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The State of New Hampshire

Department of Environmental Services

Robert R. Scott, Commissioner

105

April 15, 2024

His Excellency, Governor Christopher T. Sununu
and The Honorable Council
State House
Concord, NH 03301

REQUESTED ACTION

Authorize the Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) to enter into a **SOLE SOURCE** contract with Woodrow B. Thompson, of Wayne, ME (VC# 257993-B001) totaling $12,704 to provide field maps, notes, photographs and 35-mm slides of White Mountains surficial geologic features to NHDES for electronic scanning in support of geologic data preservation, effective upon Governor and Council approval through December 31, 2025. 100% Federal Funds.

Funding is available in the account as follows:

	FY 2024
03-44-44-440010-9114-102-500731	$12,704

Dept Environmental Services, Geology and Water Projects, Contracts for Program Services

EXPLANATION

The contract that is the subject of this request involves geologic data preservation efforts. This contract is **SOLE SOURCE** as Woodrow Thompson is the primary individual who possesses quantities of records on the surficial geology of the White Mountains, based on his extensive research in the area. In late 2023, NHGS received federal funds from the United States Geological Survey, National Geological and Geophysical Data Preservation Program (NGGDPP) for the purpose to preserve these research records. Woodrow Thompson's records were identified in the proposal as critical information to preserve. The summary of the review panel that evaluated NHGS' proposal noted that these records are very valuable, irreplaceable and at risk of being lost if not preserved in the near future.

NHDES recently received grant funds from the NGGDPP to permanently preserve and archive field notes, field maps and photographs of the surficial geology of the White Mountains region that originate from independent research conducted in this area. Woodrow B. Thompson is such a researcher who has amassed a considerable quantity of such research from his decades of work in the White Mountains. Simultaneously, an identified long-term goal of NHGS has been to develop an online web viewer that can provide citizens, municipalities, and private industry greater accessibility to records pertaining to the geology and environment of New Hampshire in an online, map-based viewer format. NHGS worked with Woodrow Thompson to develop a grant proposal to NGGDPP that provides funds to NHGS to develop the viewer, and fund Woodrow Thompson to provide to NHGS his field notes, maps and photographs from his decades of research. This project will allow Woodrow Thompson's records to be electronically preserved, and provide the initial project by which NHGS builds its web-based geologic information viewer using an intuitive, navigable map. This approach provides the infrastructure to allow for additional historical geologic information to be placed into the viewer in future projects, while

focusing on the surficial geology of the White Mountains in this project, and the preservation of this important information while Woodrow Thompson remains available to provide the information and its interpretation.

This agreement has been approved as to form, substance, and execution by the Office of Attorney General.

We respectfully request your approval.

Robert R. Scott, Commissioner

Notice: This agreement and all of its attachments shall become public upon submission to Governor and Executive Council for approval. Any information that is private, confidential or proprietary must be clearly identified to the agency and agreed to in writing prior to signing the contract.

AGREEMENT

The State of New Hampshire and the Contractor hereby mutually agree as follows:

GENERAL PROVISIONS

1. IDENTIFICATION.

1.1 State Agency Name New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services		1.2 State Agency Address 29 Hazen Drive, P.O. Box 95, Concord, NH 03302-0095	
1.3 Contractor Name Woodrow B. Thompson		1.4 Contractor Address 171 Lord Road, Wayne, ME, 04284-3226	
1.5 Contractor Phone Number (207) 685-3647	1.6 Account Unit and Class 03-44-44-440010-9114-102	1.7 Completion Date 12/31/2025	1.8 Price Limitation $12,704
1.9 Contracting Officer for State Agency Shane Csiki, State Geologist and Director		1.10 State Agency Telephone Number (603) 271-1975	
1.11 Contractor Signature Woodrow B. Thompson Date: 4/1/2024		1.12 Name and Title of Contractor Signatory Woodrow B. Thompson, Professional Geologist	
1.13 State Agency Signature Date: 4/16/24		1.14 Name and Title of State Agency Signatory Robert R. Scott, Commissioner, NHDES	
1.15 Approval by the N.H. Department of Administration, Division of Personnel *(if applicable)* By: Director, On:			
1.16 Approval by the Attorney General (Form, Substance and Execution) *(if applicable)* By: Melissa Fales On: 4/22/24			
1.17 Approval by the Governor and Executive Council *(if applicable)* G&C Item number: G&C Meeting Date:			

Contractor Initials W.B.T.
Date 4/1/2024

2. SERVICES TO BE PERFORMED. The State of New Hampshire, acting through the agency identified in block 1.1 ("State"), engages contractor identified in block 1.3 ("Contractor") to perform, and the Contractor shall perform, the work or sale of goods, or both, identified and more particularly described in the attached EXHIBIT B which is incorporated herein by reference ("Services").

