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Invitation to Bid
Otter Point Restoration Project
-Phase I Implementation-

I. INTRODUCTION

The Columbia River Estuary Study Taskforce (CREST) requests contractor services to complete the multiple capacities for the implementation of an estuarine, tidally influenced habitat restoration project adjacent to the Lewis and Clark River in the Youngs Bay Watershed of Northwest Oregon. **Contractors may bid on one or more tasks as detailed in Section IV.** This project is sponsored by the National Park Service, Lower Columbia River Estuary Partnership, Bonneville Power Administration and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. *CREST requires a contractor with task specific knowledge and expertise.* The scope of work detailed in this request represents the **Phase I implementation activities.**

The Lewis & Clark River is a tributary of Young's Bay, located near the mouth of the Columbia River. The Lewis and Clark River supports several species of salmonids including chum salmon (*Oncorhynchus keta*), chinook (*O. tshawytscha*), coho (*O. kisutch*), steelhead (*O. mykiss*), and coastal cutthroat (*O. clarki clarki*). **Contractors submitting bids should be familiar with ESA-compliant in-water work strategies.**

II. BACKGROUND

Tidal, estuarine wetlands are one of the most impacted habitats in the Young's Bay watershed and are a priority for restoration, particularly for their high functional value to endangered salmonids that use these areas as refugia, rearing and feeding before migrating to sea. The Lewis & Clark River's estuarine wetland habitat has been severely altered due to historic diking and filling activities, which has resulted in a significant loss of this important habitat type as well as altered hydrology, sediment regimes and vegetation types and degraded water quality. Today, Otter Point is largely hydrologically disconnected from Lewis & Clark River flows and estuarine tidal influence, with an altered vegetation community dominated by reed canary grass and willow, a habitat which provides virtually none of its historic value to salmonids. The Otter Point Restoration Project is designed to reestablish hydrology and tidal connection through dike breaching. The project will thereby improve the estuarine habitat connectivity between the Lewis & Clark River and 33.5 acres of diked, historic wetland.

III. OVERALL PROJECT GOAL AND OBJECTIVES

The goal of the project is to “*restore critical tidally-influenced wetlands along the lower Lewis & Clark River.*” To meet that goal the following objectives have been established:

1. Increase floodplain connectivity in the lower Lewis and Clark River by reconnecting the Otter Point site to riverine flows and tidal inundation.
2. Increase off-channel salmonids refugia by re-establishing localized hydraulic connectivity.
3. Provide rearing and forage habitat by providing increased in-stream complexity and riparian cover.
4. Remove/ reduce invasive vegetation presence.
5. Enhance wetland and riparian conditions through native plantings.
6. Protect adjacent properties from flooding and tidal inundation through dike realignment

Collectively, these objectives will provide multiple ecological benefits to increase habitat availability, quality, and function for resident and anadromous salmonids as well as other wetland dependant species.

IV. PROJECT APPROACH SCHEDULE

Discrete Tasks: May be addressed separately or jointly if the contractor feels company capacity is sufficient.

The work to be performed under this contract consists of the following tasks:

- I. Prepare restoration site for excavation.
 - a. Mow reed canary grass within specified project area
 - b. Establish staging area
 - c. Install erosion and sediment controls as specified on Design Sheets C4- C5
 - d. Transport non-usable organic materials off-site
- II. Excavate tidal channel networks as specified on Design Sheets C4- C10, with oversight of design engineer. *
- III. Construct realigned dike along northern border of project site as described on Design Sheet C11, with oversight of designing engineer.
 - a. Transport and embank structural material from excavated areas
 - b. Install 10-in thick gravel access road along northern dike
 - c. Place geotextile material beneath northern dike
- IV. Install 36 inch culvert with tide gate beneath northern dike as specified on Design Sheets C11 and C14A, with oversight of design engineer.
- V. Supply and transport 46 logs with rootwads. Transport costs to include transporting logs to installation locations as specified.
 - a. 46 total units - 18 inch diameter, 30 feet length w/ rootwad
 - b. Acceptable species: Sitka spruce, Douglas fir or Hemlock.

- VI. Install large woody debris as specified on Design Sheets C14-C15, with oversight of design engineer. Reseed project areas as specified on Design Sheets C12, with oversight of Park Service staff.
- VII. Decommission the site to the extent necessary for winter cessation of construction work.

** All excavation work completed during Phase I implementation will be within the internal portion of the wetland. No alterations to the existing dike will occur during Phase I of this project.*

Contractors will be selected based on their past work experiences on similar projects and the bidding documents. Three references should be provided. Companies should focus references within the Oregon North Coast Watersheds if possible. **Contracts will be negotiated with “not to exceed” cap.** If situations require additional work than originally contracted, CREST approved change orders may be utilized.

A site visit meeting will be held on July 19, 2010 at 10:30 am at the project site.

Draft Timeline

Mobilize Equipment and Prepare Site – August 16, 2010

Excavate Tidal Channels– September 1, 2010

Construct Realigned Dike – September 15, 2010

Install Culvert and Tide Gate – October 13, 2010

Install Large Woody Debris – October 20, 2010

Decommission Project Site – October 27, 2010

V. LOCATION DESCRIPTION

The project site is located in T8N, R10W, Sections 35 and 36, or at river mile 1 on the Lewis and Clark River. It can also be described as ½ mile north of 92343 Fort Clatsop Road.

VI. SUBMITTAL REQUIREMENTS

A. Each responsible proponent shall respond to the “Submittal Requirements” as presented in Section VI of this RFP. Proposals received without the required information may be rejected as incomplete.

