

December 20, 2009



How the US Army Corps of Engineers Rates SWC's Capabilities for Environmental Compliance Work

The following are excerpts from an October 2009 Corps evaluation of a construction proposal for a major project in the middle of the Everglades that specifically refer to SWC's scope of work and qualifications, and sections of the proposal written by SWC:

1.a. TECHNICAL MERIT – IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

“The Contractor’s Environmental Considerations section was extremely detailed regarding wildlife monitoring requirements and reporting. For example, the Environmental Section included pertinent details in the following sub-components: Environmental Compliance Team (breakdown with sub-consultants); Permits and Plans; Simplified booklet with Permit Conditions; Defining Outer Limits and Monitoring; Erosion and Turbidity Control; Installation of Temporary Erosion and Sediment Control Devices; Erosion and Sediment Control Maintenance Crew; Monitoring Date Reporting; Non-Compliance with Turbidity Standards; Permanent Erosion Control Measures; Wildlife Protection; Training to Recognize Species; Daily Surveillance; Special Monitoring for the Presence of Migratory Birds; Monitoring of Wood Stork Nesting Activities; Monitoring Impact to Snail Kite Nesting; Monitoring for Nest Colonies; Eastern Indigo Snake Protection/Education Plan; Everglades Mink Briefing; Soil Reuse, Handling and Disposal; Waste Disposal; Fuel Storage and Handling; Historic and Archaeological Artifacts; Agency Coordination.

“Schedule: The Contractor breaks down the bird monitoring periods as separate activities (Activities A10010 through A11090) in the schedule to demonstrate that the Contractor understands the monitoring windows....” “Environmental work was explained in a detailed manner and the monitoring activities were itemized by endangered species. Contractor is proposing to provide environmental training for all field personnel in order to spot and identify endangered species throughout the project in a timely manner...”

“Environmental write-up was very detailed and showed a working knowledge of the area...”

“Technical Approach Plan demonstrates excellent awareness of the environmental sensitivity of all elements of the project. The Contractor:

- Describes environmental considerations in exceptional detail.**
- Clearly defines important areas of environmental responsibility between proposed subcontractors.**
- Studied requirements in depth and noted that erosion control needs to be adjusted based on existing conditions.**
- Describes plan to maintain erosion and sediment control equipment proactively.**
- Mentions appropriate areas of coordination with USACE and FDEP.**
- Has assembled a well-rounded team to accomplish the varied environmental work (construction crew training, turbidity monitoring, wildlife monitoring).**

The Construction Schedule includes all required activities plus identifies the critical path.



- Turbidity, indigo snake, and manatee monitoring are included on line items on the schedule.
- Bird monitoring is included during the nesting season in each year. Appropriately timed kite surveys are also included in the schedule.
- Roadwork is scheduled in areas that might overlap with woodstork zones during the nesting season, but appropriate controls are in place.
- Demolition is scheduled outside the nesting season.

The Technical Approach Plan provides the following extra information which demonstrates that the requirements of the job have been thoroughly considered...

3. A simplified book with layman's discussion of permit conditions plus species of concern will be produced...
4. The contractor will use an environmental commitment tracker.

“2. a. DEMONSTRATED EXPERIENCE – Highway, Bridge and Roadway Construction ...environmental consultant provides applicable experience performing environmental monitoring and coordination on a highway bridge and roadway project.”

“2.b. DEMONSTRATED EXPERIENCE – Construction of a Project in an Environmentally Sensitive Area

The Contractor project descriptions provided discussion for coordination and management requirements that were needed to resolve problems encountered to ensure project completion. The Contractor's environmental subcontractors worked on the Jewfish Creek Bridge with FDOT in the Florida Keys. The Jewfish Creek Bridge is very similar to this RFP in scope, complexity, and environmental requirements.

“Overall Ranking

...They possessed a very good environmental plan; proactive with instructions to workers and training workers; and worked very well with other agencies.”

The SWC Environmental Compliance team brings full scores toward federal Woman-Owned Small Business (WOSB) subcontracting goals (currently 7% for the Corps). SWC clearly has the enthusiastic support of USACE project managers for our approach and recent highly-relevant experience, which will ensure a seamless process of environmental compliance during the duration of work, saving time and money for contractors.

Please call or email me at 305-294-1238 or sandy@swcinc.net to discuss how SWC can help you win and cost-effectively implement Corps construction projects in environmentally-sensitive areas.

Sincerely,



(Sandra Walters Consultants, Inc.)

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sandra Walters". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Sandra Walters
President