



# Request for Qualifications

July 28, 2023

## OVERVIEW

The Yakama Nation is a federally recognized Indian tribe pursuant to the Treaty of Walla Walla, June 9, 1855 (12 Stat. 951). As set forth in the Treaty of 1855, other federal statutes, and court decisions, the Yakama Nation holds reserved rights and responsibilities as a co-manager of fisheries in the Columbia River Basin. The Yakama Nation uses its authorities under the Comprehensive Environmental Recovery and Compensation Liability Act (CERCLA) to participate in the cleanup and restoration of hazardous waste sites in the Columbia River Basin. Yakama Nation's work and actions are focused on a clean and productive Columbia River that sustains the cultural practices of Yakama members and improves life for our neighbors and future generations.

Yakama Nation Fisheries (YNF) is tasked with the oversight of priority hazardous waste sites and contamination issues affecting Columbia River Basin resources. YNF's involvement at these sites includes technical, legal and policy activities related to response and natural resource damage actions. Due to the complexity and volume of work associated with this involvement, contract technical support services are required.

The Yakama Nation requests qualifications from engineering and consulting firms to accomplish the work elements outlined in this Request for Qualifications (RFQ) and provide technical assistance to support YNF's work on cleaning up and restoring hazardous waste sites in the Columbia River Basin. The Yakama Nation will review the response to this RFQ to establish one or more technical support contracts. This RFQ will be considered viable for contracting purposes extending over 36 months.

## SCOPE OF WORK

**General Requirements.** The contractor shall be available to provide on-call technical support services for the length of the contract. Work schedules, budgets, and deadlines for deliverables will be agreed upon. Payment will be made on a cost reimbursement basis. Travel will be required for support at technical meetings, coordination meetings, and site visits throughout the Pacific Northwest. Meetings with Yakama Nation Tribal Council and YNF Management Team will also be required.

**Work Elements.** Routine technical support shall be provided in the following areas, as requested, including, but not limited to:

- Ascertain the stage of cleanup for individual sites. Determine if available data will provide the necessary information to establish a remedial action that is protective of Yakama Nation resources. Identify key issues or data gaps to be resolved. Track project timeline and identify key issues or activities for YNF management/staff engagement.

- Ascertain the stage of a natural resource injury assessment for individual sites. Determine if available data will provide the necessary information to establish a settlement that appropriately compensates for natural resource damages. Identify key issues or data gaps to be resolved. Track project timeline and identify key issues or activities for YNF management/staff engagement.
- Review and comment on all phases of a hazardous waste site response and natural resource damage actions. The following activities (and their associated documents) would require tracking, review, comment, and identification of potential issues: site investigations, remedial investigations, feasibility studies, risk assessments, remedial designs, closeout reports, monitoring plans, restoration planning, natural resource injury assessment, natural resource damages, and other associated activities/documents.
- Plan and develop injury assessments for individual sites in terms of lost uses and lost resource services and quantify damages in terms of restoration and resource services and/or monetary equivalents.
- If deemed necessary, plan, develop, and execute environmental sampling to address outstanding questions about contamination at a specific site or reach of a water body.
- Attend and provide technical support at technical meetings/conference calls, coordination meetings, and site visits.
- Support strategic planning efforts to obtain a clean and productive Columbia River.
- Assist with conducting public outreach to educate members of Yakama Nation and the public on program activities.

**Work Deliverables.** Deliverables will be determined throughout the contract period via task order as documents become available for review or technical support needs are identified. Deliverables will be submitted in agreed upon formats and will generally include electronic versions. Submittals will be the sole property of the Yakama Nation and no information will be released to other parties without express written permission. Examples of the type of deliverables to be expected are listed below.

- Provide a summary report on the status of a site's remedial investigation/feasibility study, cleanup, five-year review, closure report, and/or natural resource damage assessment process.
- Provide a summary report on a site's remediation process in relationship to protectiveness for Yakama Nation resources.
- Provide a summary report on a site's key response issues and/or data gaps to be resolved.
- Provide a summary report on a site's remediation timeline identifying key issues of concern.