B. One original shall be sealed in an envelope, addressed and delivered/ mailed to the Columbia River Estuary Study Taskforce, Attention: Madeline Dalton/ Otter Point Restoration Project, 750 Commercial St., Room 205, Astoria, OR 97103, showing on the outside of the envelope the name of the business or proponent. Proposals will be received until the date and time stated in this RFP. Any proposals received after the scheduled closing time for receipt of proposals shall be returned to the proponent unopened. **NO PROPOSAL WILL BE ACCEPTED BY WAY OF FAX OR ELECTRONIC DATA INTERCHANGE.**

C. Proposals should provide a straightforward, concise description of proponent’s capabilities to satisfy the requirements of this RFP. Emphasis should be on completeness and clarity of content.

D. CREST Reserves the Right to:

- Reject any and all proposals received in response to this RFP, if deemed to be in the best interest of the project and in consideration of the limited grant funds available.
- Waive or modify any irregularities in proposals received, after prior notification to the proponent.
- Consider proposals or modifications received at any time before the award is made, if such action is in the best interest of CREST.
- Seek clarification of each consultant’s proposal.
- Negotiate a final contract under which the compensation paid to the consultant is fair and reasonable to CREST as determined solely by CREST and its funder(s).

E. RFP Timeline

EVENT DATES

RFP released	July 9, 2010
Proposals due no later than 1 pm	July 23, 2010
Proponent selection*	July 30, 2010
Execute contract*	August 6, 2008

*Projected dates

F. Incurring Costs

CREST shall not be liable for any cost incurred by proponents prior to issuance of a contract.

G. Addenda

In the event it becomes necessary to revise any part of this RFP, addenda will be provided to all prospective proponents who have been issued an RFP document.

H. Acceptance of Proposal Content

The contents of the proposal of the successful proponent will provide the basis for a more detailed contractual obligation if the proposal is accepted. Failure of the successful

proponent to accept these obligations in a contract may result in cancellation of the award.

I. Liability

If a contract is awarded, the successful proponent must provide a certificate of coverage at the time of contract execution, indicating proof of insurance coverage with limits not less than \$100,000 property damage per claimant, \$200,000 all other claims per claimant, \$500,000 all claims. Such insurance shall be evidenced by Certificate of Insurance provided to the CREST, indicating coverage, limits and effective dates, by an insurance company licensed to do business in the State of Oregon. If a contract is awarded, the successful proponent must provide documentation of Errors and Omissions (professional liability) Insurance Coverage.

J. Contracting Requirements

Selected contractor(s) will be required to comply with Federal, state, and local laws and regulations governing the performance of the business or activity. Contractors will be required to comply with the following as stated specifically in contracts with CREST: Federal Order 12549; EO 11246 "Equal Employment Opportunity"; 18 U.S.C. 874 "Anti-Kickback Act"; 40 U.S.C. 276a to 276a-7 Davis Bacon Act; 40 U.S.C. 327-330 for Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards.

K. Construction Bonding

Individual construction contract awards exceeding \$100,000 will require a construction performance surety bond to be obtained for the total amount awarded by contract.

VII. SUBMITTAL REQUIREMENTS

- A. List available equipment and operators and operating rates (prevailing wages).
- B. Provide concise budget including all costs and taxes.
- C. Provide three client references, preferably references in Astoria area or neighboring communities when available.
- D. If contractor has completed similar tidal wetland, log handling, or excavation jobs in the past, indicate this in the response to proposal.

VIII. CONSULTANT SELECTION PROCESS

- A. A Technical Advisory Committee shall be established to review and rank all proposals based on the budget, references, and prior work history. Review criteria will include:
 - Past work experiences on similar projects. 40%
 - Budget 40%
 - References. 20%

IX. PROCEDURES FOR NEGOTIATING A CONTRACT

- A. CREST shall begin contract negotiations with the highest ranked proponent. In the event the final scoring and ranking results in high tie proposal, CREST:
 - May further evaluate and rank all high tie proposals according to the criteria set forth in the RFP, with or without requiring further submissions from, or interviews with, the proponent involved in the tie, to determine which of the proponent to select, if any, to provide the required services in a manner most

beneficial to the overall intent of the project, and to the expectations of CREST; and

- Provided the high tie is broken, shall then enter into negotiations with the highest ranked contractor as outlined in this RFP.

B. Contract negotiations will be directed toward obtaining written agreement on:

- The contractor's tasks; and
- Hourly rates for services which are consistent with the contractor's proposal and fair and reasonable to CREST, taking into account the estimated value, scope, complexity, nature of the contractor's service, and availability of grant funds.

C. Upon completion of successful negotiations, a contract between CREST and the contractor will be mutually executed.

D. Negotiations with a high-ranked proponent may be formally terminated if they fail to result in a contract within a reasonable amount of time. Negotiations will then ensue with the next ranked proponent, and if necessary, the next proponent and so on, until the negotiations result in a contract.

X. CONTRACT ADMINISTRATION

A. Project administration is conducted through CREST, a Council of Governments that includes local counties, cities, and port districts surrounding the Columbia River Estuary in both Oregon and Washington.

The awarded contract will be between the chosen contractor and CREST. CREST's project representative and primary contact is:

Madeline Dalton, Watershed Council Coordinator

Columbia River Estuary Study Taskforce (CREST)/ North Coast Watershed Association
750 Commercial St., Room 205

Astoria, OR 97103

ph: 503.325.0435 ext. 16, fax: 503.325.0459

website: www.columbiaestuary.org

Email: mdalton@columbiaestuary.org

B. A "not to exceed" total contract price will be negotiated prior to start of work.

C. CREST will disburse all payments after the invoices from the consultant have been reviewed and approved by CREST and the Recreation and Conservation Office. Payments will be distributed within 90 days of receipt by CREST to provide for processing times with CREST and RCO.

XI. PROJECT FIGURES- OTTER POINT VICINITY MAP

