

Request for Bids for Large Wood & Boulder Placements for the Lower Steel Creek Restoration Project



Requested by:
Anna Pfeifer



390 N. Central Blvd
Coquille, OR 97423

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Bidders shall submit their proposal pursuant to the provisions of this solicitation as a single PDF document via email to:

apfeifer@coquillewatershed.org

Subject line: Lower Steel Creek Restoration Project Bid

SOLICITATION CLOSING
February 23, 2024 at 4:00 PM
(LATE BIDS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED)

Bidders are solely responsible for ensuring that the Coquille Watershed Association (CoqWA) receives the proposal. Bidders shall familiarize themselves with this entire Bid Document.

MANDATORY PRE-PROPOSAL SITE VISIT
December 7, 2023 at 12:00 PM at CoqWA office:

390 N Central Blvd, Coquille, OR 97423

The group will caravan from the CoqWA office to the project site near Dora,
OR

Please RSVP to the site visit no later than December 6, 2023.

All questions and comments about this solicitation shall be directed IN WRITING to Anna Pfeifer, CoqWA Riparian Habitat Project Manager

Email to: apfeifer@coquillewatershed.org

INVITATION TO BID

Notice is hereby given pursuant to this Request for Bids (“RFB”) that sealed bids (a “Bid”) are requested for the Large Wood & Boulder Placements for the Lower Steel Creek Restoration Project (“Project”). Funds are provided by the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board, U.S. Fish and Wildlife, and the Bureau of Land Management to help restore water quality and habitat complexity within the Steel Creek basin.

Work is expected to start August 1, 2024 and will be completed by September 15, 2024, at the end of the in-water work period (IWWP). Extensions to the IWWP are not guaranteed. The Endangered Species Act (ESA) also mandates daily timing restrictions for this project area. Daily project work may not occur until two hours after sunrise, and must be completed two hours before sunset. The contract documents (including special provisions and specifications) are available on the CoqWA website at <https://www.coquillewatershed.org/contracting/> or requested via email: apfeifer@coquillewatershed.org.

Those receiving this RFB who wish to submit a Bid (in each case, a “Bidder”) shall furnish labor, materials and equipment necessary for completion of work in accordance with the specifications provided in herein.

Deadline, no later than **4:00 p.m., February 23, 2024**. Bids received after this date and time will not be considered. Bid shall be emailed to Anna Pfeifer, Project Manager at: apfeifer@coquillewatershed.org.

Included in this Request for Bids (RFB) is:

Exhibit A: Bid Prospectus that includes project background, scope of work, requirements for Bidders, and proposal instructions (required bid forms and the bid review rubric are included as separate documents)

Exhibit B: Restoration maps

Exhibit C: Project photos

Exhibit D: Project specifications

Exhibit A: BID PROSPECTUS

LOCATION: Steel Creek, 0.4 miles west of Dora, Oregon. Legal description is 28w 11w sec 12. Upstream coordinates are 43.159701°N/- 123.961861°W and downstream coordinates are 43.157678°/- 123.962183°W. From Dora, OR: take Sitkum Ln. east for 0.4 miles and turn right onto the property. (See Exhibit B for Project Location Maps)

THE LOCATION OF THIS SITE IS TO BE KEPT CONFIDENTIAL. DO NOT SHARE THE LOCATION DETAILS, MAPS, OR PHOTOS WITH ANYONE OUTSIDE OF YOUR BUSINESS.

MANDATORY SITE TOUR: December 7, 2023 at 12:00 PM, RSVP by December 6, 2023. Tour will start at the Coquille Watershed Association office at 390 N. Central Blvd, Coquille OR.

BID DEADLINE: February 23, 2024 at 4:00pm

ESTIMATED START DATE: August 1, 2024

PROJECT COMPLETE: September 15, 2024

PROJECT BACKGROUND

Steel Creek is a highly productive tributary of the East Fork Coquille River (EFCR) and has important spawning and rearing habitat for coho, Chinook, Steelhead, cutthroat and Pacific lamprey. Steel Creek is a part of the Yankee Run 6th field sub-watershed and enters downstream of Brewster Canyon, near the rural community of Dora. There is a focus on this vital sub-watershed because Steel Creek has the potential to provide high quality spawning and rearing habitat in the East Fork Coquille River (EFCR) watershed, yet it is currently suffering from the legacy of historic land use practices. Anthropogenic activities, included: historic logging practices, road building, transport of logs directly in the stream channel, agriculture, and introduction of invasive species. Problems such as a lack of large woody debris, high sediment loading and degraded riparian vegetation communities are limiting native fish viability in the EFCR and affecting drinking water quality for Myrtle Point. The Yankee Run – EFCR subwatershed (including Steel Creek) is ODEQ 303(d) listed as impaired waters, category 5, for temperature year-round and biological criteria.

