UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Request for Information

#	REFERENCE | SECTION	QUESTIONS | ANSWERS
	Amendment 03	
1	31 20 00	Is water available near the site for dust control and soil conditioning? A: The nearest available water supply is the City of Ruth. Contractors should plan to haul water from this location for dust control and soil conditioning.
2	31 20 00	During the site walk blasting was mentioned as a possible method of removing rock. Is blasting allowed on the project? If yes is there a blasting spec section that can be provided? A: Blasting is allowed on the project. The specifications do not provide a dedicated blasting section, but all blasting must comply with applicable federal, state, and local regulations. Contractor is responsible for obtaining all necessary permits and following safety protocols. Follow Standard Specifications for Construction of Roads and Bridges on Federal Highway Projects section 205.
3	31 20 00 3.15 B	31 20 00 3.15 B states that the Government will engage a qualified Geotech to perform tests and inspections. Will the contractor need to higher its own Geotech for soil samples and concrete testing? A: Yes, the contractor shall hire a qualified Geotechnical (Geotech) firm to perform all required tests and inspections. The government will not engage a Geotech for this project.
4	31 20 00 3.12 C 3	31 20 00 3.12 C 3 states under gravel, scarify and recompact top 8” of existing material. Contract drawing CD501 detail 4 and CD504 detail 2 state to scarify and recompact 12” native material. Which spec should be followed? A: Follow details listed in the drawings.
5	31 20 00	Drawing CD501 detail 4 references a Geotech report from Universal Engineering Services. Can this report be provided? A: Geotechnical Report is provided with this amendment.
6	General	What state licensing is required for this project? A: The Contractor is responsible for determining whether any licenses are required for the performance of the work. In accordance with RFO FAR 52.236-7, Permits and Responsibilities, the Contractor shall, without additional expense to the Government, be responsible for obtaining any necessary licenses and permits, and for complying with any Federal, State, and municipal laws, codes, and regulations applicable to the performance of work.
7	31 20 00	If hard rock is encountered in the top 12” of the native material during scarification will the rock need to be removed? A: No, if hard rock is encountered in the top 12” of the native material, the rock will not need to be removed.
8	Drawing CD502	Drawing CD502 detail 2, note 2 states see site plans 1C101 and 6C101 for sign configuration. Should they be 1CS101 and 6CS101? No configuration is noted on these drawings. Can configurations be provided? A: The note refers to site plans 1C101-6C101 for sign placement details, with configurations shown on those sheets.
9	Specification Div 01	Please clarify the Government's minimum contractor staffing requirements for this project. Specifically, identify the required management personnel and whether the Contractor's Quality Control (CQC) Plan is expected to include, at a minimum, a Project Manager, Superintendent, Quality Control Manager (QCM), and Site Safety and Health Officer (SSHO).

		A: There needs to be at least two staff members on site when work is being performed. The superintendent cannot serve as the QCM as well.
10	Specification Div 01	Will the Government permit the Contractor's Environmental Manager to also serve as the Superintendent, provided all contract requirements and responsibilities for both positions are fully satisfied? A: There needs to be at least two staff members on site when work is being performed.
11		Please identify the anticipated scope of work requiring coordination drawings and specify the disciplines or systems expected to be included. A: The scope of work was presented in the solicitation along with the drawing and specifications.
12		Please confirm whether sustainable design requirements apply to this project. If applicable, identify the governing criteria, standards, or documentation required. A: Sustainable design is not a requirement.
13	Specification Section 01 31 00	Specification Section 01 31 00, *Project Management and Coordination*, references project management requirements. Will the Government confirm whether ProjectSight by Trimble is an acceptable construction project management platform for this contract? A: ProjectSight by Trimble is an acceptable construction project management platform.
14	Specification Section 01 50 00	Specification Section 01 50 00, Paragraph 1.05, requires the Contractor to provide a 6-foot-high construction fence. Please clarify the required limits of fencing. Is perimeter fencing required at all upper and lower campground work areas and trailheads, or only around active construction zones? A: Fencing is only required around active construction zones as approved by the Government.
15	CD504	Detail 2/CD504, *Gravel Road Section*, references a geotechnical report prepared by Universal Engineering Services dated October 18, 2024. This report does not appear to be included with the solicitation documents. Please provide the referenced geotechnical report. A: Geotechnical Report is provided.
