

Request for Quotation for Vessel Chartering

Date of Issue: 07/06/2019

Response Deadline: 21/06/2019 at 11 am

Tender submission: The first preference for receipt of Tenders is an electronic upload to the [Delta e-Procurement system](#) (access code **J9CF6C93A7**) or alternatively Tenders will be accepted via post or email (details below).

Late responses will not be accepted

Title: Request for Quotation for the provision of vessel services to support a tagging study of Atlantic Bluefin Tuna (ABFT) in UK waters 2019

Geographic Area: Southwest England

Cefas is a multidisciplinary scientific research and consultancy centre, employing over 500 staff, delivering solutions to meet the diverse needs of public and private sector businesses and organisations active in marine, coastal, estuarine and freshwater environments. We provide a comprehensive portfolio of research, consultancy and training services in fisheries science and management, environmental monitoring and assessment, fish and shellfish health, hygiene and cultivation, to clients around the world and maintain extensive collaborative links with research institutes, technical development companies and universities on a global basis.

Technical Specification (Schedule 1)

Background to Requirement:

Cefas and the University of Exeter are collaborating on a research project to provide a baseline understanding of the ecology of Atlantic bluefin tuna (*Thunnus thynnus*; ABFT) in waters of the British Isles. The project is supported by the Department for Food, Environment and Rural Affairs (Defra) and the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (EMFF).

We will be continuing a tagging programme based in the SW of the UK which began in 2018 and which extends into 2019. We will be deploying state of the art electronic tags on ABFT to study their seasonal migrations and behaviour. To achieve our target of tagging ABFT in 2019, we are now seeking expressions of interest to supply a vessel(s) for the project.

Requirement:

We are seeking offers of services to fulfil our requirement for a vessel/ vessels (hereafter 'tagging vessel') that will enable capture and tagging of ABFT during the period August to November 2019 and seek suitable parties who are interested in tendering for these services.

The tuna tagging procedure is to be conducted on the deck of the selected tagging vessel, not in the water, which is reflected in the requirements listed below. During the tagging programme in 2019 there may also be the need for the chartered vessel to work with additional fishing vessels (hereafter 'fishing vessel') that will supply ABFT for tagging (i.e. two or more boats fishing simultaneously); the supply of non-tagging vessels is not covered in this tender. All vessels, whether the tagging or fishing vessel, will be actively involved in the scientific fishing operations.

Please note the sourcing of fishing only vessels will be managed through a separate Expression of Interest submission process.

Tagging vessel requirements

1. The operating vessel must conform to the high health and safety standards expected for scientific work at sea. For the purposes of this ITT the vessel must meet, at minimum the MCA's Marine Guidance Note MGN 280 (M) Small Vessels in Commercial Use for Sport or Pleasure, Workboats and Pilot Boats: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/small-craft-codes>
A requirement of the tender will be the completion of a vessel safety information card (VSIC) included as part of this tender package. It is expected that the minimum length of vessel would be 9m.
2. The tenderer would be expected to supply experienced crew (a minimum of one skipper and one crew and a maximum of one skipper and two crew) for the purposes of rod fishing using trolling practices for ABFT. Crew must be supplied at the tenderer's expense. Paid access to crewing is prohibited and will invalidate the tender arrangement. Robust evidence of skipper and crew experience in pelagic sports fisheries will be required at the tender stage. Fishing operations must occur between dawn and dusk.
3. The vessel would ideally mobilise and demobilise from Falmouth Bay and / or Mounts Bay although other locations in the south-west may be considered. The majority of fishing operations would take place within the 12- nautical mile limit but may extend beyond depending on local intelligence on fish locations. A fuel surcharge would be payable on a case-by-case basis for work requiring extended range activities.
4. The number of days of work provided to interested parties is not likely to exceed 25 days per vessel and will be determined on a case-by-case basis. Dates of operation of contracted vessels may overlap and operations may require communications between boats. Payments will not be made on days where weather disrupts planned activity at sea. Days lost to weather disruption will be immediately rescheduled.
5. **Vessel Specifics:**
 - 5.1. Deck space must be sufficient for three scientists, with a working space for handling and tagging large tuna. The working space should therefore measure at least 2m by 3m and should be unobstructed.
 - 5.2. An ambient seawater temperature, automated-pumped deck wash and hose should be available for the purposes of irrigating the gills of boarded ABFT during the tagging procedure.
 - 5.3. The operating vessel must have a means by which ABFT can be boarded through either an open transom, tagging ramp or through a transom door measuring approximately 800mm by 750mm as a minimum.

Operational and Gear Standards

Scientific fishing for the purposes of attaching electronic tags to ABFT will be conducted under Home Office licence and will only be permitted under the conditional involvement with the tagging program under dispensation awarded by the Marine Management Organisation (MMO). When not operating as part of the tagging programme (i.e. when a scientific tagging team is not present on the tagging vessel), the UK's standard rules and regulations apply, which can be found on the [MMO website](#).

