

Freshwater Fish Habitat Enhancement and Restoration Projects that Promote Fish Habitat Protection through Community-Based Stewardship

1.0 Period of Project

From point of award to March 31, 2010

2.0 Background

In 2000, the Government of Canada and the volunteer sector came together, through the National Voluntary Sector Initiative, to develop an Accord that would formalize their relationship and promote greater mutual understanding. In 2002 Canada's federal Ministers approved Canada's Stewardship Agenda setting into motion greater participation by government, non-government organizations, and citizens in biodiversity conservation and advocacy.

Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO), Prairies Area is interested in enhancing its support of proactive community-based fish habitat enhancement and/or restoration projects and associated stewardship activities that build community capacity to assess, inform, implement, monitor, and continuously improve the effectiveness of industry, individual and community actions that promote fish habitat protection.

Suppliers who consider themselves fully qualified in the administration, design and undertaking of a fish habitat enhancement and/or restoration project through matched partner funding, as per the requirements below, are invited to submit their detailed project proposals in writing to the Contract Authority identified in this Notice on or before the closing date of this Notice. The Proposal must clearly demonstrate how the Supplier meets all the advertised requirements.

ENHANCEMENT is a beneficial manipulation of fish habitat that improves its function and ability to meet the specified requirements of any number of life stages of native fish species.

RESTORATION is to re-establish degraded fish habitat to its original structure, function or species assemblage to meet the specified requirements of any number of life stages of native fish species.

STEWARDSHIP is an ethic that embodies cooperative planning and management of natural ecosystems with organizations, communities and others to actively engage in the prevention of degradation and loss of fish habitat and to facilitate its recovery in the interest of long-term sustainability.

3.0 Proposal Outline

Proposals must clearly demonstrate how the Supplier meets all the advertised Work Requirements in the provision of a project proposal in accordance with *Proponent's Guide to Information Requirements under the Habitat Protection Provisions of the Fisheries Act* (Appendix A).

4.0 Work Requirements

In its delivery, projects must include concrete measures and mechanisms that:

- a) Demonstrates direct and quantifiable fish habitat benefits in the interest of all Canadians **(16 points)**;
- b) Designed within an ecosystem and watershed context so that influences beyond the scope of the local project are considered and their social, environmental and economic risks are fully mitigated **(10 points)**;
- c) Engages local participation and partnering opportunities that empower and improves long-term community capacity for fish habitat stewardship **(25 points)**;

- d) Identifies, exchanges and contributes to existing scientific studies, information, local and Traditional Ecological Knowledge that can be applied in the design of the project and to future watershed management decisions that influence the project area (**10 points**);
- e) Uses communication and education tools to build awareness and understanding of the project, its purpose, and issues that have affected fish habitat in the project area (**10 points**);
- f) Monitors, evaluates and case studies achievements and direct results of the project (**10 points**);
- g) Acknowledges and motivates local stewardship participation and practices through encouragement and recognition (**10 points**); and
- h) Includes mitigation measures to ensure compliance with all applicable federal, provincial, and local government regulations (**Mandatory**).

5.0 Basis of Selection

Overall project value will be assessed against how each of the Work Requirements (Section 4.0), valued at a possible **91 points** total, has been considered and will be implemented in project design and delivery with greatest emphasis on demonstrated direct and quantifiable fish habitat benefits, in addition to the following:

- i) Applicability in addressing DFO's national fish habitat management objectives (net gain of productive capacity for fisheries resources) (**4 points**);
- j) Feasibility of project design and function (**5 points**);
- k) Long-term sustainability (**5 points**);
- l) Qualifications of project team including planning and management experience of other habitat enhancement and/or restoration projects and demonstrated ability to plan, manage, and successfully complete projects on time and within budget constraints (**10 points**); and
- m) Quality of proposal (**10 points**).

Maximum points available – 125 points: Minimum Pass Mark = 88 / 125 points (70%) overall including minimum score of 18 of 25 for Criteria (a) (i) (k).

A proposal with a score less than 70% will be considered non-responsive, and eliminated from the process.

6.0 Supplier Ranking

Supplier proposals will be ranked by overall score, from highest to lowest, with greatest weight given to combined score for Criteria (a) (i) (k). The highest ranking resulting responsive bid will be recommended for award of a contract, provided that the total evaluated price does not exceed the budget available for this requirement.

7.0 Proposal Submission

Suppliers who consider themselves fully qualified in the administration, design and undertaking of a fish habitat enhancement and/or restoration project through matched partner funding, as per the mandatory Work Requirements above, are invited to submit their detailed project proposals in writing to the Contract Authority identified in this Notice on or before the closing date of this Notice.

Proposals can be submitted at anytime up to and including 1500 hours, CST, March 31, 2009.

8.0 Project Authority

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9.0 Contract Authority

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