



Invitation to Bid 26-104

Swiftwater Rescue Craft

September 23, 2026

Table of Contents

1 Introduction and Purpose 3

2 Standardization and Interoperability 3

3 Specifications 4

4 Vendor Qualifications and Warranty Requirements..... 5

5 Insurance 6

6 Submission Instructions 6

7 Bid Evaluation and Award of Contract 6

8 Solicitation Terms and Conditions 7

APPENDIX A - BID FORM 10

1 Introduction and Purpose

The Town is issuing this Invitation to Bid (ITB) to solicit competitive proposals from qualified vendors for the procurement of a Swiftwater Rescue Craft. This acquisition is intended to enhance the Town's emergency response capabilities, ensuring operational readiness during severe weather events, flash flooding, and critical water-rescue operations, as well as ensure interoperability with other NC certified Swiftwater Rescue Teams.

The Town is requesting line item pricing but will award the entire list of specified products. Pricing should be inclusive of delivery to The Town of Leland, 102 Town Hall Drive, Leland, NC 28451. The Town also seeks optional two half-day training and demonstrations on consecutive days upon delivery to be priced separately.

Sealed Bids must be received by 02:00 PM on October 13, 2026 at which time we will open bids and read aloud. Sealed Bids must clearly labeled ITB # 26-104 Swiftwater Rescue Craft on the outside of the packaging and should be addressed:

Town of Leland

Attn: Trisha Newton, CLGPO Purchasing and Contracts Supervisor

102 Town Hall Drive, Leland, NC 28451

tnewton@townofleland.com

(910) 880-7938

The Town reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive minor informalities when doing so is in the best interest of the Town. The Town will not be responsible for costs incurred by bidders in preparing or submitting bids. Late bids will not be accepted.

2 Standardization and Interoperability

The Town standardizes critical emergency-response equipment with its regional public-safety partners and North Carolina Emergency Management (NCEM) whenever practical. Emergency incidents do not respect jurisdictional boundaries, and the Town may operate alongside NCEM resources and regional or state Swiftwater rescue teams during major flooding and other time-critical emergencies. Equipment used during these incidents must function as part of an integrated regional response system rather than as an isolated Town asset.

Selecting equipment that is interoperable with resources already deployed by NCEM and the Town's mutual-aid partners allows personnel from different organizations to operate, exchange, connect, maintain, and deploy equipment more effectively. Standardization minimizes the need for specialized adapters, agency-specific procedures, duplicate equipment, or additional familiarization during emergency operations. It also reduces the likelihood that equipment incompatibility or operator unfamiliarity will delay a rescue or create an avoidable safety hazard.

A common equipment platform provides significant operational and lifecycle benefits. NCEM or neighboring-agency personnel may assist with the Town's equipment, and Town personnel may be required to work with equipment provided by those agencies. Standardization supports joint training, allows personnel to transition more readily between agency resources, and reduces duplicative training requirements. It also simplifies the acquisition and management of replacement parts, accessories,

maintenance services, and repairs while allowing the Town to benefit from the proven operational experience of NCEM and partner agencies already using the equipment.

The Town does not take brand-specific procurement lightly and only does so with serious justification to protect public safety, optimize responder performance, and maintain fiscal responsibility. The specification of this manufacturer and model is therefore based on an operational requirement for compatibility and interoperability, not a preference for a particular brand. The specified equipment provides the compatibility, personnel familiarity, training efficiency, maintenance support, and operational readiness necessary to integrate with resources already deployed by NCEM and the Town's mutual-aid partners.

During a Swiftwater rescue, the Town's objective is not merely to possess a boat capable of performing the required function. The Town must have equipment that can be safely and efficiently incorporated into the regional emergency-response system upon which its citizens and responders rely during major flooding events. In this context, standardization directly supports responder safety, emergency readiness, responsible lifecycle management, and effective mutual-aid operations.

3 Specifications

The Town is seeking the Swiftwater Rescue Craft package and related equipment identified in the specifications below. The specified items are brand-specific due to the Town's operational requirements for standardization, compatibility, and interoperability as described below.

