

Program:	186-5								
Title:	USGS Series Information Products								
Agency:	U.S. Geological Survey (USGS)								
Term:	Starting October 1, 2025, and ending September 30, 2026								
ITEM NO.	DESCRIPTION	BASIS OF AWARD	UNIT RATE	COST	UNIT RATE	COST	UNIT RATE	UNIT RATE	COST
I.	PROOFS:								
(a)	Digital color content proof.....per trim/page-size unit.....	404	5.00	2,020.00	1.75	707.00	1.75	707.00	
(b)	Digital one-piece composite laminated halftone proof.....per trim/page size unit.....	140	15.00	2,100.00	5.00	700.00	5.00	700.00	
II.	PRINTING AND BINDING:								
(a)	Saddle-Stitched: Printing text in black ink, including binding.....per page								
(1)	.....Makeready and/or Setup.....	4	350.00	1,400.00	15.00	60.00	9.00	36.00	
(2)	.....Running Per 100 Copies.....	16	7.91	126.56	1.00	16.00	0.45	7.20	
(b)	Saddle-Stitched: Printing text in four-color process, including binding.....per page								
(1)	.....Makeready and/or Setup.....	48	350.00	16,800.00	65.00	3,120.00	60.00	2,880.00	
(2)	.....Running Per 100 Copies.....	361	10.60	3,826.60	1.50	541.50	1.25	451.25	
(c)	Perfect Bound: Printing text in black ink, including binding.....per page								
(1)	.....Makeready and/or Setup.....	199	350.00	69,650.00	9.00	1,791.00	8.00	1,592.00	
(2)	.....Running Per 100 Copies.....	303	10.60	3,211.80	0.45	136.35	0.35	106.05	
(d)	Perfect Bound: Printing text in four-color process, including binding.....per page								
(1)	.....Makeready and/or Setup.....	27	350.00	9,450.00	55.00	1,485.00	55.00	1,485.00	
(2)	.....Running Per 100 Copies.....	46	10.60	487.60	1.00	46.00	0.75	34.50	
(e)	Saddle-Stitched/Perfect Bound Cover: Printing Covers 1 and 4 or Covers 2 and 3 in black ink, including binding.....per side								
(1)	.....Makeready and/or Setup.....	4	350.00	1,400.00	350.00	1,400.00	300.00	1,200.00	
(2)	.....Running Per 100 Copies.....	34	20.00	680.00	10.00	340.00	7.50	255.00	
(f)	Saddle-Stitched/Perfect Bound Cover: Printing Covers 1 and 4 or Covers 2 and 3 in four-color process, including binding.....per side								
(1)	.....Makeready and/or Setup.....	2	350.00	700.00	400.00	800.00	300.00	600.00	
(2)	.....Running Per 100 Copies.....	4	26.00	104.00	15.00	60.00	10.00	40.00	
(g)	Plastic Spiral-Bound: Printing text and covers in black ink, including binding.....per page								
(1)	.....Makeready and/or Setup.....	8	350.00	2,800.00	25.00	200.00	15.00	120.00	
(2)	.....Running Per 100 Copies.....	16	10.60	169.60	1.75	28.00	1.25	20.00	
(h)	Plastic Spiral-Bound: Printing text and covers in four-color process, including binding.....per page								
(1)	.....Makeready and/or Setup.....	2	350.00	700.00	75.00	150.00	75.00	150.00	
(2)	.....Running Per 100 Copies.....	4	10.60	42.40	3.00	12.00	3.00	12.00	
(i)	Perfect-Bound-Case-Bound: Printing text in black ink, including binding.....per page								
(1)	.....Makeready and/or Setup.....	60	750.00	45,000.00	55.00	3,300.00	50.00	3,000.00	
(2)	.....Running Per 100 Copies.....	129	14.63	1,887.27	6.00	774.00	4.00	516.00	
(j)	Perfect-Bound-Case-Bound: Printing text in four-color process, including binding.....per page								
(1)	.....Makeready and/or Setup.....	34	750.00	25,500.00	100.00	3,400.00	100.00	3,400.00	
(2)	.....Running Per 100 Copies.....	74	14.63	1,082.62	8.00	592.00	7.50	555.00	
(k)	Perfect-Bound-Case-Bound Cover: Printing Covers 1 and 4 or Covers 2 and 3 in black ink, including binding.....per side								
(1)	.....Makeready and/or Setup.....	1	750.00	750.00	950.00	950.00	850.00	850.00	
(2)	.....Running Per 100 Copies.....	3	14.63	43.89	150.00	450.00	125.00	375.00	
(l)	Perfect-Bound-Case-Bound Cover: Printing Covers 1 and 4 or Covers 2 and 3 in four-color process, including binding.....per side								
(1)	.....Makeready and/or Setup.....	1	750.00	750.00	950.00	950.00	850.00	850.00	
(2)	.....Running Per 100 Copies.....	3	14.63	43.89	150.00	450.00	125.00	375.00	
(m)	Each Additional Color: Printing text or color in addition to the first press run charged for under line items II. (b), (d), (f), (h), (j), and (l).....per color/per page								
(1)	.....Makeready and/or Setup.....	4	125.00	500.00	55.00	220.00	40.00	160.00	
(2)	.....Running Per 100 Copies.....	8	8.50	68.00	0.75	6.00	0.40	3.20	
(n)	Varnishing/Aqueous Coating.....per page								
(1)	.....Makeready and/or Setup.....	2	225.00	450.00	125.00	250.00	75.00	150.00	
(2)	.....Running Per 100 Copies.....	4	15.25	61.00	5.00	20.00	2.00	8.00	



U.S. GOVERNMENT PUBLISHING OFFICE

Washington, DC

GENERAL TERMS, CONDITIONS, AND SPECIFICATIONS

For the Procurement of

*USGS Series Information Products*

as requisitioned from the U.S. Government Publishing Office (GPO) by the

U.S. Geological Survey (USGS)

Single Award

**TERM OF CONTRACT:** The term of this contract is for the period beginning the October 1, 2025 and ending September 30, 2026, plus up to four (4) optional 12-month extension periods that may be added by the "OPTION TO EXTEND THE TERM OF THE CONTRACT" clause in SECTION 1 of this contract.

