

RIO GRANDE HEADWATERS RESTORATION PROJECT
COLORADO RIO GRANDE RESTORATION FOUNDATION
623 Fourth Street
Alamosa, CO 81101
(719) 589-2230
daniel@riograndeheadwaters.org



MODIFIED March 29, 2024

***REQUEST FOR BIDS: PERMITTING AND ENVIRONMENTAL/CULTURAL RESOURCE
COMPLIANCE SERVICES - FARMERS UNION MULTI-BENEFIT DIVERSION
INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENT PROJECT***

I. Purpose and Project Overview

The Colorado Rio Grande Restoration Foundation (Foundation) is requesting bids from qualified contractors with expertise and experience in environmental and cultural resource compliance for river restoration and agricultural diversion infrastructure improvements, to complete permitting documents for the Farmers Union Multi-Benefit Diversion Infrastructure Improvement Project (Project).

The Foundation is the fiscal agent and governing body of the Rio Grande Headwaters Restoration Project (RGHRP). The RGHRP is coordinating the Project in partnership with the San Luis Valley Irrigation District, and multiple private landowners and water users. The project is designed by Huitt-Zollars, Inc. (Engineer), and includes the construction of new and improved diversion and headgate structures at the Farmers Union Canal and Rio Grande #1 ditches near Del Norte, CO, streambank restoration and stabilization, and in-channel aquatic habitat enhancement.

II. Submittal Instructions

The complete bid, including bid sheets and all required submittals for the Project is due on April 3, 2024 at 4:00pm and can be submitted via email or mail to the Rio Grande Headwaters Restoration Project, care of Daniel Boyes. The bid must be in a signed and sealed envelope or an emailed pdf file, and can be hand delivered, mailed, or emailed to:

Daniel Boyes
Colorado Rio Grande Restoration Foundation
Rio Grande Headwaters Restoration Project
623 Fourth Street
Alamosa, CO 81101
(719) 589-2230 ex. 12
daniel@riograndeheadwaters.org

III. Scope of Services

The selected consultant(s) will assist and coordinate with the lead federal agency (LFA), U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (BOR), the Colorado State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) the Rio Grande Headwaters Restoration Project (RGHRP), project partners, and project engineer throughout the permitting of the project, including the Clean Water Act (CWA) 404

permitting process (Section 401 permitting is not required for this project), NEPA compliance, including environmental, biological, cultural, and other associated assessments and permit documentation. **Note: The selected consultant(s) is expected to maintain involvement in the project until the necessary construction permit(s) have been secured and NEPA compliance approved by the LFS.**

Based on recent similar projects, we expect the project will qualify for authorization under Non-Reporting Nationwide Permit; the activity is exempt because this is the construction or maintenance of an irrigation ditch, or maintenance (but not construction) of drainage ditches. Discharges associated with siphons, pumps, headgates, wingwalls, weirs, diversion structures, and similar facilities that are appurtenant and functionally related to irrigation ditches are included in this exemption. [33 CFR 323.4(a)(3)]. A summary of this permit and the Colorado Regional Conditions are available at www.spa.usace.army.mil/reg/nwp. An alternate line item is included on the bid sheet. Please indicate an alternate cost in the event one or more Nationwide 404 permit(s) are required.

Note: NEPA compliance documentation must adhere to the requirements of BOR and Colorado SHPO.

The project will be managed by the RGHRP. The RGHRP Executive Director, Daniel Boyes will oversee the implementation and administration of the project.

IV. Minimum Requirements

The Scope of Services described above will require a professional and experienced consultant, with expertise in project permitting.

1. Contractor must be familiar with USACE Nationwide Permits and have experience with the 404 permitting process, including applicable exemptions.
2. Team must demonstrate experience with environmental, biological, cultural, and other required NEPA compliance assessments and consultations.

V. Project Timeline

The RGHRP has received funding from the Bureau of Reclamation WaterSMART program as well as the Colorado Water Conservation Board. All environmental, biological, and cultural resource compliance should be completed by August 31, 2024, with final approval from the LFA expected December 2024.

