



818 Commercial Street, Suite 203
Astoria, Oregon 97103

REQUEST FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

South Tongue Point Restoration – Post-Construction Plantings

Proposals are due December 1st by 4pm

I. INTRODUCTION

The Columbia River Estuary Study Taskforce (CREST) requests contractor services to plant woody and herbaceous plants following construction of a restoration project at South Tongue Point, in Astoria, Oregon. This project is sponsored by the Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) and CREST. ***CREST requires a contractor with task-specific knowledge and expertise in planting tidal wetland habitat and riparian projects.*** This work is to be completed by March 2024.

II. PROJECT BACKGROUND

The South Tongue Point landform was constructed on the edge of the Columbia River's Cathlamet Bay with dredge spoils taken from the Columbia River by the federal government between 1948 and 1957. The 102-acre project site was left to vegetate naturally and has never been developed. The northern end of the project area borders a parcel owned by the U.S. federal government and Liberty Lane, across which lies Clatsop Community College's Marine and Environmental Science and Training Station (MERTS). CREST conducted a small restoration project in the northwest corner of the project area in 2012 (called Liberty Lane Restoration) that this project will augment. The majority of the current project area is owned by Clatsop Community College with a conservation easement held by the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board, but the shoreline is owned by the State of Oregon and managed by the Oregon Department of State Lands. The landform was built primarily for stability and has a simple shoreline with relatively little tidal habitat available for fish and other aquatic species. This project is designed to significantly increase the area of tidal habitat available for aquatic species while providing recreational and educational opportunities for Clatsop Community College students and the nearby community.

A tidal restoration project was completed in early November 2023. It created six large tidal channel networks and a long flow-through channel connecting existing tidal wetland complexes. Construction of the project entailed excavating approximately 46,000 cubic yards of material from the site's perimeter and placing it two upland disposal areas. The total disturbance footprint is about 22 acres but much of this area is now tidal and too low in elevation to plant.

III. OVERALL PROJECT GOAL AND OBJECTIVES

CREST has developed the project in order to restore estuary habitat critical to the recovery of threatened/endangered salmon species utilizing the Columbia River Estuary.

Specific project objectives include:

- A. Increase the area of tidal foraging and refuge habitat for juvenile ESA-listed salmonids;
- B. Improve fish access and tidal flows to existing tidal wetland habitat patches;
- C. Increase production and transport of food resources into the Columbia River estuary by nearly doubling the wetted edge length of the site.

IV. PROJECT APPROACH & SCHEDULE

All the plantings must be completed by March 2024. The work to be performed under this contract consists of the following general tasks;

- I. Pickup Plant Stock
 - a. Contractor to pick up plant stock from three separate nurseries, with a total of four trips, and for later transport to the planting site. This includes three separate pick-ups from two different nurseries.
 - a. Scholls Valley Native Nursery (Forest Grove, OR) (6,300 bare root herbaceous plants and 100 plugs in December, 3,750 bare root woody plants in January/February)
 - b. Champoeg Nursery (Aurora, OR) (200 1-gal pots, 150 forestry plugs, 1,600 bare root woody plants in January/February).
- II. Transport Plants and Work Crew to South Tongue Point
 - a. Contractor to deliver plant materials and stage at the site. CREST will deliver all plant materials not listed above.
- III. Install emergent wetland bare root plants in Work Area (completed by December 31, 2023)
 - a. The planting area is tidal, so contractor must plan their days around the tide.
 - b. See Section XII for a complete plant list. Planting locations are indicated in the Drawings (Appendix 1)
- IV. Install woody bareroot, live stakes, and potted plants in Work Area (completed by March 29, 2024)
 - a. See Section XII for a complete plant list. Planting locations are indicated in the Drawings (Appendix 1). Note that the Drawings do not list any woody plants on the tops of either Fill Area 1 or Fill Area 2 but these areas will now be planted; this change was due to a late landowner request.
 - b. All access roads will have been decommissioned prior to planting. Some roads – at least through the two staging and two fill areas – should be passable with an ATV. All of the 1-gallon pots will be planted in the two fill areas.
 - c. The planting plan varies somewhat from that described in the Drawings and Specifications. CREST will work with the contractor to create an updated planting plan prior to the planting events. In tidal areas, where plant distribution is dependent

on elevation/inundation, CREST will flag zones for each species mix ahead of installation.

