

Request for Bid

Sardine Meadow Restoration Project

The Truckee River Watershed Council is seeking construction bids for the Sardine Meadow Project

Truckee River Watershed Council

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Amendments to this Request for Bid will be posted on www.truckeeriverwc.org within the “news” section, and distributed through our weekly E-Currents newsletter. Please subscribe to our E-Currents newsletter by clicking “Subscribe” link in lower left corner of our webpage.

RELEASE DATE: April 16, 2020

In 2020, TRWC will release several Requests For Proposals (RFP) and Requests For Bids (RFB) for restoration design, construction, environmental compliance, permit assistance, and the like. We appreciate that some firms may wish to respond to multiple RFPs & RFBs. To help with proposal and bid preparation, we offer the following:

1. **Responding to Multiple RFPs/RFBs.** Firms may respond to multiple RFPs and RFBs. In the vast majority of our projects, a firm will not be prevented from bidding on future work if they participate in current work. In the rare case where this prohibition exists, we will state the prohibition in the current RFP/RFB.
2. **Lead Firm vs. Subcontracted Firm.** We understand and accept a given firm may be the lead in one response and a subcontractor in another response.
3. **Respond Uniquely to Each RFP/RFB.** Each of our projects has a unique combination of partners, stakeholders, funders, constraints, opportunities, and timelines. Due to the characteristics of each project, we purposely release separate RFPs/RFBs. Firms must submit a response to each RFP or RFB to be considered. While we appreciate that a firm might be able to offer efficiencies if we combined projects, the unique blend of characteristics of each project prevent us from combining projects more than has already been done.
4. **Repeating Information Across Multiple Responses.** We understand and accept that information about the firm, its staff, past work, references, work approach, and the like may be repeated, perhaps even word for word, across multiple responses.

A. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The lead for the project is Truckee River Watershed Council (TRWC). Project partners include:

- The Trust for Public Land
- A private landowner

The purpose of the Sardine Meadow Restoration project (Sardine project) is to restore natural hydrologic function, improve water quality, and improve fish and wildlife habitat. The project addresses approximately 350 acres of degraded meadow and two miles of Davies Creek.

The project site is owned by the Trust for Public Land and a private property owner.

Sardine Meadow is located in the Davies Creek watershed, north of Stampede Reservoir. Historic uses of the meadow and watershed have contributed to the degradation of Davies Creek. Within the project area, Davies Creek has been impacted by a railroad grade constructed across the eastern end of the valley and a historic road or railroad grade along the southern portion of the site. These linear features have captured the flow of the creek, altering the stream path from multiple meandering channels to single thread incised channels.

The disconnected remnant channels are still present on the meadow surface. The restoration design includes blocking off the eroding gullies and restoring flow to the existing channels.

Project objectives include:

- Restore and enhance approximately 350 meadow acres;
- Reduce erosion from two miles of intermittent stream;
- Re-activate over three miles of historic stream channel;
- Elevate the water table in the meadow to support development of meadow vegetation and promote late season base flow;
- Attract native willow flycatchers to the meadow; and
- Improve grazing forage for livestock and wildlife.

The Sardine project builds on the previously completed Merrill-Davies watershed restoration project. Beginning in 2005, the Truckee River Watershed Council (TRWC) partnered with the U.S. Forest Service to implement 13 separate meadow and stream restoration projects, identified through the Merrill Davies Watershed Assessment (USFS, 2003).

Work. The Project work is described in detail in the attached Sardine Meadow 65% Design Plans and Design Basis Memo (Attachments 1 and 2). Construction activities are defined in general terms:

- Best Management Practices: install and maintain BMPs throughout construction according to the project SWPPP and per the direction of the project QSP;
- Mobilization and demobilization: establish all equipment, supplies, and temporary facilities at the site to needed complete the work; demobilization shall include removing all equipment, supplies, temporary facilities, and excess construction materials; demobilization shall also include decommissioning of temporary construction access routes and staging areas;
- Temporary Haul Routes: establish temporary access routes (including meadow protection measures where needed) and temporary stream crossings;
- Creek Diversion and Dewatering: furnish all equipment and labor to implement the dewatering plan;
- Earthwork:
 - Remove/recontour railroad and road grades;
 - Prepare channel fill areas by harvesting existing vegetation;
 - Stockpile and water harvested vegetation until it can be placed;
 - Excavation and transport material to fill areas;

