

**Wildland Risk and Forest Resilience Database Proposal
Statement of Work and Request for Proposals
Southwest Idaho Landscape, Idaho**

Background and Statement of Work:

The National Forest Foundation (NFF) and the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) are working together to ensure the long-term forest resilience in the Boise Front Focal Area. To better manage this landscape, the Boise National Forest and partners are seeking a contractor to build a geodatabase to address the complex challenges of forest restoration and fuel management planning. This application will accelerate the planning process and utilize up-to-date data to develop multiple scenarios to better inform current and future forest treatment plans. The development of several models will enable well-informed decisions on risk-mitigation across the forest. This application will need to be refreshed and regularly updated with new data for plans to be reassessed and reprioritized. These models will need to be packaged and published as a transferable, updatable, geodatabase for partner access. The database will assist the Forest Service with tracking current conditions and help the agency prepare for potential unplanned disturbances (i.e., wildland fire). This database is especially important for the wildland-urban interface communities across the Boise National Forest and surrounding area.

Through this Request for Proposals (RFP), the NFF, in partnership with the USFS Boise National Forest, is seeking a qualified contractor to build a geodatabase to help inform and accelerate the forest management planning process.

Information Requested

If interested in this project, please provide a bid for the above statement of work by providing approach, work experience, and cost. Please also include your capacity for this project and efficiency in building adaptive-model geodatabases specifically around natural resource and forest planning in the past, if any.

This is a request for proposals only and bids furnished are not offers. This request does not commit the National Forest Foundation to pay any costs incurred in the preparation or submission of the proposal or to contract for supplies or services.

General Specifications

- (a) Description of Work – This Request for Proposals is for services related to a natural resource analytics database, including the following and as detailed in Appendix A:

Building a high-quality, adaptive geodatabase that can inform the land management planning process with multiple scenarios integrating data from data collections.

1. A database that can generate polygons based on management units based on physical (e.g., grade), biological (e.g., homogeneous vegetation patterns), and anthropogenic (e.g., roads, potential operational delineations for wildfire management) characteristics.
2. Deliver packageable and publishable materials that evaluate and select feasible treatments for individual management units and model the effects of each feasible treatment on resources and assets.
3. Product guide and supplemental technical support.
4. Annual subscription to continually access and manage the models for future forest planning.

A detailed Scope of Work is included in appendix A.

The Contractor shall identify which they can supply in terms of materials, labor, equipment, supplies, supervision, quality control, and incidentals required to complete the work described. The Contractor shall perform all work in a safe and conscientious manner.

- (b) Project Location - This project is for a section of the Boise National Forest, Payette National Forest and other lands in southwest Idaho. Project area includes roughly 2.1 million acres north of Boise, Idaho.
- (c) Work Schedule - Preparation and data curation would take place during September-October 2023. In the first 2-3 months, the USFS and partners would transfer strategic area resources and asset data to the contractor. By December 2023, deliverable models of fire hazard, drought hazard, restoration, etc. to be made accessible to USFS, NFF, and partner organizations.

Pricing Schedule

Contractor shall propose a price and payment schedule for the work.

Description	Unit	Unit Cost	Quantity	Total Cost
Data Curation and Set-up	Acres		2,069,3982, acres	
Stewardship Atlas Creation	Lump Sump			
Continued Access to Data (Annual Subscription)	Lump Sum			

Contractor Qualifications

- (a) References – Please provide three references.

- (b) Past Experience – Please provide a brief explanation of previous work experience with land management agencies.

Insurance Requirements

Upon selection of the winning bid, the Contractor agrees that it has and shall maintain the following insurance coverage indicated below. The effective date of all coverage shall precede the start of any work.

- a. State minimum workers' compensation insurance coverage for its employees, if any.
- b. Broad form general liability, property damage, and automotive liability insurance in the minimum amount of \$1,000,000 for bodily injury, death, or damage to property of any person and \$2,000,000 for bodily injury, death, or damage to property of more than one person. The Contractor shall name NFF an Additional Named Insured and provide NFF with a certificate of insurance evidencing such coverages, prior to the initiation of the Scope of Services.
- c. Contractor shall provide professional errors and omissions liability insurance if its Scope of Services includes professional services. Professional services for purposes of this section include, but are not limited to performing: architecture, engineering, landscape architecture, land surveying or planning, geological investigation, interior design/space planning, preparation and signing or stamping of drawings, maps, surveys or construction specifications, consulting, or design and development of computer software, programs or websites by the Contractor or by subcontractors on behalf of the Contractor. The minimum coverage limits required are \$1,000,000 for each claim and \$1,000,000 annual aggregate.

Prohibited Telecommunications Services and Equipment

The Contractor is responsible for compliance with the prohibition on certain telecommunications and video surveillance services or equipment identified in 2 CFR 200.216.

Performance Security

Contractor shall post cash, a letter of credit, bond, or other financial security that is easily convertible into cash in a form acceptable to the NFF, in its sole determination, to assure completion of the work required under any subsequent agreement and payment of all amounts lawfully due to all persons supplying or furnishing to the Contractor or Contractor's subcontractors with labor, laborers, materials, rental machinery, tools or equipment used or to perform the work. Contractor may incorporate required associated costs into mobilization costs or other approved expenses.

- a. Work that is classified as construction in accordance with the Miller Act or Little Miller Act or if required per conditions of the funding source, payment and performance bonding will be required in the full amount of any Agreement. For the purposes of this Request for Proposal, construction is defined as "any contract greater than \$100,000 for the construction, alteration, or repair of any public building or public work where the federal government is the owner", or
- b. If Contractor is not self-performing at least 85% of the total contract value or if the cost of materials is in excess the larger of \$100,000 or 50% of the agreement, payment and performance bonding will be required in the full amount of the agreement, or
- c. If the value of the agreement is in excess of \$250,000, Contractor will be required to post financial security in a form acceptable to the NFF in the amount of 5% of the total agreement value up to \$250,000 in total financial security.