V. Final Cleanup

- a. Contractor to remove all empty pots, containers, bags, ties, and other plant-related materials from the site for proper recycling and disposal.

A mandatory pre-bid site visit of the project site will occur on November 16th, 2023, at 10:00 AM. Consultants attending this tour are requested to **RSVP by November 14th, 2023 at 4:00 PM with the Project Manager to attend the site visit. Contact the Project Manager at thruska@columbiaestuary.org.** Directions and logistics will be sent to tour attendees.

V. SUBMITTAL REQUIREMENTS

A. Each proponent shall present a proposal to CREST which outlines contractor qualifications, schedule for completing the work, and budget for the project. Proposals received without the required information may be rejected as incomplete.

B. A digital submittal of the proposal shall be emailed to thruska@columbiaestury.org (please ensure that it is no larger than 20 mb in size). Proposals will be received until the date and time stated in this informal competitive process. Any proposals received after the scheduled closing time will be deemed ineligible for award consideration.

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

D. CREST Reserves the Right to:

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

E. RFP Timeline

EVENT DATES

RFP released	November 6, 2023
Site Visit	November 16, 2023
Proposals due no later than 4 pm	December 1, 2023
Proponent selection*	December 4, 2023
Execute contract*	December 8, 2023

*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, \$1,000,000 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. Registration with Federal System for Award Management

CREST requires contractors to be registered and in good standing with the federal SAM (System for Award Management). See <https://www.sam.gov/SAM/> for more details.

K. Contracting Requirements

Selected contractor(s) will be required to comply with all 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.

L. Disqualification

In compliance with Executive Order 12549, CREST will not award a contract to any contractor or subcontractor that has been debarred or suspended or otherwise excluded from participation by Executive Order 12549. Contractors will be asked to state that they have not been debarred, suspended or otherwise excluded. Contractors will also be disqualified due to a Construction Contractors Board listing as described in ORS 279C.375.

M. Prevailing Wage

Funding for this contract comes from Bonneville Power Administration, a federal agency, meaning that the Davis-Bacon Act applies. Contractor must pay the planting crew the prevailing wage rates of the State of Oregon or Federal Government, whichever rate is higher.

VI. SUBMITTAL CONTENT REQUIREMENTS

- A. Provide the completed cost sheet including all costs.
- B. Describe methods planned to move and install plant stock within the specified schedule. List available equipment and crew (please do not list all staff or equipment, only that which will be used for this job) (3 pages maximum)
- C. Provide three client references, preferably references in the lower Columbia River and North Oregon Coast regions or neighboring communities when available.
- D. If contractor has completed similar tidal wetland replanting jobs in the past, indicate this in the response to proposal (2 pages maximum)

VII. CONSULTANT SELECTION PROCESS

- A. A Technical Advisory Committee shall be established to review and rank all proposals based on the budget, prior work history, and ability to meet construction schedule. Review criteria will include:
 - Budget (as shown on the cost sheet) 40%
 - Ability to meet schedule 40%
 - Past work experiences on similar projects/ References 20%
- B. The Technical Advisory Committee will share and discuss their scores. Scores will direct the Committee to select a proposal by consensus. While the highest-scoring proposal is typically the one selected, CREST retains the right to select a proposal other than the one with the highest cumulative score.

