

Attachment J-4
ProTech DRAFT Request for Proposal ST-1330-17-RP-0007
Responses to Industry Questions Received by the 07/14/2017 Cut-Off
(Release #2 - 10/31/2017)

Question Number	Page Number	Section	Paragraph	Question / Comment	Government Response
1	0	C.3.2.30, C.3.8.1, C.3.8.2	0	Rationale for requirement that contractor must be able to cover entirety of all sub-areas for certain requirements. For example, WMO Workforce Strategy Center of Excellence support, and WMO Performance Culture and Learning Center of Excellence support combined have 14 sub-areas that offeror's must address comprehensively in order to be considered qualified in the one overall area (i.e. 3.8.1).	Correct
2	0	Section C	0	Observation that several new requirements additions (from the Dec 2016 DSOW) appear to be related to specific line offices (i.e., Workforce Management Office or Public Affairs Office). This appears to potentially limit future use of the Domain to fulfill similar requirements in other line offices. Is the intention for the scope to be narrow in applicability in these cases?	The Government's intent is for requirements within the Enterprise Operations Domain, prospective IDIQ contract to be utilized by all Bureaus established under Department of Commerce (DOC)
3	0	Section C	0	Observation that several new requirements additions (from the Dec 2016 DSOW) appear to be related to specific line offices (i.e., Workforce Management Office or Public Affairs Office). This introduces uncertainty for contractors that experience performing similar work for a different line office will potentially not be considered relevant. Recommend that the Government remove line office references in the scope.	Refer to response to Question #2
4	3	C.3.2	C.3.2.12	What topics are you looking to have the firm lead training on? Are there existing materials or curriculum that we can view ahead of time?	Description of supplies and services are definitized / provided on a task order request basis.
5	3	C.3.11.2	28	"The contractor shall provide records management services using Government records management procedures." Because records management procedures are often tailored to the needs of the Agency, please provide a copy of NOAA's "Government records management procedures" if they exist. If not, please indicate if development SOPs is a desired skills set.	NOAA's Records Management Program and its Governance are accessible at NOAA's website: http://www.corporateservices.noaa.gov/audit/records_management/

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6	11	C.3	1	Can a more definitive description of the scope of work for Incidental IT-Web Design be provided?	Incidental or ancillary IT is contemplated for the domain. Major IT acquisitions will most likely fall under NOAA Link as screened prior to soliciting task order proposals.
7	11	C.3	11	Are large prime offerors that can demonstrate coverage across the full scope of the SOW more likely to be awarded a contract?	The evaluation, and ultimate awards will be conducted per Section M.3 of the RFP.
8	11	C.3.1-C.3.1.8	11	Are the requirements of this Task Area applicable to other domains of the NOAA enterprise?	Requirements within this task area can be ordered to support the services within other domains as well as support DOC and its bureaus.
9	11	C.3	1	For the sentence "Information and Technology (IT) services that are deemed incidental to fulfill the mission critical needs of services are also inclusive within the Domain." Request that NOAA define the term "Incidental" in the context of fulfilling mission critical needs.	Refer to response to Question #6
10	11	C.3	1	In J-6 Cost Price Template, there is a Task 12 for IT Incidental Services. These services are referenced in the Draft RFP are under Task Area 3 (C.3.2.9) and Task Area 7 (C.3.7.16). Are IT Incidental Services a new Task Area ("Task Area 12") or is it called out in J-6 as a separate skill-set only for the purpose of pricing?	In addition to response to Question #6; Section J-6 primary purpose for IT Incidental is to specify the necessary pricing criteria for assignment of Labor category/sub-category rates and not to be confused as Service elements as outlined within Statement of Work.
11	11	C.3	0	See labor categories and four levels within each category, but how many personnel are wanted per category and are their job titles?	Numbers of personnel needed per category will be determined by future Task Order requirements.
12	12	C.3.1.3	1	Section C.3.1.3 states, "The contractor shall research, collect data, input, develop feedback mechanisms, and analyze strategic issues/initiatives/results; program goals and objectives, requirements analysis and definition; environmental assessments; and assess impacts." Please provide clarification on where the requirement is related to performance measurement of the strategic goals and objectives?	Upon issuance of a Performance Work Statement at the Task Order Level would identify firm requirements to include the requirements that of the Quality Assurance Surveillance Plan (QASP) containing such performance measurements.

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13	12	C.3.1.3	1	Please provide clarification on what "Identify strategies for negotiating licensing, options, testing, screening, and other commercialization agreements," refers to. Is it specific to software applications or intellectual property?	In addition to response to Question #6; Section J-6 primary purpose for IT Incidental is to specify the necessary pricing criteria for assignment of Labor category/sub-category rates and not to be confused as Service elements as outlined within Statement
14	12	C	C.3.1.7	The contractor shall provide Small Business Innovative Research (SBIR), Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) support. Develop and manage databases that track research support requests and awards, and conduct analyses and studies of program efficiency and effectiveness on continual basis for compliance with the agency and program missions. Question: Who's database? Already in place or new?	The intent is to encourage the use of commercially available automated tools to manage processes and metrics supporting Contract and Task Order management.
15	12	C.3.1.1	1	For any of the plans, processes, or assessments to be developed, does the government have a predetermined format and template for these documents or is the offeror going to have latitude to develop these based on their expertise in those areas? If the government has a predetermined format and template, would those templates be able to be provided?	This broad-based requirement will be determined on a task order request basis.
16	12	C	C.3.1.3	Background: "requirements analysis and definition; environmental assessments; and assess impacts..." Question: Can you please give an example of this requirement?	It is not the Government's intent to prescribe a specific assessment or analysis as it may vary on a task order request basis supporting task order management.
17	12	C	3.1.1	Does change management mean Configuration Data Management or organizational change management?	Applicable to bureau-wide Strategic Planning Support task areas as requirements are defined within Task Order request.
18	12	C	3.1.6	Does "safety management plans" mean personnel safety and health? Please elaborate what the requirement is in the context of this sub-element	Depending on NOAA Environmental, Safety, and Sustainability Office (NESSO) and other bureau requirements as defined within the task order level.
19	12	C.3.1.4	0	Please elaborate on the definition of "knowledge management systems"	It is not the Government's intent to prescribe a specific system. The intent is to, as stated, encourage the use of commercially available automated tools to manage processes and metrics supporting Contract and Task Order management.

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20	12	C.3.1.8	Strategic Planning Services	Will the Government consider highly-relevant and similar past performance to support the NOAA Technology Transfer Program that is at a different Agency or must it be directly for the NOAA program.	Past Performance will ne assessed in accordance with Section M of the final request for proposal (i.e., solicitation). Currently based on criteria outlined within the Draft RFP's Section M.5.3
21	12	C	3.1.7	Section C3.1.7 of the SOW requires the contractor to provide Small Business Innovative Research (SBIR), Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) support. Would this requirement preclude Small Businesses participating in the SBIR or STTR programs from fulfilling the requirements of this section?	Offerors and resulting Contractors are responsible to determine and disclose potential Organizational Conflicts of Interest (OCI) issues at both the IDIQ and Task Order level. The Government will also monitor requirements across organizations to mitigate potential OCI.
22	12	C.1.3	4	Please clarify if the conduct of "environmental assessments" are anticipated or if only specific research support is anticipated (ie, should our team include the disciplines typically associated with EAs such as wildlife biologists, ecologists, etc.)	Refer to response to question #18. Task requirements are further definitized at the task order request level.
23	12	C.3.1.4	4	Is there a Knowledge Management System in place?	Refer to response to question #19
24	13	C.3.2	1	It appears as those some paragraph numbers are listed in error. Is that correct?	C.3.2.30 lists 5 sub-elements for Scholarship Services
25	13	C.3.2.6	7	Is there an error in the phrase " by developing media by developing media advisories" in this requirement?	Yes. Duplicative.
26	13	C	C.3.2.8.5	The contractor shall provide Learning & Development services to design, deliver, and evaluate learning programs and curricula by identifying and assessing individual and organizational needs in order to drive employee development. Questions: Does the Learning Program already exist? Are these services for onsite workshops or online curricula programs?	Referenced excerpt pertains to the Human Capital Management Services C.3.8.2.5. The services required for this task is a current need upon which will be definitized at the task order request level.
27	13	C.3.10	C.3.10.4	For the legislative affairs tasks, are you looking for particular SME support on a certain topic, or simply support and prep for witnesses and other correspondence with the committees of jurisdiction?	Per C.3.10, the tasks are relative to support for NOAA's Congressional activities. For a background on the types of hearings and Congressional activities visit NOAA Office of Legislative and InterGovernmental Affairs site, currently at http://www.legislative.noaa.gov/

