

571—82.1(482) Contract policy. All contracts for removal of fish from inland waters shall be awarded on a competitive basis to the maximum practical extent subject to the following provisions. Commercial fishers licensed with the state may enter into contract with owners of private water bodies for the removal of injurious fish provided approval is received from the director or staff of the department prior to any sampling or removal operations. Owners of private water bodies need not comply with subrules 82.1(1) to 82.1(6).

82.1(1) Invitation for bids. Sealed bids to be opened at a specified time, place, and date must be solicited for all fish removal operations under contract. Prospective bidders shall be informed by an advertisement in at least one newspaper of statewide circulation; one newspaper published in the county seat of the county in which the work is to be done, and such other means as may be appropriate in sufficient time to enable prospective bidders to prepare and submit bids. Specifications of the contract shall be provided to all prospective bidders as provided in the invitation for bids.

82.1(2) Public bid letting. All sealed bids shall be publicly opened as specified in the invitation for bids. The bids shall be tabulated and made available in a written form to any interested party.

82.1(3) Contract award. The contract shall be awarded to the firm or individual whose bid is believed to be the most advantageous to the state. Bids may be rejected if they do not appear to be reasonable or if there is reason to believe that the firm or individual is not sufficiently qualified to accomplish the desired work.

82.1(4) Contract approval. All contracts for fish removal operations in excess of \$25,000 shall be approved by the commission. Contracts less than \$25,000 shall be approved by the director.

82.1(5) Failure to receive a bid. In the event that no sealed bids are received, the fisheries bureau chief, or staff at the direction of the fisheries bureau chief, may negotiate a contract with a qualified contractor.

82.1(6) Contract period. Contracts shall have a maximum duration of 12 months. A contract may be extended, with the mutual consent of both parties, on an annual basis, for a period up to and including three years from the time of the original contract. All terms and conditions existing in the original contract will apply during the extended contract period.