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Route To:

Subject: 2014 Incident Blanket Purchase Agreement Program of Work

To: Regional Foresters, Station Directors, Area Directors, IITF Director, Deputy Chiefs and Washington Office Directors

The National Solicitation Plan for Incident Blanket Purchase Agreements (I-BPAs) is updated for the 2014 season. Resource categories for solicitation and/or re-solicitation are listed below. All I-BPAs will be executed in the Virtual Incident Procurement (VIPR) System. Functionality to implement the 2014 I-BPA program will be provided in VIPR.

The 2014 national solicitations include re-solicitations for crew carrier buses, communications trailers, GIS units, clerical support units and helicopter operations support trailers. Beginning in 2014, all national solicitations follow a five-year solicitation cycle with competitive solicitations every five years.

The 2014 regional solicitations include re-solicitations for fallers (single and module), heavy equipment (dozer, tractor plow, excavator, transport), mechanics with service trucks, and tents or canopies. The local solicitations include re-solicitations for fuel tenders and vehicles with drivers.

In accordance with FAR 13.303-6, contracting officers (COs) shall annually review agreements via the rollover modification in VIPR. Further directions are provided within I-BPA Policy (4G13.303-70) located in the Forest Service Handbook 6309.32 Federal Acquisition Regulation. Regional Fire and Aviation Operations staffs should conduct a needs analysis to identify equipment type and numbers for incident support. Then coordinate with their COs prior to issuing any solicitations or rollover modifications. Limiting the number of awards based upon the annual needs analysis should facilitate increased competition, resulting in lower equipment rates.

Many changes have occurred since formal competition was first introduced into preseason I-BPAs to establish consistent national standards. The Washington Office Acquisition Management (AQM) and Fire and Aviation Management (FAM) continue to identify and resolve issues with incident procurement procedures and practices in conjunction with the I-BPA Policy and VIPR Change Control Boards.

We appreciate the involvement of everyone to implement and strengthen the I-BPA program. For questions or additional information contact Judy Dunnam (WO-AQM, FESSAA Team) at jdunnam@fs.fed.us or Dave Haston (WO-FAM) at dhaston@fs.fed.us.

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