VI. Contractor Compensation and Benefits

1. Compensation: The Contractor will be paid at the completion of the project tasks, within 45 days of billing the RGHRP.
2. Vacation: The Contractor will not receive any paid vacation time.
3. Sick Leave: The Contractor will not receive paid sick leave.
4. Reimbursement: The Contractor will not be reimbursed for expenses related to the Project, as compensation for the project will be paid as a lump sum amount.
5. Other Benefits: The Contractor will not receive any additional benefits such as employer provided health insurance or retirement plans.

VII. Insurance Requirements

Automobile Liability Insurance, including non-owned and hired vehicle coverage with limits of liability of not less than \$1,000,000.00 combined single limit per occurrence/aggregate.

If the Contractor is a Limited Liability Company, Cooperation, or otherwise incorporated:

The Contractor shall, at its own and sole expense, maintain the following insurance coverage:

- a. *Workers' Compensation Insurance* as required by the laws and regulations applicable to and covering employees of the Contractor engaged in the Project of not less than \$1,000,000.00.
- b. *Commercial General Liability (CGL) (or Public Liability)* insurance with limits of liability of not less than: Bodily Injury - \$1,000,000.00 each person per occurrence/aggregate; Property Damage - \$1,000,000.00 per occurrence/aggregate limits. This policy shall cover, among other risks, the contractual liability assumed by the Contractor under the indemnification provision set forth in the Project Agreement, personal injury coverage, premises liability coverage and advertising injury coverage with limits of liability identical to coverage for Bodily Injury as stated above.

If the Contractor is an individual without Workers' Compensation Insurance: The Foundation will accept and review the bid documents and discuss with the individual options for insuring suitable insurance.

The Project activities will commence after the Foundation has received funding and a contract has been executed, estimated May 2025. The successful bidder will be required to submit insurance certificates listing the Colorado Rio Grande Restoration Foundation as additional insured. The successful bidder will also be required to submit a completed Form W-9.

VIII. Required Submittals

The complete bid package must include:

1. Completed Bid Sheet for the Farmers Union Multi-Benefit Diversion Infrastructure Improvement Project - Permitting and NEPA Compliance.
2. A discussion of costs broken down by task. Not to exceed 3 pages.
3. Proof of Required Insurance.
4. References from past clients, including contact information.
5. Resumes for key team members.

Thank you for considering this project.

Sincerely,



Daniel Boyes
Executive Director, Rio Grande Headwaters Restoration Project

Attachments:

Permitting, Environmental and Cultural Resource Compliance Services Bid Sheet
Project Designs
Project Map
Project Photos

Farmers Union Permitting, Environmental and Cultural Resource Compliance Services

