19 CES Tree and Stump Removal Questions

1. Can the Government provide higher-resolution site maps or tree location details if available?

   Answer: Government doesn't have higher-resolution camera.

2. Are any of the identified trees located within restricted airfield or controlled-access areas requiring additional coordination?

   Answer: No, all trees are located in non-restrictive areas. There is one tree located near aircraft static display and caution will need to be used for removal.

3. Does the Government anticipate any removals requiring crane operations or special airfield waivers?

   Answer: No, crane shouldn't be required to remove any of the trees and no trees are located on the airfield.

4. Is all debris disposal to be performed off-site by the contractor, or is there a designated on-base disposal location available?

   Answer: Contractor will be responsible for removal of debris and dump at site provided by the Government on the installation.

5. Can the Government confirm whether re-sodding is required at all stump removal locations?

   Answer: IAW PWS some sod and topsoil will be required but not all trees removed will be required sod and topsoil.

6. Are progress invoices permitted during project performance, or is payment made only upon final completion and acceptance?

   Answer: Invoice will be paid (NET 30) upon completion of the project and work accepted by the Government.

7. Are there any restricted work hours, blackout dates, or access limitations contractors should account for?

   Answer: Work hours can be 0630 to 1830 M-F. Weekends work will be a case-by-case basis with a request through the Government Representative to the Contracting Officer.

8. Can the Government confirm whether subcontractors are permitted for portions of the work?

   Answer: Sub-contractors are permitted as long they meet requirements in PWS.

9. Are there any additional insurance requirements beyond standard commercial general liability, workers compensation, and automobile coverage?

   Answer: Arkansas requires standard commercial general liability, workers compensation, and automobile coverage.

10. As for the trees that are close to powerlines, other utilities, and/or buildings, is there any reason I cannot get a bucket truck up to them? (We can utilize matting material to drive on if necessary)
    Answer: No reason as long as you understand you're responsible for fixing any ruts back to original left by the truck.

11. I didn't notice anything that would cause traffic issues, is there anything you could add that i did not see? Also with a days notice, can we block 4-8 parking spots as to make certain we don't risk damaging any vehicles?

Answer: Yes, upon notice government rep will coordinate with facility mangagers for possible closures.

12. At the dump site, is there going to be plenty of space without bringing equipment to keep that area pushed into a pile?

    Answer: Yes

13. Is there anything lodging available for civilians working on base.

    Answer: No

14. Can you confirm the contract number and name of the incumbent contractor currently performing tree and stump removal services at Little Rock AFB?

    Answer: N/A

15. Is there an Independent Government Estimate (IGE) range available for this requirement?
    Answer: N/A

16. The solicitation lists CLIN 0002 as trees in the 24–26" diameter range, however Appendix B identifies several trees in the 27–28" diameter range. Can you confirm how those trees should be priced — under CLIN 0002 or CLIN 0003?

    Answer: Trees should be priced as listed in the solicitation.

17. Is equipment other than a stump grinder permitted on the campus lawns? Specifically, I am referring to a rubber-tracked skid loader whether that be driving on mats or directly on the grass. If driving directly on grass is permitted, discretion would be used on occasions surrounding soft/wet soils, and great care would be taken when executing turning maneuvers. For context, the size and type of machine I'm referencing exerts 4-6 psi on the ground depending on the front-end load, and my purpose for this machine would be to remove larger debris from work areas with mechanical assistance.

Answer: Equipment is permitted with the understanding that the contractor is responsible for returning the grounds to their original shape if damaged by the equipment.

18. Are there specific days and hours aside from holidays that Contractors are not permitted to work on base? I.e. Are we bound by a fairly normal 8-5, M-F schedule, or are weekends and longer days permitted?
    Answer: See answer on question 7.

19. Is Contractor equipment allowed to stay on base overnight?
    Answer: Yes at your own risk. The government assumes no liability for any equipment left.

20. I see in the maps that there is a designated area for the piling of wood debris generated by this project. Are there any specific requirements for the debris in terms of size/length, sorting, limbing, chipping, etc?
    Answer: No specific size or sorting requirements.

21. Is there any underground infrastructure such as gas, power, phone, water, or irrigation lines within 50 feet of any tree requiring treatment by the PWS? If so, will that infrastructure be clearly marked prior to the Contractor's commencement of work?
    Answer: All will be marked as necessary.

22. The Solicitation indicates some differing/conflicting timelines: Sections 4.3 and 4.4 on page 4 indicate tree removal is meant to begin within 15 days of award while the Objective statement on page 2 indicates the Contractor is merely required to provide the estimated start date to the CO within 15 days of the award. Can you please advise which is correct, and if possible, the estimated award date?
    Answer: Contractor required to provide an estimated start date within 15 days and contract must be fulfilled within 90 days of award.

23. 5.2.7.1 on page 5 outlines a process and channel for obtaining base access passes by non-US citizens which may take 30 days; is the process and channel for US citizens more expeditious? This question is being asked with the above 15-day requirements in mind.

Answer: Background checks on US citizens with REAL-ID is a quicker process. However, non-US citizens will take longer.

24. Are there any specific requirements for types and compositions of topsoil and sod to be placed in the designated areas?
    Answer: No specific requirement on topsoil. Choosing SOD should be based on sunlight and shade in areas of placement along with climate of region.

25. Can you please confirm that Priorities 8, 30, and 31 from Appendix B do not require stump grinding?

    Answer: Correct, stump grinding isn't required on all tree removal. Dropping tree and hauling debris only.

26. Could you kindly email me the list of GC bidders or plan holders for this project? Alternatively, if you could direct me to someone who would have this information, please let me know.
    Answer: No, Contracting?

