

Request for Bid

Donner Creek Restoration Project

The Truckee River Watershed Council is seeking construction bids for the Donner Creek Restoration Project

Lead: Truckee River Watershed Council

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Partners: California Department of Transportation, Newport Pacific/Cirus Development, Sierra Joint Community College District, Truckee Donner Land Trust, Truckee Tahoe Unified School District, and the Truckee Donner Public Utility District

RELEASE DATE: **January 19, 2024**

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.

In 2024, TRWC will be releasing 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 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 set 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 the Truckee River Watershed Council (TRWC). The project partners are the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), Newport Pacific/Cirus Development, Sierra Joint Community College District, Truckee Donner Land Trust, Truckee Tahoe Unified School District and the Truckee Donner Public Utility District (TDPUD).

Purpose. The purpose of the Donner Creek Restoration (Project) is to complete bank stabilization and restore and enhance up to ten acres at four sites along Donner Creek, a heavily degraded system impacted by urban development in Truckee, CA. The Project will stabilize eroding streambanks, reduce excess sedimentation, enhance degraded wetlands, enhance riparian and in-stream habitat, and treat pollutant loading from urban runoff. The Project is designed to promote ecosystem recovery and increase resilience against climate change. Construction is estimated to start July 1, 2024.

Location. The Project is located within the Town of Truckee in Nevada County, CA. Site 1 is located at the Donner Creek Mobile Home Park on land owned by Newport Pacific/Cirus Development. Sites 2-4 are located within the Caltrans Right of Way along State Route 89 and Interstate 80. See Attachment 1 for regional and project location maps and site photos.

Project Overview. Donner Creek has been heavily modified over the past 150 years – for grazing in the early-1800s; construction of the Central Pacific Railroad, roads and highways since the mid-1800s; and residential and commercial development since the mid-1900s. The formerly meandering, highly sinuous Donner Creek was realigned and straightened, impacting the hydrology, physical processes, water quality and habitat.

Today the Middle Truckee River watershed, including Donner Creek, is listed as impaired by sediment by the Clean Water Act and the U.S. EPA. A TMDL was adopted by the Lahontan Water Quality Control Board in 2008. Monitoring completed by TRWC concludes that Donner Creek contains three of the top sediment discharging sites within the Town of Truckee to the Truckee River (Middle Truckee River TMDL Suspended Sediment Monitoring Report WY 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, Attachment 7). The Donner Basin Watershed Assessment completed by TRWC in 2016 analyzed the above factors and identified the four Project sites as top priority restoration for sediment reduction and habitat preservation (Attachment 6).

Site 1 – Located approximately 1/4 mile above the confluence with the Truckee River. Immediately downstream of a railroad culvert, the right bank of Donner Creek is severely eroded, caused by the railroad culvert directing high velocity flows at the bank. Riparian habitat on the right bank and instream habitat are limited, and this eroding streambank and hillside potentially threaten the Donner Creek Mobile Homes.

Site 2 – Located approximately 1/2 mile above the confluence with the Truckee River, between CA-89 to the west and utility easements to the east. It is a heavily modified reach of the creek that includes several artificial 90-degree bends in the creek, culverts to accommodate legacy uses, road construction, and urbanization. The resulting shear forces on the west bank accelerate bank erosion, threaten the stability of CA-89, cause significant sediment loading, and limit riparian habitat.

Site 3 – Located between the Truckee Tahoe Unified School District (TTUSD) and I-80 westbound. Although it is hydrologically connected to Donner Creek with adequate riparian vegetation, the construction of I-80 in the 1960s cut off natural surface flows. Today this wetland complex relies on spring seepage and stormwater runoff from commercial development and I-80. The discharge then flows through culverts under I-80 into Donner Creek.

Site 4 – Located within 1 mile of the confluence with the Truckee River between I-80 eastbound and residential and commercial areas. This reach is artificially straightened, highly channelized, with limited substrate and habitat diversity, and experiences ongoing erosion.

The goals of the Project are to improve water quality in Donner Creek and the Truckee River by reducing fine sediment loading during high flow events and pollutant loading from urban runoff, improve instream and riparian habitat, and protect existing infrastructure.

Schedule. Construction is scheduled to begin July 1, 2024 and be completed by October 1, 2024. Sites 1, 2 and 4 construction shall be conducted only after flow rates in Donner Creek at USGS Gage Station 10338700 drop below 100 cfs (https://waterdata.usgs.gov/nwis/uv/?Site_no=10338700). By July 1, flows are typically below 30 cfs. Sites 2 and 3 construction shall be completed before August 16, 2024.

