



Request for Proposals: Town River Recreational Navigation Enhancement Plan

Issue date: May 26, 2023

Organization information:

Taunton River Stewardship Council
1387 Somerset Ave, Dighton, MA 02715

<https://www.tauntonriver.org/>

Mailing Address:

PO Box 1116, Taunton MA 02780

Bids Due: June 30, 2023

Submit bid responses by email to:

director@savethetaunton.org with the subject line "Town River Recreational Plan Proposal"

Summary of need:

We are seeking a contractor to work with the Taunton River Stewardship Council (TRSC) to develop a river enhancement plan aimed at improving flow conditions by addressing channel spanning wood (CSW) along the reach of the Town River between Stanley Iron Works Park and Hayward St in Bridgewater, MA.

Scope of work:

1. Participate in coordination meeting with the Taunton River Stewardship Council's River Access Committee
2. Identify, document, and describe large woody obstructions
3. Evaluate conditions of obstructions including ecological impacts and benefits upriver and down river
4. Evaluate impacts to recreational cartop boating opportunities
5. Consult with Town River Fisheries Committee and MA Department of Marine Fisheries – Diadromous Fisheries Specialist to assess potential impacts to fish migration
6. Suggest a treatment strategy for each obstruction. We expect the selected contractor to suggest techniques and strategies that also protect ecological functions and values, improve river flow, cartop boating opportunities, and fish migration, while ensuring the amount of disturbance to each existing obstruction will be the minimum necessary to achieve the goals of the project

Timeline:

August and September are the times when water levels are typically lowest. If we happen to go into a drought that could extend the time possibilities

Deliverable:

1. Provide a comprehensive written report detailing woody obstructions and strategies to address them. Include site maps, photos, and descriptions as well as treatment strategies and alternatives.
2. Present report at a Taunton River Stewardship Council Meeting

Background:

In 2009, President Obama signed federal legislation designating the entire mainstem of the Taunton River as a component of the National Wild and Scenic River System to be administered by the National Park Service through a locally-based partnership, the Taunton River Stewardship Council (TRSC), guided by a comprehensive river management plan (CRMP). The TRSC serves as the central coordinating body for implementing the CRMP. Their purpose is to promote the long-term protection of the river by:

1. Bringing together, on a regular basis, various parties responsible for river management
2. Facilitating agreements and coordination among them
3. Providing a focus and a forum for all river interests to discuss and make recommendations regarding issues of concern
4. Establishing priorities, work plans, action plans, and similar strategies to advance implementation of the Stewardship Plan

Within the CRMP, Taunton River tributaries within the ten (10) cited communities are considered essential to the Plan and the achievement of river protection/restoration goals. Eight of these tributaries have been studied by volunteer Stream Teams in some detail as a part of the Taunton Wild and Scenic River Study; these are the Town, Matfield, Winnetuxet, Nemasket, Forge, Three Mile, Assonet, and Segregansett Rivers. Each of these tributaries within the ten communities is considered a full participant in the CRMP, and is eligible for staff assistance, funding, and other support as a participant.

The CRMP is driven by the objective of protecting and enhancing the “Outstandingly Remarkable Values” identified for the Taunton River during the study process, which include:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agriculture • Ecology and Biological Diversity • Estuary 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fisheries • History and Archaeology • Recreation
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Bid Requirements

Please include the following in your bid response:

- Name and contact information for your company
- Basic information and history of the company, technical capability to complete the proposed project, and any additional information you want us to know.
- Proof of liability insurance
- List and describe previously completed projects that relate to the proposed work
- Fee Proposal, detailed to the greatest extent possible – cost for service: hourly rates (if applicable), typical direct out-of pocket costs such as travel reimbursement and any other anticipated expenses that you foresee
- Any additional information, such as you/your team member’s particular experiences, training, and/or background(s) that may make you uniquely qualified for this position

Note:

These funds will be provided by the National Park Service under CFDA 15.962 – National Wild and Scenic Rivers System. As a sub-recipient, the contractor will be responsible for compliance with federal laws and regulations, and the parent grant agreement, the provisions of which are available upon request.