Request for Proposals:

Snoqualmie Valley Small-Scale Water Storage Assessment

Project Sponsor: Snoqualmie Valley Watershed Improvement District

Proposal and Bid Deadline: August 1st, 2018, 5pm

Project Contact: Inquiries are encouraged. Please address questions and requests for additional information to:

Cynthia Krass
SVWID Executive Director
PO Box 1148
Carnation WA, 98104
cynthia@svwid.com
(425) 549-0316

Short Project Description: WRJA 7 watershed managers have long discussed the potential for water storage to assist the region in managing high flood volumes in winter combined with low flows in summer. However, to date no agency or entity has studied the feasibility of specific storage proposals. The Snoqualmie Valley Watershed Improvement District is proposing to investigate the feasibility of small scale storage of high flows for later release to augment in-stream flows during low flow periods for the benefit of fish and to provide irrigation water for agriculture. This project includes identification and evaluation of possible off-channel storage sites and preliminary design of one to three projects.

Project Budget: $56,000
I. Project Description and Statement of Work

Project Background: Recent summer low flows and correlated high water temperatures in the Snoqualmie River highlight trends forecast by climate change models (King County, 2016). During summer months, the Snoqualmie River frequently falls below established instream flow levels. These low flows impact resources for both fish and farms in the Snoqualmie Valley. For fish, summer low flows reduce available habitat, magnify high water temperatures, and concentrate pollutants. For farms, low flows result in a lack of available water, as more farmers need access to lawful irrigation. The Snoqualmie Valley Watershed Improvement District (SVWID) recently completed an assessment of water resources and needs in the District, titled *Initial Conditions and Needs Assessment of Snoqualmie Valley Water Bank* (AMP Insights, November 2016). The Report recommends SVWID consider alternative sources of new water supply, including studying long-term water supply options.

The Conditions and Needs Assessment specifically identifies researching off-channel water storage feasibility options, building on recommendations from the Snohomish Basin Protection Plan (2015) and the Snoqualmie Fish, Farm, Flood Advisory Committee Final Report (2016). These watershed plans identify the need for innovative solutions to water supply in the Snoqualmie watershed. In accordance with these recommendations, SVWID would like to determine if there are viable off-channel water storage options in the Snoqualmie River watershed, for enhancement of seasonal low flows to benefit fish and stored water to provide irrigation supply for agriculture.

A broad group of parties are interested in pursuing water storage for the benefit of instream and out-of-stream uses in the Snoqualmie Valley. The three-year process of the Fish-Farm-Flood advisory group, which included Ecology staff, Tulalip and Snoqualmie Tribes, and the Snoqualmie Watershed Forum, called for water storage feasibility studies for the benefit of instream flow and out-of-stream uses. All interest groups recognize the benefits of successful agricultural land use as a buffer for more intense land uses and that a thriving local agricultural economy carries multiple social, health and environmental benefits as well. Storing water during times of high flow has the potential to both assist farmers in the Valley with water needs during low flow periods and also to benefit instream water needs.

Project Objective: The expected outcome of the Snoqualmie Valley water storage assessment is an evaluation of potential sites and a preliminary design(s) of the one to three of the most promising off-channel storage projects, including analysis of their potential instream and out-of-stream benefits.

Statement of Work:

Task 1: Conduct a preliminary analysis to identify and evaluate potential sites for instream flow enhancement and water supply for agriculture

Using best available hydrogeological science, conduct a lower watershed-level search for potential sites appropriate for small off-channel storage (emphasis on facilities of 10 acre-feet or
less) to augment instream flow and provide additional water for agricultural needs. Geographic focus will be on the following tributaries: Cherry Creek, Ames (Soldberg) Creek, Harris Creek, Langlois Creek, Griffin Creek, Patterson Creek, and the Raging River, however some sites in the vicinity of the mainstem Snoqualmie may also be considered. The total number of sites evaluated will rely on available budget and recommendations from the consultant. The SVWID also has several specific parcels that have been suggested as possible storage sites that should be included in the assessment including a water ski lake on the Foster/Williams parcel near the confluence of the Tolt and Snoqualmie Rivers and several manure lagoons that are no longer in use.

**Task 1 Subtasks include:**

**Task 1.1** Prepare a summary of the methodology and screening and ranking process for Tasks 1 and 2 for review by Tribes and stakeholders prior to initiating the analysis. Assist SVWID staff, as requested with soliciting review of the methodology by Tulalip and Snoqualmie Tribes, watershed stakeholders and Ecology staff.

**Task 1.2** Identify potentially suitable sites in geographies specified above and conduct a desktop analysis evaluating each site across a range of criteria including: area, surface water bodies, soils, surficial geology, storage capacity for irrigation water supply, ability to store high flows and improve water quality, cost, and other recommended criteria to be discussed with SVWID staff, board and partners. Following initial screening for fatal flaws, rank remaining sites based on their potential to provide water for agricultural use and instream flow enhancement. Sites that don’t meet both of these criteria but that do provide flood control benefit or show promise for groundwater mitigation for domestic wells should also be noted документирован so they can be pursued for other purposes that are beyond the scope/purpose of this particular program.

**Task 1.3** Storage site analysis memo containing findings from task 1.2 and presentation to a working group outlining assessment, site rankings and recommendations on sites to bring to next stage of feasibility analysis.

