

SOUTH COAST NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT INC.



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Request for Written Quotation

Request Title: Merivale Management Plan

Request Number: RFQ-RLPP2-5

Closing Time: 5.00PM (WS Time)

Closing Date: 18th March 2020

1. INTRODUCTION

South Coast Natural Resource Management Inc. (South Coast NRM) is an incorporated, community-owned, not-for-profit organisation formed in 1994. Our purpose is to be the peak NRM regional body that brings people, organisations and information together to drive sustainable natural resources management (NRM) with positive social and economic outcomes in the south coast region of Western Australia.

Through partnerships we have developed a framework for managing the future of our key natural resources. Our regional activities and investment targets are guided by Southern Prospects 2019-2024, our Regional Strategy with strong community, industry and government support for on-groundwork organised under the themes of Land, Water, Biodiversity, Cultural Heritage and Coastal and Marine.

The South Coast region comprises six subregions from Walpole in the west, Cape Arid east of Esperance, north to Tambellup, Mount Madden and Salmon Gums and out to the three nautical mile State marine boundary.

South Coast NRM is managed by a Board comprised of community nominated representatives and is one of 56 Australian NRM groups committed to the sustainable long-term management of our natural environment. With regional offices in Albany and Esperance South Coast NRM employs dedicated staff working in NRM across all six regional themes.

CONDITIONS OF QUOTING

In submitting a Quote, the Respondent is deemed to have read and understood the Request.

The Respondent may contact South Coast NRM to request clarification.

On receipt of the Quote South Coast NRM may request additional information in relation to the content of the quote for the sole purpose of clarification.

The successful bidder will be required to provide evidence of Insurance Policies held, in the form of copies of Certificates of Currency, relevant to this Project prior to any payment of funding.

CLARIFICATION MAY BE SOUGHT FROM

Healthy Environments Program Manager: Brett Dal Pozzo

Telephone: (08) 9845 8537 or Mobile: 0458 401 422

E-mail: Brettd@southcoastnrm.com.au

SUBMISSION OF OFFER

Offers to be addressed to:

Chief Financial Officer

South Coast NRM

88 Stead Road

Albany WA 6330

OR Emailed to: brettd@southcoastnrm.com.au

Final quotes are to be received by COB **5.00PM (WST) on 18th March 2020**. Quotes lodged after the closing date and time will be deemed late and may be excluded from consideration.

Emailed ~~and Facsimiled~~ submissions will be received but must be on the business letterhead, and/or signed by the relevant signatory.

2. SELECTION PROCESS

South Coast NRM attempts to achieve the best possible outcomes for South Coast NRM and the broader community by following the principles outlined in the WA State Government *Value for Money* policy and the *Open and Effective Competition* policy in the purchase of its goods and services.

South Coast NRM also recognises the need to consider other relevant policies which provide wider benefits to the community, such as the *Buy Local* policy, *Buying Wisely to Ensure Access for People with Disabilities* policy, and the *Building Local Industry* policy.

OFFERED PRICE

The Respondent is expected to provide a Total fixed fee detailing each of the expected expense line items and showing calculation details.

Please provide the indicative hours and fee (indicated in the Total fixed fee), and the Respondent must also include (where appropriate) a Schedule of Rates detailing the hourly rate proposed to be charged for the provision of the service (not including the purchase of goods). The proposed hourly rate must include all management, supervision, travel hours and charges, and reporting (written or otherwise).

3. SPECIFICATION FOR GOODS AND/OR SERVICES

BACKGROUND, SCOPE AND DESCRIPTION OF SERVICES

Summary:

Through funding from the Australian Government's National Landcare Program, South Coast NRM is engaging in partnership with Aboriginal land managers to support projects across the region that protect EPBC listed species. South Coast NRM will engage external consultants to develop Management Plans for land assets owned or managed by Aboriginal corporations, with targeted recovery actions, for the conservation of threatened EPBC species. Quotes are being sought for the development of a Merivale Management Plan, the property selected, for the conservation of environmental values in relation to the Australasian Bittern which is listed as Endangered under the EPBC Act. Merivale has significant cultural values for the local Aboriginal community. The plan will be developed in close consultation with Esperance Tjaltjraak Native Title Aboriginal Corporation (ETNTAC) and the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA).

