

September 9, 2015

**CONTRACT NO. 4400006822
STATE PROJECT NO. H.004985.2
FEDERAL AID PROJECT NO. H004985
I-12 TO BUSH MITIGATION
ROUTE LA 3241
ST. TAMMANY PARISH**

Questions & Answers:

Q1. We have professional engineers on staff experienced with wetland mitigation projects, but they are not registered in Louisiana. If our project does not involve complex construction for hydrologic restoration – we anticipate mostly culvert removal and creating low water crossings, cutting plugs in small dirt berms, filling or plugging of ditches – may we use our engineers on staff rather than secure a subcontract with one registered in LA?

A1. DOTD requires plans to be stamped by a licensed engineer. The Consultant may partner or sub with a licensed engineer that meets this qualification.

Q2. The Consultant is experienced in land acquisition and has a strict protocol for performing due diligence. The Consultant is the largest land-based conservation organization world-wide and is accredited through the Land Trust Association for quality policies and procedures. Does this allow us to meet the qualification for real estate professional?

A2. The Consultant needs to submit the qualifications/resume in the 24-102 for the person or persons who will be responsible for real estate work such as acquisitions and recordation.

Q3. Does LADOTD intend to procure mitigation credits, if any, beyond the ~180 direct impact credits DIRECTLY, or instead THROUGH the chosen consultant?

A3. The DOTD is seeking a mitigation plan which may call for the purchase of available released credits. If purchase of released credits is proposed as part of the plan, the purchase may be made by DOTD or through consultant.

Q4. If a mitigation bank wishes to respond to this RFQ based on the mitigation bank's ability to service bank credits - which is part 1 of the 2 parts described in the scope - must the mitigation bank meet all the qualifications outlined?

A4. Yes, all qualifications must be met. At the time this ad was written there were no banks with enough available released credits to fulfill the obligation. The Corps has stated that they will not accept the purchase of future credits. Only credits that are released can be purchased as part of the mitigation plan, the remaining balance of mitigation would be met through permittee-responsible mitigation thereby requiring agreements.

