

**RFQ July 2020 – Hurricane Michael Recovery Efforts – Questions and Answers**

No.	Question	Answer
1	For the Altha Tract Unit 4 (Hazard Tree & Stump Area), are we able to leave limbs and debris smaller than 4" from the trees that are removed and the trees that are trimmed?	<b>In all designated Hazard Tree and Stump Removal areas, all debris resulting from the tree removal and tree trimming shall be removed.</b>
2	There was no prequalification rate for hazard tree removal. Are we supposed to just bid this or use one of the rates we have submitted?	<b>Hazard Tree and Stump Removal is to be quoted as a lump sum effort with all specified work included in the price. There are not established ceiling rates for this work.</b>
3	Reading through the bid packet, some of the areas are not clear if they are Uplands, Wetlands or Parks. We would like to make sure we are bidding the correct rates and not submit improper bids.	<b>Pitt and Sylvan Springs, Williford Spring, and Blue Spring are under the RFP/Agreement ceiling rate category of "Improved Areas - Recreation Sites". The Altha, Hobbs Pasture and Strickland Road sites are under the ceiling rate category of "Managed Areas – Upland"</b>
4	Some sites have soils that could be subject to rutting during wet periods. Since excessive soil disturbance is not desired, will time extensions be available if the site cannot be worked or completed during before December 31, 2020?	<b>The schedule is to complete all work by December 31, 2020. Extensions will be considered on a site-specific basis if site conditions prevent completion of the specified operations due to the likelihood of unacceptable resource impacts.</b>
5	When the RFQ specifies removing all debris four inches in diameter or two inches in diameter does this mean that a piece of debris greater than four inches by four inches (or two inches by two inches, as applicable) must be removed?	<b>The diameter limits apply only to the diameter of the piece of debris remaining on the site, not the length of each piece of debris. As such, in an area that requires removing all debris greater than four inches in diameter, a tree limb that is under four inches in diameter, but 4 feet long (or any length) would not need to be removed. In general, after the work is complete, the "Managed Areas – Upland" sites with the four inch debris limit should look like a relatively clean clearcut or (thinned, for those areas with remaining trees) timber stand, and the "Improved Areas - Recreation Sites" with the two inch limit should look like a wooded, infrequently maintained area of a public park.</b>

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6	<p>In the Hobbs units, can you please tell me if there is a specification for size of mulch (e.g., length and width dimensions, depth) that is left on site for trees that are mulched in place? Also, are both rubber-tired and tracked machines allowed?</p>	<p><b>Mulched material that remains on site may not be more than four inches in diameter (or width, if flat) and can be of any length. Mulch may not form a solid layered mat or be left in piles. This site will be prescribed burned in the future. Deep layers and piles of mulch cause smoldering issues and related smoke management problems.</b></p> <p><b>Both rubber tired and tracked machines are allowed.</b></p>
7	<p>Do you have a photo of a site that you have already cleared that serves as an example of what you expect the final end product to look like?</p>	<p><b>See representative photos at the end of this document. This area had a two inch maximum diameter but is similar to Altha Units 1, 2, and 3, Hobbs Pasture, and Strickland Road units. We do not have representative photos of cleared Improved Areas – Recreation Sites such as Pitt and Sylvan Springs, Williford Spring, and Blue Spring.</b></p>
8	<p>Is a performance bond still required and if so why is there a 10% retainage being held?</p>	<p><b>The performance bond is required, the retainage provides additional assurance.</b></p>
9	<p>What type of event(s) would trigger the forfeiture of the performance bond? Would this include wet weather?</p>	<p><b>Non-performance of the contractor to meet the terms of the contract, task order and statement of work without a settlement with the District are events that would lead to the District to pursue a claim against a performance bond. Unforeseeable wet weather events are generally not events for which the District would pursue a claim against a performance bond.</b></p>
10	<p>Can work continue even if the property is included in a WMA or will all work have to stop? Does this include Archery, Muzzle Loader and General Rifle season?</p>	<p><b>The District foresees public use and contracting to continue simultaneously, when possible. However, safety of both will take precedence on a case by case basis. If a contractor is on-site actively working, it is foreseeable that any public use activity that endangers the contractor personnel and equipment would be temporarily closed.</b></p>

