



Steigerwald Floodplain Restoration Project – Habitat Restoration Services Request for Qualifications

Deadline – Notice of Intent to Submit: October 29, 2019 at 4:00 PM

Deadline – SOQ Submittal: November 19, 2019 at 4:00 PM

INTRODUCTION

The Lower Columbia Estuary Partnership (Estuary Partnership) is soliciting Statements of Qualifications (SOQs) from firms seeking to provide aquatic habitat restoration services during implementation of the Steigerwald Floodplain Restoration Project (Steigerwald Project). The primary intent of this solicitation is to identify firms that have the capacity and expertise to implement aquatic habitat restoration elements of the Steigerwald Project and have a proven track record of successfully implementing similar tasks on past projects. The Estuary Partnership will use SOQs submitted to evaluate and pre-qualify approximately four firms to serve as Aquatic Habitat Restoration Specialists (AHRS) for the Steigerwald Project. The Estuary Partnership will provide the list of pre-qualified AHRS's to prime contractors pre-qualified through a separate procurement process. All pre-qualified prime contractors submitting a bid for the Steigerwald Project will be required to partner (subcontract) with one or more AHRS(s) to perform identified tasks. One contractor may not serve as both the prime contractor and AHRS on the Steigerwald Project.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Over the past six years, the Estuary Partnership partnered with the Port of Camas-Washougal (Port), U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT), Bonneville Power Administration (BPA), Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railroad (BNSF), City of Washougal (City), and other public and private partners to develop the Steigerwald Project. The purpose of the Steigerwald Project is threefold: (1) to restore hydrologic connectivity between Gibbons Creek, the Columbia River, and adjacent floodplain habitats within the Steigerwald Lake National Wildlife Refuge (Refuge); (2) to reduce internal flooding and operations costs; and, (3) to improve recreation opportunities at an urban wildlife refuge visited by as many as 90,000 people per year. To accomplish these objectives, the Steigerwald Project would implement the following primary actions:

- (1) remove 11,600 linear feet of the Port's existing levee system;
- (2) construct two setback levees comprised of 7,800 linear feet of earthen levee and 900 linear feet of concrete flood wall;
- (3) construct four new floodplain channels and regrade 112 acres to expand the site's wetlands;
- (4) restore Gibbons Creek and its floodplain;
- (5) elevate 1,600 linear feet of State Route 14 (maximum of three vertical feet);
- (6) remove a diversion structure, elevated canal, fish ladder, maintenance road, and several culverts and water control structures from within the floodplain;
- (7) install approximately 295 wood habitat structures consisting of approximately 1,400 pieces of large woody debris;
- (8) construct 13,800 linear feet of trail infrastructure, including three new bridges; and,
- (9) relocate the Refuge's existing parking lot and associated infrastructure.

Attachment A provides an overview of the project design at the concept level. The Steigerwald Project plan set and specifications (both dated October 2019) can be downloaded from the Estuary Partnership's website: <https://www.estuarypartnership.org/news/steigerwald-project-rfq-documents>. In addition to the tasks noted above, the Estuary Partnership will re-establish 200 acres of historic riparian forest through a separate contract.

The Steigerwald Project's design team is led by Wolf Water Resources, with geotechnical and civil/transportation support from Cornforth Consultants and KPFF. Murraysmith will provide construction management services. The

project is funded by BPA, Washington Department of Ecology, USFWS, and Western Federal Lands and is subject to prevailing wage law.

DESCRIPTION AND TIMING OF AHRS TASKS

During implementation of the Steigerwald Project, the prime contractor will be required to use a pre-qualified AHRS to perform the following tasks (more information regarding these tasks can be found on the referenced design sheets and in other project documents):

- Fish salvage: Gibbons Creek – north of SR 14 (2020)
- Fish salvage: Gibbons Creek – south of SR 14 (2021)
- Dewatering and work area isolation: Gibbons Creek – north of SR 14 (2020; sheets ESC2.1 and ESC2.2)
- Dewatering and work area isolation: Gibbons Creek – south of SR 14 (2021; sheets ESC2.1 and ESC2.2)
- Reconstruct approximately 850 linear feet of Gibbons Creek north of SR 14 (2020; sheet C4.1);
- Reconstruct approximately 850 linear feet of Gibbons Creek south of SR 14 (2021; sheets C4.1 to C4.6);
- Installation of approximately 295 wood habitat structures, consisting of approximately 1,400 logs (2020 and 2021; various sheets including typicals on sheets C6.1 through C6.7);
- Installation of one groundwater well system and one equipment bridge (2020; sheets C4.6 and C4.8);
- Removal of rip-rap along the bank of the existing levee (2021; sheets C1.6 and C1.7); and,
- Installation of twelve riffles and other habitat features (typicals on sheet C6.6).