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28	13	C.3.2	1	There appear to be empty lines for "C2, C3, C4, C3.1, C3.2" under C3.2 on p.13. Were these included in error?	The final RFP will reflect the correct numbering format.
29	13	C	C.3.2.9	For the requirement to provide IT services (such as updating and maintaining social media web presence), what type of IT services are expected? For example, will this include software development, new web-based service technology integration, or IT performance assessment of existing services? If so, there is no Technical Systems Engineer or IT Business Analyst Labor Category in Attachment J-2 that would have these skillsets. Please clarify.	Refer to response to Questions 6 and 10.
30	13	C	C.3.2.6	Background: The contractor shall provide communications services, working with the appropriate bureau's designated Communications or Public Affairs Officer (i.e., NOAA Office of Communications, etc.) to help engage the print and electronic news media by developing media by developing media advisories, news releases, pitch emails/calls, and planning news conferences. Question: Is this intended to read: "...to help engage the print and electronic news media by developing media, developing media advisories and news releases, pitching emails/calls, ...'?"	Refer to response to Question #25
31	13	C	3.2	General Question – There is no mention of STEM outreach, outreach to high schools, colleges, universities, HBCUs, MIs, etc. Is this aspect of Communication and Education outreach performed somewhere else?	Specific tasks or service needs are identified or definitized at the task order request level. Such tasks are mentioned in C.3.2.4 and C.3.2.5.
32	13	C	3.2.5	Section C3.2.5 of the SOW requires "translation of outreach materials into several languages". To ensure adequate staffing, would the government please be more specific about the languages expected to be required?	Currently English and Spanish languages
33	13	C.3.2.5	6	This task requires "translation of outreach materials into several languages presented by bi-lingual speakers or interpreters." A. Please list the languages to be covered B. Please clarify if the provision of bi-lingual speakers and/or interpreters is anticipated under this contract	Refer to response to Question #32

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34	13	C.3.2.8	9	"The contractor shall provide liaison support between programs and the bureaus' communications and public affairs office." Is on-site support anticipated to fulfill this support task?	Staffing requirements vary by task order request as service needs are definitized. Anticipate both on-site and off-site staffing/labor category assignment.
35	13	C.3.2.9	10	"The contractor shall provide communication services for specialized mission programs ..." Please provide examples of "specialized mission programs"	A tour through NOAA.gov introduces several specialized mission programs throughout the bureau. This service is extended to other bureaus as definitized by task order request.
36	13	C	C.3.2.10	Please clarify if there is to be a repository or data center where the correspondence and data retrieved from national and international organizations is to be stored and extracted.	Specific broad-based task or service needs are identified or definitized at the task order request level.
37	13	C.3	C.3.2.3	Development of recruitment materials is mentioned. For what roles are we to be recruiting, and are there any preliminary target audiences/qualifications and traits for whom we should be developing these materials?	Refer to response to Question #36.
38	14	C.3.2.10	1	Section C.3.2.10 states, "C.3.2.10 The contractor shall prepare and transmit correspondence and data retrieved from national and international organizations for storing and extracting information." Please provide clarification on what type of data is the contractor responsible for preparing and transmitting?	Refer to response to Question #36.
39	14	C.3.2.10	1	Section C.3.2.10 states, "C.3.2.10 The contractor shall prepare and transmit correspondence and data retrieved from national and international organizations for storing and extracting information." Please provide clarification on where the contractor will store and extract the information. Is it within a software application, a database, SharePoint, or other source?	Refer to response to Question #36.

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40	14	C	C.3.2.12	What decision support tools are you currently using?	Knowledge of industry standard decision support tool is recommended.
41	14	C.3.2.10	11	<p>"The contractor shall prepare and transmit correspondence and data retrieved from national and international organizations for storing and extracting information."</p> <p>A. Please provide examples of the topic and content of the correspondence and data.</p> <p>B. Please list or provide examples of the "national and international organizations".</p> <p>C. Please describe the system used for "storing and extracting information" and whether the contractor would provide technical support and maintenance of this system in addition to content maintenance.</p>	Task requirements are further definitized at the task order request level.
42	14	C.3	C.3.2.17	In order to provide computer-based technical communications, will we be developing a platform or using a pre-existing one within the Department?	Pre-existing.
43	14	C.3	C.3.2.19	What is the frequency and geographical range of anticipated outreach activities?	All work within the SOW is to provide support within locations specified within Task Order Requests. Locations for performance of Enterprise Operations Domain services are within the United States, including Alaska and Hawaii.
44	15	C.3.2.25	1	Section C.3.2.25 states, "The contractor shall provide research to develop or revise courses and prepare appropriate training catalogs and materials (course outline, background material, and training aids)." Is this a duplicate of C.3.2.23?	Yes. Duplicative.
45	15	C.3.2.26	1	Section C.3.2.26 states, "C.3.2.26 The contractor shall prepare student materials including course manuals, workbooks, handouts, exercises, completion certificates and course critique forms." Is this a duplicate of C.3.2.23?	See response to Question# 44
46	15	C.3.2.23, C.3.2.25, C.3.2.26	15	There is a great deal of redundancy in the training requirements in Section C.3.2. These three requirements are the primary example. We suggest the government examine and consolidate, if possible, these and the other training requirements to avoid receiving repetitive answers from the offeror's.	Noted.

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47	15	C.3.2.27	1	Should this read" The contractor shall provide coordination services to the NOAA Education Council Executive Secretariat " as opposed to the implied "serving as the Executive Secretariat".	The final RFP will be corrected.
48	15	C.3.2.23, C.3.2.26	0	The second sentence in C.3.2.23 appears to be repeated as C.3.2.26. Is this intentional?	See response to Question# 44
49	15	C	C.3.2.25	What types of courses are to be researched and revised?	Various training areas as defined within task order request
50	15	C	3.2.22	Can the government provide examples of the coursework to be developed and/or a list of the current coursework?	Task requirements are further definitized at the task order request level.
51	15	C.3.2	Communications, Education, Outreach, Conference, and Workshop Management Services	Requirements C3.2.22, C.3.2.23, C.3.2.25, and C.3.2.26 appear to be highly similar in desired services. Would the Government consider consolidating the four requirements?	See response to Question# 44
52	15	C	3.2.22-25	Sections C3.2.22-25 require the development of training and education coursework and materials in a variety of formats. To ensure adequate staffing, would the government please be more specific about the nature, subject matter, and topics expected to be addressed by the various training programs?	Task requirements are further definitized at the task order request level.
53	15	C.3.2.30	33	"The contractor shall provide travel logistics services to include travel arrangements (i.e., transportation and lodging) and the collection of documentation for travel-reimbursement." Please confirm that the contractor is responsible for researching, securing, managing and paying for these services as a reimbursable other direct cost and that we don't need to have this transportation and hotel accommodation firms included on our team.	Logistics support varies by task order request by bureau. Current NOAA Scholarship services include the procurement of vendor support services.
54	15	C.3	C.3.2.23	What is the scope of students for material being developed, regarding types of institutions implementing classes, and educational levels of instruction?	Information can be found at: http://www.noaa.gov/office-education/scholarships

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55	16	C.3.25	1	Throughout a number of the SOW elements, the government appears to be seeking Incidental IT services from the awarded contractor which is much different then other NOAA IT contract vehicles. For example, C.3.2.25 the RFP SOW describes "The contractor shall provide programmatic system analysis functions required for maintaining and implementing new and existing applications to ensure compatibility." the C.3.4.3 of the SOW describes " The contractor shall provide services to improve, enhance, and maintain existing databases and websites." Compared to the overall SOW, can the government provide an estimate of the percentage of incidental IT services work they would anticipate under the NOAA Enterprise Operations awarded contracts?	Incidental or ancillary IT is contemplated for the domain. Major IT acquisitions wil most likely fall under NOAALink as screened prior to soliciting task order proposals.
56	16	C.3.2.30.4	1	Section C.3.2.30.4 states, "The contractor shall provide vendor support services that are associated with the NOAA Scholarship Programs Orientation Program and Science and Education Symposium such as bus or shuttle transportation." Is this a duplicate of C.3.2.30.3?	C.3.2.20.4 is duplicative and subject for removal in preparation of the final RFP.
57	16	C.3.2.31	1	Section C.3.2.31 states "The contractor shall provide coordination services with the scientific community." Please define scope for "coordination of services." What is the purpose of providing coordination services, how is this related to NOAA mission?	Government intends to definitize these broad-based requirements at the Task Order level as submitted by clients.
58	16	C.3.2.34	1	Section C.3.2.34 states, "The contractor shall cultivate and establish partnerships, and coordinate with other NOAA program elements to develop and expand student opportunities." Are "student opportunities" related to scholarship and internship programs?	Yes
59	16	C.3.2.35	1	Section C.3.2.35 states, "The contractor shall provide programmatic system analysis functions required for maintaining and implementing new and existing applications to ensure compatibility." Please define scope of new and existing applications.	Government intends to definitize these broad-based requirements at the Task Order level as submitted by clients.
60	16	C.3.3.1	1	How are "business management initiatives" defined in this context?	Government intends to definitize these broad-based requirements at the Task Order level as submitted by clients.