- **(2) Zodiac ERB 400 in black** (4 meter inflatable rescue boat) w/ high pressure floor to include inter-communicating valves, fast inflation system with SCBA & SCUBA connection to include keel inflation system, single fill line with pressure regulator capable of being used with SCUBA & SCBA, SCUBA bottle sleeve installed in rear floor, transom cap w/ability to pin motor to transom, agency name in white lettering on hypalon panels glued on each side of main buoyancy tubes. Includes heavy duty gorilla handles with CSM/Neoprene patch and hand strap. RIB should have agency name and American Flag on the rear.
- **(3) Tohatsu MFS 30 DL Professional PumpJet** 30HP, 3-cylinder, 4-stroke EFI, 20-inch Long Shaft Motor, rope start, tiller steering w/ Rescue PumpJet Installed.
- **(3) Zodiac Z66108 fuel systems** with a six gallon flexible, collapsible auxiliary fuel tank and four secure attachment points to mount along the buoyancy tubes .
- **(1) NRS Otter 120D Self-Bailing Raft** – A durable, 12-foot, 3-inch inflatable boat designed to provide a stable and maneuverable platform in floods and moving water. It can carry rescue personnel, equipment, and people being assisted. Its self-bailing floor automatically drains water that enters the raft.
- **(1) Customized NRS Otter 120D Self-Bailing Rescue Raft** – A 12-foot, 3-inch inflatable raft customized for emergency-response operations. It includes durable Hypalon “RESCUE” lettering for easy identification and six Leaffield A6 pressure-relief valves that release excess air pressure to help protect the raft from overinflation and temperature changes.
- **(1) 10T716ST-G Two-Deck Galvanized Trailer** – A two-level trailer designed to transport multiple rescue boats and their motors together on one response unit. The stacked design makes efficient use of space, while the galvanized finish helps prevent rust and corrosion from repeated exposure to water and coastal conditions.

- **(3) ME-140 heavy duty outboard motor dollies** in hot-dip galvanized finish to resist corrosive environments
- **(1) FLO-FAST pump, cart, holder, funnel, and spout**
- **(6) FLO-FAST 50101-R five-gallon rotationally-molded polyethylene professional utility container** designed for portable fluid transfer applications across recreational and commercial settings.
- **(16) RSA-60P 60-inch commercial grade paddles** in a high visibility color or colors.
- **(1) NRS 77100.01 paddle bag** to hold up to twenty rafting paddles made of minimum 600-denier polyester bottom and sides with a mesh upper for airflow and gear drying.
- **(1) RSA-B10 Electric Inflator/Blower** – A portable, high-volume electric air blower used to quickly inflate rescue boats and rafts before deployment. Its flexible hose delivers air directly into the inflatable chambers, reducing setup time and the physical effort required compared with manual pumps.
- **(6) Tie-downs made with Polyester webbing, L-track Double Stud fittings with O-Rings, Soft Tye Loop anchors**

Bidders shall provide pricing for each item listed and delivery to 102 Town Hall Drive, Leland, NC 28451.

Optional Training and Demonstration

The Town requests separate pricing for an optional one-half-day training and demonstration of the complete Swiftwater Rescue Craft package for each of two separate shifts on consecutive days following delivery. This optional service shall be priced separately and may be included at the Town's discretion.

4 Vendor Qualifications and Warranty Requirements

4.1 Authorized Dealer Requirement

Bidders must be a factory-authorized dealer or distributor for the specified manufacturer at the time of bid submission. Bidders shall include written verification of their factory authorization from the manufacturer with their bid.

4.2 Warranty Coverage

Bidders shall include all applicable standard manufacturer and commercial warranties at no additional cost to the Town.

4.3 Service and Support

The successful bidder must be authorized and qualified to perform warranty repairs, provide Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM) replacement parts, and provide ongoing technical support for the equipment.

4.4 Product Recalls

The successful bidder shall notify the Town in writing of any safety notices, service bulletins, or product recalls affecting equipment provided under the resulting purchase.