Work. The Restoration Design for Site 1 is included in Attachment 2 and the Design Guidance Letter is included in Attachment 3. The Restoration Design for Sites 2-4 (updated January 2024) is included in Attachment 4 and the Design Guidance Letter is included in Attachment 5.

Work generally includes:

- 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 needed to complete the work; upon completion of project, decommission temporary construction access routes and staging areas, remove all equipment, supplies, temporary facilities, and excess construction materials;
- Creek Diversion and Dewatering: furnish all equipment and labor to implement the dewatering plan;
- Materials salvage/import: Salvage onsite boulders and logs or import from local sources.
- Vegetation salvage: All viable willow, sod and topsoil from areas to be excavated or graded will be removed, temporarily stockpiled, watered as directed, and replanted as soon as possible;
- Excavation, grading and bank repair: Reprofile banks, activate secondary channels, and expand floodplain;
- Biotechnical treatments: Install logs and rock to construct revetments, bendway weirs, and other biotechnical solutions;
- Stormwater enhancement: replace or install sand/oil separator, drainage outlets, and grass-lined swales;
- Site revegetation and stabilization: plant container plants, replant salvaged vegetation and reapply salvaged soil, install willow poles, apply seed mixes, wood mulch and hydroseed, and install erosion control blanket;
- Warranty: For 2 years following the completion of work, warranty no occurrence or evidence of rill or sheet erosion, 80% survival of willow poles, and 80% survival of container plants.

Site 1 – Re-profile the bank and stabilize the area with a combination of large wood, rock, erosion control fabric, revegetation with native plants and seed. This will stabilize a severely eroding stream bank, largely eliminating one of the largest sources of fine sediment to the downstream end of Donner Creek, enhance riparian and in-stream habitat, and protect the infrastructure and homes of the Donner Creek Mobile Homes.

Site 2 – Re-profile the stream channel, laying back and stabilizing an eroding bank, installing boulder bendway weirs to redirect flows towards the channel center, and removing accumulated gravel and debris to reestablish a secondary channel. This will reduce the fine sediment loading from the existing bank erosion on the right bank, enhance riparian and instream habitat quality and substrate diversity, and restore natural physical processes.

Site 3 – Grade the existing wetland complex and revegetate with riparian plantings to access shallow groundwater and expand and enhance wet meadow, emergent marsh, and riparian habitat. This will increase storage capacity by 4.3 acre-feet and increase pollutant trapping to improve water quality and habitat diversity. Additional water quality improvements will be achieved through construction of a grass-

lined swale with rock check dams to treat highway runoff prior to discharge to the wetland complex.

Site 4 – Re-contour the channel in select locations to enhance floodplain function and reduce ongoing erosion, use rootwad bendway weirs to encourage sediment deposition and channel complexity, and construct linear vegetated swales to reduce pollutant loading from the highway. This will reduce hydrologic impacts, improve water quality, and reduce fine sediment loading.

Refer to Attachments 2 and 4 for construction details, typical of project features, staging, access, etc.

Creek diversion/dewatering. Diversions and dewatering will be needed to complete work. Construction activity will take place between July and September when base flows will be at their lowest. It is anticipated that flows up to 30 cfs will be present in Donner Creek during construction.

The contractor shall submit a detailed Dewatering and Diversion Plan (DDP) for review and approval by the Engineer's Representative at least four weeks prior to construction. 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 Donner Creek downstream of the active work area.

If flows are higher than 40 cfs 2 weeks prior to mobilization, TRWC and Contractor shall evaluate the need to revise DDP costs and construction schedule.

California Conservation Corps. The California Conservation Corps (CCC) or California Association of Local Conservation Corps (CALCC) may complete some of the revegetation activities included in Attachments 2 and 4. Specifically, the CCC/CALCC may apply upland seed mix at Sites 1, 2 and 4.

Construction Oversight. Work will be observed by the Engineer, Engineer's Representative or Restoration Specialist as described in Attachments 2 and 4. 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
Deadline for requests for additional information	February 2, 2024
Bids due	February 14, 2024
Interviews	February 22, 2024
Contract award	February 29, 2024
Estimated construction start	July 1, 2024
Construction completion	October 1, 2024
Warranty period completion	October 31, 2026

B. WORK REQUIREMENTS

Work Schedule. The Work Schedule will be established between Contractor and TRWC, but is expected to be 8 hrs/day, 5 days/week. 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 Project is covered by a number of regulatory permits and environmental compliance documents. These include:

- CEQA Categorical Exemption for Small Habitat Restoration Projects;

- USACE Section 404 Nationwide permit;
- Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board Section 401 Water Quality Certification Order For Small Habitat Restoration Projects;
- State Water Resources Control Board NPDES Construction General Permit;
- California Dept. of Fish and Wildlife Section 1653 Habitat Restoration and Enhancement Act Approval;
- Town of Truckee Grading Permit; and
- California Department of Transportation Encroachment Permit.