3. EFFECTIVE DATE/COMPLETION OF SERVICES.

3.1 Notwithstanding any provision of this Agreement to the contrary, and subject to the approval of the Governor and Executive Council of the State of New Hampshire, if applicable, this Agreement, and all obligations of the parties hereunder, shall become effective on the date the Governor and Executive Council approve this Agreement, unless no such approval is required, in which case the Agreement shall become effective on the date the Agreement is signed by the State Agency as shown in block 1.13 ("Effective Date").

3.2 If the Contractor commences the Services prior to the Effective Date, all Services performed by the Contractor prior to the Effective Date shall be performed at the sole risk of the Contractor, and in the event that this Agreement does not become effective, the State shall have no liability to the Contractor, including without limitation, any obligation to pay the Contractor for any costs incurred or Services performed.

3.3 Contractor must complete all Services by the Completion Date specified in block 1.7.

4. CONDITIONAL NATURE OF AGREEMENT.

Notwithstanding any provision of this Agreement to the contrary, all obligations of the State hereunder, including, without limitation, the continuance of payments hereunder, are contingent upon the availability and continued appropriation of funds. In no event shall the State be liable for any payments hereunder in excess of such available appropriated funds. In the event of a reduction or termination of appropriated funds by any state or federal legislative or executive action that reduces, eliminates or otherwise modifies the appropriation or availability of funding for this Agreement and the Scope for Services provided in EXHIBIT B, in whole or in part, the State shall have the right to withhold payment until such funds become available, if ever, and shall have the right to reduce or terminate the Services under this Agreement immediately upon giving the Contractor notice of such reduction or termination. The State shall not be required to transfer funds from any other account or source to the Account identified in block 1.6 in the event funds in that Account are reduced or unavailable.

5. CONTRACT PRICE/PRICE LIMITATION/ PAYMENT.

5.1 The contract price, method of payment, and terms of payment are identified and more particularly described in EXHIBIT C which is incorporated herein by reference.

5.2 Notwithstanding any provision in this Agreement to the contrary, and notwithstanding unexpected circumstances, in no event shall the total of all payments authorized, or actually made hereunder, exceed the Price Limitation set forth in block 1.8. The payment by the State of the contract price shall be the only and the complete reimbursement to the Contractor for all expenses, of whatever nature incurred by the Contractor in the performance hereof, and shall be the only and the complete compensation to the Contractor for the Services.

5.3 The State reserves the right to offset from any amounts otherwise payable to the Contractor under this Agreement those liquidated amounts required or permitted by N.H. RSA 80:7 through RSA 80:7-c or any other provision of law.

5.4 The State's liability under this Agreement shall be limited to monetary damages not to exceed the total fees paid. The Contractor agrees that it has an adequate remedy at law for any breach of this Agreement by the State and hereby waives any right to specific performance or other equitable remedies against the State.

6. COMPLIANCE BY CONTRACTOR WITH LAWS AND REGULATIONS/EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY.

6.1 In connection with the performance of the Services, the Contractor shall comply with all applicable statutes, laws, regulations, and orders of federal, state, county or municipal authorities which impose any obligation or duty upon the Contractor, including, but not limited to, civil rights and equal employment opportunity laws and the Governor's order on Respect and Civility in the Workplace, Executive order 2020-01. In addition, if this Agreement is funded in any part by monies of the United States, the Contractor shall comply with all federal executive orders, rules, regulations and statutes, and with any rules, regulations and guidelines as the State or the United States issue to implement these regulations. The Contractor shall also comply with all applicable intellectual property laws.

6.2 During the term of this Agreement, the Contractor shall not discriminate against employees or applicants for employment because of age, sex, sexual orientation, race, color, marital status, physical or mental disability, religious creed, national origin, gender identity, or gender expression, and will take affirmative action to prevent such discrimination, unless exempt by state or federal law. The Contractor shall ensure any subcontractors comply with these nondiscrimination requirements.