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11	If another hurricane or similar/other force majeure event were to take place that impacts the sites adversely, does the WMD expect the contractor to complete the work at the quoted price or would it be subject to rebid?	<b>See Section 7 of executed agreement.</b>
12	<b>Questions for Hazard Removal Portion of the Bid:</b>  Will the springs be closed to public during work?	<b>Please refer to:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Item 6 on Page 16;</li> <li>• Item 6 on page 28; and</li> <li>• Item 6 on page 41.</li> </ul>
13	<b>Questions for Hazard Removal Portion of the Bid:</b>  Are we only removing and cleaning up trees that are marked and located on the map provided in the contract? Or are we also obligated to clean up surrounding trees already on the ground?	<p>The scope of work for each area provides these details, which differs between the three hazard tree units. Generally, the tree and the tree’s associated debris are to be removed.</p> <p><u>Altha Hazard Tree area (Unit 4)</u> specifications are described in the table on page 5.</p> <p><u>Blue Spring Hazard Tree area</u> is described on page 16. The first three bullets provide the specifications related to this question.</p> <p><u>Pitt and Sylvan Springs Hazard Tree area</u> is described on pages 39 and 40. The first four bullets on the top of page 40 provide the specifications related to this question.</p>
14	<b>Questions for Hazard Removal Portion of the Bid:</b>  Can stump’s that are to be removed be ground with a commercial stump grinder?	<b>The District is not dictating the methods used to perform the specified Work. Grinding with a commercial stump grinder is not prohibited.</b>

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15	<p><b>Questions for Hazard Removal Portion of the Bid:</b></p> <p>If stumps are ground do we remove the mulch that is created in this process?</p>	<p><b><u>Altha</u> Hazard Tree area (Unit 4) (one stump). The resulting mulch may be left piled on top of the ground stump.</b></p> <p><b><u>Blue Spring</u> Hazard Tree Area: Please refer to the two bullets above the word “Methods” Page 16.</b></p> <p><b><u>Pitt Spring</u> Hazard Tree Area Please refer to the two bullets above the word “Methods” on Page 40.</b></p>
16	<p>There is an area of young longleaf pines in the northern portion of Hobbs Pasture Unit 4 that does not appear to require cleanup. Is this a mapping error?</p>	<p><b>Yes, this was a mapping error. A revised map of Hobbs pasture reflecting the revision to Unit 4 has been prepared and provided to the contractors. The revised acreage for Hobbs Pasture Unit 4 is <u>102.5</u> acres. A revised Quote Sheet has been provided to the contractors reflecting this acreage change.</b></p>
17	<p>Is it the District’s intention to award Altha Units 1, 2 and 3 separately or to one contractor?</p>	<p><b>The District will award Altha Units 1, 2 and 3 to one contractor due to the small size of units 2 and 3. The revised Quote Sheet that has been provided to the contractors reflects this revision.</b></p>
18	<p>We have a follow-on question regarding a mulching approach in the Hobbs units. Can you please clarify what depth of mulch would constitute a “solid mat” or how you would describe it? Are you looking for some bare ground to be visible in between mulched debris, for example?</p>	<p><b>Mulch chips must be spread as thinly as possible and in no case shall the mulch layer exceed three inches deep or the depth of a single larger mulch piece, whichever is greater. Maximum mulch piece diameter is four inches.</b></p>
19	<p>If the depth of mulch cannot be met due to tree density and the area available to spread the mulch within the unit boundary, is there a nearby area where the contractor could spread the additional mulch? Or would the contractor be required to haul off (or burn etc.) the overage?</p>	<p><b>The District does not have nearby areas where spreading of mulch chips for disposal purposes would be desirable.</b></p>





**Drone View** – work in progress in bottom foreground and top left. Work complete in top right area that greened up and in area just below.

