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Request for Quotation

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Advanced Mooring Systems (AMS) worldwide: information collation

LIFE18 NAT/UK/000039 - LIFE Recreation ReMEDIES: Reducing and Mitigating Erosion and Disturbance Impacts affecting the Seabed

You are invited, to submit a quotation for the requirement described in the specification below.

Please confirm, by email, receipt of these documents and whether you intend to submit a quote.

Your response should be returned to the following email address by: 5th January 2023

Email: jan.maclennan@naturalengland.org.uk

Date: 5th January 2023

Time: 5pm

Ensure you state the reference number and 'Final Submission' in the subject field to make it clear that it is your response.

Contact Details and Timeline

Jan MacLennan will be your contact for any questions linked to the content of the quote pack or the process. Please submit any questions by email and note that, unless commercially sensitive, both the question and the response will be circulated to all tenderers.

Action	Date
Date of issue of RFQ	15th December 2022
Deadline for clarifications questions	22 nd December 2022
Deadline for receipt of Quotation	5 th January 2023 at 5pm
Intended date of Contract Award	12 th January 2023
Intended Contract Start Date	16 th January 2023
Intended Delivery Date / Contract Duration	31 st March 2023

Glossary

Unless the context otherwise requires the following words and expressions used within this Request for Quotation shall have the following meanings (to be interpreted in the singular or plural as the context requires):

"Authority"	Means the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs acting as part of Natural England
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“RFQ”	Means this Request for Quotation and all related documents published by the Authority and made available to suppliers
“Contract”	Means the contract to be entered into by the Authority and the successful supplier.

Conditions applying to the RFQ

You should examine your response to the RFQ and related documents ensuring it is complete prior to submitting your completed quotation.

Your quotation must contain sufficient information to enable the Authority to evaluate it fairly and effectively. You should ensure that you have prepared your quotation fully and accurately and that prices quoted are arithmetically correct for the units stated.

The supplier by submitting a quotation is deemed to accept the terms and conditions in the RFQ. Failure to comply with the instructions set out in the RTQ may result in the supplier’s exclusion from this procurement.

Acceptance of Quotations

By issuing this RFQ the Authority does not bind itself to accept any quotation and reserves the right not to award a contract to any supplier who submits a quotation.

Costs

The Authority will not reimburse you for any costs and expenses which you incur preparing and submitting your quotation, even if the Authority amends or terminates the procurement process.

Mandatory Requirements

The RFQ includes mandatory requirements and, if you do not comply with them, your quotation will not be evaluated. All mandatory requirements are set out in Bravo.

Clarifications

The Authority reserves the right to discuss, confidentially, any aspect of your quotation with you prior to any award of Contract to clarify matters.

Amendments

The Authority may amend the RFQ at any time prior to the deadline for receipt. If it amends the RFQ the Authority will notify you in writing and may extend the deadline for receipt in order to give you a reasonable time in which to take the amendment into account.

Conditions of Contract

The [standard condensed terms and conditions](#) will be included in any contract awarded as a result of this RFQ process. The Authority will not accept any material changes to these terms and conditions proposed by a supplier.

Specification

The Authority is Natural England. The Authority's priorities are to secure a healthy natural environment; a sustainable, low-carbon economy; a thriving farming sector and a sustainable, healthy and secure food supply. Further information about the Authority can be found at: [Natural England](#)

Background to requirement

The LIFE Recreation ReMEDIES: 'Reducing and Mitigating Erosion and Disturbance Impacts affecting the Seabed' project (LIFE 18 NAT/UK/000039) runs from July 2019 - Oct 2024 and will improve the condition of seagrass beds in five Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) between Essex and Isles of Scilly. This will be achieved by restoration, demonstration and reducing recreational pressures. Promoting awareness, communications and inspiring better care of sensitive seabed habitats will be key.

Natural England (lead partner) is working with Marine Conservation Society, Ocean Conservation Trust, Plymouth City Council/TECF and the Royal Yachting Association. The project is financially supported by LIFE, a financial instrument of the European Commission.

As part of the LIFE Recreation ReMEDIES project we are installing trials of Advanced Mooring Systems (AMS) www.saveourseabed.co.uk both as boat moorings and as markers to reduce the impact to the seabed. Rather than use the term 'eco-mooring' we have been using the term AMS to emphasise that these systems are not just improved designs in terms of seagrass protection but also improved in terms of functionality for boats – they have longer life spans, have just as good if not improved performance compared to traditional moorings.

