

Proposal Request

Title: Coastal Forest Expertise for Elliott State Research Forest, Forest Management Plan Development

February 15, 2022

Dear Potential Supplier,

1. OSU College of Forestry is seeking proposals for a contractor(s) with expertise in Coast Range forest silviculture and management to help advise on several key components of a novel forest management plan (FMP) during the developmental phase for the Elliott State Research Forest (ESRF). OSU is currently in the beginning stages of developing the FMP and thus seeking the timely partnership of a contractor(s) to provide local and specialized knowledge in areas such as forest management and operations (including thinnings, variable retention harvests, etc.), logging systems for steep ground, herbicide use, road maintenance, markets for forest products, and silviculture. Contractor(s) may be asked to attend meetings, consult on big-picture ideas, provide advice for on-the-ground execution of plans, and assist with writing of relevant sections, among other duties. We are looking for a contractor(s) who can 1) develop and write portions of an FMP in collaboration with OSU faculty/staff; 2) attend meetings, consult on big-picture ideas, provide advice for on-the-ground execution of plans; and 3) conduct potential field site visits and solicit estimates for current price trends on planned work for updating and/or confirming financial analysis. Additional details are included in the Requested Products/Services section below.
2. The initial term of the contract will be one (1) year. There may be the possibility to extend the contract by up to three (3) months to finish work if need be, but this is not expected.
3. This is a best value procurement, which includes the evaluation of factors in addition to other than price. OSU may select the supplier who, in OSU's opinion, best meets the description of products/services; qualifications and certifications, as applicable; and price as determined through the evaluation process which may include, but is not limited to: a) Scoring or Ranking; b) Discussions and Revised Proposals; c) Interviews and Demonstrations; d) Site Visits; or e) Negotiations.
4. OSU reserves the right to select a portion or all of the work, or cancel the request, as determined in the best interest of OSU.
5. OSU is not liable for costs incurred by the supplier during this process. Upon completion of this process, information in all proposals will become subject records under the Oregon Public Records Law.
6. Changes to this Proposal Request will be provided in writing from the Proposal Request Contact identified below.
7. Submit proposals by March 25, 2022 at 5:00 p.m. to the Proposal Request Contact below.

Proposal Request Contact:

Name: Katy Kavanagh
Title: Associate Dean for Research, OSU College of Forestry
Telephone: 541-737-9229
E-Mail: Katy.Kavanagh@oregonstate.edu

8. Requested Services:

A contractor or contracting firm will be expected to:

- Advise on real-world feasibility of research plan concepts and operations
- Attend relevant meetings where discussions on forest management operations are being conducted
- Provide feedback on forest management plan structure and composition
- Assist with technical writing on portions of the forest management plan pertaining to coastal forest knowledge, forest management operations, or other relevant pieces subject to contractor expertise
- Assist with technical details for operational plans
- Potential for field site visits
- Advising or seeking external information on current price trends for planned operations to update and/or confirm financial analysis

- We anticipate 5-10 hours of meetings per month, plus time for meeting preparation and the potential for occasional field visits to the Elliott State Research Forest

9. Requested Qualifications:

We request a contractor or contracting firm to have expertise in a subset of the following fields. We do not expect a single entity to have expertise in all of the fields listed. Single-person contractors and consulting firms are both encouraged to apply.

Requested qualifications:

- Experience in Coast Range forests including:
 - Silviculture (including thinnings, regeneration harvests, etc.)
 - Forest management and on-the-ground executions of operations
 - Logging systems for steep ground
 - Herbicide use
 - Road maintenance and improvements
 - Markets for forest products

Desired qualifications:

- Experience with ecological forestry practices and outcomes – managing for plant species diversity, structural diversity, long rotations, tree retention.
- Experience with intensive forestry practices and outcomes
- Experience with managing forests that contain listed threatened and endangered species
- Experience with forest restoration practices and outcomes
- Experience with Coast Range disturbance agents such as fire, wind, disease, insects, etc. (biotic and abiotic disturbances)
- Familiarity with local (central Oregon coast) stakeholder groups
- Experience with monitoring plans or protocols (aquatic and terrestrial) - preferably following a Habitat Conservation Plan
- Experience managing forests that integrate social, biological, and physical attributes
- Experience in writing and communication sufficient to be able to assist in drafting sections of a research-based forest management plan
- Experience in riparian area management and in-stream restoration practices.
- Awareness of future climate scenarios and potential approaches for forest management

10. Submittal Documents:

- Proposal outlining how your firm meets the Requested Services above, with examples for each service.
- Proposal outlining relevant experience in the requested and desired qualifications listed above. Please be specific about distinguishing between applied expertise and familiarity, and provide detailed examples of relevant experience in western coastal forests.
- Proposal should include general approach to forest management and any experience with alternative forest management practices (ecological forestry, etc.), or experience managing forests for multiple values.
- Biographies and resumes for all consulting staff involved in the process and identification of lead staff we would be working with during the entire process.
- Pricing to include an hourly rate and detailed budget for the anticipated work load based on 5-10 meetings per month, meeting preparation time, and occasional field site visits.