16		Will temporary water and electrical power be available for Contractor use during construction? If so, please identify the available utility locations and any associated usage restrictions or costs. A: No, there are no utilities available. The nearest available water supply is the City of Ruth. Contractors should plan to haul water from this location for dust control and soil conditioning. Cost is unknown.
17	7CP101 to 7CP118	The cut/fill quantity tables shown on the Pole Line Road plan sheets appear to be identical for multiple roadway segments. Please confirm that the published earthwork quantities are accurate or provide corrected quantities if necessary. A: The cut/fill quantities shown are for the entire Pole Line Road run, not broken out by sheet. (We showed cut/fill quantities the same way for the Lower and Upper Campground sheets)
18	CD505	Please provide the basis of design, standard detail, specification, or approved manufacturer information for the trash enclosure gates, including gate hardware, latching devices, hinges, and any required finishes. A: The trash enclosure does not include a gate; this is a typo.
19		The Construction Notes for the Plan pages that address the work on Pole Line Rd specify 12" of Native compacted to 90%. Can you clarify the work to be performed on the Native Subgrade? The Subgrade on this Rd is observed to be well compacted and even have bedrock exposed. If the expectation is to scarify and compact is it expected we will have to address the bedrock as well? A: If the native road is well compacted, structurally sound, and meets the 12-inch prepared subgrade requirement, aggregate base may be placed directly on top without additional

		scarification. Areas that do not meet subgrade requirements shall be scarified and compacted. If competent rock is present, it may remain in place with aggregate base placed above.
20		How often would we be expected to take a proctor of the existing Pole Line Rd? How often would we be expected to perform compaction testing? Would it be an option to perform compaction testing and just address scarifying and compaction of areas that fail? A: Contractor is to follow NDOT specifications for proctor and compaction testing. If the native road is well compacted, structurally sound, and meets the 12-inch prepared subgrade requirement, aggregate base may be placed directly on top without additional scarification. Areas that do not meet subgrade requirements shall be scarified and compacted. If competent rock is present, it may remain in place with aggregate base placed above.
21		The same Construction Note box calls for 8" of Aggregate Base. The profile plan of showing the finish grade shows a lot different material procurement requirement. Also, the cut and fill for each page addressing Pole Line Rd seems to be cut and paste and not accurate. Please verify what the actual numbers for Aggregate Base should be used. A: The cut/fill numbers are from existing grade to the bottom of the 8" aggregate base course is 7,650 CY of aggregate base is required for Pole Line Road.
22		The same Construction Note has a detail it refers to, DTL 2, DWG CD504. This detail just refers to a Geotechnical Report. Can you give more information on this detail and can you provide a copy of all Geotechnical Reports performed on the project? A: Geotechnical Report is provided with this amendment.
23		Plan Page 6CG102 calls to protect the rock hounding areas in place, however, on the job walk it was expressed that there is a desire to jackhammer and rejuvenate the rock hounding areas 1 & 2. Plan page 6CS101, Construction Note 8, "CONTRACTOR TO COORDINATE WITH BLM ON MEANS AND METHOD FOR REWORKING THE EXISTING ROCK HOUNDING AREAS IN ORDER TO CREATE SMALLER, PUBLIC SAFE SIZED ROCK." Can you clarify the work requested to be done in these areas? It is difficult to bid on an unknown amount of work. What size equipment should we anticipate using? How long of an effort is it expected to be? A: The two rock hounding areas as described on Sheet 6CS101 are to be reworked in a means and method the contractor proposes and is approved by the BLM. These areas are to be loosened up to allow for more public safe rock hounding.
24		A lot of the work will affect Pole Line Rd and access to existing camping and outdoor recreation. Can you clarify the level traffic control that will be needed to perform this work? A: Public access will stay open during Pole Line Road construction. The contractor is responsible for how this is managed.
25		Plan page 6CG103 shows a cut of some 20' at the Garnet Hill parking area. This area was observed to be bedrock. Will blasting be allowed and if so what permits, licensing, or other requirements are there? A: Blasting is permitted; the contractor must comply with all relevant local and state regulations. Follow Standard Specifications for Construction of Roads and Bridges on Federal Highway Projects section 205.