The aquatic habitat in Steel Creek upstream from the EFCR confluence is highly confined and simplified, largely due to a lack of in-stream wood and anthropogenic activities such as channel straightening and splash damming. In addition to several wood placement locations, CoqWA staff identified five concrete weirs that are barriers to juvenile salmonid movement in lower Steel Creek. These concrete weirs were most likely installed in the 1990s as an attempt to collect small spawning gravel substrate on the bedrock. However, this attempt has failed because they are too low in the stream profile to interact with substrate and wood delivering flows, and the sandstone geology is highly erosive, quickly turning larger rock into sand. Additionally, the structures were not notched properly to provide juvenile fish passage.

This project will build upon work previously completed by placing additional large wood structures, removing the five juvenile fish barriers, treating noxious weeds, and planting the riparian area with native species of the lower Steel Creek drainage. Together, these actions represent a holistic restoration initiative focused on addressing all limiting factors within a watershed that is vitally important for both native fish and the community. The CoqWA project team has reviewed sites and assessed the scale of structures

needed to work with the hydrology of the stream. Specifically, we propose a total of 7 sites for habitat enhancement along Lower Steel Creek on private property. Structures containing logs with rootwads and boulders will be placed at 5 sites, one site will be constructed using logs with rootwads only, and one site will be constructed using logs with and without rootwads.

SCOPE OF WORK

This project is planned to be implemented starting August 1, 2024 with work starting as soon as contract documents are finalized. The completion date is September 15, 2024. Contractors are required to propose a work schedule that meets all of the project objectives and fits within this timeline.

Objective #1: Sourcing* & Staging Materials. CoqWA will assist and help coordinate locating a source for logs and boulders. However, the contractor is responsible for obtaining and delivering materials to staging locations. Logs that are purchased offsite will be obtained from local private timber companies (both rootwads and non-rootwad) and transported to site and staged. Boulders purchased offsite will be obtained from a local quarry and transported to site and staged. Rock and wood will then be moved from staging areas by excavator to instream structure locations.

Materials: LWD

- Total # of LWD needed for project: 43 (at least 39 logs with rootwads and 4 cull/cut logs)
- Contractor responsible for sourcing all logs (at least 20" DBH or larger and 40-50ft. length)
 - It is possible that some red alder can be tipped onsite in the Riparian Management Area (RMA), but with clearance from the Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF) (CoqWA responsible for getting this clearance).

Materials: Boulders

- Total # of boulders needed for this project: 146
- The Contractor is responsible for sourcing all boulders (between 1.0-1.5 cy)

Materials: Gravel

- Total cubic yards of gravel needed for this project: 4 (approximation dependent on conditions at time of implementation)
- The Contractor is responsible for sourcing all gravel

** Build America Buy America Act: On November 15, 2021, President Biden signed into law the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act ("IIJA"), Pub. L. No. 117-58, which includes the Build America, Buy America Act ("the Act"). Pub. L. No. 117-58, §§ 70901-52. The Act requires that, no later than May 14, 2022, the head of each covered Federal agency shall ensure that "none of the funds made available for a Federal financial assistance program for infrastructure, including each deficient program, may be obligated for a project unless all of the iron, steel, manufactured products, and construction materials used in the project are produced in the United States." By May 14, 2022, agencies must ensure that all applicable programs comply with section 70914 of the Act, including by the incorporation of a Buy America preference in the terms and conditions of each award with an infrastructure project.*

Objective #2: Construct 7 log jams in Lower Sandy Creek during the 2024 In-Water Work Period (IWWP). All sites are on a private landowner property. Log placements will meet standards set by ODFW and follow guidelines put forth in the Guide to Placement of Wood, Boulders and Gravel for Habitat Restoration. The average bankfull width of the habitat restoration sites is 23 feet and we will use logs that

are a minimum of 20 inches in diameter as set forth in the Guide mentioned above. Logs will also be 40-50 ft. in length. Logs designated as “key pieces” will be locked into live, stable trees along Steel Creek to prevent structures from moving. Large boulders (1.0-1.5 cy) will be incorporated as needed for ballast to form constructed log-jams at most of these sites. Other logs will be built around key pieces to ensure stability over time. When possible, rootwads will be placed in the stream channel to provide additional hydrology related habitat and refugia.

