



Forest Enhancement Society of BC (FESBC)

INVITATION TO TENDER NOTICE
for
SPRING 2020 PLANTING
in
the Invermere and Cranbrook TSAs
Rocky Mountain Natural Resource District (RMNRD)

Sealed tenders for Spring 2020 Tree Planting in the Invermere and Cranbrook TSAs (RMNRD) will be received by Vast Resource Solutions Inc. (VAST – the Company), no later than October 31st, 2019, **9:00 am (local time)**, at which time all tenders will be opened in private.

Tender package documents are available electronically on the PWC – Forest Enhancement Society Information Management System (FESIMS) website – Tender Advertisements:
<https://fesims.outcome-plus.com/Advertisement/AdvertisementLanding>

Tenders must be submitted in accordance with the terms and conditions specified in the tender package. The lowest priced or any tender will not necessarily be accepted.

If VAST posts any addendum to the Tender Documents, it will be made by issuing an addendum and posting it to the website listed above.

Bidders are solely responsible to continually monitor the website on an ongoing basis to keep themselves informed of any addendum.

The Contract related to this tender contains an 'option to renew' clause whereby VAST (the Company) reserves the right to renew but is under no obligation to renew the Contract for a further Term of up to one year, to a maximum of three terms, subject to funding and satisfactory performance of the Contractor. As renewal is not assured, Bidders are cautioned to prepare their tender price on the basis of a single term contract only. Should the option-to-renew be exercised, the bid rate or bid price is expected to remain unchanged on similar type blocks in the subsequent term unless, in Company's sole opinion, a negotiated rate change is warranted.

To obtain further information, please contact either:
Marcie Belcher (250-426-5300), Marcie.Belcher@vastresouce.com



Forest Enhancement Society of BC (FESBC)

INVITATION TO TENDER
for
Spring 2020 Tree Planting in the
Invermere & Cranbrook TSAs

SEALED TENDERS FOR THE WORK OR SERVICES LISTED BELOW WILL BE RECEIVED

BY: Vast Resource Solutions Inc.
304 Industrial Road G
Cranbrook, BC V1C 7J4

UNTIL THE SPECIFIED CLOSING DATE AND TIME, AT WHICH TIME THE TENDERS WILL BE OPENED
IN PRIVATE.

PROJECT

Contract/File: VAST-FESBC-PL-2020
Nature of Work or Services: 2020 Spring Tree Planting
Location: Invermere and Cranbrook TSAs (RMNRD)

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Invitation to Tender

Information to Bidders

Appendix 1 – Spring 2020 Planting – Block Summary Information

Appendix 2 – Overview Maps (5 maps)

Appendix 3 – Block Maps (Note – block maps will be posted the week of Oct. 7th)

Conditions of Tender

Specimen Contract with Schedules ** Note: the Specimen Contract and related Schedules have not been included in this tender package (exception is Schedule A). All Schedules are from the Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development. * Specific information relating to any schedule noted is available upon request.

Schedule A – Tree Planting Services, FFT Planting Standards

Not included in tender package:

Schedule B – Payment

Schedule C – Additional Conditions

Schedule D – Insurance

Schedule E – Safety Conditions

Schedule F – Prime Contractor Agreement

Schedule G – Safe Certification

Schedule H – Subcontracting Schedule

Schedule I – Camp Standards

Tender Offer Form

Tender Envelope

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION OR QUERIES, CONTACT:
Marcie Belcher Marcie.Belcher@vastresource.com

ENSURE YOUR PACKAGE IS COMPLETE.



**INFORMATION TO BIDDERS
for
Spring 2020 Tree Planting in the
Invermere & Cranbrook TSAs**

Forest Enhancement Society of BC (FESBC)

PROGRAM INFORMATION / FUNDING

All works is subject to funding from the Forest Enhancement Society of BC (FESBC).

This tree planting project is funded under the Forest Carbon Initiative (FCI) program and supports objectives of the Ministry Forest Carbon Strategy (2016-2020) and the Climate Change Strategy (2015-2020) in the Province of BC.

This contract is being advertised and potentially awarded prior to final confirmation of funding approvals. Bidders are hereby informed that the Company reserves the right to amend and/or cancel works, and subsequently the contract.