Federal Exclusion Verification

The selected Contractor vendor will be required to affirm that neither it nor its principals are presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this transaction by any Federal department or agency

Bid Submission

Submit bids via email to jrodriguez@nationalforests.org by September 21, 2023

Contractor Selection Process

The NFF will use the Evaluation Factors below to review each submitted bid. Based on the outcomes of that selection process, the NFF will notify successful and unsuccessful bidders by September 28, 2023 and will prepare a separate contract document.

Point of Contact

For questions about the details of producing the bid, please contact:

Josh Rodriguez
National Forest Foundation Intermountain Program Manager
208-401-8638
jrodriguez@nationalforests.org

Evaluation Factors and Relative Importance

The following criteria will be used in the evaluation of submitted proposals, ordered from highest weighting (level 3) to lowest weighting (level 1).

Level 3 Criteria

- Price / cost
- Equipment and contractor capability
- Timing of when contractor can begin and/or finish the project
- Past performance, references, and USFS feedback

Level 2 Criteria

- Technical proposal / proposed approach to project
- Overall strategic benefits to meeting NFF goals and grant needs, requirements, and timelines

Level 1 Criteria

- Benefits to the local community
- Relationship to local community

Equal Opportunity Provider

In accordance with Federal law and U.S. Department of Agriculture policy, the National Forest Foundation is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, religion, political beliefs, or disability.

Appendix A: Scope of Work

The National Forest Foundation (NFF) seeks to accomplish critical work identified in the Southwest Idaho Priority Landscape (SIL) and adjoining lands totaling approximately 2.1 million acres. The purpose of the services to be delivered under this request for proposals is to facilitate, develop, and maintain data analysis tools and geodatabases that will be used to develop a long-term implementation strategy to improve, restore and protect critical habitat in the SIL. These are broad reaching tools that assist with work preparation, monitoring, project design, and NEPA necessary for all aspects of Stewardship restoration activities.

Project Specifications

Contractor will work with the NFF and partners to jointly create a cloud-based decision support software platform for accelerated implementation and disturbance risk mitigation across the SIL.

Project Goals: •

Process LiDAR throughout the major watersheds included in the SIL project area, to enable assessment of the current state of wildlands and community risk/resilience. This will create a map of ecologically based landscape segments containing the appraised values and risks to assets and resources located within them, along with the return on investment from treatment. The return on investment from treatment is further quantified in terms of avoided loss and treatment benefit.

- Provide individual sequenced project plans, packaged with approximate resources required by project, implementation costs, and avoided loss/treatment benefit estimate.
- The SIL management team and cooperators can then use these maps to create and compare coordinated risk mitigation and treatment benefit scenarios, enabling well informed decisions across complex and multi-jurisdictional landscapes.

Project Benefits:

- The ability to develop a coordinated, multi-jurisdictional community resilience and forest health treatment plan within months. This will enable a significant increase in pace and scale of forest restoration work to mitigate risks associated with wildfire hazard, improve ecosystems, and improve watershed function.
- To generate a comprehensive risk assessment for the Southwest Idaho Landscape with comprehensive and complete GIS information that can be used to express needs and priorities to the public and partners throughout the SIL.

Utilization of a common scientific framework for resilience.

- Stakeholder ability to mitigate catastrophic wildfire risk in its forested communities, pristine waters, forest function, critical biodiversity, and wildlife habitat, while maximizing forest benefits over the next few decades.

Deliverables:

- Processed LiDAR derivatives: Canopy Height Model; Tree Approximate Objects; Canopy Cover at multiple height slices;
- Stewardship Atlas;
- Geospatial program deployment with annual subscription support;
- Product guide and supplemental technical report.

Phases:

The following is an estimate on the phases of this project:

Phase 1 - Data Curation and Setup (3-6 Months): This work starts with data curation, working with project collaborators to identify available datasets for the project, and opportunities to fill gaps. NFF and the contractor will work with other agencies and partners to acquire data for agreed upon gaps. The contractor will create a Stewardship Atlas, a multi-jurisdictional management strategy, make the data available to all collaborators, and eventually the public. Develop a schedule of data integration from the WCS to clearly identify areas of data/process integration and areas where new processes may be required.

Phase 2 - Deployment and Support (6-18 Months): The Stewardship Atlas will then be imported into the contractor supported database, where collaborators across the project area can run multiple land management scenarios, optimizing for benefits. Training will be provided by the contractor and ongoing support to the end user. Contractor will automatically estimate and package treatment costs, along with economic and ecologic projected loss, avoided loss, and ecological benefit for easy comprehension and cross-scenario comparison.

Phase 3 - Contractor Monitoring and Updates (18+ Months): This is where implementation, monitoring and reevaluation will occur. Project management proposals will be developed, conditions will be monitored over time, and an adaptative management plan will be created to account for changes throughout the lifetime of the collaboration.

Milestones	Start Date	End Date
Data Curation and Set-Up		
-Connect data to partners / Identify data gaps	Oct-23	Jun-24
Stewardship Atlas Creation		
-Modeling fire hazard and drought hazard	Jan-24	Jun-25
-Restoration modeling	Jan-24	Jun-25

-Risk assessment development	Jan-24	Jun-25
Continued Access to Data (Subscription Services)	Jun-25	Jun-27