

Request for Proposals  
**Centennial Creek**  
**Stream Restoration Project**

Response Due: January 9, 2023 at 5:00pm

Contact:

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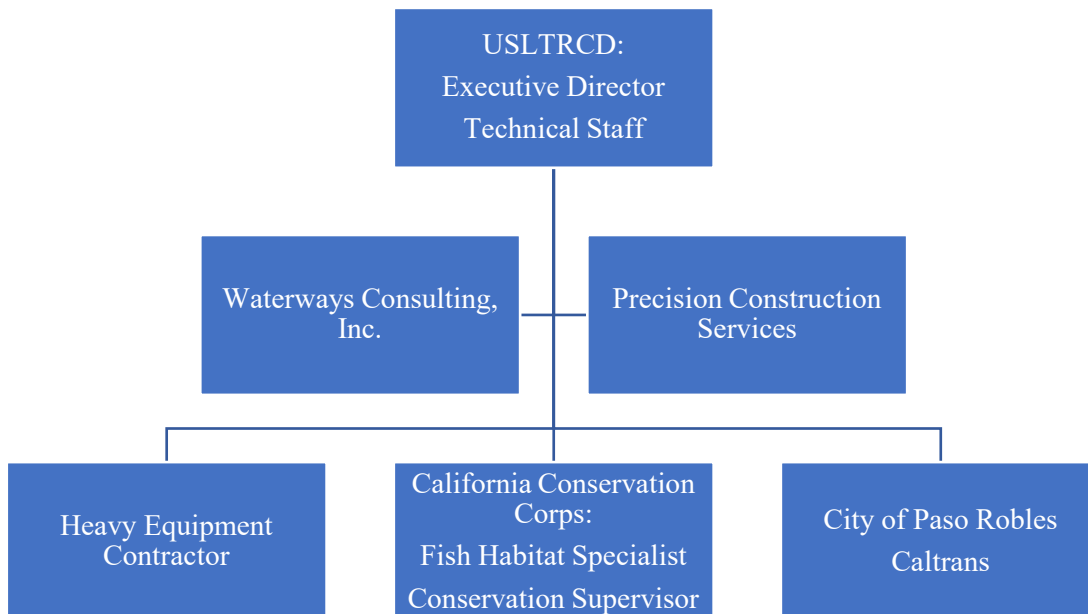
# Upper Salinas-Las Tablas Resource Conservation District

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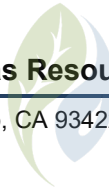
## 1. Introduction

This request for proposals (RFP) pertains to a stream rehabilitation project in Paso Robles, California, being undertaken by the Upper Salinas-Las Tablas Resource Conservation District (hereafter referred to as “USLTRCD”). Engineered designs have been developed for this project and will be strictly adhered to. This site is comprised of 6,300 linear feet of waterway in Centennial Creek that runs through the City of Paso Robles’ open space in Centennial Park. The work under this contract is being funded by mitigation funds to the USLTRCD from the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans). This is a prevailing wage project.

This project includes creating and reestablishing sections of Centennial Creek to restore hydrologic functions by arresting incision and allowing the stream to reconnect with an active floodplain. USLTRCD staff, engineering staff from Waterways Consulting, Inc., and Precision Construction Services will provide project oversight and management on-site. Manual labor from the California Conservation Corps (CCC) will also be a large factor on the site and will be responsible for certain components of the overall project. Hierarchical structure will conform to the following flow chart and will be further outlined at the site and understood to be an integral part of the project undertaking.



Interested contractors are invited to submit qualifications in accordance with the requirements of this Request for Proposal by **Monday, January 9, 2023, at 5:00 pm.**



## 1.1 Background

The purpose of this project is to meet regulatory agency mitigation requirements for impacts to wetlands and riparian habitat in the Salinas River Watershed by improving watershed function, reducing erosion, increasing complexity and distribution of riparian habitat, and enhance local hydrology in Centennial Creek, Paso Robles.

The Centennial Creek Stream Restoration Project (CCSRP) will involve removing culverts, replacement of an undersized culvert with properly sized concrete box culvert, construction of roughened riffles at intervals along the stream, and widening the narrow creek channels to reestablish flood terraces and create wetlands. Finally, a robust planting plan will be implemented to increase the native plant diversity and habitat quality.

