

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

FOR DEVELOPMENT OF AN EL DORADO COUNTY INTEGRATED WESTERN SLOPE FIRE PLAN AND VEGETATION MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

RELEASE DATE: March 1, 2019

BIDDERS MEETING: March 15, 2019, 12:30 PM
Rescue Fire Station 83 5221 Green Valley Road,
Rescue CA 95672

CLOSING DATE: Proposals must be received by 4:00 p.m. on Friday, April 5, 2019
P.O. Box 1011, Diamond Springs, CA 95619 or electronically at
board@edcfiresafe.org

CONTRACT AWARD: April 11, 2019

PROJECT TITLE: County Wide (Western Slope) Integrated Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP)

CONTACT PERSON: Pat Dwyer, Board Vice Chairman
El Dorado County Fire Safe Council
P.O. Box 1011, Diamond Springs, CA 95619
Phone: 530-647-1700 (Message)
Email: edcfsc@att.net

BACKGROUND:

The El Dorado County Fire Safe Council is a California non-profit, Public Benefit Corporation recognized by the Internal Revenue Service as a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization. The EDCFSC is a consortium of the majority of the Fire Safe Councils in the County. Our mission is “to protect the people of El Dorado County and their property from the effects of catastrophic wildfire through education, cooperation, innovation, and action. Education and community outreach is a top priority to make the residents of the County aware of the risks of living within a Wildland Urban Interface and what they can do to protect their home and property from wildfire. The Community Wildfire Protection Plans are a key element in this effort. Existing Specific Community Wildfire Protection Plans can be found under the “CWPP” Tab at our website www.edcfiresafe.org.

PROJECT GOAL:

In conjunction with the CAL FIRE AEU Strategic Plan, the County of El Dorado Disaster Plan, Fire District prevention plans and the USFS Cohesive Strategy, this project will create an integrated El Dorado County Wildfire Protection Plan (western slope) that identifies the wildfire risk to residents and assets and fuel reduction projects to mitigate the risk.

PROJECT OBJECTIVES:

Develop a collection of potential project packages to assist community fire safe councils with grant applications. Each package will include project area maps, treatment prescriptions, and parcel information.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

In conjunction with the AEU Strategic Plan and the County Disaster Plan, this project will update and amend the Western El Dorado County Community Wildfire Protection Plan (2017) that identifies the wildfire risk to residents and assets and defines specific prioritized projects to mitigate the risk. The project planning area spans the western slope of El Dorado County (approximately 1,005,000 acres) with an estimated 71,479 habitable structures. The project will integrate all the numerous agency plans including those from CAL FIRE, Eldorado National Forest Fire Plan, local department plans, and the collaborative efforts from the South Fork American River Cohesive Strategy Collaborative and Fire Adapted 50 into a comprehensive county wide plan that considers all ownerships and jurisdictions. The project will develop a list of fire mitigation projects for the west slope of the county that are prioritized by fire risk, population, assets and infrastructure. The project will integrate "logical" fuel break and area fuel reduction treatment opportunities, that once completed will help to limit wildfire spread, extent and severity and greatly limit emission of greenhouse gases. This prioritized list will be used to encourage responsible owners and agencies to complete appropriate environmental reviews (CEQA, NEPA) to create "shovel ready" projects in order to pursue grant funding in a comprehensive approach that provides maximum return on investment for the County and the grant funders.

PROJECT TIMELINE AND MILESTONES:

Quarter 1 (Jan to Mar 2019)

Brief local fire safe councils and agencies and initiate self-assessment (FIREWISE)
Release the request for proposals

Quarter 2 (Apr to Jun 2019)

- Establish a project team with members from stakeholders
Review 2017 CWPP and identify areas for improvement and integration with other plans
- Kickoff and coordinate with County Board of Supervisors and Agencies, USFS, CAL FIRE, local Fire Districts and stakeholders.
- Solicit input from other stakeholders in the process, timeline and approach
- Coordinate with CAL FIRE AEU and the ten local Fire Districts to develop an integrated approach and secure support for the project
- Develop risk assessment strategy using Cal-mapper, County Surveyor population and assessed value of structures and prioritize focus areas for the County
- Identify County Communities with the highest risk to people, homes and infrastructure. Evaluate "logical" fuel break opportunities that transgress community boundaries and integrate them into the County plan
 - o Geography (Rivers and Ridges)
 - o Roads and Highways

- Trails and railways
- Utility easements
- Agricultural and grazed areas

Quarter 3 to Quarter 6 (Jul 2019 to June 2020)

Meet with each of the local Fire Safe Councils, (currently 19 councils) and conduct focused meetings with local Fire Safe Councils and face-to-face meetings with agency/organization/landowner representatives to:

- Solicit input from other stakeholders in the process, timeline and approach
- Explain the project and describe how “master CWPP” will address local needs and maintain community independence while being consolidated into the master plan.
- Review existing plans and identify gaps that need to be addressed in “master CWPP”
- Identify opportunities to strategically place fuel breaks and area fuel treatments in logical locations (ridges, roads, streams and around communities) that are intact across ownerships and jurisdictions. Apply Risk analysis tools to verify locations and effectiveness.
- Identify and verify access routes, staging areas and evacuation routes, potential water sources and potential ICP locations.
- Identify County Communities with the highest risk to people, homes and infrastructure

June 30, 2019 Quarterly Report to CAL FIRE (and every quarter thereafter)

Quarter 7 to Quarter 8 (Jul 2020 to Dec 2020)

Identify, compile and validate needed amendments and improvements that need to be addressed to amend 2017 “Western El Dorado County Community Wildfire Protection Plan” to create the new “master plan”.

Confirm needs with the County and local Fire Safe Councils and stakeholder group.

