waive strict performance of the terms or conditions of the contract. This individual's contract management and contract administration responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

- 17.1. Monitoring the contractor's progress and performance and ensuring services conform to established specification requirements.
- 17.2. Managing the financial aspects of the contract including approval of payments.
- 17.3. Meeting with the contractor to schedule service, and as needed to review progress, discuss problems, and consider necessary action.
- 17.4. Identifying a breach of contract by assessing the difference between contract performance and non-performance.
- 17.5. Other areas as identified by the State of Texas Procurement and Contract Management Guide, latest edition.

18. INVOICING AND PAYMENT

The following procedures apply to invoicing and payment in addition to those listed in *Section III, General Terms and Conditions, Paragraph 9*:

- 18.1. **Contractor to submit invoice(s) to:** Texas Parks & Wildlife Department, Accounts Payable, 4200 Smith School Road, Austin, Texas 78744.
- 18.2. **Invoices must show:**
 - 18.2.1. Name of Contractor exactly as shown on the contract, Texas Payee Identification Number (PIN), and correct "Remit to" address
 - 18.2.2. Name of receiving entity
 - 18.2.3. Contract/purchase order number
 - 18.2.4. Description, quantity, unit of measure, unit price, extended price of each item
 - 18.2.5. Total price
 - 18.2.6. Discount, if applicable, extended and deducted to arrive at a NET TOTAL for invoice
 - 18.2.7. Attach supporting documentation, if required
- 18.3. **Payment:**
 - 18.3.1. The contractor will be paid for the services performed as invoiced. If another payment mechanism is agreed to by the parties, then contractor will be paid in accordance with the agreement approved by the parties.
 - 18.3.2. Under no circumstances shall TPWD be obligated to make any payment (whether a progress payment or final payment) to Contractor if any of the following conditions exists:
 - 18.3.2.1. Contractor is in breach of this contract;
 - 18.3.2.2. Any portion of a payment is for services that were not performed in accordance with this contract provided, however, payment shall be made for those services which were performed in accordance with this contract;
 - 18.3.2.3. Contractor has failed to make payments promptly to consultants or other third parties used in connection with services for which TPWD has made payment to Contractor;
 - 18.3.2.4. If TPWD, in good faith, determines that the balance of the unpaid fees is not sufficient

to complete the services in accordance with this contract; or if Contractor has failed to achieve the level of performance necessary to maintain the project schedule. No deductions shall be made from Contractor's compensation on account of liquidated damages or other sums withheld from payments to other contractors or on account of the cost of changes in the Work other than those for which Contractor may be liable.

- 18.3.3. Payment normally will be made to the Contractor within 30 days after receipt of a properly prepared invoice or the receipt of and the acceptance of services ordered, whichever is later. State agencies are required by state law to pay properly submitted invoices within 30 days, or the Contractor may charge a late payment fee established by law.
- 18.3.4. Payments for services purchased with state appropriated funds will be made through state warrants issued by the Comptroller of Public Accounts. Payments by qualified ordering entities will be made through the entities local payment system.
- 18.3.5. Electronic payment may be available through some ordering entities. Contact Accounts Payable at 512-389-4833 for additional information.

SECTION II – PROPOSAL REQUIREMENTS

1. SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

TPWD intends to proceed according to the following schedule. These dates represent a tentative schedule of events. TPWD reserves the right to change the dates in the schedule of events above upon written notification to prospective Respondents through a posting on the Electronic State Business Daily as an Addendum.

Event	Date/Time
RFP Issue Date:	June 24, 2025
Questions Due:	July 7, 2025; 2:00 PM CT
Answers Posted on ESBD:	July 11, 2025
Proposal Due Date:	July 17, 2025; 2:00 PM CT
Expected Contract Award Date:	August 31, 2025

2. INQUIRIES

- 2.1. **CONTACT:** All requests, questions, or other communications about this Solicitation shall be made in writing to TPWD's Purchasing Department, addressed to the following person:

Allye Potter, Purchaser
Texas Parks & Wildlife Department
4200 Smith School Road
Austin, Texas 78744

Contact Info:
Phone 512-718-3703
Fax 512-389-4677
Email: purchasing.bidbox@tpwd.texas.gov

- 2.2. **CLARIFICATIONS:** TPWD will allow written requests for clarification of this Solicitation. Questions may be faxed or e-mailed to the point-of-contact listed in [Section II, Subsection 2.1](#). Questions should be submitted in the following format: a) Reference the Solicitation number; b) Reference the Section number, Page number, Paragraph number, and Text of passage being questioned; and c) Question.
- 2.3. **DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF QUESTIONS:** To provide TPWD with sufficient time to adequately prepare responses to vendor inquiries, all questions must be submitted by the deadline specified in [Section II, Subsection 1](#).
- 2.4. **ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS:** The target date for answering questions is within three business days after deadline for questions. Official answers will be posted as an addendum to this solicitation, on the Electronic State Business Daily at <http://www.txsmartbuy.com/esbd>. Respondent names will be removed from questions in the responses released. TPWD reserves the right to amend answers prior to the proposal submission deadline. If respondents do not have Internet access, copies may be obtained through the point of contact listed above. **Note:** *It is the responsibility of interested parties to periodically check the ESBD for updates to the procurement prior to submitting a proposal. Respondent's failure to periodically check the Electronic State Business Daily (ESBD) will in no way release the selected vendor from "addenda or additional information" resulting in additional costs to meet the solicitation requirements.*
- 2.5. **PROHIBITED COMMUNICATIONS:** Upon issuance of this solicitation, TPWD, its representative(s), or partners will not answer questions or otherwise discuss the contents of this Solicitation with any potential Respondent or their representative(s), except for the written inquiries described in [Section II, Subsection 2.2](#) above. Attempts to ask questions by phone or in person will not be allowed or recognized as valid. **Failure to observe this restriction may disqualify respondent.** Respondent shall rely only on written statements issued through or by TPWD's purchasing staff. This restriction does not preclude discussions between affected parties for the purposes of conducting business unrelated to this solicitation.

3. PROPOSAL CONTENT

Below is a summary of required and requested information. Proposals submitted without this information will be evaluated accordingly. TPWD reserves the right, in its sole judgment and discretion, to waive minor technicalities and errors in the best interest of the state.

3.1. GENERAL RESPONSE FORMAT:

Respondents shall submit **one (1)** proposal signed. In addition, Respondents should submit **one (1) copy** of the proposal that does **NOT** include pricing.

3.2. REQUIRED RESPONSE CONTENT:

Respondent **MUST** include the following documentation in their response submission. ***Failure to submit with response will result in disqualification of the proposal.***

3.2.1. **Exhibit A – Execution of Proposal:** Respondent must submit original signed, dated and completed [Exhibit A - Execution of Proposal](#).

3.2.2. **Exhibit B – Pricing Sheet:** Include completed [Exhibit B – Pricing Sheet](#). ***Pricing should not be included in the submitted copies.***

3.3. ADDITIONAL RESPONSE CONTENT:

Respondent shall include the following additional documentation in their response submission, or within one business day of TPWD request. ***Failure to submit this additional documentation by TPWD designated deadline may result in disqualification of the proposal.***

3.3.1. **Exhibit C– Company Profile:** Include completed [Exhibit C](#) (or reasonable facsimile).

3.3.2. **Exhibit D – Key Personnel:** Include completed [Exhibit D](#) (or a reasonable facsimile, or resumes)

3.3.3. **Exhibit E – Past Projects with Corresponding References:** Include completed [Exhibit E](#) (or reasonable facsimile).

3.3.4. **Exhibit F – Equipment List:** Include completed [Exhibit F](#) (or a reasonable facsimile).

3.3.5. **Exhibit G – Technical Proposal:** Include [Technical Proposal – tabbed Exhibit G](#), including numbered responses corresponding to each of the items listed in [Exhibit G](#). **Use Attachment 1 to complete #1 – 4.**

3.3.6. **Addenda:** Respondent shall acknowledge receipt of any addendums generated as part of this solicitation. The respondents should include the signed and dated addendum(s) with their response submission.

4. PROPOSAL SUBMISSION

4.1. All proposals shall be received and time stamped by TPWD prior to 2:00 PM Central Time on the date specified in [Section II, Subsection 1](#) and the place specified in [Section II, Subsection 5](#). Late proposals will not be considered under any circumstance and will be returned unopened.

- 4.2. Proposals should be placed in a sealed envelope/package and correctly identified with RFP number, submittal deadline/opening date and time. It is the Respondent's responsibility to appropriately mark and deliver the proposal to TPWD by the specified date.
- 4.3. Hard copies are not required, and electronic submissions via email can be accepted; Respondent may submit via hard copy OR electronic. If submitting electronically, TPWD can only accept an attachment to the email and cannot accept a link to a file.
- 4.4. Receipt of all addenda to this RFP should be acknowledged by returning a signed copy of each addendum to the response.
- 4.5. Respondents to this RFP are responsible for all costs of proposal preparation.
- 4.6. Proposals shall be submitted to TPWD Headquarters, Purchasing & Contracting, as noted in [Section II, Subsection 5](#) below.
- 4.7. All submitted proposals become the property of TPWD after the RFP submittal due date/ deadline. Responses submitted shall constitute an offer for a period of ninety (90) days or until selection is made by TPWD, whichever is earlier.
- 4.8. When Proposals are opened, only the names of the Respondents who submitted proposals will be read. Prices and terms will not be divulged until after contract award.

5. DELIVERY OF PROPOSALS

E-MAIL submittals are preferred for this solicitation. If hard copies are submitted, Respondent shall submit to TPWD by one of the following methods:

U.S. Postal Service	Overnight/Express Mail	Email
Texas Parks and Wildlife Dept. Purchasing & Contracting C-1 4200 Smith School Road Austin, TX 78744	TPWD – Mail Room Attn: Purchasing & Contracting C-1 4200 Smith School Road Austin, TX 78744 Hours – 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM	Purchasing.Bidbox@tpwd.texas.gov
NOTE: Proposals must be date stamped in Purchasing & Contracting prior to the due date and time.		

6. EVALUATION AND AWARD

- 6.1. A contract will be awarded to the responsible respondent(s) who submits the proposal determined to be the best value to the State and who meet all requirements included in this solicitation.
- 6.2. Cash discounts offered by the respondent will NOT be a factor in proposal evaluation.
- 6.3. Proposals may be withdrawn by written notice at any time prior to award. An e-mail to the purchaser name identified in [Section II, Subsection 2](#) above, will be acceptable as a written notice for withdrawn. No proposals will be returned after award.
- 6.4. **Step 1 – Administrative Review by Purchasing:** Only a complete response with the listed required submittal documents will be considered. Failure to meet the minimum qualifications and submit the required documents will result in a response being declared non-responsive. Proposals that do not conform to the instructions included in this RFP may be rejected by TPWD. TPWD reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and to waive informalities and minor irregularities in proposals received. No

proposal received in TPWD Purchasing and Contracting Section after the exact date and time specified as the deadline for responses will be considered.

- 6.5. **Step 2 – Initial Evaluation:** A TPWD evaluation committee will evaluate and score each response based on established criteria. Respondents shall not contact members of the evaluation team. Responses will be evaluated according to the respondent's ability to best satisfy TPWD requirements. Respondent's submission is evaluated and scored on a weighted system to determine the best value as follows:

<u>Evaluation Criteria</u>	<u>Weight</u>
Compensation and Fees (<i>Exhibit B</i>)	40%
Qualifications, Experience, Capability, Facilities, Equipment, etc. (<i>based on Exhibits C, D, E, and F</i>)	30%
Technical Proposal (<i>Exhibit G</i>)	30%
<u>Total</u>	100%

- 6.6. **Step 3 – Short List:** At TPWD's sole discretion, a short-list may be developed. Then, TPWD may check references and/or inspect respondent's facility/equipment.

- 6.6.1. References may include past performance evaluations. References will be scored on a pass/fail basis. Any negative responses received may be grounds for disqualification of the proposal.
- 6.6.2. Facility and/or equipment may be inspected to verify ability to successfully complete the project. Inspection will be scored on a pass/fail basis. Failure may be grounds for disqualification of the proposal.

- 6.7. **Step 4 - Best and Final Offer (BAFO):** The evaluation committee will determine if discussions and/or Best and Final Offers are necessary. Award of a contract may be made without discussions or Best and Final Offers, if in the best interest of the state.