## 1.2 Project Goal

The overall goal for the CCSR is the successful installation of constructed riffles and recontouring of the stream channel profile to facilitate the restoration and reestablishment of Centennial Creek hydrology. The criteria established to evaluate the success of the restoration goals are as follows:

1. Engineered plans executed to the satisfaction of USLTRCD and Waterways Consulting, Inc. staff; and,
2. Satisfactory approval of restoration goals by City of Paso Robles and Caltrans representatives.

The approach to stabilizing the channel and restoring floodplain and wetland function to Centennial Creek includes the following design elements:

*Floodplain Benching:* This project element consists of a combination of raising the base level of the channel, by building constructed riffles, and lowering the floodplain, through excavation, to increase the frequency flow inundates the floodplain, thereby restoring channel-floodplain connectivity, raising the local groundwater table, and restoring channel and floodplain processes. The number and thickness of the constructed riffles and the depth of floodplain excavation varies by site, but the objective is to facilitate activation of the floodplain during a typical storm event, or several times a year.

*Wetland Creation:* This project element is like floodplain benching except the elevation difference between the raised channel and the excavated floodplain bench would be minimal, resulting in the wetland bench being inundated under most flow conditions. The

constructed riffle spacing is tighter under this project element to maximize inundation within the entire wetland bench, but the design elements are similar and would include building constructed riffles and excavating a bench. Similarly, the depth of excavation and thickness, location, and spacing of the constructed riffles are site dependent.

*Channel Stabilization:* Portions of the channel that are incised but lack opportunities to reactivate floodplain because the creek flows through a more confined valley will be stabilized by building constructed riffles at key locations to provide grade control, locally raise the bed of the channel, and limit active headcut migration.

*Replacement of Undersized Culvert:* At one location in the park an undersized culvert will be replaced with an appropriately sized embedded concrete culvert. The culvert will be embedded with natural stream substrate, referred to as engineered streambed material (ESM) and will be sized to fit the constraints of the site and convey the modified hydrology.

The constructed riffle concept is based on the idea of simulating a natural stream channel by importing and placing an engineered mix of substrate, referred to as engineered streambed material (ESM), that is designed to resist erosion. This technique mimics a riffle in that it holds the overall grade of the channel (whereas pools erode and scour), resists erosion during high flow events, and facilitates up and downstream movement of aquatic organisms. It is also often constructed to obtain hydraulic variability by creating an irregular, rough, surface where larger grain sizes protrude above the primary grade of the riffle. Therefore, it sometimes called a roughened riffle or roughened channel. Hydraulic modeling tools are used to determine the gradation of the material used to build the constructed riffle and several gradation specifications may be required depending on the degree to which each site conditions vary.

## 2. Scope of Services

The inter-water work period is a 12-week window. Construction is expected to take up to 10 weeks although actual length of construction will depend on the capabilities of the selected contractor. Most of the proposed work consists of grading and off-haul of excess material and building the constructed riffles. A total of **23** constructed riffles within **12** treatment areas are proposed throughout the project site (Phase 2). The following construction approach is anticipated for each of the project elements:

*Project Coordination.* The selected contractor will work directly with USLTRCD staff and Precision Construction Services. Appropriate and professional communication and



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interaction is required. The selected contractor will have a designated point of contact to communicate with USLTRCD and Precision Construction Services.

*Material Acquisition:* The heavy equipment contractor will be responsible for purchasing construction materials for the CCSRP including rock for roughened riffles and slope protection, the concrete box culvert, tree protection fencing, and erosion control devices including hydroseeding. Engineered plans call for approximately 1,600 cubic yards of total rock. USLTRCD will oversee approval of types of rock material used for roughened riffles. The seed mix proposed in the engineered plans will be strictly adhered to. Acquisition and delivery timing of materials will be the responsibility of the contractor. The Contractor shall be responsible for communicating with USLTRCD staff and Precision Construction Services to coordinate material delivery and timing for expeditious flow of work.

*Timing:* Groundbreaking is anticipated to begin May 15, 2023. Site preparation, equipment staging, and materials acquisition may begin in late April. Dates are negotiable. Staging area and access will be coordinated with the USLTRCD and Precision Construction Services. Requisite permits held by Caltrans require all in-stream components of the project must be completed by October 15, 2023.

*Floodplain and Wetland Benching:* Both of these project elements will be constructed in a similar manner and consist entirely of grading. Most of the material excavated from each of the floodplain or wetland benches would be off-hauled and disposed of at an appropriate facility approved by the USLTRCD (tentatively Spurr Co. site off Buena Vista Drive in Paso Robles, California). Given most of the proposed excavation is shallow, we anticipate the work will be conducted by an excavator, front loader, and dump truck. The excavator operator will likely excavate and stockpile material with a front loader available to move the stockpiled material to a dump truck that would be positioned on the existing trail for off-haul. Stockpiling would occur within the unexcavated portion of each bench site with the location moving as the excavation proceeds. The selected contractor will be responsible for off-hauling material to the designated location.

