



REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS

East Fork Lewis River Reconnection Project Construction Services

Mandatory Site Meeting: 8:00 AM, August 23, 2024

Application Deadline: 10:00 AM, September 18, 2024

INTRODUCTION

The Lower Columbia Estuary Partnership (Estuary Partnership) is soliciting Statements of Qualifications (SOQs) from firms seeking to construct the East Fork Lewis River Reconnection Project (EFLR Reconnection Project). The primary intent of this solicitation is to identify firms that have the capacity and expertise to serve as the prime contractor during implementation of the EFLR Reconnection Project and have a proven track record of successfully implementing projects of similar scale and complexity. The Estuary Partnership will use SOQs submitted to evaluate and pre-qualify approximately four firms to serve as prime contractors and submit bids for the EFLR Reconnection Project. The Estuary Partnership will accept bids only from prime contractors pre-qualified through this Request for Qualifications (RFQ).

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Estuary Partnership partnered with Clark County, the Lower Columbia Fish Recovery Board, and other public and private partners to develop the EFLR Reconnection Project. The purpose of the EFLR Reconnection Project is fourfold: (1) to restore connectivity between the East Fork Lewis River and adjacent floodplain habitats; (2) to improve habitat for salmonids, lamprey, and other native species; (3) to reduce flood and erosion risk; and, (4) to improve recreation opportunities. To accomplish these objectives, the EFLR Reconnection Project would implement the following primary actions:

- Regrade approximately 130 acres of floodplain, including filling eight gravel pits, totaling approximately 391,000 cubic yards of earthwork;
- Reconstruct approximately 12,800 linear feet of the East Fork Lewis River;

- Excavate five new floodplain channels and construct other side channels and habitat areas;
- Isolate and dewater in-water work areas;
- Remove fish from in-water work areas and transfer to designated locations outside of the Site;
- Furnish temporary traffic control, as required;
- Furnish approximately TBD pieces of large wood and transport to the Site;
- Transport approximately 2,744 pieces of large wood provided by Owner to the Site;
- Install approximately 429 wood habitat structures and approximately 7,800 linear feet of willow trenches;
- Fell approximately 2,200 on-site trees and install as salvage wood within wood habitat structures;
- Remove approximately 3,380 linear feet of rip-rap along the East Fork Lewis River;
- Remove 0.3 miles of existing trail (mix of gravel and asphalt surfacing);
- Construct 0.6 miles of new trail (mix of gravel and asphalt surfacing);
- Remove and reinstall existing interpretive/trail features;
- Construct new trail features;
- Remove 3.8 acres of the existing county maintenance yard;
- Construct 3.1-acre new county maintenance yard, including fencing and gravel and asphalt operations areas;
- Remove 3 culverts;
- Install one new culvert (10'x6'x40' concrete box culvert) and one low-water crossing; and,
- Hydroseed disturbed areas.

The following project documents may be downloaded from the Estuary Partnership's website:

<https://www.estuarypartnership.org/rfq>

- Final design plan set, dated August 2024;
- Draft Specifications, dated August 2, 2024;
- Subsurface Investigations Memorandum, dated February 8, 2024;
- Draft bid schedule;
- Project Area Map;
- Annotated drone imagery of the Site; and
- Maps for Mandatory On-Site Visit on August 23, 2024.

Construction must be completed during two seasons: approximately April to October of 2025 and 2026. The EFLR Reconnection Project's estimated construction cost is approximately \$14,000,000. The project is funded by the Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office, Washington Department of Ecology, NOAA Fisheries, and the Washington Department of Transportation and is subject to federal and state contracting rules including but not limited to prevailing wage law and Build America Buy America requirements.

InterFluve, Inc. is the Engineer of Record (Engineer) for the EFLR Reconnection Project. Consor Engineering, Inc. will provide construction management services.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS AND SELECTION PROCESS

The minimum qualifications applicants, which may include a prime contractor and one or more Key Subcontractors, should have for this RFQ are:

- Experience coordinating and leading implementation of at least 5 complex, large-scale construction projects in the last 5 to 10 years;
- Experience with large earthworks projects moving approximately 200,000 cubic yards (CY) or more of soil within one construction season (approximately 4-5 months);
- Experience constructing large wood habitat structures of varying sizes and complexities, including use of a vibratory pile driver and installing wood piles in rocky substrate;
- Experience with work area isolation and dewatering in riverine environments; and,
- Experience working under regulatory requirements governing work in environmentally sensitive sites and areas, including wetlands and streams that support federally listed salmonids.