**BID OPENING:** Bids shall be opened virtually at 11:00 a.m., Eastern Time (ET), on August 12, 2025, at the U.S. Government Publishing Office. All parties interested in attending the bid opening shall email [bids@gpo.gov](mailto:bids@gpo.gov) one (1) hour prior to the bid opening date and time to request a Microsoft Teams live stream link. This must be a separate email from the bid submission. The link will be emailed prior to the bid opening.

**BID SUBMISSION:** Bidders must email bids to [bids@gpo.gov](mailto:bids@gpo.gov) for this solicitation. No other method of bid submission will be accepted at this time. The Program Number and bid opening date must be specified in the subject line of the emailed bid submission. Bids received after the bid opening date and time specified above will not be considered for award.

**BIDDERS, PLEASE NOTE:** These specifications have been extensively revised; therefore, all bidders are cautioned to familiarize themselves with all provisions of these specifications before bidding.

Abstracts of contract prices are available at <https://www.gpo.gov/how-to-work-with-us/vendors/contract-pricing>.

For technical information, contact Cecilia Dominguez at (202) 512-0418 or at [cdominguezcastro@gpo.gov](mailto:cdominguezcastro@gpo.gov).

## SECTION 1. - GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

**GPO CONTRACT TERMS:** Any contract which results from this Invitation for Bid will be subject to the applicable provisions, clauses, and supplemental specifications of GPO Contract Terms (GPO Publication 310.2, effective December 1, 1987 (Rev. 01-18)) and GPO Contract Terms, Quality Assurance through Attributes Program for Printing and Binding (GPO Pub. 310.1, effective May 1979 (Rev. 09-19)).

GPO Contract Terms (GPO Publication 310.2) – <https://www.gpo.gov/docs/default-source/forms-and-standards-files-for-vendors/contractterms2018.pdf>

GPO QATAP (GPO Publication 310.1) – <https://www.gpo.gov/docs/default-source/forms-and-standards-files-for-vendors/qatap-rev-09-19.pdf>

**SUBCONTRACTING:** The predominant production function is printing. Bidders who must subcontract the predominant production function will be declared non-responsible.

**GPO IMPRINT REQUIREMENTS:** The GPO imprint requirement, GPO Contract Terms, Supplemental Specification, No. 9 is waived.

**QUALITY ASSURANCE LEVELS AND STANDARDS:** The following levels and standards shall apply to these specifications:

Product Quality Levels:

- (a) Printing (page related) Attributes - Level III.
- (b) Finishing (item related) Attributes - Level III.

Inspection Levels (from ANSI/ASQC Z1.4):

- (a) Non-destructive Tests - General Inspection Level I.
- (b) Destructive Tests - Special Inspection Level S - 2.

Specified Standards: The specified standards for the attributes requiring them shall be:

<u>Attribute</u>	<u>Specified Standard</u>
P-7. Type Quality and Uniformity	O.K. Press Sheet
P-8. Halftone Match (Single and Double Impression)	O.K. Press Sheet
P-9. Solid and Screen Tint Color Match	O.K. Press Sheet
P-10. Process Color Match	O.K. Press Sheet

Special Instructions: In the event that inspection of press sheets is waived by the Government, the following listed alternate standards shall become the Specified Standards:

- P-7. Average Type Dimension in Publication
- P-8. Electronic Media
- P-9. Pantone Matching System
- P-10. O.K. Proofs

**OPTION TO EXTEND THE TERM OF THE CONTRACT:** The Government has the option to extend the term of this contract for a period of 12 months by written notice to the contractor not later than 30 days before the contract expires. If the Government exercises this option, the extended contract shall be considered to include this clause, except, the total duration of the contract may not exceed five (5) years as a result of, and including, any extension added under this clause. Further extension may be negotiated under the “EXTENSION OF CONTRACT TERM” clause. See also “ECONOMIC PRICE ADJUSTMENT” for authorized pricing adjustments(s).

**EXTENSION OF CONTRACT TERM:** At the request of the Government, the term of any contract resulting from this solicitation may be extended for such period of time as may be mutually agreeable to the GPO and the contractor.

**ECONOMIC PRICE ADJUSTMENT:** The pricing under this contract shall be adjusted in accordance with this clause, provided that in no event will any pricing adjustment be made that would exceed the maximum permissible under any law in effect at the time of the adjustment. There will be no adjustment for orders placed during the first period specified below. Pricing will thereafter be eligible for adjustment during the second and any succeeding performance period(s). For each performance period after the first, a percentage figure will be calculated as described below and that figure will be the economic price adjustment for that entire next period. Pricing adjustments under this clause are not applicable to reimbursable postage or transportation costs, or to paper, if paper prices are subject to adjustment by separate clause elsewhere in this contract.

For the purpose of this clause, performance under this contract will be divided into successive periods. The first period will extend from October 1, 2025 to September 30, 2026, and the second and any succeeding period(s) will extend for 12 months from the end of the last preceding period, except that the length of the final period may vary. The first day of the second and any succeeding period(s) will be the effective date of the economic price adjustment for that period.

Pricing adjustments in accordance with this clause will be based on changes in the seasonally adjusted “Consumer Price Index For All Urban Consumers - Commodities Less Food” (Index) published monthly in the CPI Detailed Report by the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

The economic price adjustment will be the percentage difference between Index averages as specified in this paragraph. An index called the variable index will be calculated by averaging the monthly Indexes from the 12-month interval ending 3 months prior to the beginning of the period being considered for adjustment. This average is then compared to the average of the monthly Indexes for the 12-month interval ending June 30, 2025, called the base index. The percentage change (plus or minus) of the variable index from the base index will be the economic price adjustment for the period being considered for adjustment.