VIII. 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 proposals, CREST:
 - a. 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 proponents involved in the tie, to determine which of the proponents 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
 - b. Provided the high tie is broken, shall then enter into negotiations with the highest ranked consultant as outlined in this RFP.
- B. Contract negotiations will be directed toward obtaining written agreement on:
 - a. The consulting firm's tasks; and
 - b. Hourly rates for services which are consistent with the proposal and fair and reasonable to CREST, taking into account the estimated value, scope, complexity, nature of the consultant's service, and availability of grant funds.
- C. Upon completion of successful negotiations, a contract between CREST and the consulting firm 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.

IX. 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:

Tracy Hruska, Habitat Restoration Project Manager
Columbia River Estuary Study Taskforce (CREST)
818 Commercial St, Suite 203
Astoria, OR 97103
ph: (503) 325-0435

website: www.columbiaestuary.org

Email: thruska@columbiaestuary.org

B. A “not to exceed” total contract price with agreed upon unit costs 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 BPA. Payments will be distributed within 90 days of receipt by CREST to provide for processing times with CREST and project funders.

X. PUBLIC DISCLOSURE

A. Any information provided to CREST in response to this RFP is subject to public disclosure under the Oregon Public Records Law (ORS 192.311 to 192.478). As provided in ORS 279B.060(6), the contents of any proposal will not be disclosed until CREST issues its notice of intent to award. The identity of all proposers will be subject to disclosure following the opening of proposals.

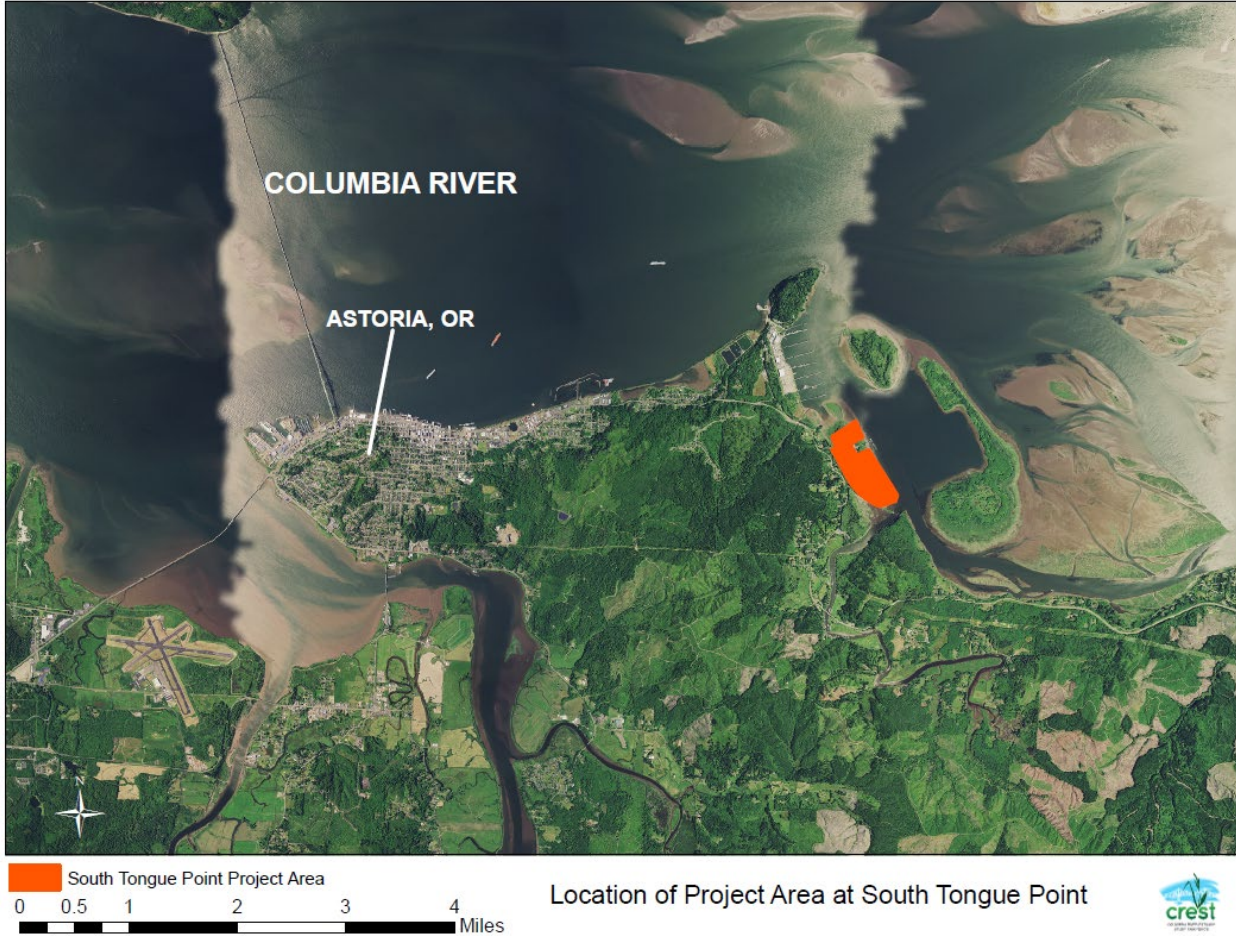
B. After issuance of the notice of intent to award, any information provided to CREST under this RFP is subject to public disclosure under Oregon's Public Records Laws (ORS 192.311 to 192.478), unless it is specifically exempt from disclosure under ORS 192.338 to 192.355.