Background:

- South Coast NRM is currently implementing a major project, aimed at reducing threats to six (6) EPBC species, through the Australian Government's Regional Land Partnerships (RLP) program.
- The 6 EPBC species targeted in the South Coast NRM region are: Gilberts Potoroo; Australasian Bittern; Malleefowl; Western Ringtail Possum; Chuditch and Western Ground Parrot.
- South Coast NRM's EPBC projects are focussed on implementing recovery actions to mitigate threats to EPBC species. Recovery actions include activities to reduce habitat fragmentation and increase connectivity, as well protective measure such as fencing, weed control, pest animal control, revegetation and monitoring.
- Building on project work with landowners, land managers and community groups conducted in previous years, South Coast NRM is extending the work of protecting EPBC species within the region by working more closely and in partnership with Aboriginal land owners and managers.
- One focus of the current project is producing a Merivale Management Plan for an area of land held under Native Title by the Esperance Tjaltjraak Native Title Aboriginal Corporation (ETNTAC).
- This area includes Big Boom and Little Boom Swamps, important habitat for the Endangered Australasian Bittern (*Botaurus poiciloptilus*)
- South Coast NRM will support the development of the Management Plan in partnership with ETNTAC and DBCA.

Project Purpose and Description:

The purpose of developing the Merivale Management Plan is to ascertain and then articulate the environmental values of the property with regards to guiding habitat protection and recovery actions for Australasian Bittern, one of the targeted EPBC species within the South Coast NRM Region. As an Aboriginal managed land asset, the Management Plan will take into account known cultural values as an essential component of the environmental values of the land area.

The Management Plan will:

- i. Describe the current known environmental and cultural values of the land asset, with particular relevance to the Australasian Bittern.
- ii. Describe future works and actions (over 3-year period) with regards to protection of habitat and recovery actions for Australasian Bittern. This will include developing a map to reference key site features and location(s) for proposed works.
- iii. Prioritise recovery actions and provide indicative costs for recovery actions listed within the Plan over the 3-year period.
- iv. Propose an appropriate monitoring regime to ascertain the effect and value of recovery actions in coming years.

Project Scope:

The four major components and deliverables of the project are:

- i. Desktop survey of relevant flora, fauna, cultural and social components of the land asset by **mid April 2020**.
- ii. On-ground survey to identify key threats with reference to Australasian Bittern and associated key habitat. **April 2020**.
- iii. Consult with South Coast NRM, Birdlife Australia and other relevant land managers including Shire of Esperance, and the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions.
- iv. Complete draft Merivale Management Plan for review and comment by South Coast, ETNTAC and partner organisations by **end of May 2020**.
- v. Final Property Management Plan submitted by **23 June 2020**.

Objectives:

The objectives of this project are:

- Develop a Management Plan for Merivale in consultation with Aboriginal and other land managers.
- Identify targeted recovery actions to reduce key threats to the Australasian Bittern and its key habitat.

Expected Outcomes:

The expected outcomes are:

- Completed Management Plan for Merivale.
- Costed and prioritised recovery actions and schedule of works.
- Map of recovery action sites.

Timeframe and Reporting:

Commencement Date: as soon as practicable after acceptance of quote.

Termination Date: The project is to be completed and Final Report delivered to South Coast NRM by 23rd June 2020.

The Project Reporting is to follow the milestones and dates as set out below:

Milestone 1: Desk Top Survey *Completed by 20th April 2020*

Milestone 2: On-ground Survey *Undertaken by 30th April 2020*.

Milestone 3: Draft Property Management Plan *Delivered to Project manager by 22nd May 2020*

Milestone 4: Final Property Management Plan *Delivered to Project manager by 23rd June 2020*

Property Location:

Location: Merivale, approximately 30km east of Esperance, bounded by Stockdale Road to the west and Cape Le Grand National Park to the east. Including Big Boom and Little Boom Swamp.

Access via Merivale Road.

Held under non-exclusive Native Title by ETNTAC.

Support provided by South Coast NRM:

South Coast NRM will provide the following support to the project:

- i. Identification and contact details of key stakeholders (including Aboriginal corporation members) and land manager partners.
- ii. Facilitation of consultation with Aboriginal community members.
- iii. Facilitation of formal discussion sessions with Aboriginal community members.
- iv. On-going phone contact support as required.
- v. Final endorsement of the of the Management Plan by ETNTAC, other land managers and partner organisations.

Specific Project Requirements:

Funding for this project is provided by South Coast NRM, through the Australian Government's National Landcare Program.

All logos of participating funding partners, specifically South Coast NRM and the Australian Government's National Landcare Program Regional Land Partnerships, are to be used on documentation produced as part or as a result of this Contract.

Media or other documentation made public as a result of the project will require approval from South Coast NRM.