There may be a requirement for the at-sea transfer of live ABFT between supplementary fishing vessel/s and the tagging vessel. The method will be by transferring a fish whilst still on the fishing line; specifics of the method will be subject to agreement between skippers of both the tagging vessel and the supplementary fishing vessel/s. Crew transfers between vessels will not be permitted unless under exceptional circumstances (e.g. emergency or mechanical issues)

Safety standards

- a) i) **The vessel must have, and supply**, a copy of a valid Marine & Coastguard Agency Certificate or Small Commercial Vessel Certificate available on request.
- ii) If a mid-term inspection has been carried out by the MCA **a copy of the report must be made available**

on request.

iii) A copy of the declaration for annual self-certification under The Code of Safe Working Practice **must be made available on request**

b) All vessels must have adequate marine insurance cover for the size of vessel and personnel on board made available on request.

The skipper must supply on request a copy of the insurance cover for the vessel and personnel on board including Cefas & Exeter staff.

c) Contract award is subject to the vessel being compliant with the applicable code on safety and survival equipment and being capable of safely delivering the survey requirements in line with the scope of work under the relevant legislation (e.g. LOLER/PUWER). A vessel inspection will be carried to ensure compliance.

Special provisions relating to the safety of taking scientists to sea

The tender evaluation procedure will seek to ensure that the vessel and crew can ensure the safety of project staff and there may be a delay between contract award and the actual fishing activity as project staff and their guests will be under instructions to ensure that all standard safety items and procedures are adequate before each sailing. Contract award will be subject to physical inspection/survey of the proposed vessel.

It is a requirement of the MCA for the skipper to give an explanation to Cefas scientists of the vessel risk assessment and health and safety regime, including the stowage and use of life saving appliances, the procedures in an emergency, and escape routes before embarking on each voyage. This requirement will be made clear when discussing the Detailed Operations Plan. Safety Drills shall also be carried out prior to departure. If safety items and procedures are not as specified in the contract documents at the time of sailing, then the project staff and their guests will not sail, and the Tenderer will be deemed to be in breach of the Contract.

To assist data collection operations at sea, in 2012 Cefas introduced the "Working Hours and Safety at Sea" document. This sets out the provisions and requirements for Cefas Scientists working on-board. This document will form part of the Detailed Operations Plan (DOP) and will be agreed between Cefas and the Skipper if relevant to the contracted days at sea operations.

Vessel Safety Information Card (VSIC)

As part of Cefas safety procedures, Cefas personnel will assist the skipper of participating vessels to complete a Cefas Vessel Safety Information Card (VSIC). If the vessel complies to (a) – (i) in the Safety Standards section above, the VSIC will be able to be completed satisfactorily. A copy of this document has been enclosed for reference.

No project activity will take place by selected vessel that does not have an approved Vessel Safety Card.

Pricing and charges

The fee to be paid will be a single, fixed agreed rate per day. Tenderers should submit this all inclusive charge by completing the pricing table below.

Additional Fee's

An additional £150+VAT finder's fee will be paid if a tuna is caught and successfully transferred to the science team for boarding and tagging.

Payment will not be made on days where weather disrupts planned activity at sea. Days lost to weather disruption will be immediately rescheduled up to a maximum of the tendered amount (25 days per vessel)

To process payment Owners / Skippers will be required to complete a vessel payment form (included in the tender package) and submit to Cefas for authorisation.

Vessels are not permitted to carry fee paying personnel (anglers or passengers), whilst operating under Cefas charter.

Period of hire: 25 days, commencing August 2019

Port or place for vessel to be delivered to: Falmouth Bay and / or Mounts Bay although other locations in the south-west may be considered.

Automatic extension period to complete Project: To be agreed by both parties

Timetable

Tenders must be submitted via the Delta e-procurement system or received to the address 11 am on Friday 21st June 2019.

Late submissions will only be considered if the tender envelope is post marked before this date. Tenderers will be informed of the results as soon as possible.

Queries about the tender:

Clarifications can be given. Preference for the receipt of queries is via the 'Email Buyer' option provided as part of the Delta e-procurement system or alternatively contact the Cefas Procurement Team: Emma Roberts on 01502 527766 or procure@cefas.co.uk

Submission of Tenders via Delta e-procurement System

Suppliers are required to register and upload the submission prior to the closing date.

Visit: <https://www.delta-esourcing.com/respond/> (access code **J9CF6C93A7**)

Submission of Tenders via post

Tender should be returned in a stamped envelope with the appropriate postage fees paid. Any tenders received with insufficient postage may result in not being included in the evaluation.