Bid Sheet

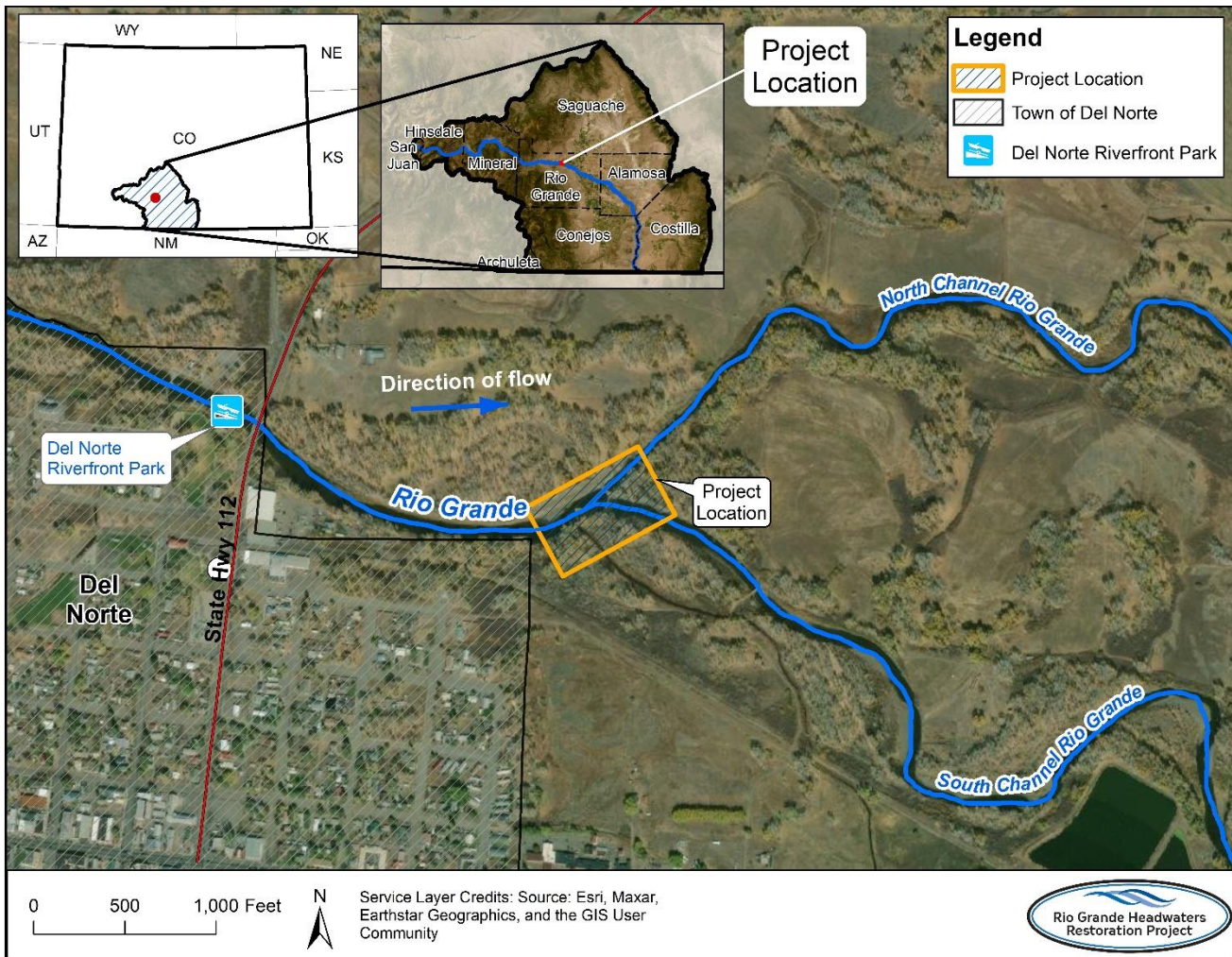
The Bidder agrees to perform all of the work described in the Request for Proposal Document for the following **Lump Sum** amount: \$_____

This bid contract is for a **Lump Sum**. The Schedule of Costs listed below shall be filled out by the Bidder for information purposes only. Project cost is not to exceed the total Lump Sum amount.

| Farmers Union Permitting, Environmental and Cultural Resource Compliance Schedule of Costs | | |
|---|---|-------------|
| TASK # | TASK | COST |
| 1 | <i>Environmental Assessment, including the following:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Wetland Delineation & Aquatic Resources Report</i> • <i>Biological Assessment</i> • <i>U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Information for Planning and Consultation Report</i> | |
| 2 | <i>CWA Section 404 reporting requirements (Coordination with USACE to secure Non-Reporting Nationwide Permit)</i> | |
| 2 - alt | <i>Alternate line item (CWA Section 404 permit, in the case a non-reporting nationwide permit is not approved*)</i> | |
| 3 | <i>Cultural Resources Report, compliant with BOR and Colorado SHPO requirements</i> | |
| | BID TOTAL | |

***Do not include 2 – alt in your lump sum bid amount. The selected consultant’s contract will be amended to include these costs only if a non-reporting nationwide permit is denied.**

Project Map



Project Photos



