

BIDDER'S QUESTIONS

BIDDER	DATE (2013)	QUESTION	ANSWER
Aaron Young	9-Apr	I see that the laboratory analysis sections all have the requirement of "participation in group meetings regarding intercalibration and quality control issues". Can you tell me what this means?	The Bight Program relies heavily on communication and comparability for a successful study because our intention is to combine data sets across many labs. Should you be chosen as the winning bidder, your participation in the meetings and intercalibration exercises will be mandatory to maintain this communication and ensure comparability.
John Rudolph	3-Apr	Are the costs in Table 4 intended to be a per sample cost based on the number of samples and region collected?	This is correct, with quantity discounts for "batches" of sites (i.e., 1-10 sites, 10-20 sites, more than 20 sites, etc.)
Dean Pasko	1-Apr	Can we add separate costing for participation in taxonomic inter-calibration workshops (SCAMIT meetings) and QA resolution meetings that are required for the taxonomists?	We will not allow separate pricing for participation in intercalibration workshops and meetings.
Dean Pasko	1-Apr	The RFP suggests that the voucher collections be accumulated and reported by Agency/Contractor rather than taxonomist. Can voucher collections by taxonomist (or taxonomic laboratory) be allowed?	For bid pricing purposes, assume that each winning bidder will be required to submit voucher specimens
Dean Pasko	1-Apr	Infauna portion (Page 18) should reference SCAMIT Ed 8, not SCAMIT Ed 5	SCAMIT Edition 7 is currently available on the SCAMIT website (www.SCAMIT.org). Please use this guidance for bidding purposes. SCAMIT Edition 8 should be published in July 2013. When Edition 8 is published, contractors will be required to follow the updated guidance.

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Dean Pasko	1-Apr	Benthic infauna methods do not specify relaxant, but should	Relaxant is required for infaunal samples. Guidance includes at least 30 minutes in a relaxant solution of 1 kg MgSO ₄ or 30 ml propylene phenoxylol per 20 L of seawater, and then preserved in 10% sodium borate buffered formalin. This guidance can be found online in the Bight'08 Infaunal Assessment Report (http://ftp.sccwrp.org/pub/download/DOCUMENTS/TechnicalReports/665_B08Benthic.pdf)
Dean Pasko	1-Apr	Should the Infauna Bid listing specify Canyon samples?	Bid pricing should be based on the categories listed in the RFP
Dean Pasko	1-Apr	There does not seem to be a proof of competence required for taxonomists performing fish/megabenthic invertebrate identification, other than pre-survey cruise, whereas the benthic infauna does have such a requirement (e.g., prior Bight experience or passage of test). Are similar requirements, i.e., prior participation or identification of specific taxa, going to be required?	As stated in the RFP, all contractors are required to participate in Regional Monitoring Quality Assurance exercises. Competence for both new and experienced teams will be critically evaluated during these exercises.
Diego Davis	29-Mar	What is the total budget for the project?	The total budget for individual elements in the RFP is uncertain at this time.
Brent Mardien	29-Mar	Can there be more than one firm that gets the contract?	SCCWRP retains the right to secure more than one contractor.
Walt Crampton	29-Mar	How much work is the NOAA ship doing?	This value is uncertain.
Diego Davis	29-Mar	Are we basing everything off of planning documents from Bight'08?	Bight'08 method manuals are listed in the RFP for guidance. Assume methodological specifications will be the same for your bid.

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Walt Crampton	27-Mar	How many sites will be sampled near the Channel Islands?	The final number of sites is undefined at this time.
Linda Nemeth	25-Mar	On pages 24 and 25 it states that the contractor must (among other things) successfully complete [bioassay] interlaboratory comparison exercises conducted prior to sample testing. It is my understanding from a co-worker here who deals with <i>Eohaustorius</i> supply that this mandatory interlab calibration testing for the all the toxicity tests has already been completed. Can you provide any clarification on this?	The Southern California Chapter of the Society of Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry (SoCalSETAC.org) is currently conducting an intercalibration exercise that SCCWRP is intending to use for Bight'13.
Linda Nemeth	25-Mar	Also on pages 24 and 25, it says the selected contractor must participate in Regional Monitoring coordination meetings and one post survey data exchange meeting. Do you have the technology to and would you allow for remote attendance such as by Skype or conference calling?	Remote attendance for coordination meetings is possible. In-person attendance is recommended for at least some of the meetings.
Stephen Clark	22-Mar	From my review of the RFP, it appears that labs can submit a bid on just the work elements that they perform (i.e., not submit a bid on all elements in the scope). Is this correct?	You can bid on only the services you'd like to provide.
Aaron Young	22-Mar	Is this RFP something that AmTest can bid just the lab analysis?	You can bid on only the services you'd like to provide.
Kenny Nielson	22-Mar	Will prospective bidders on this RFP be competing against non-profit organizations?	As a public agency, anyone is allowed to bid on our proposals.