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61	16	C	3.2.30.3	Can the government elaborate on what is meant by "Vendor Services"? Is the contractor to provide the coordination and logistics, or performing the vendor services?	Government intends to definitize these broad-based requirements at the Task Order level as submitted by clients.
62	16	C	3.2.32	Section C.3.2.32 requires the contractor to "identify and analyze critical research and program needs." Would supporting this requirement preclude the contractor from conducting research aimed at addressing these needs?	Offerors and resulting Contractors are responsible to determine and disclose potential Organizational Conflicts of Interest (OCI) issues at both the IDIQ and Task Order level. The Government will also monitor requirements across organizations to mitigate potential OCI.
63	16	C.3	C.3.2.30.6	Is a database already in place where applicant files to date are stored?	Yes
64	17	C.3.3.5	1	The numbering C.3.3.5 is used twice for two separate requirements.	Noted
65	17	C.3.3.8	1	Section C.3.3.8 states, "The contractor shall conduct reviews, audits, implement and manage systems and other compliance and contingency plans and performance measures." Please define scope of "systems."	Government intends to definitize these broad-based requirements at the Task Order level as submitted by clients.
66	17	C.3.3.9	1	Section C.3.3.9 states, "The contractor shall evaluate, compile, and process statistical analysis, capacity analysis studies, and system reviews to assess potential security issues and risks." Please define scope on what is being analyzed and define scope for "system reviews."	See response to Question #65
67	17	C	C.3.3.2	Relating to business mgmt functions and recommend business strategies: Are there existing Business Intel (BI) tools, reporting tools, Dashboard tools, we are required to use?	Contractors are encouraged to use commercially available automated tools. Government intends to definitize these broad-based requirements at the Task Order level as submitted by clients.
68	17	C	C.3.3.5	The numbering for section C.3.3.5 is duplicated, please review and revise the section numbering for C.3.3	Noted.
69	17	C	C.3.3.5	There are two C.3.3.5 entries which have different text, though similar. Both refer to multi-functional/multi-sectional advisory committees or councils. Should one of these entries be deleted? If not, do the remaining subtasks need to be renumbered?	Section is subject for revision to remove duplication.
70	17	C.3.3	C.3.3.5	The SOW includes two separate subtasks that are both numbered C.3.3.5. Will the government please confirm that these are separate subtasks and number the SOW accordingly?	The final RFP will correct any numbering errors.

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71	17	C.3.3.5	Business Management Services	Just a friendly note that requirement C.3.3.5 is used twice so the numbering needs to be updated	The final RFP will be corrected.
72	17	C	3.4.5	Section C.3.4.5 requires the contractor to "conduct monitoring and prepare reports of budget, funding, and spending of appropriations for Cooperative Grants." Would supporting this requirement preclude the contractor from pursuing cooperative grants as a grantee?	Offerors and resulting Contractors are responsible to determine and disclose potential Organizational Conflicts of Interest (OCI) issues at both the IDIQ and Task Order level. The Government will also monitor requirements across organizations to mitigate potential OCI.
73	17	C.3	C.3.3.4	What functions are anticipated regarding the multi-functional Advisory Committees/Councils?	Government intends to definitize these broad-based requirements at the Task Order level as submitted by clients.
74	18	C.3.4	1	The RFP states that "The Contractor shall provide budgetary and financial management services to track, monitor and analyze financial and management transactions..." What other vehicles does NOAA use today to source contractor resources to perform similar work? Will this be the primary vehicle NOAA plans to use to source these type of contractor skills? Will the Dept. of Commerce use this vehicle for similar services ?	https://faaps.commerce.gov/ (FAAPS) provides a database for search on NAICS for similar services.
75	18	C.3.4.3	1	Section C.3.4.3 states, "The contractor shall provide services to improve, enhance, and maintain existing databases and websites." Please define scope of existing databases and websites.	Government intends to definitize these broad-based requirements at the Task Order level as submitted by clients.
76	18	C.3.4.3	1	Does the government have preferred tools that are being used to maintain these websites or should the offeror provide recommended tools in our response?	Government intends to definitize these broad-based requirements at the Task Order level as submitted by clients
77	18	C.3.4.1	1	The Government lists audits in the requirement, does the Government intend to procure financial statement audits that require independence through this IDIQ?	Government intends to definitize these broad-based requirements at the Task Order level as submitted by clients

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78	18	C.3.4.2	1	The contractor shall provide facilitation to maintain effective communication among all NOAA financial management stakeholders (Director, Labs/FMCs, Budget Execution and Financial Operations (BEFO), Financial Management Center (FMC) and NOAA Finance, Program Policy Division (PPD), Department of Commerce/Office of General Counsel (DOC/OGC). Is the Office of the Chief Financial Officer omitted from this list purposely?	NOAA Finance is the Office of the Chief Financial Officer.
79	18	C.3	C.3.4.7	Is there already an established payment tracker? If so, what is it?	Yes. Government intends to definitize these broad-based requirements at the Task Order level as submitted by clients
80	18	C.3.4.3	1	What kind of services are to be provided? Does this refer to financial management expertise or software development?	Government intends to definitize these broad-based requirements at the Task Order level as submitted by clients
81	18	C.3.4	1	How many contractors currently perform the budget and financial management services?	https://faaps.commerce.gov/ (FAAPS) provides a database for search on NAICS for similar services.
82	18	C.3.4.3	4	What existing databases and websites does the government have in place; what are their purposes; and are there existing SOPs on how they work?	The Government is still formulating a response.
83	19	C.3.4.9	1	Section C.3.4.9 states, "Provide input to taskers and prepare spreadsheet reports by extracting, compiling, evaluating, and analyzing data daily." Please define scope of data.	The Government is still formulating a response.
84	19	C.3.4.10	1	Section C.3.4.10 states, "Review, analyze and coordinate input for NSF Federal and NIH Federal Health R&D Surveys, Federal Plan for Meteorological Services, and annual reports from Labs." Please provide the budget and financial management aspects for this task. Is the input related to budget and/or financial data?	The Government is still formulating a response.
85	19	C.3.5.1	1	Section C.3.5.1 states, "C.3.5.1 The contractor shall provide physical inventory location assessment and documentation input of property and equipment." Does the task relate to assessing the physical space in which the equipment is stored or is it conducting the physical inventory of equipment?	The Government is still formulating a response.

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86	19	C	C.3.4.3	For the requirement to improve and maintain existing databases and web sites, does this include software development work? Or database architecture analysis and data integrity analysis? If so, there is a LCAT for Web Design, but this skill does not include the interface to the back-end database.	The Government is still formulating a response.
87	19	C.3.4.10	Budget and Financial Management Services	What office at NOAA would be supported when performing the requirement to review, analyze and coordinate input for National Science Foundations and National Institutes of Health Federal Health Research & Department Surveys?	The Government is still formulating a response.
88	19	C.3.4.13	1	Auditing services requires independence which is impaired if accounting, bookkeeping and budget analysis services are also provided. What is meant by auditing services?	The Government is still formulating a response.
89	19	C.3	C.3.4.9	From where will the referenced data be being extracted?	The Government is still formulating a response.
90	19	C	C.3.5	Does this section pertain only to personal property and equipment? Or does this section also include services required for real property?	The Government is still formulating a response.
91	19	C	C.3.5.1	This task is unclear as to the services to be provided. Does re-wording this task to read "The contractor shall provide physical inventory, location, assessment, and input of documentation for property and equipment." meet NOAA's intentions?	The Government is still formulating a response.
92	19	C	C.3.5.2	This task is unclear as to the services to be provided. Does re-wording this task to read "The contractor shall provide the following services to the property custodian maintaining disposition of Government property: develop inventory control and accountability processes; update inventory spreadsheets and databases; tag new property; conduct physical inventories; and assist in disposing of surplus property." meet NOAA's intentions?	The Government is still formulating a response.

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93	20	C.3.6	1	<p>Will proposers be given information on the real property services and analytics tasks, such as:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Approximate counts and/or categories of locations, properties, interests, projects and tasks 2. Approximate list of individual locations, properties, interests, projects and tasks 3. Descriptions of individual locations, properties, interests, projects, and/or tasks 	The Government is still formulating a response.
94	20	C.3.6.3	1	<p>Section C.3.6.3 states, "The contractor will provide Independent Validation and Verification (IV&V) of NOAA analyses." The contractor is required to conduct various analysis across many elements of the PWS within section C.3.6. Please clarify in what areas the IV&V will be required in C.3.6.3 be conducted? Can it be assumed the IV&V being required will be on analysis activities conducted by a third party since conducting the analysis and performing the IV&V on the said analysis by the same contractor would create a conflict of interest.</p>	The Government is still formulating a response.
95	20	C.3.6.7	1	<p>Section C.3.6.7 states, "The contractor shall provide building and space measurements per Government specifications." What is the purpose and use of the measurements? Is it related to litigation? This helps to determine the type of expertise required in performing the measurements.</p>	The Government is still formulating a response.
96	20	C.3.6.8	1	<p>Section C.3.6.8 states, "The contractor shall provide services for lease acquisition projects, market research for office, warehouse, tower and other spaces; obtain and verify space and equipment requirements; provide flood plain analysis and other environmental reviews;..." Please define other environmental reviews, is it Phase 1 Environmental Reviews?</p>	The Government is still formulating a response.
97	20	C.3.6.8	1	<p>Section C.3.6.8 states, "....prepare acquisition plans; obtain approvals and funding documentation ; perform lease scoring analysis; and track projects and provide draft responses to inquiries." Please clarify if "obtain approvals" refers to obtain internal NOAA approvals or external to NOAA approvals.</p>	The Government is still formulating a response.