- Procure and import fill to project site to meet the overall fill demand;
- Complete rough grading and fine grading;
- Achieve proper compaction and moisture conditioning for fill
- Salvage additional sod from areas identified by the Engineer's Representative;
- Grade Control Riffle: Furnish all labor and materials to construct downstream grade control structures per the 65% Design Plans;
- Debris Jams: Furnish all labor and materials to construct debris jams per the 65% Design Plans;
- Soil Amendments: Incorporate soil amendments into the upper 6 to 12 inches of all Type C fill areas; soil amendments will be provided by TRWC;
- Erosion Control Fabric: Install erosion control fabric on 50% of the Type C fill areas at locations directed by the Engineer or Engineer's representative;
- Reed Canary Grass Treatment:
 - Provide and follow a Pest Control Advisor's recommendation plan for the chemical treatment of Reed Canary Grass (*Phalaris arundinacea*)
 - Complete pre-construction mechanical treatment of Reed Canary Grass;
- Seeding: place seed at all locations within the grading limits that have not received salvaged vegetation from on site. TRWC will provide the seeds.
- Warranty: For two years following the completion of work, the work shall show no evidence of erosion such as rilling, gullying, or headcutting.

Refer to Attachment 1 for construction detail, typicals of project features, materials requirements, staging, access, etc.

Fill material requirements. The project will require a significant amount of imported fill, provided by the contractor. Total fill required for the project is approximately 40,000 cubic yards. It is estimated that approximately 10,000 cubic yards will be generated on-site through railroad- and road-grade removal, and floodplain creation. The remaining fill (approximately 30,000 cubic yards) will be provided by the contractor and must be approved by the Project Engineer. Fill shall be from a contaminant free source. See Attachment 1 for fill requirements.

Reed Canary Grass Control. Reed Canary Grass (*Phalaris arundinacea*) is present within and upstream of the project area. Both chemical and manual treatments will be required. Chemical treatment will follow a recommended treatment plan prepared by a Pest Control Advisor (PCA). The Contractor will work directly with the PCA and provide the plan to TRWC. Mechanical treatment will include hand pulling, and covering patches of Reed Canary Grass with plastic sheeting in areas that will not be disturbed by construction. The mechanical control plan will be developed in partnership with TRWC.

Dewatering Plan. While it is anticipated that the stream channel will be dry during construction, localized groundwater will likely be encountered. The contractor will be responsible for submitting a detailed dewatering plan 30 days prior to construction for approval by the Engineer's Representative that will ensure that erosion or downstream water quality impacts do not occur. Dewatering will likely involve pumping ponded water to stable upland locations, and/or use of ponded water for dust control or compaction. More specifically, the anticipated dewatering needs are summarized as follows:

- The Upper Meadow Channels and Upper Davies Creek (Sheets 3.05, 3.06, 3.14, 3.15) are spring-fed, and anticipated to have flow rates of 2 cfs or less, diminishing during the construction period.
- The Relict Channel (Sheets 3.03, 3.04) and Historical Ditch (Sheets 3.00, 3.01) are anticipated to be dry during construction.
- Lower Davies Creek (Sheets 3.07, 3.09, 3.10, 3.11, and 3.12) is anticipated to have very low flow during the construction period, but water is likely to be ponded in intermittent pools at depths up to 5 feet.

Permits and Environmental Compliance. The Project is covered by a number of regulatory permits and environmental compliance documents. These include:

- CEQA Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Sardine Meadow Restoration Project and CEQA Amendment;
- USACE Section 404 nationwide permit;
- California Dept. of Fish and Wildlife Section 1602 Streambed Alteration Agreement;
- State Water Resources Control Board NPDES Construction General Permit;
- Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan for the Sardine Meadow Restoration Project;
- Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board Section 401 Water Quality Certification; and
- Sierra County Grading Permit

TRWC will make these documents available to the selected contractor.

Construction Oversight. Work will be observed by the Engineer or Engineer’s Representative as described in Attachment 1. All parts of this project, including soil preparation, earthwork, and planting, are subject to field design or refinement by the Engineer or Engineer’s Representative, according to field conditions. The Engineer’s Representative will mark the grading limits of channel fill, provide staking for the grade control riffles and wood debris jams, and will provide guidance on finished grade elevations.

Expected Project Schedule.

Task	Date
On-line pre-bid meeting (mandatory)	May 6, 2020
Deadline for requests for additional information	May 13, 2020
Bids due	May 27, 2020
Interviews	June 1 - 3, 2020
Contract award	June 5, 2020
Construction start (estimated)	July 1, 2020
Instream work completed	October 1, 2020
Construction completion	October 15, 2020

B. WORK REQUIREMENTS

Work Schedule. The Work Schedule will be established between Contractor and TRWC. In either case, the work is expected to continue until the project is completed. No overtime charges will be accommodated.