In the past NE and other partners have commissioned a number of review projects on AMS but these have focussed on UK studies. Examples of reports looking at use of AMS worldwide are out of date.

We often get the following queries from stakeholders and boaters:

- How many of these different systems are used around the world? Where and in what environmental conditions? What has been the performance of these systems?

Outputs will be used to:

- help inform the work of the LIFE Recreation ReMEDIES project and future AMS workshops
- help inform management options for sensitive seabed habitats including MPAs
- answer queries from harbour authorities, stakeholders and boaters
- published on www.saveourseabed.co.uk and used in communications, publications and social media
- used to inform development of long term web pages by the RYA on AMS

Requirement

1. Create a comprehensive list and details on current Advanced Mooring Systems available on the market around the world.
2. Create a comprehensive list of global boat mooring AMS installations and trials to include the following information where possible:
 - a. Location
 - b. Number of moorings in place
 - c. Manufacturer/mooring type – dimensions, materials used including type of anchor block
 - d. Length of time been installed
 - e. Environmental conditions – tidal variations, depth etc
 - f. Vessel type and size using the moorings
 - g. Any evidence/research available on performance and success of the above installations both from an ecological and user perspective
 - h. Any evidence/research on boaters attitudes and use of the AMS
 - i. Incentive/drivers for installation i.e. legislative requirement, environmental project, individual preference etc

- j. Any examples found on remedial work on mooring scars where AMS have replaced traditional moorings

The information may be unlikely to be in published literature so this project will likely require direct contact/interviews with manufacturers and projects involved in trialling/installing AMS around the world.

Where available, initial contacts for some manufacturers listed above will be provided. Working with the ReMEDIES project communications officer, a call out on social media could also help provide further intelligence.

This project should build upon and complete initial scoping work carried out by the Ocean Conservation Trust intern Oliver Reddy as part of the ReMEDIES project in Autumn 2022 (see Annex 1). This initial work should be acknowledged in any final reports.

References:

1. **Potential for eco-moorings as management option for Marine Protected Areas - ME6010** [Defra, UK - Science Search](#)
2. [ReMEDIES AMS Information pack for harbour authorities](#)
3. [A guide to assessing and managing anthropogenic impact on marine angiosperm habitat - NECR111 \(naturalengland.org.uk\)](#)
4. [Tevi-Modelling-of-Advanced-Moorings-in-Cornish-Harbours.pdf \(saveourseabed.co.uk\)](#)
5. [Tevi-Advanced-Moorings-and-Seagrass-Report-compressed-1.pdf](#)
6. [Assessing behavioural and social responses to an eco-mooring trial for Zostera marina conservation management in Torbay, Southwest England - ScienceDirect](#)
7. [A simple mooring modification reduces impacts on seagrass meadows | Scientific Reports \(nature.com\)](#)
8. [Advanced Mooring System Projects UK – current knowledge \(saveourseabed.co.uk\)](#)

ANNEX 1: Initial project (OCT internship)



Advanced Mooring
Systems around the

Scope

This is a desk based contract and is not expected to require any field or marine survey work.

Outputs

1. A final brief referenced overview report will be provided outlining the methodology, evidence gathered (e.g. in table format) and recommendations for any further investigation.
2. A list of AMS installations in Excel or other format suitable for import into GIS and other systems, with as many data points as possible to include project name, project web link, latitude and longitude, number and type of moorings, minimum water depth at LAT, and tidal range listed.

3. An illustrative map/infographic or similar produced to indicate global prevalence of AMS installations that can be used for websites, leaflets, PowerPoint presentations and social media.

The report will need to be written in Natural England report templates (to be provided by Project Manager) and follow Natural England's Accessibility Policy [Accessible documents policy - Natural England - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

Timescales

It is anticipated that this contract will be awarded for a period of 3 months to end no later than 31/03/2023. Prices will remain fixed for the duration of the contract award period. We may at our sole discretion extend this contract to include related or further work. Any extension shall be agreed in advance of any work commencing and may be subject to further competition.

Prices

Prices must be submitted in £ sterling, inclusive of VAT.

