

Questions & Answers

RFP – Biocontrol Facilities Planning

1. There is indication of a possible interview; is there a proposed time for this and would it occur prior to Jan 20, 2025?

There are no interviews for proposal submitters. The scope of work calls for stakeholder interviews once a proposal has been selected.

2. Has the location for the project visit been determined? If not, is the IPRL USDA facility in Ft Lauderdale, Florida a possibility?

Clarifying the location would help us provide a more accurate cost estimate. O'ahu, Hawai'i, is the location. No, Ft. Lauderdale is not a possibility. See page 9 of the RFP, Section 2, Statement of Work: A.1. Project Objective: The objective of this project is to provide a feasibility planning study for facilities and capacity for invasive species research, testing, containment and control on O'ahu by the University of Hawai'i (UH) and the Hawai'i Department of Agriculture (HDOA).

3. How should the cost and fee information be submitted for this proposal? Specifically, is there a required format or section in the proposal where this information should be included, as mentioned in Section 3.1.5 regarding the Fee Structure?

Fee structure should be included after the project narrative and should include the information requested in section 3.1.5 such as the firm's experience and size, identifying key team members, etc.

4. Should fee information be included in a separate appendix or file?

It can be included along with the project narrative.

5. Based on the situation in Hawaii regarding animal and zoonotic (e.g. HPAI) diseases, are there plans to apply biocontrol for this project?

This could include animal diagnostics, research, and support to state and University initiatives inclusive of invasive plant disease biocontrol. Zoonotic diseases are not anticipated to be the primary focus of the biocontrol research facilities being planned. Rather, invasive plants and pests that are harmful to native ecosystems and agriculture are the primary targets.

6. We intend to submit a proposal that does not restrict us from further bidding on ongoing multiple phases in the future. Please confirm.

This RFP is for planning purposes only. We know of no such impediment to bidding on future projects.

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7. The project is overseen by a steering committee consisting of six stakeholders. Which of these stakeholders will serve as the primary liaison with the consultant? Will this agency designate a project manager to act as the liaison?

The Director of the University of Hawai'i Office of Land and Ocean Conservation Futures will be the primary liaison and project manager for this project.

8. Have any feasibility studies or cost assessments been previously conducted for the proposed biosecurity facilities? If such studies exist, could they be shared with the consultant?

The UH Project Manager does not have any such studies or cost assessments.

9. Since construction cost estimating will require subcontracting to an engineering or architectural firm, can identifying this subcontractor be included within the project's scope?

Yes.

10. What are the objectives of the site visits? What specific information or outcomes are you looking to achieve from them?

To understand the current state of biocontrol-suitable facilities at UH and HDOA on O'ahu, as well as federal facilities on Hawai'i Island. To understand needs for facilities, possible locations for buildings and/or modular units that facilitate research, including new facilities or renovated facilities.

11. Will the consultant be responsible for drafting Memoranda of Agreement (MOAs) or Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs) for shared facilities responsibilities, or should they be adapted from existing documents?

UH can assist in trying to identify existing model documents for adaptation, but has not identified any at this time.

12. Will HDOA/UH provide information such as staff salary rates and benefits to support the estimation of annual operating costs for the biosecurity facilities?

UH can provide such information for UH staff, and can assist with requesting such information from HDOA to the extent available.

13. Do you have a general budget estimate for this project to guide us in developing cost parameters for the proposed work?

No.

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14. Could you clarify the expected type of fee contract (e.g., fixed fee, not-to-exceed)?

Contract should be based on a fixed fee.

15. As the project will be partially federally funded, are standardized pay rates required?

The project is federally funded however, this is not a construction contract so Davis-Bacon does not apply. Contractors should include their standardized pay rates when estimating their costs. State of Hawai'i, Hawai'i Revised Statutes, HRS Chapter 103D procurement rules apply.