

SECTION 00100
INVITATION TO BID

Separate sealed bids for construction of Jocko Area Canal Conversion Project – Phase 5 & 6 will be received by Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes (CSKT) from invited CONTRACTORS only at the Division of Engineering and Water Resources (DEWR) office located at 33019 Quequesah Ln, Ronan, MT 59864 until 5:00 PM local time on May 28, 2026. Bids will be opened privately by CSKT. Mailed bids shall be submitted per Article 15 of the Instructions to Bidders. Bidders are cautioned of potential delays in receiving bids at the place and time of the bid opening due to delays in mail delivery and processing.

The project generally consists of, but is not necessarily limited to, the following major items: Conversion of an existing irrigation canal system to a piped system including 1) Approximately 36,500 LF of HDPE pipe ranging in size from 2-inch to 30-inch, 2) Isolation valves consisting of gate valves and butterfly valves, 3) Pressure reducing valve stations for managing pressure in mainlines and smaller pressure reducing valves at select on-farm deliveries, 4) Air valves consisting of air release valves and combination air release/air-vacuum valves, 5) Individual on-farm delivery assemblies consisting of isolation valves, air valves, flow meter, and ductile iron pipe, 6) Erosion control, 7) Road repair and surface restoration, 8) Valve and meter vaults, and 9) Drainage structures consisting of concrete dry wells, subsurface rock facilities, and surface discharge protection.

The Contract Documents, consisting of half-size Drawings and Project Manual, will be distributed to invited contractors via secure link. Invited contractors may obtain a hard copy at the office of Morrison-Maierle, Inc., (1055 Mount Avenue, Missoula, Montana; phone (406) 542-8880) for a non-refundable price of \$250 for each complete set shipped by standard delivery. Payment of an additional \$25 is required for express mail. In addition, the Drawings and Project Manual may also be examined at Morrison-Maierle at 1055 Mount Avenue, Missoula, Montana.

There will be a Pre-Bid Conference at the Arlee Community Center located at 34086 Pow Wow Rd, Arlee, MT 59821, at 1:00 PM on April 27, 2026. Interested CONTRACTORS are required to attend. A tour of the project site(s) will be conducted after the meeting.

CONTRACTOR(s) and any of the CONTRACTOR's subcontractors bidding on this project will be required to obtain registration with the Montana Department of Labor and Industry (DLI). Forms for registration are available from the Department of Labor and Industry, P.O. Box 8011, 1805 Prospect, Helena, Montana 59604-8011. Information on registration can be obtained by calling 1-406-444-7734. Forms for registration can also be obtained online at MT.Contractor.Com. CONTRACTOR's are required to have registered with the DLI prior to bidding on this project.

The CONTRACTOR must ensure that employees and applicants for employment are not discriminated against because of their race, color, religion, sex or national origin.

Each bid or proposal must be accompanied by a Certified Check, Cashier's Check, or Bid Bond payable to The Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes, in an amount not less than ten percent (10%) of the total amount of the bid. Successful BIDDERS shall furnish an approved Construction Performance Bond and a Construction (Labor and Materials) Payment Bond, each in the amount of one hundred percent (100%) of the contract amount. Insurance as required shall be provided by the successful BIDDER(s) and a certificate(s) of that insurance shall be provided.

A bid may not be withdrawn after the scheduled submission deadline specified above unless it meets requirements and procedures outlined in Article 16.02 of the Instructions to Bidders.

The right is reserved to reject any or all Proposals received, to waive informalities, to postpone the award of the contract for a period of not to exceed sixty (60) days, and to accept the lowest responsive and responsible bid which is in the best interest of the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes.

This is an Indian Preference Invitation to Bid. Tribal Consultants who wish to receive Indian Preference must obtain certification by the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes' Indian Preference Office as a legitimate Indian-owned business prior to the submission of bids. In order to claim Indian Preference, proof of Indian Preference Certification must be included with your bid in the form of a copy of the certificate issued by the Indian Preference Office. Be advised, evidence of your membership or affiliation with a tribe does not constitute Indian Preference certification.

The selection of the successful Consultant and award of this project will be per the provisions of the CSKT Indian Preference Ordinance 101A, which is described here:

Preference in the awarding of contracts and subcontracts and in the procurement of services, materials, supplies, and equipment required for work to be performed shall be given to certified Indian-owned businesses as follows unless prohibited by Federal Law:

- A. First Preference shall be given to a CSKT member-owned business which is a responsible bidder with a responsive bid. Such CSKT member-owned business coming within 10% of the low bid or price quote shall have the opportunity to meet the low figure.
- B. Second preference shall be given to any other Indian-owned business which is a responsible bidder and which submits a responsive bid. Any such other Indian owned business coming within 10% of the low bid or price quote shall have the opportunity to meet the bid or price if no CSKT member-owned business does so.

It is the sole responsibility of the Offeror to obtain and provide proof of Indian Preference certification from the Indian Preference Office. For more information on Indian Preference certification, contact Melinda Charlo, (406) 675-2700 ext. 1045.