26		The retaining walls shown are block. In our experience this tends to weather and deteriorate quickly in the harsh environments like Garnet Hill. Would the government consider options such as an MSE wall or Sheet Piling? A: No, the Contractor shall bid on the project as presented.
27		Specifications Section 01 10 00 Summary, 1.04 WORK COVERED BY CONTRACT DOCUMENTS, A. 4. "In the first half mile of the road in the first curve up the canyon, three sizable limestone rock outcroppings were observed that limited access road width. An

		additional geotechnical investigation was performed to determine acceptable methods of outcropping removal to allow for widening efforts. These outcroppings will likely need to be removed and retaining walls will be added to provide hillside stability." Can you verify the extent of rock removal? Can you verify the length and height of retaining walls required in this area? A: Identification of station is necessary to answer this question.
28		Specifications SECTION 32 15 00 AGGREGATE SURFACING talks about Stabilized Gravel Paving. Could you please verify where in the plans this is to be utilized? A: There is no stabilized gravel paving as mentioned in the specifications. It was inadvertently left from a previous design iteration submittal.
29		In Ely we noticed that in their equipment yard there is a stand tank. Do you know if this is the water source for this project or is there a water source closer to the park? A: The nearest available water supply is the City of Ruth. Contractors should plan to haul water from this location for dust control and soil conditioning. Cost is unknown.
30		Do you know if there is an Aggregate pit close to the project location? Or is the BLM supplying aggregate for the project? A: Contractor is responsible for furnishing aggregate. The government does not supply aggregate for the project. There are a couple local aggregate pits in the area. Contractor shall verify and submit for approval.
31		In and around campsites, will the trees that are not be taken out be marked as protect in place? In the campsite areas will the underbrush under trees marked as protect in place need to be taken out? A: Vegetation removal is limited to the areas indicated on the plans. Preserve trees and underbrush between campsites for privacy, and minimize clearing as much as possible. Trees and underbrush will not be field marked for protection.
32		Will the grading contractor be responsible for backfilling the retaining walls at the trailhead area or will the concrete contractor want to do that? A: Responsibility for backfilling retaining walls should be coordinated between the grading/earthwork and retaining wall/concrete contractors, general contract is responsible.
33		If existing rock is at subgrade, do we continue to scarify the existing rock to the 12" or leave in place? A: If the native road is well compacted, structurally sound, and meets the 12-inch prepared subgrade requirement, aggregate base may be placed directly on top without additional scarification. Areas that do not meet subgrade requirements shall be scarified and compacted. If competent rock is present, it may remain in place with aggregate base placed above.
34		For the small roads marked as abandoned, will these areas need to be roughed over? A: The small roads marked as abandoned do not need to be roughed over, they are to remain undisturbed.
35	Section 00 21 13 / Solicitation	Can you confirm the anticipated project start date and overall contract duration? We understand the Contractor is to begin work within 10 calendar days after Notice to Proceed, but please confirm the anticipated award/NTP schedule and project start. A: Contract award is anticipated to occur mid-September 2026. Performance and Payment bonds are due within 10 days of contract award. The Notice to Proceed is issued upon receipt of bonds. The contractor must start contract work within 10 days of receiving the Notice to Proceed. Contract must be completed no later than December 31, 2027, this includes final cleanup. This timeframe anticipates contract period of performance October 2026 – December 2027. Contractor is required to coordinate scheduling and timing of preconstruction, construction, and cleanup activities within the period of performance. Contractor is required to submit a project schedule after award.

36	Section 01 50 00 / Temporary Facilities	At the BLM equipment yard in Ely we observed a stand tank. Will this be the approved construction water source for the project, or is there another water source available closer to the Garnet Hill Recreation Area for contractor use? A: The nearest available water supply is the City of Ruth. Contractors should plan to haul water from this location for dust control and soil conditioning.
37	Section 31 00 00 / Earthwork	Is there an approved commercial aggregate pit located near the project that BLM recommends, or will the Government furnish aggregate? If contractor furnished, are there any approved material sources or borrow locations? A: Contractor is responsible for furnishing aggregate. The government does not supply aggregate for the project. There are a couple local aggregate pits in the area. Contractor shall verify and submit for approval.
