

Request for Proposals (RFP) Grant Writing Services Competitive Hatchery Funding

RFP No. 2025-01/34-444

Responses to Requests for Clarification: January 29, 2025

- 1. I received only the RFP without attachments. I found the NOAA-BIA's RFP information online, but don't want to miss anything. Could you please send a copy of the attachments to me at <u>kajsa@nixeenvironmental.com</u>? BIA RFP information will be sent as requested.
- 2. Would you please confirm the timeline?
 - As I understand, the CTUIR contract would begin on 2/12/2025 (or sooner). If sooner, what would be the earliest date? As soon as a decision on the contractor is made, February 7, 2025.
 - b. The final application(s) are due to CTUIR by 2/28/2025. To clarify, does that mean by 2/27/2025 at 11:59 pm? By COB (4pm) on 2/28/2025.
 - c. CTUIR will submit the application(s) via email to BIA/NOAA by 3/3/2025. Two weeks is a very quick turnaround to prepare the application(s) for this funding opportunity, and I'd encourage starting as soon as possible. Fully agree.
- 3. Can all work by the contractor be completed remotely? Yes. With periodic check-ins with CTUIR lead via phone or video call.
- 4. Does the CTUIR have requirements such as a tribal business license, specific liability insurance needs, etc. before a contract can be awarded? Not on this solicitation.
- 5. Which are the primary CTUIR staff member(s) that will work with the contractor to prepare application materials? Jennifer Krajcik, Artificial Production Supervisor. Will the contractor need to interact with any project partners outside of the CTUIR? To be determined by the Artificial Production Supervisor.
- 6. Will staff members be available during normal business hours in the time frame of 2/12/25-2/28/2025? Yes. On travel Feb 26-28 but will have email and phone availability. Does CTUIR observe the President's Day holiday? Yes. Will any staff potentially be available to answer questions outside of normal business hours during the contract period? CTUIR staff is willing to check emails/phone on the weekend, but not as consistently as during normal business hours.
- 7. Will CTUIR have examples of similar grant applications available from which to draw materials for this application process? No.
- 8. Does CTUIR have resources to provide images and GIS maps or will those, if any, be the responsibility of the contractor? Yes, CTUIR can assist in securing necessary images.
- 9. How many applications does CTUIR plan to submit to the BIA/NOAA program through this contract? The BIA/NOAA RFP guidance says that an application cannot cover more than one hatchery facility. Two to three applications, it depends on whether we can combine everything in a reasonable way.

- 10. Is the scope of the proposed projects already identified, or will the scope be fairly well established by 2/12/2025? The CTUIR RFP mentions projects such as 1) improved internet to remote facilities, 2) valve and other equipment replacements, and 3) adding volitional release capabilities. I'm assuming there are potentially additional items. We don't anticipate adding more items. Number 2 has expanded slightly to include flowmeters, but for the most part the scope is identified.
- 11. Are there already draft budget estimates for the proposed work that will go into the application(s)? The minimum request for the program is \$250,000 and the maximum is \$6 million. Does CTUIR have an approximate dollar amount in mind for the request(s)? Yes. Very rudimentary estimates but anticipating \$3.4M on one application (or possibly split out as \$3M and \$400k), and \$2M on the other.
- 12. Is the information required by the application readily available? Or will CTUIR need significant assistance from the contractor to develop the project ideas and application contents? Here are a couple of examples based on the NOAA-BIA RFP: The information being requested in Content Requirements 1-3 is being worked on currently. Assistance from the contractor will be required to develop Content Requirements 4 and 5, and to improve the narrative for Content Requirements 1 and 2.
 - a. Does CTUIR already have an assessment of deferred maintenance needs for hatchery facilities? Yes. Is there a dollar amount estimated per facility? Yes. I don't need to know the estimated amount right now, just if that estimate already exists. Are there reports that can be cited associated with these needs? Yes. These have been updated in the last few months by an independent contractor hired by the funding agency that supports our projects, and the updates will not be ready by the due date of this application. However, the values are relatively accurate as they were last updated in 2022.
 - b. Does CTUIR already have an estimated value of hatchery fish to the tribal economy? I don't need to know what the estimated value is right now, just if that estimate already exists. Working on getting this information.