- 6.7.1. **Discussions:** The evaluation committee may determine that discussions are necessary to clarify or verify a written proposal.
- 6.7.2. **BAFO:** A request for a Best and Final Offer is at the sole discretion of TPWD and will be requested in writing. If requested, respondent(s) shall submit a final price and any added value. If more than one respondent reaches this level, the negotiated terms, references, BAFO and added values will be considered in the award. TPWD will make the final determination on the best value.

- 6.7.3. The evaluation committee will evaluate the finalists and make a recommendation for award.

- 6.8. **AWARD:** TPWD reserves the right to award a contract to a single contractor, or award to more than one contractor, whichever provides the best value to TPWD in performance of this service. TPWD will be the sole judge of best value. (Refer to *Section III, Item 3.3* for Best Value criteria.)

SECTION III – GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

JANUARY 2025

(ITEMS BELOW APPLY TO AND BECOME A PART OF THE CONTRACT)

Any Contract awarded as a result of this solicitation will contain the General Terms and Conditions listed below in this Section. Subcontractors are also obliged to comply with these provisions.

1. **DEFINITIONS:** As used throughout this solicitation, the following terms have the meaning set forth below. All other terms have the meaning set forth in Webster's II New College Dictionary.
 - 1.1. Bidder: An individual or entity that submits a bid. The term includes anyone acting on behalf of the individual or entity that submits a bid, such as an agent, employee and representative. See Respondent.
 - 1.2. Contractor: The individual, corporation, company, partnership, firm, or organization that has to furnish the materials and has to perform the work as stated in the solicitation.
 - 1.3. ESBD: The Electronic State Business Daily, which is available online at <http://www.txsmartbuy.com/esbd>.
 - 1.4. Gov't Code: The Texas Government Code.
 - 1.5. Owner: Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, an agency of the State of Texas.
 - 1.6. Party/Parties: Either the TPWD and Respondent separately or collectively.
 - 1.7. Respondent: Any person or Vendor who submits a Bid/Proposal/Offer in response to this solicitation.
 - 1.8. Services: Includes the use of labor, materials, facilities, equipment, and any other need that is necessary or incidental to the successful completion of the Contract.
 - 1.9. Subcontractor: Any supplier, distributor, Contractor, person, or firm furnishing to the Contractor, materials or services necessary or incidental to the performance of the Contract between TPWD and Contractor.
 - 1.10. TAC: The Texas Administrative Code, which is the publication for administrative rules.
 - 1.11. Texas Identification Number: A unique 11-digit number assigned by the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts. When a Payee first contracts with a state agency, that Payee must provide either a federal Employer Identification Number (EIN) or a Social Security number (SSN). The Texas Identification Number (TIN) is based on this number. (Note: If Respondent does not have a TIN, or does not know their TIN, they may list their EIN or SSN on the "Texas Identification Number" line of the Vendor Information Block of their RFP, RFO, IFB or RFQ response.)
 - 1.12. TPWD: Texas Parks and Wildlife Department acting on behalf of the State of Texas.
2. **SPECIFICATIONS:**
 - 2.1. The goods/services provided shall be in accordance with the purchase specifications herein. TPWD will decide the answers to all questions that may arise as to the interpretation of the specifications and the quality, or acceptability of goods/services provided. TPWD will decide the rate of progress of the work and the acceptable fulfillment of the goods/service on the part of the Contractor.

- 2.2. Catalogs, brand names or manufacturer's references are descriptive only, and indicate type and quality desired. Bids/Proposals on brands of like nature and quality will be considered unless advertised under Texas Gov't Code §2155.067. If the Respondent is offering brands other than the references, response should show manufacturer, brand or trade name, and other description of product offered. If Respondent is offering brand(s) other than brand(s) specified, illustrations and complete description of product offered are requested to be made part of the bid. Failure to take exception to specifications or reference data will require Respondent to furnish specified brand names, numbers, etc.
- 2.3. Unless otherwise specified, items shall be new and unused and of current production.
- 2.4. Samples, when requested, must be furnished free of expense to the State. If not destroyed in examination, they will be returned to the Respondent, on request, at Respondent's expense. Each sample should be marked with Respondent's name and address, and requisition number. Do not enclose in or attach response submission to sample.
- 2.5. The State will not be bound by any oral statement or representation contrary to the written specifications of this Solicitation.
- 2.6. Manufacturer's standard warranty shall apply unless otherwise stated in the solicitation.

3. **AWARD OF A PURCHASE ORDER:** Standard Purchase Order Terms and Conditions apply. If a conflict exists between the standard Purchase Order Terms and Conditions and specific language in this solicitation, the language in the solicitation shall prevail.

- 3.1. A response to a solicitation is an offer to Contract with TPWD based on the terms, conditions and specifications contained in the solicitation. Responses do not become Contracts unless and until they are accepted through an authorized TPWD designee by issuance of a Purchase Order.
- 3.2. This procurement will be conducted in accordance with the State Purchasing Act, Title 10, Subtitle D, Chapters 2151 through 2177, of the Texas Gov't Code (TGC) and TPWD rules. Any Contract resulting from this procurement shall consist of one (1) document. This document will contain all of the rights and duties of the parties extracted from the relevant terms and conditions of this solicitation (including its attachments, exhibits, supplements, and addenda); the successful Contractor's response; any TPWD request for a Best and Final Offer; and any successful Contractor's Best and Final Offer, if applicable.
- 3.3. Best Value – TPWD will be the sole judge of best value. Award will be based on Best Value criteria and may include, but is not limited to:
 - 3.3.1. Best meets the goals and objectives of the solicitation as stated above.
 - 3.3.2. Best meets the quality and reliability of the proposed services.
 - 3.3.3. Effect of the proposed solution on agency productivity.
 - 3.3.4. Provides the most customer focused solution that will best meet the needs of the public.
 - 3.3.5. Experience in successfully providing services in this solicitation.
 - 3.3.6. Past Performance: A Respondent's past performance will be measured based upon pass/fail criteria in compliance with applicable provisions of Gov't Code §§2155.074, 2155.075, 2156.007, 2157.003, and 2157.125. Respondents may fail this selection criterion for any of the following conditions:
 - a) The Vendor has a score less than C or Legacy Unsatisfactory in the Vendor Performance System,
 - b) Currently under a Corrective Action Plan through the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts (CPA),
 - c) Having repeated negative Vendor Performance Reports for the same reason,
 - d) Having Purchase Orders that have been cancelled in the previous 12 months for non-performance (i.e., late delivery, etc.).

3.3.7. Contractor performance information is located on the CPA web site at: www.txsmartbuy.com/vpts. CPA may conduct reference checks with other entities regarding past performance. In addition to evaluating performance through the Vendor Performance Tracking System (as authorized by 34 Texas Administrative Code §20.115), CPA may examine other sources of vendor performance including, but not limited to, notices of termination, cure notices, assessments of liquidated damages, litigation, audit reports, and non-renewals of Contracts. Any such investigations shall be at the sole discretion of CPA, and any negative findings, as determined by CPA, may result in non-award to the Respondent.

4. **UNIT PRICES:** Respondents must price per unit shown. Unit prices shall govern in the event of extension errors.

5. **FREIGHT:** Quote FOB destination, freight prepaid and allowed unless otherwise stated within the specifications.

6. **DELIVERY:**

6.1. Show number of days required to place material in receiving agency's designated location under normal conditions. Delivery days mean calendar days, unless otherwise specified. Failure to state delivery time obligates Respondent to deliver in 14 calendar days. Unrealistic delivery promises may cause solicitation to be disregarded.

6.2. If delay is foreseen, Contractor shall give written notice to the TPWD. Contractor must keep the TPWD advised at all times of status of order.

6.3. Default in promised delivery (without accepted reasons) or failure to meet specifications authorizes the TPWD to purchase supplies elsewhere and charge full increase, if any, in cost and handling to defaulting Contractor.

6.4. **Substitutions:** No substitutions permitted without written approval of TPWD.

6.5. Delivery shall be made during normal working hours only unless prior approval has been obtained from ordering agency. Normal working hours are 8:00 AM until 5:00 PM Monday through Friday except State and National holidays.

7. **TESTING AND INSPECTION:**

7.1. TPWD may test and inspect goods and services purchased under the Contract to ensure compliance with the specifications of this solicitation and the Contract. TPWD may also test and inspect goods and services before they are purchased under the Contract. Authorized TPWD personnel shall have access to the Respondent's place of business for the purpose of inspecting the goods. To the extent practical, TPWD inspections will not disrupt the Respondent's daily operations. Tests shall be performed on samples submitted with the Bid/Proposal or on samples taken from regular shipments. All costs of testing and inspection shall be borne by the Respondent. In the event the goods tested fail to meet or exceed all conditions and requirements of the solicitation and Contract, the goods will be rejected in whole or in part, at the State's option, and returned to the Respondent or held for disposition at the Respondent's expense. Latent defects may result in cancellation of the Contract at no expense to the state.

7.2. If material fails to meet specifications, the Respondent will be notified by fax, mail, or e-mail. The Respondent will have ten (10) working days after receipt of the notification to remove the rejected material from state property. Material will be removed at the Respondent's expense. Material not removed in the allotted time period will be disposed by TPWD. The Respondent will be charged for all disposable expenses conducted by TPWD.

8. **CHANGES:** TPWD may at any time, by a written order, make changes within the general scope of this Contract, in the definition of services to be performed, and the time (i.e., hours of the day, days of the week, etc.) and place of performance thereof. If any such change causes an increase or decrease in the cost of, or the time required for the performance of any part of the services under this Contract, whether changed or not changed by any such order, an equitable adjustment shall be made in the Contract price or time of performance or both and the Contract shall be modified in writing accordingly. Any claim by the Contractor for adjustment under this clause must be asserted within 30 days from the date of receipt by the Contractor of the notification of change, provided, however, that TPWD, if it decides that the facts justify such action, may receive and act upon such claims asserted at any time prior to final payment under this Contract. Failure to agree to any adjustment shall be a dispute concerning a question of fact within the meaning of the clause of this Contract entitled "Dispute Resolution."
9. **INVOICING AND PAYMENT:**
- 9.1 **Invoices:** In order to receive payment under the Contract, the Contractor must submit an original invoice to TPWD, which will be designated in the Purchase Order as the "Bill To" address. To be a proper invoice that may be accepted and paid, the invoice must include the following information and/or attachments: (1) Name and address of the Contractor. (2) The Contractor's Texas Identification Number (TIN). (3) The Contractor's invoice remittance address. (4) The Purchase Order number authorizing the delivery of products or services. (5) A description of what the Contractor delivered, including, as applicable, the time period, serial number, unit price, quantity, and total price of the products and services. If the invoice is for a lease, the Contractor must also include the payment number (e.g., 1 of 36).
- 9.2 **Disputed Invoices:** As stated above, the Contractor will receive notice of an error in an invoice submitted for payment by not later than the 21st day after the date the invoice was received by the TPWD. If an invoice dispute is resolved in favor of the Contractor, the Contractor is entitled to receive interest on the unpaid balance of the invoice, beginning on the date the invoice became overdue, pursuant to Gov't Code §2251. 021. If a dispute is resolved in favor of the TPWD, the Contractor shall submit a corrected invoice that must be paid in accordance with Section 2251.021. The unpaid balance accrues interest if the corrected invoice is not paid by the appropriate date.
- 9.3 **Time and Manner of Payment:** Pursuant to Texas Gov't Code Chapter 2251, payment by TPWD is overdue on the 31st day after the later of: (1) the date the TPWD receives the goods under the Contract; (2) the date the performance of the service under the Contract is completed; or (3) the date the TPWD receives the invoice for the goods or service. Payment by a political subdivision Customer whose governing body meets only once a month or less frequently is overdue on the 46th day after the later event of: (1) the date TPWD receives the goods under the Contract; (2) the date the performance of the service under the Contract is completed; or (3) the date TPWD receives the invoice for the goods or service.
10. **PATENTS, TRADEMARKS, OR COPYRIGHTS:** Respondent agrees to defend and indemnify the TPWD and State from claims involving infringement or violation of patents, trademarks, copyrights, trade secrets, or other proprietary rights, arising out of the TPWD's or the State's use of any good or service provided by the Respondent as a result of this solicitation.
11. **PROHIBITION ON LOBBYING:** The Respondent shall comply with the provisions of a federal law known generally as the Lobbying Disclosure Act, 2 U.S.C. §1601 et seq. By submitting a Bid/Proposal, the Respondent certifies that it shall not and has not used federally appropriated funds to pay any person or organization for influencing or attempting to influence any officer or employee of any federal agency, a member of Congress, officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a member of Congress in connection with obtaining any federal Contract, grant, or any other award covered by 31 U.S.C. §1352. It also certifies that the Respondent shall disclose any lobbying with non-federal funds that takes place in connection with obtaining any federal award by completing and submitting Standard Form LLL.

