Specification

Hog Cliff NNR Glebe Farm deer fencing contract

Background to Natural England

Natural England works for people, places and nature, to enhance biodiversity, landscapes and wildlife in rural, urban, coastal and marine areas; promoting access, recreation and public well-being, and contributing to the way natural resources are managed so that they can be enjoyed now and in the future.

Natural England is working towards the delivery of four strategic outcomes, which together deliver on our purpose to conserve, enhance and manage the natural environment for the benefit of current and future generations.

• A healthy natural environment: England’s natural environment will be conserved and enhanced.

• Enjoyment of the natural environment: more people enjoying, understanding and acting to improve, the natural environment, more often.

• Sustainable use of the natural environment: the use and management of the natural environment is more sustainable.

• A secure environmental future: decisions which collectively secure the future of the natural environment

Background to the specific work area relevant to this purchase

In order to allow the natural establishment of woodland and exclude deer at Parsons Close field, Hog Cliff NNR, Glebe Farm, Natural England requires new deer fencing. Please see Maps for detail.

Requirement

The specification and site location details are also set out in the attached Maps.

Approximately 962 metres of deer fence, 2 x 12ft deer field gates, 4 x deer pedestrian gates as per specifications below.

General Deer Fencing Specification in line with Forestry Commission guidance found at: <https://cdn.forestresearch.gov.uk/2006/03/fctg002.pdf>

Parsons Close field fence to exclude Sika, Fallow, Roe and Muntjac.

Fence height – 1800mm

Maximum mesh size – 80mm x 80mm up to 1500mm of fence height

Intermediate Stakes – chestnut, 2.6m x 8-10cm

Strainers/turning posts – chestnut, 3m x 15-18cm

Maximum stake spacing – 5 metres

Tensioned top and bottom support wires to prevent mesh from sagging.

Gate hanging and slamming posts chestnut square or round, minimum dimensions: 3m x 18cm minimum. Not to be used as strainers.

2 x Field Gates must exclude all deer species above and be constructed from treated softwood timber. Height 1800mm and be minimum 3660mm wide. Can be single gate or pair, but pair must be secured in the centre (e.g. by drop bolts). Must be able to be secured with padlock.

4 x Pedestrian gates must be self-closing, with a lockable latch and open within kissing gate enclosure. Constructed from treated softwood timber, 1800mm high and minimum 900mm wide.

Some light scrub removal and/or topping will be required along fence line (to be confirmed with NE staff after contract awarded).

Health and Safety

Contractors are advised to familiarise themselves with the site before tendering. A site hazard map is attached.

A Construction Design and Management (CDM) compliant Risk Assessment will need to be drawn up and agreed with Natural England before work starts. The risk assessment and safe system of work must ensure that all safety measures are taken to safeguard their employees and the general public in terms of equipment, clothing, site supervision and safe working practices. This must take into account the work, location, terrain, public access and use of the site.

Under CDM Regulations Natural England undertakes both the client and designer role. The successful contractor undertakes the work.

All operational measures must conform to the Health & Safety at work Act 1974 and current Codes of Practice. Any machinery operators must carry current and relevant certificates and training. Spill kits for fuel must be available. A qualified first aider must be on site at all times. Copies of all relevant certification and first aid certificates should be supplied to Natural England. The whole site is open access with additional public rights of way. Appropriate signage must be put out on site to warn any walkers when work is taking place.

Contractors are required to submit copies of relevant employer liability insurance, public liability insurance, and any appropriate relevant certification demonstrating professional competency. A contractor competence form will need to be completed by the contractor prior to any work starting.

Sustainability

Natural England protects and improves the environment and is committed to reducing the sustainability impacts of its activities directly and through its supply chains. We expect the Contractor to share this commitment and adopt a sound, proactive sustainable approach in keeping with the 25 yr environmental plan/our commitments compliant with all applicable legislation. This includes understanding and reducing direct and indirect sustainability impacts and realising opportunities, including but not restricted to; resilience to climate change, reducing greenhouse gas emissions, water use and quality, biosecurity, resource efficiency and waste, reducing the risk of pollution, biodiversity, modern slavery and equality, diversity & inclusion, negative community impacts.

As a delivery partner, the successful contractor is expected to pursue sustainability in their operations, thereby ensuring the Contracting Authority is not contracting with a supplier whose operational outputs run contrary to the Contracting Authority’s objectives. The successful contractor will need to approach the project with a focus on the entire life cycle of the project

Outputs and Contract Management

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Reference | Deliverable | Responsible Party | Date of completion |
| 1. Parsons Coppice field  Deer fencing | Approximately 962 metres of deer fence, 2 x 12ft deer field gates, 4 x deer pedestrian gates | Contractor | Before end January 2025 |
| 2. Health and Safety | CDM Risk Assessment | Contractor and Natural England | Before any work starts |

Natural England staff will oversee the contract and work with the contractor to ensure a safe workplace and successful delivery of the work.

You are strongly advised to visit the site prior to tendering for work. You may visit the site unaccompanied at any time, or if available Natural England staff may be able to accompany you. Please use the contact details below if you wish to arrange a site visit or have any questions about the contract.

**Natural England contacts:**

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