

Date: April 6, 2006

Contact: Mary Clark, 406-896-5205

BILLINGS – Several pre-bid conferences are scheduled to explain a federal solicitation for fuels reduction services throughout the western states. All contracts will be awarded to small businesses. The conferences are offered at no cost.

The Bureau of Land Management plans to issue multiple contracts for a wide range of work to reduce the risk of wildland fires. The Forest Service, National Park Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and Bureau of Indian Affairs will have authority to place orders on these contracts. The contracts may include: slashing, girdling, lop and scatter, selective slashing, pruning, fuel modification zone construction, hand piling and cover, fire line construction and maintenance, fuels pullback, and fireline construction and maintenance. This work may include furnishing labor, transportation, operating supplies and incidentals.

Conferences are scheduled at: Bureau of Land Management, 3255 Fort Missoula Rd., Missoula, on April 17; Big Sky EDA, 222 N 32<sup>nd</sup>, Billings, on April 19; Sturgis Community Center, 1401 Lazelle Street, Sturgis, SD, on April 20; Bureau of Land Management, Fire Conference Room, 111 Garryowen Road, Miles City, on April 25;

Bureau of Land Management, 920 NE Main St., Lewistown, on April 26; and Great Falls Business Center, 710 1<sup>st</sup> Ave. North, Great Falls, on April 27. All conferences will run from 6 to 8:30 p.m.

To access the solicitation, go to <a href="http://ideasec.nbc.gov">http://ideasec.nbc.gov</a> and query for Solicitation No. NAR060060. Interested parties should plan to attend one of the pre-bid conferences and bring a copy of the solicitation.

Please contact Mary Clark, BLM Procurement Analyst, at 406-896-5205 with any questions.

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