The Government will notify the contractor by contract modification specifying the percentage increase or decrease to be applied to invoices for orders placed during the period indicated. The contractor shall apply the percentage increase or decrease against the total price of the invoice less reimbursable postage or transportation costs and separately adjusted paper prices. Payment discounts shall be applied after the invoice price is adjusted.

**PREAWARD SURVEY:** In order to determine the responsibility of the contractor, the Government reserves the right to conduct an on-site preaward survey at the contractor’s facility or to require other evidence of technical, production, managerial, financial, and similar abilities to perform, prior to the award of a contract. As part of the financial determination, the contractor in line for award may be required to provide one or more of the following financial documents:

- 1) Most recent profit and loss statement
- 2) Most recent balance sheet
- 3) Statement of cash flows
- 4) Current official bank statement
- 5) Current lines of credit (with amounts available)
- 6) Letter of commitment from paper supplier(s)

The documents will be reviewed to validate that adequate financial resources are available to perform the contract requirements. Documents submitted will be kept confidential, and used only for the determination of responsibility by the Government. Failure to provide the requested information in the time specified by the Government may result in the Contracting Officer not having adequate information to reach an affirmative determination of responsibility.

**POSTAWARD CONFERENCE:** Unless waived by the Contracting Officer, the total requirements of the job as indicated in these specifications will be reviewed by Government representatives with the contractor's representatives at the U.S. Government Publishing Office, Washington, DC, immediately after award. At Government's option, this may be held via teleconference.

Person(s) that the contractor deems necessary for the successful implementation of the contract must be in attendance.

**ASSIGNMENT OF JACKETS, PURCHASE, AND PRINT ORDERS:** A GPO jacket number will be assigned and a purchase order issued to the contractor to cover work performed. The purchase order will be supplemented by an individual print order for each job placed with the contractor. The print order, when issued, will indicate the quantity to be produced and any other information pertinent to the particular order.

**ORDERING:** Items to be furnished under the contract shall be ordered by the issuance of print orders by the Government. Orders may be issued under the contract from October 1, 2025 through September 30, 2026 plus for such additional period(s) as the contract is extended. All print orders issued hereunder are subject to the terms and conditions of the contract. The contract shall control in the event of conflict with any print order. A print order shall be "issued" upon notification by the Government for purposes of the contract when it is electronically transmitted or otherwise physically furnished to the contractor in conformance with the schedule.

**REQUIREMENTS:** This is a requirements contract for the items and the period specified herein. Delivery of items or performance of work shall be made only as authorized by orders issued under the clause entitled "ORDERING." The quantities of items specified herein are estimates only, and are not purchased hereby. Except as may be otherwise provided in this contract, if the Government's requirements for the items set forth herein do not result in orders in the amounts or quantities described as "estimated," it shall not constitute the basis for an equitable price adjustment under this contract.

Except as otherwise provided in this contract, the Government shall order from the contractor all the items set forth which are required to be purchased by the Government activity identified on page 1.

The Government shall not be required to purchase from the contractor, requirements above the limit on total orders under this contract if any.

Orders issued during the effective period of this contract and not completed within that time shall be completed by the contractor within the time specified in the order, and the rights and obligations of the contractor and the Government respecting those orders shall be governed by the terms of this contract to the same extent as if completed during the effective period of this contract.

If shipment/delivery of any quantity of an item covered by the contract is required because of urgency prior to the earliest date that shipment/delivery may be specified under this contract, and if the contractor will not accept an order providing for the accelerated delivery, the Government may procure this requirement from another source.

The Government may issue orders which provide for delivery to or performance at multiple destinations.

Subject to any limitations elsewhere in this contract, the contractor shall furnish to the Government all items set forth herein which are called for by print orders issued under the "ORDERING" clause of this contract.

**ADDITIONAL EMAILED BID SUBMISSION PROVISIONS:** The Government will not be responsible for any failure attributable to the transmission or receipt of the emailed bid including, but not limited to, the following –

1. Illegibility of bid.
2. Emails over 75 MB may not be received by GPO due to size limitations for receiving emails.
3. The bidder's email provider may have different size limitations for sending email; however, bidders are advised not to exceed GPO's stated limit.
4. When the email bid is received by GPO, it will remain unopened until the specified bid opening time. Government personnel will not validate receipt of the emailed bid before bid opening. GPO will use the prevailing time (specified as the local time zone) and the exact time that the email is received by GPO's email server as the official time stamp for bid receipt at the specified location.

**PAYMENT:** Submitting invoices for payment via the GPO fax gateway (if no samples are required) utilizing the GPO barcode coversheet program application is the most efficient method of receiving payment. Instruction for using this method can be found at the following web address:

<http://winapps.access.gpo.gov/fms/vouchers/barcode/instructions.html>.

Invoices may also be mailed to: U.S. Government Publishing Office, Office of Financial Management, Attn: Comptroller, Stop: FMCE, Washington, DC 20401.

For more information about the billing process refer to the General Information of the Office of Finance web page located at: <https://www.gpo.gov/how-to-work-with-us/vendors/how-to-get-paid>.

All contractor billing invoices must be itemized under the line items in the "SCHEDULE OF PRICES."

## SECTION 2. – SPECIFICATIONS

**SCOPE:** These specifications cover the production of separate-covered publications requiring such operations as electronic prepress, printing (including four-color process and one additional ink color), binding, packing, and distribution.