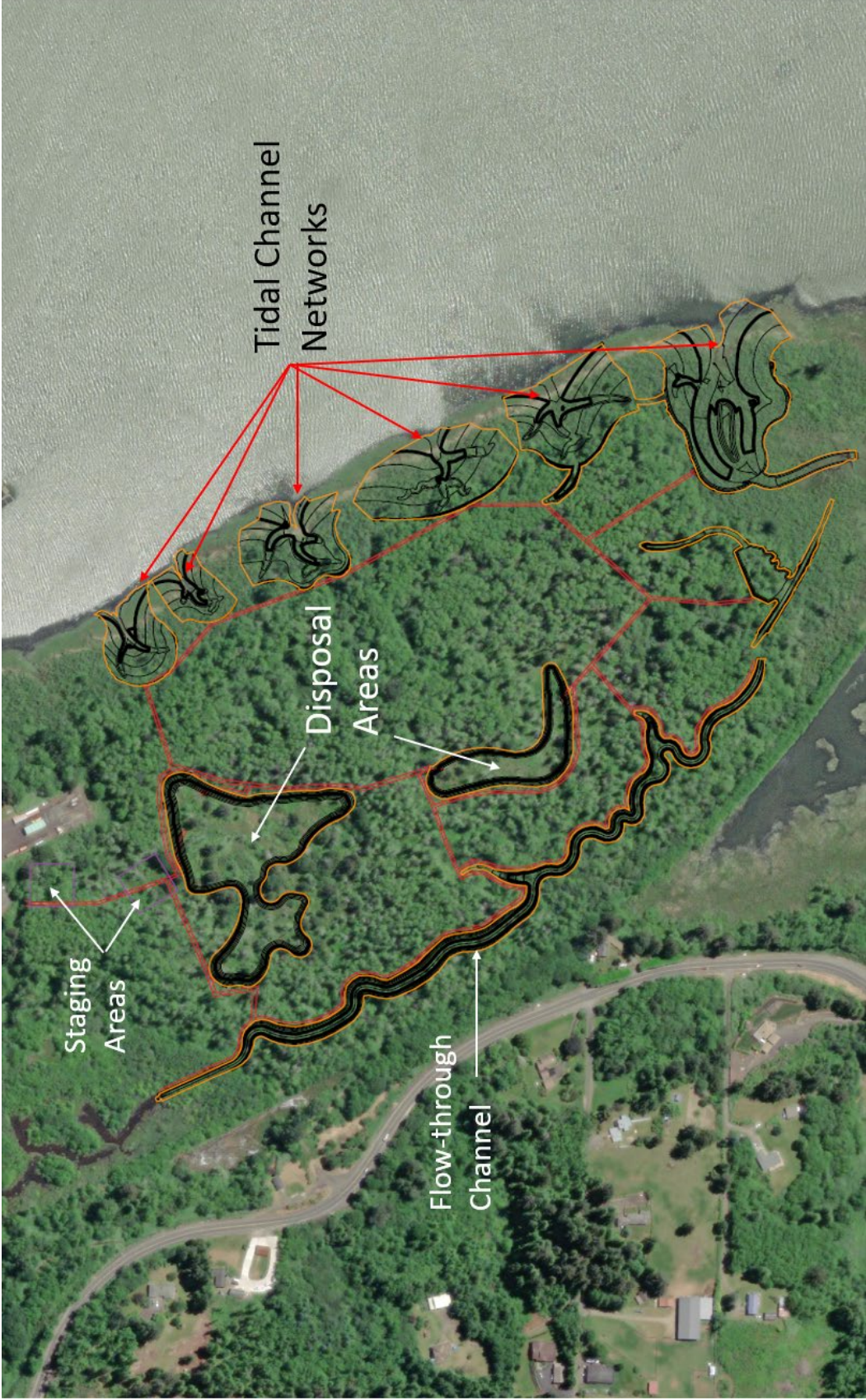
C. Any proposer that desires CREST to treat certain information as exempt from disclosure must plainly mark each page of such information as confidential and include the citation to the Public Records Law exemption that the proposer believes to apply to the information. Marked pages should be placed in a group separate from the remainder of the proposal. Information that has not been properly marked and segregated will be deemed subject to disclosure by CREST.

