

The University of Southern Mississippi
Notice of Proposed Sole Source Purchase

SSP 21_025

The University of Southern Mississippi anticipates purchasing the item(s) listed below as a sole source purchase. Anyone objecting to this purchase shall follow the procedures outlined below.

1. Description of the commodity that USM is seeking to procure: Hand-held Multi-parameter Water Quality Meter, with GPS and the following additional specification must have:

- 1 Total Algae Sensor, PE Saltwater
- 1 pH Sensor with Module
- 1 Conductivity and Temperature Sensor
- 1 ODO Optical Dissolved Oxygen Sensor
- 1 4-port Cable Assembly with Depth, 20m length

2. Explanation of why the commodity is the only one that meets the needs of the agency:

The specifications listed above are required to advance ecosystem dynamics associated with creation and staged enhancement of high clutch density oyster reefs. The research within the proposed oyster lease requires ground-truthed environmental data which requires a quad-cable sensor package to acquire vertical profiles of water column structure using measures of depth/recorded at 0.25m depth intervals, temperature + conductivity (with specific conductance, salinity, and TDS); pH; DO; and fluorometrically-derived chlorophyll-a, phycocyanin, & phycoerythrin. Additionally, discrete water samples will be collected for laboratory analysis of chlorophyll-a and TSS (including the organic and inorganic fractions thereof). YSI is the only commercially available instrument that offers complete customization of the ProDSS to include the needed Total Algae sensor along with varying cable options to include the needed 4-port 20m length water depth cable.

3. Explanation of why the source is the only source is the only person or entity that can provide the required commodity:

The ProDSS Multiparameter manufactured by YSI is a portable digital sampling system with GPS functionality for the measurement of pH, ORP, dissolved oxygen (optical-based sensor), conductivity, turbidity, temperature. Designed for use in applications such as surface water, groundwater, coastal waters, aquaculture, and wastewater for measurement of up to 19 parameters. YSI is the only commercially available instrument that offers complete customization of the ProDSS to include the needed Total Algae sensor along with varying cable options to include the needed 4-port 20m length water depth cable.

4. Explanation of why the amount to be expended for the commodity is reasonable: USM has received a 15% academic institution discount.

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5. Efforts that the agency went through to obtain the best possible price for the commodity: Efforts were made to reach out to all companies, found in a google search, that specialize in Water Quality meters. No other supplier was able to provide the essential must-haves required for this purchase.

Advertisement Schedule	Date
1st scheduled	2/27/21
2nd scheduled	3/6/21

Any person or entity that objects and proposes that the commodity listed is not sole source and can be provided by another person or entity shall submit a written notice to:

Steve Ballew
Director of Procurement & Contracts
steve.ballew@usm.edu

Subject Line must read "Sole Source Objection"

The notice shall contain a detailed explanation of why the commodity is not a sole source procurement. Appropriate documentation shall also be submitted if applicable.

If after a review of the submitted notice and documents, USM determines that the commodity in the proposed sole source request can be provided by another person or entity, then USM will withdraw the sole source request publication from the procurement portal website and submit the procurement of the commodity to an advertised competitive bid or selection process.

If USM determines after review that there is only one (1) source for the required commodity, then USM will appeal to the Public Procurement Review Board. USM will have the burden of proving that the commodity is only provided by one (1) source.