

**AGREEMENT  
PROFESSIONAL SERVICES  
FOR  
WILDLIFE BIOLOGIST SERVICES**

**THIS AGREEMENT** is made and entered into by and between the **COUNTY OF MANATEE**, a political subdivision of the State of Florida, hereinafter referred to as the "County," with offices located at 1112 Manatee Avenue West, Bradenton, Florida, 34205-7804, and **QUEST ECOLOGY, INC.**, hereinafter called "the Consultant," duly authorized to conduct business in the State of Florida, with offices located at 735 Lakeview Drive, Wimauma, FL 33598.

**WHEREAS**, the County has determined that it is necessary, expedient and in the best interest of the County to retain, obtain or employ the Consultant to render and perform professional services in the manner set forth in this Agreement; and

**WHEREAS**, the County caused a public announcement to be made, distributed and published, requesting proposals (**RFP #10-3449FL**), for the selection of a provider of professional services in the manner set forth in this Agreement. The Consultant has submitted a proposal; the County conducted a competitive selection procedure in accordance with Manatee County Code of Law Chapter 2-26.

**WITNESSETH**

Now therefore in consideration of the foregoing premises and the mutual covenants herein contained, it is agreed by and between the parties hereto as follows:

**ARTICLE 1. SCOPE OF SERVICES**

This Agreement sets forth the general terms and conditions pursuant to which County retains Consultant to provide Professional Services for Wildlife Biologist Services, on an as needed basis for Manatee County. The Scope of Services for this Agreement is described in detail in Exhibit "A," Scope of Services.

In the event of a conflict between the terms and conditions provided in Articles in this part of the Agreement and any attachment or exhibit, the Provisions contained within these Articles shall prevail unless the term or provision in the attachment or exhibit specifically states that it shall prevail.

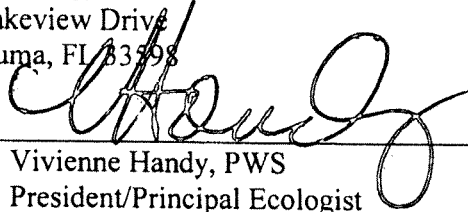
ACCEPTED IN OPEN SESSION

NOV 16 2010

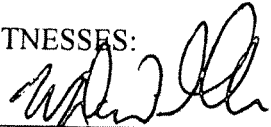

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
MANATEE COUNTY, FLORIDA

The Consultant agrees to perform or render services in accordance with this Agreement for Professional Services for Wildlife Biologist Services according to the method of compensation as set forth within this Agreement, upon authorization by Manatee County

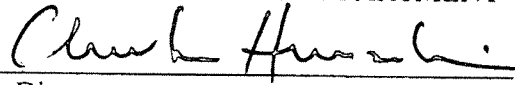
Contractor: Quest Ecology Inc.  
735 Lakeview Drive  
Wimauma, FL 33598

BY:   
Vivienne Handy, PWS  
President/Principal Ecologist

WITNESSES:

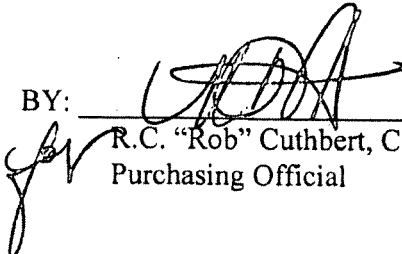
  


RECOMMENDED BY MANATEE COUNTY NATURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

BY:   
Director

**COUNTY OF MANATEE, FLORIDA**

Authority to execute this contract per Manatee County Code, Chapter 2-26, and per the delegation by the County Administrator effective 1/26/2009 revised 8/10/2009.

BY:   
R.C. "Rob" Cuthbert, C.P.M., CPPO  
Purchasing Official

ACCEPTED IN OPEN SESSION

NOV 16 2010

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
MANATEE COUNTY, FLORIDA

Estimated expenditure of future funding for Wildlife Biologist Services is estimated on a yearly basis to be \$60,000.00.

Funding Source: 120 0012800 534000

**MANATEE COUNTY** firms that were directly contacted and made aware of this Request for Proposal were, and took the following actions in response to the RFP:

Florida Permitting, Inc., Palmetto, FL (submitted a proposal)  
VHB, University Park, FL (submitted a proposal)

There were no other Manatee County firms found that would provide the products and services required by the RFP.

Proposals were received from the following firms:

**Manatee County** firms:

Florida Permitting, Inc., Palmetto, FL  
VHB, University Park, FL

**Local** firms:

ECT, Tampa, FL  
Ecological Services Associates, Seminole, FL  
Environmental Consulting & Technology, Sarasota, FL  
King Engineering, Tampa, FL  
Quest Ecology, Wimauma, FL  
Scheda Ecological Associates, Sarasota, FL

**Other** firms:

Bio Tech Consulting, Orlando, FL  
Glatting Jackson, Orlando, FL  
Grant Steelman, La Belle, FL  
Progressive Solutions, Daphne, AL

Approval to enter into negotiations with the top ranked firm Quest Ecology, Wimauma, FL.

Manatee County has the need to acquire Wildlife Biologist Services as outlined in the RFP. The RFP requires firms to provide the following: data collection for Wildlife Population Surveys throughout Manatee County as needed, including but not limited to the annual White-tail Deer Survey at Duette Preserve; subsequent data analysis and report preparation; listed species monitoring; compiling species lists; habitat and species mapping; and required deliverables.

1/19/10 – 6/11/10 the appropriate proposal procedures were followed. The Request for Proposal (RFP) was broadcast via DemandStar to two hundred twenty six (226) Wildlife Biologist firms; thirty three (33) firms downloaded the RFP and eleven (11) firms' submitted proposals.

The RFP was advertized locally in the Bradenton Herald, posted on the County's website and provided to the Manatee County Chamber of Commerce for release to members.

The Selection Committee consisted of:

Charlie Hunsicker, Natural Resources Department  
Jennifer Rebokus-Scott, Natural Resources Department

Frank Lambertson, Financial Management Department

The Selection Committee convened on 6/11/10 and shortlisted the following firms:

King Engineering, Tampa, FL  
Quest Ecology, Wimaumia, FL  
Scheda Ecological Associates, Sarasota, FL  
VHB, University Park, FL

The Selection Committee continued and ranked the firms as follows to negotiate with the top ranked firm:

Ranked #1, Quest Ecology, FL – The proposer was determined to best meet the needs of the County for ADI respite service and has been successfully performing these services for the County. Of particular importance are the firm's past experience; organizational structure; and a willingness to work with the County.

Ranked #2, Scheda Ecological Associates, FL – The firm submitted a competitive proposal demonstrating their ability to provide the required services and detailed experience. However, was not ranked as highly as the top ranked firm by the Selection Committee.

Ranked #3, King Engineering, Sarasota, FL – Its proposal responses were clear and concise addressing all categories requested in the RFP and detailed their years of experience. However, was ranked third due to the perception of a lesser ability to meet the County's requirements.

Ranked #4, VHB, University Park, FL – The firm submitted a satisfactory proposal and made an informative oral presentation with many innovative ideas. The firm was ranked fourth overall.

The remaining proposal respondents were not ranked, although well qualified they were not selected based on a comparison of capabilities of the selected firm.

Bio Tech Consulting, Orlando, FL  
ECT, Tampa, FL  
Environmental Consulting & Technology, Sarasota, FL  
Florida Permitting, Palmetto, FL  
Glatting Jackson, Orlando, FL  
Grant Steelman, La Belle, FL  
Progressive Solutions, Daphne, AL