- 12. ANTI-TRUST AND ASSIGNMENT OF CLAIMS:** The undersigned affirms under penalty of perjury of the laws of the State of Texas that (1) in connection with this Response, neither I nor any representative of the Respondent have violated any provision of the Texas Free Enterprise and Antitrust Act, Tex. Bus. & Comm Code Chapter 15; (2) in connection with this Response, neither I nor any representative of the Respondent have violated any federal antitrust law; and (3) neither I nor any representative of the Respondent have directly or indirectly communicated any of the contents of this Response to a competitor of the Respondent or any other company, firm, partnership or individual engaged in the same line of business as the Respondent. The successful Contractor hereby assigns to TPWD, any and all claims for overcharges associated with any contract resulting from this solicitation which arise under the antitrust laws of the United States 15 U.S.C.A., Section 1, et seq. (1973), and which arise under the antitrust laws of the State of Texas, Texas Business and Commercial Code Ann. Sec. 15.01, et seq. (1967).
- 13. DEBTS AND DELINQUENCIES:** As required by Gov't Code §2252.903, the Respondent agrees that any payments due under the Contract shall be directly applied towards eliminating any debt or delinquency is has to the State of Texas including, but not limited to, delinquent taxes, delinquent student loan payments, and delinquent child support.
- 14. DISPUTE RESOLUTION:**
- 14.1. The dispute resolution process provided for in Chapter 2260 of Texas Gov't Code and TPWD regulations shall be used by TPWD and the Respondent to resolve all disputes arising under this Contract. The Contractor shall comply with such rules, as revised from time to time.
- 14.2. If the Contractor's claim for breach of Contract cannot be resolved informally with TPWD, it shall be submitted to the negotiation process provided in Chapter 2260. To initiate the process, the Contractor shall submit written notice, as required by Chapter 2260. The notice shall also be given to the individual identified in the Contract for receipt of notices. Any informal resolution efforts shall in no way modify the requirement or toll the timing of the formal written notice of a claim for breach of Contract required under § 2260.051 of Texas Gov't Code. Compliance by the Contractor with Chapter 2260 is a condition precedent to the filing of a contested case proceeding under Chapter 2260.
- 14.3. The contested case process provided in Chapter 2260 is the Contractor's sole and exclusive process for seeking a remedy for an alleged breach of Contract by TPWD if the Parties are unable to resolve their disputes as described above.
- 14.4. Compliance with the contested case process provided in Chapter 2260 is a condition precedent to seeking consent to sue from the Legislature under Chapter 107, Civil Practices and Remedies Code. Neither the execution of the Contract by TPWD nor any other conduct of any representative of TPWD relating to the Contract shall be considered a waiver of sovereign immunity to suit.
- 14.5. Notwithstanding any other provision of the Contract to the contrary, unless otherwise requested or approved in writing by TPWD, the Contractor shall continue performance and shall not be excused from performance during the period any breach of Contract claim or dispute is pending under either of the above processes; however, the Contractor may suspend performance during the pendency of such claim or dispute if the Contractor has complied with all provisions of Gov't Code §2251.051, and such suspension of performance is expressly applicable and authorized under that law.
- 15. FRAUD, WASTE, AND ABUSE:** By submitting a Response to this Solicitation, the Respondent represents and warrants that it has read and understood and shall comply with CPA's Anti-Fraud Policy, found at: <https://comptroller.texas.gov/about/policies/ethics.php>, as such Policy currently reads and as it is amended throughout the term of the Contract.
- 16. NAME CHANGES AND SALES:**
- 16.1. If the Contractor changes its name or is sold to another entity, it must provide written notification to TPWD. The Contractor, in its notice, shall describe the circumstances of the name change or sale,

state its new name, provide the new Tax Identification Number, and describe how the change will impact its ability to perform the Contract. If the change entails personnel changes for personnel performing the responsibilities of the Contract for the Contractor, the Contractor shall identify the new personnel and provide resumes to TPWD, if resumes were originally required by the Solicitation. TPWD may request other information about the change and its impact on the Contract and the Contractor shall supply the requested information within five (5) working days of receipt of the request.

- 16.2. TPWD may terminate the Contract due to a sale of or change to the Contractor that materially alters the Contractor's ability to perform under the Contract. The TPWD has the sole discretion to determine if termination is appropriate.

17. CONTRACTOR RESPONSIBILITIES:

- 17.1. Contractor agrees to comply with all terms and conditions contained in this solicitation and resulting Contract.
- 17.2. Contractor guarantees services offered will meet or exceed the written specifications identified in this solicitation.
- 17.3. Permits: Contractor shall be responsible, at the Contractor's expense, for obtaining any and all permits or licenses required by city, county, state, or federal rules, regulations, law, or codes that pertain to the Contract.
- 17.4. Electrical Items: All electrical items provided by the Contractor to TPWD under the Contract must meet all applicable OSHA standards and regulations, and bear the appropriate listing from UL, FMRC, or NEMA.
- 17.5. Executive Head: Pursuant to Gov't Code §669.003, the TPWD may not enter into a contract with a person who employs a current or former Executive Head of a state agency until four years have passed since that person was the executive head of the state agency. By submitting a Proposal, the Respondent certifies that it does not employ any person who was the Executive Head of a state agency in the past four years. If Section 669.003 applies, Respondent shall complete the following information in order for the response submission to be evaluated:

Name of former executive: _____

Name of state agency: _____

Date of separation from state agency: _____

Position with Respondent: _____

Date of employment with Respondent: _____

- 17.6. Contractor agrees to take precautions necessary to protect person or property against injury or damage and be responsible for such injury or damage.
- 17.7. Contractor agrees to comply with Federal law or State Worker's Compensation laws which are applicable to the work required or performed under this Contract and to pay or cause to be paid all compensation, medical or hospital bills which may become due or payable thereunder, and to protect and indemnify TPWD from and against any and all liability by reason of injury to employees of Contractor or subcontractor.
- 17.8. Contractor shall provide all labor, equipment, and materials (unless otherwise stated herein) necessary to furnish the goods or perform the service. All employees of the Contractor shall be a minimum of 17 years of age and experienced in the type of work to be performed. Only the Contractor and its employees will be allowed on state property during working hours.

18. **TERMINATED CONTRACTS:** By submitting a Response, the Respondent certifies that it has not had a Contract terminated or been denied the renewal of any Contract for non-compliance with policies or regulations of any state or federally funded program within the past five (5) years nor is it currently prohibited from contracting with a governmental agency. If the Respondent does have such a terminated Contract, the Respondent shall identify each and provide an explanation for the termination.
19. **INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR:** The Contract shall not render the Contractor an employee, officer, or agent of the TPWD for any purpose. The Contractor is and shall remain an independent Contractor in relationship to the TPWD. The TPWD shall not be responsible for withholding taxes from payments made under the Contract. The Contractor shall have no claim against the TPWD for vacation pay, sick leave, retirement benefits, social security, worker's compensation, health or disability benefits, unemployment insurance benefits, or employee benefits of any kind.
20. **RIGHT TO AUDIT / RECORDS RETENTION:** Under Section 2262.154 of the Texas Gov't Code, the State Auditor may conduct an audit or investigation of any entity receiving funds from the state directly under any Contract or indirectly through a subcontract under the Contract. The acceptance of funds by the Contractor or other entity or person directly under the Contract or indirectly through a subcontract under the Contract acts as acceptance of the authority of the State Auditor's Office, TPWD or any successor agency, under the direction of the legislative audit committee, to conduct an audit or investigation in connection with those funds. Under the direction of the legislative audit committee, the Contractor or other entity that is the subject of an audit or investigation by the State Auditor must provide the State Auditor with access to any information the State Auditor considers relevant to the investigation or audit. Contractor shall ensure that this paragraph concerning the State's authority to audit funds received indirectly by subcontractors through Contractor and the requirement to cooperate is included in any subcontract it awards. Contractor shall maintain and retain supporting fiscal and any other documents relevant to showing that any payments under these Contract funds were expended in accordance with the laws and regulations of the State of Texas, including but not limited to, requirements of the Comptroller of the State of Texas and the State Auditor. Contractor shall maintain all such documents and other records relating to this Contract and the State's property for a period of seven (7) years after the date of submission of the final invoices or until a resolution of all billing questions, whichever is later. Contractor shall make available at reasonable times and upon reasonable notice, and for reasonable periods, all documents and other information related to the work of this Contract. Contractor and the subcontractors shall provide the State Auditor with any information that the State Auditor deems relevant to any investigation or audit. Contractor must retain all work and other supporting documents pertaining to this Contract, for purposes of inspecting, monitoring, auditing, or evaluating by TPWD and any authorized agency of the State of Texas, including an investigation or audit by the State Auditor. Contractor shall cooperate with any authorized agents of the State of Texas and shall provide them with prompt access to all of such State's work as requested. Contractor's failure to comply with this Section shall constitute a material breach of this Contract and shall authorize TPWD and the State of Texas to immediately assess appropriate damages for such failure.
21. **FORCE MAJEURE:** Neither Respondent nor TPWD shall be liable to the other party for any delaying, or failure of performance, of any requirement in the Contract caused by force majeure. The existence of such causes of delay or failure shall extend the period of performance until after the causes of delay or failure have been removed, provided the non-performing party exercises all reasonable due diligence to perform. Force majeure is defined as acts of God, fire, explosions, hurricanes, floods, epidemics, or pandemics, national or regional emergency, failures of transportation, or other causes that are beyond the reasonable control of either party and that by exercise of due foresight such party could not reasonably have been expected to avoid, and which, by the exercise of all reasonable due diligence, such party is unable to overcome. The burden of proof for the need of such relief shall rest upon the Contractor. To obtain release based on force majeure, the Contractor shall file a written request with TPWD reasonably promptly from the time the force majeure event occurs.

22. PROPRIETARY OR CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION; TEXAS PUBLIC INFORMATION ACT:

- 22.1. Any proprietary, trade secret or otherwise confidential information Respondent includes in its Proposal must be clearly labeled as proprietary or confidential information, and Respondent must identify the specific exception to disclosure in the Public Information Act (PIA). Merely making a blanket claim the entire Proposal is protected from disclosure because it contains some proprietary information is not acceptable and shall make the entire Proposal subject to release under the PIA. In order for TPWD to initiate the process of seeking an Attorney General opinion on the release of proprietary or confidential information, the specific provisions of the Proposal that are considered by the Respondent to be proprietary or confidential must be clearly labeled as described herein. Any information which is not clearly identified as proprietary or confidential shall be deemed to be subject to disclosure pursuant to the PIA.
- 22.2. Information, documentation, and other material in connection with this Response or any resulting Contract may be subject to public disclosure under the Texas Public Information Act, Chapter 552 of the Texas Gov't Code.
- 22.3. Contractor is required to make any information created or exchanged with the state pursuant to this Contract, and not otherwise excepted from disclosure under the Texas Public Information Act, available in a format that is accessible by the public at no additional charge to the state.

23. RIGHT TO DATA, DOCUMENTS AND COMPUTER SOFTWARE (STATE OWNERSHIP): Any software, research, reports studies, data, photographs, negatives or other documents, drawings or materials prepared by Contractor in the performance of its obligations under this Contract shall be the exclusive property of the State of Texas and all such materials shall be delivered to the State by the Contractor upon completion, termination, or cancellation of this Contract. Contractor may, at its own expense, keep copies of all its writings for its personal files. Contractor shall not use, willingly allow, or cause to have such materials used for any purpose other than the performance of Contractor's obligations under this Contract without the prior written consent of the State; provided, however, that Contractor shall be allowed to use non-confidential materials for writing samples in pursuit of the work. The ownership rights described herein shall include, but not be limited to, the right to copy, publish, display, transfer, prepare derivative works, or otherwise use the works.

24. PUBLIC DISCLOSURE / NEWS RELEASES: No public disclosures or news releases pertaining to this solicitation shall be made without prior written approval of TPWD.

