





Amendment No.: 002 Title:

Client Reference No.: PW-20-00935058

Hazardous Tree removal at Wabasso and Wapiti Campgrounds - Jasper National Park

## Amendment 002

This amendment is raised to extend the solicitation deadline to January 7, 2021 and to provide distribute questions and answers from the optional site visit held on December 15, 2020, and additional questions received.

## **Solicitation Closing Date**

The closing date for solicitation 5P420-20-0288/A, titled "Hazardous Tree removal at Wabasso and Wapiti Campgrounds – Jasper National Park", is extended from January 5, 2021 until **January 7, 2021 at 2 PM MST**.

If you have already submitted your bid, you are invited to send us your revisions, where necessary, by fax at **1-866-246-6893** or email <u>soumissionsouest-bidswest@canada.ca</u>. Please indicate the solicitation number on all correspondence.

## A. Questions and Answers

- Q1. Concerns that the landing sites proposed on the harvest plan map Appendix A, are not sufficient in size.
- A1. These proposed landing sites were chosen due to the openness in the forested areas, distance from visitor facilities and for efficient and effective loading for hauling purposes. Alternative landing sites can be investigated on site upon contract award in collaboration with Parks Canada representatives.
- Q2. Which roads are paved in the campgrounds?
- A2. The paved roads are outlined in red on the harvest plan map, Appendix A. This includes main roads, loop access roads & loop roads with the exception of the lower loop A sites 1-41 in Wabasso campground. Campsites driveways and living spaces in general are not paved with the exception of Loop AA in Wapiti and campsite D33 in Wabasso.
- Q3. Is the laydown area paved? What is the intended use for this space?
- A3. The laydown area in Wapiti is Loop AA and at the entrance kiosk area in Wabasso. Both are paved. The intended use for this space is for mobile office units if needed, employee vehicle parking, and small equipment parking and storage. No tracked or heavy duty chained equipment should travel or be parked in these paved areas.
- Q4. As 30m off sites to cutting parameters is so close, can processing be done on roads at cut sites, and a mobile burn unit be used to clean up debris as you go be done as an alternative to skidding to a landing site for processing?
- A4. Alternative equipment can be proposed upon contract award if all requirements noted in the specifications are met and methods are approved by the Parks Canada representative. Requirements meaning; equipment is able to meet the minimum requirements for mitigating damages to vegetation, roads, infrastructure, & environment while maintaining debris dispersal and achieving project timelines.
- Q5. Can alternative equipment be used other than what is preferred in the specifications in order to eliminate debris and clean up on roads and campsites? Examples; Using a harvester in place off roads instead of feller buncher, a forwarder to bring out of forest and to bring bulk debris/slash to burn location, forwarders in place of skidders.
- A5. See response above, A4
- Q6. Will chains for skidders need to be removed once skidding on the roads to the processing sites?
- A6. Heavy equipment tire chains will damage asphalt and must not be used on paved surfaces.
- Q7. Can steel tracked equipment be walked across paved roads for moving from cutting site to cutting site?
- A7. Walking tracked equipment across paved roads should only be done when it is not possible to move within 30m of treeline where cutting is being performed. If tracked equipment has no alternative but to cross, engineered mitigations such as rig matting etc. is required. Ice pack is not an engineered mitigation and is not an acceptable mitigation.

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Client Reference No.: PW-20-00935058	<b>Title:</b> Hazardous Tree removal at Wabasso	and Wapiti Campgrounds – Jasper National Park

- Q8. The specifications state that skidding is to be done on paved roads only, can skidders enter treeline off road to access timber dropped from feller buncher? What about skidding on the gravel access roads between facilities (dashed lines between buildings noted on appendix B & C)?
- A8. It is the intention that the feller buncher place as much timber as possible as close as possible, to roads for skidding. Skidders can operate in a reasonable distance off roadway for this purpose. Skidders can be operated on maintenance roads between facilities.
- Q9. Does the 30m cutline from infrastructure and campsites also pertain to roads?
- A9. Yes. All trees designated for removal includes 30 m on either side of campground roads.
- Q10. What happens if the cutline line is over or under the 30m requirements?
- A10. The 30m cutline is a guideline. A few meters on either side of this line is acceptable as long as no hazardous trees are left within falling distance to campsite living spaces, infrastructure or roads.
- Q11. Does a geo reference map exist showing the 30m cutline?
- A11. At this time a geo reference map does not exist. Parks Canada will work on preparing this reference for contract start.
- Q12. Will the live lodgepole pine to be retained be flagged by Parks Canada within the 30m cutline?
- A12. It is the intention that the live pine within the 30m will be flagged by Parks Canada for retention. However, as stated in section 2.1 item 5 of the Scope of Work, annex a, it is the responsibility of the contractor to verify and ensure that the live lodgepole are seen and retained in the event any advanced flagging was missed.
- Q13. Is there an estimated total volume of all trees vs volumes to be removed?
- A13. Estimated volumes taken from the Timber Cruise Summary report completed in 2019 and field work reassessment in October 2020:
  - Wabasso Campground (41ha)
    - All species, 3148 m<sup>3</sup>
    - All lodgepole pine, 2650 m<sup>3</sup>
    - $\circ$   $\;$  Red and dead lodgepole pine to be removed, 1722  $m^3$
  - Wapiti Campground (47ha)
    - All species, 5367 m<sup>3</sup>
      - All lodgepole pine, 4355 m<sup>3</sup>
      - Red and dead lodgepole pine to be removed, 3234 m<sup>3</sup>
- Q14. What is considered "dead" to be removed?
- A14. All standing red or grey lodgepole pine and, any other standing dead tree species that is within the cutline specified in the statement of work (30m).
- Q15. Is anything to be done with the deadfall within the cutline?
- A15. No. All deadfall can remain in place.
- Q16. If there are live lodgepole pine trees that have evidence of pine beetle attack, are these to be removed as well?
- A16. The intention is to retain any genetic resistance to mountain pine beetle on the landscape. Every precaution is expected to be made, within reason, to avoid incidental take of green pine. This however does not apply to "green attack" trees (identifiable by plentiful pitch tubes) which are next years red attack.
- Q17. What are the requirements for disposal of green attack trees in the event any are lost to incidental take?
- A17. Mitigations to prevent the potential spread of mountain pine beetle in this instance are outlined ins Sections 2.1 item 7 and 4.7 item 4, in the Scope of Work, Annex A.
- Q18. What is considered incidental?
- A18. Harming or destroying of any tree species that is meant to be retained that is deemed unavoidable.