*Constructed Riffles:* Constructed roughened riffles are included in the project to stabilize actively incising portions of Centennial Creek and raise the bed of the channel to improve channel-floodplain connectivity and wetland function. Most of the material for each constructed riffle will be imported, except for the fine material component of the gradation (potentially available on site). Imported material will likely be stockpiled at the



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staging areas. An excavator will be used at each constructed riffle to over excavate the channel and banks to prepare the site for the appropriate depth, length, and cross-sectional area specified individually for each riffle on the engineering designs. Once prepared, rock will be placed with the larger material installed first and finer material placed in lifts. As each lift is constructed, finer material will be placed and washed in to fill the voids between the larger material. Given the site is dry, wash water will be provided by a water truck. Wash water will also be recycled by pumping used water from the downstream extent of the site. Straw bales will be installed downstream of each site during this activity to limit discharge of turbid water downstream. Any turbid water escaping containment from the site will be pumped through a filter bag to an adjacent flat area and allowed to infiltrate.

*Access and Staging Areas:* Access and staging areas will be established prior to any equipment mobilization and will be flagged. Orange fencing material will be used to delineate access routes to protect adjacent areas from disturbance. All access and staging areas will be treated with erosion control seed and mulch following construction activities. Since we anticipate construction will proceed one site at a time, seeding and mulching will occur as demobilization occurs on a site-specific basis.

*Tree Protection:* Care was taken at each of the project sites to avoid the need to remove trees, especially mature oak trees (> four-inch diameter at height [4" dh]). Where grading activities occur close to existing trees, tree protection measures are proposed (Please refer to USLTRCD Arborist Report). Where noted on the engineering drawings, tree trunks will be surrounded by orange plastic fencing, offset a minimum of 5 feet from the trunk, unless noted otherwise on the drawings or modified in the field by the project arborist. At several sites where willow trees are located within an area proposed for wetland or floodplain grading, the engineering drawings call for the grading to occur around the trunk of the tree, leaving a small area of high ground within the graded surface. This approach is only proposed for tree species other than oak.

*Culvert Replacement:* Site 9 currently consists of two, 24-inch corrugated metal pipes that are undersized for the current site hydrology and are perched at the downstream end, causing high energy conditions that are exacerbating erosion of the channel and banks. In addition, the culverts are frequently overtopped, which has led to multiple phases of grouted rock to be applied as an apron to the downstream end of the pedestrian path and crossing area. Although this crossing is still required since it is along a key pedestrian and bike corridor through the park, improvements need to be made to protect the creek and park infrastructure from further damage. The existing culverts will be removed along



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with the grouted rock apron and will be replaced with a 10 ¼ foot wide by 6 foot high by 25-foot-long concrete box culvert that will be embedded with a 2-foot-thick ESM streambed. The new culvert will be realigned slightly to avoid the existing sewer line. Vegetated RSP will be placed upstream and downstream of the new crossing to protect the culvert and pedestrian path. An excavator will be used to demolish the existing crossing and the site will be prepared with an excavator, front loader, and haul truck. Engineered fill will be placed below the new culvert as bedding material and the new culvert will be placed in sections using either an excavator or small tracked crane. As sections of the culvert are installed, the ESM mix will be installed in the culvert to mimic a natural streambed using the same techniques used to build the constructed riffles. The RSP will be placed using an excavator with void spaces filled with soil to allow for planting within the interstitial spaces between the rock. An asphalt path will be installed to conform to the existing pedestrian path.

*Traffic Management:* Contractor will be responsible for the safe ingress and egress of equipment and materials to the site and staging area. Appropriate public road signage must be acquired and posted to alert traffic and the public to the possibility of slow-downs and large vehicle traffic. Pedestrian traffic through Centennial Park will be managed by the City of Paso Robles, and Precision Construction Services. The heavy equipment contractor is required to coordinate workday schedules with the USLTRCD and Precision Construction Services to ensure public safety during construction.