25. CONFIDENTIALITY AND SECURITY: The Contractor should not receive any sensitive or confidential information under the Contract. Any information the Contractor compiles or creates as a result of the Contract must be maintained and protected in accordance with any federal, state, or local laws and regulations that apply. The Contractor shall establish a method to secure the confidentiality of records and other information relating to clients in accordance with applicable federal and state laws, rules, and regulations. The obligations of the Contractor under this Confidentiality and Security Article shall survive this Contract and shall be included in all subcontracts.

26. TERMINATION: This Contract shall terminate upon full performance of all requirements contained in this Contract, unless otherwise extended or renewed as provided in accordance with the Contract Terms and Conditions.

- 26.1. **Termination for Convenience:** TPWD reserves the right to terminate the Contract at any time, in whole or in part, without cost or penalty, by providing 30 calendar days' advance written notice if TPWD determines that such termination is in the best interest of the state. In the event of such a termination, the Contractor shall, unless otherwise mutually agreed upon in writing, cease all work immediately upon the effective date of termination. TPWD will be liable for payments limited only to the portion of work authorized by TPWD in writing and completed prior to the effective date of cancellation, provided that TPWD shall not be liable for any work performed that is not acceptable to TPWD and/or does not meet Contract requirements. All work products produced by the Contractor and paid for by TPWD shall become the property of TPWD and shall be tendered upon request. Termination under this paragraph shall not relieve the Vendor of any obligation or liability that has occurred prior to cancellation.
- 26.2. **Termination for Cause/Default:** If the Contractor fails to provide the goods or services contracted for according to the provisions of the Contract or fails to comply with any of the terms or conditions of the Contract, the TPWD may, upon written notice of default to the Contractor, terminate all or any part of the Contract after providing an opportunity to cure the default.
- a) Contractor will be responsible for paying damages to TPWD including but not limited to re-procurement costs, and any consequential damages to the State of Texas or TPWD resulting from Contractor's non-performance. The defaulting Contractor will not be considered in the re-solicitation and may not be considered in future solicitations for the same type of work unless the specification or scope of work is significantly changed.
- 26.3. The rights and remedies of TPWD provided in this clause shall not be exclusive and are in addition to any other rights and remedies provided by law or under this Contract.
- 26.4. TPWD may exercise any other right, remedy or privilege which may be available to it under applicable law of the state and any other applicable law or may proceed by appropriate court action to enforce the provisions of the Contract, or to recover damages for the breach of any agreement being derived from the Contract. The exercise of any of the foregoing remedies will not constitute a termination of the Contract unless TPWD notifies the Contractor in writing prior to the exercise of such remedy. The Contractor shall remain liable for all covenants and indemnities under the Contract. The Contractor shall be liable for all costs and expenses, including court costs, incurred by TPWD with respect to the enforcement of any of the remedies listed herein.
27. **SURVIVAL OF TERMS:** Termination of the Contract for any reason shall not release the Contractor from any liability or obligation set forth in the Contract that is expressly stated to survive any such termination or by its nature would be intended to be applicable following any such termination, including the provisions regarding confidentiality, indemnification, transition, records, audit, property rights, dispute resolution, and invoice and fees verification.
28. **RIGHTS UPON TERMINATION OR EXPIRATION OF CONTRACT:** In the event that the Contract is terminated for any reason, or upon its expiration, TPWD shall retain ownership of all associated work products and documentation obtained from the Contractor under the Contract, unless otherwise specified.
29. **CHANGE IN FEDERAL OR STATE REQUIREMENTS:** If federal or state laws or regulations or other federal or state requirements are amended or judicially interpreted so that either TPWD or the Contractor cannot reasonably fulfill the Contract and if the Parties cannot agree to an amendment that would enable substantial continuation of the Contract, the Parties shall be discharged from any further obligations under the Contract.
30. **TAXES:** Purchases made for state uses are exempt from Texas State Sales Tax and Federal Excise Tax. An Excise Tax Exemption Certificate will be furnished upon written request to TPWD.
31. **BUY TEXAS:** In accordance with §2155.4441, Gov't Code, the Contractor agrees that during the performance of a Contract for services it shall purchase products and materials produced in Texas when they are available at a price and time comparable to products and materials produced outside Texas.
32. **NOTE TO RESPONDENT:** Any terms and conditions attached to a solicitation will not be considered unless specifically referred to on this solicitation form and may result in disqualification of the response submission.

If any Respondent takes a 'blanket exception' to the entire solicitation or does not provide proposed alternative language, the Respondent's response may be disqualified from further consideration.

33. **ACCESSIBILITY STANDARDS:** Under Texas Government Code, Chapter 2054, Subchapter M, TPWD must procure products that comply with the Accessibility Standards defined in the Texas Administrative Code, 1 TAC 206 and 1 TAC 213, when such products are available in the commercial marketplace or when such products are developed in response to a procurement solicitation. Accordingly, Contractor must provide electronic and information resources and associated product documentation and technical support that comply with these Accessibility Standards (in the form of a Voluntary Product Accessibility Template, or "VPAT") in its response to this solicitation. Vendors who do not already have accessibility documentation should complete the form located here: <http://www.itic.org/policy/accessibility/>. Contractors that claim their products are exempt from accessibility requirements must present that position to TPWD as a question during the question-and-answer period of the solicitation.
34. **CERTIFICATION REGARDING DEBARMENT, SUSPENSION, INELIGIBILITY, AND VOLUNTARY EXCLUSION:** Respondent certifies that the responding entity and its principals are eligible to participate in this transaction and have not been subjected to suspension, debarment, or similar ineligibility determined by any federal, state or local governmental entity and the Respondent is in compliance with the State of Texas statutes and rules relating to procurement and that Respondent is not listed on the federal government's terrorism watch list as described in Executive Order 13224.
35. **SYSTEM FOR AWARD MANAGEMENT (SAM):** Respondent certifies that it and its principals are not suspended or debarred from doing business with the state or federal government as listed on the State of Texas Debarred Vendor List maintained by the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts and the System for Award Management (SAM) maintained by the General Services Administration. Prior to awarding state funds for goods and/or services rendered, the State of Texas will conduct a required search of your firm using SAM. This is a Federal government-maintained database that records and tracks organizations, either known to or suspected of contributing to terrorist organizations. No state funds may be paid to an individual or firm whose name appears on this list. TPWD reserves the right, in its sole discretion, to deny and/or exclude any individual or firm from an award whose name appears on this list.
36. **FEDERAL DISASTER RELIEF FRAUD:** Sections and 2261.053 of the Gov't Code, prohibit state agencies from accepting a response or awarding a Contract that includes proposed financial participation by a person who, in the past five years has been convicted of violating a federal law or assessed a penalty in connection with a Contract involving relief for Hurricane Rita, Hurricane Katrina, or any other disaster, as defined by Section 418.004 of the Gov't Code, occurring after September 24, 2005. Under Sections 2155.006 and 2261.053 of the Texas Gov't Code, Respondent certifies that the individual or business entity named in this response or Contract is not ineligible to receive the specified Contract and acknowledges that this Contract may be terminated and payment withheld if this certification is inaccurate.
37. **APPLICABLE LAWS AND VENUE:** The Contract shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Texas, with regards to the conflicts of law provisions. The venue of any suit arising under this Contract is fixed in any court of competent jurisdiction in Travis County, Texas, unless the specific venue is otherwise identified in a statute which directly names or otherwise identifies its applicability to TPWD.
38. **APPLICABLE LAWS AND CONFORMING AMENDMENTS:** Contractor must comply with all laws, regulations, requirements and guidelines applicable to a Contractor providing services to the State of Texas as these laws, regulations, requirements and guidelines currently exist and as they are amended throughout the term of this Contract. TPWD reserves the right, in its sole discretion, to unilaterally amend this Contract throughout its term to incorporate any modifications necessary for TPWD or Contractor's compliance with all applicable State and federal laws, and regulations.
39. **COMPLIANCE WITH LAWS; DEALING WITH PUBLIC SERVANTS:**
- 39.1. The Respondent must comply with all applicable laws at all times, including, without limitation, the following: (i) Texas Penal Code §36.02, which prohibits bribery; (ii) Texas Penal Code §36.09, which prohibits the offering or conferring of benefits to public servants; (iii) Gov't Code §2155.003, which prohibits the chief clerk or any other employee of the TPWD from having an interest in, or in any

manner be connected with, a Contract or bid for a purchase of goods or services by an agency of the state or accept from any person to whom a Contract has been awarded anything of value or a promise, obligation, or Contract for future reward or compensation.

- 39.2. The Respondent shall give all notices and comply with all laws and regulations applicable to furnishing and performance of the Contract. Except where otherwise expressly required by applicable laws and regulations, TPWD shall not be responsible for monitoring Respondent's compliance with any laws or regulations. If Respondent performs any work knowing or having reason to know that it is contrary to laws or regulations, Respondent shall bear all claims, costs, losses and damages caused by, arising out of or resulting therefrom.

40. **NO WAIVER:** Nothing in this Contract shall be construed as a waiver of the state's or TPWD's sovereign immunity. This Contract shall not constitute or be construed as a waiver of any of the privileges, rights, defenses, remedies, or immunities available to the State of Texas. The failure to enforce, or any delay in the enforcement, of any privileges, rights, defenses, remedies, or immunities available to the State of Texas. The failure to enforce, or any delay in the enforcement, of any privileges, rights, defenses, remedies, or immunities available to the State of Texas under this Contract or under applicable law shall not constitute a waiver of such privileges, rights, defenses, remedies, or immunities or be considered as a basis for estoppel. TPWD does not waive any privileges, rights, defenses, or immunities available to TPWD by entering into this Contract or by the conduct of any representative of TPWD, prior to or subsequent to entering into this Contract.
41. **NO LIABILITY UPON TERMINATION:** If this Contract is terminated for any reason, TPWD and the State of Texas shall not be liable to Contractor for any damages, claims, losses, or any other amounts arising from or related to any such termination. However, Contractor may be entitled to the remedies provided in Gov't Code, Chapter 2260.
42. **DECEPTIVE TRADE PRACTICES; UNFAIR BUSINESS PRACTICES:** Respondent represents and warrants that it has not been the subject of allegations of Deceptive Trade Practices violations under Tex. Bus. & Com. Code, Chapter 17, or allegations of any unfair business practice in any administrative hearing or court suit and that Respondent has not been found to be liable for such practices in such proceedings. Contractor certifies that it has no officers who have served as officers of other entities who have been the subject of Deceptive Trade Practice violations or allegations of any unfair business practices in an administrative hearing or court suit, and that such officers have not been found to be liable for such practices in such proceedings.
43. **FALSE STATEMENTS; BREACH OF REPRESENTATIONS:** If Respondent signed its Bid/Proposal with a false statement or signs the Contract with a false statement or it is subsequently determined that Contractor has violated any of the representations, warranties, guarantees, certifications or affirmations included in the Contract, Contractor shall be in default under this Contract and TPWD may terminate or void the Contract for cause and pursue other remedies available to TPWD under this Contract and applicable law.
44. **ACTUAL AND PERCEIVED CONFLICTS:** By submitting a Bid/Proposal, the Respondent represents and warrants that the provision of goods and services or other performance under the Contract will not constitute an actual or potential conflict of interest or reasonably create an appearance of impropriety. In its Bid/Proposal, the Respondent shall disclose any existing or potential conflict of interest that it might have in contracting with TPWD. The TPWD will decide, in its sole discretion, whether an actual or perceived conflict should result in Bid/Proposal disqualification or Contract termination.
45. **CURRENT AND FORMER TPWD EMPLOYEES:**
- 45.1. In addition to the disclosures required above, the Respondent shall also disclose any of its personnel who are current or former officers or employees of the TPWD or who are related, within the third degree by consanguinity (as defined by Gov't Code §573.023) or within the second degree by affinity (as defined by Gov't Code §573.025), to any current or former officers or employees of the TPWD.
- 45.2. Respondents must comply with all applicable Texas and federal laws and regulations relating to the hiring of former state employees (see e.g., Gov't Code Chapters 572 and 573). Such "revolving door" provisions generally restrict former agency heads from communicating with or appearing before the agency on certain matters for two years after leaving the agency. The revolving door provisions also

restrict some former employees from representing clients on matters that the employee participated in during state service or matters that were in the employees' official responsibility or from working for certain entities after their state employment. Respondent, by signing this solicitation, certifies that it has complied with all applicable laws and regulations regarding former state employees.