- Provide a summary of releases, including backup documentation of releases.
- Provide comments on monitoring, sampling, analyses, and modeling for hazardous waste site response and/or natural resource damage actions. Comments should ensure that all information and analytical data gathered at sites are technically sound and statistically reliable.
- Provide technical review and analysis of human health and ecological risk assessments, or specific component of these risk assessments to support decisions made on the adequacy of and actions needed to upgrade such risk assessment.
- Provide expertise on the process of collecting, compiling, and analyzing information, statistics, or data to determine the extent of injuries to natural resources from hazardous substance releases or oil discharges, and to determine appropriate ways of restoring and compensating for those injuries.
- Provide content knowledgeable staff to conduct research, analysis, and integration of information from available scientific literature on regional toxic issues and site-specific concerns.
- Prepare factsheets, reports, presentations, and tribal/public outreach materials on specific hazardous waste sites and other regional hazardous waste issues.
- Provide technical support at key meetings to promote Yakama Nation's positions.
- Provide support on grant development, management, and deliverables.
- Provide support on development for policy updates.

## **CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

The consultant shall identify any potential conflict of interest (ex. status as or relationship with a potential responsible party) in its performance of any work assigned under this contract. If the Yakama Nation determines that adequate contingencies are not in place to address a real or perceived conflict of interest, then Yakama Nation can reassign work. This requirement also applies to any subcontractors used by the consultant.

If a firm foresees a conflict with providing Yakama Nation support at any of Yakama Nation's Priority Sites (see Attachment I) it should disclose and explain how that conflict would be handled/avoided. Similarly, the consultant will disclose any work being performed for any other government or tribal entity on the sites or issues covered by requests from the Yakama Nation.

## **QUALIFICATIONS PACKAGE GUIDELINES**

Firms submitting a qualifications package should have the ability to successfully complete work deliverables. Firms should have experience in working with Tribes on hazardous waste issues, knowledge and experience on Section 128(a) response program requirements, and knowledge and experience in natural resource damages. Firms must be able to provide support to Yakama

Nation without a conflict of interest. The scope of work, budget, and schedule will be developed in cooperation with the selected consulting firms. Yakama Nation will not pay any costs associated with developing the qualifications package or negotiating a contract that may be awarded post response to this RFQ.

The qualifications package should be no more than 10 pages, excluding resumes. The package must include: proposed work team structure and internal controls; experience within past 5 years related to work elements and deliverables described herein, including key staff for that work; resumes of principal(s) and key work team members, highlighting their relevant experience in the last 5 years; rates and fees schedule; references from three to five clients; and identification of and procedures for handling of potential conflicts of interest at the sites listed in Attachment 1. If the qualifications package includes these required items, it will be evaluated using the criteria in Attachment 2.

Qualifications packages received after the deadline of **August 31, 2023 at 3 pm PDT** will not be considered.

A PDF of the Qualifications packages (not to exceed 10 MB) should be e-mailed to Natalie Swan (swan@yakamafish-nsn.gov). An email confirmation will be sent upon receipt of the Qualifications package.

