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**Hatfield Moors Cells Scrub Work Nov 2022**

**Background**

After the fire on Hatfield Moors, part of the Humberhead Peatlands NNR, the areas on the attached map would benefit from removal of silver birch scrub, treatment with herbicide and careful placing of arisings to remove additional fire risk moving forward and to make access on foot along the cell bunds easier.

Large areas of Hatfield Moors have been intensively surface milled for peat since the 60s. This ceased in September 2004 and since has been profiled and managed to allow the key peat forming plants such as sphagnum mosses and cotton grasses to re-establish across the old milled areas. The vast workings have been split into smaller compartments as part of the management for ease of work, each having a peat wall (bund) as the distinction between adjacent compartments.

**Requirement**

-Cut down (to be as level with ground as is possible on bunds) any scrub growing on bunds and up to 3 meters off each side.

-Stump treat living specimens with Glyphosate that contains dye.

-Drag arisings to a cell that is either wet or is obviously going to become wet through winter to avoid arisings becoming a fire source later. Cut up larger silver birch specimens first.

Contractor to provide their own tools and fuel and supply of herbicide normally used by the NNR to treat such regrowth and water for dilution.

In the case of 10% or greater regrowth, in the first 12 months, following the work, then remedial measures for rectification will need to be undertaken by the contractor, at their cost.

**Quote**

Please refer to the “Request for Quotation” document attached.

**Timescales**

To start as soon as possible after site visit to take advantage of drier site conditions and be for consecutive days where possible.

A site visit should be made to look at the works before submitting a quote.

# **Supporting Documentation**

The following are required from the contractor before starting;

* + Risk Assessments – for this particular job including a COVID-19 specific risk assessment
  + Construction Phase Plan (CPP)

A generic Risk Assessment for the site will be supplied.

**Health & Safety Consideration/Main Risks**

-remoteness of site

-subjecting to weather - there is a three-sided shelter at the western end of Packard’s tramway

-risk of falling into cells and hypothermia from cold and wet

-spills of herbicide

-two workers to be on site at all times/no lone working

**Access Arrangements**

Please observe the speed limit on site of 10MPH and keep driving off hard core roads to minimum to ensure tracks are not damaged for foot access. Gates to be closed and locked at all times along access routes. A key for access to be provided through term of works.

Equipment and tools to be supplied by the contractor and to be maintained to an acceptable and safe standard. Natural England’s Project Officers are to be advised in advance of any requirements on site.

**First Aid**

The Contractor will be responsible for the health, safety and welfare of their contract workforce and a practising first-aider with current certification will be present at all times. The Contractor will provide all appropriate first-aid equipment.

**Lone Working**

Because of the remote location of Thorne and Hatfield Moors there will be no lone working at any time.

**Biosecurity. Plant and animal diseases, pests and invasive non- native species (INNS)**

These can be spread between and within sites by visitors. Contractors must take adequate biosecurity precautions to ensure that the risk of spreading disease, pests and INNS is minimised i.e. vehicles, equipment and clothes (particularly boots) must be clean before entering a site, and cleaned again before leaving. Vehicles, equipment and clothes must be free of loose mud and plant debris and, as far as possible, free of water.

All spills whether it be from chemicals or fuel should be cleared up and disposed of appropriately and the Project officer informed. A spill kit should be carried in each vehicle.

**Accident Reporting**

The Contractor will be responsible for immediately reporting any accidents or near misses involving either their personnel or the public to the Natural England Project Officer. All incidents involving the public, however minor, are reportable under RIDDOR.

**Site Equipment Safety**

Whilst Thorne Moors have experienced theft, damage to property and anti-social behaviour within recent years, incidents have been much less at Hatfield but cannot be ruled out. There is potential currently for illegal access by quad and trial bike to be a problem. Incidents should be reported to the Police and should be reported to the Project officer immediately.

**Note: Natural England accepts no liability for third party machinery stored on their premises.**

Please return your quote by 5th December 2022 by email to colin.neale@naturalengland.org.uk

**Contact Details and Timeline**

Colin Neale, 07765604228 will be your contact for any questions linked to the content of this request.

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