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- Q19. Will silt fencing or other mitigations be needed for removal near riparian areas (water bodies)?
- A19. Any areas where trees to be removed are within 30m from the high-water mark of any riparian areas, mitigations will be required as noted is Section 4 Environmental Procedures, in the Statement of Work, Annex A. These mitigations will be discussed on a case by case basis in the field, prior to work in these areas.
- Q20. The thick forest density and narrow loop road into the lower loop A, sites 1-41 in Wabasso campground will be a challenge to get and maneuver heavy equipment into this area. Is hand falling acceptable?
- A20. This challenge was foreseeable by Parks Canada. The method of removal in this area is determined by the contractor provided all environmental mitigations, timelines and other requirements are met.
- Q21. Are the overhead power lines in the interior of Wabasso campground ATCO Electric? Are they active? Are there any special requirements for falling in the vicinity of?
- A21. These overhead power lines are for Parks Canada Utilities and will be inactive while working in the campground. No special permits or requirements are needed to fall in these areas except expected precaution and awareness. There are not 3<sup>rd</sup> party overhead electrical lines in either campground.
- Q22. Are any crossing agreements for underground utilities needed?
- A22. No. There are no high pressure gas or high voltage buried 3<sup>rd</sup> party lines within the work areas.
- Q23. Would Parks Canada be interested in more than the required volumes of firewood processed? Would Parks Canada consider all timber to be cut processed into fire wood rather than hauled out of the park?
- A23. The current contract requirements stand as is with partial processing of firewood and remaining to be removed from the park. All bids must reflect the cost for the work as currently outlined. There may be opportunity at a later date for additional firewood during the contract but will be dependent on the wood volumes and any changes would be reflected by contract amendment.
- Q24. Is the firewood required to be stacked in each location?
- A24. No, the firewood is expected to be loosely piled
- Q25. Is the firewood required to be cut at the landing sites and hauled to the required locations within each campground?
- A25. Not necessarily. In order to control and minimize debris and clean-up a centralized firewood processing is considered ideal. However, the use of a mobile firewood processor can be used at each pile location (20 separate locations combined) provided debris is controlled and acceptably cleaned up prior to contract end. Methods will need to be approved by Parks Canada representative.
- Q26. What is intended to be done with the merchantable timber that is cut and not required to be processed as firewood?
- Q26. Remaining merchantable timber not to be processed into firewood must be removed from the park and is the property of the contractor for sale to mill(s). It is intended that the merchantable value of this timber is to be factored into the contractor's profits and considered upon bid for the work. Also see volume reporting requirements for trade agreements noted in section 3.3 of the Statement of Work.
- Q27. Please define the "clean up" expectations.
- A27. The expectation is that all campground roads, loop roads, maintenance roads and areas around built infrastructure are free of debris including breakage, branches, slash etc. to the extent that there are no vehicle obstructions, hazards and the campground aesthetics return to original state prior to the work.
- Q28. What methods are to be used for clean up?
- A28. Method of clean-up is left to the discretion of the contractor keeping in mind to not damage asphalt and meet all other requirements of the contract.

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- Q29. What about debris off roadways within the 30m cutline?
- A29. See section 1.4, item 3 of the Statement of Work Annex A, for burning requirements and limitations. Loose debris that is scattered throughout the forest, that is not dense enough to inhibit regrowth or negatively impact the overall aesthetics to campers can be left in place. All major debris from slashing and other must not remain in large piles. Especially in areas of visitor congregation such as campsites and facilities.
- Q30. Is it acceptable to burn small spot fires to clean debris off road?
- A30. Yes, with constraints and guidelines. Noted in section 1.4, item 3.
- Q31. Will an ATM88 form be provided detailing transfer of ownership of the timber?
- A31. Parks Canada will look into this requirement and issue any forms required.
- Q32. Will fencing be required around the campground while work is being conducted?
- A32. No. All access gates will be required to remain closed, approved safety signage must be placed as specified in Section 6.9 of the Statement of work.
- Q33. Can the work be done in both campgrounds simultaneously?
- A33. Yes
- Q34. If we were not able to attend the December 15th site meeting. Please confirm if any site meeting minutes will be provided. Will another site meeting be scheduled? If not can we view the site conditions at our discretion?
- A34. Yes, questions and responses raised at the site visit are addressed in this amendment. No additional guided site visits will be given. Both sites are accessible to the public until work begins. Access will be restricted to foot traffic only as campground access gates are locked.

## ALL OTHER TERMS & CONDITIONS REMAIN UNCHANGED