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98	20	C	3.6.3	Section C.3.6.3 requires the contractor to "provide Independent Validation and Verification (IV&V) of NOAA analyses." To ensure adequate staffing, would the government please be more specific about the nature, subject matter, and topic areas of the analyses subjected to IV&V?	The Government is still formulating a response.
99	20	C	C.3.6.5	Will licensing fees under a "temporary practice" be considered as Other Direct Costs or must offeror's consider these fees within their labor pricing?	The Government is still formulating a response.
100	20	C	C.3.6.8	Under this task, does " provide ... environmental reviews" include categorical exclusions, environmental assessments, and environmental impact statements? What is the difference, if any, from this task and C.3.7.6?	The Government is still formulating a response.
101	20	C	C.3.6.5	It is assumed that NOAA may require appraisals in numerous states. Will the nature of NOAA's required appraisals meet the definition of "temporary practice" under Title XI of the Financial Institutions Reform, Recovery, and Enforcement Act (FIRREA)?	The Government is still formulating a response.
102	21	C	3.7.7	Section C.3.7.7 requires the contractor to "maintain a preventive maintenance program through the inspection, repair and call back services on all facilities or building operation matters." To ensure adequate staffing, would the government please be more specific as to the expected scope and nature of the "preventive maintenance program." Specifically, is this to be preventive maintenance planning or actual performance of PM tasks? If the latter, please specify which systems are to be included.	The Government is still formulating a response.
103	22	C	3.7.19 and 3.7.20	The requirement refers to "end-state solution". Please define "end-state solution"?	The Government is still formulating a response.

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104	22	C.3.7.18	1	Can you provide detail on expectations and the nature and level of “material and equipment” required for facility maintenance services? Typical federal government facility operations & management services are Government-Owned/Contractor Operated (GOCO) type contracts. Would specific requirements for “material and equipment” be delineated with each Task Order issued under the contract? This would greatly help clarify and understand the Government’s expectations and help ensure an effective and responsive proposal.	The Government is still formulating a response.
105	23	C.3.8	C.3.8.1.4	What Workforce Planning technology tool/tools does NOAA currently utilize?	The Government is still formulating a response.
106	23	C.3.8	General Question	Please provide a copy of NOAA’s latest Strategic Human Capital Plan (SHCP) and their Workforce Planning policy and guidance to vendors?	The Government is still formulating a response.
107	23	C.3.8	General Question	What have been the biggest challenges to date in NOAA achieving their SHCP goals and objectives?	The Government is still formulating a response.
108	23	C.3.8	General Question	The draft SOW implies that NOAA may need reorganization services which typically relates to either mission changes or budgetary constraints. Could NOAA provide vendors with insights into how much organizational redesign is expected in the next five years and how far along NOAA or each organizational domain may be in its planning?	The Government is still formulating a response.
109	23	C.3.8	C.3.8.1.3	NOAA indicates that position classification services are required in the SOW as well as position management services. Does NOAA plan to request selected vendor(s) do a complete position management review of each of the five Domains (Satellite, Oceans, Fisheries, Weather, and Enterprise Operations) simultaneously or one at a time?	The Government is still formulating a response.
110	23	C.3.8	C.3.8.1.3	Is NOAA planning that selected vendor(s) conduct a complete scrub of current PDs to determine the accuracy of current job titles, series and classification?	The Government is still formulating a response.
111	23	C.3.8	C.3.8.1.3	Does NOAA utilize generic PDs, and if so, in which occupational families?	The Government is still formulating a response.
112	23	C.3.8	C.3.8.1.3	How many newly established PDs does NOAA envision per domain each year?	The Government is still formulating a response.

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113	23	C.3.8.1	Human Capital Management Services	Requirements 3.8.1 and 3.8.2 specifically address support for the NOAA Workforce Management Office. We are aware of other Line Offices procuring similar support so will the Government consider modifying the requirement so that these services can be procured across NOAA?	Noted and will take into consideration.
114	23	C.3.8.1	1	The HC Management Services states that this is in support of NOAA WMO- my understanding is this vehicle will be available to other Bureaus in Commerce - please confirm this assumption.	Yes.
115	23	C.3.8.1	1	It is states that the contracts shall perform HC management services providing the tools, templates and technical expertise; does the definition of tools relate to IT systems? It would be helpful to elaborate the what is meant by the definition of tools.	The Government is still formulating a response.
116	23	C.3.8.2	1	Should we assume that this support will also be available to the DOC in addition to NOAA WMO?	The Enterprise Operations Domain is for use by all NOAA offices and Department of Commerce bureaus.
117	23	C.3.8.1.3	1	C.3.8.1.3 The contractor shall perform Position Classification services. Provide the tools, templates, and technical expertise to establish, define, and group organizational roles that are considered to be similar in nature, scope, and level of associated duties and responsibilities through the development of position descriptions (PD) for the purpose of assigning positions a job title and appropriate pay range. Will NOAA require these positions to be certified by the OPM?	The Government is still formulating a response.
118	24	C.3.8	C.3.8.2.1	Does NOAA utilize a Performance Management Technology System? If so, which technology tool/tools are used? How many performance management systems does NOAA have (GS, SES, Wage Grade, pay for performance systems...?)	The Government is still formulating a response.
119	24	C.3.8	C.3.8.2.5	Does NOAA have a Learning Management Technology System? If so which system?	The Government is still formulating a response.
120	24	C.3.8	C.3.8.2.8	What percentage of NOAA's workforce already have competencies identified across its occupations and grade levels? In other words, how much work remains at achieving completed competency management across all of NOAA's occupations?	The Government is still formulating a response.

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121	24	C.3.8	C.3.8.2.8	Does NOAA envision a complete scrub of all of NOAA's human capital policies, directives, guidance memorandums, job aids, etc.?	The Government is still formulating a response.
122	24	C.3.8.2.2	0	Please clarify "Recognition services." For example, does this refer to development of recognition programs and procedures, or to the administration of recognition programs?	The Government is still formulating a response.
123	24	C.3.8.3	0	Please clarify "human capital data collection." Can you provide an example to illustrate the types of data indicated, and whether this refers to ongoing collection of data over time (such as HRIS data), or point-in-time data collection designed for a specific research purpose or initiative?	The Government is still formulating a response.
124	24	C.3.8.3.	1	Is there a system currently being utilized by NOAA to the contractor will be expected to use in support of this task and if so can you specify? If not we will assume the contractor will utilize their own system and/or tool.	The Government is still formulating a response.
125	24	C.3.8.4.	1	What type of systems does the agency or current vendor utilize today to accomplish this task?	The Government is still formulating a response.
126	24	C.3.8.2.2	1	Can the Government provide examples of Recognition Services that are allowable for Federal Employees?	The Government is still formulating a response. (Q122)
127	25	C.3.8.8	1	How often will the contractor be required to perform EEO training services annually and how big of an audience will receive the training?	The Government is still formulating a response.
128	25	C.3.9	1	PROGRAM AND PROJECT MANAGEMENT SERVICES. Is NOAA requiring the use of Earned Value Management principles and tools within the scope of these requirements? If yes, will NOAA provide the EVM tools or will the contractor be required to provide an EVM system to support the requirement? Also if yes, will the EVM system be required to be certified?	The Government is still formulating a response.

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129	26	C.3.9.6	1	Section 3.9.6 states, "The contractor shall provide procurement support, such as market research, draft requirements development, acquisition planning, and cost estimation." Is it safe to assume these procurement activities will be conducted strictly for support services outside of the Enterprise Operations Domain IDIQ? Or will the future awardee of an Enterprise Operations task order conduct these responsibilities for the Enterprise Operations Domain and other NOAA/ Department of Commerce future task orders?	The Government is still formulating a response.
130	26	C.3.9.8	1	Section C.3.9.8 states, "The contractor shall provide program and planning services for scheduling and coordination activities of ship time for future projects and expeditions; and subject matter expert ocean exploration support." Please confirm this tasks is not domain specific since it cites SMEs for ocean explorations.	The Government is still formulating a response.
131	26	C.3.9.11	1	Section C.3.9.11 states, "The contractor shall coordinate evaluation activities across the Agency." Please define scope of evaluation activities.	The Government is still formulating a response.
132	26	C.3.9.12	1	Section C.3.9.12 states, "The contractor shall coordinate with evaluation efforts of other federal science agencies, as needed." Please define scope of evaluation efforts.	The Government is still formulating a response.

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133	26	C.3.9.13	1	Section C.3.9.13 states, "The contractor shall provide programmatic system analysis functions required for maintaining and implementing new and existing applications to ensure compatibility." Please define scope of new and existing applications.	The Government is still formulating a response.
134	26	C.3.9.14	1	Section C.3.9.14 states, "The contractor shall provide programmatic objectives of new applications, functionality, and inter-connectivity based on Government project priorities and system needs." Please clarify requirement, what will be the end result of providing programmatic objectives.	The Government is still formulating a response.
135	26	C.3.9.3	1	The requirement mentions the need to provide activity hazard analysis and safety plans. What types of activity hazards and safety issues will need to be evaluated?	The Government is still formulating a response.
136	27	C.3.9.17	1	Section C.3.9.17 states, "The contractor shall provide comprehensive national environmental policy decision analysis for predictions of the climate response to emissions changes, protection of the ozone layer, alternatives for developing coastal communities; improvements to environmental services to the Nation, and promoting economic growth through science." Please validate if this task is related to Program and Project Management Services under Enterprise Operations.	The Government is still formulating a response.
137	27	C.3.9.18	1	Section C.3.9.18 states, "The contractor shall provide specifications, outline research needs, bases for evaluations, and desired outcomes relevant to improving human health through integration of climate information." Please validate if this task is related to Program and Project Management Services under Enterprise Operations.	The Government is still formulating a response.
138	27	C.3.9.19	1	Section C.3.9.19 states, "The contractor shall provide safety analysis and procedures, and maintain safety documentation related to the operation of systems." Please define scope of "systems" as it relates to Program and Project Management Services under Enterprise Operations.	The Government is still formulating a response.