38	Demolition & Site Plans	Within the campground areas, will trees designated to remain be field marked for protection? Additionally, is the contractor expected to remove underbrush beneath trees that are to remain, or should vegetation only be removed within the limits shown on the plans? A: Vegetation removal is limited to the areas indicated on the plans. Preserve trees and underbrush between campsites for privacy, and minimize clearing as much as possible. Trees and underbrush will not be field marked for protection.
39	Retaining Wall Details	Please clarify responsibility for structural backfill behind the retaining walls at the Main Trailhead. Should this work be included with the grading/earthwork contractor or with the retaining wall/concrete contractor? A: Contractor shall determine this.
40	Roadway Sections / Earthwork	If competent rock is encountered at subgrade, is the contractor required to scarify the rock to achieve the required 12-inch prepared subgrade depth, or may the existing rock remain in place with aggregate base placed above it? A: If the native road is well compacted, structurally sound, and meets the 12-inch prepared subgrade requirement, aggregate base may be placed directly on top without additional scarification. Areas that do not meet subgrade requirements shall be scarified and compacted. If competent rock is present, it may remain in place with aggregate base placed above.
41	Demolition Plans	For the existing dirt roads identified as 'Abandon Existing Dirt Road in Place,' is any additional work required such as ripping, scarifying, or rough grading, or are they to remain undisturbed after abandonment? A: The small roads marked as abandoned do not need to be roughed over, they are to remain undisturbed.
42		Do the Superintendent, SSHO and QC Manager need to be 3 separate individuals? A: The superintendent cannot serve as the QCM as well. There needs to be at least two staff members on site when work is being performed.
43		Can the period of performance be extended after award once the material/equipment lead times are confirmed due to current market conditions for the equipment for this project? A: Contract award is anticipated to occur mid-September 2026. Performance and Payment bonds are due within 10 days of contract award. The Notice to Proceed is issued upon receipt of bonds. The contractor must start contract work within 10 days of receiving the Notice to Proceed. Contract must be completed no later than December 31, 2027, this includes final cleanup. This timeframe anticipates contract period of performance October 2026 – December 2027. The period of performance accounts for material and equipment lead time.
44		Please provide the site visit attendee sign in sheet. A: The site visit sign-in sheet was made available in Amendment 01 on SAM.gov.
45		Are there any phasing requirements? A: There are no phasing requirements.
46		Does this project require phasing? Can we work at multiple locations simultaneously?

		A: There are no phasing requirements and can work simultaneously in multiple locations.
47		Is this project tax exempt? A: The applicability of state and local taxes can vary depending on the jurisdiction and the nature of the transaction, the Government is unable to provide tax advice or make representations regarding the applicability of sales, use, or other state and local taxes. Bidders are responsible for determining the applicability of all federal, state, and local taxes to their proposed pricing and should include any applicable taxes and fees in their bid. No adjustment to the contract price will be made after award based on an bidder's failure to account for taxes and fees, if applicable.
48		When do you anticipate on site work starting? A: Contract award is anticipated to occur mid-September 2026. Performance and Payment bonds are due within 10 days of contract award. The Notice to Proceed is issued upon receipt of bonds. The contractor must start contract work within 10 days of receiving the Notice to Proceed. Contract must be completed no later than December 31, 2027, this includes final cleanup. This timeframe anticipates contract period of performance October 2026 – December 2027. Contractor is required to coordinate scheduling and timing of preconstruction, construction, and cleanup activities within the period of performance. Contractor is required to submit a project schedule after award.
49		Are third party inspections required? A: Yes, third party inspections are required and are the contractor's responsibility.
50		Is survey required? A: Survey points will be given to the successful bidder after award. Contractor shall verify accuracy.
51		Is permitting required? A: The Contractor is responsible for determining whether any permits are required for the performance of the work. In accordance with RFO FAR 52.236-7, Permits and Responsibilities, the Contractor shall, without additional expense to the Government, be responsible for obtaining any necessary licenses and permits, and for complying with any Federal, State, and municipal laws, codes, and regulations applicable to the performance of work.
52		Are soil boring reports available? If not, it will be assumed that excavation will be clear of rocks and obstructions. A: Do not assume excavation would be clear of rocks and obstructions. Contractor to field verify.