**TITLE:** USGS Series Information Products.

**FREQUENCY OF ORDERS:** Up to approximately 10 orders per year.

**QUANTITY:** Approximately 200 to 5,000 copies per order.

**NUMBER OF PAGES:** Approximately 10 to 200 pages (plus cover) per order. An occasional order may be placed for up to 900 pages (plus cover).

**TRIM SIZE:** 8-1/2 x 11" portrait; 11 x 8-1/2" landscape.

**GOVERNMENT TO FURNISH:** Electronic media will be furnished as follows –

Platform: Windows; Macintosh.

Storage Media: Email, FTP.

Software: Adobe Creative Cloud: InDesign, Illustrator, Photoshop, Adobe Acrobat Professional.

All platform system and software upgrades (for specified applications) which may occur during the term of the contract must be supported by the contractor.

Fonts: All printer and screen fonts will be furnished/embedded, as applicable.

Contractor is cautioned that furnished fonts are the property of the Government and/or its originator. All furnished fonts are to be eliminated from the contractor's archive immediately after completion of the contract.

Additional Information: Files will be furnished in PostScript, native application, and/or PDF format. Electronic media will include all illustrations and graphics furnished in place. Visuals of electronic files will be furnished. Visuals will be made at less than 100% to show bleeds. Visuals will show color breaks. CMYK and Pantone will be used for color identification. GPO Form 952 (Digital Publishing Information) will be furnished.

Addresses for distribution will be furnished electronically in a Microsoft Excel file.

Identification markings such as register marks, commercial identification marks of any kind, etc., carried in the electronic files, must not print on the finished product.

**CONTRACTOR TO FURNISH:** All materials and operations, other than those listed under "GOVERNMENT TO FURNISH," necessary to produce the product(s) in accordance with these specifications.

The contractor must be able to accept files electronically via a contractor-hosted FTP server. Appropriate log-on instructions and protocol must be provided at time of award.

**ELECTRONIC PREPRESS:** Prior to image processing, the contractor shall perform a basic check (preflight) of the furnished media and publishing files to assure correct output of the required reproduction image. Any errors, media damage, or data corruption that might interfere with proper file image processing must be reported to: Cathy Knutson at (703) 648-6884, or via email to [cyknutson@usgs.gov](mailto:cyknutson@usgs.gov).

The contractor shall create or alter any necessary trapping, set proper screen angles and screen frequency, and define file output selection for the imaging device being utilized. Furnished files must be imaged as necessary to meet the assigned quality level.

All halftones are to be 170-line screen or finer.

When required by the Government, the contractor shall make minor revisions to the electronic files. It is anticipated that the Government will make all major revisions.

Prior to making revisions, contractor shall copy the furnished files and make all changes to the copy.

Upon completion of each order, the contractor must furnish final production native application files with the furnished material. The digital deliverables must be an exact representation of the final printed product and shall be returned on the same type of storage media as was originally furnished. The Government will not accept, as digital deliverables, PostScript files, Adobe Acrobat Portable Document Format (PDF) files, or any proprietary file formats other than those supplied, unless specified by the Government. NOTE: The Government will accept PDF files as digital deliverables when furnished by the Government.

#### **PROOFS:**

When ordered, one (1) set of digital color content proofs of entire publication in book form. Direct to plate must be used to produce the final product with a minimum resolution of 2400 x 2400 dpi. Proofs must be created using the same Raster Image Processor (RIP) that will be used to produce the product. Proofs shall be collated with all elements in proper position (not pasted up), imaged face and back, trimmed, and folded to the finished size of the product, as applicable.

When ordered, one (1) set of digital one-piece composite laminated halftone proofs on the actual production stock (Kodak Approval, Polaroid PolaProof, CreoSpectrum, or Fuji Final Proof) with a minimum resolution of 2400 x 2400 dpi.

At contractor's option, one (1) set of inkjet proofs that are G7 profiled that are G7 profiled and use pigment-based inks may be submitted in lieu of digital one-piece composite laminated halftone proofs. A proofing RIP that provides an option for high quality color matching such as Device Links Technology and/or ICC Profiles Technology, and meets or exceeds industry tolerance to ISO 12647-7 standard for Graphic Technology (as of 2016 and future amendments) must be utilized. Proofs must be ripped and sent at plate resolution (minimum of 2400 x 2400 dpi). If using a 1 bit tiff, the tiff must be made at a minimum of 2400 dpi. Output must be a minimum of 2400 x 1200 dpi on a GRACoL or SWOP certified proofing media. Proofs must contain both of the following to be evaluated for accuracy: 3-tier color control strip: IDEAlliance ISO 12647-7 2013(i1), and the GPO Resolution target found at: [www.gpo.gov/gporestart.pdf](http://www.gpo.gov/gporestart.pdf). If a contractor chooses this proof option, prior evaluation, and approval of this proofing method, it must be provided by GPO, quality control for published products, to ensure that the final product will be produced in accordance with contract specifications. See instructions at: <https://www.gpo.gov/docs/default-source/forms-and-standards-files-for-vendors/qlsamples6f200c30b44a64308413ff00001d133d.pdf>. Failure to obtain this evaluation and approval may be cause for the job to be rejected should the final product not match the proofs for color.

Proofs must contain color control bars (such as Brunner, GATF, GRETAG, or RIT) for each color of ink on the sheet. Control bars must be placed parallel to the press's ink rollers and must show areas consisting of minimum 1/8 x 1/8" solid color patches; tint patches of 25, 50 and 75%; dot gain scale; and gray balance patches for process color (if applicable). These areas must be repeated consecutively across the sheet.

The make and model number of the proofing system utilized shall be furnished with the proofs. These proofs must contain all elements, be in press configuration, and indicate margins. Proofs will be used for color match on press. Direct to plate must be used to produce the final product with a minimum of 2400 x 2400 dpi.