## Attachment I: List of High Priority Hazardous Waste Sites

<b>SITE NAME</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>
AGRIUM KENNEWICK FERTILIZER OPS. FINLEY AREA	KENNIWICK, WA
AGRIUM KENNEWICK FERTILIZER OPS. HEDGES AREA	KENNIWICK, WA
AGRIUM US INC KENNEWICK FERTILIZER OPERATION	KENNIWICK, WA
ALCOA VANCOUVER	VANCOUVER, WA
ALCOA WENATCHEE WORKS	MALAGA, WA
AMERIGAS DALLESFORT	DALLESFORT, WA
ARMSTRONG WORLD INDUSTRIES	SAINT HELENS, OR
ASTORIA MARINE CONSTRUCTION COMPANY	ASTORIA, OR
BATEMAN ISLAND	KENNEWICK, WA
BOISE WHITE PAPER LLC	WALLULA, WA
BOISE CASCADE VENEER	ST. HELENS, OR
BOISE CASCADE/YKM LANDFILL/I-82	YAKIMA, WA
BOISE CASCADE YAKIMA MILL	YAKIMA, WA
BNSF APPLEYARD	WENATCHEE, WA
BNSF WISHRAM	WISHRAM, WA
BRADFORD ISLAND	CASCADE LOCKS, OR
BURLINGTON ENVIRONMENTAL LLC WASHOUGAL	WASHOUGAL, WA
CASCADE LOCKS LUMBER CO.	CASCADE LOCKS, OR
CENTRAL PRE-MIX -PASCO	PASCO, WA
CHEVRON BULK PLANT CAMAS	CAMAS, WA
CHEVRON PIPELINE COMPANY	PASCO, WA
CHEVRON WILLBRIDGE TERMINAL	PORTLAND, OR
CHINOOK VENTURES (FORMER REYN OLDS ALUMINUM)	LONGVIEW, WA
COLUMBIA MARINE LINES	VANCOUVER, WA
CONRAD WOOD PRESERVING COMPANY, RAINIER, COLUMBIA COUNTY	RAINIER, OR
EMERALD KALAMA CHEMICAL LLC	KALAMA, WA
FORMER REYNOLDS/MILLENNIUM BULK/CHINOOK VENTURES	LONGVIEW, WA
GENERAL CHEMICAL CORP VANCOUVER WORKS	VANCOUVER, WA
GEORGIA PACIFIC CONSUMER PRODUCTS LP	CLATSKANIE, OR
GOLDENDALE NORTHWEST ALUMINUM COMPANY	GOLDENDALE, WA
GEORGIA PACIFIC CAMAS MILL	CAMAS, WA
JR SIMPLOT CO WENATCHEE PLT	WENATCHEE, WA
KANTO CORPORATION	PORTLAND, OR
KB ALLOYS INC	MALAGA, WA
LONGVIEW FIBRE PAPER & PACKAGING INC	LONGVIEW, WA
MARTIN MARIETTA FACILITY/LANDFILL	THE DALLES, OR
MOSIER OIL SPILL	MOSIER, OR
MULTNOMAH PLYWOOD/ PORT OF COLUMBIA COUNTY	ST. HELENS, OR
NW PIPELINE ST HOOD RIVER	HOOD RIVER, OR
OWENS BROCKWAY GLASS CONTAINER PLANT 21	KALAMA, WA
PACIFIC ETHANOL COLUMBIA LLC	BOARDMAN, OR

<b>SITE NAME</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>
PACIFIC WOOD TREATING PLANT	RIDGEFIELD, WA
POPE & TALBOT/ PORT OF COLOUMBIA COUNTY	ST. HELENS, OR
PORT OF SAINT HELENS CREOSOTE	SAINT HELENS, OR
PORTCO CORP PEDIGO PRODUCTS	VANCOUVER, WA
PORTLAND HARBOR	PORTLAND, OR
PORTLAND GENERAL ELECTRIC COM PANY	PORTLAND, OR
PROSSER POMACE PITS	PROSSER, WA
RUFUS INDUSTRIAL PARK	RUFUS, WA
SAFETY-KLEEN SYSTEMS	PORTLAND, OR
SDS LUMBER CO BINGEN PLYWOOD CORP	BINGEN, WA
SPECIALITY CHEMICAL PRODUCTS LLC	ROCK ISLAND, WA
STEELSCAPE INC	KALMA, WA
TIDEWATER TERMINAL CO SNAKE RIV ER TERMINAL	PASCO, WA
UNION PACIFIC RAILROAD	THE DALLES, OR
UNLOCAL BULK	BINGEN, WA
VANCOUVER CITY BLANDFORD STA TION 4	VANCOUVER, WA
VANCOUVER LAKE AND FLUSHING CHANNEL	VANCOUVER, WA
VANCOUVER PORT OF NUSTAR CADET SWAN	VANCOUVER, WA
WEYERHAEUSER PLYWOOD	LONGVIEW, WA
YAKIMA TRAINING CENTER	YAKIMA, WA
ZIDELL WATERFRONT PROPERTY	PORTLAND, OR

## **ATTACHMENT 2: EVALUATION CRITERIA**

Qualification package response will be evaluated using the following criteria, each criterion will be weighted equally.

1. Experience working with Yakama Nation or other federally recognized tribes.
2. Experience with all phases of Oregon, Washington, and Federal hazardous waste site cleanups.
3. Experience with natural resource damage assessment.
4. Experience with risk assessments (ecological and human health) and ecological evaluations.
5. Experience with upland sites affecting waterbodies, including all contaminated media and transport pathways.
6. Experience critiquing technical documents and providing technical support to client work products.
7. Experience in state and federal policy, guidance, and rulemaking processes.
8. Experience with planning and conducting environmental sampling for contaminated media.
9. Experience with planning and execution of site cleanups involving soil, groundwater, and other aquatic media.
10. Experience in strategic planning processes.