All AHRS tasks must be coordinated with prime contractor activities, e.g., levee, floodwall, and trail construction, and must occur during the 2020 and 2021 in-water work windows. The estimated construction cost for AHRS tasks is approximately \$1,400,000.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS AND SELECTION PROCESS

The minimum qualifications applicants should have for this RFQ are:

- Ability to coordinate and implement complex construction activities within the context of a large-scale construction project;
- Experience working with complex construction drawings, schedules, plans, notes, and details;
- Experience with fish rescue and exclusion, including the salvage of salmonids and lamprey;
- Extensive experience dewatering in-water work areas that support federally listed species, including pumping and gravity diversions;
- Experience grading streambanks and floodplains and installation of riffles, pools, and other natural stream features, including those specifically designed to provide fish passage;
- Experience procuring, delivering, and installing large quantities of wood for construction of wood habitat structures in both wet and dry environments; and,
- Familiarity with regulatory requirements governing work in environmentally sensitive sites and areas, including wetlands, streams that support threatened species, and the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area (CRGNSA).

All applicants must designate and commit one individual to serve as the AHRS Project Manager. The AHRS Project Manager must be available during all phases of AHRS work and must attend weekly meetings and oversee and document daily progress. The AHRS Project Manager will be the point of contact for the prime contractor and Owner's (Estuary Partnership) Project Representative and must have a least ten years of experience working on similar projects.

The Estuary Partnership will review the Statement of Qualifications (SOQ) and will base the selection decision on the following criteria and scoring:

- Firm's qualifications and experience working on large-scale habitat restoration projects, with an emphasis on aquatic habitat restoration (30 points), including;

1. fish rescue and exclusion;
 2. work area isolation and dewatering;
 3. construction of riffles, pools, large wood structures, and other habitat features;
 4. stream channel and floodplain grading; and,
 5. compliance with environmental regulations and permit conditions (including wetland and CRGNSA permit conditions);
- Firm's proposed approach to implementing the Steigerwald Project's AHRS tasks (25 points), including, but not limited to, the following:
 1. Specialized equipment, e.g., vibratory hammers and wide-tracked excavators, that will be dedicated to the Steigerwald Project;
 2. Number of staff that will be dedicated to the Steigerwald Project, including persons of color, women, and veterans;
 3. Approach to construction scheduling and coordinating work with a general prime contractor; and,
 4. Approach to scheduling and performing fish rescue and exclusion with general prime contractors and permitting agencies.
 - References (20 points);
 - Qualifications and experience of the Project Manager and other lead staff, especially project experience involving partnering with a large earthwork contractor to manage and implement a complex project in an environmentally sensitive area that supports threatened species (10 points);
 - The applicant's commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion, as evidenced through the applicant's diversity in demographics, as well as efforts the applicant has made to ensure a diverse workforce, including policies and practices to promote both diversity in hiring and partnering with women and minority owned firms (10 points); and,
 - Proximity of applicant to the project site (5 points).

The Estuary Partnership will evaluate SOQ submittals using the above scoring framework to identify approximately four firms to pre-qualify as AHRS's for the Steigerwald Project. The final selection, if any, will be the applicants, which in the opinion of the Estuary Partnership and the project team, best meet the qualifications set forth in this RFQ. Only the selected firms will be permitted to participate as AHRS's during bidding and implementation of the Steigerwald Project.

ANTICIPATED PROCUREMENT SCHEDULE

RFQ Issuance: October 22, 2019

Notice of Intent to Submit: October 29, 2019 at 4:00 PM

RFQ Question Period Closing: November 7, 2019 at 4:00 PM

Final Addendum Issued (if necessary): No later than November 13, 2019

RFQ Closing (SOQ Submittal Deadline): November 19, 2019, at 4:00 PM

Notice of Award: No later than December 10, 2019

NOTICE OF INTENT TO SUBMIT

All firms intending to submit an SOQ in response to this RFQ must notify the Estuary Partnership's Finance Manager, Tom Argent, in writing (via e-mail sent to targent@estuarypartnership.org) by 4:00 PM on October 29, 2019. The Estuary Partnership will provide written confirmation of receipt via e-mail. **The Estuary Partnership will not send addenda to, or accept SOQs from, firms that do not provide a written intent to submit prior to 4:00 PM on October 29, 2019.**