D. CREST retains the right to make an independent determination of whether marked information is exempt under the Public Records Law. All proposers understand that any decision

by CREST to withhold information is subject to appeal and that CREST will comply with any order to disclose.

XI. PROJECT LOCATION





XII. PLANTING STOCK

Nurseries:

Balance Restoration Nursery (Lorane, OR) [CREST will deliver]

Champoeg = Champoeg Nursery (Aurora, OR) [Contractor will pick up and deliver]

Natural Recovery Nursery (Kalama, WA) [CREST will deliver]

NORP = Northwest Oregon Restoration Partnership (Tillamook, OR) [CREST will deliver]

Oregon Department of Forestry (Tillamook and/or Astoria) [CREST will deliver]

SVNN = Scholls Valley Native Nursery (Forest Grove) [Contractor will pick up and deliver]

WACD = Washington Association of Conservation Districts (Bow, WA) [CREST will deliver]

Bare Root Herbaceous

Common Name	Scientific Name	Nursery	Type	Number
Lyngbye's sedge	Carex lyngbyei	Balance Restoration Nursery	bare root plug	700
broadleaf cattail	Typha latifolia	Balance Restoration Nursery	bare root	300
Pacific silverweed	Potentilla pacifica/Potentilla anserina ssp. pacifica	Champoeg	bare root	400
tufted hairgrass	Deschampsia caespitosa	Champoeg	bare root	400
sword fern	Polystichum munitum	Champoeg	bare root	300
Lyngbye's sedge	Carex lyngbyei	NORP	bare root	1200
Small-fruited bulrush	Scirpus microcarpus	NORP	bare root	1300
Slough sedge	Carex obnupta	NORP	bare root	1600
Giant bur-reed	Sparganium eurycarpum	SVNN	bare root	1400
Softstem bulrush	Schoenoplectus tabernaemontani	SVNN	bare root	2400
Creeping spikerush	Eleocharis palustris	SVNN	bare root	1000
Small-fruited bulrush	Scirpus microcarpus	SVNN	bare root	300
awl-fruit_sedge	Carex stipata	SVNN	bare root	500
Thick-head sedge	Carex pachystachya	SVNN	bare root	700
			TOTAL	12,500

