



Request for Bids

The Nature Conservancy, (VA, NC, TN, GA, SC, KY) Chapters seek to contract several (as many as 5 depending on funding and bid price) 4 person wildland fire modules for a three month period, beginning approximately late February, to work on USFS, TNC, state lands, and private lands. Exact starting and ending dates are flexible, but a 3 month period is expected. The modules will be scattered across these areas, with a central location/housing identified as part of the project.

Duties:

- Fireline preparation
- General stewardship/land management
- Equipment preparation and rehabilitation/maintenance
- Prescribed fire implementation, mop up, and patrol
- Fire effects monitoring
- Mapping and fire planning
- Trail and public access improvements

Crew expectations:

- Physical fitness: work will be conducted in mountainous terrain and in hot conditions on long days, NWCG arduous fitness is required.
- Scheduling flexibility, including the ability to split into groups
- Commitment to excellent conservation and operational outcomes, highly reliable and dependable
- Commitment to safe field and fire operations
- Willingness to learn and think outside of the box to meet objectives
- Work as part of an interagency team, under different leadership depending on work location

Qualifications/specifications:

- Proof of insurance for crew, vehicles and activities*
- Crew leader: NWCG single resource boss qualified (crew, engine, firing, etc)
- Assistant crew leader: NWCG firefighter type 1 (Squad Boss)
- Crew members: NWCG firefighter type 2
- Self-sufficiency: the crew must be able to acquire housing, camp if needed, and transportation to work sites.
- Equipment:
 - Fireline gear for each crew member including new generation fire shelter, hard hat, nomex clothing, 8" leather boots, etc.
 - 2 vehicles (4WD preferred) – recommend at least 1 pickup, preferably enclosed for secure equipment storage.
 - 2 chainsaws – 18" bar minimum. At least two sawyers must be NWCG Class B/Type 2.
 - 2 leafblowers
 - 1 brushcutter

- Fireline tools (fire rakes, rogue hoes, etc) – recommend a total of two x # of persons (i.e. 8 tools) to accommodate various conditions - to be an assortment (rogue hoes, rakes, combi, Pulaski, flapper, etc).
- Personal protective equipment and repair tools to keep equipment functioning in good order

The crew will be under the direct supervision of a variety of partner agencies, including but not limited to: The Nature Conservancy, US Fish and Wildlife Service, US Forest Service, State Depts of Conservation, and Game or Wildlife Departments. The crew will be expected to have high standards for work completion and professionalism.

Bid details: please itemize as much as possible, including housing. **Bids are due by Sept 2, 2016.** Please submit all bids via email to: slindblom@tnc.org. Bids do not need to be exact, as we expect to negotiate specifics and final details based on locations, specific module requirements, etc. as the planning process evolves and funding allows.

For questions or to submit a bid for this contract, please contact:

Sam Lindblom

Director of Land Management, Fire Manager

The Nature Conservancy, Virginia Chapter

490 Westfield Road

Charlottesville, VA

434-951-0580 (office)

434-987-0712 (cell)

*The Contractor shall carry at least \$1,000,000 of hazard and liability insurance written on an occurrence basis during the term of this Contract. The Contractor's insurance policy shall cover fire management activities, including accidents or injuries resulting from smoke. Contractor's policy(ies) shall be primary insurance to any other valid and collectible insurance available to the Conservancy with respect to any claim arising out of Contractor's performance of this contract. The Contractor shall have the Conservancy named as an additional insured on the Contractor's policy, on a primary and non-contributory basis, and shall provide the Conservancy with evidence that the appropriate insurance coverage is in effect (specifically listing the prescribed burn and smoke coverage) at least 10 days prior to reporting for work, and shall provide the Conservancy with 30 days advance written notice of cancellations, non-renewals or reduction in limits or coverage or other material change. Contractor is responsible for payment of insurance deductibles. If Contractor is self-insured, a Certification of Self-Insurance must be attached. If the Conservancy finds the insurance coverage to be insufficient, the Conservancy may immediately terminate this Contract.