All applicants must designate and commit one individual to serve as the Project Manager and one individual to serve as the Site Superintendent. The Project Manager and Site Superintendent must be available during all phases of construction and must attend weekly meetings and oversee and document daily progress. The Project Manager will be the point of contact for the Owner’s (Estuary Partnership) Project Representative and must have at least six years of experience working on similar projects.

All applicants must identify individuals or entities (other than suppliers) that will have a direct contract with Contractor or with any other Subcontractor for the performance of any of the following Work: isolation of In-Water Work areas, fish salvage, and installation of Large Wood structures (Key Subcontractors).

The Estuary Partnership and project team will evaluate SOQ submittals using the scoring framework outlined in the following section to identify approximately four firms to pre-qualify as the only prime contractors that will be eligible to submit bids for the EFLR Reconnection Project. The final selection, if any, will be the applicants, which in the opinion of the Estuary Partnership, best meet the qualifications set forth in this RFQ.

HOW SOQs WILL BE SCORED

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

30 Points	Firm’s Qualifications and Experience
	Firm/team’s qualifications and experience working on large-scale earthwork and habitat restoration projects, including; <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mass earthwork requiring sorting and conditioning of materials prior to final placement (including placement in wet environments); 2. Construction of large wood habitat structures of varying sizes and complexities, including structures in rocky substrate; 3. Work area isolation and dewatering in riverine environments;

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. Ability to mobilize significant equipment force necessary to meet high production requirements; 5. Adherence to project schedules and budgets; 6. Collaborative approach with owners, stakeholders, and the public; 7. Track record of successful permit compliance and minimizing environmental disturbances; and, 8. History related to change orders, claims, and litigation.
15 Points	Proposed Approach
	<p>Firm/team's proposed approach to implementing the EFLR Reconnection Project, including, but not limited to, the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Understanding of the site's native materials, work area isolation requirements, and proposed means of filling the gravel ponds and other earthwork that must occur in wet environments; 2. Availability of and commitment to using key staff proposed; 3. Subcontracted work and the coordination of Key Subcontractors (including availability and commitment to using Key Subcontractors for identified tasks); 4. Proposed staging and sequencing of work and any proposed deviations from the sequencing described in project plans and specifications that could accelerate schedule, reduce costs, and/or reduce schedule risk; 5. Committing the specific types and volume of equipment and labor necessary to achieve required earthwork production and large wood installation rates; 6. Approach and ability to plan for, forecast, and implement increased work rates (i.e., accelerate the schedule) should work proceed slower than anticipated; 7. Project documentation including proposed document management software, if applicable; and, 8. Anticipated challenges and proposed solutions.
25 Points	Lead Staff and Key Subcontractors
	Qualifications and experience of the prime contractor's Project Manager, Site Superintendent, and Key Subcontractors.
25 Points	References
	Quality of professional references.
5 Points	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. Also as evidenced by women, persons of color, and veterans proposed as part of the project team.

ANTICIPATED PROCUREMENT SCHEDULE (subject to change)

Phase 1: Pre-qualification

Request for Qualifications (RFQ) Issuance:	August 6, 2024
<u>Mandatory</u> On-site Pre-submittal Meeting:	August 23, 2024 at 8:00 a.m.
RFQ Question Period Closing:	September 5, 2024 at 10:00 a.m.
Final Addenda Issued (if required):	September 11, 2024
RFQ Closing (SOQ Submittal Deadline):	September 18, 2024 at 10:00 a.m.
Notice of Bidder Pre-Qualification:	No later than September 23, 2024

Phase 2: Bid Solicitation (pre-qualified bidders only)

Request for Bids (RFB) Issued:	September 23, 2024
Mandatory On-site Pre-bid Meeting:	September 30, 2024 at 10:30 a.m.
Optional Self-directed Site Tour:	October 4 and 8, 2024 (full site open for bidder access)
Bid Closing:	November 8, 2024 at 11:00 a.m.
Interviews:	November 18 and 19, 2024
Notice of Award:	No later than November 22, 2024

