

STHDI Pre-Bid Site Visit Field Questions – 11/19/2024

All Contracts:

- What happens if LCFEG does not win the timber sale?
 - Answer: If neither sale is won, or if there is a wood material shortage despite acquiring a sale, LCFEG shall work with the Contractor to develop a revised plan for wood sourcing and haul. The Contractor is not responsible for determining alternative wood sources from the timber sale nor are they held responsible for a material shortage if that shortage is caused by a lack of raw materials in the timber units. LCFEG will determine the most appropriate solution to a change in wood materials, considered options will include: (1) purchasing wood from the winning bidder or (2) importing wood from another source.
Note: LCFEG has the funding to purchase this sale, pay the logger prevailing wages to process the sale, and haul materials to the project site.

Contract 1:

- Task 2: Weyerhaeuser does not have enough gravel in their 5630 pit to supply Task 2 with gravel. LCFEG will supply the gravel from Gardner Rock in Toutle. If the Contractor has a separate gravel source they can supply, please include a cost in your proposal.
- Do you know the status of Forest Practices and Cultural Resource Permit?
 - Answer: The cultural resource contractor deadline is 12/2 to complete the report. All the field work is done. The Forest Practices permit has not been submitted. It will be completed the week of 11/25.
- On the Pre-Bid announcement it calls for 7 acres of clearing for staging areas but in the bid document Minimal clearing is explained. Please elaborate.
 - Answer: Contract 1 includes just enough clearing and grubbing to stage the wood as described in Task 3 and the associated Drawings Sheets 6-8.
- Is 8" culvert acceptable for road intersection on the 5100
 - Answer: No. Forest practices will require an 18" culvert.
- On the 5595 there is a narrow culvert in a corner, is it acceptable to widen the road over the culvert?
 - Answer: as long as you're not impacting the ditches or Weyerhaeuser's trees it is acceptable.
- During the site visit there was mention of unloading super large logs with root wads at the 4107 for future projects, is this part of contract #1?
 - Answer: Please review Sheet 10 of the Contract 1 Drawings and Task 5 in the Contract 1 Bid Documents.
- Who is responsible for supplying the hog fuel for the 4701-soil amendment.
 - Answer: LCFEG will be sourcing the hog fuel.

Contract 2:

- Several places in the documents for pre fish window work the term “if allowed by permit” is used. Will we know an answer before the bid date?
 - Answer: No. Permits are expected by May, 2025. The Contractor should assume an in water work window of 7/16 to 9/15. During the site visit we explained that some side channels may still be wet and cannot be forded before the IWWW. However, the Contractor may span these channels if they see it necessary to start work before the IWWW begins. There are also plenty of areas to begin work before the IWWW begins that don’t require spanning wet areas.
- Who is required to attend daily meetings and proposed time?
 - Answer: LCFEG and at least one representative from the Contracting company should attend the daily meetings. These meetings will be necessary to discuss safety, logistical planning, any items being charged to the Force Account, and any anticipated changes that may be necessary.
- Fish salvage, Contractor is expected to assist per documents, can you explain what type of assistance and expected time and personnel requirements.
 - Answer: The Contractor is responsible for the dewatering which impacts fish salvage. The Contractor should also budget to provide 3 staff to assist for 3 days for the largest fish salvage effort in 2026; they will help carry buckets, net fish, transport coolers, move fish to their return location, etc..
The fish salvage for the channel fill area is expected to take a full week. The Contractor will need to slowly reduce flow through into the dewatered area incrementally over the course of the week. If there are still abundant fish moving out after one week, it may require more time to allow these critters to exit the worksite. Seeing as this large fish salvage effort will be completed in 2026, the Owner and Contractor will have time to develop a schedule that accommodates this effort.
 - If dewatering is necessary to construct individual structures (e.g. to meet water quality standards), the Contractor will be responsible for isolating the worksite. The Owner will provide one person with a backpack shocker and one person with nets to remove fish from the isolated worksite. The time required depends on the size of isolation.
- Wood staging, the Full Trees W/RW delivered to staging 1 and 2, are these 90’ (Chart C2.1 and chart C2.2)
 - Answer: any “Full Trees” W/ or W/O RW downstream of STA 128+00 are 90’ long. See 2-04.3(1) on page 22 of Specifications in Attachment A.
- Slash Bundles are referenced in several places on the prints. Who is required to build the bundles and what are the specifications.
 - Slash bundles are shown in the plans within Caddis Creek. These bundles will be installed by helicopter as part of Contract 4.
 - Any Trucked slash shown in the Wood Staging Area Summary tables are not bundled but trucked in bulk. Any Helicopter slash will be bundled by the Contract 3 contractor as one of the sorts and flown by Helicopter in Contract 4.
- Culverts, who sizes the culverts.