Permits will be made available to the selected contractor. 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 limited to areas shown on the Design Plans (Attachment 2 and 4). Any proposed deviations must be approved by TRWC. 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;
- Fuel and chemical storage areas;
- Materials/equipment staging areas; and
- Employee parking areas.

Traffic Control. Portions of work will be within the Right of Way of the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) and require an Encroachment Permit. TRWC will obtain the "Parent Permit" and the contractor is responsible for the "Double-Permit". The Contractor shall be responsible for compliance with the Caltrans Encroachment Permit, including all traffic control requirements and submittals necessary. The contractor shall submit a detailed Traffic Control Plan for review and approval by the Engineer's Representative at least four weeks prior to construction.

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 project 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 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.

Spark arresters will be required on equipment for fire prevention.

Fire Plan. Contractor will be required to prepare and follow a fire plan that meets TRWC requirements. U.S. Forest Service Project Activity Levels (PALs) will be utilized as a reference for this project site, and Contractor shall comply with all potential conditions and restrictions.

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. TRWC will provide 50 trees with rootwads for use in the project sites. Contractor is responsible for transporting trees with rootwads from Coldstream Canyon to the Project Sites. See Attachment 9 for rootwad location. All other materials necessary to complete the work will be provided by the contractor (erosion control materials/BMPs, container plants, seeds, etc.) or derived on-site (boulders, willows, mulch, etc.). All materials to be used in the project must meet the specifications stated in the Design Plans (Attachment 2 and 4). The Engineer's Representative will approve all Contractor-provided materials prior to installation.

D. REQUESTS FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Requests for additional information or clarifications shall be submitted via e-mail to Michele Prestowitz at mprestowitz@truckeeriverwc.org by 5pm on Wednesday, February 2, 2024.

Responses will be posted on TRWC's website as an addendum.

E. BID SUBMISSION AND FORMAT

Bids must be received by 5PM on Wednesday February 14, 2024. Bids must be submitted electronically with the attached Bid Sheet in .xls format and all other materials contained in a single file in .pdf format. Send bids to: mprestowitz@truckeeriverwc.org.

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, creek diversion/dewatering, biotechnical bank treatment, revegetation/site stabilization, and invasive weed control.
- Proposed project schedule
- Cost prepared on attached Bid Sheet, including fuel cost used in bid (Attachment 8)
- Rate sheet
- List of a minimum of three relevant creek or wetland restoration projects, 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

No overhead or administration costs are allowed.

Bids packages are limited to 40 pages, including all attachments.

F. 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 creek and wetland restoration projects as prime contractor in the past ten years. Example projects must demonstrate working in sensitive wetland environments, natural channel restoration, biotechnical bank treatment, implementation of diversion/dewatering systems, and revegetation. Submit representative photographs showing operations for each project, including earthwork, revegetation, and site

stabilization.

2. The Contractor's superintendent or foreman assigned to this project shall have at least three years' experience supervising creek and wetland restoration projects including working in sensitive areas, biotechnical bank treatment, site stabilization/revegetation, and creek diversion/dewatering.
3. State of California Class A General Engineering Contractor's license and Class C-27 Landscaping Contractor's license, both in good standing
4. 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 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 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.

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

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.

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, California Department of Transportation, Newport Pacific/Cirus Development, Sierra Joint Community College District, Truckee Donner Land Trust, Truckee Tahoe Unified School District and the Truckee Donner Public Utility District, 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 Nevada County will apply.

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

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 three years after project completion.

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 and Photos](#)

Attachment 2. [Site 1 Design](#)

Attachment 3. [Site 1 Design Guidance Letter](#)

Attachment 4. [Site 2-4 Design](#)

Attachment 5. [Site 2-4 Guidance Letter](#)

Attachment 6. [Donner Basin Assessment](#)

Attachment 7. [Middle Truckee River TMDL Suspended Sediment Monitoring Report WY 2014](#)

Attachment 8. [Bid sheet](#)

Attachment 9. [Coldstream Location](#)