**Invitation to Quote**

**Working Woodlands – Deerholt**

The New Forest National Park Authority and partners are leading a Landscape Partnership Scheme funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund: **Our Past, Our Future** (OPOF). This 5 year partnership project will deliver some 21 projects. We are inviting you to tender for the work specified below on land under the Working Woodlands project which is being administered by one of the partners, namely the New Forest Land Advice Service (NFLAS).

**Reference:** Working Woodlands – Tender 11 – Deerholt Woodland, Frogham.

**Work:** Non Native Species Removal of Rhododendron and Cherry Laurel for biodiversity objectives across 3.1ha of privately owned woodland with a public right of way.

**Description of Woodland:**

* Deerholt is a 3.1 ha woodland situated on the northwest edge of the New Forest in Frogham.
* The woodland area of Deerholt surrounds several paddocks and the residence.
* The woodland is a mix of conifer and broadleaves with a rhododendron and cherry laurel understory in parts. The ground flora is very sparse due to dense canopy cover, presence of non-native shrub species and of course deer browsing.
* There is a footpath that runs along the eastern boundary (of Cpt. 2). This is a busy access route for the local community linking up different parts of the village. This public footpath also runs through the main block of woodland (Cpt. 1) across to the western side. Public safety will be a consideration when working in the woodland and signage will be required to inform users.
* Sand extraction recorded on 1910 OS map and suggested that the south tail section (Cpt. 2) has had sand extraction which was anecdotally later used as a firing range. Small machinery can be used here to sensitively excavate the roots but the contours of this feature must remain intact to preserve this archaeological feature.
* There are two main historic boundary bank features running along the bottom of the slope in compartment 1. Two designated crossing points have been identified for machinery access. These will be marked out as well as the feature itself. The restricted zone is from the top of the feature to the bottom and along the length. A small amount of hand cutting will be required where Rhododendron is growing on the top of the boundary bank.

**Work to be carried out:**

* Remove and burn all non-native shrub species (Rhododendron and Cherry Laurel) from Compartment 1 (2.6ha) and compartment 2 (0.4ha) as per map attached. Please quote separately for the individual compartments.
* The bordering line of shrubs along the driveway are to be retained.
* Stumps to be removed and/or cut to ground level. Indicate your method of removal and how this will be achieved.
* If proposed method of removal is cutting, treat with herbicide to prevent re-growth. Stumps to be treated within 24 hours of cutting for maximum effectiveness.
* Follow up foliar treatments of any re-growth to be carried out summer 2020. Indicate this as a separate cost in your quote. Please note this payment will be retained until effective regrowth spraying has been carried out.
* Arising’s to be burnt on-site at agreed locations minimising damage to trees and soil.
* Any damage or removal of fences, gates etc. during this operation must be replaced to the satisfaction of the landowner on completion of the works.
* Any damage to tracks, fields and other ground disturbance should be re-instated to the satisfaction of the landowner on completion of works.
* Timing of the work will be arranged with the Project Coordinator and landowner.

**Please supply the following details in your application to tender:**

* An itemised breakdown of the cost for the work in compartment 1 and the work in compartment 2.
* Provide a ‘Safe Systems of Work’ package which should include;
	+ - * + Site Specific Risk Assessment - reference to FISA Safety Guides
				+ Method Statement – how you intend to carry out the work including how safety on site is managed – this is a public site with paths running through and alongside the compartments to be worked.
				+ Emergency procedures for (if applicable): fuel spills/fire/medical emergency/electricity/lone working etc.
				+ Please indicate if your quote include a ‘Forestry Work Manager’ to supervise the work in accordance with FISA guidelines. If your quote does not include this role the Project Coordinator will be acting as the ‘Forest Works Manager’ and will be working closely with operators to manage health and safety on site. FISA safety checklists will be included in pre commencement meeting with project coordinator.

Please keep the above as concise as possible and if you require assistance with your quotation the Land Advice Service are here to support this process. Also referring to the [FISA](https://www.ukfisa.com/) website can help support your quotation document.

All submissions must be made via email to Gemma Stride and must be submitted by **12noon Friday 11th January 2019**.

We hope to notify the successful contractor by **Tuesday 15th January 2019** and would require the work to be completed between the **14th January 2019** and the **15th February 2019**. If this contract is awarded to the same contractor who is carrying out the thinning work then the above date will be extended to the **31st March 2019**

**Site visits:**

Please contact Gemma Stride for a site visit. Normal working days are Monday – Wednesday however other days are a possibility including weekends.

**Site Address:** Deerholt, Frogham, Fordingbridge, SP6 2HW

**NGR:** SU 16808 13163

For any other enquiries reference this tender, please contact Gemma Stride, Working Woodlands Project Co-ordinator;

Tel: 01590 646692 / 07912 941642 e-mail: gemma.stride@nflandadvice.org.uk

A copy of our Standard Conditions of Services can be found below:



The Authority reserves the right to withdraw this contract opportunity without notice and will not be liable for any costs incurred by suppliers during any stage of the process.