



SKAGIT COUNTY PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

1800 Continental Place, Mount Vernon, WA 98273-5625
(360) 416-1400 FAX (360) 416-1405

Request for Quotes and Qualifications for Aquatic Vegetation Management

Lake Management District No. 2 (Lake McMurray)

Summary

Skagit County Public Works and Lake Management District No. 2 for Lake McMurray seek professional services from a qualified contractor for the purpose of aquatic plant management in Lake McMurray for a one (1) year contract (2021-2022). The County's needs are outlined in the following Request for Proposals (RFP).

Timeframe

The County will adhere to the following timeframe for selection of firm:

- Issue RFP Friday, May 14, 2021
- Deadline for Proposal Submittal Friday, June 4, 2021
- Selection of Firm Friday, June 18, 2021

Submittal Criteria

All proposals should be labeled "RFP LMD 2 Aquatic Plant Management" and sent to:

(*Preferred) Email to: tracya@co.skagit.wa.us

Skagit County Public Works
Attn: Tracy Alker
1800 Continental Place
Mount Vernon, WA 98273-5625

All proposals must be received by 4:30 p.m. on Friday, June 4, 2021. Proposals will be limited to a maximum of twelve (12) pages, including cover letter and graphics. This page limit does not include the below requested copy of a Final Project Report.

You must be a contractor on the MRSC Roster to submit a proposal for this project.

Interested firms should submit the following:

- Statement of Qualifications
- Summary of approach to complete the Scope of Work (SOW)
- Cost Estimates

The proposal must contain the following information:

- The names of individuals (and the names of their respective employers) who will be providing aquatic plant management for this project, and their areas of expertise.
- Specific experience and/or relevant certifications/licenses of all individuals relative to this proposed project.

- A proposed outline detailing tasks, team composition, methods, equipment used, products and project schedule, including the number of hours required to complete each task or product (if applicable).
- A proposed budget based on the costs associated with the tasks outlined in this RFP.
- A description of any fines or penalties issued to the firm, or any individual working on the project, concerning permit and/or regulatory violations associated with aquatic plant management activities within the past ten (10) years.
- A minimum of three (3) project references. Include project name, date(s), description of project, and a contact name and telephone number.
- An example of an aquatic plant management Final Project Report (including maps) prepared within the last three (3) years. Report should cover a project similar in scope to the task outlined in this RFP.

Terms and Conditions

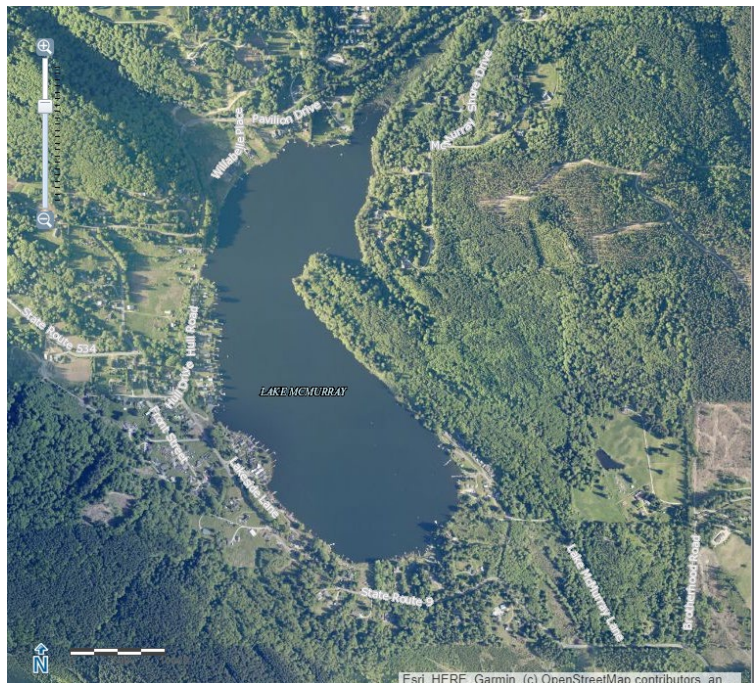
The selected firm will be required to enter into a Professional Services Agreement with Skagit County Public Works. In addition to demonstrating skills and abilities to conduct aquatic vegetation surveys and produce associated maps, the successful candidate must:

- Carry a Washington State Business License.
- Provide proof of comprehensive or commercial general liability, professional liability and automobile liability insurance coverage in the amount of \$1,000,000 for the duration of the contract.
- Provide a certificate of insurance naming Skagit County as an additional insured that will be secured for the above by endorsement.
- If contracted to apply aquatic herbicides, the candidate must provide current Washington State Department of Agriculture Commercial Applicators License with Aquatic Endorsement.

