

PUBLIC NOTICE

REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS FOR INVASIVE PLANT MANAGEMENT IN FORESTED AREAS ENERGY, MINERALS AND NATURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT, FORESTRY DIVISION

The State of New Mexico, Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department (EMNRD), Forestry Division (Division) is seeking applications (Applications) to address management of invasive plants on state, private, and public non-federal lands from Cooperative Weed Management Areas (CWMAs) where noxious weeds threaten forested acres. Eligible applicants are non-federal governmental entities involved with a CWMA, including tribes (as long as other federal money is not involved). Successful applicants shall be required to provide 1:1 matching funds.

This Request for Application's (RFA) primary goal is to increase local capacity to manage and prevent invasions of noxious weeds in forested areas. The U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service (Forest Service) has provided these funds specifically to address areas where invasive plants threaten forested acres. Projects must emphasize prevention and treatment of invasive plants. Projects that do not specifically target invasive plants threatening forested acres are not eligible for this funding. Locally-driven CWMAs have been shown to be the best vehicles for implementing weed management programs. Therefore, this program emphasizes the use of existing CWMAs or the creation of new CWMAs.

Projects must address any or all of the following:

- awareness and education;
- prevention and early detection;
- inventory and mapping;
- planning and coordination;
- integrated weed management; or
- monitoring and evaluation.

EMNRD has approximately \$76,500.00 currently available for this project, with the possibility of additional funds being provided later, and may award multiple contracts as a result of this RFA. Applications may request a minimum of \$5,000.00 and a maximum of \$20,000.00. Purchase of items such as backpack sprayers, storage cabinets, storage tanks, or trailers are limited to a maximum of \$5,000.00.

EMNRD shall give the highest priority to programs that apply integrated management practices and demonstrate partnerships and monitoring results. EMNRD shall link priority to the New Mexico Noxious Weed List, assigning higher priority according to classification on the noxious weed list, which can be found on the following link:

<http://www.emnrd.state.nm.us/SFD/Publications/documents/Weed-List-memo-and-weed-list-2016.pdf>

Projects involving invasive plant species other than those on the State's noxious weed list may be considered on a case-by-case basis. For example, projects that propose to treat yellow

bluestem (*Bothriochloa ischaemum*), Caucasian bluestem (*B. bladhii*), medusahead (*Taeniatherum caput-medusae*), or ventenata (*Ventenata dubia*) will be considered. Regardless of the targeted weeds species, projects shall use an integrated weed management approach.

Questions regarding this RFA shall be addressed to:

Shannon Atencio,
Las Vegas District Forester/New Mexico Invasive Plants Program Manager
EMNRD, Forestry Division/Las Vegas District
HC 33 Box 109-4
Las Vegas, New Mexico 87701
Telephone: (505) 425-7472.

Applications are available on the Forestry Division website, <http://www.emnrd.state.nm.us/SFD/RFPs/RFPMain.html> the "Grants/RFPs" tab. Offerors may also contact Shannon Atencio to obtain Application copies. Applicants must submit one original completed, signed Application packet and five identical hard copies to Mrs. Atencio or her designee at the address above, no later than 4 p.m., MST, Friday November 20, 2020. Mailed documents must be physically received at EMNRD by this date and time. EMNRD shall make absolutely no exceptions for Applications not received at the above location by the appointed time. Applications MAY NOT be sent by facsimile or e-mail.