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139	27	C.3.9.20	1	Section C.3.9.20 states, "The contractor shall perform program planning, testing, integration and evaluation, for data management, related to NOAA sponsored expeditions." Please define scope of "sponsored expeditions" as it relates to Program and Project Management Services under Enterprise Operations.	The Government is still formulating a response.
140	27	C.3.9.18	1	Could we please have additional details on what is meant by "improving human health through integration of climate information"?	The Government is still formulating a response.
141	27	C.3.9.19	1	For which types of systems would the safety analysis, procedures and documentation need to be completed?	The Government is still formulating a response.
142	27	C	C.3.9.5	For the requirement to analyze policies for compliance, does NOAA have existing tools to provide audit compliance assessments? How is this currently done?	The Government is still formulating a response.
143	27	C	C.3.9.20	Please clarify if this is a data management requirement or is it for NOAA sponsored expeditions.	The Government is still formulating a response.
144	28	C	C.3.12	There is no paragraph C.3.12 that corresponds to Attachment J.2Labor Category descriptions, Category 12: Incidental IT-Web Designing	Refer to responses to Questions 6 and 10
145	28	C.3.11.6	1	Section C.3.11.6 states, "The contractor shall provide use office automation software, to include word processing, forms handling, spreadsheet, and graphics services to prepare technical reports, presentations, and publications; use content management system web applications software to maintain internet and intranet websites..." Please verify that the contractual shall use office automation versus providing the office automation software.	The Government is still formulating a response.

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146	28	C	C.3.11.1	The contractor shall provide executive secretariat and administrative business operations services for the various programs including collection of data, arrangements for meetings, receptionist, travel, shipping and receiving, security clearances, procurement, and production of other relevant products. Question: How many secretariat and administrative business operations positions are required?	Task requirements are further definitized at the task order request level.
147	28	C	C.3.11.2	The contractor shall provide records management services using Government management procedures. Question: Is NOAA using a specific Records Management software solution?	The Government is still formulating a response.
148	28	C	C.3.11.4	The contractor shall provide management, administrative, and general clerical services for various programs with administrative tasks including responding to emails, answer and direct telephone calls and visitors; record retention; receive, prepare and verify documents; type; file; fax; photocopy; mailings. Questions: How many positions are anticipated to support these services?	The Government is still formulating a response.
149	28	C.3.11.2	2	Is there a Records Management system in Place?	The Government is still formulating a response.
150	29	C	3.11.6	SOW C.3.11.6 requires the Contractor to provide office automation software. Does this mean that the contractor would purchase the licenses for government use, or make the purchase on behalf of the government? Would this software be owned by the contractor? Would the Contractor provide system admin for the office automation software used by the government and its contractors?	The Government is still formulating a response.

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151	29	C & J-2	TBD	On each of the Labor Category Descriptions on Attachment J-2, there is a companion/related paragraph in the SOW Section C detailing the duties and responsibilities, except for Category 12 Incidental IT-Web Designing. Please provide paragraph C.3.12 in the SOW.	Refer to responses to Questions 6 and 10
152	11-28	C	all	In cases where contractor capabilities proposed in a Response apply to more than one service and possibly also over more than one service category, and in order to avoid repetition, will you accept Responses in tabular form in which the relevant services are indexed and listed against the relevant line items in the RFP but the text itself is not repeated?	Refer to Section L for Proposal Instructions as it pertains to the Capability Matrix
153	11-29	C.3 in its entirety	0	Recommend NOAA require all enterprise common requirements to be directed to the Enterprise Domain. (Strategic planning, Communications and Outreach, Business Management, Budget and Financial Management, Property Management, Real Property and Analytic Services, Facility Management, Human Capital, Program & Project Management, Legislative Management, Administrative Support) For major, discrete programs such as GOES-R, where these functions may be integral to the program, unique and specialized, they might remain, for example, in the Satellite Domain. But all Line Office HQ requirements in the Enterprise domain should be procured from the Enterprise Domain to ensure NOAA has enterprise cohesion.	Government will take into consideration.

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154	11, 13, and 22	C.3, C.3.2.9, C.3.7.16, J.6	0	<p>Incidental IT services are now mentioned overtly in the RFP as a new requirement and have separate labor categories associated with them, but there is not a separate SOW section for these services. The only place they are mentioned in terms of the specifics of performance are in C.3.2.9 and C.3.7.16 for support of social media/web and building security and access. This is a very limited set of incidental IT services and does not provide much guidance on the total range of incidental IT services contemplated (and the required labor category ranges associated with them).</p> <p>Question: does incidental IT only encompass the two areas specified or does the government anticipate a wider range of IT services? If so, please describe the range of services beyond these two references. This is critically important for selecting the proper ceiling rates for pricing and making sure we can the proper team composition to satisfy the government's requirements.</p>	Refer to responses to Questions 6 and 10
155	14 and 22	C.3.2.9 and C.3.7.16	1	<p>J-2 and J-6 mention a related set of LCats named IT Incidental. Section C describes all of the contract services but omits IT Incidental. Will the Government provide a description of required IT Incidental services in Section C SOW as it does for the other 11 categories of services?</p>	Refer to responses to Questions 6 and 10
156	16, 27	C.3.2.35, C.3.9.13	1	<p>These two requirements are duplicates. Is it the government's intent to have the same requirement in two places?</p>	The final RFP will be corrected.
157	19/20	C.3.5	N/A	<p>Please provide more information concerning the assets to be managed including types of assets (e.g. furniture, ships, computers)</p>	The Government is still formulating a response.
158	19/20	C.3.5	N/A	<p>Please provide an inventory list of the assets to be managed. If a single list is unavailable, please estimate the number of assets and the number of source databases and spreadsheets that are used to tract assets</p>	The Government is still formulating a response.
159	19/20	C.3.5	N/A	<p>Please clarify if the Enterprise Operations vendors will be actively engaging in the physical pulling and shipping of inventory</p>	The Government is still formulating a response.

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160	19/20	C.3.5	N/A	Please describe the complexity of the asset management process and systems. Does NOAA use RFID? Does NOAA use an enterprise asset movement tool. If it is a commercial product, please provide the name	The Government is still formulating a response.
161	26-27	C.3.9.16	1	Section C.3.9.16 states, "The contractor shall provide long-term planning for modifications, maintenance, outfitting, and upgrades to NOAA ships, aircraft, remotely operated vehicles, and associated systems." Please define scope of long-term planning as it relates to Program and Project Management Services.	Task requirements are further definitized at the task order request level.
162	26-27	C.3.9.16	0	Does this pertain solely to planning, or will contractors also be permitted to perform the "modifications, maintenance, outfitting, and upgrades to NOAA ships, aircraft, remotely operated vehicles, and associated systems?" And, if so, will this requisite labor categories be added for pricing purposes as well?	Requirement does not include ship building or construction.
163	26-27	C.3.9.16	0	How does the planning performed here relate to the NOAA RFQ RA-133M-16-RQ-0362 (awarded as DOCAB133M17BA0030), which calls for Strategic Planning for Technology Programs/Activities, Concept Development and Requirements Analysis, System Design, Engineering and Integration, Integrated Logistics Support, Acquisition and Life Cycle Management, and Specialty Support? Are these the same requirements, or different? If different, how so?	Requirements of existing or future acquisitions containing similar scope for services may be competed within prospective domain.
164	Multiple	C.3.2.3, C.3.2.4, C.3.2.9, C.3.2.13, C.3.2.29	0	There is a great deal of redundancy in the communication requirements in Section C.3.2 regarding items the offeror should develop for NOAA. We suggest the government examine and consolidate, if possible, these communication requirements to avoid receiving repetitive answers from the offeror's.	Noted for consideration.

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165	RFP p. 12	C.3.1.6	1	This requirement is very broad and somewhat confusing. The function(s) to be performed are not clear, especially the last sentence starting with "contract and systems/program management functions", which then flows into O&M activities that are not covered under this type of services contract. Will the Government please provide clarification as to what this requirement really encompasses?	The Government is still formulating a response.
166	56	I	6	In section I.6, a paragraph is located after the "(End of Clause)" indicator and before the beginning section I.7. Is this paragraph intended to be included in section I.6?	Yes, the paragraph following the clause is provided as supplemental information regarding the clause. Note: Fisheries and Oceans RFP's did not have this supplemental language. It may have been added by mistake?
167	57	I.8	52.219-13	Notice of Set-Aside Awards of Orders: Does the government already have an idea of what tasks (C.1 -C.11) they believe would best suit set-aside orders for Small Business Concerns? Is this determination made based upon, size, scope and complexity in addition to types of tasks, or something else?	No. Any determinations to set aside orders will be made by the OCO for the individual orders.
168	57	I.7 after (d)	Last	This section gives reasons for not exercising an option on an IDIQ award. Question: will the contractor have the opportunity to provide mitigating information before a decision has been made to not exercise the option?	This section is under review as the inclusion of option(s) is a unilateral right and does not require the Government to exercise the option.
169	57	I	7	In section I.7, a paragraph and enumerated list is located after the "(End of Clause)" indicator and before the beginning of section I.8. Is paragraph and list intended to be included in I.7?	This section is under review as the inclusion of option(s) is a unilateral right and does not require the Government to exercise the option.
170	58	I.11	1	Section I.11 implies that there may be labor categories subject to the Service Contract Labor Standards Act. Please provide what labor categories (if any) under J-2 Labor Category Descriptions may be subject to the Service Contract Standards Act?	Any requirement for SCA-covered labor categories will be specified at the task order level.