Permits and Environmental Compliance. The Contractor shall be responsible for complying with the requirements of and maintaining on-site copies of all project permits and compliance documents during construction.

Staging and Access. Equipment/site access will be limited to routes designated in Attachment 1. All equipment staging and stockpiling will take place in designated areas. At least 30 days prior to mobilization, the Contractor shall submit a Staging and Access plan that includes the following details:

- Any proposed deviations from the access route alignments and staging area configuration from what is shown in Attachment 1;
- Fuel and chemical storage areas;
- Materials/equipment staging areas; and
- Employee parking areas.

Equipment. Contractor must provide equipment in excellent operating condition. No leaks of any size will be allowed. Contractor will be required to secure replacement equipment if any equipment is inoperable for two (2) days or longer. Failure to perform these requirements is grounds for contract termination.

All equipment will be pressure washed prior to mobilizing to the site to remove any vegetative matter, soil, or other organic matter to prevent the spread of noxious weeds. Any equipment that leaves the site must

be cleaned again before re-entry.

Contractor will be required to provide all fuel, servicing and repairs to maintain equipment in operating condition. The Contractor shall fuel equipment at staging areas shown on Attachment 1. When fueling must be done at a construction area, the Contractor shall design a site(s) and obtain approval in writing from the Engineer before using. All fueling, servicing, and repairs will be done in designated fueling areas at a minimum of 50 feet from any water surface or drainage area to prevent accidental petroleum discharge in riparian and other sensitive areas. Refer to Attachment 1 for additional details on access, staging, and stockpiling.

Water quality concerns require that all equipment be free of all operating fluid leaks. The Contractor will be required to follow spill prevention procedures as outlined in the SWPPP (to be provided), and is required to have the appropriate materials on-site to clean up any spills that may occur.

Spark arresters will be required on equipment for fire prevention. The landowner requires that Contractor will follow US Forest Service Activity Level restrictions as related to fire.

Personnel. No change in personnel will occur without written agreement between the Contractor and TRWC. TRWC reserves the right to have Contractor replace a non-performing operator.

Materials. All materials to be used in the project must meet the specifications stated in the specifications included in Attachment 1. TRWC will provide seeds and soil amendments to the Contractor. The Engineer's Representative will approve all Contractor-provided materials prior to installation.

C. PRE-BID MEETING AND SUBMISSION

A **mandatory** pre-bid meeting will be held on-line May 6, 2020. Pre-registration for the pre-bid is required. E-mail Beth Christman at bchristman@truckeeriverwc.org for registration. Attendance at the pre-bid meeting is a prerequisite for submitting a bid.

Bids must be received by 5:00 P.M. on May 27, 2020. Bids must be submitted electronically in .pdf format, all materials must be contained in a single file. Send bids to:
bchristman@truckeeriverwc.org

D. REQUESTS FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

All requests for additional information or clarifications after the pre-bid meeting shall be submitted via e-mail to Beth Christman at bchristman@truckeeriverwc.org by 5 PM May 13, 2020. Responses will be sent via e-mail to all potential bidders that participated in the pre-bid meeting, posted at www.truckeeriverwc.org in the "News" section, and emailed in our weekly E-Currents newsletter.

E. BID PACKAGE AND EVALUATION

In the Bid Package, the Contractor shall document the following qualifying experience:

1. The Contractor shall have completed a minimum of three wetland and stream restoration projects as the prime contractor in the past ten years. Example projects must demonstrate experience working in sensitive wetland areas, natural channel restoration, floodplain restoration, dewatering system implementation, grade control construction, and revegetation.
2. The Contractor shall have experience with projects involving large amounts of earth moving.
3. The Contractor's superintendent or foreman assigned to this project shall have at least three years' experience supervising wetland and stream restoration projects which included significant earthwork, site stabilization, and stream diversion.

4. State of California Class A General Engineering Contractor's license, Class C-27 Landscaping Contractor's license, California Department of Pesticide Regulation - Qualified Applicator License and Pest Control Business License, and Sierra County Registered Pest Control Business License. All licenses must be in good standing.
5. Work experience – minimum three (3) example projects showing montane (>4000 feet elevation) meadow, floodplain, or riparian restoration work including native revegetation in the past 10 years. Submit a minimum of five (5) representative photographs showing operations for each project, including earthwork, revegetation/site stabilization, and stream diversion.
6. The Contractor shall have demonstrable experience implementing restoration projects within budget that were subject to field fit and design modifications during implementation.

Bid Completeness. All sections of this bid package are important and must be addressed. Bids must be submitted for the entirety of the work as described in this RFB and its attachments.

