



REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS

Habitat Restoration Program 2023 – 2028 “On-Call” Engineering and Design Services and/or Construction Management Services

Questions & Responses – January 23, 2023

Question: “Will a cover page or section divider pages be permitted and therefore not be included in the page count?”

Response: Cover pages and section divider pages are not necessary. If they are included in a SOQ submittal, they will be counted against the page limits.

Question: “Is a single firm versus a team assessed differently?”

Response: No. Single firms and teams will be assessed equally using the scoring system identified in the RFQ. Teams with small, minority, and women businesses may score additional points under the Commitment to Diversity, Equity and Inclusion section.

Question: “Where does the funding for this come from? Is it the BIL?”

Response: The Estuary Partnership’s Habitat Restoration Program receives funding from a wide variety of sources, including federal, state, and local agencies. Historically, the program’s primary funder has been Bonneville Power Administration; however, over the past several years, the Estuary Partnership also has received significant contributions from the WA Department of Ecology, WA State Recreation and Conservation Office, and the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law.

Question: “Is there a schedule / timing or duration anticipated for any projects or have all projects yet to be identified?”

Response: The Estuary Partnership has identified the anticipated schedule, timing, and duration for several projects, while other potential projects simply have been identified but no further investigation

or planning has yet occurred.

Question: “Is the prime consultant required to be in the Portland metro area?”

Response: No.

Question: “What are the size of projects identified? E.g.: Between \$X & \$Y or between A acres & B acres?”

Response: It is not possible to accurately predict the magnitude of projects that would be developed and implemented during the 6-year period of performance. As stated in the RFQ, over the past fourteen years, the Estuary Partnership has successfully used on-call firms to secure the technical services needed to develop, design, and implement habitat restoration projects with total budgets ranging in size from roughly \$200,000 to \$32,000,000. These projects ranged in size from <20 acres to nearly 1,000 acres.

Question: “Type (%) of Federal and State funding? Are there DBE requirements?”

Response: The exact funding breakdown is unknown. Contracts utilizing federal funding sources will require taking all necessary affirmative steps to assure that minority businesses, women's business enterprises, and labor surplus area firms are used when possible. Some contracts may include Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Program Requirements.

Question: “What type of permitting/permits is anticipated for projects?”

Response: The standard suite of federal, state, and local permits required for all habitat restoration projects. Possible additions to the standard suite of regulatory approvals include compliance with Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area regulations and compliance with Section 408 of the Rivers and Harbors Act.

Question: “Is the work hourly? Time and Materials or Milestones?”

Response: Time and materials.

Question: “Is there a requirement to select a minimum number of firms?”

Response: No.