# **Contracting with Marketing and Regulatory Programs (MRP)**

### **About MRP**

Marketing and Regulatory Programs (MRP) facilitates domestic and international marketing of U.S. agricultural products, protects U.S. plant and animal health, regulates genetically engineered organisms, administers the Animal Welfare Act, and carries out wildlife damage management activities. MRP agencies are active participants in setting national and international standards.

### The MRP Mission Area consists of:

- Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) the Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) administers
  programs that create domestic and international marketing opportunities for U.S. producers
  of food, fiber, and specialty crops. AMS also provides the agriculture industry with valuable
  services to ensure the quality and availability of wholesome food for consumers across the
  country and around the world.
- Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) the Animal and Plant Health
  Inspection Service (APHIS) protects the health of U.S. agriculture and natural resources
  against invasive pests and diseases, regulates genetically engineered crops, administers
  the Animal Welfare Act, and helps people and wildlife coexist. APHIS also certifies the
  health of U.S. agricultural exports and resolves phytosanitary and sanitary issues to open,
  expand, and maintain markets for U.S plant and animal products.

## What MRP Buys

MRP procures a wide variety of supplies, equipment, and services. Some examples include:

- · Advertising and media campaigns
- Aerial release and spraying services (pheromones, insects)
- · Aircraft, fuel, rentals, and maintenance Biofuels
- Agricultural Inspection Services (Grain inspectors/samplers and insect surveys)
- Animal feed and bedding
- Animal Health Related Rendering and Disposal Service
- Animal Health Sampling and Testing for Diseases
- · Animal Vaccines
- Architectural and Engineering Services
- Commodities/Food Sources (AMS only)
- · Computers, printers, monitors, hardware, and software
- Construction of structures and facilities
- Electronic detection equipment and tools for animal tracking
- · Equipment Maintenance and Repair services
- Firearms, Ammunition, Chemicals and Pyrotechnics
- Gardening and pest control services (including tree survey and treatment)
- Hazardous material acquisitions, removal, disposal, and clean-up.
- Housekeeping services
- Information Technology and related services
- International Procurements
- Laboratory equipment, maintenance, and testing services
- Live animals (i.e., sheep, mice, dogs)



- Mailing, Shipping, Printing, Copying services
- Office furniture, furnishings, and supplies
- Pest Control Agents (pesticides and insecticides)
- · Professional, Management and Administrative Support Services
- Radiological Sources and Devices (radiators and x-rays)
- Research services
- Security and Guard services
- · Storage facilities
- Telecommunications, cabling, wiring, radios
- · Training, books, supplies
- · Tree removal and grinding
- Vehicles and Maintenance (including boats, ATVs, tractors, trailers, etc.)
- · Video equipment and cameras
- Veterinary Services (including animal depopulation and animal composting)

# **Common Ways MRP Buys What It Needs**

- Requirements up to \$10,000 for supplies, \$2,500 for services, and \$2,000 for construction
  may be filled directly by purchase card holders. These purchase requirements do not usually
  go through the contracting office. However, vendor capabilities statements can be submitted
  to the <u>USDA Vendor Capability Submission Portal</u> for access by all USDA purchase card
  holders, small business specialists and contracting staff.
- For requirements over \$10,000 and up to \$25,000, the program and contracting office will garner a minimum of three quotes to ensure reasonable competition.
- Proposed contract actions expected to exceed \$25,000 are synopsized on the <u>SAM</u>
   <u>Contract Opportunities page</u> (unless an exception applies) or use established sources/
   ordering vehicles. Before proposed contract actions over \$25K are synopsized, they are
   often forecasted on the <u>USDA Procurement Forecast</u> (up to three years in advance of the
   need).

## **Capability Statements**

Firms or individuals wishing to do business with MRP should provide a capability statement identifying their areas of expertise. Capability statements should be sent to the contracting office(s) servicing the geographical area in which you wish to do business or can be provided at the <a href="Vendor Capability Submission Portal">Vendor Capability Submission Portal</a>. Your firm should provide enough supplemental information to ensure that your firm's products and capabilities can be fully understood.

## **Subcontracting Opportunities**

Recognizing that small firms often do not have the capability to perform as prime contractors on certain large contracts, MRP promotes the involvement of small businesses at the subcontracting level. Special contract clauses may be included in a large prime contract that requires the prime contractor to maximize the participation of small businesses through subcontracting opportunities.

The Small Business Administration (SBA) provides helpful information, resources, and links for businesses interested in prime and subcontracting.



# **United States Department of Agriculture**

#### Resources

For additional information of conducting business with the Federal Government please visit the following web sites:

- USDA Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization (OSDBU)
- Contracting with USDA
- System for Award Management Registering as a Government Contractor
- General Services Administration Sell to the Government
- SBA Become a Federal Contractor

If you have any questions, please e-mail michael.j.chiodi@usda.gov.

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