Background

Lake McMurray

Lake McMurray is 160 acres and is the deepest lake within the Nookachamps watershed with a mean depth of 29 feet and a maximum depth of 52 feet. The length of the shoreline is approximately 13,728 feet. Water enters Lake McMurray from several streams along the western shore and one intermittent stream along the eastern shore. The main outlet for Lake McMurray is Lake Creek, located at the northern end of the lake, which eventually empties into Big Lake. Surrounding land use includes small farms and pasture lands and residential development. The lake is heavily utilized for recreation by the public and by shoreline property owners and their guests. There is a Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife public boat launch located on the southern shore which provides access for fishing, boating, swimming, and wildlife viewing. McHaven Inc., a small residential community at the south end of the lake near the public boat launch, operates a potable water intake system for pumping water from Lake McMurray for human consumption.

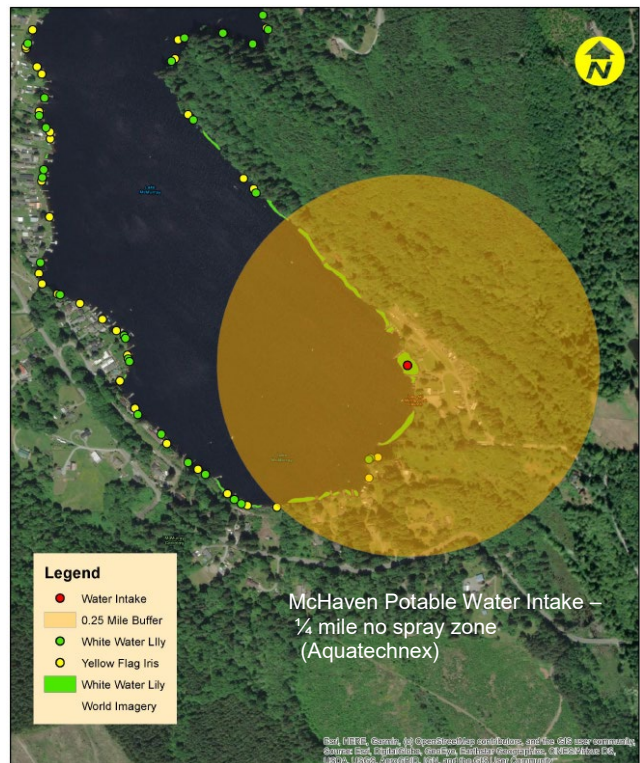
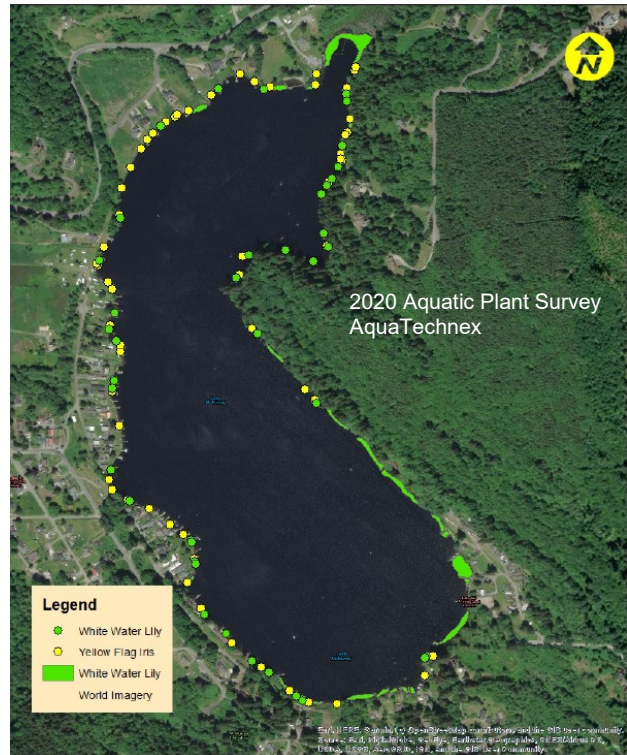


Scope of Work:

Skagit County Public Works is seeking a contractor to survey and map invasive aquatic plants such as Eurasian watermilfoil, and control noxious fragrant white water-lilies and yellow flag iris around residential shorelines, docks, and other problem areas where they impair beneficial uses of the lake. Unless the County and McHaven approves the use of an herbicide to control the lilies that has no restrictions at potable water intakes, such as ProcellaCOR, the contractor would be responsible for cutting and/or pulling and removing the lilies along the lakefront property shorelines within ¼ mile of McHaven’s potable water intake. The contractor would also be responsible for the proper disposal of the lilies after they are removed from the lake.

