



PAJARO VALLEY WATER MANAGEMENT AGENCY

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Sent by Email Only

Request for Qualifications to provide College Lake Integrated Resources Management Project Adaptive Management Plan - Vegetation Surveys

Background

The Pajaro Valley Groundwater Basin is a high priority, critically overdrafted groundwater basin impacted by seawater intrusion. Groundwater provides over 90% of the water supply for the Pajaro Valley and sustains a vibrant agricultural economy that generates approximately \$1 billion in revenue and supports approximately 12,000 jobs.

The Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency (PV Water) is working with all due diligence to implement the [College Lake Integrated Resources Management Project](#) (College Lake Project or Project); a priority project for reducing the problems of seawater intrusion and groundwater overdraft. The PV Water Board of Directors (Board) certified the Final Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the Project in October 2019. In January 2022, the Board adopted the [Adaptive Management Plan](#) (AMP). Most recently, the Board certified an Addendum to the EIR in July 2022. In support of the Project, staff and consultants have been preparing and submitting necessary permit applications and environmental compliance plans to regulatory agencies, conducting some environmental monitoring activities (hydrologic, steelhead, avian), developing final designs, procuring property rights, and working to secure grants to help offset project costs.

Request for Qualifications

To facilitate the next phase of environmental monitoring in support of the Project, PV Water is soliciting Statements of Qualifications from qualified biologists to provide vegetation survey services within the College Lake basin as described in the College Lake Project AMP and its [appendices](#) (specifically, Appendix F). Respondents should review both the AMP and Appendix F to obtain a sense of the objective. Vegetation surveys will need to be conducted once per year, typically in the late summer/early fall, after College Lake is drained and prior to significant rain events.

Tasks

Task 1—Coordinate with PV Water

The consultant will meet with PV Water staff to ask questions, if any, about site boundary data, monitoring methods, and other supporting information provided by PV Water, and to coordinate property access, prior to conducting Task 2. PV Water staff will arrange property access.

Task 2—Conduct Monitoring

The consultant will monitor seasonal wetlands at College Lake using the methodology described in the College Lake Project AMP [Appendix F](#). In short, the consultant will establish permanently marked transects; the geographic coordinates of the end points of each transect will be recorded and reported in the monitoring report along with transect bearing and photographs for each transect taken at the ends of each transect. Transect end points will be recorded with sub-meter accuracy.

Task 3—Produce Monitoring Report

The consultant will produce a monitoring report. The report will include a GIS-based figure showing the location of transects and field boundaries (as previously delineated by PV Water) on a recent aerial image of the dry lake bed. The report also will contain a tabulation of the percent cover of all species and percentage of bare ground (i.e., no plant cover), and the fruiting status and height of high-value waterfowl food plants, for each transect and field. Details of the consultant's methods not included in the methodology in AMP [Appendix F](#), and suggestions, if any for modifications to the survey methodology will also be included. A complete set of all data collected in the field will be provided as an attachment to the report, including date(s) of data collection, plant and bare ground cover data, height and fruiting status of high-value waterfowl plants, and geographic coordinates and photographs of transects.

When submitting Statements of Qualifications, in ten pages or less please provide three examples of recent projects that illustrate the expertise of the team, and identify the roles of proposed team members, including the proposed primary point of contact.

PV Water is interested in utilizing local resources and firms to the extent possible to support the Project. As applicable, we encourage interested firms to identify and partner with local firms and individuals that are familiar with the issues and opportunities, and who can offer support services to this Project in the Pajaro Valley.

PV Water will accept Statements of Qualifications until 4:00 p.m. September 2, 2022.

Please direct any questions on this matter to me at (831) 722-9292 or lockwood@pvwater.org.

Sincerely,



Brian Lockwood
General Manager