

## II. Programs Preliminarily Determined To Be Not Used

Seed Timber and its previously affiliated company, Storey Creek, reported that they did not apply for, use, or benefit from the programs listed below; therefore, we preliminarily determine that neither company used these programs.

### A. Non-Stumpage Programs of the GOBC

1. Grants, Loans, and Loan Guarantees Provided from Forest Renewal BC
2. Payments Associated with Tenure Reclamation
3. Land-Base Investment Program
4. Forestry Innovation Investment Program
5. Allowances for Harvesting Beetle-Infested Timber
6. Tax Breaks for Timber Harvesters on Private Timber Land

### B. Non-Stumpage Programs of the Federal Government of Canada

1. Non-Repayable Grants and Conditionally Repayable Contributions from the Department of Western Economic Diversification
2. Workers Assistance Packages
3. Softwood Marketing Subsidies
4. Litigation Related Payments to Lumber Trade Associations

## Preliminary Results of New Shipper Review

In accordance with section 751(a)(2)(B)(i) of the Act, we have determined an individual rate for the exporter or producer of the subject merchandise participating in this new shipper review. We preliminarily determine the total net countervailable subsidy rate to be:

Producer/exporter	Net subsidy rate
Seed Timber Co. Ltd.	2.22 percent <i>ad valorem</i>

If the final results of this new shipper review remain the same as these preliminary results, the Department will instruct CBP within 41 days of publication of the final results of this review, to liquidate shipments of the subject merchandise produced or exported by Seed Timber entered, or withdrawn from warehouse, for consumption from January 1, 2003, through December 31, 2003, at 2.22 percent *ad valorem* of the f.o.b. invoice price. The Department also intends to instruct CBP to collect cash deposits of estimated countervailing duties at 2.22 percent *ad valorem* of the f.o.b. invoice price on all shipments of the subject merchandise from Seed Timber entered,

or withdrawn from warehouse, for consumption on or after the date of publication of the final results of this new shipper review.

## Public Comment

Pursuant to 19 CFR 351.224(b), the Department will disclose to parties to the proceeding any calculations performed in connection with these preliminary results within five days after the date of publication of this notice. Pursuant to 19 CFR 351.309, interested parties may submit written comments in response to these preliminary results. Case briefs must be submitted within 30 days after the date of publication of this notice, and rebuttal briefs, limited to arguments raised in case briefs, must be submitted no later than five days after the time limit for filing case briefs. Parties who submit argument in this proceeding are requested to submit with the argument: (1) A statement of the issue, and (2) a brief summary of the argument. Case and rebuttal briefs must be served on interested parties in accordance with 19 CFR 351.303(f).

Also, pursuant to 19 CFR 351.310(c), within 30 days of the date of publication of this notice, interested parties may request a public hearing on arguments to be raised in the case and rebuttal briefs. Unless the Secretary specifies otherwise, the hearing, if requested, will be held two days after the date of submission of rebuttal briefs, that is, thirty-seven days after the date of publication of these preliminary results. Representatives of parties to the proceeding may request disclosure of proprietary information under administrative protective order no later than 10 days after the representative's client or employer becomes a party to the proceeding, but in no event later than the date the case briefs, under 19 CFR 351.309(c)(ii), are due.

The Department will issue and publish the final results of this review, which will include the results of its analysis of issues raised in any case or rebuttal brief, or at a hearing, if requested within 90 days of publication of these preliminary results.

This review and notice is issued and published in accordance with sections 751(a) and 777(i)(1) of the Act.

Dated: April 26, 2005.

**Barbara E. Tillman,**

*Acting Assistant Secretary for Import Administration.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

#### Contracting Policy for Mapping and Charting Services

**AGENCY:** National Ocean Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Department of Commerce.

**ACTION:** Notice and request for comment.

**SUMMARY:** The NOAA National Ocean Service (NOS) established a contracting policy for mapping and charting services in 1996 that the NOAA Hydrographic and Shoreline Mapping Programs have followed since that time. NOAA seeks public comment on this policy in accordance with the FY 2005 Consolidated Appropriations Act request to work with the private mapping community to develop a strategy for expanding contracting with private entities to minimize duplication and take maximum advantage of private sector capabilities in fulfillment of NOAA's mapping and charting responsibilities. Comments on the contracting policy and strategies to expand contracting will be factored into the NOAA Hydrographic Services Review Panel (<http://nauticalcharts.noaa.gov/ocs/hsrp/hsrp.htm>) Federal Advisory Committee's (HSRP FAC) recommendations to NOAA on the same issues. NOAA will consider both HSRP FAC recommendations and comments from the public in its update of the current contracting policy. NOAA will publish a draft revised policy and seek a second comment period before publishing the final contracting policy by March 2006.

**DATES:** Comments must be submitted within 60 days of the date of this notice.

**ADDRESSES:** Written comments should be submitted to Ashley Chappell, Office of Coast Survey, National Ocean Service, NOAA (N/CS), 1315 East West Highway, Station 6113, Silver Spring, MD 20910. Written comments may be faxed to (301) 713-4019, Attention: Ashley Chappell. Comments by e-mail should be submitted to [ashley.chappell@noaa.gov](mailto:ashley.chappell@noaa.gov).