Pantone colors may be substituted with a similar color (with the exception of process yellow) but may not be built out of the four process colors. If producing inkjet proofs, Pantone colors must be simulated on proofs and must be proofed separately on a digital color content, overlay, or inkjet proof.

Contractor to submit ink draw downs on actual production stock of Pantone color(s) used to produce the product. Half of draw down must show varnish or coating, as applicable. Digital color content proof shall be used to represent spot varnish.

The Government may require one (1) or more sets of revised proofs before rendering an “O.K. to Print.”

If any contractor’s errors are serious enough in the opinion of the GPO to require revised proofs, the revised proofs are to be provided at no expense to the Government. No extra time can be allowed for this reproofing; such operations must be accomplished within the original production schedule allotted in the specifications.

Contractor must not print prior to the receipt of an “O.K. to Print.”

**STOCK/PAPER:** The specifications of all paper furnished must be in accordance with those listed herein or listed for the corresponding JCP Code numbers in the “Government Paper Specification Standards No. 13” dated September 2019.

Government Paper Specification Standards No. 13 – [https://www.gpo.gov/docs/default-source/forms-and-standards-files-for-vendors/vol\\_13.pdf](https://www.gpo.gov/docs/default-source/forms-and-standards-files-for-vendors/vol_13.pdf).

All text stock used in each copy must be of a uniform shade. All cover stock must have the grain parallel to the spine.

The paper to be used will be indicated on each print order.

**Text:**

White Uncoated Text, basis weight: 70 lbs. per 500 sheets, 25 x 38”, equal to JCP Code A60.

White Opacified Text, basis weight: 60 lbs. per 500 sheets, 25 x 38”, equal to JCP Code A80.

White No. 2 Gloss-Coated Text, basis weight: 80 lbs. per 500 sheets, 25 x 38”, equal to JCP Code A182.

**Cover:**

White Gloss-Coated Cover, basis weight: 80 lbs. per 500 sheets, 20 x 26”, equal to JCP Code L10.

White No. 2 Gloss-Coated Cover, basis weight: 100 lbs. per 500 sheets, 20 x 26”, equal to JCP Code L12.

White Uncoated Cover, basis weight: 65 lbs. per 500 sheets, 20 x 26”, equal to JCP Code L23.

**PRINTING:** Covers 1 through 4 and text print head-to-head in four-color process; or, in black with four-color process scattered throughout. An occasional order may print with an additional Pantone color. Occasionally, Covers 2 and 3 are blank.

For orders printing in four-color process and a Pantone color, the Pantone color must be printed as a fifth ink. Screen builds will not be allowed.

Facing pages print to and must align across the bind.

When required, coat (after printing) the entire surfaces of Covers 1 and 4, or spot coat specified text pages, with a clear, non-yellowing varnish or aqueous coating, at contractor's option.

Contractor to match Pantone number as indicated on the print order.

Orders printing in four-color process must be printed on a press capable of printing four colors in a single pass through the press (minimum four printing units). Orders printing in four-color process and a Pantone color must be printed on a press capable of printing five colors in a single pass through the press (minimum five printing units).

NOTE: The GPO imprint requirement is waived and must not print on the final product.

**PRESS SHEET INSPECTION:** Final makeready press sheets may be inspected and approved at the contractor's plant for the purpose of establishing specified standards for use during the actual press run. Upon approval of the sheets, contractor is charged with maintaining those standards throughout the press run (within QATAP tolerances when applicable) and with discarding all makeready sheets that preceded approval. When a press sheet inspection is required, it will be specified on the individual print order. See GPO Publication 315.3 (Guidelines for Contractors Holding Press Sheet Inspections) issued January 2015. A press sheet inspection is for the purpose of setting specific standards that are to be maintained throughout the entire run. It does not constitute a prior approval of the entire run.

Press sheets must contain control bars for each color of ink on the sheet. Control bars must be placed parallel to the press's ink rollers. The control bars (such as BRUNNER, GATF, GRETAG, or RIT) must show areas consisting of 1/8 x 1/8" minimum solid color patches; tint patches of 25, 50, and 75%; dot gain scale; and gray balance patches for process color (if applicable). These areas must be repeated across the entire press sheet.

*Viewing Light:* Press sheets will be viewed under controlled conditions with 5000 degrees Kelvin overhead luminaries. The viewing conditions must conform to ISO 3664-2009; a viewing booth under controlled conditions with 5000 degrees Kelvin overhead luminaries with neutral gray surroundings must be provided.

**MARGINS:** Margins will be as indicated on the print order or furnished electronic media.

Bleed pages scattered throughout the text. Covers 1 through 4 may bleed on one to four sides.

**BINDING:** Bind as indicated on the print order.

Various binding styles will be ordered as follows:

- Saddle-wire stitch in two places and trim three sides. Each product must contain complete four-page signatures after trimming. Single leaves connected with a lip (i.e., binding stub) to the left or right side of stitches will not be allowed.
- Perfect-bind text and wraparound cover; trim three sides. Score all covers 1/4" from bind.
- Trim four sides and gather in sequence. Punch suitably and bind with plastic spiral coils. Color of plastic coils to be specified on the print order (majority will be either black or white coils).
- An occasional order will require that the contractor perfect-bind with plain end-leaves. Trim three sides and headband. Reinforce back with crash and strong paper liner. Case bind with suitable squares.

## **PACKING:**

*Deliveries –*

Pack suitable in shipping container(s) not to exceed 45 pounds when fully packed.

All shipments which fill less than a shipping container must be packaged with materials of sufficient strength and durability and in such a manner which will guarantee that the product will not be damaged and the package will not open nor split when processing and handling for delivery.

Pallets may be required.

*Shipments –*

Insert single or multiple copies (up to 200 leaves) into Kraft envelopes.

Quantities over 200 leaves, up to 12 pounds, must be inserted into cushioned shipping bags or wrapped in shipping bundles (maximum gross weight 14 pounds).