46. INSURANCE AND OTHER SECURITY:

- 46.1. Respondent represents and warrants that it will, within ten (10) business days of executing this agreement, provide TPWD with current certificates of insurance or other proof acceptable to TPWD of the required insurance coverage.
- 46.2. The Respondent represents and warrants that it will obtain and maintain for the term of the Contract all insurance coverage required under this solicitation. Contractor's failure to obtain or maintain the specified coverage during the term of the agreement will be considered a breach of the Contract.
- 46.3. The Respondent represents and warrants that all of the above coverage will be obtained from companies that are licensed in the state of Texas, have an "A" rating from Best, and are authorized to provide the coverage. The Respondent shall furnish proof of insurance upon request of TPWD.

47. SEVERABILITY: If any provision of the Contract is construed to be illegal or invalid, such construction will not affect the legality or validity of any of its other provisions. The illegal or invalid provision will be deemed severable and stricken from the Contract as if it had never been incorporated herein, but all other provisions will continue in full force and effect.

48. HISTORICALLY UNDERUTILIZED BUSINESSES (HUB): Respondent represents and warrants that it shall comply with the Historically Underutilized Business requirements pursuant to Gov't Code, Chapter 2161.

49. AMENDMENTS: Except as provided in *Section III, Paragraph 8* of this Contract, this Contract may be amended only upon written agreement between TPWD and Contractor; however, any Amendment of this Contract that conflicts with the laws of the State of Texas shall be void. The Contractor shall not be entitled to payment for any additional services, work, or products that are not authorized by a properly executed Contract amendment.

50. CHANGE MANAGEMENT: The Respondent agrees that the key personnel assigned to the Contract shall remain available for the entirety of the project throughout the term of the Contract as long as that individual is employed by the Respondent or unless TPWD agrees to a change in the key personnel.

51. FEDERAL, STATE AND LOCAL REQUIREMENTS: Respondent shall demonstrate on-site compliance with the Federal Tax Reform Act of 1986, Section 1706, amending Section 530 of the Revenue Act of 1978, dealing with issuance of Form W-2's to common law employees. Respondent is responsible for both federal and State unemployment insurance coverage and standard Worker's Compensation insurance coverage. Respondent shall comply with all federal and State tax laws and withholding requirements. The State of Texas shall not be liable to Respondent or its employees for any Unemployment or Workers' Compensation coverage, or federal or State withholding requirements. **Contractor shall indemnify the State of Texas and shall pay all costs, penalties, or losses resulting from its omission or breach of this Section.**

52. INDEMNIFICATION AND LIABILITY:

- 52.1 **Acts or Omissions:** CONTRACTOR SHALL INDEMNIFY AND HOLD HARMLESS THE STATE OF TEXAS, TPWD, AND/OR THEIR OFFICERS, AGENTS, EMPLOYEES, REPRESENTATIVES, CONTRACTORS, ASSIGNEES, AND/OR DESIGNEES FROM ANY AND ALL LIABILITY, ACTIONS, CLAIMS, DEMANDS, OR SUITS, AND ALL RELATED COSTS, ATTORNEY FEES, AND EXPENSES ARISING OUT OF, OR RESULTING FROM ANY ACTS OR OMISSIONS OF THE CONTRACTOR OR ITS AGENTS, EMPLOYEES, SUBCONTRACTORS, ORDER FULFILLERS, OR SUPPLIERS OF SUBCONTRACTORS IN THE EXECUTION OR PERFORMANCE OF THE CONTRACT AND ANY PURCHASE ORDERS ISSUED UNDER THE CONTRACT. THE DEFENSE SHALL BE COORDINATED BY CONTRACTOR WITH THE OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL WHEN TEXAS STATE AGENCIES ARE NAMED DEFENDANTS IN ANY LAWSUIT AND CONTRACTOR MAY NOT AGREE TO ANY SETTLEMENT WITHOUT FIRST OBTAINING

THE CONCURRENCE FROM THE OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL. CONTRACTOR AND TPWD AGREE TO FURNISH TIMELY WRITTEN NOTICE TO EACH OTHER OF ANY SUCH CLAIM.

52.2 Infringements:

52.2.1 CONTRACTOR SHALL INDEMNIFY AND HOLD HARMLESS THE STATE OF TEXAS, TPWD, AND/OR THEIR EMPLOYEES, AGENTS, REPRESENTATIVES, CONTRACTORS, ASSIGNEES, AND/OR DESIGNEES FROM ANY AND ALL THIRD-PARTY CLAIMS INVOLVING INFRINGEMENT OF UNITED STATES PATENTS, COPYRIGHTS, TRADE AND SERVICE MARKS, AND ANY OTHER INTELLECTUAL OR INTANGIBLE PROPERTY RIGHTS IN CONNECTION WITH THE PERFORMANCES OR ACTIONS OF CONTRACTOR PURSUANT TO THIS CONTRACT. CONTRACTOR AND TPWD AGREE TO FURNISH TIMELY WRITTEN NOTICE TO EACH OTHER OF ANY SUCH CLAIM. CONTRACTOR SHALL BE LIABLE TO PAY ALL COSTS OF DEFENSE INCLUDING ATTORNEYS' FEES. THE DEFENSE SHALL BE COORDINATED BY CONTRACTOR WITH THE OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL WHEN TEXAS STATE AGENCIES ARE NAMED DEFENDANTS IN ANY LAWSUIT AND CONTRACTOR MAY NOT AGREE TO ANY SETTLEMENT WITHOUT FIRST OBTAINING THE CONCURRENCE FROM THE OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL.

52.2.2 Contractor shall have no liability under this Section if the alleged infringement is caused in whole or in part by: (i) use of the product or service for a purpose or in a manner for which the product or service was not designed, (ii) any modification made to the product without Contractor's written approval, (iii) any modifications made to the product by the Contractor pursuant to Customer's specific instructions, (iv) any intellectual property right owned by or licensed to Customer, or (v) any use of the product or service by Customer that is not in conformity with the terms of any applicable license agreement.

52.2.3 If Contractor becomes aware of an actual or potential claim, or Customer provides Contractor with notice of an actual or potential claim, Contractor may (or in the case of an injunction against Customer, shall), at Contractor's sole option and expense; (i) procure for the Customer the right to continue to use the affected portion of the product or service, or (ii) modify or replace the affected portion of the product or service with functionally equivalent or superior product or service so that Customer's use is non-infringing.

52.3 Compensation/Unemployment Insurance – Including Indemnity:

52.3.1 CONTRACTOR AGREES AND ACKNOWLEDGES THAT DURING THE EXISTENCE OF THIS CONTRACT, CONTRACTOR SHALL BE ENTIRELY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE LIABILITY AND PAYMENT OF CONTRACTOR'S AND CONTRACTOR'S EMPLOYEES' TAXES OF WHATEVER KIND, ARISING OUT OF THE PERFORMANCES IN THIS CONTRACT. CONTRACTOR AGREES TO COMPLY WITH ALL STATE AND FEDERAL LAWS APPLICABLE TO ANY SUCH PERSONS, INCLUDING LAWS REGARDING WAGES, TAXES, INSURANCE, AND WORKERS' COMPENSATION. TPWD AND/OR THE STATE SHALL NOT BE LIABLE TO THE CONTRACTOR, ITS EMPLOYEES, AGENTS, OR OTHERS FOR THE PAYMENT OF TAXES OR THE PROVISION OF UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE AND/ OR WORKERS' COMPENSATION OR ANY BENEFIT AVAILABLE TO A STATE EMPLOYEE OR EMPLOYEE OF ANOTHER GOVERNMENTAL ENTITY CUSTOMER.

52.3.2 CONTRACTOR AGREES TO INDEMNIFY AND HOLD HARMLESS TPWD, THE STATE OF TEXAS AND/OR THEIR EMPLOYEES, AGENTS, REPRESENTATIVES, CONTRACTORS, AND/OR ASSIGNEES FROM ANY AND ALL LIABILITY, ACTIONS, CLAIMS, DEMANDS, OR SUITS, AND ALL RELATED COSTS, ATTORNEYS' FEES, AND EXPENSES, RELATING TO TAX LIABILITY, UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE AND/OR WORKERS' COMPENSATION IN ITS PERFORMANCE UNDER THIS CONTRACT. CONTRACTOR SHALL BE LIABLE TO PAY ALL COSTS OF DEFENSE INCLUDING ATTORNEYS' FEES. THE DEFENSE SHALL BE COORDINATED BY VENDOR WITH

THE OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL WHEN TEXAS STATE AGENCIES ARE NAMED DEFENDANTS IN ANY LAWSUIT AND CONTRACTOR MAY NOT AGREE TO ANY SETTLEMENT WITHOUT FIRST OBTAINING THE CONCURRENCE FROM THE OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL. CONTRACTOR AND TPWD AGREE TO FURNISH TIMELY WRITTEN NOTICE TO EACH OTHER OF ANY SUCH CLAIM.

- 53. CONTRACTOR LIABILITY FOR DAMAGE TO GOVERNMENT PROPERTY:** The Contractor shall be liable for all damages to government-owned, leased, or occupied property and equipment caused by the Contractor and its employees, agents, subcontractors, and suppliers, including any delivery or cartage company, in connection with any performance pursuant to the Contract. The Contractor shall notify the TPWD Contract Manager in writing of any such damage within one (1) calendar day.
- 54. FELONY CRIMINAL CONVICTIONS:** Respondent represents and warrants that Contractor has not and Respondent's employees have not been convicted of a felony criminal offense, or that, if such a conviction has occurred, Respondent has fully advised TPWD as to the facts and circumstances surrounding the conviction.
- 55. IMMIGRATION:** The Respondent represents and warrants that it shall comply with the requirements of the Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986 and 1990 regarding employment verification and retention of verification forms for any individuals hired on or after November 6, 1986, who will perform any labor or services under the Contract. The Respondent also represents and warrants that it shall comply with the requirements of the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996 ("IIRIRA).
- 56. SUBCONTRACTORS:** Subcontractors providing service under the Contract shall meet the same requirements and level of experience as required of the Contractor. No subcontract under the Purchase Order shall relieve the primary Contractor of responsibility for the service. If the Contractor uses a subcontractor for any or all of the work required, the following conditions shall apply under the listed circumstances:
- 56.1. Respondents planning to subcontract all, or a portion of the work shall identify the proposed subcontractors.
 - 56.2. Subcontracting shall be at the Contractor's expense.
 - 56.3. TPWD retains the right to check subcontractor's background and make determination to approve or reject the use of submitted subcontractors.
 - 56.4. The Contractor shall be the only Contact for TPWD and subcontractors. Respondent shall list a designated point of contact for all TPWD and subcontractor inquiries.
 - 56.5. The Contractor, in subcontracting for any performances specified herein, expressly understands and acknowledges that in entering into such subcontract(s), TPWD is in no manner liable to any subcontractor(s) of the Contractor. In no event shall this provision relieve the Contractor of the responsibility for ensuring that the performances rendered under all subcontracts are rendered so as to comply with all terms of this solicitation and Contract. The Contractor shall manage all quality and performance, project management, and schedules for subcontractors. The Contractor shall be held solely responsible and accountable for the completion of all work for which the Contractor has subcontracted.
- 57. PROTEST PROCEDURES:** Any actual or prospective Respondent who is aggrieved in connection with this solicitation, evaluation, or award of any Contract resulting from this solicitation may formally protest as provided in TPWD's rules at TAC, Title 31, Part 2, Chapter 51, Subchapter L, Rule 51.350.
- 58. NON-APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS:** Any Contract resulting from this solicitation is subject to termination or cancellation, without penalty to TPWD, either in whole or in part, subject to the availability of state funds. TPWD is a state agency whose authority and appropriations are subject to actions of the Texas Legislature. If TPWD becomes subject to a legislative change, revocation of statutory authority, or lack of appropriated funds which would render TPWD's or Contractor's delivery or performance under the Contract impossible or unnecessary, the Contract will be terminated or cancelled and be deemed null and void. In the event of a termination or cancellation under this Section, TPWD will not be liable to Contractor for any damages, which

are caused or associated with such termination, or cancellation and TPWD will not be required to give prior notice.

