



WESTERN
PACIFIC
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FISHERY
MANAGEMENT
COUNCIL

Contractor Solicitation:

Protected Species Program Technical Assistant to Update the SAFE Report Protected Species Modules and Improve Protected Species Information Base for Fisheries Management

Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (MSA) is the primary authority for managing fisheries in U.S. federal waters. MSA Section 303(a)(1)(C) requires that any fishery management plan prepared by the Council must be consistent with MSA's National Standards, which include the reduction of bycatch, and with "any other applicable law", including those related to protected species such as the Endangered Species Act (ESA), the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA) and the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA).

Regular review of protected species information and analysis of impacts are critical to meet the mandates under the MSA, monitor and evaluate protected species interactions and to allow for early identification of management needs. To this end, the Council developed a protected species module for the Fishery Ecosystem Plan (FEP) Stock Assessment and Fisheries Evaluation (SAFE) Reports, which is updated on an annual basis. The Contractor will assist Council staff in updating the protected species module for the 2017 calendar year, and may also assist with projects to improve the protected species information base for fisheries management.

Scope of Work:

The contractor will assist Council staff in updating the protected species modules for the SAFE Reports. Specifically, the contractor's activities will include:

- Address work items identified during the review of the 2016 SAFE Report (including development of options for a standardized metric to detect changes in protected species interactions);
- Update data tables with 2017 observer data and other available data;
- Update narrative text to reflect 2017 data;
- Coordinate with the SAFE report protected species work team and attend coordination meetings related to the report update;
- Produce a draft 2017 SAFE report protected species module;
- Assist in the Protected Species Advisory Committee and other Council advisory body meetings associated with the SAFE report review; and
- Address comments in response to draft document review by the work team and Council advisory bodies.

In addition, the contractor may assist Council staff in other activities to improve the protected species information base for fisheries management, including, but not limited to:

- Develop updated materials and text for the Council's protected species webpage; and
- Draft protected species sections for FEP amendment documents and associated NEPA documents.

Contract Period:

The contract will run for a 5 month period from January through May 2018.

Qualifications:

- Master of Science degree in marine science, fishery science, or resources management preferred. Minimum four-year college degree in geography, marine science, ecology, resource management, planning or other closely related field of science with previous work experience in environmental planning, marine or fisheries management, research, monitoring, or other resource management experience/training.
- Knowledge of the principles of MSA, federal fishery management, protected species interactions in fisheries, marine ecology and applicable environmental laws (e.g., National Environmental Policy Act, Endangered Species Act, Marine Mammal Protection Act) preferred.
- Experience using MS Word, Excel, R, and EndNote.
- Working knowledge of statistics.
- Ability to work with minimal supervision in situations where multiple tasks are required within limited time constraints.
- Ability to work efficiently with a diverse composite of fishery management groups.
- Demonstrable technical writing ability.

Reporting Requirements:

The Contractor will be required to submit regular activity reports in addition to the primary deliverables for the contract, which will consist of draft SAFE report protected species modules and any associated products.

How to Apply:

Applications should include 1) a cover letter; 2) resume or CV; and 3) at least one technical writing sample, submitted to the contact information below **by 5pm (Hawaii) on Tuesday, December 12, 2017:**

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Available Funding:

Total amount of funding available is \$20,000.