To ensure confidentiality of the Tenders the envelope must not bear any details indicating the name of the sender or supplier, but must be clearly labelled with a project reference:

Supply of scientific fishing services for Atlantic bluefin tuna as part of the Thunnus UK project (England) – tender application

Please send Tenders to:

Emma Roberts
Cefas
Pakefield Road
Lowestoft
Suffolk
NR33 0HT

Quotations will be evaluated on:

Quality 75%
Cost 25%

Evaluation

Submissions will be evaluated on quality and cost using the information provided addressing the following:

1. Capability in rod fishing for ABFT:

- a. Vessel;
- b. Gear.

2. Capability for tagging ABFT:

- a. Low freeboard, or tagging ramp, with transom door measuring 800mm x 700mm.;
- b. Capability [vessel] for tagging ABFT: Sufficient workspace for three scientists, measuring minimum of 2m by 3m;
- c. Capability [vessel] for tagging ABFT: Automated, ambient temperature (i.e. not heated by the engine) seawater deckwash & hose.

3. Experience:

- a. Experience [skipper] in rod fishing for ABFT;
- b. Experience [crew] in rod fishing for ABFT;
- c. Experience [skipper & crew] in electronic tagging of ABFT.

4. Availability:

- a. Vessel availability during August 2019 – December 2019;
- b. Skipper's availability for DOP meeting.

5. Meeting all Safety Criteria.

Additional Information to be provided by the Tenderer:

- 1. A completed and signed copy of this ITT document (Annex 1), including additional information to support how your submission meets the 5 evaluation criteria above
- 2. A completed VSIC (Vessel Safety Information Card)

If the applicant is aware of any instance where conflict of interest may arise then this should be stated in the tender application.

TENDER SUBMISSION FORM**TENDERER ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

We understand and accept that **Cefas' Standard BIMCO Terms and Conditions** (Included as part of the tender package) apply to this charter and any subsequent work.

Tenderers are required to complete the required information below

Tender Title: Supply of scientific fishing services for Atlantic bluefin tuna as part of the Thunnus UK project	
Name of Tenderer (in capitals):	
Signature (to confirm authority to engage):	
Address:	Landline number: Mobile number:
Email address:	

Vessel Name:	Skipper Name:
Vessel Registration Number:	
<i>I acknowledge that any change of Skipper has to be of one with qualifying experience of the fishery, and the name of any replacement and his experience notified immediately.</i>	
Signature (to acknowledge above):	

MEDIA DISCLOSURE

We understand and accept that photographs or video taken for personal use during the course of the survey may only be taken with permission of the Thunnus team. Distribution of any media content will be subject to a formal application process to the Thunnus team.

Name of Tenderer (in capitals):

Signature:

Additional information for consideration

Cefas reserves the right to choose those individuals that it considers to be fit and proper persons for participation in the scheme. Cefas requires tenderers to provide any information they consider relevant to its decision. Examples of information that may be contained in such a statement are details as to whether the applicant has outstanding County Court judgments against him, or whether the applicant has been declared a bankrupt within the past 12 months, or whether he has complied with fisheries legislation in the past 12 months. In making his decision as whether tenderers are fit and proper persons for participation in the scheme, Cefas will consider all relevant information available.

If this is applicable give further details below, but if there are no such considerations to be taken into account, please state: NO OTHER CONSIDERATIONS)

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2. CAPABILITY [VESSEL] for <i>tagging</i> ABFT	Please delete as appropriate
<p><u>I confirm that</u> the vessel has the means to board ABFT safely and with minimal harm.</p> <p><u>Please state</u> proposed boarding method <u>and enclose</u> photographs.</p> <p>Method:</p>	YES / NO
<p><u>I confirm that</u> the deck must have a 2m x 3m working space for the handling and tagging of large pelagic fish.</p> <p><u>Please state</u> the size of the working deck area <u>and enclose</u> photographs.</p> <p>Size:</p>	YES / NO
<p><u>I confirm</u> an electric pumped deck wash and hose are available for the purposes of irrigating fish during the tagging procedure (please enclose photographs).</p>	YES / NO
<p><u>I confirm that</u> the vessel can accommodate up to 3 scientists and their gear.</p>	YES / NO

3.1. EXPERIENCE [SKIPPER] in rod fishing for ABFT	Please delete as appropriate
<p>The Skipper must be named and have experience of chartered pelagic sport fishing operations. The Skipper's fishing experience is crucial to the success of the project, and tenderers are required to fully describe that experience. Tenderers are also <u>required to describe</u> what benefits they see in taking part in this study.</p> <p><u>Please state</u> the details of the Skipper's experience including geographic area.</p> <p>Experience:</p>	