Quantities over 12 pounds, up to 24 pounds, must be wrapped in shipping bundles or packed in small shipping containers (maximum gross weight 27 pounds).

Quantities over 24 pounds, up to 36 pounds, must be packed in shipping containers (maximum gross weight 40 pounds).

**LABELING AND MARKING:**

*Deliveries* – Contractor to download the “Labeling and Marking Specifications” form (GPO Form 905, R. 7-15) from [www.gpo.gov](http://www.gpo.gov), fill in appropriate blanks, and attach to shipping bags or shipping containers. Label must clearly show GPO program number, jacket number, and print order number.

*Shipments* – Create and affix a label to each shipment packaged in Kraft envelopes, cushioned shipping bags, shipping bundles, and shipping containers. At contractor’s option, the addresses may be imaged directly onto the Kraft envelopes, cushioned shipping bags, shipping bundles, and shipping containers.

**DEPARTMENTAL RANDOM COPIES (BLUE LABEL):** All orders must be divided into equal sublots in accordance with the chart below. A random copy must be selected from each sublot. Do not choose copies from the same general area in each sublot. The contractor will be required to certify that the copies were selected as directed using GPO Form 917 – Certificate of Selection of Random Copies which can be located on GPO.gov. The random copies constitute a part of the total quantity ordered, and no additional charge will be allowed.

<u>Quantity Ordered</u>	<u>Number of Sublots</u>
500 - 3,200	50
3,201 - 10,000	80
10,001 - 35,000	125
35,001 and over	200

These randomly selected copies must be packed separately and identified by a special label, GPO Form 2678 – Departmental Random Copies (Blue Label), which must be printed on blue paper and affixed to each affected container. This form can be downloaded from GPO.gov. The container and its contents shall be recorded separately on all shipping documents and sent in accordance with the distribution list to: USGS, National Center, Attn: Cathy Knutson, 12201 Sunrise Valley Drive, Mail Stop #903, Room 3B122, Reston, VA 20192-0002.

A copy of the print order/specification and a signed Certificate of Selection of Random Copies must be included.

A copy of the signed Certificate of Selection of Random Copies must accompany the invoice sent to U.S. Government Publishing Office, Financial Management Service, for payment. Failure to furnish the certificate may result in delay in processing the invoice.

**QUALITY ASSURANCE RANDOM COPIES:** In addition to the Departmental Random Copies (Blue Label), the contractor may be required to submit quality assurance random copies to test for compliance against the specifications. The print order will indicate the number required, if any. When ordered, the contractor must divide the entire order into equal sublots and select a copy from a different general area of each subplot. The contractor will be required to certify that the copies were selected as directed using GPO Form 917 – Certificate of Selection of Random Copies which can be located on GPO.gov. Copies will be paid for at the running rate offered in the contractor's bid, and their cost will not be a consideration for award. A copy of the print order must be included with the samples.

Business Reply Mail labels will be furnished for mailing the quality assurance random copies. The copies are to be mailed at the same time as the first scheduled shipment. A U.S. Postal Service approved Certificate of Mailing, identified by GPO program, jacket, and print order numbers must be furnished with billing as evidence of mailing.

**DISTRIBUTION:**

*Agency Distribution –*

- Deliver f.o.b. destination the majority of copies ordered to Virginia, New Hampshire, and New Jersey.
- Ship f.o.b. contractor's city the balance of each order to addresses nationwide, including Alaska and Hawaii.

*GPO Distribution –* Deliver f.o.b. destination approximately 15 to 20 copies (Depository and Files copies) to two addresses within the commercial zone of Washington, DC.

Complete addresses and quantities will be furnished with each print order.

Contractor must ship by small package carrier (reimbursable). Shipping must be by traceable means. Contractor will be reimbursed for all shipping costs by submitting all shipping receipts with billing invoice for payment.

**NOTE:** No orders are to be shipped by the U.S. Postal Service.

Upon completion of each order, the contractor must notify the ordering agency (on the same day the order delivers/ships) via email to the address indicated on the print order. The subject line of the email shall be "Distribution Notice for Program 186-S, Print Order XXXXX, Jacket Number XXX-XXX." The notice must provide all applicable tracking numbers, delivery/shipping method, and title of the product. Contractor must be able to provide copies of all delivery/shipping receipts upon agency request.

Upon completion of each order, the contractor must return all furnished materials (if applicable) and provide five (5) sample copies of the final product to: USGS, Washington DC area. Address will be provided in the print order.

All expenses incidental to picking up and returning furnished materials (if applicable), submitting proofs, and furnishing sample copies must be borne by the contractor.

**SCHEDEULE:** Adherence to this schedule must be maintained. Contractor must not start production of any job prior to receipt of the individual print order (GPO Form 2511).

When applicable, furnished materials and proofs must be picked up from and returned to: USGS, National Center, Attn: Cathy Knutson, 12201 Sunrise Valley Drive, Mail Stop #903, Room 3B122, Reston, VA 20192-0002. This location may vary based on origin of order but will be within the Washington, DC area.

Due to COVID-19, the Reston, VA delivery address for proofs may change. Contractor will be notified after award.

When applicable, furnished electronic media and visuals must be returned with proofs.

No definite schedule for pickup of material/placement of orders can be predetermined.

The following schedule begins the workday after notification of the availability of print order and furnished material; the workday after notification will be the first workday of the schedule.

- Contractor must complete production and distribution within 20 workdays.
- When ordered, no specific date is set for submission of proofs. Proofs must be submitted as soon as possible to allow for revised proofs, if contractor's errors are judged serious enough to require them.
- When ordered, proofs will be withheld no more than five (5) workdays from their receipt at the ordering agency until they are made available for pickup. The first workday after receipt of proofs at the ordering agency is day one (1) of the hold time.
- All proof and transit time is included in the 20-workday schedule.