5 Insurance

Bidder is responsible for insurance on all items until they are delivered to 102 Town Hall Drive, Leland, NC 28451 and signed for by the Town of Leland.

- Commercial General Liability — \$2M per occurrence
- Commercial Auto — \$1M CSL
- Workers' Compensation — statutory
- Employer's Liability — \$1M
- Umbrella — \$1M

The Town of Leland shall be named as an Additional Insured on the Commercial General Liability and Commercial Auto policies as required by the contract.

6 Submission Instructions

Bidders must use form provided as “Exhibit A: Swiftwater Rescue Craft Bid Form.” Bids must be submitted in a sealed envelope/box and delivered via hand delivery, commercial courier, or mail to:

Town of Leland
Attn: Trisha Newton, CLGPO (Purchasing Supervisor)
102 Town Hall Drive
Leland, NC 28451

Sealed Bids must be received by 02:00 PM on October 13, 2026 at which time we will open bids and read aloud. To ensure proper handling and confidentiality prior to the public opening, the exterior of the sealed envelope or shipping package **MUST** be clearly marked **ITB # 26-104: Swiftwater Rescue Craft**.

The Town reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive minor informalities when doing so is in the best interest of the Town. The Town will not be responsible for costs incurred by bidders in preparing or submitting bids. Late bids will not be accepted.

7 Bid Evaluation and Award of Contract

The Town intends to award the purchase to the lowest responsive, responsible bidder whose bid meets the requirements of this ITB and is determined to be in the best interest of the Town.

The Town may verify information submitted by bidders, including manufacturer authorization, licenses, references, warranty eligibility, qualifications, and other information necessary to determine responsiveness and responsibility.

The Town may request clarification when necessary to determine whether a bid is responsive. Clarification shall not be used to permit a bidder to materially change its price or the scope of its bid after the bid deadline.

The Town reserves the right to reject any or all bids, waive minor informalities or technicalities, and take such action as permitted by applicable law and determined to be in the best interest of the Town.

The successful bidder shall make reasonable efforts to fulfill the order as soon as possible. The bidder shall clearly identify the anticipated delivery timeframe in its bid. If delivery is delayed beyond the

anticipated timeframe, the successful bidder shall provide the Town with biweekly updates regarding the anticipated delivery date.

8 Solicitation Terms and Conditions

8.1 Applicable Law and Procurement Requirements

This solicitation and any resulting award shall be governed by applicable federal and North Carolina law, Town policies, and the procurement requirements specifically applicable to the procurement method being used. Nothing in these terms shall be interpreted to waive or modify a statutory procurement requirement.

8.2 Town's Right to Reject or Accept Responses

The Town reserves the right, to the extent permitted by applicable law, to reject any or all bids, proposals, or other responses; waive minor informalities or technicalities; and take such action as is determined to be in the best interest of the Town.

8.3 Cancellation, Withdrawal, or Modification of Solicitation

The Town reserves the right to cancel, withdraw, suspend, or modify this solicitation when determined to be in the best interest of the Town and in accordance with applicable law.

8.4 Addenda

The Town may issue written addenda to clarify, revise, or modify the solicitation. Respondents are responsible for reviewing and acknowledging all addenda issued by the Town and ensuring that all addenda have been received prior to submitting a Bid. Oral explanations or instructions shall not modify the solicitation.

8.5 Questions and Communications

Questions regarding this solicitation shall be directed to the Town's designated contact. Respondents shall not contact Town employees, elected officials, or other representatives regarding the solicitation except as expressly authorized by the solicitation or applicable law.

8.6 Examination of Solicitation Documents and Conditions

By submitting a response, the respondent represents that it has carefully reviewed the solicitation documents and has satisfied itself regarding the requirements and conditions affecting performance. Where applicable, respondents are responsible for evaluating site conditions, access, logistics, and other reasonably observable conditions.

