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Planning

## **Potential Impacts of Gamebird Release on Habitats and Invertebrates in Protected Sites**

Defra and ALBs

F01: Prior information notice

Prior information only

Notice identifier: 2022/S 000-031574

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocids-h6vhtk-038015

Published 8 November 2022, 2:46pm

### **Section I: Contracting authority**

#### **I.1) Name and addresses**

Defra and ALBs

Smith Square

London

SW1P 3JR

#### **Contact**

Nina Brittain

#### **Email**

[nina.brittain@defra.gov.uk](mailto:nina.brittain@defra.gov.uk)

#### **Telephone**

+44 2087204558

**Country**

United Kingdom

**Region code**

UK - United Kingdom

**Internet address(es)**

Main address

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-environment-food-rural-affairs>

Buyer's address

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-environment-food-rural-affairs/about/procurement>

**I.3) Communication**

Additional information can be obtained from the above-mentioned address

**I.4) Type of the contracting authority**

National or federal Agency/Office

**I.5) Main activity**

Environment

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## Section II: Object

### II.1) Scope of the procurement

#### II.1.1) Title

Potential Impacts of Gamebird Release on Habitats and Invertebrates in Protected Sites

#### II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 90711500 - Environmental monitoring other than for construction

#### II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

#### II.1.4) Short description

Natural England is seeking a contractor to deliver all aspects of planning, fieldwork, analysis and reporting. The project will cover two fieldwork seasons (spring / summer 2023 and 2024) across approximately 40 sites distributed across England. It is anticipated the study will include 20 sites with gamebird rearing and release activities and 20 paired control sites.

#### II.1.6) Information about lots

This contract is divided into lots: No

### II.2) Description

#### II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UK - United Kingdom

#### II.2.4) Description of the procurement

Natural England is delivering a piece of research for Defra, to investigate the potential impacts of releasing gamebirds (predominantly pheasants, also potentially red-legged partridges) on habitats and invertebrate species in protected sites. Predominantly these sites will be Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) and Special Protection Areas (SPAs) but may also include Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs).

Natural England is seeking a contractor to deliver all aspects of planning, fieldwork, analysis and reporting. The project will cover two fieldwork seasons (spring / summer

2023 and 2024) across approximately 40 sites distributed across England. It is anticipated the study will include 20 sites with gamebird rearing and release activities and 20 paired control sites. Methodologies are largely developed and will be specified within the Request For Quotation, but will include:

- Measurements of soil chemistry indicative of any eutrophication effects
- Measurements of ground vegetation, including tree growth and species composition
- Measurements of tree flora (e.g. bryophytes) indicative of air pollution effects
- Measurements of key invertebrate species within habitats close to gamebird activities

Following successful fieldwork campaigns, the contractor will be required to analyse data within an appropriate statistical framework, and report to Natural England.

#### **II.2.14) Additional information**

Expected Timeline:

ITT to be published by 25 November 2022

Proposals due by 23 December 2022

Project start by 1 March 2023

Update reports Throughout project

Steering group Throughout project

Full report by end November 2024

Defra would welcome feedback from the market to gauge the level of interest from potential bidders for the project.

#### **II.3) Estimated date of publication of contract notice**

25 November 2022

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## **Section IV. Procedure**

### **IV.1) Description**

#### **IV.1.8) Information about the Government Procurement Agreement (GPA)**

The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement: No