Bare Root Woody

Common Name	Scientific Name	Nursery	Type	Number
Nootka rose	Rosa nutkana	Champoeg	BR 12-18"	700
Big-leaf maple	Acer macrophyllum	Champoeg	BR 12-18"	600
oceanspray	Holodiscus discolor	Champoeg	BR 12-18"	300
Snowberry	Symphoricarpus albus	SVNN	1-0 BR	1250
red alder	Alnus rubra	SVNN	1-0 BR	800
Pacific crabapple	Malus fusca	SVNN	1-0 BR	400
Red elderberry	Sambucus racemosa	SVNN	1-0 BR	500
Pacific ninebark	Physocarpus capitatus	SVNN	1-0 12"+	150
Cascara	Rhamnus purshiana	SVNN	1-0 BR	250
Coyote brush	Baccharis pilularis ssp. consanguinea	SVNN	1-0 BR	100
Douglas spirea/hardhack	Spirea douglasii	SVNN	1-0 BR	300
black twinberry	Lonicera involucrata	WACD	1-0 BR, WW 12"	1500
Pacific ninebark	Physocarpus capitatus	WACD	1-0 BR, 12", WW	150
Osoberry	Oemleria cerasiformis	WACD	1-0 BR, 6-12", OR	300
cottonwood	Populus trichocarpa	WACD	1-0 BR, WW	300
red-flowering currant	Ribes sanguineum	WACD	1-0 BR, OR, 12"	350
salmonberry	Rubus spectabilis	WACD	1-0 BR, OR, 12"	800
Douglas-fir	Psuedotsuga menziesii	WACD	2-0 BR 030-0.5 12"+	150
			TOTAL	8,900

1 Gallon Pots

Common Name	Scientific Name	Nursery	Type	Number
western hemlock	<i>Tsuga heterophylla</i>	Champoeg	1 gal	100
Douglas-fir	<i>Psuedotsuga menziesii</i>	Champoeg	1 gal	100
Pacific crabapple	<i>Malus fusca</i>	NORP	tall gal	140
Thimbleberry	<i>Rubus parviflorus</i>	NORP	tall gal	140
Red elderberry	<i>Sambucus racemosa</i>	NORP	tall gal	140
Pacific ninebark	<i>Physocarpus capitatus</i>	NORP	tall gal	123
Osoberry	<i>Oemleria cerasiformis</i>	NORP	tall gal	52
Cascara	<i>Rhamnus purshiana</i>	NORP	tall gal	51
Salal	<i>Gaultheria shallon</i>	NORP	tall gal	20
Coyote brush	<i>Baccharis pilularis</i> ssp. <i>consanguinea</i>	NORP	tall gal	21
			TOTAL	887

Small Containers

Common Name	Scientific Name	Nursery	Type	Number
western hemlock	<i>Tsuga heterophylla</i>	Champoeg	Lg plug	150
CONIFERS	(mix of Sitka spruce, western redcedar, western hemlock, Douglas-fir)	Oregon Department of Forestry	mostly plugs with some bare root	500
Douglas aster	<i>Symphyotrichum</i> <i>subspicatum</i>	SVNN	plug	100
Salal	<i>Gaultheria shallon</i>	WACD	72p pot	200
			TOTAL	900

Live Stakes

Common Name	Scientific Name	Nursery	Type	Number
Pacific willow	<i>Salix lucida</i> spp. <i>lasiandra</i>	Natural Recovery	3-4' cutting	1500
Hooker willow	<i>Salix hookeriana</i>	Natural Recovery	3-4' cutting	1500
Sitka willow	<i>Salix sitchensis</i>	Natural Recovery	3-4' cutting	1500
Red-osier dogwood	<i>Cornus sericea</i>	Natural Recovery	3-4' cutting	500
Scouler willow	<i>Salix scouleriana</i>	WACD	3' cutting	500
			TOTAL	5,500