8.7 Clarifications

The Town may request clarification of information contained in a response. Clarifications shall not be used to permit a respondent to materially alter its price, scope, qualifications, or other material terms except as permitted by applicable law.

8.8 Minor Informalities and Technicalities

To the extent permitted by applicable law and the procurement method being used, the Town may waive minor informalities or technicalities that do not affect the material substance of a response or provide an unfair competitive advantage.

8.9 Responsibility and Responsiveness

The Town may evaluate whether a response is responsive to the solicitation requirements and whether a respondent is responsible and capable of performing the work. Factors may include required licenses, qualifications, experience, capacity, financial responsibility, references, past performance, ability to meet the required schedule, and compliance with applicable requirements, as permitted by law.

8.10 Costs of Preparing a Response

All costs incurred in preparing and submitting a response shall be the sole responsibility of the respondent. The Town shall not be responsible for any costs associated with participation in the solicitation process.

8.11 Withdrawal and Modification of Responses

Withdrawal or modification of bids, proposals, or other responses shall be governed by the solicitation instructions and applicable law. Respondents are responsible for ensuring that their responses are submitted in the manner and by the deadline required.

8.12 Non-Collusion

By submitting a response, the respondent represents that its response has been prepared independently and that it has not engaged in collusion, price fixing, or other improper coordination with another respondent in connection with this solicitation.

8.13 Conflicts of Interest and Improper Influence

Respondents shall disclose actual conflicts of interest that may affect the procurement or performance of the resulting contract. Respondents shall not offer gifts, gratuities, or other improper inducements intended to influence the procurement process.

8.14 Public Records and Confidential Information

The Town is subject to the North Carolina Public Records Law. A respondent's designation of information as confidential or proprietary does not, by itself, make that information exempt from disclosure. Respondents asserting that information is protected from disclosure should clearly identify the information and the legal basis for the claimed protection.

8.15 Licenses, Certifications, and Eligibility

Respondents shall possess and maintain all licenses, registrations, certifications, and other qualifications required to perform the work or provide the goods or services described in the solicitation.

8.16 Debarment and Funding Requirements

When applicable to the funding source or procurement, the successful respondent shall comply with all required debarment, suspension, grant, federal, state, or other funding requirements. Additional funding-specific terms may be incorporated into the solicitation or resulting contract.

8.17 Award and No Obligation Until Formal Approval

No response shall create a binding obligation upon the Town. Any award shall be subject to applicable approvals and execution of any required contract or purchase authorization by properly authorized Town representatives.

8.18 Solicitation Does Not Guarantee Award

The issuance of this solicitation does not obligate the Town to award a contract, purchase goods or services, or reimburse any respondent for costs incurred in preparing a response.

8.19 Insurance

Insurance requirements are specified in this solicitation. Prior to contract award, the successful bidder shall provide a Certificate of Insurance evidencing the required coverage and naming the Town of Leland as an additional insured on applicable liability policies.

8.20 Permits, Codes and Safety

The Contractor shall obtain all required permits and perform the work in compliance with applicable federal, state, and local laws, building codes, OSHA requirements, and manufacturer requirements.

8.21 Means and Methods

Contractor shall be responsible for the means, methods, techniques, sequencing, and safety of the work and for protecting Town employees, visitors, property, and operations.

8.22 Existing Conditions

Contractor is responsible for inspecting reasonably observable existing conditions before submitting a Bid. Concealed or materially differing conditions shall be reported to the Town before additional work is performed.

8.23 Changes and Additional Work

No additional or out-of-scope work shall be performed without prior written authorization from the Town. The Town shall not be obligated to pay for unauthorized work.

8.24 Warranties

Bidder must be an authorized dealer of brands include in the bid and eligible to complete warranty work. The awarded bidder agrees to notify the Town of Leland in the event of any recall on the products sold herein.

APPENDIX A - BID FORM

Swiftwater Rescue Craft

1. Vendor Information

Business Legal Name	
Address	
Contact Person	
Title	
Phone	
Email	

2. Acknowledgement of Addenda

Addendum #	Date	Initial to Acknowledge Receipt

3. Swiftwater Rescue Craft

Bidders are required to provide unit/line pricing; however, the bid will be awarded in total. This should be inclusive of delivery to Leland, NC.