**Task 1 Goal Statement:** To perform a comprehensive assessment of storage sites in key geographies in the Snoqualmie Valley for their potential to store water to benefit instream flows and irrigated agriculture and rank and prioritize these sites for further exploration.

**Task 2: Exploration and Analysis of Highly Ranked Storage Sites**

This task will build on the desktop site analysis developed in task 1 in which potential sites for small scale storage opportunities were identified and evaluated. Using best available hydrogeology science, further investigation of feasibility of five to seven of the highest-ranking sites will be conducted, including site visits, permit consideration, interviews with potential stakeholders, and further analysis of all factors determining suitability.

**Task 2 Subtasks include:**

**Task 2.1** Further analysis of the top ranked sites from task 1 to further narrow recommended projects for preliminary design under task 3.
**Task 2.2** Assist SVWID staff, as requested, with discussion of proposed project site findings with Tulalip and Snoqualmie Tribes, watershed stakeholders, and Ecology staff.

**Task 2.3** Identify all permits required for top ranked sites including a description of each, the permitting agency, permitting timeline and approximate cost. Assist SVWID staff as requested with preliminary review of projects with permit agencies.

**Task 2.4** Based on findings, assist SVWID staff as requested with preliminary outreach to landowners to gauge interest and conduct site visits.

**Task 2 Goal Statement:** The goal of Task 2 is to explore five to seven projects in more depth based on a common set of feasibility criteria and their potential benefits, in terms of providing mitigation water supply and improved instream habitat conditions, and then to rank the projects on this basis in order to further narrow that list to one to three projects for conceptual design.

**Task 3: Preliminary Design of Water Storage Projects**

Based on the results of task 2, with input from Tribes, stakeholders, and permit agencies, consultant will advise SVWID board on one to three recommended projects to bring forward to conceptual design and support SVWID staff’s efforts to research funding options and develop a proposal for an October 31st funding request deadline. The task will include preparing conceptual designs for the one to three identified projects.

**Task 3 Subtasks include:**

**Task 3.1** Preliminary design of one to three off-channel water storage sites including conceptual design drawings, preliminary analysis with area and storage capacities/available recovered water and preliminary opinion of cost.

**Task 3.2** Provide support to SVWID staff to develop a multi-objective water storage design proposal for an October 31st funding deadline.

**Task 3.3** A final technical memo with one to three preliminary designs and presentation to a workgroup.

**Task Goal statement:** The goal of this task is to bring one to three preferred Snoqualmie Valley water storage project(s) to preliminary design stage, to facilitate development of funding and permits to support a subsequent project implementation phase.

**Project Timeline:** Project completion date is December 31st, 2018 and due to grant funding limitations task 1 is due by October 1st, 2018.
II. Proposal Content

To be considered all proposals must include the following information.

1. Consultant Contact Details: Include firm name(s), address, email, telephone numbers and relevant office locations.

2. Approach to Statement of Work: Provide a concise overview of the respondent’s proposed approach to the statement of work above.

3. Detailed Project Budget: Including hours per task and hourly rates of project personnel.

4. Proposed Timeline: Include a proposed timeline for deliverables of each of the three tasks.

5. Consultant Qualifications and Experience: Include a list of key project team personnel and relevant experience and qualifications for the firm and individual personnel.

6. Consultant References: Include a list of at least three references with contact information for similar services.

III. Administrative Requirements

Proposal Submission Instructions: Proposals must be received by August 1st, 2018 at 5pm via regular mail or electronically to the addresses below. If submitting electronically please submit one pdf document. Proposals should be limited to eight pages not including attachments.

Cynthia Krass
SVWID Executive Director
PO Box 1148
Carnation WA, 98104
cynthia@svwid.com

Answers to Questions about the RFP: Potential respondents are encouraged to submit questions in writing to Cynthia Krass, cynthia@svwid.com or via phone: 425-549-0316.

Criteria for Proposal Evaluation/Selection Process: The SVWID staff and board will review proposals, solicit clarification if necessary, and provide recommendation to SVWID board.

The following evaluation criteria will be used:

a. Experience with designing and conducting similar work,
b. Local knowledge,
c. Cost-effectiveness of proposal,
d. Clarity, quality and presentation of proposal.
Award of Contract: The awards of the contract is expected by August 9, 2018. SVWID may choose to conduct interviews during the week of August 6th, 2018. SVWID may also award a contract without conducting interviews. One or more respondents may be asked to present at the SVWID Board meeting on August 8th, 2018.

Project Timeline: The estimated project timeline is included in the table below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Task</th>
<th>Expected Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Proposals Due</td>
<td>August 1, 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proposals Reviewed</td>
<td>August 1st- August 7th 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Estimated Contract Award</td>
<td>August 9, 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Estimated Project Start Date</td>
<td>August 15, 2018</td>
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<tr>
<td>Task 1 Approx. Due Date</td>
<td>October 1, 2018</td>
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<tr>
<td>Project Completion Date</td>
<td>December 31, 2018</td>
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Notification: Respondents will be notified as to the success of their bid by electronic mail.

Right to reject proposals and negotiation: The SVWID reserves the right to reject any and all proposals.

Right to postpone the RFP: The SVWID reserves the right to postpone the acceptance of the proposal and the award of the contract for a period not to exceed thirty (30) days; or to reject any and all bids received and further advertise the project for bids.

Agreement: SVWID will review proposals for the project and may propose modifications to the selected contractor before finalizing the contract. Once the final selection is made, the scope of work will be finalized and an agreement drafted based on the proposal.