59. **CONFLICT OF INTEREST:** Under Gov't Code §2155.003, Respondent represents and warrants that it has not given, offered to give, nor intends to give at any time hereafter any economic opportunity, future employment, gift, loan, gratuity, special discount, trip, favor, or service to a public servant in connection with the Contract. A TPWD employee may not have an interest in, or in any manner be connected with a Contract or response for a purchase of goods or services by an agency of the state. Any individual who interacts with public purchasers in any capacity is required to adhere to the guidelines established in Section 1.2 of the State of Texas Procurement Manual, which outlines the ethical standards required of public purchasers, employees, and Respondents who interact with public purchasers in the conduct of state business, and with any opinions of or rules adopted by the Texas Ethics Commission. Entities who are interested in seeking business opportunities with the State must be mindful of these restrictions when interacting with public purchasers of TPWD or purchasers of other state agencies.
60. **HB1295 CERTIFICATE OF INTERESTED PARTIES:** If value of Contract will exceed one million dollars, in accordance with 2252.908 of the Government Code, A business entity must use the [Form 1295 filing application](#) to enter the required information on Form 1295 and print a copy of the completed form. Once entered into the filing application, the completed form will include a unique certification number, called a "certification of filing." An authorized agent of the business entity must sign the printed copy of the form affirming under the penalty of perjury that the completed form is true and correct. The completed, printed, and signed Form 1295 bearing the unique certification of filing number must be filed with TPWD at the time of execution. Additional information can be found at: <https://www.ethics.state.tx.us/filinginfo/1295/>.
61. **LIMITATION ON AUTHORITY; NO OTHER OBLIGATIONS:** Contractor shall have no authority to act for or on behalf of TPWD or the State of Texas except as expressly provided for in this Contract; no other authority, power or use is granted or implied. Contractor may not incur any debts, obligations, expenses, or liabilities of any kind on behalf of the State of Texas or TPWD.
62. **DRUG-FREE WORKPLACE:** The Contractor shall comply with the applicable provisions of the Drug-Free Workplace Act of 1988.
63. **NOTICES:** Any written notices required under this Contract will be by either hand delivery to Contractor's office address specified in the *Execution of Proposal, Exhibit A* of this Contract or by U.S. Mail, certified, return receipt requested, to TPWD, Attn: Purchasing, 4200 Smith School Road, Austin, TX 78744. Notice will be effective on receipt by the affected party. Either party may change the designated notice address in this Section by written notification to the other party.
64. **ORDER OF PRECEDENCE:** In the case of conflicts between the Contract documents, the following shall control in this order of priority:
- 64.1. Signed Contract/Purchase Order (or Notice of Award)
 - 64.2. Attachments to the Contract/Purchase Order (or Notice of Award)
 - 64.3. The Solicitation (e.g., RFP, IFB)
 - 64.4. Contractor's Response to the Solicitation and Contractor's Best and Final Offer, if applicable
65. **CHILD SUPPORT OBLIGATION AFFIRMATION:** Under Section 231.006 of the Family Code, the vendor or applicant certifies that the individual or business entity named in this contract, bid or application is not ineligible to receive the specified grant, loan, or payment and acknowledges that this contract may be terminated and payment may be withheld if this certification is inaccurate.
66. **NO ASSIGNMENT BY CONTRACTOR:** The awarded Contractor shall not assign its rights under the Contract or delegate the performance of its duties under the Contract without prior written approval from the TPWD. Any attempted assignment in violation of this provision is void and without effect.

- 67. COMPLIANCE WITH OTHER LAW:** In the execution of this Contract, Contractor shall comply with all applicable federal, state, and local laws, including laws governing labor, equal opportunity, safety, and environmental protection. Contractor shall make itself familiar with and at all times shall observe and comply with all federal, state, and local laws, ordinances, and regulations which in any manner affect performance under this Contract.
- 68. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION:** The Respondent shall be in compliance with all applicable standards, orders, or regulations issued pursuant to the mandates of the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. §7401 et seq.) and the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, as amended, (33 U.S.C. §1251 et seq.).
- 69. U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY'S E-VERIFY SYSTEM:**
- 69.1. By entering into this Contract, the Contractor certifies and ensures that it utilizes and will continue to utilize, for the term of this Contract, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's E-Verify system to determine the eligibility of:
- a) All persons employed to perform duties within Texas, during the term of the Contract; and
- b) All persons (including subcontractors) assigned by the Respondent to perform work pursuant to the Contract, within the United States of America
- 69.2. The Contractor shall provide, upon request of TPWD, an electronic or hardcopy screenshot of the confirmation or tentative non-confirmation screen containing the E-Verify case verification number for attachment to the Form I-9 for the three most recent hires that match the criteria above, by the Contractor, and Contractor's subcontractors, as proof that this provision is being followed.
- 69.3. If this certification is falsely made, the Contract may be immediately terminated, at the discretion of the state and at no fault to the state, with no prior notification. The Contractor shall also be responsible for the costs of any re-solicitation that the state must undertake to replace the terminated Contract.
- 70.** Pursuant to Texas Government Code, Title 10, Subchapter F, §§ 2270.001-2270.002, TPWD may not enter into a Contract that has a value of \$100,000 or more with a company and that employs 10 or more full-time employees (as defined by Texas Government Code, Title 8, Subchapter A, § 808.001, (except that the term does not include a sole proprietorship) that boycotts Israel. By signing this bid, Bidder verifies that in accordance with Texas Government Code, Title 10, Subchapter F, §§ 2270.001-2270.002, Bidder:
- 70.1. Does not boycott Israel; and
- 70.2. Will not boycott Israel during the term of the Contract.
- 71.** Pursuant to *Texas Government Code*, Title 10, Subchapter F, §§ 2252.151-2252.154, TPWD may not enter into a Contract with a company (as defined by *Texas Government Code*, Title 8, Subchapter A, § 806.051) that is identified on a list prepared and maintained by the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts under *Texas Government Code*, §§ 806.001, 807.051 or 2252.153. By signing this bid, Bidder certifies that it is not a company identified on a list as prepared and maintained by the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts pursuant to *Texas Government Code*, §§ 806.001, 807.051 or 2252.153.
- 72.** By signature hereon, the bidder acknowledges that *Texas Government Code*, Title 10, Subchapter F, §§ 2252.201-2252.205 requires that all iron or steel products produced through a manufacturing process used in this project must be produced in the United States. By signing this bid, Bidder certifies that its bid price represents full compensation for compliance with the requirements of *Texas Government Code*, Title 10, Subchapter F, §§ 2252.201-2252.205.
- 73. TEXAS BIDDER AFFIRMATION:** Respondent certifies that if a Texas address is shown as the address of the Respondent on this response, Respondent qualifies as a Texas Bidder as defined in Section 2155.444(c) of the Texas Government Code.
- 74. CONTRACTING INFORMATION RESPONSIBILITIES:** In accordance with Section 552.372 of the Texas Government Code, Contractor agrees to (1) preserve all contracting information related to the Contract as provided by the records retention requirements applicable to TPWD for the duration of the Contract, (2) promptly provide TPWD any contracting information related to the Contract that is in the custody or possession

of the Contractor on request of TPWD, and (3) on termination or expiration of the Contract, either provide at no cost to TPWD all contracting information related to the Contract that is in the custody or possession of the Contractor or preserve the contracting information related to the Contract as provided by the records retention requirements applicable to TPWD. Except as provided by Section 552.374(c) of the Texas Government Code, the requirements of Subchapter J, Chapter 552, Government Code may apply to the Contract and the Contractor agrees that the Contract can be terminated if the Contractor knowingly or intentionally fails to comply with a requirement of that subchapter.

75. **CYBERSECURITY TRAINING:** If Respondent has access to any state computer system or database, Respondent shall complete cybersecurity training and verify completion of the training program to TPWD pursuant to and in accordance with Gov't Code § 2054.5192.
76. **CLOUD COMPUTING STATE RISK AND AUTHORIZATION MANAGEMENT PROGRAM:** Pursuant to Section 2054.0593(d)-(f) of the Texas Government Code, relating to cloud computing state risk and authorization management program, Respondent represents and warrants that it complies with the requirements of the state risk and authorization management program and Respondent agrees that throughout the term of the contract it shall maintain its certifications and comply with the program requirements in the performance of the contract.
77. **FINANCIAL PARTICIPATION PROHIBITED AFFIRMATION:** Pursuant to Section 2155.004(a) of the Texas Government Code, Respondent certifies that neither Respondent nor any person or entity represented by Respondent has received compensation from TPWD to participate in the preparation of the specifications or solicitation on which this Response or Contract is based. Under Section 2155.004(b) of the Texas Government Code, Respondent certifies that the individual or business entity named in this Response or Contract is not ineligible to receive the specified Contract and acknowledges that the Contract may be terminated, and payment withheld if this certification is inaccurate.
78. **ABORTION PROVIDER AND AFFILIATE TRANSACTIONS PROHIBITED:** Respondent represents and warrants that the Contract is not a taxpayer resource transaction prohibited by Section 2272.003 of the Texas Government Code and that payments made by TPWD to Contractor and Contractor's receipt of appropriated funds under the Contract are not prohibited by Article IX, Section 6.25 of the General Appropriations Act.
79. **FOREIGN TERRORIST ORGANIZATIONS:** Section 2252.152 of the Texas Government Code prohibits TPWD from awarding a Contract to any person who does business with Iran, Sudan, or a foreign terrorist organization as defined in Section 2252.151 of the Texas Government Code. Respondent certifies that it is not ineligible to receive the Contract.
80. **HUMAN TRAFFICKING PROHIBITION:** Under Section 2155.0061 of the Texas Government Code, the Respondent certifies that the individual or business entity named in this Response or Contract is not ineligible to receive the specified Contract and acknowledges that this Contract may be terminated, and payment withheld if this certification is inaccurate.
81. **COMPANIES THAT BOYCOTT CERTAIN ENERGY COMPANIES:** Under Section 2274.002 of the Texas Government Code, by submitting the Response, Respondent certifies and warrants that it does not boycott energy companies; and will not boycott energy companies during the term of the Contract.
82. **DISCRIMINATION AGAINST FIREARM OR AMMUNITION INDUSTRIES:** Under Section 2274.002 of the Texas Government Code, by submitting the Response, Respondent certifies and warrants that it does not have a practice, policy, guidance, or directive that discriminates against a firearm entity or firearm trade association; and will not discriminate during the term of the Contract against said industries.
83. **AGREEMENTS RELATED TO CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE:** Pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 2274.0102, TPWD may not enter into a Contract with a company (as defined by Texas Government Code Section 2274.0101(1)) that meets the criteria provided under Texas Government Code Sections 2274.0102 and 2274.0103. By signing this bid, Bidder certifies that it is not a company that meets the criteria provided under Texas Government Code Sections 2274.0102 and 2274.0103.

84. **COVID-19 VACCINE PASSPORT PROHIBITION:** Under Section 161.0085 of the Texas Health and Safety Code, Respondent certifies that the individual or business entity named in this Response or contract is not ineligible to receive the specified contract.
85. **DATA MANAGEMENT AND SECURITY CONTROLS:** In accordance with Section 2054.138 of the Texas Government Code, Respondent certifies that it will comply with the security controls required under this contract and will maintain records and make them available to Agency as evidence of Respondent's compliance with the required controls.
86. **SIGNATURE AUTHORITY:** By submitting the Response, Respondent represents and warrants that the individual submitting this document and the documents made part of this Response is authorized to sign such documents on behalf of the Respondent and to bind the Respondent under any Contract that may result from the submission of this response.

EXHIBIT A – EXECUTION OF PROPOSAL

NOTE: RESPONDENTS SHALL COMPLETE AND RETURN THIS EXHIBIT WITH THEIR PROPOSAL. Failure to do so will result in disqualification of the proposal.