The contractor must notify the U.S. GPO of the date and time the press sheet inspection can be performed. In order for proper arrangements to be made, notification must be given at least 48 hours prior to the inspection. Notify the U.S. Government Publishing Office, Quality Control for Published Products, Washington, DC 20401 at (202) 512-0542. Telephone calls will only be accepted between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m., prevailing Eastern Time, Monday through Friday. See contract clauses, paragraph 14(e)(1), Inspections and Tests of GPO Contract Terms (GPO Publication 310.2, effective December 1, 1987 (Rev. 01-18)). When supplies are not ready at the time specified by the contractor for inspection, the contracting officer may charge to the contractor the additional cost of the inspection

The ship/deliver date indicated on the print order is the date products ordered for delivery f.o.b. destination must be delivered to the destinations specified, and products ordered for shipping f.o.b. contractor's city must be picked up by the small package carrier.

Unscheduled material such as shipping documents, receipts or instructions, delivery lists, labels, etc., will be furnished with each order or shortly thereafter. In the event such information is not received in due time, the contractor will not be relieved of any responsibility in meeting the shipping schedule because of failure to request such information

For compliance reporting purposes, the contractor is to notify the U.S. Government Publishing Offices of the date of shipment or delivery. Upon completion of each order, contractor must contact the Shared Support Services Compliance Section via email at [compliance@gpo.gov](mailto:compliance@gpo.gov) or via telephone at (202) 512-0520. Personnel receiving the email or call will be unable to respond to questions of a technical nature or to transfer any inquires.

### **SECTION 3. - DETERMINATION OF AWARD**

The Government will determine the lowest bid by applying the prices offered in the "SCHEDULE OF PRICES" to the following units of production which are the estimated requirements to produce one (1) year's production under this contract. These units do not constitute, nor are they to be construed as, a guarantee of the volume of work which may be ordered for a like period of time.

The following item designations correspond to those listed in the "SCHEDULE OF PRICES."

I. (a)	404	
(b)	140	
	(1)	(2)
II. (a)	4	16
(b)	48	361
(c)	199	303
(d)	27	46
(e)	4	34
(f)	2	4
(g)	8	16
(h)	2	4
(i)	60	129
(j)	34	74
(k)	1	3
(l)	1	3
(m)	4	8
(n)	2	4
III. (a)	165	
(b)	40	
(c)	352	
(d)	4	
(e)	129	
(f)	4	
IV. 1. (a)	328	
(b)	1	
2. (a)	112	
(b)	54	
(c)	1	
(d)	1	

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#### SECTION 4. - SCHEDULE OF PRICES

Bids offered are f.o.b. contractor's city for all shipping and f.o.b. destination for all other consignments.

Prices must include the cost of all required materials and operations for each item listed in accordance with these specifications.

Bidder must make an entry in each of the spaces provided. Bids submitted with any obliteration, revision, or alteration of the order and manner of submitting bids, may be declared non-responsive.

An entry of NC (No Charge) shall be entered if bidder intends to furnish individual items at no charge to the Government. Bids submitted with NB (No Bid), NA (Not Applicable), or blank spaces for an item may be declared non-responsive.

The Contracting Officer reserves the right to reject any offer that contains prices for individual items of production (whether or not such items are included in the "DETERMINATION OF AWARD") that are inconsistent or unrealistic in regard to other prices in the same offer or to GPO prices for the same operation if such action would be in the best interest of the Government.

All invoices submitted to the GPO shall be based on the most economical method of production.

Fractional parts of 100 will be prorated at the per-100 rate.

Contractor's billing invoice must be itemized in accordance with the line items in the "SCHEDULE OF PRICES."

A charge will be allowed for each text page, whether printed or blank. For products printing in four-color process and one additional ink color, a charge under "Each Additional Color" will be allowed only for pages actually printed with the additional ink color.

Unless otherwise specified, no more than three blank pages may be permitted at the end of the text for saddle-stitched products.

Cost of all required paper must be charged under Item III. "PAPER."

#### I. PROOFS:

(a) Digital color content proof ..... per trim/page-size unit .....\$ \_\_\_\_\_

(b) Digital one-piece composite laminated halftone proof ..... per trim/page-size unit .....\$ \_\_\_\_\_

#### II. PRINTING AND BINDING:

Prices offered shall include the cost of all required materials and operations necessary for the printing and binding of the product listed in accordance with these specifications.

Line items II. (e) and (f), as applicable, are for the cost of covers for the saddle-stitched and perfect-bound products only. Perfect-Bound-Case Bound cover cost is on line item II. (k) and II.(l). Cost of covers for the plastic spiral-bound products must be charged under line items II. (g) and (h), as applicable.

	Makeready and/or Setup (1)	Running Per 100 Copies (2)
(a) Saddle-Stitched: Printing text in black ink, including binding .....\$ _____		\$ _____