For the seven sites, the project team will use an average of 6 logs per site. Each of the seven sites can be accessed and placed with an excavator. Mechanized access routes will be decompacted and planted with a mix of native trees and shrubs after use, and seeded and mulched for erosion control. The materials will be walked to the stream with an excavator after having been trucked to the site on developed/graveled roads and unloaded in locations that will result in minimal disturbance or delivered to the stream using cable yarding tactics. Measures that will minimize disturbance for the project include:

- Use of a 200-300 series excavator. This size of machine is adequate to move materials and is considered minimal impact in the forested setting. The excavator that will be incorporated will be sufficient in size and power class to complete the work, but not large enough to cause undue ground disturbance.
- Logs will be stationed adjacent to developed roads where they will not impact the riparian forest and vegetation. From those locations they will be ferried with the excavator to the stream.
- The excavator will ferry logs with grapple of the bole of the log on the rootwad end so as to not drag root wads on the ground and cause extensive ground disturbance.
- Excavator locations will be set up where there is an open lane through timber so few live, viable trees need to be removed in order to yard logs to the stream.
- Ferrying of logs with the excavator will be conducted in a manner that if multiple sites are relatively close in vicinity that a single lane of travel will be used when possible to reduce excessive track damage to multiple locations in the route of travel.
- In locations where the logs/boulders need to be ferried for short distances in the stream channel, the excavator will work to walk on gravel banks without timber or on bedrock and avoid walking in stream pools.
- Where temporary access lanes are needed through riparian forest minimal removal of woody vegetation/trees will be incorporated.
- Logs will be installed on the existing streambed surface with minimal disturbance to the stream substrates.
- All disturbed soils that have potential to erode during heavier precipitation events will be seeded with an approved forest seed mixture (BLM wildlife/erosion mix) and mulched in locations where needed.
- If more than 1” of measurable precipitation occurs within the project period work will be paused and re-initiated following two days without measurable precipitation.

This work will take place during the 2024 IWWP. Permits will be secured under the BLM ARBO II programmatic and an ODF Notification. Details for each site are provided below. (See Map in Exhibit B for site locations, Exhibit C for photos, and site-specific designs in Exhibit D)

- Site #1: constructed log jam; 4 logs with rootwads and 16 boulders. Boulders will be within 1.0-1.5 cy.
- Site #2: constructed log jam; 6 logs with rootwads and 15 boulders. Boulders will be within 1.0-1.5 cy.
- Site #3: constructed log jam; 6 logs with rootwads and 30 boulders. Boulders will be within 1.0-1.5 cy.
- Site #4: constructed log jam; 6 logs with rootwads and 35 boulders. Boulder will be within 1.0-1.5 cy.
- Site #5: 10 logs with rootwads and 50 boulders. Boulder will be within 1.0-1.5 cy.
- Site #6: 3 logs with rootwads. Can build structure off of natural downed wood.

Site #7: 8 logs, 4 with rootwads. There are existing trees to key into.

**Project Design Notes: The project team has reviewed sites and assessed the scale of structures needed to work with the hydrology of the stream. At these sites, our intent is to mimic naturally formed wood and boulder structures observed elsewhere in the basin as closely as possible given logistical/ operational considerations. All LWD and boulder constructed logjams will be uniquely designed to meet the stream channel reach morphological features (e.g. quantity of bedrock, flow pathways, bank height, and riparian key trees). Boulders used for ballast have been chosen for a minimum size that will withstand flow hydraulics sufficiently to meet structure goals for stability as based on existing boulders within survey reaches that are stable and within the stream channel. This level of stability will meet hydraulic force resistance necessary to create habitat features (e.g. pool formation, gravel deposition), while allowing for natural adjustments (e.g. racking of wood, or softening of the feature by flows) that are reflected by typical structures created under natural conditions. In reaches where rock will not be used as ballast anchoring the streamflow volumes are considered sufficiently lower in order to achieve goals without use of rock as is observed by existing LWD.*

Objective #3: Remove five concrete weirs for juvenile fish passage into 5.3 miles of critical anadromous fish habitat that provides thermal refugia during the 2024 IWWP. An excavator will be used to pull out the concrete weirs and the contractor will dispose of the materials at an acceptable upland location. (See Map in Exhibit B for weir removal locations)

Objective #4: Fell approximately 6 dead/dying red alder trees. The contractor will fell approximately 6 dead/dying red alder trees. These trees will be left in the riparian area or used in LWD structures if appropriate to the design specifications.

Objective #5: Harden elk crossing with crushed rock. The contractor will install and tamp down gravel as an elk “heavy use area” to alleviate sediment input from their crossing. (See Map in Exhibit B photos in Exhibit C)

***All instream actions will be permitted under the Aquatic Restoration Biological Opinion (ARBO II) and an ODF Notification. The local BLM office will be responsible for completing permit applications*

EQUIPMENT CHOICE, STAGING and CLEANING

Heavy equipment will be commensurate with the project and operated in a manner that minimizes adverse effects to the environment and cultural resources (e.g., minimally-sized, low pressure tires, minimal hard turn paths for tracked vehicles).

