



**The Tulalip Tribes
Request for
Qualifications
("RFQ")
For
Consulting
Services
For
Blue Carbon Project Planning**

Brief Description of the Tulalip Tribes

The Tulalip (pronounced Tuh'-lay-lup) Tribes are the successors in interest to the Snohomish, Snoqualmie, Skykomish, and other allied tribes and bands signatory to the 1855 Treaty of Point Elliott. Our tribal population is over 5,500 and growing, with 2,900 members residing on the 22,000 acres Tulalip Indian Reservation located north of Everett and the Snohomish River and west of Marysville, Washington. The Reservation is rich with natural resources: marine waters, tidelands, freshwater creeks and lakes, wetlands, forests, and developable land. The Tulalip Reservation was reserved for the use and benefit of Indian tribes and bands signatory to the Treaty of Point Elliott of January 22, 1855. Its boundaries were established by the 1855 Treaty and by Executive Order of President U.S. Grant, dated December 23, 1873. It was created to provide a permanent home for the Snohomish, Skykomish, Snoqualmie, and allied bands living in the region. To learn more about The Tulalip Tribes, visit <https://www.tulaliptribes-nsn.gov>

RFQ Purpose

The TULALIP TRIBES are issuing this RFQ to select consulting services to aid in developing what is generally known as "Blue" carbon sequestration projects.

The Tulalip Tribes seek consulting support to help develop project proposals for the creation of wetland, nearshore, and coastal projects that aid in the sequestration of carbon, management of nutrients, control of pollution, and restore natural habitats. We seek skilled support from consulting firms positioned to design, permit, and implement blue carbon projects as one of Tulalip's key strategies to deliver ecological management priorities across the Treaty territories of the Tulalip Tribes. The selected firm must show an exceptional understanding of ecosystem processes in the Puget Sound region, a deep understanding of nutrient management and pollution control, a solid track record of project design and implementation, and a history of working with and for Coast Salish cultures. The selected contractor will also be expected to support and assist in our efforts to engage and employ a new generation of workers to innovate and implement climate-conscious land management methods.

We anticipate the scope of work awarded under this agreement will be on a time and materials basis, not exceeding \$50,000 over a contract period from September 1, 2024, to March 31, 2025.

Scope of Services:

Following is a general scope of services. This scope of services section is intended to outline general service requirements and does not define all required services.

1. General Requirements

The consultant will provide:

- General support for project management.
- Support for site selection and feasibility.
- Expertise and modeling support for groundwater and surface water analysis.
- Expertise and modeling support for the analysis of carbon sequestration.
- Expertise in the management and mitigation of organic and hazardous waste.
- Memo on recommended sites summary results from experimentation for up to three options.
- Design services for the initial design of a selected project.
- Support for project permitting.
- Gap analysis of where capacity will be needed and in which skill sets.
- Provide recommendations for partnership development and coordination.
- Provide support and recommendations for funding a pilot project.

2. Required Responses to the RFQ

- a. Provide a General Statement of Qualifications that responds to the background information given above, including the firm's experience providing services in the planning, designing, and implementing ecosystem restoration projects. Especially those related to the restoration and creation of wetlands, estuaries, and nearshore habitats.
- b. Would your firm work with another entity to provide support under this agreement with Tulalip Tribes? If so, under what capacity would the other entity be involved?
- c. List any professional and support positions who would be involved in providing services. Provide the resume or CV of the principal consultant who would provide support under this Professional Services Agreement.
- d. Provide examples of past projects or involvement with wetland projects.
- e. Provide information on your proposed fee structure based on the above scope, including payment for out-of-pocket expenses.

Proposed Schedule

The proposed schedule for selecting a consulting firm is set forth below and is subject to change.

1. RFP issued June 27, 2024.
2. Proposals are due no later than 4:00 p.m. Pacific Time, July 22, 2024.
3. Conferences via video conference to discuss contract details with selected vendors at agreed-upon times between July 29 and July 31, 2024.
4. Announcement of selection (target date only), August 15, 2024.
5. Following TRIBE's contract award, each firm submitting a proposal will receive notification of the decision.
6. September 15, 2024: Consultant's work begins

Guidelines

1. Requests for Clarification or Inquiries and Submission of Final Quotes: Firms with questions concerning this RFQ may submit their questions via email to TulalipRFP@tulaliptribes-nsn.gov. Final proposals shall be electronically submitted to TulalipRFP@tulaliptribes-nsn.gov.
2. The title page of the proposal shall include the name of the business or individual, mailing address, name of contact person, telephone number, e-mail address, and date.
3. Responses to Questions: Please restate each question or required response item, followed by your response.

Selection Criteria

1. Evidence that the firm can perform the scope of work described above.
2. Cost structure.
3. Experience and qualifications, including overall experience in implementing wetland projects and demonstrated competency and understanding of ecological and coastal processes.
4. The principal consultant must be capable of providing the necessary services.
5. Organization, presentation, and content of proposal.

Disclaimer:

The TRIBES will select a firm based on the best overall solution and value. The TRIBES are not obligated to select the lowest bidder. This RFQ does not commit the TRIBE to any specific course of action or to selecting any of the vendors.