QUESTION SUBMITTAL FORMAT AND DEADLINE

Questions should be submitted in writing (via e-mail) to Tom Argent, Finance Manager (targent@estuarypartnership.org) by 4:00 PM on November 7, 2019. The Estuary Partnership will provide a written response (sent via e-mail) to all firms that submitted a notice of their intent to submit prior to 4:00 PM on October 29, 2019. The Estuary Partnership will not respond to oral questions or written questions submitted to other Estuary Partnership employees.

SOQ SUBMITTAL FORMAT AND DEADLINE

SOQ submittals (electronic only; Adobe Acrobat PDF format; 10MB maximum file size) should be directed to Tom Argent, Finance Manager, targent@estuarypartnership.org. Electronic submittals must be a single file and must be received on or before November 19, 2019 at 4:00 PM. Submittals received after this time will not be accepted. The Estuary Partnership will provide a confirmation of receipt when SOQs are received. The Estuary Partnership also will notify all applicants once a firm has been selected; however, the Estuary Partnership will not respond to individual inquiries about the selection status of any submitted SOQs.

PROPRIETARY INFORMATION/PUBLIC DISCLOSURE

Materials submitted in response to this RFQ shall become the property of the Estuary Partnership. Any information in the proposal that the applicant desires to claim as proprietary and exempt from disclosure consistent with Oregon law must be clearly designated. The page must be identified and each particular exception from disclosure upon which the Contractor is making the claim. Each page claimed to be exempt from disclosure must be clearly identified by the word "Confidential" printed on the lower right hand corner of the page. The Estuary Partnership will consider an applicant's request for exemption from disclosure. Marking the entire proposal exempt from disclosure will not be honored. The applicant must be reasonable in designating information as confidential.

MINORITY & WOMEN PARTICIPATION

The Estuary Partnership strongly encourages participation in all of its contracts by certified Minority, Women, or Emerging Small Business Enterprises (M/W/ESBE) firms and firms with diversity in demographics, e.g., race, religion, gender, veteran status, and disability, and/or that have made efforts to ensure a diverse workforce, including policies and practices to promote both diversity in hiring and partnering with M/W/ESBE firms.

**Lower Columbia Estuary Partnership
Steigerwald Floodplain Restoration Project
Construction Management Services**

SOQ Submittal Format

A. COMPANY INFORMATION

Business Name:
Address:
City, State, Zip Code:
Email Address:

Corporation: Partnership: Sole Owner:

Principle Place of Business:
Washington/Oregon State Contractor's License Number:

Has the applicant had a contract terminated for default in the last five years? If yes, please describe the full details of the terms for default including the other party's name, address, and phone number.

B. QUALIFICATIONS

Provide a description (six pages maximum) of the firm's qualifications and experience addressing the minimum and preferred qualifications identified in this RFQ. The description shall provide specific examples of similar projects completed within the past 10 years, identify the Project Manager, commit to the availability of the Project Manager during the 2020 and 2021 construction seasons, provide a description of the firm's approach to performing AHRS tasks identified in this RFQ, and describe the firm's diversity in demographics, e.g., race, religion, gender, veteran status, and disability, including examples of comparable projects that included a diverse project team and policies and practices to promote both diversity in hiring and partnering with M/W/ESBE firms.

C. RESUMES

Attach resumes for the Project Manager and any other key staff. Each resume shall be no more than two pages in length. Resumes do not count towards the Qualifications page limit.

D. REFERENCES

List names, addresses, telephone numbers, and e-mail addresses of references for four projects completed within the past 10 years. Briefly name and describe the related project, location, the work accomplished, applicant's and reference's roles in the project, contract value, and name/address/phone of contact person. If the applicant has performed work for the Estuary Partnership in the past 10 years, the applicant must include the Estuary Partnership project manager as one of the four references. The applicant does not need to provide contact information for current or former Estuary Partnership project managers.

AUTHORIZED SIGNATORY

The final proposal should include the following statement as well as the printed name, signature, title, and date of the person authorized to submit a bid:

"I certify to the best of my knowledge that the information in this application is true and correct and that I am legally authorized to submit this information on behalf of the applicant."

Printed Name	Signature
Title	Date

Attachment A Steigerwald Project Concept Design

