

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS
for
Environmental Services
For
Matilija Dam Ecosystem Restoration
Project CEQA Updates
Project No. 81905

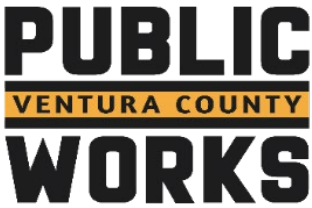
RESPONSE DUE

by

5:00 p.m.

on

October 28, 2022



FOR THE COUNTY OF VENTURA, PUBLIC WORKS AGENCY
ROADS & TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT

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I. INTRODUCTION AND SCOPE OF SERVICES

The Ventura County Watershed Protection District (WP) and Roads & Transportation Department (PWA-RT) are jointly seeking the services of qualified consultants to prepare updated environmental documents for three component projects of the Matilija Dam Ecosystem Restoration Project (MDERP) and is hereby sending out this Request for Qualifications (RFQ). This solicitation is expected to be used to hire two or three environmental consultants.

PWA-RT intends to hire a consulting firm to prepare and process the appropriate CEQA documents for the Camino Cielo Road Bridge project. WP intends to hire one or more consulting firms to prepare CEQA documents for the Live Oak Acres Levee and Casitas Springs Levee projects.

Anticipated services will be to provide the appropriate subsequent CEQA documents and technical studies as necessary for each of these three MDERP component projects. The appropriate documents and studies will depend upon the details and needs of each project. There will likely be three separate CEQA documents, one for each project. Information to assist you in developing the SOQ and your firm's approach can be found at www.matilijadam.org.

II. SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

The following schedule will be followed in this solicitation process.

Issuance of RFQ	September 23, 2022
Last Date to Submit Inquires	October 24, 2022
Reponses Posted	October 26, 2022
Closing Date for SOQ	October 28, 2022
Hold Interviews	November 7-11, 2022
Anticipated Final Selection	November 21, 2022

III. BACKGROUND

In September 2004, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) and Ventura County Watershed Protection District completed a Final Environmental Impact Report (FEIR)/Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) for the Matilija Dam Ecosystem Restoration Feasibility Study. The FEIR/FEIS analyzed four alternatives for the removal of the Matilija Dam and sediment buildup behind the dam. The recommended plan under the FEIR/FEIS was Alternative 4b, which included slurring approximately 2 million cubic yards of fine sediment downstream, full removal of the dam in one continuous process, and natural erosion of the remainder of the sediments stored behind the dam at a controlled rate to minimize downstream impacts. The project also includes downstream components to mitigate the downstream impacts of dam removal, including improvements to three levees, two bridges, modification to the Robles Water Diversion facility, and other water supply improvements.

A Subsequent EIR is in progress to support the selected dam removal method—relying on the natural transport of sediments during a large storm event through orifices drilled into the base of the Matilija Dam. Extensive public outreach is planned for the next six to nine months, followed by preparation and release of the SEIR for public review. CEQA documentation will be required for other MDERP components.

IV. FUNDING

Funding for design of the Camino Cielo Bridge Replacement Project has been secured from the State of California, State Coastal Conservancy and Wildlife Conservation Board. Construction funding has not yet been secured. Funding for the design and construction of the Live Oak Acres and Casitas Springs Levee improvement projects is pending. NEPA compliance will likely be conducted by the Natural Resources Conservation Service concurrently or after CEQA compliance for the two levees.

V. SUBMISSIONS

Statements of Qualifications (SOQ's) should be submitted no later than 5:00 P.M. on October 28, 2022. Consultants may submit questions via email to Yvette.Perez@Ventura.org no later than 2:00 p.m. on October 24, 2022. All inquiries shall be made only through this email address; telephone calls will not be accepted.

The SOQ must not be more than 25 single sided, 8X11 pages (counting Transmittal/Cover letter & resumes; no folded inserts (11X17's). The SOQ shall include the following:

1. Transmittal Letter – This letter should outline the firm's ability to provide the services requested. Describe company size, management, and ownership, including name, address, telephone number, years in business, number of employees, primary contact, and ID number. This letter must be signed by an authorized representative of the consulting firm.
2. Statement of Understanding and Qualifications of Firms – Consulting firm shall include a statement describing their understanding of the work to be performed under this contract and how the objectives of the scope of services will be accomplished. Provide a brief description of the firm including similar experience and the various types of services offered.
3. Staff Experience - Provide a description of the of the key personnel who will be involved in this project, their roles, and responsibilities. Provide relevant experience in the preparation of environmental documents, related support materials, and specialized environmental studies on similar past projects. In addition to this summary, provide a brief resume for each describing their education, experience, and qualifications.

4. Communication Plan - Provide a description of your Firm's approach to communicating effectively with County and Caltrans staff, stakeholders and the public to facilitate successful delivery of the environmental documents.
5. Consultant shall list a minimum of three (3) projects of similar nature completed in the last 5 years. Services should reflect the anticipated scope of services of this RFQ. Please include:
 - Project Description
 - Description of services provided and Key personnel
 - Client name, contact person, and current phone number.

A schedule of costs and fees shall **NOT** be submitted with the SOQ. Upon receipt of SOQ's, County will schedule interviews. After interviews and upon ranking of the firms, one firm will be selected for the Camino Cielo Road Bridge project and will be requested to submit a detailed scope of work and fee proposal. Upon successful negotiations that firm will be invited to enter into a contract with the County.

Upon receipt of funding for either or both of the levee projects, one or more consultants from this solicitation will be requested to submit a detailed scope of work and fee proposal.

VI. EVALUATION CRITERIA FOR SOQ

Evaluation Criteria	Rating (1-10)	Rating Factor	Total Weighted # of Points	Max. Possible
Project Understanding and Approach		x 3.0		35
Quality, Clarity, Responsiveness, & Overall Impression		x 2.0		25
Experience of Team Members		x 2.0		20
Experience of Firm		x 2.0		20

VII. SUBMITTAL DEADLINE

Statements of Qualifications (SOQ's) should be submitted no later than 5:00 P.M. on Friday, October 28, 2022, to Yvette.Perez@Ventura.org no later than 5:00 p.m. on October 28, 2022.