

Date: March 1, 2004 Contact: Mary Clark, 406-896-5205

BILLINGS – The federal government plans to issue multiple contracts throughout the western states for a wide range of work to reduce the risk of wildland fires. All contracts will be awarded to small businesses.

Pre-bid conferences are scheduled in Miles City, Mont., and Lead, S.D., to explain contract requirements. The conferences are offered at no cost.

The first conference will be at the Bureau of Land Management, 111 Garryowen Road in Miles City, on March 8 from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. The second will take place in the Game, Fish and Parks Conference Room, 11361 Nevada Gulch Road in Lead, S.D., on March 9 from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.

The Bureau of Land Management will issue the contracts. The Forest Service, National Park Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and Bureau of Indian Affairs will also 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; prescribed burning and mop-up; fire line construction and maintenance; fuels pullback; snag felling; roadblock removal/restoration; and prescribed fire plan preparation furnishing labor, transportation, operating supplies and incidentals. To access the solicitation, go to <u>http://ideasec.nbc.gov</u> and query for Request for Proposal No. NAR040048. 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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