6.3 No payments or transfers of value by Contractor or its representatives in connection with this Agreement have or shall be made which have the purpose or effect of public or commercial bribery, or acceptance of or acquiescence in extortion, kickbacks, or other unlawful or improper means of obtaining business.

6.4. The Contractor agrees to permit the State or United States access to any of the Contractor's books, records and accounts for the purpose of ascertaining compliance with this Agreement and all rules, regulations and orders pertaining to the covenants, terms and conditions of this Agreement.

7. PERSONNEL.

7.1 The Contractor shall at its own expense provide all personnel necessary to perform the Services. The Contractor warrants that all personnel engaged in the Services shall be qualified to perform the Services, and shall be properly licensed and otherwise authorized to do so under all applicable laws.

7.2 The Contracting Officer specified in block 1.9, or any successor, shall be the State's point of contact pertaining to this Agreement.

Contractor Initials N.K.J.
Date 4/1/2024

8. EVENT OF DEFAULT/REMEDIES.

8.1 Any one or more of the following acts or omissions of the Contractor shall constitute an event of default hereunder ("Event of Default"):

8.1.1 failure to perform the Services satisfactorily or on schedule;

8.1.2 failure to submit any report required hereunder; and/or

8.1.3 failure to perform any other covenant, term or condition of this Agreement.

8.2 Upon the occurrence of any Event of Default, the State may take any one, or more, or all, of the following actions:

8.2.1 give the Contractor a written notice specifying the Event of Default and requiring it to be remedied within, in the absence of a greater or lesser specification of time, thirty (30) calendar days from the date of the notice; and if the Event of Default is not timely cured, terminate this Agreement, effective two (2) calendar days after giving the Contractor notice of termination;

8.2.2 give the Contractor a written notice specifying the Event of Default and suspending all payments to be made under this Agreement and ordering that the portion of the contract price which would otherwise accrue to the Contractor during the period from the date of such notice until such time as the State determines that the Contractor has cured the Event of Default shall never be paid to the Contractor;

8.2.3 give the Contractor a written notice specifying the Event of Default and set off against any other obligations the State may owe to the Contractor any damages the State suffers by reason of any Event of Default; and/or

8.2.4 give the Contractor a written notice specifying the Event of Default, treat the Agreement as breached, terminate the Agreement and pursue any of its remedies at law or in equity, or both.

9. TERMINATION.

9.1 Notwithstanding paragraph 8, the State may, at its sole discretion, terminate the Agreement for any reason, in whole or in part, by thirty (30) calendar days written notice to the Contractor that the State is exercising its option to terminate the Agreement.

9.2 In the event of an early termination of this Agreement for any reason other than the completion of the Services, the Contractor shall, at the State's discretion, deliver to the Contracting Officer, not later than fifteen (15) calendar days after the date of termination, a report ("Termination Report") describing in detail all Services performed, and the contract price earned, to and including the date of termination. In addition, at the State's discretion, the Contractor shall, within fifteen (15) calendar days of notice of early termination, develop and submit to the State a transition plan for Services under the Agreement.

10. PROPERTY OWNERSHIP/DISCLOSURE.

10.1 As used in this Agreement, the word "Property" shall mean all data, information and things developed or obtained during the performance of, or acquired or developed by reason of, this Agreement, including, but not limited to, all studies, reports, files, formulae, surveys, maps, charts, sound recordings, video recordings, pictorial reproductions, drawings, analyses, graphic representations, computer programs, computer printouts, notes, letters, memoranda, papers, and documents, all whether finished or unfinished.

10.2 All data and any Property which has been received from the State, or purchased with funds provided for that purpose under this Agreement, shall be the property of the State, and shall be returned to the State upon demand or upon termination of this Agreement for any reason.

10.3 Disclosure of data, information and other records shall be governed by N.H. RSA chapter 91-A and/or other applicable law. Disclosure requires prior written approval of the State.

11. CONTRACTOR'S RELATION TO THE STATE. In the performance of this Agreement the Contractor is in all respects an independent contractor, and is neither an agent nor an employee of the State. Neither the Contractor nor any of its officers, employees, agents or members shall have authority to bind the State or receive any benefits, workers' compensation or other emoluments provided by the State to its employees.

12. ASSIGNMENT/DELEGATION/SUBCONTRACTS.

12.1 Contractor shall provide the State written notice at least fifteen (15) calendar days before any proposed assignment, delegation, or other transfer of any interest in this Agreement. No such assignment, delegation, or other transfer shall be effective without the written consent of the State.

