REQUEST FOR STATEMENTS OF QUALIFICATIONS (RFSQ) No. 22-078

DATE:	September 21, 2022
Project Title:	**Benson Creek Crossing and Ammonite Falls Rehabilitation and Planting**

The Regional District of Nanaimo invites qualified and experienced firms to submit Statements of Qualifications to provide planting services of shrubs and trees in Benson Creek Falls Regional Park at the Ammonite Falls viewing area and the Benson Creek bridge crossing.

A. Intent

This Request for Statements of Qualifications (RFSQ) is issued to determine the most qualified and experienced service provider that can meet the Regional District of Nanaimo's requirements, expectations, and timeline.

The Regional District of Nanaimo will review submissions received in response to this RFSQ and enter discussions with the top-ranked Respondent to negotiate the terms, scope, timeline, and cost based on the actual scope of work required (the Work). Should these negotiations fail to result in a contract for the Work, the Regional District of Nanaimo may then elect to negotiate with the next highest ranked service provider and so on until an agreement is reached or the process cancelled.

In any event, the Regional District of Nanaimo shall not be bound to enter a contract with any Respondent to this RFSQ and, at its sole discretion, may elect to collapse this process.

B. Background

Benson Creek Falls Regional Park is a popular 32-hectare hiking attraction. Between 2019 and 2022, access improvements were constructed in two major locations: the Benson Creek Crossing, and Ammonite Falls (Benson Creek Falls). As a result of disturbance from trail users, soil erosion, and new access improvements, there is a need to re-vegetate some strategic locations along the trail.

Ammonite Falls is the main destination in Benson Creek Falls Regional Park. Hikers travel here to view the falls and to swim in the natural pools. The site is somewhat moist, with a variety of vegetation indicative of a Coastal Douglas-fir moist maritime climate. Sword fern and Oregon grape will be the leading ground cover species planted here.

The Benson Creek Crossing site consists of numerous stairways and switchbacks, leading down to the newly constructed bridge crossing. Hikers commencing from the Weigles Road parking lot travel across these stairways towards Ammonite Falls. To enhance soil stability and improve biodiversity, a variety of shrubs and ferns will be planted along the stairways, between switchbacks and along slopes, including sword fern, Oregon grape, ocean spray, and Coastal Douglas-fir.

C. Contemplated Scope of Work and Timeline

Work is expected to take place October/November (Fall planting season), while soil is moist and sufficient for planting.

Scope of work includes:

- Pick-up, storage, and transportation of plants from nursery to work sites (no vehicle access, however an ATV or UTV may be utilized)
- Planting of approximately 500 shrubs and trees (plugs and nursery pots) at two sites in Benson Creek Falls Regional Park, a total area of approximately 250m^2. Please see maps attached.
- Benching or pocket planting, including the transportation of clean soil (of required)

Planting sites are steep and may require fall arrest systems to safely access. Slopes vary throughout the sites but can reach 100%.

D. Statement of Qualifications and Evaluation

The statement of qualifications should be no longer than five (5) single sided pages in length (not including cover page, cover letter and appendices). Please include the following:

- Qualifications and areas expertise of the Firm and nominated Project Manager. Please include CV/Resume of the Project Manager and explain how this individual will provide value for the RDN on this project. Describe your Firm's approach to work.
- Experience of Firm and nominated Project Manager in previous planting work. Provide short descriptions of similar projects and assignments completed by both the Firm and nominated Project Manager. Include experience demonstrating knowledge of planting best practices to ensure success.
- A statement of your firm's ability to complete the work safety, particularly how planting on steep slopes will be assessed and carried out, including a statement of experience with fall arrest systems
- A statement of your firm's ability to complete the work within the timeframe described.

Statements of Qualifications (the "SOQ") will be evaluated by the Regional District of Nanaimo based on the above. Any or all SOQs will not necessarily be accepted.

E. Submission Date & Time

Statements of Qualifications should be received on or before 3:00:00 p.m. local time on October 5, 2022. The RDN reserves the right to accept late submissions.