1. By signature hereon, the Respondent certifies that:

- 1.1. All statements and information prepared and submitted in the response to this RFP are current, complete and accurate.
- 1.2. **Certification Concerning Dealings with Public Servants:** The Respondent has not given, offered to give, nor intends to give at anytime hereafter, any economic opportunity, future employment, gift, loan gratuity, special discount, trip, favor, or service to a public servant in connection with the submitted response. Failure to sign the Execution of Proposal or signing it with a false statement shall void the submitted offer or any resulting contracts.
- 1.3. Neither the Respondent or the firm, corporation, partnership, or institution represented by the Respondent or anyone acting for such firm, corporation, or institution has violated the antitrust laws of this State, codified in Section 15.01, et seq., Texas Business and Commerce Code, or the Federal antitrust laws, nor communicated directly or indirectly the offer made to any competitor or any other person engaged in such line of business. By signing this RFP, respondent certifies that if a Texas address is shown as the address of the respondent, respondent qualifies as a Texas Resident Respondent as defined in Texas Administrative Code, Title 34, Part 1, Chapter 20.
- 1.4. Pursuant to Section 2155.004 (a), Government Code, the Respondent has not received compensation for participation in the preparation of the specifications for this RFP.
- 1.5. Under Section 2155.004 (b), Government Code, the Contractor certifies that the individual or business entity named in this bid or contract is not ineligible to receive the specified contract and acknowledges that this contract may be terminated and payment withheld if this certification is inaccurate.
- 1.6. Child Support Obligations: Pursuant to Section 231.006 (d), Family Code, re: child support, the respondent certifies that the individual or business entity named in this RFP is not ineligible to receive the specified payment and acknowledges that this contract may be terminated, and payment may be withheld if this certification is inaccurate.
- 1.7. **Contractor shall defend, indemnify, and hold harmless the State of Texas, its officers, and employees, and Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD), its officers, and employees and contractors, from and against all claims, actions, suits, demands, proceedings, costs, damages, and liabilities, including without limitation attorneys' fees and court costs, arising out of, connected with, or resulting from any acts or omissions of contractor or any agent, employee, subcontractor, or supplier of contractor in the execution or performance of this contract. Contractor shall coordinate its defense with the Texas Attorney General as requested by TPWD.**

This paragraph is not intended to and shall not be construed to require contractor to indemnify or hold harmless the State or TPWD for any claims or liabilities resulting from the negligent acts or omission of TPWD or its employees.
- 1.8. Respondent agrees that any payments due under this contract will be applied towards any debt, including but not limited to delinquent taxes and child support that is owed to the State of Texas.
- 1.9. Respondent certifies that they are in compliance with section 669.003 of the Government Code, relating to contracting with executive head of a State agency. If section 669.003 applies, respondent will complete the following information in order for the RFP to be evaluated:
 - 1.9.1 Name of former executive: _____
 - 1.9.2 Name of state agency: _____
 - 1.9.3 Date of separation from state agency: _____
 - 1.9.4 Position with respondent: _____
 - 1.9.5 Date of employment with respondent: _____
- 1.10. Respondent agrees to comply with Government Code 2155.4441, pertaining to service contract use of products produced in the State of Texas.
- 1.11. Contractor understands that acceptance of funds under this contract acts as acceptance of the authority of the State Auditor's Office, or any successor agency, to conduct an audit or investigation in connection with those funds. Contractor further agrees to cooperate fully with the State Auditor's Office or its successor in the conduct of the audit or investigation, including providing all records requested. Contractor will ensure that this clause concerning the authority to audit funds received indirectly by subcontractors through Contractor and the requirement to cooperate is included in any subcontract it awards.
- 1.12. Pursuant to Section 231.006 (c), Family Code, RFP must include names and Social Security Numbers of each person with at least 25% ownership of the business entity submitting the RFP. Attach name & social security numbers for each person. This information must be provided prior to contract award.

- 1.13. Suspension, Debarment, and Terrorism: Respondent certifies that the bidding entity and its principals are eligible to participate in this transaction and have not been subjected to suspension, debarment, or similar ineligibility determined by any federal, state or local governmental entity and that Respondent is in compliance with the State of Texas statutes and rules relating to procurement and that Respondent is not listed on the federal government's terrorism watch list as described in Executive Order 13224. Entities ineligible for federal procurement are listed at <https://www.sam.gov/portal/SAM/#1>.
- 1.14. Pursuant to Executive Order GA-48 of the Governor of Texas, Respondent certifies that it, nor its holding companies or subsidiaries, is: (a) Listed in Section 889 of the 2019 National Defense Authorization Act; (b) Listed in section 1260H of the 2021 National Defense Authorization Act; or (c) Owned by the government of a country on the U.S. Department of Commerce's foreign adversaries list under 15 C.F.R. Section 791.4; or (d) Controlled by any governing or regulatory body located in a country on the U.S. Department of Commerce's foreign adversaries list under 15 C.F.R. Section 791.4.
- 1.15. Respondent represents and warrants that the individual signing this Execution of Proposal is authorized to sign this document on behalf of the Respondent and to bind the Respondent under any contract resulting from this proposal.
2. In the case of a tie between two (2) or more Respondents, the award will be made in accordance with preferences as outlined in TAC, Title 34, Part 1, Chapter 20, Subchapter C, Section 20.306. If a tie still exists after review of preferences claimed by Respondents, TPWD will draw lots to break the tie.

PREFERENCES
See Appendix 21 of the <i>State of Texas Procurement and Contract Management Guide</i> regarding preferences.
Check below if preference claimed under TAC, Title 34, Part 1, Chapter 20, Subchapter C, Section 20.306
<input type="checkbox"/> Goods produced or offered by a Texas respondent that is owned by a Texas resident service-disabled veteran <input type="checkbox"/> Goods produced in Texas or offered by a Texas respondent that is <u>not</u> owned by a Texas resident service-disabled veteran <input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural products grown in Texas <input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural products offered by a Texas respondent <input type="checkbox"/> Services offered by a Texas respondent that is owned by a Texas resident service-disabled veteran <input type="checkbox"/> Services offered by a Texas respondent that is <u>not</u> owned by a Texas resident service disabled veteran <input type="checkbox"/> Texas Vegetation Native to the Region <input type="checkbox"/> USA produced supplies, materials or equipment <input type="checkbox"/> Products of persons with mental or physical disabilities <input type="checkbox"/> Products made of recycled, remanufactured, or environmentally sensitive materials including recycled steel <input type="checkbox"/> Energy Efficient Products <input type="checkbox"/> Rubberized asphalt paving material <input type="checkbox"/> Recycled motor oil and lubricants <input type="checkbox"/> Products produced at facilities located on formerly contaminated property <input type="checkbox"/> Products and services from economically depressed or blighted areas <input type="checkbox"/> Contractors that meet or exceed air quality standards <input type="checkbox"/> Recycled or Reused Computer Equipment of Other Manufacturers <input type="checkbox"/> Foods of Higher Nutritional Value

RESPONDENT (COMPANY/FIRM): _____

SIGNATURE: _____

NAME (TYPED/PRINTED): _____

TITLE: _____ DATE: _____

STREET: _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP: _____

TELEPHONE AND FAX/SCMILE NO.: _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____

TEXAS IDENTIFICATION NUMBER (TIN): _____

See definition / instructions for Texas ID Number in General Terms & Conditions, Paragraph 1.11.

EXHIBIT B – PRICE SHEET

Respondent (Company/Firm): _____

THIS EXHIBIT SHALL BE COMPLETED AND RETURNED WITH THE RESPONSE. FAILURE TO RETURN THIS EXHIBIT WILL RESULT IN THE DISQUALIFICATION OF THE RESPONSE.

Respondents shall submit all costs for services listed on **Line Item 1**. Using Attachment 2 – State Park Regional Map, respondents must indicate either Yes (Can Service) or No (Cannot Service) next to each of the service locations to be included under a contract resulting from this RFP. Respondents may submit their intent/ability to service some or all of the listed service locations. TPWD anticipates awarding multiple contracts, with service ordered on an as-needed basis.

Note: TPWD intends to furnish herbicides and surfactants for some future projects, while other projects/agreements may require contractors to supply herbicide and surfactant for reimbursement. Awarded contractor(s) to quote any required herbicides and/or surfactants (goods in addition to the services listed above) on a per project basis at fair market value.

TPWD reserves the right to negotiate price for specific projects as they become available.

Line Item	Description	Quantity	Unit	Unit Price
Exhibit B, quoted Unit Price shall include labor, equipment, and materials for the described service for Sample Project at Tyler State Park per Attachment 1.				
1.	Herbicide Application services at Tyler State Park (<i>Ref. Attachment 1</i>)	1	ACRE	\$
Contractors may be awarded contracts for multiple Regions and TPWD reserves the right to award to multiple Contractors per Region if determined to be in the best interest of the State. Respondents may submit their proposals to be considered for one or more of the State Parks Regions (<i>Ref. Attachment 2 – State Park Regional Map</i>). Project acreage and scope will be determined and finalized at each project award.				
2.	Contractor can provide Forestry mulching and land/brush clearing services to the Region 1 State Park location	YES _____		NO _____
3.	Contractor can provide Forestry mulching and land/brush clearing services to the Region 2 State Park location	YES _____		NO _____
4.	Contractor can provide Forestry mulching and land/brush clearing services to the Region 3 State Park location	YES _____		NO _____

5.	Contractor can provide Forestry mulching and land/brush clearing services to the Region 4 State Park location	YES _____	NO _____
6.	Contractor can provide Forestry mulching and land/brush clearing services to the Region 5 State Park location	YES _____	NO _____
7.	Contractor can provide Forestry mulching and land/brush clearing services to the Region 6 State Park location	YES _____	NO _____

EXHIBIT C – COMPANY PROFILE

Respondent shall use this exhibit (*or a reasonable facsimile*) to clearly demonstrate how they meet the requirements set forth in this solicitation. This form may be modified as needed to comply with the requirement to document company information. ***Failure to return this exhibit (or a reasonable facsimile) may result in the response submission being considered non-responsive.***

Company Name:			
Principal place of business (<i>Corporate Headquarters</i>):			
Address:			
City, State, Zip:			
Facility responsible for servicing the contract:			
Address:			
City, State, Zip:			
Contact Person regarding company's submission to the solicitation:			
Name & Title:			
Phone & Email Address:			
Personnel who will be responsible for management and day-to-day operation of services described in this solicitation.			
Name & Title:			
Phone & Email Address:			
Indicate if your company or any of its subsidiaries filed or met criteria for bankruptcy within the last five years.			
___ Yes ___ No If yes, explain.			
Indicate if your company or any of its subsidiaries has been involved in litigation within the last five years.			
___ Yes ___ No If yes, explain.			
Number years in business:		Number of employees:	
Number years actively participating in offering the goods/services described herein: _____ (To meet minimum requirements for this RFP, respondent shall have a minimum of 3 years' experience providing terrestrial application of herbicides and surfactants by hand and/or with a tractor or similar device.)			
Provide company background, experience, qualifications & capabilities in areas of goods/services described herein. Attach page if needed.			
Provide present commitments for related or similar services.			
Provide description of industry certifications, if applicable.			

Provide list of equipment to be used to produce the goods/services described herein. Attach page if needed. <i>(Equipment inspection, changes, approval & rejection will be at TPWD's sole discretion.)</i>	
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EXHIBIT D – KEY PERSONNEL**Respondent Name:** _____

Respondents shall provide a Key Personnel profile – tabbed Exhibit E, for each key personnel to be assigned under the resulting contract. *Include all requested information for each key personnel.* Submit one Exhibit E (or reasonable facsimile) or resume - not to exceed 1 page per person for each key personnel. ***Failure to return this exhibit (or reasonable facsimile) may result in proposal being considered non-responsive.***

Key Personnel:

Full Name: _____

Job Title: _____

Total Years Employed by Respondent: _____ Total Years Experience (in required service): _____

Qualifications and Experience: _____

Specific Education, Training, Certifications: _____

Personnel - Reference 1:

Company Name: _____

Contact/Title: _____

Phone: _____ Service Period: _____

Roles and Responsibilities: _____

Personnel - Reference 2:

Company Name: _____

Contact/Title: _____

Phone: _____ Service Period: _____

Roles and Responsibilities: _____

EXHIBIT E – PAST PROJECTS WITH CORRESPONDING REFERENCES

Respondent Name: _____

Respondents shall use this exhibit (*or reasonable facsimile*) to provide a minimum of three (3) past projects with corresponding references for projects completed within the past five (5) years that illustrate experience in successfully completing work of a similar nature and scope as the work described in this solicitation. Include all requested information. *Please do not use TPWD staff or past work performed for TPWD as a “reference” in this Exhibit. Failure to return this exhibit (or reasonable facsimile) may result in proposal being considered non-responsive.*

REFERENCE 1:

Company Name:			
Company Address:			
Contact Name/Title:			
Phone/Email Address:			
Service Period:		Cost:	
Brief Project Description:			

REFERENCE 2:

Company Name:			
Company Address:			
Contact Name/Title:			
Phone/Email Address:			
Service Period:		Cost:	
Brief Project Description:			

REFERENCE 3:

Company Name:			
Company Address:			
Contact Name/Title:			
Phone/Email Address:			
Service Period:		Cost:	
Brief Project Description:			

REFERENCE 4:

Company Name:			
Company Address:			
Contact Name/Title:			
Phone/Email Address:			
Service Period:		Cost:	
Brief Project Description:			

EXHIBIT F – EQUIPMENT LIST

Respondent Name: _____

Describe all equipment and vehicles to be specifically used **for this contract** in the space provided below. Make sure to include dimensions/capacities of equipment, make, model, horsepower and intended use by bid item. For purposes of this evaluation TPWD assumes that the respondent's equipment list (submitted below) includes ALL of the equipment that the respondent is dedicating to this project and has considered in his bid. All equipment used off pavement must be low pressure rubber-tired equipment. ***Failure to return this exhibit (or reasonable facsimile) may result in proposal being considered non-responsive.***

[illegible]

EXHIBIT G – TECHNICAL PROPOSAL

Respondent shall submit a Technical Proposal – tabbed *Exhibit G*, including numbered responses corresponding to each of the following items. **Use Attachment 1 – Sample Scope of Work for Individual Projects to answer questions 1 – 4. Failure to provide this information may result in proposal disqualification.**

1. **Project Approach/Methodology** – Include a complete description of the firm's proposed approach and methodology for the project. This section should convey the firm's understanding of the proposed project and how your company proposes to accomplish the required service (Ref. *Attachment 1*).
2. **Work Plan** – Include a description of how you propose to accomplish the required service. Include all project requirements and the proposed tasks, services, activities, etc. necessary to accomplish the scope of the project defined in this RFP. This section of the technical proposal must contain sufficient detail to convey to members of the evaluation team the firm's knowledge of the subjects and skills necessary to successfully complete the project (Ref. *Attachment 1*).
3. **Project Schedule** – Include a project schedule indicating when the elements of the work will be completed. Project schedule must ensure that any deliverables requested are met (Ref. *Attachment 1*).
4. **Deliverables** – Fully describe deliverables to be submitted under the proposed contract. Deliverables must support the requirements set forth in the Scope of Work (Ref. *Attachment 1*).
5. **Technical Capabilities** – Fully outline the Technical Capabilities offered by your company as it related to Herbicide Application Services and the control of invasive vegetation per the Scope of Work defined in this RFP (reference Section 1, Subsection 6).
6. **Experience in Texas** – Using a maximum of two (2) pages, please outline your firm's experience providing Herbicide Application Services in the state of Texas. Your response should demonstrate your firm's experience working within the state of Texas and your knowledge of local/regional climates and vegetation.
7. **Safety Record** – Provide a summary of your company's safety records for the last 3 calendar years . TPWD reserves the right to request additional clarification prior to any short list determination or award.
8. **Drift Control** – Include a complete explanation of the steps your company takes to control and prevent drift onto non-target vegetation.
9. **Spill Contingency Plan** - Provide and/or explain your company's spill contingency plan (reference Section 1, Subsection 6.12).
10. **Additional Services** - Respondent may propose services in excess of those listed above in their proposals. The furnishing of additional services will be a consideration in the evaluation of proposals.
11. **Certifications & Licenses** – Respondent should provide copies of all applicable licenses and certifications required to perform the work described in this RFP.

EXHIBIT H – RESPONSE SUBMISSION CHECKLIST

The following checklist is provided for the convenience of Vendors in their response preparation process. It is not intended to represent an exhaustive list of the mandatory requirements for this RFP. Vendors must ensure that all mandatory requirements for this RFP are met, even if they are not included in this checklist. The mandatory documentation must be submitted with the original and each copy of the response.

A completed checklist shall not be binding on TPWD's administrative review for compliance with the mandatory response contents specified in this RFP. As step one of the evaluation process, TPWD will review all responses to ensure compliance with the mandatory response contents as specified in [Section II, Subsection 3.2](#) of the RFP and reject any response that does not comply.

All responses must be received by TPWD on or before 2:00 p.m. (CT) on the date specified in Section II, Subsection 1 of the solicitation. No late responses will be considered.

Item	Check
Response addressed to: Attn: Allye Potter Purchasing & Contracting C-1 Texas Parks & Wildlife Department 4200 Smith School Road Austin, Texas 78744 OR emailed to Purchasing.Bidbox@tpwd.texas.gov	
External packaging OR email subject line references "RFP 802-25-56743"	
Package contains one (1) signed (clearly marked) of the complete response	
Package contains one (1) additional copy, without pricing , of the complete response	
Response cover references "RFP 802-25-56743" and includes the name and address of the responding Vendor	
Mandatory Response Contents	Check
Exhibit A – Execution of Proposal (per Section II, Subsection 3)	
Exhibit B – Price Sheet (per Section II, Subsection 3)	
Exhibit C – Company Profile (per Section II, Subsection 3)	
Exhibit D – Key Personnel (per Section II, Subsection 3)	
Exhibit E – Past Projects with Corresponding References (per Section II, Subsection 3)	
Exhibit F – Equipment List (per Section II, Subsection 3)	
Exhibit G – Technical Proposal (per Section II, Subsection 3)	
Addenda - Acknowledge receipt of all addenda issued to this solicitation by returning a signed copy of each addendum (per Section II, Subsection 3)	

ATTACHMENT 1 – SAMPLE SPECIFICATIONS FOR INDIVIDUAL PROJECTS

Prescribed Control Specifications for Individual Treatment Site

State Park: Tyler State Park

Location: an approximate 987-acre State Park located in Smith County, Texas (Zone 4– District 10).

Treatment Acres: Targeted vegetation is located within an approximate 36-acre area. Only targeted vegetation within that area shall be treated.

Target Vegetation: Understory invasive woody species (<3m tall) dominated by American Beauty Berry and Sweetgum.

Impaired Activities: Camping, hiking, public access

Service Period: (effective date through completion deadline)

Plant Control Specifications:

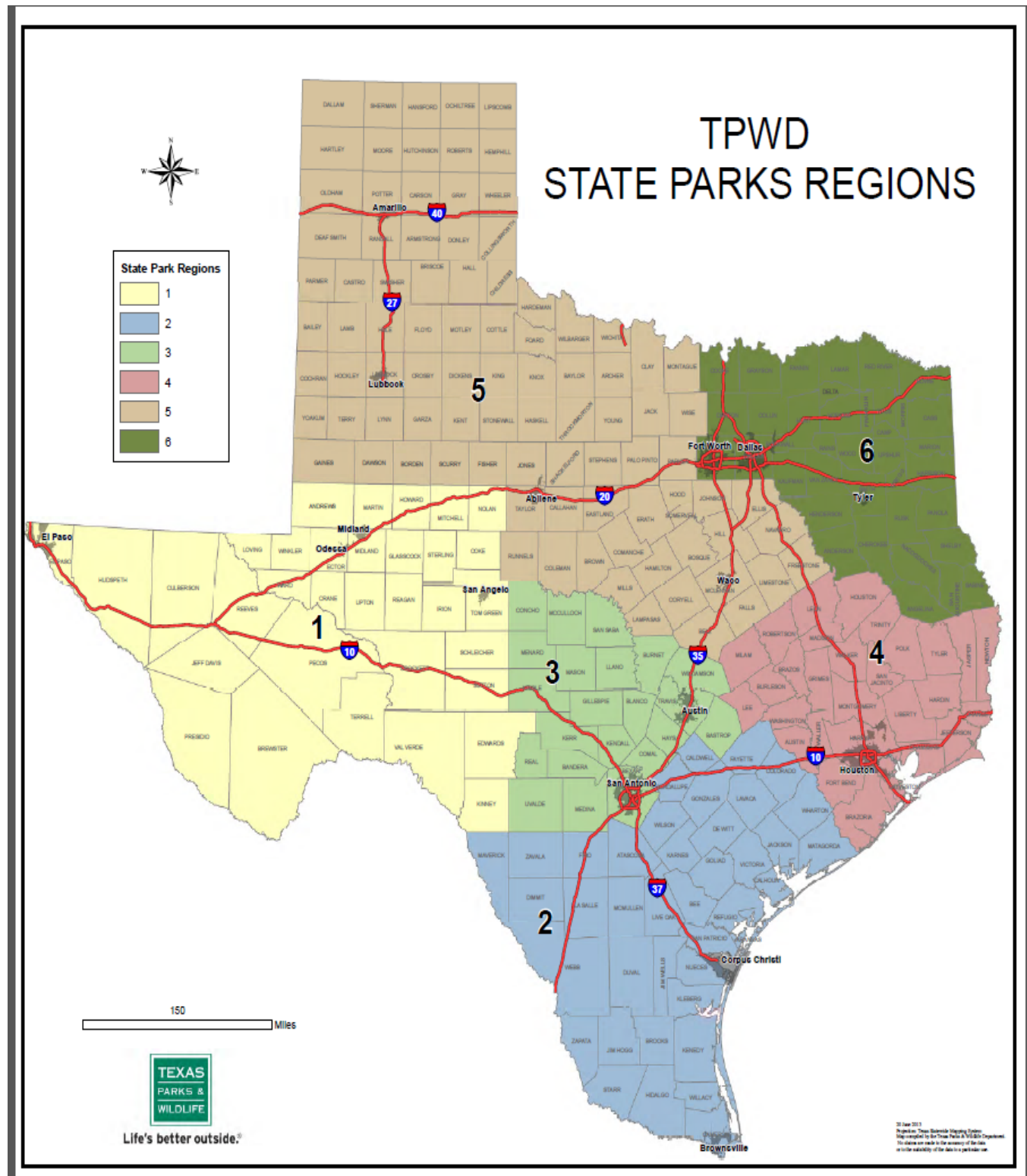
Target Plants	Control Agents	Application Rate	Treatment Area (Acres), Approx.
American Beauty Berry and Sweetgum	Control agent shall be determined by vendor with consultation with TPWD based on the current condition of targeted plants at the time of spraying.	Application rate shall be determined by vendor with consultation with TPWD based on the current condition of targeted plants at the time of spraying.	36

Triclopyr with a non-ionic surfactant is recommended. However, vendor may suggest best recommended control agent and application rate to control target species for the long-term while avoiding impact to over-story and mid-story hardwoods and conifers and minimize impact to perennial herbaceous vegetation. Application rate and control agent shall be determined by the current condition of targeted plants at the time of spraying.

Special Considerations:

- a. Application rate and control agent shall be determined by the current condition of targeted plants at the time of spraying.
- b. Only use control agents and apply in manner that will have no impact to mid-story and over-story vegetation.
- c. Minimize impact to perennial herbaceous vegetation.
- d. Herbicides and surfactants to be applied when plants are actively growing.

ATTACHMENT 2 – MAP OF TPWD STATE PARKS REGIONS



ATTACHMENT 3 – EXAMPLE SPAY LOG FORM

TEXAS PARKS AND WILDLIFE

PESTICIDE APPLICATION RECORD

Licensed Applicator					
Agency/Contractor		Licensed Applicator		License #	
Phone		E-mail Address			
Address		City	State	ZIP	
Unlicensed Applicator(s)					

TPWD Project Manager		
Name		E-mail Address
		Phone

Tract Information		Treatment Area(s)	Acres
State Park			
County			
General Location			
*Please send map/data files of treated area(s) to jennifer.estes@tpwd.texas.gov			
		Total Acres	

Treatment Area Description (Place an "X" in the Appropriate Box)									
Treatment Area(s)	Aquatic		Forestry		Range		Urban		
Application Type(s)	Banding		Basal		Broadcast		Hack/Squirt		Spot
Application Method(s)	Aerial		ATV/UTV		Backpack		Spray Bottle		Tractor
Objective(s)									
Target Species									

Application Information				
Product Trade Name	EPA Registration Number	Rate of Product per Unit	Equipment ID Number	Permit Number
Total Volume of Spray Mix Applied per Unit		Total Volume Sprayed		

Application Weather Conditions									
Date	Time		Temperature		Wind		Humidity		Remarks
	Start	End	Start	End	Start	End	Start	End	

Certification by Applicator: I hereby certify that the information recorded on this form is true and correct and that application of all materials was made in accordance with the Pesticide Laws and Regulation of the State of Texas.

Applicator Name _____

Date _____