12.2 For purposes of paragraph 12, a Change of Control shall constitute assignment. "Change of Control" means (a) merger, consolidation, or a transaction or series of related transactions in which a third party, together with its affiliates, becomes the direct or indirect owner of fifty percent (50%) or more of the voting shares or similar equity interests, or combined voting power of the Contractor, or (b) the sale of all or substantially all of the assets of the Contractor.

12.3 None of the Services shall be subcontracted by the Contractor without prior written notice and consent of the State.

12.4 The State is entitled to copies of all subcontracts and assignment agreements and shall not be bound by any provisions contained in a subcontract or an assignment agreement to which it is not a party.

13. INDEMNIFICATION. The Contractor shall indemnify, defend, and hold harmless the State, its officers, and employees from and against all actions, claims, damages, demands, judgments, fines, liabilities, losses, and other expenses, including, without limitation, reasonable attorneys' fees, arising out of or relating to this Agreement directly or indirectly arising from death, personal injury, property damage, intellectual property infringement, or other claims asserted against the State, its officers, or employees caused by the acts or omissions of negligence, reckless or willful misconduct, or fraud by the Contractor, its employees, agents, or subcontractors. The State shall not be liable for any costs incurred by the Contractor arising under this paragraph 13. Notwithstanding the foregoing, nothing herein contained shall be deemed to constitute a waiver of the State's sovereign immunity, which immunity is hereby reserved to the State. This covenant in paragraph 13 shall survive the termination of this Agreement.

Contractor Initials M.B.J.
Date 4/1/2024

14. INSURANCE.

14.1 The Contractor shall, at its sole expense, obtain and continuously maintain in force, and shall require any subcontractor or assignee to obtain and maintain in force, the following insurance:

14.1.1 commercial general liability insurance against all claims of bodily injury, death or property damage, in amounts of not less than $1,000,000 per occurrence and $2,000,000 aggregate or excess; and

14.1.2 special cause of loss coverage form covering all Property subject to subparagraph 10.2 herein, in an amount not less than 80% of the whole replacement value of the Property.

14.2 The policies described in subparagraph 14.1 herein shall be on policy forms and endorsements approved for use in the State of New Hampshire by the N.H. Department of Insurance, and issued by insurers licensed in the State of New Hampshire.

14.3 The Contractor shall furnish to the Contracting Officer identified in block 1.9, or any successor, a certificate(s) of insurance for all insurance required under this Agreement. At the request of the Contracting Officer, or any successor, the Contractor shall provide certificate(s) of insurance for all renewal(s) of insurance required under this Agreement. The certificate(s) of insurance and any renewals thereof shall be attached and are incorporated herein by reference.

15. WORKERS' COMPENSATION.

15.1 By signing this agreement, the Contractor agrees, certifies and warrants that the Contractor is in compliance with or exempt from, the requirements of N.H. RSA chapter 281-A *("Workers' Compensation").*

15.2 To the extent the Contractor is subject to the requirements of N.H. RSA chapter 281-A, Contractor shall maintain, and require any subcontractor or assignee to secure and maintain, payment of Workers' Compensation in connection with activities which the person proposes to undertake pursuant to this Agreement. The Contractor shall furnish the Contracting Officer identified in block 1.9, or any successor, proof of Workers' Compensation in the manner described in N.H. RSA chapter 281-A and any applicable renewal(s) thereof, which shall be attached and are incorporated herein by reference. The State shall not be responsible for payment of any Workers' Compensation premiums or for any other claim or benefit for Contractor, or any subcontractor or employee of Contractor, which might arise under applicable State of New Hampshire Workers' Compensation laws in connection with the performance of the Services under this Agreement.

16. WAIVER OF BREACH. A State's failure to enforce its rights with respect to any single or continuing breach of this Agreement shall not act as a waiver of the right of the State to later enforce any such rights or to enforce any other or any subsequent breach.

17. NOTICE. Any notice by a party hereto to the other party shall be deemed to have been duly delivered or given at the time of mailing by certified mail, postage prepaid, in a United States Post Office addressed to the parties at the addresses given in blocks 1.2 and 1.4, herein.

18. AMENDMENT. This Agreement may be amended, waived or discharged only by an instrument in writing signed by the parties hereto and only after approval of such amendment, waiver or discharge by the Governor and Executive Council of the State of New Hampshire unless no such approval is required under the circumstances pursuant to State law, rule or policy.