- Answer: The Contractor is responsible for furnishing, installing and sizing culverts as required for all stabilized construction ramps.
- What is the question cutoff date.
 - Answer: The question cutoff date is 5 days prior to the bid due date.
- What is the total acreage of clearing and grubbing for the staging areas? What quantity of the timber knocked down in these staging areas needs to be hauled to the floodplain and what can be distributed on the ground surface during demobilization?
 - Answer: Contract 1 includes just enough clearing and grubbing to stage the wood as described in Task 3 and the associated Drawings Sheets 6-8. The remainder falls under Contract 2.

The listed 7 acres in the specifications are a maximum estimate assuming that all ground-based staging areas are fully cleared and grubbed (which is optional and only as needed by the contractor). The acreage includes truck based staging areas, ground-based staging areas and wood access & haul routes.

Refer to the tables below:

Table 1. Truck Based Staging Areas

Staging Area ID	Staging Area (SF)	Clearing and Grubbing Area (sf)	Notes
1	35032	35032	Alder dominated vegetation, use as slash.
2	80740	80740	Alder dominated with a few conifers. Use as slash and WHS.
3	32489	0	Harrington Flats already cleared
4	9100	3000	Most of staging area is gravel bar
5	9958	0	Located on gravel bar, no clearing or grubbing.
6	100062	0	Located on gravel bar, no clearing or grubbing.
7	20051	0	Located on gravel bar, no clearing or grubbing.
8	18607	4000	Most of staging area is gravel bar.
9	28893	0	All on road, no clearing and grubbing.

Table 2. Ground Based Staging Areas

Adjacent Truck Based Staging Area	Staging Area (SF)	Clearing and Grubbing Area (sf)	Notes
1	90761	90761	Maximum area of clearing, likely not all necessary.
2	14514	14514	Two small areas just downslope of ramp off trucked #2
3	NA	NA	Located on gravel bar, no clearing or grubbing.
4	NA	NA	Located on gravel bar, no clearing or grubbing.

5	NA	NA	Located on gravel bar, no clearing or grubbing.
6	NA	NA	Located on gravel bar, no clearing or grubbing.
7	NA	NA	Located on gravel bar, no clearing or grubbing.
8	NA	NA	Located on gravel bar, no clearing or grubbing.
9	11552	4100	Little Cow Springs HQ

Table 3. Access and Wood Haul Routes

Adjacent Truck Based Staging Area	Approx Length of Route Through Vegetation (feet)	Clearing and Grubbing Area (sf)	Notes
1	1000	20000	Assumed 20' clearing and grubbing width.
2	500	10000	Assumed 20' clearing and grubbing width.
3	800	16000	Assumed 20' clearing and grubbing width.
4	200	4000	Assumed 20' clearing and grubbing width.
5	400	8000	Assumed 20' clearing and grubbing width.
6	250	5000	Assumed 20' clearing and grubbing width.
7	400	8000	Assumed 20' clearing and grubbing width.
8	200	4000	Assumed 20' clearing and grubbing width.
9	0	0	Clearing and grubbing from previous project phase.

Table 4. Clearing and Grubbing Summary Table

Location/Feature	Area (ac)
Trucked Staging Areas	2.8
Ground Based Staging Areas (Optional)	2.5
Access and Wood Haul Routes	1.7
TOTAL	7.1

- Will clearing and grubbing be required in the river right trucked staging areas?
 - Answer: Most trucked staging areas on river right are located on gravel bars in the floodplain that will not require clearing and grubbing. Refer to the tables provided in questions #2.
- Is the contractor at all responsible for installing hardware on the WHSs for contract #2?

- Answer: No, LCFEG will install and furnish all hardware. The contractor is responsible for carrying hardware out to WHS Type 2, Type 8, Type 9, and Type 10. Refer to Contract #2 Special Provisions (see Table 5 on page 45 in Attachment A).
- What is the minimum pile embedment depth? How much of the embedment needs to be achieved by driving? Can a contractor dig a 10-foot-deep hole and then only drive down two feet?
 - Answer: The contractor should refer to the Contract #2 Special Provisions section 8-26.3(6) (pages 41-43 of Attachment A). A minimum of 5 feet of embedment depth must be achieved by driving rather than excavation. The maximum embedment depth required is 12 feet below existing grade; therefore, the maximum depth the Contractor is allowed to dig for embedment is 7 feet.
- What level of compaction will be required on channel fill and how will this be assessed by the engineer?
 - Answer: The contractor should refer to the Contract #2 Special Provisions section 8-28.3 (pages 48-50 of Attachment A). Compaction shall be achieved by tracking over the placed material between lifts after fine sediment has been washed into the matrix to ensure voids are filled. The Contractor shall complete minimum two passes with tracked equipment or until a firm and consolidated condition is achieved as approved by the Engineer.
- What is meant by mixing in “fines” within channel fill? What level of sorting and washing will be required? How will the success of this be evaluated?
 - Answer: The contractor should refer to the Contract #2 Special Provisions section 8-28.3 (pages 48-50 of Attachment A). Fines will be sourced from floodplain excavation and will consist of sand. The Contractor will be required to wash fines into the channel fill matrix between lifts by either (1) washing in fines with pumped water or (2) partial diversion of water into the channel fill area from upstream as described in the Special Provisions. Fines will be mixed until the bed is sealed and there are no pockets of cobble that allow flow to go completely subsurface. Some level of subsurface flow is unavoidable given the large grain size of available material; this is acceptable if the aggregate mix is well consolidated and approved by the Engineer.
- When water testing of the fill between 155+00 and 158+00 is being completed, will down stream water quality be a factor because of seepage and runoff?
 - Answer: The Contractor will need to prevent dirty water from running off 155+00 into the bypass which enters the channel at 154+60.
- 158+00 to 176+00 has option of diverting part of river using fish screens, or pump and increase or decrease flows to meet water quality standards. Is this method also acceptable for 155+00 to 158+00?
 - Answer: Yes, we expect the Contractor to build 155+00 to 158+00 at the same time as 158+00 to 176+00; at this time the entire SF Toutle will be diverted to the south side of the floodplain through Little Cow Creek. Any additional pumping or diverting of water in addition to the main bypass is allowed within the fill area (155+00 to 176+00) to meet water quality standards.
- Pilings details