All operations are to be conducted within the requirements of the current legislation.

OVERVIEW OF THE WORK / SERVICES REQUIRED

A. This tender reflects a proposed contract for Spring 2020 planting of approximately 823,637 seedlings in the Invermere and Cranbrook TSAs located in the East Kootenay. Geographic areas include the following:

White River: Grave and Nitta Creek, Colin Creek
Quinn Creek Fire: Bull River

Mount Glen
Cherry Lake

Lamb Creek

All areas to be planted were impacted by 2017 wildfires and were surveyed in 2018.

See Appendix 1 – Spring 2020 Planting - Block Summary Information.

The most current information available is provided for each opening. This is primarily from the 2018 surveys.

Note: Plantability numbers are based on the most recent surveys. Numbers of seedlings prescribed is an estimate and may be higher or lower than originally prescribed. Close communication with the Company will be required in stock allocation and adjustments.

Maps: An overview map for each drainage(s) is included in this tender package.

Block maps are currently being prepared and will be posted in the form of an addendum to the tender.

The bidder is highly encouraged to view all blocks with consideration to access to and through-out each unit, as well as safety considerations such as danger tree assessment requirements and in-block seedling distribution.

B. The successful contractor will be solely responsible for providing the necessary transportation that will be required to transport personnel, seedlings, equipment, and all other aspects outlined in the contract.

The successful contractor will be responsible to initiate and co-ordinate thaw requests and organize seedling transport and storage.

Seedlings will be available for pick up at the Hawkeye seedling storage facility located in Kelowna, BC. It will be the planting contractor's responsibility to pick up and deliver the seedlings from this location. The contractor is required to arrange for the use of a refrigerated semi-trailer unit (reefer) to use as a central cache in the vicinity of the treatment units.

C. Planting Standards – all work is guided by the Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development standards. See Schedule A - Tree Planting Schedule.

Note: FFT PLANTING STANDARDS for Ministry Funded Programs, Effective March 15, 2012 will also apply.

D. Wildlife/Danger Tree Assessment

The successful vendor will be required to conduct a Wildlife/Danger Tree Assessment on each Work Unit before planting commences and follow through with the necessary danger tree removal or flagging of no work zones. Assessments must be carried out as per the approved Wildlife Danger Tree assessment procedures by a certified assessor and submitted to the Company. Trees assessed as dangerous must be felled by a certified faller prior to planting. The Company representative will assess each planting units DTA and tree removal for quality assurance and compliance.

E. Access

The access shown on the tender maps and identified in the Appendix 1 – Spring 2020 Planting - Blocks Summary spreadsheet is the best information that the Company has at the time of tender. Bidders are responsible to view the blocks and make their own assessments of quality and type of access to include in their bid.

The Contractor is responsible to include all costs associated with access in their bid. This includes any access identified and not identified by the Company. The Company will address any “substantial access changes” that may arise. This can include road washouts that did not exist prior to the contract tender closing date, bridge issues etc.

Helicopter use – should not be included in the bid price. If helicopter use is required, the Company will pay for the costs directly.

Access information is currently being reviewed and any major changes will be updated in the form of an addendum to the tender.

F. Quality Assurance - the successful contractor will be responsible to conduct quality inspections in accordance with the Ministry's Planting Quality Inspection Procedures (FS704s) and submit a report to the Company for further inspection. See Schedule A for specific requirements and deliverables.

G. Camp - the successful vendor will be responsible to locate their own camp locations, which must meet the requirements of the Industrial Camp Regulation under the *Public Health Act*. Camp location must be approved by the Company.

H. Deliverables - In addition to the tree planting services, the successful contractor must provide the Company with a final project report including daily contract notes, Planting Stock Shipping Order forms, daily production summary, block summary (including seedlot allocation), and seedlot maps. See Schedule A for specific requirements and deliverables. All data must be submitted digitally using Plant Wizard.

CONTRACT TERM/WORK SCHEDULE

The working term of the contract will be from April 30, 2020 to June 30, 2020, with a deadline of all spring seedlings to be planted by June 21, 2020.

The successful Contractor shall be required to have a pre-work meeting with the Company representative to review the contract prior to commencement of the work. Any subjects discussed and decisions made at the pre-work conference shall form an integral part of the Contract.

