

Clarification of Questions

Request for Proposals

Engineering Design and Construction Management Reconnecting the Mona Lake Celery Flats Phase I: Engineering and Feasibility

It is the intent of the Office of the Muskegon County Water Resources Commissioner to address, *to the best of our ability*, questions posed via email (between 9/14/2022 @ 1:00 and 9/22/2022 @ 4:30) as well as questions verbalized during the September 14, 2022 mandatory pre-bid meeting. It is also our intent to provide standardized answers and shared responses to maintain an equitable environment for uniform bidding. We anticipate additional clarifications may need to be addressed and discussed during firm interviews and as part of contract negotiation with the successful applicant. Below are questions the WRC office received as well as the best answer we are able to provide at this point.

1. Can you share the previously conducted bathymetric survey conducted by Duck Unlimited? Is there a bathymetric survey available for use?

The WRC office has a Bathymetric map of both the north and south ponds compiled by Ducks Unlimited. The map is dated January 17, 2011. We are currently searching for the electronic file/CAD file. The bathymetric map may be found to be useful, but there has been some question to its accuracy given known modifications made to the project site after its draft date. A scan of the map has been provided please see attached.

2. Can you share the NRCS conservation easement document that covers portion of the Northern pond?

On September 15, 2022 following the mandatory pre-bid meeting Brenda Moore emailed this document to all potential bidders. I have also included it as an attachment.

3. Can you provide GVSU's contracted work plan at this point?

On September 15, 2022 following the mandatory pre-bid meeting Brenda Moore emailed this document to all potential bidders. I have also included it as an attachment.

4. What has been Mr. Franklin's interaction/response/willingness to participate with this initiative?

Mr. Franklin is a large landowner on the North Pond. At this point Mr. Franklin has given no indication that he is unwilling to cooperate nor has he expressed outright objection to the project. Mr. Franklin has been very thorough with questions and the WRC Office anticipates full cooperation on Mr. Franklin's behalf. At this point the WRC office is working with Mr. Franklin to address his concerns in a mutually agreeable manner.

5. Could you provide clarification on Phase I and Phase II ESA's? Will they be required for each landowner? Can you confirm the required number?

WRC included monies for environmental ESA's within our grant proposal and have not confirmed or denied the necessity of the assessments. For purpose of fair uniform bidding please assume that two properties will need a Phase I investigation conducted. Because Phase II assessment cost vary dramatically based on Phase I findings please negate all costs associated with Phase II for purpose of your bid.

6. What is the geographic extent of this project?

The Geographic extent of the desired future construction project in a generic sense is the OHWM associated with the ponds. For purposes of data collection associated with this RFP, information gathering is expected beyond the surface water within the immediate vicinity of the respective North or South Pond. The 2 ponds located on the Eastern edge of the South pond are not assumed as included in this initiative at this point.

7. Can you confirm the extent of the O.H. Scott and Water's Drain Easement width?

50 feet either side of centerline also noted in the supplied Route and Course.

8. Can you confirm the location and extent of the O.H. Scott and Water's Drain?

The O.H. Scott and Waters Drain Route has been included as an attachment. Generally speaking the Established drain runs from the mouth of Mona Lake to just East of US31 NB.

9. Who owns Black Creek in the vicinity of the anticipated project site?

The water in rivers is held in the public trust. Property owners have riparian rights and of the bottom of the river. The Detroit District Website for the Army Corps of Engineers list Mona Lake as a navigable waterbody.

10. Can you provide clarification on soil sampling? Can you confirm the number of anticipated samples across the anticipated project site?

In order to accurately classify the extent of potential contamination and develop a restoration plan this project will require additional soil/sediment samples. EGLE will require 6 Discrete tests for the first 10,000 cubic yards of material and 1 sample for every additional 10,000 cy. We anticipate around 500,000 cy of material. WRC apologizes for the confusion on the omission of soil/sediment sampling or if it was interpreted that GVSU would be the sole entity responsible through their contract. For purposes of standardized uniform bidding for the purposes of this RFP we will be assuming 100 samples will be required for inclusion in your bid package.

11. Will there be a post constructed monitoring (follow up study)? Who will be conducting the monitoring?

Post Construction Monitoring, i.e. a follow up study, will need to be conducted if a construction project comes to fruition. Cost, labor, materials, etc. associated with this project would be considered in a future contract and will not be associated with this RFP solicitation.

12. Were there any vegetation quality assessments previously performed?

WRC is not aware of any previously performed vegetation quality assessments in part or entirety.

13. What is GVSU's proposed extent of sediment testing-our understanding is limited? We anticipate more being required to identify the extent of phosphorus and depth-just confirming.

GVSU's Scope of Work has been included with these responses. In general, the successful applicant will be responsible for facilitating soil and sediment sampling consistent with the response given addressing item 10.

14. Will access to the entire frontage of the north and south ponds be available for wetland delineation activities?

The WRC office is in the process of obtaining all the necessary landowner access agreements needed for conducting Phase I activities. The current access agreements have been formatted for allowing WRC and its agents to conduct activities on these parcels in their entirety.

15. If permanent easements are required is that something you want done with the selected consultant or will that be taken care of as part of the petitioned drain project?

If any permanent drain easements become necessary stemming from this initiative they will be compiled in conjunction with the petitioned drain project and should be not be considered a task associated with the RFP.