- Will a specific ring count be required on pilings?
 - Answer: The pilings will be sourced and cut to length by Contract 3 and do not require a specific ring count but must not have cracks, seams, or other deformities that could compromise the structural integrity of the log. Piles will be visibly inspected after preparation is complete. Contract 3 will require the logger to source pilings from the lower 55' of export-quality wood. This will allow them to produce two 25' pilings or three 16' pilings from each tree. The rest of the tree can be made into medium or small logs.
- Will there be a maximum butt diameter for pilings:
 - Answer: Piling maximum butt diameters will be 16" with a minimum butt diameter of 12" and minimum scale diameter of 10". All measurements are inside the bark.
 - The intention of the maximum butt diameter is to reduce friction during pile driving to ensure we meet embedment depths. Contractor 2 will be responsible for preparing pilings for *their* pile driving equipment. This includes cutting the butt to fit inside their pile-driving head to prevent splintering.

Contract 3:

- Will the timber sale bid documents be announced prior to the timber sale auction?
 - Answer: No, we will wait until after the timber sale results are final before releasing Contract 3 for bidding. We will require a quick turn around for this Contract, likely 1 week. There are two sales that are being posted a month apart; thus, we will release bid documents within a week if we win one or both of the sales.
- Are all DNR units ground based harvest?
 - Answer: There may be some units where ground-based logging isn't possible. However, we are not as familiar with the capabilities of new logging equipment like tether-logging. We won't know until DNR releases the sales data.
- Can we cross Harrington Creek and the existing creeks on the 4100M road to access the Enhanced sale units prior to the IWW? Can culverts be installed over the 4100 road creeks prior to the IWW?
 - Answer: DNR is aiming to install the bridge over Harrington Creek in April 2025 if WDFW allows. The Owner will request permits to install culverts into the stream crossings along the 4100M road before the IWW. This will likely be possible as long as there is a dry weather period and the stream goes dry when culverts are installed. Culverts may not be required but would provide access even during a rain event.
- Under what circumstances does prevailing wage need to be paid to the logging contractor to harvest DNR sales? When does this not apply? Has this been accounted for?
 - Answer: If LCFEG wins the timber sale and is paying the logger to harvest, process, and deck up the wood they will need to be paid prevailing wages. If another company wins the sale and harvests, processes, and decks up the wood and LCFEG purchases the wood on the landing, we will not pay prevailing wages for this work.
- How many units does LCFEG intend to purchase from the two timber sales?

- Answer: LCFEG intends to purchase both sales and use all of the wood from both sales between 2025 and 2027.
- What will the bidding look like for Contract 3?
 - Answer: We intend to bid out Contract 3 on a \$/acre basis to perform all activities including harvest, sorting, and decking up the wood in the units.
- Who will improve the 4100M-road adjacent to the Enhanced sale and when can this happen?
 - Answer: DNR will install the bridge over Harrington Creek in April 2025. The winner of the Enhanced timber sale will be responsible for permitting and completing road work on the 4100M road.

Contract 4:

- Will any of the staged Large, XL or Super XL logs at the 4701 stockpile need helicopter transportation?
 - Answer: Yes. We plan to fly “Large” rootwads into Reach D (see Sheets 20-23 of Contract 2 Drawings for reference). These pieces will likely weigh about 8-10,000 pounds each. The helicopter company should have a lifting capacity of at least 8,000 pounds.

Contract 5:

- Can we still offer a virtual tour for Stump Creek since the snowy roads prevented some contractors from attending?
 - Answer: Since we were able to make it to the site, we will not offer a virtual tour. However, we will include extra photos in the bid docs than we would typically to paint a clear picture of the site conditions. We don't have any good drone imagery or GoPro360 imagery of this site that we would use for a virtual tour.