27. Is there any incumbent/recompete or this is a brand-new project? If yes, could you please provide us with their award number or even if the customer bought similar services in the past.
    Answer: New contract.

28. Will the government provide a disposal site on LRAFB for all of the trees that are removed under this contract?
    Answer: Yes, see page 13 of PWS, AREA A.

29. During the site visit, we observed that one of the trees scheduled for removal is located in close proximity to the aircraft display. Are there any special requirements, restrictions, or clearances that must be obtained prior to removing this tree?
    Answer: One tree is in close proximity (limbs within 10-15ft) of a static display aircraft. Contractor should take utmost care in not damaging the static display.

30. What is the approximate distance between the woodpile disposal area and the tree located farthest from that disposal site?
    Answer: On the installation approximately 2-3 miles from farthest tree being removed.

31. During the site visit, it was mentioned that four (4) trees may be disposed of in the wooded area rather than hauled off-site. Can you please confirm this and identify the specific trees?

    Answer: There are 4 trees where the option to drop trees into the woods next to their location vs hauling to dump site was presented.

32. If the four (4) trees are authorized for disposal in the wooded area, are stump grinding services still required for those locations?
    Answer: One of four requires stump grinding.

33. Do you anticipate any challenges related to equipment access or positioning for tree removal activities, such as limited access areas, rough terrain, or other site constraints?
    Answer: Trees in PWS are not limited areas or off limit areas. The terrain is accessible on all trees.

34. Appendix B identifies thirty-one (31) trees for removal; however, the accompanying photographs appear to include one stump. Can you please clarify whether the scope consists of thirty (30) trees and one (1) stump, or thirty-one (31) trees plus one (1) additional stump?
    Answer: 30 trees and 1 just stump only.

35. Is there a preferred brand, specification, or source for the required 4-inch topsoil?
    Answer: No

36. Following the placement of topsoil, will watering be required as part of the contractor's scope of work?
    Answer: No

37. Other than a crane, are there any additional equipment types that require prior approval, security clearance, or site access authorization before being brought onto the project site?
    Answer: No, ensure all vehicles have proper insurance and registrations.

38. Upon looking at all the trees that are marked, there are 3-4 dead trees by the Child Development Center that are not marked. Can we add those in to be taken down as well.
    Answer: Resources limit the number of trees to be removed.

39. Can the Government identify the required sod species for all areas requiring re-sodding, or should the contractor match the existing turf at each location?
    Answer: No specific requirement on topsoil. Choosing SOD should be based on sunlight and shade in areas of placement along with climate of region.

40. Can the Government provide the approximate square footage of each area requiring topsoil and sod replacement?
    Answer: No

41. For locations requiring topsoil, what is the required topsoil depth and are there any specific topsoil quality requirements beyond the 4-inch depth referenced in the PWS?
    Answer: No specific requirement on topsoil. Choosing SOD should be based on sunlight and shade in areas of placement along with climate of region.

42. Are there any restrictions on equipment access, work hours, road closures, or staging areas that contractors should consider when developing pricing?
    Answer: Work hours can be 0630 to 1830 M-F. Weekends work will be a case-by-case basis with a request through the Government Representative to the Contracting Officer.

43. For the larger trees identified in Appendix B, can the Government confirm whether any locations have height restrictions, utility conflicts, or other site conditions that would impact removal operations?
    Answer: No power line in area of trees requiring removal.

44. Can the Government clarify whether all tree debris must be hauled to the designated on-base disposal location, or if contractors may dispose of debris at an approved off-base facility?
    Answer: Off base disposal is at contractor's expense. Area set aside on the installation to reduce cost of contract.

45. Will the Government provide any assistance with traffic control, facility notifications, or temporary area closures, or is the contractor solely responsible for these requirements?
    Answer: Contractor will provide COR/Goverment representative of schedule and the representative will notify appropriate individual of work in their area.

46. Is the Government aware of any underground utilities, including gas, water, sewer, electrical, communication, fiber optic, irrigation, or other buried lines within the tree and stump removal areas? Additionally, will the Government coordinate utility locates and marking of underground utilities prior to commencement of work, or will the contractor be responsible for contacting utility locating services (e.g., 811 Call Before You Dig) and obtaining all required utility markings before stump grinding and excavation activities?
    Answer: All will be marked as necessary.

47. The PWS notes that if a crane is required for tree removal, an FAA waiver may be required and could delay performance. Based on the Government's knowledge of the project locations and the trees identified in Appendix B, does the Government anticipate that crane usage will be necessary for any portion of this requirement, or was this language included as a precaution in the event a contractor elects to utilize a crane during performance?
    Answer: Language is a precaution included in the contract if determined to be needed.

48. During performance of the tree and stump removal work, may the contractor utilize a contractor-provided dumpster, roll-off container, chip trailer, or similar debris collection equipment to temporarily stage and collect tree debris as work progresses, provided all debris is ultimately removed and disposed of in accordance with the requirements of the PWS?

    Answer: The Government will not control the method by which the contractor performs the tasks in the contract. The Contractor shall be responsible for any

subcontract management. Tasks must be completed IAW OSHA, ANSI, federal, state, and local regulations.

49. May the trees be removed via felling method with stump attached using small excavator while having proper safety measures. ?

    Answer: The Government will not control the method by which the contractor performs the tasks in the contract. Tasks must be completed IAW OSHA, ANSI, federal, state, and local regulations.

50. 2. All debris are authorized to be offloaded at the prescribed debris location noted on the map provided to include stumps?

    Answer: Para 4.1.1 - Stumps will be ground down to 4-inches below grade.

51. All tree removal has to be sodded or just smoothed and brought to grade adding fill when required ?

    Answer: Appendix B states specifics on topsoil and sod designations. Not all trees required topsoil and sod.