MANDATORY ON-SITE PRE-SUBMITTAL MEETING

A pre-submittal meeting will be held on Friday, August 23, 2024 at 8:00 a.m. at Daybreak Regional Park and Boat Launch in the boat ramp parking lot, which is located south/southwest of where NE Daybreak Road crosses the East Fork Lewis River. Representatives of the Estuary Partnership, design and construction management team, and Clark County will be present to discuss project details. Anyone interested in submitting an SOQ is required to attend, sign in, and participate in the entire meeting, which will include a site tour and will last approximately four to five hours. Attendees should be prepared to access all portions of the site, which will include hiking across fields and wetlands and driving roads that require a 4WD or AWD vehicle. The Estuary Partnership will transmit to all attendees such addenda as the Estuary Partnership considers necessary in response to questions arising at the meeting. Oral statements made during the meeting or at any other time may not be relied upon and will not be binding or legally effective. Submittals from firms who did not attend the pre-submittal meeting, sign in, and participate in the entire meeting/site visit will not be accepted.

QUESTION SUBMITTAL FORMAT AND DEADLINE

Questions must be submitted in writing via e-mail to:

Erica Keeley
Technical Contracts Specialist
ekeeley@estuarypartnership.org

Due by 10:00 AM on September 5, 2024.

The Estuary Partnership will provide a written response (sent via e-mail) to all firms that signed in and attended the entire pre-submittal meeting held at the site on August 23, 2024. The Estuary Partnership will not respond to oral questions or written questions submitted to other Estuary Partnership employees.

SOQ SUBMITTAL FORMAT AND DEADLINE

SOQs must use the attached SOQ Format and be submitted electronically in a single Adobe Acrobat PDF file no longer than 23 pages, and no larger than 10 MB, to:

Erica Keeley
Technical Contracts Specialist
ekeeley@estuarypartnership.org

Due by 10:00 AM on September 18, 2024

Submittals received after this time will not be accepted. The Estuary Partnership will provide an email response confirming receipt when SOQs are received. The Estuary Partnership will not respond to inquiries about the selection status of any submitted SOQs. The Estuary Partnership will notify all applicants once decisions are made.

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.

East Fork Lewis River Reconnection Project

SOQ Submittal Format

A. COMPANY INFORMATION *(Maximum of 1 page)*

Business Name:

Address:

City, State, Zip Code:

Website Address:

Primary Contact Name:

Title:

Email Address:

Telephone Number:

Fax Number:

Business Designation: *(Please identify Corporation, Partnership, Limited Partnership, Limited Liability Company, Limited Liability Partnership, Sole Proprietorship, or Other)*

Principle Place of Business:

State Contractor's License Number: *(Please provide state and 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.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Identify any potential conflict of interest the firm has with the Estuary Partnership, such as would arise when the employee, officer, or agent, any member of his or her immediate family, his or her partner, or an organization which employs or is about to employ any of the parties indicated herein, has a financial or other interest in or a tangible personal benefit from a firm considered for a contract.

AUTHORIZED SIGNATORY

The final proposal must 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

B. QUALIFICATIONS *(Maximum of 7 pages)*

Provide a description 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, Site Superintendent, and Key Subcontractors, commit to the availability of the Project Manager, Site Superintendent, and Key Subcontractors during the 2025 and 2026 construction seasons, provide a description of the firm/team's approach to performing the 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. The description also must list all environmental non-compliance issues in the past five years, including local, state, or federal environmental permit violations/notices of non-compliance, cease and desist orders, environmental land use violations, and/or environmental-related legal challenges.

C. PROJECT APPROACH *(Maximum of 3 pages)*

Provide a description of the firm's/team's proposed approach to implementing the EFLR Reconnection Project. The proposed approach shall include proposed staging and sequencing of work including anticipated challenges and proposed solutions; specific types and volume of equipment and labor that will be used to achieve required earthwork production and large wood installation; approach and ability to plan for, forecast, and implement increased work rates (i.e., accelerate the schedule) should work proceed slower than anticipated; and project documentation including proposed document management software. Additionally, please provide availability and commitment of key staff and Key Subcontractors.

D. RESUMES *(Maximum of 10 pages)*

Attach resumes for the prime contractor's Project Manager, Site Superintendent and bios of up to three Key Subcontractors. Each resume and bio shall be no more than two pages in length.

E. REFERENCES *(Maximum of 2 pages)*

List names, addresses, telephone numbers, and e-mail addresses of references for three projects completed within the past 10 years and one project for each of the Key Subcontractors. 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 (including Key Subcontractors) has performed work for the Estuary Partnership, InterFluve, or Consor in the past 10 years, the applicant must include the Estuary Partnership, InterFluve, or Consor project manager as one of their references.