Bid Evaluation. Bids will be evaluated on the basis of cost, project experience, past performance, qualifications of proposed equipment operators, integrity and capability of bidders, and probable level of service and convenience to TRWC. TRWC will conduct interviews with select Contractor(s) or teams based on their evaluation of bids.

If in the sole opinion of the TRWC, the Contractor does not meet the required qualifications the bid will be non-responsive.

TRWC reserves the right to retain all bids for a period of 60 days for examination and comparison, and to delete any portion of work from the contract. TRWC reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

F. BID FORMAT

Bids should include the following:

- ◆ Scope of work and approach. Outline the proposed technical approach to project activities including work sequencing and equipment. The approach should include discussion of all major project components including but not limited to Best Management Practices, stream diversion/dewatering, earthwork, instream work and structures, revegetation/site stabilization, and invasive weed control.
- ◆ Proposed project schedule
- ◆ Cost Estimate prepared on attached Bid Sheet (Attachment 3)
- ◆ Rate sheet
- ◆ List of relevant project experience, with photographs and contact information for references
- ◆ List of current certifications of staff assigned to project (e.g. Class A Contractor's license)
- ◆ Experience of project manager, superintendent, foreman, and operators assigned to project
- ◆ Exact specifications of equipment to be used
- ◆ If you have completed work or submitted proposals to work with TRWC before, please list the most recent project or proposal.

Bids should be no longer than 40 pages, including all attachments.

No overhead or administration costs are allowed.

Amendments. Once a contract has been executed, no changes to the agreed upon scope of work shall occur without written agreement between the Contractor and TRWC.

G. PAYMENT TERMS

Funding sources for this project allow invoices to be submitted once every 90 days (March 25, June 25, September 25, and December 15) for work completed. It is expected that payment can be made within 120 days of invoice(s) submittal; however payment will only be made to the Contractor once TRWC has received payment from the project funders. All efforts will be made by TRWC to expedite payment; however no interest will be paid on overdue payments.

H. CONTRACT REQUIREMENTS

Bonding. Contractor must furnish a performance bond in favor of TRWC in the following amounts: faithful performance (100%) of contract value; labor and materials (100%) of contract value for any contract over \$25,000 (Civ. Code, § 3247 et seq.; Pub. Contract Code, § 7103).

Insurance. Contractor must provide insurance certificates covering \$2 Million per Each Occurrence and no less than \$4 Million Aggregate showing the Truckee River Watershed Council, the Trust for Public Land, and the private landowner, as well as their principals, directors, employees, mortgagees, agents, representatives, successors, and assigns as special endorsements to be added to the insurance policy.

Indemnification. TRWC and Contractor agree they shall attempt to settle any dispute arising out of this contract, to include allegations of professional negligence, through communication and negotiation in the spirit of mutual friendship and cooperation. If the dispute cannot be resolved in this manner, Contractor, at its expense, shall indemnify, hold harmless, and when requested by TRWC to do so, defend TRWC, its officers, agents, and employees from any and all claims, demands or charges and from any loss or liability, including attorney's fees and expenses of litigation, resulting from negligence or carelessness on the part of the Contractor, its employees, or agents in the execution of the work or delivery of materials and supplies, by or on account of any act or omission of the Contractor, its employees or agents, including damage or destruction of any property or properties arising from, caused by or connected with the performance of work by Contractor, its agents, subcontractors and employees, and any failure to fulfill the terms of any laws or regulations which apply to the contract.

Prevailing Wage. California prevailing wage is required as established by the California Department of Industrial relations (<http://www.dir.ca.gov/public-works/prevailing-wage.html>). Where applicable, rates for Sierra County will apply.

Qualifications. Contractor must possess a valid California Class A General Engineering Contractor's license and Class C-27 Landscaping Contractor's license.

TRWC cannot contract with any party who is debarred or suspended or otherwise excluded from or ineligible for participation in federal assistance programs under Executive Order 12549, "Debarment and Suspension"; or any individual or organization on USEPA's List of Violating Facilities. (40 CFR, Part 31.35, Gov. Code, §4477) Subcontractors are also subject to this provision.

Audit. Auditors of the State of California will have the right to examine the records of the Contractor relative to the goods, services, equipment, materials, supplies, or other assistance provided to TRWC for the Project for a period of four years after project completion.

I. ATTACHMENTS

- Attachment 1. [Sardine Meadow Restoration Project, 65% Design Plan](#)
- Attachment 2. [Design Basis Memo, Sardine Meadow Restoration](#)
- Attachment 3. [Bid Sheet](#)
- Attachment 4. [Sample Contract](#)