QTY	Description	Unit Price	Total
2	Zodiac ERB 400 in black (4 meter inflatable rescue boat) w/ high pressure floor to include inter-communicating valves, fast inflation system with SCBA & SCUBA connection to include keel inflation system, single fill line with pressure regulator capable of being used with SCUBA & SCBA, SCUBA bottle sleeve installed in rear floor, transom cap SCUBA bottle sleeve installed in rear floor, transom cap w/ability to pin motor to transom, agency name in white lettering on hypalon panels glued on each side of main buoyancy tubes. Includes heavy duty gorilla handles with CSM/Neoprene patch and not strap. RIB should have agency name and American Flag on the rear.		
3	Tohatsu MFS 30 DL Professional PumpJet 30HP, 3-cylinder, 4-stroke EFI, 20-inch Long Shaft Motor, rope start, tiller steering w/ Rescue PumpJet Installed.		
3	Zodiac Z66108 fuel systems with a six gallon flexible, collapsible auxiliary fuel tank and four secure attachment points to mount along the buoyancy tubes .		
1	NRS Otter 120D Self-Bailing Raft – A durable, 12-foot, 3-inch inflatable boat designed to provide a stable and maneuverable platform in floods and moving water. It can carry rescue personnel, equipment, and people being assisted. Its self-bailing floor automatically drains water that enters the raft.		

1	Customized NRS Otter 120D Self-Bailing Rescue Raft – A 12-foot, 3-inch inflatable raft customized for emergency-response operations. It includes durable Hypalon “RESCUE” lettering for easy identification and six Leaffield A6 pressure-relief valves that release excess air pressure to help protect the raft from overinflation and temperature changes.		
1	10T716ST-G Two-Deck Galvanized Trailer – A two-level trailer designed to transport multiple rescue boats and their motors together on one response unit. The stacked design makes efficient use of space, while the galvanized finish helps prevent rust and corrosion from repeated exposure to water and coastal conditions.		
3	ME-140 heavy duty outboard motor dollies in hot-dip galvanized finish to resist corrosive environments		
1	FLO-FAST pump, cart, holder, funnel, and spout		
6	FLO-FAST 50101-R five-gallon rotationally-molded polyethylene professional utility container designed for portable fluid transfer applications across recreational and commercial settings.		
16	RSA-60P 60-inch commercial grade paddles in a high visibility color or colors.		
1	NRS 77100.01 paddle bag to hold up to twenty rafting paddles made of minimum 600-denier polyester bottom and sides with a mesh upper for airflow and gear drying.		
1	RSA-B10 Electric Inflator/Blower – A portable, high-volume electric air blower used to quickly inflate rescue boats and rafts before deployment. Its flexible hose delivers air directly into the inflatable chambers, reducing setup time and the physical effort required compared with manual pumps.		
6	Tie-downs made with Polyester webbing, L-track Double Stud fittings with O-Rings, Soft Tye Loop anchors		
	Delivery to Town of Leland, Attention: Roger Rozell, 102 Town Hall Drive, Leland, NC 28451		
Grand Total			

4. Optional Demonstration and Training

Option Description	Cost
Two half-day trainings conducted on consecutive days	\$

5. Exceptions, Exclusions, or Deviations

List any exception, exclusion, assumption, or deviation from the requirements of the ITB. If none, write “NONE.”

5. Required Attachments / Submittals

- ☐ Factory Authorization Letters from Manufacturers
- ☐ Warranty/Guarantee documentation
- ☐ Operations Manual for all products

6. Bidder Certification

By submitting this Bid Form, the Bidder certifies that it has reviewed the ITB and commits to provide products as per specifications herein. The bidder further acknowledges responsibility of products until delivery to and acceptance by the Town of Leland.

Contractor Name	
Authorized Representative	
Title	
Signature	
Date	
Phone	
Email	