<p>Please provide the reasons for your interest in this study.</p> <p>Interest:</p>	
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3.2. EXPERIENCE [CREW] in rod fishing for ABFT	Please delete as appropriate
<p><u>Please state</u> the details of the crew's experience in rod fishing for ABFT including geographic area.</p> <p>Experience:</p>	

3.3. EXPERIENCE [SKIPPER & CREW] in electronic tagging of ABFT	Please delete as appropriate
<p><u>Please state</u> the details of skipper and crew's combined experience in electronic tagging of ABFT, including geographic area.</p> <p>Experience:</p>	

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4. AREA, PLAN AND PERIOD OF OPERATION		Please delete as appropriate
<p>The vessel would ideally mobilise and demobilise from Falmouth Bay and / or Mounts Bay though other locations in the south-west may be considered. The majority of fishing operations would take place within the 12- nautical mile limit but may extend beyond depending on local intelligence on fish locations. A fuel surcharge would be payable on a case-by-case basis for work requiring extended range activities.</p> <p><u>I confirm that</u> the required fishing will be undertaken throughout the specified area</p>		YES / NO
Preferred Port of Mobilisation [please state]		
Preferred Area of Operation [please state]		
Justification for the proposed area for the purposes of live-capture of ABFT:		
<p>My preferred dates for the fishing operations are:</p> <p>[] to []</p> <p><u>I confirm that</u> the named fishing vessel, skipper and crew, will be available for up to <INSERT NUMBER OF DAYS HERE> days between August 2019 and December 2019. This does not include an allowance for bad weather.</p>		

I <u>confirm</u> the vessel has a suitable mooring arranged for the above period at the stated port	YES / NO
I <u>confirm</u> the skipper's availability for such meetings to support the finalising of the Detailed Operations Plan	YES / NO

5. WORKING ENVIRONMENT AND SAFETY STANDARDS (Tagging vessel only)	Please delete as appropriate
Working environment for tagging operations	
<p>The vessel shall provide either bottled water or tank supplied potable drinking water.</p> <p>Victualling arrangements will be discussed and agreed with the preferred tenderer prior to contract award.</p> <p><u>Please state</u> what food storage/preparation facilities are on board e.g. fridge, kettle, microwave, gas hob etc.</p> <p>Facilities:</p>	YES / NO
Safety standards	
<p>The vessel must have and supply a copy of a valid Marine & Coastguard Agency Certificate or Small Commercial Vessel Certificate issued by an appointed MCA surveyor after inspection to ascertain the vessel's general seaworthiness and compliance with the appropriate MCA code of practice for the vessel/s being tendered.</p> <p>I <u>confirm that</u> the MCA or SVC certificate for the vessel is enclosed</p> <p>Please state the category coding of the vessel:</p> <p>If a mid-term inspection has been carried out by the MCA <u>a copy of the report must be supplied.</u></p>	YES / NO
<p>All vessels must have adequate marine insurance cover for the size of vessel and personnel on board and <u>supply a copy</u> of the insurance cover for the vessel and personnel on board including Cefas staff. (You may wish to detail your P&I and personnel insurance and financial limits on each).</p>	YES / NO
<p>I <u>confirm that</u> a copy of the vessel insurance cover is enclosed</p>	YES / NO
<p>Prior to contract award Cefas must be satisfied that the vessels lifesaving equipment has been inspected and certified to MCA requirements.</p>	
<p>I <u>confirm that</u> the vessel will be made available for an inspection on the vessel's lifesaving equipment</p>	YES / NO

I confirm that the vessel complies with the applicable code on safety equipment such as: Lifejackets, Distress Rockets and Flares, Radio Equipment and first aid consumables	YES / NO
I confirm that the vessel will carry a life raft which is adequate to cover the number of ships personnel and the Cefas scientists	YES/ NO
I confirm that all crew have completed four 1 x sea survival, first aid, firefighting and safety awareness safety courses and their certificates will be available for inspection	YES / NO
I confirm that there is a prohibition on the carriage of illegal drugs and alcohol	YES / NO
Vessel Safety Information Card (VSIC) As part of the vessel safety assessment, all Tenderers are required to complete Parts 2, 3, 4, and 5 of the Cefas Vessel Safety Information Card (the VSIC can be obtained with the package of ITT documents) and submit along with all the other requested tender documentation. <u>No project activity will take place by the named vessel in the tenders bid that does not have an approved Vessel Safety Card</u> I confirm that I have completed and included the relevant sections of the VSIC (a copy of which is included in the tender package)	
	YES / NO

PRICING

I offer the above vessel and data collection activities for up to 25 days during the period August 2019 to December 2019.

FIXED COST	Number of days	Day rate (net cost)	VAT if applicable	Total price including VAT
Vessel & services				

If you have additional comments or run out of space in any of the sections, please continue on additional pages and submit with this tender document.