

## Request for Bid

### Lower Lacey Meadow Restoration Project

The Truckee River Watershed Council is seeking a construction bid for the Lower Lacey Meadow Restoration Project

#### **Lead: Truckee River Watershed Council**

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In 2023 and 2024, 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 prevents 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). The project partners are the Truckee Donner Land Trust (TDLT) and the U.S. Forest Service – Tahoe National Forest (USFS).

**Purpose.** The purpose of the Lower Lacey Meadow restoration project is to restore and enhance a 400-acre meadow and re-engage up to one mile of high flow stream channels. The project entails construction of log jams, willow structures, pilot channel excavation, minor road work, and revegetation. Project work will take place starting August 15<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

**Location.** The project takes place primarily on land owned by the Truckee Donner Land Trust, with some project elements located on U.S. Forest Service – Tahoe National Forest lands. The project is located in Sierra County. Access to Lower Lacey Meadow is via the Lacey Valley trailhead at Webber Lake. The site is accessible to the public via foot. The site is not accessible during winter months.

**Project Overview.** The project was identified for restoration through the Lacey Meadows Assessment (Att. 4). The assessment examined watershed processes, alterations to natural functions, and identified several restoration and protection opportunities to address degradation. Within Lower Lacey Meadow, evidence of impaired function included stream channel incision, wet to dry meadow conversion, lodgepole encroachment, and loss of willow habitat.

Restoration of the adjacent Upper Lacey Meadow was completed in 2023.

The project goal is to restore and enhance 400 meadow, riparian, and stream acres. The goal will be achieved through the following objectives:

- Restore natural hydrologic function across 400 acres
- Restore 238 acres of wet meadow vegetation
- Enhance and maintain 80 acres of wet meadow vegetation
- Increase avian diversity
- Improve habitat for willow flycatcher
- Improve habitat for native pollinators
- Increase carbon uptake, and
- Increase climate resilience

**Schedule.** Construction is scheduled to start August 15, 2024 and be completed by October 1, 2024.

**Work.** Attachment 2 contains the 100% project design. The Design Basis Memo is included as Attachment 3.

Implementation actions generally include:

- Install and maintain Best Management Practices (including meadow mats)
- Establish access roads
- Salvage and stockpile any vegetation from grading areas
- Generate trees for debris jam construction (typically with rootwads)
- Construct debris jams (Types 1 – 5)
- Excavate pilot channels
- Complete road maintenance (water bars and fill placement)
- Site revegetation and stabilization
- Decommission access routes,
- Install localized dewatering/diversion system.

Most materials (logs, willows, fill material) will be generated on site. Some materials will be provided by the contractor including erosion control blanket, native seeds, and aggregate for road surfacing as described in Attachment 2. The contractor may elect to use non-pressure treated pre-made fence posts

for construction of “Type 5” debris jams or may use lodgepole posts harvested and cut on-site.

Refer to Attachment 2 for construction details, typicals of project features, staging, access, etc.

Stream diversion/dewatering. It is anticipated that flows up to 2 cfs will be present in the main branch of Lacey Creek during construction. Diversions will be needed to construct in-stream structures. Other tributaries are likely to be dry during construction.

The contractor shall provide a Dewatering and Diversion Plan (DDP) three weeks prior to construction when site conditions are known. The DDP shall include descriptions of the installation and decommissioning sequences of the diversion system components, how accumulated water in the work areas (groundwater seepage, stormwater or leakage through diversion structures) will be accommodated, energy dissipation and sediment control structure at the diversion discharge point, and consideration of potential backwater effects upstream of the diversion and upstream of the discharge point. All water must be pumped around active work areas and returned to Lacey Creek downstream of the active work area.

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

- CEQA Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration for Lacey Meadows Restoration Project
- NEPA Categorical Exclusion for Lacey Meadows Restoration Project
- USACE Section 404 Nationwide permit
- Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board Section 401 Water Quality Certification
- State Water Resources Control Board NPDES Construction General Permit
- California Dept. of Fish and Wildlife Section 1602 Streambed Alteration Agreement, and
- Sierra County Grading Permit.

Permits and NEPA/CEQA documentation are included as Attachment 6 of this bid package.

**Construction Oversight.** Work will be observed by the Engineer or Engineer’s Representative as described in Attachment 2. All parts of this project, including site preparation, earthwork, structure construction, and revegetation are subject to field design or refinement by the Engineer or Engineer’s Representative, according to field conditions.

### Expected Project Schedule

Task	Date
Mandatory pre-bid tour	October 27, 2023
Deadline for requests for additional information	November 20, 2023
Bids due	December 21, 2023
Interviews	January 10, 2024
Contract award	January 17, 2024
Estimated earliest construction start	August 15, 2024
Construction completion (latest date)	October 1, 2024

## B. WORK REQUIREMENTS

**Work Schedule.** The Work Schedule will be established between Contractor and TRWC. 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.** Staging and access will be discussed at the pre-bid tour.

**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 areas designated by the Engineer or Engineer's Representative. When fueling must be done at a construction area, the Contractor shall designate a site(s) and obtain approval from the Engineer. 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.

Water quality concerns require that all equipment be free of all operating fluid leaks. The Contractor will be required to submit a spill prevention plan prior to mobilization and is required to have the appropriate materials on-site to clean up any spills that may occur.

**Fire Plan.** Contractor will be required to prepare and follow a Fire Plan that is consistent with the requirements contained within the U.S. Forest Service Fire Plan for Service Contracts and Special Use permit holders. Contractor shall comply with U.S. Forest Service Project Activity Levels (PALs).