In addition, the contractor would be responsible for applying aquatic herbicides outside the ¼ mile of McHaven’s potable water intake to control noxious fragrant white water-lilies including securing the National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit and strictly adhering to permit requirements and herbicide application restrictions. McHaven, Inc. does not have the ability to filter out the herbicides and with limited storage capacity they will need advanced notice to preserve enough water before shutting off the pumps for up to forty-eight (48) hours if herbicides are used. The contractor would also perform water quality sampling and testing for residual herbicides near the potable water intake.

The contractor would be responsible for producing a detailed project report at the end of each season, attending at least one or two public meetings each year, and maintaining active communications with Skagit County staff, the Lake Management District Advisory Committee, and shoreline residents.



Project Tasks:

The contractor would be responsible for some or all of the following project tasks depending on costs, available funding and the scope of work approved by the LMD 2 Advisory Committee.

Task 1: Aquatic Vegetation Surveys and Mapping**1.1 Pre-Treatment Survey**

- Notify County staff in writing no less than three (3) days in advance of the survey date. The Contractor shall be prepared to accommodate County staff and/or at least one Lake Management District Advisory Committee member during all survey operations.
- Conduct one (1) pre-treatment aquatic vegetation survey during the early summer of 2021 to identify and map the density and distribution of invasive and nuisance aquatic vegetation throughout the lake littoral zone. Surveys should include surface observation as well as the rake-toss technique along transects, GPS coordinates, and side-scan sonar to accurately map plant densities. Surveys should also include photographs of the shoreline to compare the before and after treatments of lilies.
- Communicate the survey results to County staff, including recommended actions and estimated costs that may serve as the basis for developing a task assignment for additional work under this contract.

1.2 Post-Treatment Survey

- Notify County staff in writing no less than three (3) days in advance of the survey date. The Contractor shall be prepared to accommodate County staff and/or at least one (1) Lake Management District Advisory Committee member during all survey operations.
- Conduct one (1) post-treatment aquatic vegetation survey during the late summer or early fall of 2021 to evaluate the results of the treatments and lily removal. Post treatment surveys would include surface observation and photographs.
- Communicate the survey results to County staff, including recommended actions and estimated costs that may serve as the basis for developing a task assignment for additional work under this contract.

Task 2: Aquatic Plant Management**2.1 NPDES and Hydraulic Project Approval (HPA) Permits**

- Obtain and comply with the NPDES permits and HPA permit/pamphlet for aquatic weed control in Lake McMurray.
- Provide copies of the permits to County staff.

2.2 Public Notification

- Notify County staff and McHaven, Inc. no less than five (5) days prior to the application of any herbicides or aquatic weed harvesting.
- Comply with all State and local public notification requirements for herbicide treatments and provide the County with copies of all notifications and newspaper publications.
- Visibly and securely post notices on docks and along the shoreline (facing the properties), and boat launch per permit requirements before applying herbicides and remove the signs after the reentry period has expired.
- Provide a copy of the notices to County staff.

2.3 Herbicide Treatments

- Only after written authorization from County staff, perform aquatic herbicide treatments to control fragrant white water-lilies along the shoreline and around docks and swimming areas outside ¼ mile of the water intake at the south end of the lake.
- Only if authorized by County staff and approved by McHaven, Inc. perform aquatic herbicide treatments to control fragrant white water-lilies within the ¼ mile of the potable water intake with an herbicide approved for use in potable water reservoirs without any water use or set back restrictions, such as ProcellaCOR.

- Apply aquatic herbicides in accordance with the label specifications and permit requirements.
- Take precautionary measures and protect from harm existing populations of any state-listed sensitive plants located near the treatment sites.
- Per NPDES and McHaven water treatment system operation requirements, perform water quality sampling and testing at three (3) sites over a three (3) day period for residual herbicides at the following locations: 1. At the treatment site; 2. Approximately four-hundred (400) feet from the McHaven water intake; and 3. At the McHaven water intake. Sampling shall take place on the same day of spraying, a second set of samples shall take place twenty-four (24) hours after initial spraying, and the third set of samples shall be taken forty-eight (48) hours after initial spraying, for a total of nine (9) samples. Provide a copy of the lab results to County staff.

2.4 Manual Removal of Lilies

- Manually harvest and remove fragrant white water lilies with a mechanical harvester at least two (2) times per year within ¼ mile of the McHaven water intake at the south end of the lake, around docks and along the residential shoreline. The Contractor shall launch the harvester at the public boat launch and take precautions to protect the lake shorelines and take before and after photos.