53		Is there a bulk water fill i.e. a hydrant or water source we can pump from for grading operations in close proximity? A: The nearest available water supply is the City of Ruth. Contractors should plan to haul water from this location for dust control and soil conditioning.
54		Is any landscaping restoration required for this project? For example; topsoil, seeding, and fertilizer. A: Landscaping restoration is not required.
55		Please provide staking data points for the project. A: Survey points will be given to the successful bidder after award. Contractor shall verify accuracy.
56		Are red, yellow, and blue tops required? A: Physical red, yellow, and blue tops are not required by the Government. The Contractor is fully responsible for all construction staking, grading accuracy, and quality control needed to meet the final contract specifications
57		Please confirm we can close off all areas to the public for the duration of construction. A: Contractor may close the area to the public in the location they are working for public safety.

58		Please confirm whether asbestos or lead is present on this project, and if so, provide the relevant documentation. A: To the best of BLM's knowledge there is no asbestos or lead on the project.
59		Is a SWPPP required? A: Contractor shall follow all state and local requirements.
60		Should silt fence at the LOD be included in our pricing? A: Yes, silt fence must be included in your pricing as mandatory erosion and sediment control Best Management Practice.
61		Are site furnishings (Fire Rings, Picnic Tables, etc.) to be provided and installed by contractor? A: Yes, the contractor is responsible for purchasing and installing the site furnishings.
62		What is the gradation of the RIp Rap and specs for the Common Fill? A: The proposed Rip Rap is to have a minimum size D50=8", per detail 1, drawing CD504. This detail does not identify the minimum depth of the riprap, but it should be a 16-inch depth. The specs for the common fill are per Section 5.3.1 Subgrade Preparation, Section 5.3.2 Fill Materials, Section 5.3.3 Fill Placement and Compaction, and Section 5.3.4 Onsite Soil Suitability for use in Fill Construction of the provided Geotechnical Exploration Report.
63	Drawing 1CG101 Grading Plan	On Drawing 1CG101 Note 1 states to scarify and recompact gravel parking area and gravel road. Note 2 states to resurface parking area and road Per Detail 4/CD501. Note 3 states to maintain existing grades. Is it the intent of the project to cut 8" of native material form the parking area and road and replace it with 8" of Aggregate Base to match existing grade? There are no cuts mentioned in the plans for this drawing. Or is the intent to fill on top of the existing grade and raise the parking area and road 8"? Please clarify for all of the grading plans in the documents as this is a question for every drawing. A: The design intent is for 8" of native material to be removed, 12" of native material to be scarified and recompacted to 90% and 8" aggregate base to be installed per Detail 4, Drawing CD501. This condition applies to all the grading plans. Please note that the cut/fill numbers provided on the sheets reference to the bottom of base course and does not include over excavation quantities.
64	Drawing CD503 Details 1, 2, 3, 4, 5	Details 1, 2, 4, & 5 call for a 9'-11" picnic table with an 8' bench. Detail 3 calls for a 96" (8') table and 96" bench with 31" ground clearance. Detail 3 also lists 2 different table models, SKWXT and XTH. Can you please clarify which picnic tables will be required? A: Sheet CD503 shall read SKWXTH, these tables are the raised tables for wheelchair clearance under the table, they also only come in one length, 8' top, 6' seat bench.
65	Drawing CD501 Detail 3	Detail 3 on drawing CD501 is for an ADA Parking Sign. There are no ADA parking signs noted on the plans. Can you provide the locations where these signs are required? A: There are no proposed locations for ADA Parking Signs. Detail 3 on Drawing CD501 was inadvertently left on the plans from a previous design iteration submittal.
66	General	Request extension of the bid date. A: The bid due date was extended in Amendment 02. Continue to monitor SAM.gov for all updates related to this solicitation.
67		Geotechnical report. Drawing sheets CD501 and CD504 and specification Section 01 10 00, paragraph 1.04.3 reference the Geotechnical Exploration Report, Garnet Hill Recreation Area — Various Improvements, prepared by Universal Engineering Services, dated October 18, 2024, Project No. 4030-2400162. The CD504 geotechnical note states all grading, and earthwork shall conform to this report, and the CD501 gravel resurfacing detail states material thickness and compaction will follow its guidelines; however, the report is not included in the solicitation attachments. Please furnish the report to all bidders. A: Geotechnical Report will be provided.