The minimum acceptable daily planting production rate is set at 30,000 seedlings per day with a target of up to 60,000 per day. Some delays are expected due to weather conditions, especially at higher elevations.

The Contract related to this tender contains an 'option to renew' clause whereby the Company reserves the right to renew but is under no obligation to renew the Contract for a further Term of up to one year, to a maximum of three terms, subject to funding and satisfactory performance of the Contractor.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Site Conditions

This contract is expected to commence in late April of 2020 and extend into late June 2020 depending on winter and spring weather conditions. Blocks will require planting immediately upon snow recession and therefore planting operations may be non-continuous through-out the term of the contract depending on weather conditions. Expect wet and soft road conditions on all access routes and be prepared to adapt plans quickly due to changed conditions.

Known Field Safety Hazards on this Contract

The following list identifies key field safety hazards associated with this project. Note, this list does not identify routine safety hazards associated with forestry operations:

- Burned wood and standing dead timber are within, and adjacent to the work areas, primarily around the opening edges. Danger tree assessments and possible felling of Danger trees is a requirement of the contract.
- Burnt saplings with laterals impeding planter progress.
- Use of ATVs for transport of seedlings
- Use of Helicopters to fly in seedlings

The bidders may be asked to demonstrate that they have undertaken a similar contract planting underneath fire killed overstory and that they have successfully planted areas within previous Wildfires.

CONTRACTOR SAFETY PROGRAM AND PRIME CONTRACTOR RESPONSIBILITIES

The Successful Bidder will be designated the Prime Contractor for this contract and must bid accordingly and meet the bidder eligibility stated in the Conditions of Tender.

The successful Contractor must plan to maintain and implement a program of systems or processes (a safety program) that will address occupational health and safety concerns and practices that will eliminate or minimize risk of injuries. The Company may ask to examine the safety program and ask for evidence to support the implementation of same as part of the contract administration.

Bidders must be aware of the Safety Conditions Schedule and the Prime Contractor Agreement attached to the contract agreement.

Obligation to Report Unsafe Conditions or Practices

The *Workers Compensation Act*, Occupational Health and Safety Regulation 3.10 requires that any person (including Company staff) report any observed unsafe conditions or practices to the person in charge of the workplace. Company staff will do this in the course of their work on the contract area should they come across such conditions or practices.

Contractor Invoicing

An invoice must identify the contract it pertains to.

The Company will pay any applicable taxes payable by it under law or agreement with the relevant taxation authorities. Invoices must show the calculation of any applicable taxes (excluding taxes paid directly by you to a supplier and which were inclusive in the bid price) to be paid as a separate line item for the Billing Period(s).

Payment Policy

Invoices and progress payments are not usually paid before 30 days from the date the Company receives the invoice, or the date the Company authorizes payment, whichever is the latter. However, every effort is made to pay accounts between 30 to 40 days, maximum 60 days.

The *Financial Administration Act* does not permit interest payments on progress payments, performance security deposits or holdbacks, until the 61st day after the date the money becomes due. The due date is calculated from the date the Company receives the invoice or the Company authorizes payment/release (whichever is the latter), to the date the Ministry of Finance prints the cheque. Interest rates are set by the Office of the Comptroller General. Interest claims of less than \$5 are not payable.

Bidders' Dispute Resolution

If a problem should occur during this tender call, it should be resolved informally with the Company representative named in the invitation to tender.

Disputes occurring during the performance of the work/service will be governed by the dispute resolution terms and conditions of the Agreement.

Forest Company Safety Requirements***Safe Certification Requirement***

If indicated in the Conditions of Tender as applicable, bidders must be aware of the safe certification requirements in order to be eligible to bid.

Additional information can be found from the following websites:
<http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/bcts/safety/> <http://www.bcforestsafe.org/>

Hand Falling Operations

All forestry and non-forestry related activities that include or have the potential to include hand falling, requires the Contractor to designate a Falling Supervisor. Bidders should refer to the Safety Conditions Schedules and bid accordingly.

Lobbyist Registration Act

It is the contractor's responsibility to abide by all applicable laws. If the contractor falls within the parameters of the *Lobbyists Registration Act*, then it is the contractor's responsibility to make this determination and register if necessary.