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171	58	I.10	52.222-42	Are specific Task orders expected to be released as Services Contract Act (SCA) Wage Determination (WD) Type Contracts under this IDIQ? If so, is it anticipated that particular labor categories would be aligned with SCA WD type contracts under the labor categories released at the IDIQ level? Would the determination for SCA WD type contracts become known before or after IDIQ award? In the case of SCA WD contracts would the government use a prevailing WD rate for a particular area (Example: Washington, DC) or would it be on a TO by TO basis?	Any requirement for SCA-covered labor categories and the applicable WD will be defined at the task order level.
172	58	I.9	I.9	Please clarify how the limitations on subcontracting clause will apply to the entire contract, but be discretionary at the task order level. For example, If a CO determines that a small business only has to perform 30 percent on a task order, will required performance be increased on other task orders so that the small business will meet 50 percent performance over the entire contract?	When a Task Order is set-aside for small business and the value is \$150,000 or less, it is the OCO's discretion to apply clause FAR 52.219-14. Note: Per FAR 19.508(e), clause applies if TO is set aside and value exceeds \$150K. Is the intent of the RFP language to say clause is discretionary for TO that is set aside and valued at \$150K or less?
173	59	I.11	(a)	Do we have a place(s) of performance?	Contractor work locations will be defined at the Task Order level. See Section F.4.
174	0	Attachment J-2 & J-6	0	Are the vendors limited to the 12 Labor Sub-Categories listed in Attachment J- 2 and J-6 or can additional Labor Sub-Categories be proposed?	No additional Labor Categories can be proposed at the IDIQ level, but at the Task Order Level, depending on TO requirements, some Task Orders may require services that do not correspond to the labor categories included in ProTech Enterprise Operations. Accordingly, if permitted by the task order solicitation, the contractor may propose appropriate labor categories and labor rates necessary to meet the requirements of the solicitation despite their not being included in ProTech Enterprise Operations as awarded. See Section B 4, 3rd paragraph.

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175	0	Attachment J-2 & J-6	0	If the vendors cannot add additional Labor Sub-Categories, would the government consider adding an additional labor category <<Subject Matter Expert>> to allow the vendors to utilize Subject Matter Experts when needed?	No additional Labor Categories can be proposed at the IDIQ level, but at the Task Order Level, depending on TO requirements, some Task Orders may require services that do not correspond to the labor categories included in ProTech Enterprise Operations. Accordingly, if permitted by the task order solicitation, the contractor may propose appropriate labor categories and labor rates necessary to meet the requirements of the solicitation despite their not being included in ProTech Enterprise Operations as awarded. See Section B 4, 3rd paragraph.
176	0	J-2	0	Labor Categories are listed as more general services. Each category could include several different labor categories. For example, in Category 2, you could have a Communications Specialist, Conference Coordinator, etc. The approach currently taken will create challenges in pricing, as well as potentially execution. Can the Government please provide more specificity to the labor categories they require?	No, the Government is not considering this at this time.
177	0	J-6	0	Cost-Price Attachment will not fit on a 111/2 landscape page. Suggest further breakdown Base year and then option years? So that we do not have to use landscape pages!	Referenced information is unclear.

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178	1	-6 Attachmen	1	Attachment J-6 contains columns for a 10 year PoP which is inconsistent with NOAA's description of Pro-Tech as a 5 year IDIQ	<p>The ordering period for this IDIQ is for 5 years, however if a task order is awarded close to the end of the IDIQ's 5 year period, that task order may be scheduled for up to a 5 year period beyond the IDIQ scheduled end date.</p> <p>Section I.5(d) 52-216-22 Indefinite Quantity (OCT 1995) will be updated in the final RFP.</p> <p>The last sentence currently reads, "The contract shall govern the Contractor's and Government's rights and obligations with respect to that order to the same extent as if the order were completed during the contract's effective period; provided, that the Contractor shall not be required to make any deliveries under this contract after [to be inserted at contract award]."</p> <p>The last sentence will be updated to read, "...shall not be required to make any deliveries under this contract after "10 years from the date of award." Upon subsequent award the actual date will be inserted.</p>
179	1	J-2	1	Do we have to select only from the list of LCATS in J-2 attachment?	<p>No additional Labor Categories can be proposed at the IDIQ level, but at the Task Order Level, depending on TO requirements, some Task Orders may require services that do not correspond to the labor categories included in ProTech Enterprise Operations. Accordingly, if permitted by the task order solicitation, the contractor may propose appropriate labor categories and labor rates necessary to meet the requirements of the solicitation despite their not being included in ProTech Enterprise Operations as awarded. See Section B 4, 3rd paragraph.</p>

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180	1	J-2	0	Some SOW elements (i.e.,3.2.24 -CBT, 3.3.9, 3.4.3, 3.7.16, 3.8.7, & possibly C.3.11.6) require IT related activities that are not covered under the "Incidental IT" category (nor SOW 3.2.9) according to the description provided. What labor category is suggested for these, and/or further insight to allow us to more accurately make the needed adjustments to allow these to fit.	No additional Labor Categories can be proposed at the IDIQ level, but at the Task Order Level, depending on TO requirements, some Task Orders may require services that do not correspond to the labor categories included in ProTech Enterprise Operations. Accordingly, if permitted by the task order solicitation, the contractor may propose appropriate labor categories and labor rates necessary to meet the requirements of the solicitation despite their not being included in ProTech Enterprise Operations as awarded. See Section B 4, 3rd paragraph.
181	1	Attachment J-	2	Owing to the long gestation period of the ProTech RFP, we request that two years be added to the past performance period, making 7 years in total. This will allow Responses to include past performance that was eligible at the start of the ProTech process.	The Government will not consider changing this requirement. offeror's shall submit past performance information for the past 5 years from the release date of the RFP.
182	1	J-6	None	Is the ordering period for this IDIQ 5 years or 10 years? The provided J-6 Cost/Price Template has 10 years of Loaded Hourly Rates requested.	The ordering period for this IDIQ is for 5 years, however if a task order is awarded close to the end of the IDIQ's 5 year period, that task order may be scheduled for up to a 5 year period beyond the IDIQ scheduled end date. Section I.5(d) 52-216-22 Indefinite Quantity (OCT 1995) will be updated in the final RFP. The last sentence currently reads, "The contract shall govern the Contractor's and Government's rights and obligations with respect to that order to the same extent as if the order were completed during the contract's effective period; provided, that the Contractor shall not be required to make any deliveries under this contract after [to be inserted at contract award]." The last sentence will be updated to read, "...shall not be required to make any deliveries under this contract after "10 years from the date of award." Upon subsequent award the actual date will be inserted.
183	3	Attachment J-	4	Attachment J-2 lists Category 12: Incidental IT - Web Designing.	See SOW Section C.3.2.9. (there are many other requirements

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184	3	J-2	Last	"Master and associate's degrees are equivalent to two years of education-related experience; bachelor's and doctoral degrees are equivalent to four years of relevant experience." Is that correct - master's degree gets less experience than the bachelors?	<p>The RFP is correct as stated. Two years for masters and associates degrees. Four years for bachelor's and doctoral degrees.</p> <p>For example, if a candidate only has an Associates degree, that equals 2 years of experience. A Bachelor's degree equals 4 years of experience. A Master's degree equals 4 years + 2 years, for a total of 6 years of experience. A Doctoral degree equals 4 years + 4 years, for a total of 8 years of experience.</p>
185	9	J-6	1	Section B.4.2 Time and Materials and Labor Hour Orders: The SOW States that "The Contractor may provide separate and/or blended loaded hourly labor rates at the task order level". J-6 Cost Template is only asking for Cost Plus rates with G&A, OH and Profit specified. How will the government determine the contractor time & material rates? Should all offeror's use Washington, D.C Metropolitan rates when submitting their cost volume pricing?	The fully burdened rates to be proposed in Attachment J-6 represent Labor Hour ceiling rates. They are not applicable to cost-reimbursement task orders. Competition at the task order level is expected to establish fair and reasonable pricing for task orders placed for all contract types. For those relatively rare instances when competition does not exist, these ceiling rates will be available for the OCO to consider and use. Please refer to Section B4, 2nd paragraph.
186	60	J	J-1	Please provide the Ceiling Hourly Rate by Labor Categories attachment.	Attachment J-1 will be completed at time of award (i.e. Attachment J-1 will be the Awardee(s) ceiling rates submitted in response to the Final Solicitation/Request for Proposal providing information on how the rates and their component cost elements in Atta
187	60	J		Section J list a Attachment J-1 Ceiling Hourly Rate Table by Labor Category, however the attachment is missing. Can the government please provide attachment J-1?	Attachment J-1 will be completed at time of award (i.e. Attachment J-1 will be the Awardee(s) ceiling rates submitted in response to the Final Solicitation/Request for Proposal providing information on how the rates and their component cost elements in Attachment J-6 were developed and rationale why the Offeror considers them to be reasonable). Attachment J-1 was not included in the draft RFP.