**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.** Contractor shall provide erosion control materials/BMPs (including meadow mats), seeds, aggregate for road surfacing, and (if desired) posts for Type 5 debris jams. No monofilament temporary wattles are allowed on the project area. It is anticipated that other materials necessary to complete the work will be generated on-site (trees, fill, willows, mulch, etc.).

**Construction water.** Sources for construction water will be discussed at the pre-bid meeting (Section C, below).

## **C. PRE-BID TOUR AND SUBMISSION**

A mandatory pre-bid tour will be held on Friday, October 27<sup>th</sup>. The pre-bid is scheduled to take place in the field, however if weather conditions are inclement, the tour will transition to an on-line meeting. We will publish the location for the pre-bid tour on our website, in our electronic newsletter, and send it to our consultant e-mail list on Wednesday October 25<sup>th</sup>. Additionally, you can RSVP to [bchristman@truckeeriverwc.org](mailto:bchristman@truckeeriverwc.org) to receive updates.

The pre-bid tour will take place from 9 AM – Noon. The meeting location is shown on the map in Attachment 1. To find the meeting location, turn left towards Webber Lake from Jackson Meadows Road, and follow the signs towards the Lacey Valley Trailhead. You will come to a locked gate. Meet here and we will caravan through the gate to the trailhead. The gate will be locked behind the group, so do not be late!

In the event the pre-bid shifts to an on-line meeting, information for obtaining the log-in will be included in the communications on October 25<sup>th</sup>.

**Bids must be received by 5:00 P.M. on Thursday, December 21<sup>st</sup>. Bids must be submitted**

electronically in .pdf format, all materials must be contained in a single file. Send bids to: [bchristman@truckeeriverwc.org](mailto:bchristman@truckeeriverwc.org)

#### **D. REQUESTS FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

Requests for additional information or clarifications shall be submitted via e-mail to Beth Christman at [bchristman@truckeeriverwc.org](mailto:bchristman@truckeeriverwc.org) by 5 PM on Thursday, November 16<sup>th</sup>.

Responses will be sent via e-mail to all participants in the pre-bid meeting and posted on the TRWC website.

#### **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 prime contractor in the past ten years. Example projects must demonstrate working in sensitive wetland areas, natural channel restoration, floodplain restoration, construction of debris jams (or similar structures), dewatering/diversion, and revegetation.
2. The Contractor's superintendent or foreman assigned to this project shall have at least three years' experience supervising restoration projects which included channel restoration, revegetation, and dewatering.
3. State of California Class A General Engineering Contractor's license in good standing.
4. Work experience - minimum three (3) example projects showing montane (>4000 feet elevation) meadow, floodplain, or riparian restoration work in the past 10 years. Submit a minimum of three (3) representative photographs showing operations for each project, including earthwork, revegetation, and site stabilization.
5. 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 may conduct interviews with 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 deemed 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 must be prepared using the attached bid sheet.

No overhead or administration costs are allowed.

Bid packages 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, earthwork, dewatering, revegetation/site stabilization, and invasive weed control.

- ◆ Proposed project schedule.
- ◆ Cost Estimate prepared on attached Bid Sheet; include fuel cost used in bid.
- ◆ Rate sheet.
- ◆ List of relevant project experience, with 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.

**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.

**Fuel contingency.** Fuel costs used in bid shall be included on the bid sheet. One month prior to mobilization, TRWC and Contractor shall revisit fuel costs to evaluate the need for a fuel cost contingency (increase or decrease).

## **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, Truckee Donner Land Trust, and the US Forest Service, 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.

**Audit.** Contractor shall maintain, and TRWC shall have access to, all records connected with this contract for three years from contract completion date in the event an audit is required.

**Non-Discrimination.** During the performance of this Agreement, Contractor shall not unlawfully discriminate, harass, or allow harassment against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, religion, color, national origin, ancestry, physical disability (including HIV and AIDS), mental disability, medical condition, marital status, age (over 40), sex, sexual orientation, or use of family-care leave, medical-care leave, or pregnancy-disability leave. Contractor shall take affirmative action to ensure that the evaluation and treatment of its employees and applicants for employment are free of such discrimination and harassment. Such action shall include, but not be limited to, the following: employment, upgrading, demotion or transfer; recruitment or recruitment advertising; layoff or termination; rates of pay or other forms of compensation; and selection for training, including apprenticeship. Contractor shall comply with the provisions of the Fair Employment and Housing Act (Government Code Section 12900 (a-f) *et seq.*), and applicable regulations (California Code of Regulations, Title 2, Section 7285 *et seq.*). The regulations of the Fair Employment and Housing Commission regarding Contractor Nondiscrimination and Compliance (Chapter 5 of Division 4 of Title 2 of the California Code of Regulations) are incorporated by reference into this Agreement. Contractor shall give written notice of its obligations under this non-discrimination clause to labor organizations with which Contractor has a collective bargaining or other agreement, and shall post in conspicuous places available to employees and applicants for employment, notice setting forth the provisions of this section.

## **I. ATTACHMENTS**

### [Attachment 1 – Figures](#)

1. Vicinity Map
2. Pre-bid tour meeting location

### [Attachment 2 – Lower Lacey Meadow Restoration Design](#)

### [Attachment 3 – Lacey Meadows Design Basis Report](#)

### [Attachment 4 – Lacey Meadows Watershed Assessment](#)

### [Attachment 5 – Bid Sheet](#)

### [Attachment 6 – Project permits and CEQA/NEPA documentation](#)

- 401 Water Quality Certification and CEQA documentation
- Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan
- 1600 Streambed Alteration Agreement
- Nationwide 27 Authorization
- NEPA Documentation