Quarterly reports to CAL FIRE

Quarter 9 to Quarter 10 (Jan 2021 to Jun 2021)

Complete a draft El Dorado County Integrated Western Slope Fire Plan and Vegetation Management Strategy, incorporating valid components of the 2017 plan, along with needed amendments, enhancements, maps, etc.

- Issue press release on availability of the draft plan for public review.
- Solicit review comments from Stakeholders and public on the draft plan.
- Meet with local Fire Safe Councils to solicit comments on the draft.

Quarterly reports to CAL FIRE

Quarter 11 to Quarter 12 (Jul 2021 to Dec 2021)

• Incorporate review comments and needed modifications to the draft plan into a final El Dorado County Integrated Western Slope Fire Plan and Vegetation Management Strategy.

- Get final review and coordination by EDCFSC and Stakeholders
- Complete final edits.
- Publish final “master plan” (40 printed color copies) with electronic version on EDCFSC website, DVD’s, and thumb-drives

Quarterly Reports to CAL FIRE
Final Contractor Invoice.

ON GOING:

- Encourage and support emerging community Fire Safe Councils
- Solicit input from other stakeholders in the process, timeline and approach
- Update and educate the community members on current Fire Safe and Fire Wise projects and concepts and the National Cohesive Strategy.
- Participate in meetings of the County and local Fire Safe Councils and the SOFAR Collaborative to provide project updates and improve coordination.

Expected timeframes to complete the project by the March 15, 2022 deadline: In addition to major events which are specified in the Final Grant Agreement, contractor selection and project close out, the milestones will be included in monthly reports of project activity. These reports will include number of tasks completed, meetings held, summary of planning progress, stakeholder match hours, total cost. These monthly milestones will be summarized and reported in the quarterly grant report to CAL FIRE. The project will be complete by March 15, 2022

Measurable outcomes (i.e. project deliverables) that will be used to measure the project's success:

- Quarterly reports tracking progress.
- Meetings held with stakeholders
- Press releases announcing and updating on the project
- Publication of review draft of the "master CWPP".
- Publication of final El Dorado County Integrated Western Slope Fire Plan and Vegetation Management Strategy

PROPOSAL SUBMITTAL:

Applicants shall provide one paper copy and one electronic copy of the proposal.

1. Provide the following information:
 - a. Name of the firm
 - b. Corporate address
 - c. Contact person
 - d. Telephone number
 - e. E-mail address
2. Provide a General Statement of Qualifications that responds to the project background information given above.
3. Personnel – (Must include at least one Registered Professional Forester)
 - a. List key professional and support personnel and provide resumes/qualifications related to this project scope for each.
 - b. List professional consultants outside your firm whom you propose would provide services not available in your firm. Provide specific information documenting their work on similar projects.
4. Submit a list of CWPP projects your firm has completed and provide an example.
5. Management Summary
 - a. Understanding the project
 - b. Management approach and scope of work.

- c. Proposed schedule and milestones if different from Project Timeline and Milestones
- d. Submit proof of liability insurance indemnifying the Fire Safe Council of not less than one million dollars (after contract award).

EVALUATION CRITERIA

The following evaluation criteria will be used to select a consultant, proposals should clearly address the following:

1. Prior experience in creating CWPPs, preferably in the Sierra Foothills
2. Demonstrated experience with GIS, fire behavior models, fuels data, interagency coordination and public outreach.
3. Demonstrate understanding of the project and the firm's capability and resources to accomplish project milestones on time and within cost.
4. Proposed cost.
5. Acceptance of contract terms and insurance limits.

AVAILABLE FUNDING

The maximum amount of funds available for this contract are \$134,051. This is a fixed price contract. Progress payments will be made in quarterly payments upon successful completion of the quarterly milestones with an appropriate invoice. The final payment will be made upon delivery and acceptance of the completed and coordinated County Wide CWPP.

PAYMENT

The EDCFSC shall make payment of the Contractor's invoice within 30 days of the EDCFSC receipt of Funds from the State to cover the amount of the invoice. In order to receive reimbursement under the described Project, the Contractor shall provide an "Invoice for Services" detailing services performed by task and actual costs. The invoice shall be received by the EDCFSC no later than the 5th of each month, following the period being billed. The Contractor shall not be reimbursed for any additional expenses incurred beyond this maximum amount available.

(b) Expenses. No travel or other expenses will be reimbursed by EDCFSC. Travel costs should be included in the bid.

(d) Budget Contingency Clause. If funding for any fiscal year is reduced or deleted by the State for purposes of this program, the EDCFSC shall have the option to either cancel this Agreement with no liability occurring to the EDCFSC, or offer an agreement amendment to Contractor to reflect the reduced amount.

Method of Payment.

Invoices. All payments for compensation and reimbursement for expenses shall be made only upon presentation by Contractor to EDCFSC of an itemized billing invoice in a form acceptable to the EDCFSC which indicates, at a minimum, Contractor's name, address, Social Security or Taxpayer Identification Number, a description of the tasks completed during the billing period,

and the approved task rate.

NONDISCRIMINATION:

The program or activities conducted under this agreement will be in compliance with the nondiscrimination provisions contained in Titles VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended; the Civil Rights Restoration Act of 1987 (Public Law 100-259); and other nondiscrimination statutes: namely, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, and American's With Disabilities Act of 1990.

QUESTIONS

All questions should be directed in writing to:
El Dorado County Fire Safe Council
Attn: CWPP Selection Committee
P.O. Box 1011
Diamond Springs, CA 95619
Or by email to board@edcfiresafe.org

SUBMITTAL One paper copy and one electronic copy are required.

Submit one paper copy of the proposal to:
El Dorado County Fire Safe Council
P.O. Box 1011
Diamond Springs, CA 95619
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