68		Construction water source. The documents do not identify a water source for compaction, dust control, and concrete curing. Please confirm whether a designated source is available to the contractor (for example, the stand tank located at the Erma fire station; the Ely city yard or the fire hydrant located in Ruth at the intersection of Sunshine ST & Main Street), or whether bidders should assume commercial procurement and hauling of all construction water. A: The nearest available water supply is the City of Ruth. Contractors should plan to haul water from this location for dust control and soil conditioning.
69		Please confirm that the design intent is to cut 8" out of the existing road and haul off the spoils to allow for 8" of ABC, or does the design team prefer to have the contractor install the 8" of ABC on top of the existing road after they process the subgrade: A: If the native road is well compacted, structurally sound, and meets the 12-inch prepared subgrade requirement, aggregate base may be placed directly on top without additional scarification. Areas that do not meet subgrade requirements shall be scarified and compacted. If competent rock is present, it may remain in place with aggregate base placed above.
70		Please provide an acceptable location to place excess spoils generated from the project site. A: The contractor shall do their best to balance cut and fill onsite with suitable material. Excess spoils can be placed within 10 miles of each project site, or at each project site either stockpiled or distributed.
71		"Web-Based Project Software: Project software administered by Contractor will be used for purposes of managing communication and documents during the construction stage. See Section 01 31 00 – Project Management and Coordination for requirements for using web-based Project software." Could you please clarify whether the cost associated with the required web-based project management software is the responsibility of the Contractor and should be included in the lump sum bid price, or whether the Government will provide access to an agency-selected software platform at no cost to the Contractor? A: The government will not be providing access to an agency-selected software platform, it is the responsibility of the Contractor to provide the construction project management platform that is to be used for the project.
72		Concern about section #31 20 00-5 paragraph 3.11. **3.11 SOIL MOISTURE CONTROL** A. Uniformly moisten or aerate subgrade and each subsequent fill or backfill soil layer before compaction to within 2 percent of optimum moisture content. 1. Do not place backfill or fill soil material on surfaces that are muddy, frozen, or contain frost or ice. 2. Remove and replace, or scarify and air dry, otherwise satisfactory soil material that exceeds optimum moisture content by 2 percent and is too wet to compact to specified dry unit weight. Please confirm that the government will accept subgrade based on achieving the specified 90 percent minimum compaction, verified by field density inspection testing, in lieu of enforcing the 2 percent moisture tolerance. This item materially affect earthwork pricing. A: The government will accept the subgrade based on achieving the specified 90% minimum compaction field verified by density inspection testing.
73		Specification Section 32 15 00 (Aggregate Surfacing), Paragraph 3.01.A, specifies a Stabilized ABA Gravel Paving system consisting of Gravel-Lok binder, Cell-Tek Load Support Grid (6" depth), geotextile fabric, washed angular top course, and #57 base course, with installation requirements at Paragraph 4.02.A including edge restraints "as indicated in the drawings." No location for this stabilized system is identified in the specification, and we find no corresponding keynote, detail, or edge restraint detail in the drawing set. The drawings show aggregate base course and gravel surfacing per Detail 2/CD504 and Detail 4/CD501 throughout. Please identify the specific areas, by sheet and station or keynote, where the Stabilized ABA Gravel Paving system of Section 32 15 00 is required. If this system is not required on this

		project, please confirm that all gravel surfacing is to be constructed per the details shown on the drawings. A: There is no stabilized gravel paving as mentioned in the specifications. It was inadvertently left from a previous design iteration submittal.
74		If the Stabilized ABA Gravel Paving system is intended for the Pole Line Road gravel surfacing, the specified Gravel-Lok binder is a decorative, pedestrian-grade product not typically used for roadway applications of this length and section. Would the Government consider FSB-3000 Formulated Soil Binder (Soil-Tech Inc., Las Vegas, NV) as an approved substitution for roadway soil stabilization and dust control? It is a polymer emulsion binder used widely on unpaved roads throughout the Southwest, including Forest Service, mining, and solar access roads. Product literature is attached. If a formal substitution request per Section 01 25 00 is required, please advise whether it may be submitted with the bid or post-award. A: There is no stabilized gravel paving as mentioned in the specifications. It was inadvertently left from a previous design iteration submittal.