



Questions and Responses

C003671

Shirley Chisholm State Park Invasive Plant Removal

No.	IFB Section	IFB Page	Question	Response
1			What is the bid bond amount?	A bid bond is not required for this Contract.
2			Is herbicide spraying indicated for/allowed in the DEP rock swales?	<p>Where target invasive species are located in DEP rock swales, they should be treated accordingly as described in Exhibit A – SCSP 2025-2029 Invasive Plant Removal Scope of Services. Currently, there is one known location where target species (Japanese knotweed) are found occurring in and immediately around rock swales. Protocols should be followed, as described in Section 4.0 in Exhibit A. Priorities specific to treatments in and immediately around rock swales include: 1) protection of swale infrastructure, therefore the Contractor shall not engage in any activity that would cause physical damage to the swales or impact their function; and 2) ensuring that herbicide applications are directed only at target invasive species. To the latter, application of herbicides should be avoided should there be flowing or ponded water in the swales to reduce opportunity for migration of herbicides beyond targeted areas (see specification regarding forecasted rain and wet vegetation). Any off-target damage to the environment shall be the responsibility of the Contractor and the applicator(s).</p> <p>Mechanical and chemical control activities occurring within rock swales should be completed with handheld equipment (e.g., backpack sprayer) to avoid damage or physical changes to the swales.</p> <p>See Exhibit A Section 4.1 (8) and (10) and Section 5.2 Method (3)(e) for additional information related to treatment protocols and methods.</p>

3			Is seeding to occur on top of cut material left in place?	<p>Seeding is intended to occur over cut invasive species material left in place, according to Exhibit A – SCSP 2025-2029 Invasive Plant Removal Scope of Services. Cut material, within the lespedeza and mugwort control areas only, shall be mulched or thatched to an approximate particle length of approximately 6-inches and left in place, as described in Exhibit A Sections 5.3 and 5.4. The purpose is two-fold: 1) Reduce ground disturbance and disposal costs associated with collecting and disposing of the cut material; and 2) Utilize the thatched vegetation left in-place as mulching material, as described in Exhibit A Section 6. The Contractor shall ensure that the cut material is mulched or thatched and spread evenly such that the seeded material can maintain adequate contact with the soil (i.e. avoid areas of piled vegetation and areas of bare soil). Additionally, as specified in Exhibit A Section 6, cut vegetation shall be used as mulching material where directed by NYS OPRHP, as there may be some areas where the cut, mulched vegetation is not found to serve as suitable mulching material required for post-treatment seeding.</p> <p>As described, mechanical control of Phragmites (cutting of dense patches) is expected in 2025, and perhaps beyond, in the control subunits identified in Table 3 in Exhibit A. Targeted disturbance seeding and limited restoration seeding are expected within control subunits where Phragmites is cut as well.</p> <p>See Exhibit A Section 5.1 Method (2) (c); Section 5.3 Method (2) (c); Section 5.4 Method (2) (c); and Section 6.0 Materials (2) (b) for related to treatment protocols and methods.</p>
4	Contract Signing Term and Budget	13	If the bidder's grand total of the bid exceeds the budget of 2.5 million, does it automatically disqualify the vendor?	<p>No, as the figures provided on the Bid Form are OPRHP's best estimates for the work to be performed during the term of the contract and are not guarantees of any minimum or maximum amount of work. Regardless of the Grand Total Bid amount provided by the awarded vendor of the solicitation, the contract maximum value will be set at \$2.5 million in accordance with the IFB, including Section 3.6 Contract Signing, Term, and Budget.</p>