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Ashley Chappell, Office of Coast Survey, National Ocean Service, NOAA (N/CS), 1315 East West Highway, Station 6113, Silver Spring, Maryland 20910; Telephone: (301) 713-2770 ext. 148.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The following documentation is the current

contracting policy for surveying and mapping within the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), National Ocean Service (NOS): National Ocean Service, Contracting Policy for Surveying and Mapping Services, June 4, 1996.

### Background

A National Ocean Service (NOS) mission, as authorized by the Coast and Geodetic Survey Act of 1947 (33 U.S.C. 883a-i)<sup>1</sup> is to provide nautical and aeronautical charts and other information products that support safe navigation for marine and air commerce, and to establish and maintain a high precision national coordinate system to provide basic reference data products for engineering and scientific purposes in support of commerce and industry.

This mission encompasses those activities associated with the field collection of surveying and mapping data, the analysis and compilation of the data, and the dissemination of the data in useful products for the full public benefit. For the purposes of this policy, the term "surveying and mapping" is defined as including, but not limited to, the following activities; geodetic control, hydrography, photogrammetry, topography, remote sensing, geophysical (gravity, seismological, geomagnetic) measurements, tide and current observations, and specialized data compilation processes.

The Coast and Geodetic Survey Act also authorizes NOS to utilize state-of-the-art technology to improve the efficiency, as well as the scientific and engineering knowledge, of surveying and mapping activities.

NOS recognizes that qualified commercial sources can provide competent, professional, cost-effective surveying and mapping services to NOS in support of the above mission. In general, it is the intent of NOS to contract for mapping and surveying services when qualified commercial sources exist, and when such contracts are the most cost effective method of conducting these functions. This policy statement documents the framework and conditions under which contracting for surveying and mapping services will be employed to ensure an open, consistent, approach. To support this policy, NOS will maintain a dialogue with professional and business organizations and constituent groups.

### Policy

#### Private Sector Role

It is NOS policy to procure surveying and mapping services from qualified commercial sources in accordance with

Federal acquisition regulations and other applicable laws when such procurement is the most cost effective source, unless (1) A product or service is inherently governmental in nature; (2) there is no commercial source capable of providing a needed product or service to NOS at the required standard of performance, and at a price equal to or less than existing government services; (3) Government production, manufacture, or provision of a product or service is necessary for national defense; or, (4) the procured services cannot reasonably be quality controlled to ensure safety of navigation in the national airspace or coastal waters.

NOS surveying and mapping activities considered inherently governmental in nature include services necessary to: (1) Monitor the quality of NOS products; (2) promulgate and promote national technical standards and specifications; (3) conduct basic research and development and ensure the rapid transfer to the private sector of the technology derived therefrom; and (4) maintain the Federal geodetic and navigational data bases. To carry out the above activities, and to adequately monitor contracted services, NOS will maintain a core capability of field and office expertise.

NOS decisions regarding contracting will include consideration of factors such as (1) Sufficiency of resources appropriated to support national programs, (2) Federal laws, regulations, policies, and procedures governing contracting, and utilization of the private sector for commercial activities, (3) Federal laws, regulations, and collective bargaining agreements that ensure fair and equitable treatment for Federal employees, (4) availability of critical in-house technical and managerial capability needed to use commercial sources effectively, (5) Federal policies regarding the liability of independent contractors for their acts or inactions, and (6) Federal requirements to regulate and manage the national airspace and coastal waters.

#### Contracting Basis

In general, it is NOS policy to award contracts for surveying and mapping services in accordance with Title IX of the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949 (40 U.S.C. 541 *et seq.*) commonly known as the "Brooks Act". NOS may, however, elect to employ other contracting methods in accordance with federal acquisition regulations and other applicable laws when conditions determine that alternative contracting methods best serve the Government's interest.

The Brooks Act enables the Government to contract for surveying and mapping services on the basis of demonstrated competence and qualifications for the type of professional services required, and at fair and reasonable prices. NOS has determined that the Brooks Act is the appropriate contract basis for surveying and mapping services because the professional nature of the services to be procured require that potential contractors have specialized technical expertise. Surveying and mapping services are of a highly technical nature, and it is critical that all activities, from collection through compilation be performed to high standards of accuracy and quality control to meet the NOS mission of accurate, reliable products. By employing the Brooks Act, NOS is able to utilize a selection process that places priority on potential contractors' qualifications and expertise.

To view the Brooks Act, Pub. L. 92-582 or the Hydrographic Services Improvement Act (which established the HSRP FAC), visit <http://nauticalcharts.noaa.gov/ocs/hsrp/archive/library.htm>.

Dated: April 28, 2005.

**Peter Gibson,**

*Acting Deputy Director, Management and Budget.*

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## COMMODITY FUTURES TRADING COMMISSION

### Agency Information Collection Activities: Notice of Intent To Renew Collection 3038-0015, Copies of Crop and Market Information Reports

**AGENCY:** Commodity Futures Trading Commission.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Commodity Futures Trading Commission (CFTC) is announcing an opportunity for public comment on the proposed collection of certain information by the agency. Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA), 44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*, Federal agencies are required to publish notice in the **Federal Register** concerning each proposed collection of information, including each proposed extension of an existing collection of information, and to allow 60 days for public comment in response to the notice. This notice solicits comments on large trade reports.

**DATES:** Comments must be submitted on or before July 5, 2005.