19. CHOICE OF LAW AND FORUM.

19.1 This Agreement shall be governed, interpreted and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of New Hampshire except where the Federal supremacy clause requires otherwise. The wording used in this Agreement is the wording chosen by the parties to express their mutual intent, and no rule of construction shall be applied against or in favor of any party.

19.2 Any actions arising out of this Agreement, including the breach or alleged breach thereof, may not be submitted to binding arbitration, but must, instead, be brought and maintained in the Merrimack County Superior Court of New Hampshire which shall have exclusive jurisdiction thereof.

20. CONFLICTING TERMS. In the event of a conflict between the terms of this P-37 form (as modified in EXHIBIT A) and any other portion of this Agreement including any attachments thereto, the terms of the P-37 (as modified in EXHIBIT A) shall control.

21. THIRD PARTIES. This Agreement is being entered into for the sole benefit of the parties hereto, and nothing herein, express or implied, is intended to or will confer any legal or equitable right, benefit, or remedy of any nature upon any other person.

22. HEADINGS. The headings throughout the Agreement are for reference purposes only, and the words contained therein shall in no way be held to explain, modify, amplify or aid in the interpretation, construction or meaning of the provisions of this Agreement.

23. SPECIAL PROVISIONS. Additional or modifying provisions set forth in the attached EXHIBIT A are incorporated herein by reference.

24. FURTHER ASSURANCES. The Contractor, along with its agents and affiliates, shall, at its own cost and expense, execute any additional documents and take such further actions as may be reasonably required to carry out the provisions of this Agreement and give effect to the transactions contemplated hereby.

25. SEVERABILITY. In the event any of the provisions of this Agreement are held by a court of competent jurisdiction to be contrary to any state or federal law, the remaining provisions of this Agreement will remain in full force and effect.

26. ENTIRE AGREEMENT. This Agreement, which may be executed in a number of counterparts, each of which shall be deemed an original, constitutes the entire agreement and understanding between the parties, and supersedes all prior agreements and understandings with respect to the subject matter hereof.

Contractor Initials N. B. J.
Date 4/1/2024

Exhibit A
Special Provisions

Paragraph 14 of the General Provisions of the standard state agreement is expressly waived. This provision is being waived because this is an individual and carrying this general liability insurance would be cost prohibitive.

Contractor Initials N.B.J.
Date 4/1/2024

Exhibit B
Scope of Services

Woodrow B. Thompson (Thompson) shall perform the following tasks, to be completed by December 31, 2025:

1. Thompson shall examine, evaluate and sort his photographs derived from his independent research in the White Mountains to identify those requiring scanning and deliver the photographs to be scanned, and geolocation information for each photograph, to NHDES.
2. Thompson shall deliver copies of field maps, notes and 35-mm slides from his independent research in the White Mountains to be scanned, and geolocation information for each, to NHDES.
3. NHDES shall electronically scan historical field notes, maps, photographs and 35-mm slides as provided to NHDES by, and from the collection of, Thompson.
4. Upon creation of a web-based viewer and upload of submitted and scanned photographs and 35-mm slides to the created viewer, by NHDES, and prior to public notification of viewer availability, Thompson shall use the editing functionality of the viewer to enter key data and annotations for each photograph and 35-mm slide, including location, town, a field station number correlated with Thompson's records, site name as appropriate, photograph view direction, brief description of each photograph, and key search words.
5. Thompson shall use the web-based viewer to align the location of each photograph locality with its actual location on a base map available in the web-based viewer as needed.
6. Upon completion of the scope of services in this agreement, NHDES shall return to Thompson all field maps, notes, photographs and 35-mm slides delivered to NHDES by Thompson for electronic scanning by NHDES.

Contractor Initials W.B.T.
Date 4/1/2024

Exhibit C
Contract Price and Method of Payment

All services shall be performed to the satisfaction of NHDES before payment is made. All payments shall be made upon receipt and approval of stated outputs and upon receipt of an associated invoice. Payment shall be made in accordance with the following schedule based upon completion of specific tasks described in Exhibit B:

1. Contract Price shall be $12,704.00.

2. The Contract Price amount will be charged and billed as the percentage of work is completed.

3. All services shall be performed to the satisfaction of NHDES.

4. Detailed invoices will be required for all payments.

Contractor Initials N. B. J.
Date 4/1/2024