Quotation Submission

We will award this contract in line with the most economically advantageous tender (MEAT) as set out in the following award criteria:

Price – 50%

Quality – 50%

The following quality criteria are weighted in accordance with the importance and relevance attached to each one:

Criteria	weighting	To include/please provide:
Experience	30	Evidence of recent similar projects
Understanding of requirement and methodology	40	Outline of your understanding of the requirement of the project A suggested methodology for completing the project
Project management	30	Detail how you will manage any risks A timescale and milestones for the project

Score	Justification
For a score of hundred (100):	Excellent - Response is completely relevant and excellent overall. The response is comprehensive, unambiguous and demonstrates a thorough understanding of the requirement and provides details of how the requirement will be met in full.
For a score of seventy (70):	Good - Response is relevant and good. The response demonstrates a good understanding and provides details on how the requirements will be fulfilled.
For a score of fifty (50):	Acceptable - Response is relevant and acceptable. The response provides sufficient evidence to fulfil basic requirements.
For a score of twenty (20):	Poor - Response is partially relevant and/or poor. The response addresses some elements of the requirements but contains insufficient / limited detail or explanation to demonstrate how the requirement will be fulfilled.
For a score of zero (0):	Unacceptable - Nil or inadequate response. Fails to demonstrate an ability to meet the requirement.

Contract Management

This contract shall be managed on behalf of the Authority by Jan MacLennan
jan.maclennan@naturalengland.org.uk 07795825996

The Project Manager will be the point of contact for any queries during the course of the contract. The contractor will be required to host a project inception meeting and take minutes and provide project updates every two weeks either by phone or by email to the project manager.

The Project Manager will require a draft copy of the report for review prior to finalisation.

We will raise purchase orders to cover the cost of the services and will issue to the awarded supplier following contract award.

Invoicing will be on completion of the contract. Invoices need to include the LIFE reference number: LIFE 18 NAT/UK/000039.

Disclosure

All Central Government Departments, their Executive Agencies and Non Departmental Public Bodies are subject to control and reporting within Government. In particular, they report to the Cabinet Office and HM Treasury for all expenditure. Further the Cabinet Office has a cross-Government role delivering overall Government policy on public procurement, including ensuring value for money and related aspects of good procurement practice.

For these purposes, the Authority may disclose within Government any details contained in your quotation. The information will not be disclosed outside Government during the procurement.

In addition, the Authority is subject to the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and the Environmental Information Regulations 2004, which provide a public right of access to information held by public bodies. In accordance with these two statutes, the Authority may be required to disclose information contained in your quotation to any person who submits a request for information pursuant to those statutes.

By submitting a quotation you consent to these terms as part of the procurement.

Disclaimers

Whilst the information in this RFQ and any supporting information referred to herein or provided to you by the Authority have been prepared in good faith the Authority does not warrant that this information is comprehensive or that it has been independently verified.

The Authority does not:

- make any representation or warranty (express or implied) as to the accuracy, reasonableness or completeness of the RFQ;
- accept any liability for the information contained in the RFQ or for the fairness, accuracy or completeness of that information; or
- accept any liability for any loss or damage (other than in respect of fraudulent misrepresentation or any other liability which cannot lawfully be excluded) arising as a result of reliance on such information or any subsequent communication.

Any supplier considering entering into contractual relationships with the Authority following receipt of the RFQ should make its own investigations and independent assessment of the Authority and its requirements for the goods and/or services and should seek its own professional financial and legal advice.

Protection of Personal Data

In order to comply with the General Data Protection Regulations 2018 the contractor must agree to the following:

- You must only process any personal data in strict accordance with instructions from the Authority
- You must ensure that all the personal data that we disclose to you or you collect on our behalf under this agreement are kept confidential.
- You must take reasonable steps to ensure the reliability of employees who have access to personal data.
- Only employees who may be required to assist in meeting the obligations under this agreement may have access to the personal data.
- Any disclosure of personal data must be made in confidence and extend only so far as that which is specifically necessary for the purposes of this agreement.

- You must ensure that there are appropriate security measures in place to safeguard against any unauthorised access or unlawful processing or accidental loss, destruction or damage or disclosure of the personal data.
- On termination of this agreement, for whatever reason, the personal data must be returned to us promptly and safely, together with all copies in your possession or control.

General Data Protection Regulations 2018

For the purposes of the Regulations the Authority is the data processor.

The personal information that we have asked you provide on individuals (data subjects) that will be working for you on this contract will be used in compiling the tender list and in assessing your offer. If you are unsuccessful the information will be **held and destroyed within two years** of the award of contracts. If you are awarded a contract it will be retained for the duration of the contract and destroyed within **seven years** of the contract's expiry.

We may monitor the performance of the individuals during the execution of the contract, and the results of our monitoring, together with the information that you have provided, will be used in determining what work is allocated under the contract, and in any renewal of the contract or in the award of future contracts of a similar nature. The information will not be disclosed to anyone outside the Authority without the consent of the data subject, unless the Authority is required by law to make such disclosures.