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188	All	Attachments J-2 & J6	N/A	QUESTION: Can multiple labor categories for each of the 12 Categories be proposed, if applicable? For example, for Category 1 Strategic Planning Services, can a Project Manager, Business Analysis, Technical Writer, Business Process Specialist, etc., be proposed?	The offeror is requested to provide a ceiling rate for each labor category listed in Attachment J-2. Individual Task Order requirements will determine the Labor Categories the offeror may want to propose.
189	All	Attachments J-2 & J6	N/A	Do all 4 Levels need to be proposed for each labor category or can less than 4 Levels be proposed, i.e., Project Manager 1 & 2?.	The offeror is requested to provide a ceiling rate for each labor category listed in Attachment J-2. Individual Task Order requirements will determine the Labor Categories the offeror may want to propose.
190	All	J-2 Enterprise Operations Labor Category Descriptions	All	The RFP does not identify individual single LCats to be priced. Instead, the RFP requires bidders to price 4 levels of generic qualifications for the 12 general areas of service activities, e.g. strategic planning services. The RFP further states that this pricing will be used to determine ceiling rates for each level within the 12 areas, 48 in all. Lacking individual LCats being provided by the government, it is up to the bidders to make assumptions on what labor categories will be needed to perform future task orders across all potential work that could be ordered in each of the 12 functional areas in order to derive NTE rates for each of the 48 pricing areas. The vendors are also required to make assumptions on whether the various LCATs should be SCA, DBA or related to a union agreement if any are applicable. This in our opinion will require bidders to bid rates at a much higher level to compensate for not knowing what LCats the government anticipates will be required. This also will not enable the government to perform an analysis of bidders not to exceed rates as there is no way to compare what labor categories made up the four levels of their not to exceed rates in each of the 12 service areas. Recommend the government provide a listing of LCats with an identification of whether an individual LCat is SCA , DBA or if there are union agreements to be considered when pricing this effort.	Government is not considering the recommendation of releasing a list of Labor Categories at this time. The offeror is requested to provide a ceiling rate for each labor category listed in Attachment J-2. Individual Task Order requirements will determine the Labor Categories the offeror may want to propose. Some Task Orders may require services that do not correspond to the labor categories included in ProTech Enterprise Operations. Accordingly, if permitted by the task order solicitation, the contractor may propose appropriate labor categories and labor rates necessary to meet the requirements of the solicitation despite their not being included in ProTech Enterprise Operations as awarded. See Section B 4.

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191	N/A	Attachment J-4	Category 12	<p>RFP Text: Category 12: Incidental IT - Web Designing.</p> <p>Question: Category 12 is the only category that does not have an associated section in the Statement of Work. Can the Government please clarify if this is a requirement that should have been included in the SOW?</p>	See SOW Section C.3.2.9.
192	N/A	Attachment J-4	N/A	<p>Question: Attachment J-6 Cost Price Template for Ceiling Rates EOD requests 10 years of rates. The period of performance noted in the RFP was for a total of 5 years. Can the Government confirm if pricing is required for years 6 through 10?</p>	<p>The resulting award will be an IDIQ with a five year ordering period. Orders placed on the IDIQ may have periods of performance that extend up to five years beyond the IDIQ ordering period. For this reason, pricing for a total of 10 years is requested in Attachment J-6.</p>
193	N/A	Attachment J-4	N/A	<p>The labor categories and scope of services anticipated within each labor category are so broad that offeror's will need to make assumptions about the types of resources and services that they would be interested in pursuing. By evaluating labor rates through a comparison of all offeror's, as advocated by FAR 15.404-1, an unintended consequence could be a determination of fair/reasonable based on aggressive assumptions and offeror's proposing rates that are based on fulfilling only a portion of the labor category scope - which could be only the least complex types of services. Therefore, recommend that the government undertake an approach whereby a range of fair/reasonable DL rates are provided to offeror's based on the 50th - 90th percentiles of the Dept of Labor Standard Occupational Codes, and fair/reasonable pricing is determined by evaluating each component of the labor rate: whether DL is within the fair/reasonable range, whether indirect rates are supported by oversight agency approval or developed IAW an adequate accounting system, and profit and escalation are within a fair/reasonable range that is communicated to offeror's. This approach to evaluating pricing is consistent with other recent GWACs that also followed a 'Highest Technical with Fair and Reasonable Pricing' evaluation approach, such as GSA OASIS, HCaTS, and Alliant II.</p>	<p>The Government will evaluate proposed ceiling rates in accordance with the evaluation factors described in Section M. 6 Cost/Price.</p>

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194	67	L.1	L.1	Are subcontractors required to provide copies of their policy?	The Government is unsure what policy this question is in reference to. Page 67 of the RFP contains Section K.5 52.230-7 PROPOSAL DISCLOSURE—COST ACCOUNTING PRACTICE CHANGES (APR 2005). Section L.1 is 52.252-1 SOLICITATION PROVISIONS INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE along with a list of provisions.
195	67	L.1	N/A	Section L.1 includes FAR 52.237-10 - Identification of Uncompensated Overtime (OCT 1997). Respectfully request that this reference be updated to reflect the most-current version: IDENTIFICATION OF UNCOMPENSATED OVERTIME (MAR 2015).	Correction will be made to the final RFP
196	70	L.8.2	1	It is the Offeror's responsibility to confirm receipt of submitted proposal: Request NOAA consider an automated receipt confirmation.	Receipt confirmations will be provided via email.
197	70	L.8; L.8.1	1; 2	We understand that these dates and times are an estimate and may change once the final RFP is released; however, will the government confirm that all submission time requirements, including final questions and PPQs, will be using EDT and not EST?	Final submission times will be made available on the final FRP and via FedBizOps, and will identify if the time standard is EDT or EST
198	70	L.8.1	0	The RFP seems to indicate a strategy for the final RFP for questions to be submitted two weeks after release with the final RFP due two weeks after this date. These timeframes do not provide much time for the government to respond to the questions and the contractors to adapt to changes as a result of the answers. Will the government entertain a "rolling question and answer approach" allowing questions to be submitted immediately after release and the government posting answers as they are completed in a more timely manner?	No, the Government is not considering this at this time
199	70	L.8.2	0	The RFP states "It is the Offeror's responsibility to confirm receipt of submitted proposals. " Question: how is the contractor to confirm receipt? Will the government respond to the proposal submission email or do we need to send a different email for confirmation? If we have to send a different email, what email address do we send it to and what should it contain? What if we get no response in either scenario?	If the offeror does not receive a confirmation email in response to the proposal submission, they should email and/or call the solicitation point of contact listed in FBO.

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200	70	L	8	The date/time of proposal submittal is noted as "3:00 PM Eastern Daylight Time (EDT), TBD/ OA August 31, 2017." Can the government please define the abbreviation of TBD/OA?	TBD - To Be Determined OA - On or About
201	70	L	L.8.1	This paragraph states questions may be submitted by TBD/OA August 14, 2017. Will another opportunity to submit questions be available once the final RFP is released?	Yes, there will be an opportunity for offeror's to submit questions on the final Enterprise RFP
202	72	L.10	4	Page 72, Section L.10 states that offeror's can submit a three page capabilities matrix at the beginning of Volume II detailing which elements of the SOW the Offeror is proposing and capable of carrying out, and where in Volume II the Offeror's approach for completing that specific work is addressed. If Offeror is only responding to one element category, the entire Volume II would address its capability response. Can NOAA please clarify how to respond to this requirement?	The Government is still formulating a response.
203	72	L.10	4	This section of the RFP states "The Government will allow offeror's to submit a 3-page Capability Matrix at the beginning of Volume II - Corporate Experience and Commitment, detailing which elements the SOW the offeror is proposing and capable of doing, and where within Volume II the offeror's approach for completing that specific work is addressed." However, the table in L.11 FORMAT AND INSTRUCTIONS FOR PROPOSAL SUBMISSION (p. 73 and 74) includes a requirement for a Capability Matrix in both Volumes II and IV. What is the difference between the two matrixes?	Capability Matrix is required for both Volumes II and IV. An updated draft RFP is in process to reflect correction.
204	72	L.10	6	There is a reference to Section L.10.5 but there is no L.10.5 listed within this RFP. Please clarify.	The reference to section L.10.5 is referring to the L.11 FORMAT AND INSTRUCTIONS FOR PROPOSAL SUBMISSION. Section. This will be corrected in the final RFP

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205	72	L.10	3	<p>The RFP states "All acceptable proposals must demonstrate the Offeror's understanding of the requirements and associated risks" yet there does not appear to be a place within the proposal instructions where we are asked to describe our understanding of the requirements or associated risks. Volume II Factor I appears to only ask for "experience and qualifications".</p> <p>Please clarify whether we are to talk to our understanding of the requirements and associated risks and if so, where in the proposal it should reside. Further, has this been taken into consideration with page count constraints?</p>	An updated draft RFP is in process to reflect revision for clarity.
206	72	L.10	5	<p>"The Government will allow offeror's to submit a 3-page Capability Matrix at the beginning of Volume II - Corporate Experience and Commitment, detailing which elements the SOW the offeror is proposing and capable of doing, and where within Volume II the offeror's approach for completing that specific work is addressed."</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For consistency purposes, will the government consider providing this template to offeror's in the final RFP? 	Noted. Government requires Contractor to develop matrix independently which may be in the form of a table(s) cross referencing sections as specified.
207	72	L.10 General Instructions, Capability Matrix	0	<p>The instructions for the Capability Matrix for Volume II – Corporate Experience and Commitment ask vendors to indicate, with respect to individual SOW elements, where in Volume II “the offeror’s approach for completing that specific work is addressed.” However, the instructions for Volume II – L.11.2, pp. 77-78 – do not ask vendors to describe their approach to completing SOW tasks. The broad instruction is to describe relevant vendor corporate experience. Would the Government consider removing the p. 72 reference to providing approaches, and revising this instruction to fit with the instructions on 77-78?</p>	The Government is still formulating a response.

