

Notice of Contract Opportunity for MN Board of Water and Soil Resources

Project Name: Wetland Restoration Third Party Projects

Details: The Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) is seeking to develop wetland credits through contracts with third parties to restore previously drained or filled wetlands. The credits generated by the wetland restoration project that are transferred to BWSR will be used as replacement for public road improvement projects. BWSR is requesting proposals from third parties in the following Bank Service Areas (BSA): 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and 9. This includes all or portions of the following counties: Aitkin, Anoka, Becker, Beltrami, Benton, Big Stone, Blue Earth, Brown, Carlton, Carver, Cass, Chippewa, Chisago, Clay, Clearwater, Cottonwood, Crow Wing, Dakota, Dodge, Douglas, Faribault, Fillmore, Freeborn, Goodhue, Grant, Hennepin, Houston, Hubbard, Isanti, Itasca, Jackson, Kanabec, Kandiyohi, Lac qui Parle, Le Sueur, Lincoln, Lyon, Mahnomen, Martin, McLeod, Meeker, Mille Lacs, Morrison, Mower, Murray, Nicollet, Nobles, Norman, Olmsted, Otter Tail, Pine, Pipestone, Polk, Pope, Ramsey, Redwood, Renville, Rice, Scott, Sherburne, Sibley, St. Louis, Stearns, Steele, Stevens, Swift, Todd, Traverse, Wabasha, Wadena, Waseca, Washington, Watonwan, Wilkin, Winona, Wright, Yellow Medicine.

Under this contract opportunity, respondents submit a proposal on a cost per credit basis. The cost per credit is determined by the respondent but represents BWSR's payment for the conservation easement and the improvements to the property to generate wetland credits. Respondents considering this method should be aware of the following restrictions:

- The restoration site cannot be protected by a perpetual conservation easement in favor of the State prior to execution of an agreement between BWSR and the landowner.
- Any credits proposed to be transferred to the State must be deposited in the State Wetland Bank no later than January 31, 2024.

Additional information on third party projects is provided on the BWSR website by navigating to the Local Government Road Wetland Replacement Program portion of the Wetlands tab on the BWSR website at <https://bwsr.state.mn.us/local-government-road-wetland-replacement-program>. Potential respondents are strongly encouraged to read through this information prior to preparing and submitting a response to this RFP.

Restoration projects will be evaluated using the following criteria. The percentage in parentheses is the contribution of the criterion towards the total score for the project:

Credit Yield (20%)

Technical Feasibility (20%)

Functional Benefit for the Watershed (10%)

Rare or Difficult to Replace Wetland Functions or Characteristics (10%)

Qualifications of the Applicant (10%)

Cost per Credit (30%)

Copy of Request for Proposal: The RFP and submission forms are available on the Local Government Road Wetland Replacement Program portion of the Wetlands tab on the BWSR website at <https://bwsr.state.mn.us/local-government-road-wetland-replacement-program>. The RFP and

submission forms can also be obtained by submitting an email request with "Third Party RFP Request" in the subject line, to:

Tim Smith
Wetland Mitigation Coordinator
MN Board of Water and Soil Resources
tim.j.smith@state.mn.us

Proposal Deadline: Proposals submitted in response to the RFP in this advertisement must be received by mail or courier no later than 2:30 p.m. Central Time, April 7, 2021. Email and faxed proposals will not be considered. Proposals must be sent in a sealed envelope to:

Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources
ATTN: 2020 TPP RFP
520 Lafayette Rd North
St Paul, MN 55155

This request does not obligate the State to complete the work contemplated in this notice. The State reserves the right to cancel this solicitation. All expenses incurred in responding to this notice are solely the responsibility of the responder.