Clarifications to Bidder’s Questions:

Vegetation monitoring power analysis

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 1 | Surveys: Could you confirm that no field surveys are expected to be carried out during the project? | We do not expect the contractor to carry out field surveys for this contract. |
| 2 | Area of Interest (AOI): Could you provide the boundaries of the area to be analysed, or confirm if they are available? | The project boundary is that of Pewsey Downs NNR. A GIS layer of the boundary can be provided to the successful contractor. |
| 3 | Species Identification: Is species identification required, or should the analysis be conducted at a higher, aggregated level? | Please see the response to question 4 for details of the variables available for analysis. These are a mixture of species level and aggregate data. |
| 4 | Existing Dataset: Could you please provide a sub-sample of your existing dataset? This will help us understand the available variables and assess their compatibility with our model. | The available variables are as follows:Cover of bare ground %Cover of litter %Sward height length cmAmount of herbs %Cover of trees / scrub %Bromopsis erecta % Positive indicator species Presence/absence for each speciesNegative indicator species Presence/absence for each speciesIn addition it is intended to provide data on Succisa pratensis cover, subject to our completion of the survey in time for inclusion. |
| 5 | Animal Movements/Density: Can you confirm if animal movements or density is recorded as a variable in your dataset? | Records of livestock numbers and type are available on a week-by-week basis from 2020 to present. |
| 6 | Submission Template: Is there a specific template we should follow for the technical proposal submission, or can we use our own? Additionally, are there any limitations on the number of pages or words? | All submission requirements are as set out in the Request for Quotation. We do not require submissions to be completed to a specific template. |
| 7 | As a charitable organisation with the aim of research for public benefit, we need to ensure ongoing access to the results of the work it undertakes. Would it be possible to amend the contract terms to provide a royalty free licence to us to use the results for ongoing academic research purposes, subject to any confidentiality restrictions, and provided that no third party gains any rights in the results? Also would it be possible to include provision for us to publish the results, subject to any confidentiality restrictions and subject prior written approval from NE? | While we are open to negotiating these provisions of the contract, we cannot guarantee at this stage that this will prove possible. |