United States Department of the Interior
National Business Center
Aviation Management
300 E. Mallard Drive, Ste. 200
Boise, ID 83706-3991

Greetings Prospective Offerors: **April 3, 2012**

Solicitation No. D12PS00179: Exclusive Use Helicopter Flight Services to Support the National Park Service (NPS) , Mesa Verde National Park, Fire Management Programs to be based at Hesperus, Colorado

The attached Request for Proposals (RFP) is to acquire fully Contractor operated and maintained flight services for each location consisting of one helicopter and associated equipment that will be used as directed by the National Park Service (NPS) for their exclusive use support as specified in the solicitation. The services of the RFP are being acquired under the authority of Federal Acquisition Regulations (FAR), Part 12, Acquisition of Commercial Items and FAR Subpart 13.5, Test Program for Certain Commercial Items. The contents of the solicitation are as described in the Table of Contents.

∫∫∫ SPECIAL NOTICE

I would like to direct your attention to the information included in this letter. It is intended to assist you in preparing your offer and to identify items that may affect the offer you submit in response to this requirement.

BACKGROUND –

The requirement of this solicitation, for one fully Contractor operated and maintained helicopter with fuel vehicle to be based at the designated base. The National Park Service (NPS) sustains the health, diversity, and productivity of public lands for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations. In furtherance of their mission, the NPS is tasked and concerned with the management and protection of historical and cultural resources of millions of acres of public lands and in partnering with other government entities and the public. Contract helicopter services are used in support of their mission and to further enhance fire management program efforts. The environment includes steep/mountain terrain, with high desert and forest elevations and frequent high winds and hot summer temperatures.

The primary purpose of the contracts will be to transport Government personnel and cargo by fully Contractor furnished helicopter services in support of wildland fire management activities as directed by the Government. Specific activities include but are not limited to fire suppression, fire monitoring, initial attack, prescribed fire, aerial ignition, search and rescue and other administrative and resource activities. The helicopter is also considered an interagency resource and may be dispatched from the local area to support other Government entity wildland fire activities in need of additional helicopter resources.

If your offer is selected for an award, your prices will remain in effect for the first year of the contract as well as subsequent option years if the contract is renewed. No adjustments to prices will be made except as otherwise permitted in the solicitation specifications. Renewal of the contract(s) is at the option of the Government and this should be given careful consideration when considering costs that may impact operation of your helicopter over the five-year period that a contract could extend.

Section D, 52.212-1, Instructions to Offerors, discusses what you should do to submit a proposal and 52.212-2, Evaluation, discusses how we will evaluate your proposal. Prior to submission of your proposal, please check to see that you have included all the information requested. Failure to include the information identified may adversely effect the evaluation of your proposal.

Proposals are due by 2:00 PM, Thursday, April 19, 2012. Proposals received after this time and date would be subject to the conditions of D5, Late Submissions, Modifications, Revisions, and Withdrawals of Offers.

You are urged to carefully read the solicitation in its entirety, as the solicitation is likely to include updated provisions and clauses. Successful offeror must be registered in the Central Contract Registration (CCR) before an award can be made (D7.1)

If after reading the solicitation, you find you have questions, please feel free to contact me, Tina Young, Contracting Officer, for this requirement, and I will be happy to discuss the solicitation with you. I can be contacted at the office address shown on this letter or by telephone at 208-433-5021, facsimile at 208-433-5030 or email Tina_Young@nbc.gov.

/s/Tina L. Young

Tina L. Young
Contracting Officer

PAST CONTRACT PROCUREMENT HISTORY – MESA VERDE NATIONAL PARK HELICOPTER			
PREVIOUS CONTRACTOR	Classic Helicopters	**CONTRACT #**	80-2716
AIRCRAFT	BELL 206L-4		
YEAR	**DAILY AVAILABILITY RATE**	**FLIGHT RATE**	
2011	$2625	$906	
2010	$2550	$862	
2009	$2500	$823	
2008	$2450	$879	
2007	$2400	$785	