- A.** All equipment used for work will be cleaned for petroleum accumulations, dirt, plant material (to prevent the spread of noxious weeds), and leaks repaired prior to entering the project area. Such equipment includes large machinery, stationary power equipment (e.g., generators, canes), and gas powered equipment with tanks larger than five gallons.
- B.** Store and fuel equipment on existing gravel roads after daily use.
- C.** Inspect daily for fluid leaks before leaving the vehicle staging area for operation.
- D.** Thoroughly clean equipment before operation below ordinary high water or within 50 feet of any natural water body or areas that drain directly to streams or wetlands and as often as necessary during operation to remain grease free.

SITE ACCESS

Minimize the number of temporary access roads and travel paths to lessen soil disturbance and compaction and impacts to vegetation. All sites can be easily accessed from either side of the creek.

FIRE RESTRICTIONS

The Contractor shall know and adhere to all fire rules and restrictions that apply to the project area, during implementation of the project. Contractor shall provide adequate tools and equipment to meet fire restriction requirements. Contractor shall be in default of contract should project be delayed for lack of required fire equipment preventing work that could have otherwise been completed.

SPILL PLAN

The Contractor shall have and be ready to deploy a spill kit in response to any leaks/spills of petroleum products or other contaminants. A spill plan will be provided, but spill kits must be provided by the Contractor. If equipment is found to be leaking during project work, all activity shall immediately cease until mechanical issues are addressed.

INADVERTENT DISCOVERY PLAN

An Inadvertent Discovery Plan (IDP) will be provided for directions in case of uncovering cultural resources during ground disturbing activities. Prior to commencing work, a meeting with the Project Manager must occur to overview the IDP protocols.

EXAMINATION OF SITE, BID DOCUMENTS, PERMITS, ETC.

Before submitting a Bid, each Bidder shall be responsible for: (i) becoming fully acquainted with the site and the conditions relating to the work, in order to understand fully the facilities, difficulties, and restrictions attending the execution of the Work; (ii) carefully examining each component of the Bid Documents and any other available supporting data, in order to become thoroughly familiar with all of the requirements; and (iii) obtaining for itself, at its own cost and expense, copies of all agency and association guidelines and standards cited in the proposed Contract and necessary to perform the Work. No failure or omission of any Bidder to receive or examine any such information or to visit the Site and become acquainted with the conditions existing at the Site shall in any way relieve such Bidder from obligations with respect to its Bid, any Contract entered into with such Bidder, or the Work, and the submission of a Bid shall be taken as *prima facie* evidence of compliance by the submitting Bidder with the requirements of this paragraph.

SELECTION AND EVALUATION CRITERIA

Bids will be evaluated by a Selection Committee that, after a review of written proposals, may choose to also conduct a personal interview. Selection Committee may include CoqWA Director, CoqWA Project Manager, BLM Fish Biologist, and private landowner(s). Bid evaluation will be based on the ability of the Bidder to meet the specifications for the tasks described in this RFB in a timely fashion. Selection will also be based on the ability of the Bidder to work in a cooperative manner with CoqWA staff and project partners on the Project. CoqWA will generally not disclose the status of any award until the appropriate authority at CoqWA has approved the award of a Contract. Normally, the awarding of a Contract or Bid rejection will occur within 10 calendar days after Bid opening. If the selected Bidder and CoqWA agree, this deadline may be extended, but CoqWA reserves the right: (i) to award multiple Contracts for parts of the Work; (ii) to consider such criteria as it may deem appropriate with respect to the Project; (iii) to reject any or all Bids; and/or (iv) not to proceed with the Work and/or the Project (or any part thereof); all in the exercise of its sole and absolute discretion. CoqWA will provide a written notice of its intent to award a Contract to the successful Bidder(s) (in each case, a "Notice of Intent to Award Contract"), and any submittals required to be submitted to CoqWA within a certain number of days after award is made will count from the day that the Notice of Intent to Award Contract is given. The actual award shall, however, be dependent on full execution of the Contract(s) and submission by the successful Bidder(s) of all other required documents.

EVIDENCE OF RESPONSIBILITY

Upon the request of CoqWA, a Bidder whose Bid is under consideration for the award of a Contract shall submit promptly to CoqWA satisfactory evidence showing the Bidder's financial resources, construction experience, and organization available for the performance of the Work.