2.5 Aquatic Plant Control Maps

- Produce maps illustrating the distribution and density of aquatic vegetation communities using Arc GIS software that is compatible with County's GIS project software. Project specifications and Federal Geographic Data Committee standard metadata must be provided for all maps. Maps will include the pre-treatment survey results and the aquatic plant treatment/control areas.

Task 3: Project Reports

- Provide County staff with a detailed annual project report submitted electronically by February 28, 2022. The report will include:
 - Maps showing aquatic plant density and cover of submersed aquatic plants as well as floating leaved plants and any invasive plants if found
 - Maps and photos detailing the areas of aquatic plant control (herbicide treatments and manual lily removal)
 - Before and after photos of water lily control.
 - Estimated acreage or square feet of aquatic plants controlled
 - A description of methods, herbicides, and equipment used
 - An assessment of the overall effectiveness of the aquatic plant control methods used
 - A copy of all permits and pesticide application records
 - A proposal of recommended actions for continued management including: species of aquatic plants to be controlled, estimated acreage for each species of aquatic plants to be controlled, and the types of herbicides and application rates or other control options to be applied

Task 4: Communications

- Maintain active communication with County staff, Lake Management District Advisory Committee, and shoreline property owners.
- Maintain active communication regarding planned aquatic plant management activities with McHaven, Inc., Norway Park, and the Washington State Department of Health. The Contractor shall provide the McHaven Water Treatment Operator with sufficient advance notice to store enough water before shutting off the intake valve for no more than forty-eight (48) hours. Contractor shall be responsible and liable for properly implementing all project work in coordination with McHaven, Inc., Norway Park, and the Washington State Department of Health.
- All invoices must include a brief written description of the work accomplished. In addition, copies of all publications and written materials must be provided along with the related invoices.
- Attend at least one Lake Management District Advisory Committee meeting to discuss aquatic plant management issues and concerns, treatment results from the prior year and be prepared to make recommendations for the subsequent year.

Estimated Schedule of Work (2021-2022)*

Date	Task
June – August	Control fragrant white water lilies
July	Pre-treatment aquatic vegetation survey
August-Sept	Post-treatment aquatic vegetation survey
February	Annual project report due
March	Attend meeting to provide the annual report and recommendations

**Note: County reserves the right to modify the annual schedule of work.*

Selection Criteria

The proposals will be evaluated by the Lake Management District No. 2 Advisory Committee and Skagit County Public Works staff based on the following criteria:

- Qualifications of firm
- Work performance
- Scope of work approach
- Cost Estimates

Project Cost Estimates

Note: For consistency, please use this format for providing cost estimates. Unit prices for all items, all extensions, and total amount of bid shall be shown. The total contract amount and tasks shall depend on available funding and the scope of work approved by the LMD 2 Advisory Committee.

Item #	Description	Quantity	Unit	Unit Price	Total Amount
1	Pre-treatment aquatic vegetation survey and mapping	1	Survey	\$	\$
2	Post-treatment aquatic vegetation survey- primarily surface observations to evaluate results	1	Survey	\$	\$
3	Washington State Department of Ecology's Aquatic Plant and Algae Management NPDES General Permit	1	Permit	\$	\$
4	WA Department of Fish and Wildlife's HPA (for manual removal of fragrant white water lilies)	1	Permit	\$	\$
5	Annual project report (electronic)	1	Report	\$	\$
6	Public meetings and communications	1	Meeting	\$	\$
7	Public notifications for aquatic herbicide applications must be mailed to property owners prior to treatment	110	Notice	\$	\$
8	Aquatic herbicide application notices visibly and securely posted along the shoreline and boat launch per NPDES permit requirements	110	Notice	\$	\$
9	Fragrant white water lily control with the herbicide Imazapyr outside ¼ mile of the McHaven water intake	4	Acre	\$	\$
10	Fragrant white water lily control with the herbicide glyphosate outside ¼ mile of the McHaven water intake	4	Acre	\$	\$
12	Water quality sampling and testing for residual herbicides at three (3) sites (at the treatment site, four hundred (400) feet from McHaven intake, and at McHaven intake) for a total of nine (9) samples	9	Sample	\$	\$
13	Manually remove fragrant white water lilies within ¼ mile of the McHaven water intake two (2) times per year	6	Acre	\$	\$
14	Fragrant white water lily control with the herbicide ProcellaCOR (or something equivalent with no setback restrictions for potable water intakes), inside ¼ mile of the McHaven water intake	3	Acre	\$	\$
				Subtotal:	\$
				Sales Tax (8.1 %)	\$
				TOTAL BID:	\$