



## Agenda Item Summary

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**File #: 25-00523**

**Agenda Date: 7/8/2025**

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**Agenda Item Name:**

**Ranking of Request for Proposal (RFP) 26-247-A-MM Balu Forest – Alachua County Preserves Hunting Services for Environmental Protection, Land Conservation.**

**Presenter:**

Stephen Hofstetter, Environmental Protection Director, 352.264.6811  
Theodore White, Procurement Manager, 352.374.5202

**Description:**

Ranking of RFP 26-247-A-MM Balu Forest – Alachua County Preserves Hunting Services for Environmental Protection, Land Conservation.

**Recommended Action:**

Approve the ranking and authorize staff to negotiate agreements with the top ranked hunt group for RFP 26-247-A-MM Balu Forest – Alachua County Preserves Hunting Services.

1. Southern Dirt Works, Inc.
2. Doug Mercer
3. A.T.N & Associates, Inc.
4. SIMS, Inc.
5. Larry J. Smith
6. RCM Utilities, LLC

Should the staff be unable to negotiate a satisfactory agreement with the top-ranked group, negotiations with the unsuccessful group will be terminated. Negotiations with the second ranked firm may be undertaken in the same manner in order of ranking until an agreement is reached, and so forth.

**Prior Board Motions:**

N/A

**Fiscal Note:**

Caretaking, maintenance and security services are being provided to the County at no cost. Entering into this agreement will save the County the cost of certain caretaking services that will be performed by the hunter/caretakers.

**Strategic Guide:**

Environment

**Background:**

The services requested, herein, are for the Balu Forest Agreement for Contractual Services to allow limited hunting opportunities in exchange for caretaking, maintenance, security and any other agreed upon services on the Property(ies).

RFP 26-247-A-MM Balu Forest – Alachua County Preserves Hunting Services Agreement was released on April 2, 2025. The deadline for receipt of RFP 26-247-A-MM Balu Forest – Alachua County Preserves Hunting Services Agreement was May 14, 2025; six (6) vendors responded.

The project details can be found here:

<https://procurement.opengov.com/portal/alachuacounty/projects/153318>