

Fitzmaurice

DECISION



**THE COMPTROLLER GENERAL
OF THE UNITED STATES**
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20548

19575

FILE: B-203472

DATE: September 22, 1981

MATTER OF: Professional Analysts

DIGEST:

Protest against allegedly restrictive requirement in IFB is dismissed as untimely since it was not filed prior to the date for bid opening as required by the Bid Protest Procedures.

Professional Analysts (PA) protests as unduly restrictive the requirement in Forest Service invitation for bids (IFB) No. R5-10-81-57 that the contractor and all field personnel who will perform the "Tracy's Sanicle Canopy Density Study on the Mad River Ranger District" and certain botanical inspections of timber sales have, as a minimum, a bachelor's degree in botany.

PA's protest is untimely.

Under our Bid Protest Procedures, any protest based upon alleged improprieties in an IFB which are apparent prior to bid opening must be filed (received) prior to bid opening. 4 C.F.R. § 21.2(b)(1) (1981). Therefore, PA was required to protest the allegedly restrictive requirement prior to the May 28, 1981, bid opening. However, the protest was received on May 29, 1981.

Protest dismissed.

Harry R. Van Cleve

Harry R. Van Cleve
Acting General Counsel

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