

## SOLE SOURCE DETERMINATION

The Purchasing Division has been requested to approve a sole source purchase for the commodity or service described below. Pursuant to West Virginia Code 5A-3-10c, the Purchasing Division is attempting to determine whether the commodity or service is a sole source procurement. If you believe your company meets the required experience and qualification criteria stated below, please e-mail the Purchasing Division at [team@wvadmin.gov](mailto:team@wvadmin.gov) to express your interest in the project. Please forward any and all information that will support your company's compliance with required qualification and eligibility criteria along with any other pertinent information relative to this project to the Purchasing Division no later than October 10, 2006, 12:00 Noon

Requisition Number: DNR80025

Department/Agency: WV Division of Natural Resources - Wildlife Resources Section

Detailed Description of Project:

Work with private landowners to develop land conservation funding proposals, conduct land management related research to demonstrate management and restoration activities on private lands, and identify additional potential management and restoration activities on priority private lands.

Proposed Sole Source Vendor: The Nature Conservancy

Specific Eligibility Criteria/ Specific Qualification Criteria:

Working knowledge of land conservation organizations, land conservation initiatives in the state and potential funding opportunities available for land conservation implementation in West Virginia.

Working relationships with 10 or more private land holders in West Virginia who own property that meets or exceeds criteria established by the WVDNR Land Conservation program and especially criteria that must be met under WVDNR's Landowner Incentive Program.

A documented record of successful fee simple acquisitions, land conservation action, conservation easement acquisitions and/or conservation easement brokerage across the entirety of West Virginia.

Evidence of having highly qualified biologists on staff or otherwise available to develop management and/or enhancement/restoration plans for conservation easement or project properties in West Virginia.

Demonstrate a history of being able to identify privately held parcels across WV that have an especially high level of biodiversity and/or species at risk using criteria recognized by WVDNR.

Demonstrate a history of coordination of data exchange abilities between and among WVDNR and similarly engaged state, federal and NGOs interest in Land Conservation.

## The Nature Conservancy July 1, 2006 to June 30, 2007

The West Virginia Division of Natural Resources will contract with The Nature Conservancy (hereafter the Conservancy) to complete the following activities to establish and structure a program to engage private landowners in conservation based management, restoration, easement and acquisition projects in priority areas. In order to do so, the Conservancy will:

### SCOPE OF WORK

**I. Conduct Land Conservation Activities:** The Nature Conservancy (Conservancy) will work with private landowners to develop land conservation funding proposals, conduct land management related research to demonstrate management and restoration activities on private lands, and identify additional potential management and restoration activities on priority private lands

#### Deliverables:

1. The Conservancy will contact a minimum of ten willing landowners from a DNR-approved priority list and, working cooperatively with landowners and WVDNR, develop at least five proposals for consideration for project funding. Progress on these proposals will be supplied to WVDNR on a quarterly basis.
2. Provide completed stewardship and/or management plans at the long-term, strategic level for the conservation of species-at-risk for properties selected under item 1. Progress on these plans will be supplied to WVDNR on a quarterly basis.
3. Conduct necessary research to develop techniques and short to intermediate term action plans for management and restoration on one or more priority private land parcels. The number of projects, the selection of the parcel(s) and the plan will be approved by WVDNR prior to implementation. Progress will be reported quarterly and results of implementation will be reported upon project completion.

**II. Identify all additional privately held properties with high value for the protection of biodiversity and species at risk.**

#### Deliverables:

The Conservancy will identify additional landowners with priority properties on LIP Priority Landscapes. Locations emphasized will be cooperatively identified and selected by the Conservancy and WVDNR and will be properties for which such information was not collected during the 2003 to 2005 contract period. All information collected will be supplied in formats compatible with WVDNR databases. This information will be provided on a quarterly basis.

**III. Assist with gathering information to build a network of conservation services for the private landowner.**

#### Deliverables:

1. Provide species-at-risk information to federal, state and local governments, community groups, and private landowners. Determine which groups have the desire or mandate to assist with private land conservation for species-at-risk and what resources they can bring to the effort. Update a report listing land conservation organizations working within the state and their relationship to conserving species-at-risk and the geographical area in which they operate. Interim information will be transferred to the WVDNR as it is acquired.
2. Maintain contact with and coordinate exchange of data and information between and among WVDNR, the Conservancy and land conservation entities operating in West Virginia.