(Initials) \_\_\_\_\_

	<u>Makeready and/or Setup</u> (1)	<u>Running Per 100 Copies</u> (2)
(b) Saddle-Stitched: Printing text in four-color process, including binding.....per page.....\$ _____	\$ _____	
(c) Perfect-Bound: Printing text in black ink, including binding ..... per page.....\$ _____	\$ _____	
(d) Perfect Bound: Printing text in four-color process, including binding.....per page.....\$ _____	\$ _____	
(e) Saddle-Stitched/Perfect-Bound Cover: Printing Covers 1 and 4 or Covers 2 and 3 in black ink, including binding.....per side.....\$ _____	\$ _____	
(f) Saddle-Stitched/Perfect-Bound Cover: Printing Covers 1 and 4 or Covers 2 and 3 in four-color process, including binding.....per side.....\$ _____	\$ _____	
(g) Plastic Spiral-Bound: Printing text and covers in black ink, including binding ..per page.....\$ _____	\$ _____	
(h) Plastic Spiral-Bound: Printing text and covers in four-color process, including binding.....per page.....\$ _____	\$ _____	
(i) Perfect-Bound-Case Bound: Printing text in black ink, including binding .....per page.....\$ _____	\$ _____	
(j) Perfect-Bound-Case Bound: Printing text in four-color process, including binding.....per page.....\$ _____	\$ _____	
(k) Perfect-Bound-Case Bound Cover: Printing Covers 1 and 4 or Covers 2 and 3 in black ink, including binding.....per side.....\$ _____	\$ _____	
(l) Perfect-Bound-Case Bound Cover: Printing Covers 1 and 4 or Covers 2 and 3 in four-color process, including binding.....per side.....\$ _____	\$ _____	
(m) Each Additional Color: Printing text or cover in a color in addition to the first press run charged for under line items II.(b), (d), (f), (h), (j), and (l) ..... per color/per page.....\$ _____	\$ _____	
(n) Varnishing/Aqueous Coating .....per page.....\$ _____	\$ _____	

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Initials)

**III. PAPER:** Payment for all paper supplied by the contractor under the terms of these specifications, as ordered on the individual print orders, will be based on the net number of leaves furnished for the products ordered. The cost of any paper required for makeready or running spoilage must be included in the prices offered.

Calculations of the net number of leaves will be based on the following:

Text - Each page-size leaf.

Covers - Two page-size leaves will be allowed for each complete cover. Prices offered must include the cost of paper for back-strip, when required.

	<u>Per 100 leaves</u>
(a) White Uncoated Text (70-lb.).....	\$ _____
(b) White Opacified Text (60-lb.) .....	\$ _____
(c) White No. 2 Gloss-Coated Text (80-lb.) .....	\$ _____
(d) White Gloss-Coated Cover (80-lb.).....	\$ _____
(e) White No. 2 Gloss-Coated Cover (100-lb.).....	\$ _____
(f) White Uncoated Cover (65-lb.) .....	\$ _____

**IV. PACKING AND DISTRIBUTION:** Prices offered must be all-inclusive, as applicable, and must include the cost of packing; all Kraft envelopes, cushioned shipping bags, shipping bundles, and shipping containers; all necessary wrapping and packing materials; labeling and marking; and, complete distribution, in accordance with these specifications.

1. *Deliveries* –

- (a) Packing and sealing shipping containers ..... per container.....\$ \_\_\_\_\_
- (b) Palletizing ..... per pallet.....\$ \_\_\_\_\_

2. *Shipments* –

- (a) Single or multiple copies in Kraft envelope (up to 200 leaves).....per envelope.....\$ \_\_\_\_\_
- (b) Single or multiple copies over 200 leaves, up to 12 pounds  
in cushioned shipping bags, or wrapped in shipping bundles  
(maximum gross weight 14 pounds).....per bag or bundle.....\$ \_\_\_\_\_
- (c) Quantities over 12 pounds, up to 24 pounds, wrapped in  
shipping bundles, or packed in shipping containers  
(maximum gross weight 27 pounds).....per bundle or container.....\$ \_\_\_\_\_
- (d) Quantities over 24 pounds, up to 36 pounds, packed in  
shipping containers maximum gross weight 40 pounds) ..... per container.....\$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Initials)

**SHIPMENTS:** Shipments will be made from: City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_.

The city(ies) indicated above will be used for evaluation of transportation charges when shipment f.o.b. contractor's city is specified. If no shipping point is indicated above, it will be deemed that the bidder has selected the city and state shown below in the address block, and the bid will be evaluated and the contract awarded on that basis. If shipment is not made from evaluation point, the contractor will be responsible for any additional shipping costs incurred.

**DISCOUNTS:** Discounts are offered for payment as follows: \_\_\_\_\_ Percent \_\_\_\_\_ Calendar Days. See Article 12 "Discounts" of Solicitations Provisions in GPO Contract Terms (Publication 310.2).

**AMENDMENT(S):** Bidder hereby acknowledges amendment(s) number(ed) \_\_\_\_\_.

**BID ACCEPTANCE PERIOD:** In compliance with the above, the undersigned agrees, if this bid is accepted within \_\_\_\_\_ calendar days (60 calendar days unless a different period is inserted by the bidder) from the date for receipt of bids, to furnish the specified items at the price set opposite each item, delivered at the designated point(s), in exact accordance with specifications. Failure to provide a 60-day bid acceptance period may result in the expiration of the bid before award.

**BIDDER'S NAME AND SIGNATURE:** Unless a specific written exception is taken, the bidder, by signing and submitting a bid, agrees with and accepts responsibility for all certifications and representations as required by the solicitation and GPO Contract Terms - Publication 310.2. When responding by email, fill out and return one copy of all pages in "SECTION 4. – SCHEDULE OF PRICES," including initialing/signing where indicated. Valid electronic signatures will be accepted per the Uniform Electronic Transactions Act, §2. Electronic signatures must be verifiable of the person authorized by the company to sign bids. *Failure to sign the signature block below may result in the Bid being declared non-responsive.*

Bidder \_\_\_\_\_  
(Contractor's Name) \_\_\_\_\_ (GPO Contractor's Code) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ (Street Address)

\_\_\_\_\_ (City – State – Zip Code)

By \_\_\_\_\_  
(Printed Name, Signature, and Title of Person Authorized to Sign this Bid) \_\_\_\_\_ (Date) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ (Person to be Contacted) \_\_\_\_\_ (Telephone Number)

\_\_\_\_\_ (Email) \_\_\_\_\_ (Fax Number)

**THIS SECTION FOR GPO USE ONLY**

Certified by: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Contracting Officer: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Initials) \_\_\_\_\_ (Initials) \_\_\_\_\_