***Special Note:* This RFP is for construction of items on Sheet C9-C25. Sheets R1-R9 are not included in this RFP and are intended for design purposes only.**

### 3. Project Schedule

Project Start/Groundbreaking

May 15, 2023

Project Completion

October 15, 2023

*Work Schedule:* Monday through Friday during daylight hours. Tuesday July 4, 2023 is Independence Day and will not be a scheduled working day. Due to the high volume of pedestrian use, project staking will be done immediately before grading occurs as vandalism is an issue in Centennial Park. Each workday will require the contractor to wait until biological staff has completed a nesting bird survey of the area. Additionally, USLTRCD staff arborist, or their appointed counterparts, will remain on site during construction to ensure tree protection measures are implemented appropriately.

#### **4. Proposal Content and Format**

Contractors will clearly indicate in their proposals the services, as described above, and their ability to perform those services to USLTRCD.

The following information will be included in the proposal:

##### **4.1 Executive Summary**

Include a concise synopsis of the proposal focused on how the contractor will address USLTRCD's key issues with the contractor's approach to the services described above.

##### **4.2 Qualifications**

Because of the time sensitivity and critical nature of the work described within this RFP, USLTRCD seeks services from highly experienced and qualified firms/team. The firm/team must be able to staff this project with qualified individuals, experienced in the key technical disciplines needed, who will remain committed to this work from inception through completion. A clear and comprehensive organization chart must be presented to illustrate the organization of the team and key team members, including any sub-contractors. Contractor must be familiar with and adhere closely to regulations put forth in project permits. Project permits allowing work on this site includes Army Corps of Engineers 404, Regional Water Quality Control Board 401, California Department of Fish and Wildlife 1600 permit, and City of Paso Robles Grading permit.

###### **4.2.1 Firm/Team Qualifications**

Provide a statement of the firm's/team's qualifications, including a brief resume(s) of lead staff members and/or sub-contractors proposed to work on the project. Include the office locations of key staff and sub-contractors. The information should be focused on experience on similar and/or complementary projects. The roles proposed for each sub-contractor as well as their qualifications in that area will also be identified in the proposal. Your ability to identify and highlight key staff in the proposal will be considered when evaluating your understanding of the project. The Contractor's team members should be able to exhibit and understand the appropriate licenses, certifications, and pre-qualifications for services. Previous experience working with the CCC and the USLTRCD should be noted.

Include a description of three (3) of the most recent projects/programs/efforts that included similar scope of work. The following information will be included for each project:



- Client
- Client contact information
- Project Description
- Start and end dates of the project
- Key staff member's role
- Contractor fees and overall project budget
- Contractor's role in the project – highlight roles of staff

#### **4.2.2 Technical Approach**

The contractor(s) technical approach to the project is a very important component of the selection. In the proposal, the contractor(s) is requested to demonstrate their project understanding, provide a summary of the critical issues, and describe the contractor's proposed sequence of activities to meet the USLTRCD's objectives for the services they are proposing.

#### **4.3 Statements**

The contractor(s) will include a statement confirming no personal or organizational conflicts of interest are known to exist.

#### **4.4 Licenses, Certifications, and Pre-qualifications**

The contractor(s) will include a table detailing the licenses, certifications, and pre-qualifications currently held by each team member. Copies of said licenses, certifications, and pre-qualifications will be provided upon the request of the USLTRCD.

#### **4.5 Detailed Resumes**

Detailed resumes for key team members may be included as an appendix. No more than two pages per resume.

#### **5. Evaluation & Selection Process**

The USLTRCD will not accept proposals delivered after the closing date and time. Proposals will be mailed, or hand delivered, prior to the closing date with one original and five (5) copies. Note: During the current COVID-19 conditions, emailed proposals will be accepted. The written proposals will be evaluated and scored by the USLTRCD utilizing the following criteria:

- Written Qualifications (40% of Total Score)
  - Firm/Team Qualifications – 25%
  - Performance on previous jobs – 15%



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### Technical Approach (60% of Total Score)

Project understanding – 40%

Critical issues – 20%

Review of proposals will include staff members of USLTRCD, Caltrans, and the City of Paso Robles. The proposals will be ranked individually, and the highest scores will be recommended for consideration by USLTRCD, in compliance with the USLTRCD Procurement Policy. Upon approval by the USLTRCD Board of Directors, USLTRCD staff will announce to all bidding contractors who the selected proposal is awarded to.

After USLTRCD approval, the USLTRCD will enter negotiations with the highest ranked firm. Upon reaching agreement on the scope of work and total not-to-exceed prices for the project, the USLTRCD will award a contract to the selected contractor(s). The selected contractor(s) cannot commence work on any aspect of the project prior to execution of the USLTRCD's standard Agreement.