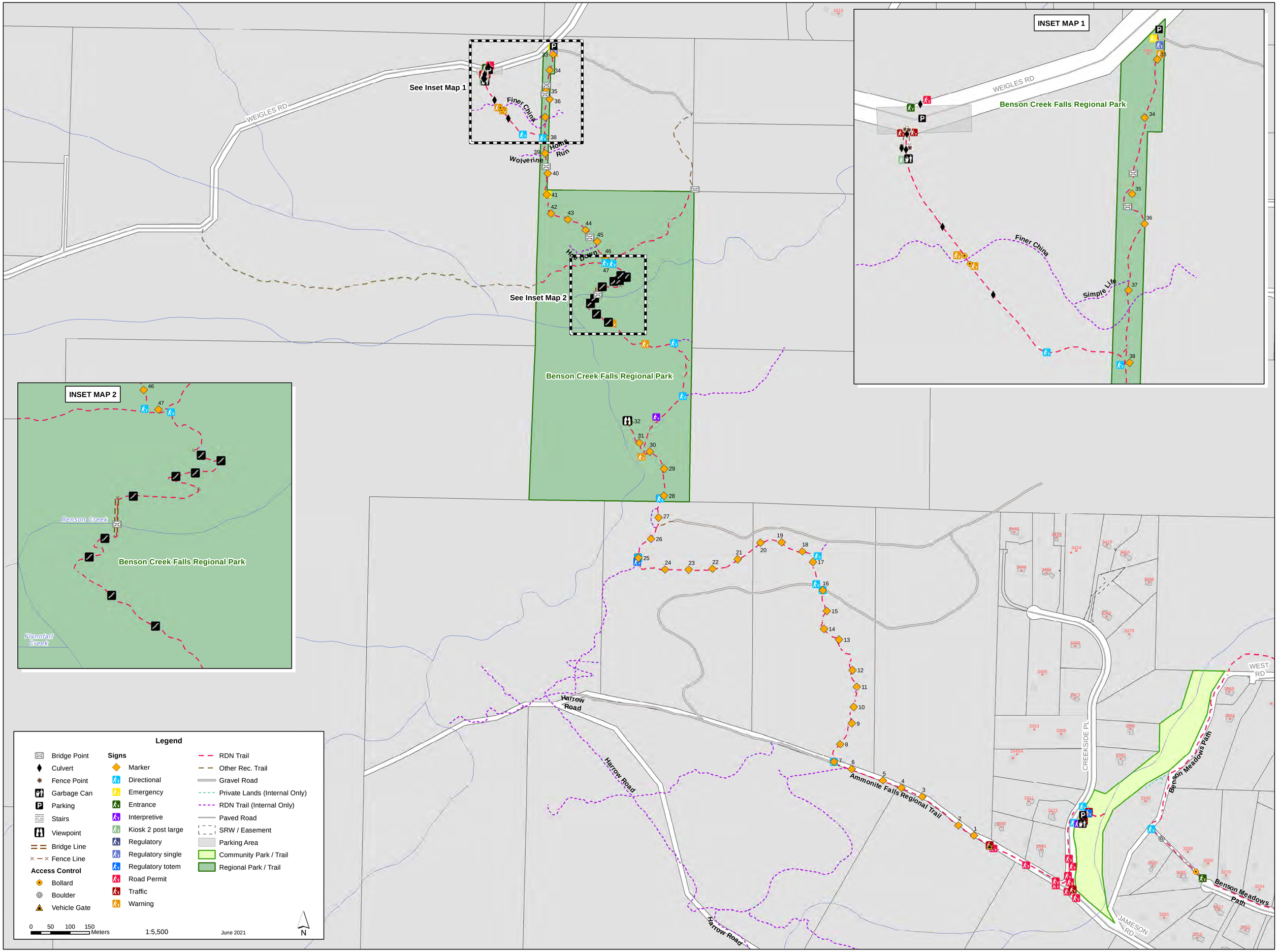
F. Questions and Submissions

Questions and submissions should be directed to:

Kaitlin Fader
Parks Operations Coordinator – Natural Areas
T:250-268-5657 E: kfader@rdn.bc.ca

G. Attachments

Site Map
Photos


INSET MAP 1
INSET MAP 2
See Inset Map 1
See Inset Map 2
WEIGLES RD
Benson Creek Falls Regional Park
Finer China
Simple Life
Hoss Down
Wolverine
Home Run
Ammonite Falls Regional Trail
Harrow Road
CREEKSIDE PL
Benson Meadows Path
WEST RD
JAMESON RD
Benson Creek
Flynnfall Creek
Legend
Bridge Point
Culvert
Fence Point
Garbage Can
Parking
Stairs
Viewpoint
Bridge Line
Fence Line
Access Control
Bollard
Boulder
Vehicle Gate
Signs
Marker
Directional
Emergency
Entrance
Interpretive
Kiosk 2 post large
Regulatory
Regulatory single
Regulatory totem
Road Permit
Traffic
Warning
RDN Trail
Other Rec. Trail
Gravel Road
Private Lands (Internal Only)
RDN Trail (Internal Only)
Paved Road
SRW / Easement
Parking Area
Community Park / Trail
Regional Park / Trail
0 50 100 150 Meters
1:5,500
June 2021
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