



Request for Proposals: Community Wildfire Protection Plan Consultation Services

Posted: December 22, 2023 | <https://www.sanjuanislandscd.org/fhc>

I. Introduction

The San Juan Islands Conservation District (SJICD) is seeking a qualified consultant to lead in the update of San Juan County's [San Juan County's 2012 Community Wildfire Protection Plan](#) (CWPP). The goal of this plan is to enhance community resilience, reduce the risk of wildfire, and protect the unique ecosystems of the San Juan Islands.

SJICD is in the beginning phase of facilitating the CWPP update on behalf of county stakeholders. Stakeholders recognize that an entire re-write of the CWPP is not necessary but that analysis tools, priority projects, population growth and other factors have significantly impacted the county since the 2012 report was written. A broad stakeholder process relevant to the CWPP update will be required to engage a growing population in issues of heightened concern countywide and ultimately provide an easily understood and implemented framework for combatting dangers of wildfire.

II. Project Scope

The consultant will be responsible for:

1. Conducting a thorough wildfire risk assessment based on likelihood, intensity, exposure and susceptibility factors in San Juan County using geospatial data analysis, best available science, and interviews with local experts.
2. Facilitating meaningful collaboration with local stakeholders, including government agencies, community organizations, and residents. This process will involve community engagement sessions to gather input and identify priorities. It is expected that the process will include at least two in-person steering committee meetings and at least three in-person public meetings on each of three major islands (Lopez, Orcas and San Juan).
3. Crafting a dynamic Community Wildfire Protection Plan that outlines effective strategies, action items, and best practices for wildfire prevention, preparedness, and response. The plan should be tailored to the unique challenges and opportunities present in the San Juan Islands.
4. Providing recommendations for land use planning, vegetation management, and infrastructure improvements to effectively mitigate the risk of wildfires while preserving the islands' natural resources.
5. Identifying targeted training and education programs to enhance community awareness and preparedness, fostering a proactive approach to wildfire prevention.

6. Identifying gaps in wildfire response procedures within San Juan County and providing recommendations to eliminate these.

III. Qualifications

The ideal consultant will have:

1. Proven experience in developing Community Wildfire Protection Plans, preferably in island or coastal environments.
2. Expertise in wildfire risk assessment, mitigation strategies, and community engagement methodologies.
3. Understanding of local and state regulations related to wildfire prevention and emergency management, ensuring alignment with existing frameworks.
4. Excellent communication and collaboration skills, with a demonstrated ability to work effectively with diverse stakeholders and the public.

IV. Proposal Submission

Interested consultants are invited to submit comprehensive proposals by 5pm on January 31, 2024 to Paul Andersson at paul@sjcd.org. The proposal should encompass:

1. A cover letter expressing the consultant's interest, understanding of the project, and highlighting relevant experience.
2. A project plan outlining the proposed approach, methodology, and timeline, with a particular focus on community engagement strategies.
3. A transparent and detailed budget proposal, including estimated costs for each phase of the project, ensuring a clear breakdown of expenses.
4. References from past clients who have engaged the consultant in similar projects, providing insights into the consultant's track record and impact.

V. Timeline

This project is anticipated to take place throughout 2024.

1. Proposal issued: December 22, 2023
2. Proposal submission deadline: January 31, 2024
3. Consultant selection: February 15, 2024
4. Project initiation: March 1, 2024
5. Final deliverables submission: November 2024

VI. Contact Information:

For inquiries and the submission of proposals, please contact:

Paul Andersson, Executive Director
San Juan Islands Conservation District
paul@sjcd.org | 360-378-6621