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208	72	L.10	General Instructions	In reviewing the instructions for the Capability Matrix, it appears for the Corporate Commitment Volume the offeror will specify "where within Volume II the offeror's approach for completing that specific work is addressed". But there are no instructions for the Past Performance Volume. Can the Government confirm if it would be acceptable for an offeror to indicate the Past Performance Reference # in the Capability Matrix instead of a page number as a specific requirement will be met by multiple past performances.	Information inadvertently omitted. An updated draft RFP is in process to reflect correction.
209	72	L	10.1	The RFP allows for a capability matrix to be included in Volume II, but does not mention one for Vol. IV. In the table in L.11, however, a capability matrix is included in Vol. IV. Please clarify if a capability matrix is expected in Vol IV, and if so, what information the matrix is to include.	Refer to response found to Question #203
210	72	L	10	The suggested capability matrix for Volume II is to detail "which elements the SOW the offeror is proposing and capable of doing, and where within Volume II the offeror's approach for completing that specific work is addressed" (L.10, p. 72). In the instructions for Volume II, however, the Offeror is required to "describe its breadth and depth of experience and qualifications" (L.11.2, p. 76); there is no requirement to describe the approach for completing the specific work except for "proposed methods for establishing, organizing and performing logistics related aspects of this requirement..." (L.11.2, p. 77). Please clarify.	Volume II is not to be confused with Volumes III Management Approach.
211	72	L.10	5	The Government is allowing a 3-page capability matrix, detailing which elements the SOW the offeror is proposing and capable of doing, and where within Volume II the offeror's approach for completing that specific work is addressed. However, Section L.11.2 does not require the offeror to provide an approach for completion, but instead to "describe its breadth and depth of experience". Can the Government please clarify what they are looking for in the matrix?	Volume II is not to be confused with Volumes III Management Approach.

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212	72	L.10	4	<p>“The Government considers statements that the prospective Offeror understands, can, or will comply with the specifications, or statements paraphrasing the requirements or parts thereof to be inadequate and unsatisfactory. The Government further considers mere reiteration of the requirement or standard reference material to also be inadequate and unsatisfactory. Such responses may result in a proposal being deemed unacceptable and ineligible for award.” But the RFP includes 11 distinct capability and experience sections comprising 162 sub elements with only 30 pages permitted in the Corporate Experience and Commitment section. This is not enough space to describe creative approaches and expertise for each task element to avoid “mere reiteration.” Please consider allowing 81 pages so that a half page is allotted</p>	Government will review.
213	72	L.10	5	<p>How should an offeror respond to the Capabilities Matrix when they may have clearly conducted the work previously for a majority of the activities under a task (more than 50% of SOW activities for a specific task); however, they may not be compliant on 1 or 2 sub-tasks? Would the offeror state they can accomplish the work? Is there a scale that the government should provide for all offeror's to use when rating themselves in the capabilities matrix to be consistent?</p>	The Government is still formulating a response.
214	72	L.10	5	<p>Some of the SOW tasks relate to very specific NOAA tasks, systems or processes. From a capabilities matrix perspective, how should an offeror state that they can or cannot do the work if the SOW task/sub-task is very specific, yet the offeror has experience in the discipline used to do the task/sub-task even though it hasn't been done for a NOAA specific task, system or process?</p>	Professional industry standard management and technical skill levels are needed to manage print services for coordination, integration, maintenance, installation, logistics, and administration.

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215	72	L.10	4	In addition to the reference to a capability matrix for Volume II, the page allocations table appears to note a matrix is requested for Volume IV as well. Please clarify the purpose of the capability matrix for Volume IV as there is no associated instruction. Is it the same purpose for both Volumes and therefore a similar matrix is expected (as reviewers for one Volume would not necessarily the matrix provided for the other Volume)?	The Government is still formulating a response.
216	72	L	L.11.2	If a contractor can provide services for each individual effort within an element, does an example need to be given for each individual effort within Volume II- Corporate Experience and Commitment? This question is derived from the following: Depth is defined as the extent to which the proposed experience and qualifications fully address an individual type of effort set forth in the SOW. The efforts of the SOW include each of the individual areas (C.3.1.1, C.3.1.2, etc.). This could be a concern towards the page count.	The Government is still formulating a response.
217	73	L.10	6	It appears that the reference to L.10.5 should be L.11.5. Is that	Yes. Reference will be updated/corrected in final RFP
218	73	L.11	1	If no previous or ongoing work associated with this contemplated acquisition exists, is the requirement for Section IV, volume 1 required?	Domain is for current and forecasted acquisitions.
219	73	L.11	1 (table)	Due to the requirement to provide detailed information concerning our organization (including lines of authority, roles and responsibilities, and a description of the level of corporate oversight), our approach to task order management's, our strategy to provide a high quality workforce, a communications plan, and our approach to project oversight (including quality control, quality assurance, and task order performance reviews), would the government consider increasing the page limit for the Management Volume to 25 pages?	Noted for consideration.
221	73	L.11.1	0	We recommend expanding the page count for the executive summary to 5 pages to allow for a summary of the proposal approach and team to also be included. This will help NOAA executives that need a synopsis on a proposal a quick source of material.	Noted for consideration.

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222	73	L.11 FORMAT AND INSTRUCTIO NS FOR PROPOSAL SUBMISSION	0	Under the format and instructions for proposal submission, would the government consider increasing the page count for the Management Approach to 15 pages?	Noted for consideration.
223	73	L	L.10.2	Background: In addition, the electronic submission for Volume V	Yes. Reference will be updated/corrected in final RFP
224	73	L.11	0	Would you consider expanding Vol II beyond 30 pages? Given nearly triple the subpoints of Fisheries or Oceans, the 5 extra pages still doesn't allow space to speak to every subpoint.	Noted for consideration.
225	73	L.11.3	Volume III – Management Approach (Factor II)	The solicitation states that the Management Approach should be limited to 10 pages. Given the Oceans Domain was 25 pages and the original Satellite Domain was 10 pages, would the Government consider providing 15 pages to address the requirements?	Noted for consideration.
226	73	L.11.3	Volume III – Management Approach (Factor II)	The requirements for the Management Approach volume appear to be very similar to what was originally specified for the Satellite Domain versus the latest Oceans Domain. Can you confirm this is in fact correct.	Referenced section will be updated in a revised RFP draft.
227	73	L.10.2	1	In Addition, the electronic submission for Volume V shall incorporate Attachment J-6 and shall contain the requested information as stated in L.10.5. Section L.10.50 is not in the RFP. Did the Government mean Section L.11.5?	Yes. Referenced section will be updated in a revised RFP draft.
228	73	L.10.2	1	Is it acceptable to supply the required information for Volume V in Adobe PDF format and Attachment J-6 as an excell document separately ?	Yes, as per Section L.10.2 Format Instructions: "The electronic submission for Volumes I, II, III, IV and V as separate electronic files shall contain one copy of the respective proposal volume in Adobe Acrobat portable document format (i.e. ".pdf"). In addition, the electronic submission for Volume V shall incorporate ATTACHMENT J-6 and shall contain the requested information as stated in L.10.5. All Security permissions on the excel spreadsheet (i.e. ".xls") shall be set to allow the Government to select, cut, paste, review, and print text and graphics without the need for a password."

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229	73	L.11	Table	What is the rationale for reduction in page limit from 25 pages (excluding Subcontracting Plan) to 10 pages (excluding subcontracting plan)? 25 pages was allocated for both Protech Fisheries and Oceans Domain solicitation for the Management Volume.	Yes. Referenced section will be updated in a revised RFP draft.
230	73	L	L.10.2	This paragraph states "...purposes in response to Section L.10.5." Paragraph L.10.5 does not exist. What is the correct paragraph for the desired information?	Reference should read "...purposes in response to Section L.11.5". Reference will be updated/corrected in final FRP
231	73	L	L.10.2	This paragraph states "...shall contain the requested information as stated in L .10.5" Paragraph L.10.5 does not exist. What is the correct paragraph for the desired information?	Reference should read "...shall contain the requested information as stated in Section L.11.5". Reference will be updated/corrected in final FRP
232	73	L.10	2	It is noted that "Extraneous narratives, elaborate brochures, uninformative "PR" material and so forth shall not be submitted. Can you please clarify how you will differentiate items as something a vendor may think is pertinent vs what the Government may view as extraneous or uninformative.	The Government cannot provide input on proposal strategy beyond the criteria provided in Sections L and M of the RFP.
233	74	L.10.2	1	Should each Volume include a Table of Contents?	Yes each volume should be treated separately and include its own
234	74	L.11.1	0	Does the Government expect Volume I – Administrative, Section I - Executive Summary, to be in the form of a Transmittal Letter on company letterhead since it is referred to as an "Executive Summary letter" and needs to be signed?	No.
235	74	L.10.2	1	It appears that the reference to L.10.5 should be L.11.5. Is that correct?	Yes. Reference will be updated/corrected in final RFP
236	74	L.11	1	In the table on page 74 under IV "Past Performance," it states "Capability Matrix" - Is this an additional matrix to the one that is to be provided under Volume II Corporate Experience and Commitment?	Refer to responses to Questions 208 and 209