RIGHT TO AWARD OR REJECT

This RFB does not obligate CoqWA to award a contract, CoqWA reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to further amend or refine a proposal and negotiate a contract with one of the proposers. CoqWA reserves the right to offer a contract to other than the lowest cost bidder based on other evaluation criteria.

CONTRACT REQUIREMENTS

It is the desire of CoqWA to enter into a contract that includes all of the services necessary to achieve the goal of the project, whether or not those services are specifically outlined or described in this RFB. This project includes federal funds, therefore the selected firm must be able to comply with any specific federal provisions and regulations that may apply to such a federally funded contract and may be required to sign certain assurances related to applicable federal or state laws.

WAIVER OF INFORMALITIES

CoqWA reserves the right to waive minor informalities contained in Bids, when in the Association's sole judgment; it is in the best interest of CoqWA to do so. CoqWA reserves the right to waive minor informalities in the Bids received. CoqWA may also reject any Bid not in compliance with all prescribed requirements, including the requirement to demonstrate the Bidder's responsibility and may reject for good cause any or all Bids upon a finding by CoqWA that it is in the public interest to do so, in accordance with OAR 137-049-0440.

BID ERRORS AND WITHDRAW

A Bidder may withdraw its Bid at any time prior to the date and time that Bids are due, by means of written notice which is given to CoqWA before the date and time that Bids are due, at the address for submission of Bids which is given above. A Bidder may also modify and/or resubmit its Bid at any time prior to the date and time that Bids are due.

BIDDERS INTERESTED IN MORE THAN ONE BID

No person, firm, or corporation shall be allowed to make, file, or be interested in more than one Bid for the Work. However, a person, firm, or corporation which has submitted a sub-proposal to a Bidder, or which has quoted prices of materials to a Bidder, is not thereby disqualified from submitting a sub-proposal or quoting prices to other Bidders or making its own Bid.

COSTS INCURRED

CoqWA accepts no liability for any costs incurred by respondents in the preparation or presentation of Bids.

INQUIRES

Questions concerning this Request for Bids should be directed in writing to:

Riparian Habitat Project Manager – Anna Pfeifer, Email: apfeifer@coquillewatershed.org

Each Bidder shall promptly notify CoqWA of any discovered conflicts, ambiguities, or discrepancies in or between, or omissions from, the Bid Documents. Bidders should note that questions received less than two calendar days prior to the deadline of the Bids may not be answered. Any interpretation or correction of the Bid Documents will be made only by Addendum, and a copy of such Addendum will be sent directly to each Bidder. No oral interpretations of any provision in the Bid Documents will be made to any Bidder.

MILESTONES

Mandatory pre-bid site visit:	December 7, 2023 @ 12pm
All questions related to the bid are due through email or phone by:	February 2, 2024
Bidder questions answered by the CoqWA by:	February 9, 2024
Bid due date:	February 23, 2024
Anticipated opening of Bids:	February 27, 2024
Award Contract by:	March 8, 2024
Successful Bidder(s) to provide contract/all paperwork to CoqWA:	March 22, 2024
Site visit with selected Contractor and technical advisory team:	April – May 2024
Estimated Start date:	August 1, 2024
Completion date:	September 15, 2024

PROPOSAL INSTRUCTIONS: Bids must be received on or before 4:00pm, February 23, 2024: Bids shall be emailed to **Anna Pfeifer** at apfeifer@coquillewatershed.org.

Proposals shall include, at a minimum, the following items:

- A. **Bid Form (included as a separate document).**
- B. **Please provide a work plan to accomplish the Project goals and objectives as described in the RFB. The work plan shall include the following sections:**
 - a. **A Summary of Work to Accomplish Objectives**
 - b. **Timeline**
 - c. **Equipment**
 - d. **Personnel to be assigned (where possible, individual staff members and titles should be provided), and costs, taking into account the proposed timeline for completion of the Work indicated in the RFB.**
 - e. **Insurance Certificate**
 - f. **Other Information**
- C. **A signed statement that you can and shall provide the Insurance requirement as listed.**

Bids must not contain any erasures, interlineations, or other corrections unless each such correction is suitably authenticated by affixing in the margin immediately opposite the correction the surname or surnames of the person or persons signing the Bid, in the named person’s own handwriting. In order for a Bid to be considered responsive, it must contain all of the documents and information which are required by this RFB, with signatures as indicated, and it must: (i) cover the complete scope of work as defined in

the RFB; (ii) not include any exclusions or qualifications and (iii) include additive, alternate, unit and lump sum costs as listed on the bid forms. Bid prices must (where applicable) be free on board at the site, with all transportation and handling charges paid by the Bidder.