Request For Proposal - Services

Project Name:

Fish Salvage and Turbidity Monitoring for Canard River Marsh Dyke Repair

RFP Closing Date:

June 30, 2025, 4:00pm EST

Submission Requirements:

The submission is to include:

- Proof of insurance in the amount of $2,000,000.00
- A Project Plan that indicates:
  - The Supplier's proposed approaches to fish salvage and turbidity monitoring.
  - Project timing.
  - Equipment to be used for fish salvage and turbidity monitoring
  - Proposed approach for safe and effective implementation of sampling, including the handling of Species at Risk (SAR) fish.
- Detailed description of Supplier's qualifications and experience including:
  - A description of the Supplier's previous experience with conducting fish salvage and handling fish Species at Risk.
  - A description of the Supplier's ability to meet the required timeframes described in schedule of work below.
- Price, including all materials, labour, delivery, travel, accommodation, insurance and any other overhead or other costs and applicable duties and taxes with the exception of Harmonized Sales Tax ("HST"), if applicable, to perform and provide services described in this SoW, broken down as follows:
  - Unit Price (of fish salvage and turbidity monitoring) per day (Cdn. funds);
  - Harmonized Sales Tax (HST), if applicable, as a separate item.

Quotations received after the above-referenced date and time may not be considered.

For further information, please contact:

Kevin Money, *Director of Conservation Services*
kmoney@erca.org
519-776-5209 x 351

Responses to all questions will be shared with all suppliers

Location:

Canard River Marsh Dyke, Detroit River
Amherstburg, Ontario

Description of services required:

Please refer to the Statement of Work

Payment schedule:

ERCA will make progress payments in accordance with the payment provisions of the service contract (see schedule below) for cost incurred in the performance of the Work.

Task Description	Percentage of Payment	Date
Fish salvage completion	80%	Upon invoice receipt after Completion
Provision of report outlining fish salvage and turbidity monitoring methods and results including daily fish salvage and turbidity logs in Excel format	20%	January 15th, 2025

A quotation must comply with all requirements of the request for proposal to be declared responsive. The responsive quotation with the lowest evaluated price will be recommended for award of a service contract (contract). ERCA reserves the right to reject any and all proposals received, regardless of price.

The service must be provided between July 16, 2025 and November 30, 2025 (refer to Project Schedule below) unless extensions are agreed to by ERCA.

Statement of Work

Fish Salvage and Turbidity Monitoring for Canard River Marsh Dyke Repair

Background

The largest wetland in the Detroit River, known as the Canard River Marsh Complex, is located near the mouth of the Canard River. A long "finger dyke" runs parallel to the wetland dyke to the north of the wetland cell, extending into the Detroit River for about 1,125 meters before turning downstream. This finger dyke helps redirect the flow from the Fighting Island Channel around the wetland cell and shallow water areas.

The finger dyke and aquatic vegetation in the MMM Hunt Club Marsh play a crucial role in protecting the wetland system from the forces of the river, shipping channel wash, ice scour, and sediment diversion. The wetland cells within the complex are home to abundant wild celery beds. Wild celery is eaten by diving ducks such as the canvasback and provides a rich abundance of prey as a food source for other species. Beds of wild celery act like submerged meadows providing shelter for fish and invertebrates and in some cases nurseries for fish species. This species also strengthens sediment shorelines, assisting small particle food webs, and water filtration.

However, the finger dyke is breached in many areas due to riverine forces and recent high water levels. The Canard River Marsh Dyke Repair project aims to repair the shoreline protection along the Canard Marsh Dyke by installing rock armour in 4 discreet repair sections (for Phase 1). The sections of the dyke not included in these repairs will remain unchanged since they are stable and still effectively protect the sensitive wetlands located on the southern side of the dyke. Since this project is located in Pugnose Minnow critical habitat, fish salvage via minnow traps is required pre- and during construction to remove any potential Pugnose Minnow (and other Species at Risk) from the construction site. Further, in-situ turbidity sensors are required to be installed upstream and downstream of the active construction site to ensure that the construction is not causing high turbidity that would negatively impact Species at Risk. This project is phased, with Phase 1 occurring in 2025.

Project Areas

As part of this project, fish salvage and turbidity measurements are proposed for the surrounding waters of the Canard River marsh dyke (Location in Figure 1). A total of 25 traps will need to be

deployed during Phase 1 construction of the project, with their locations included in Figure 2.

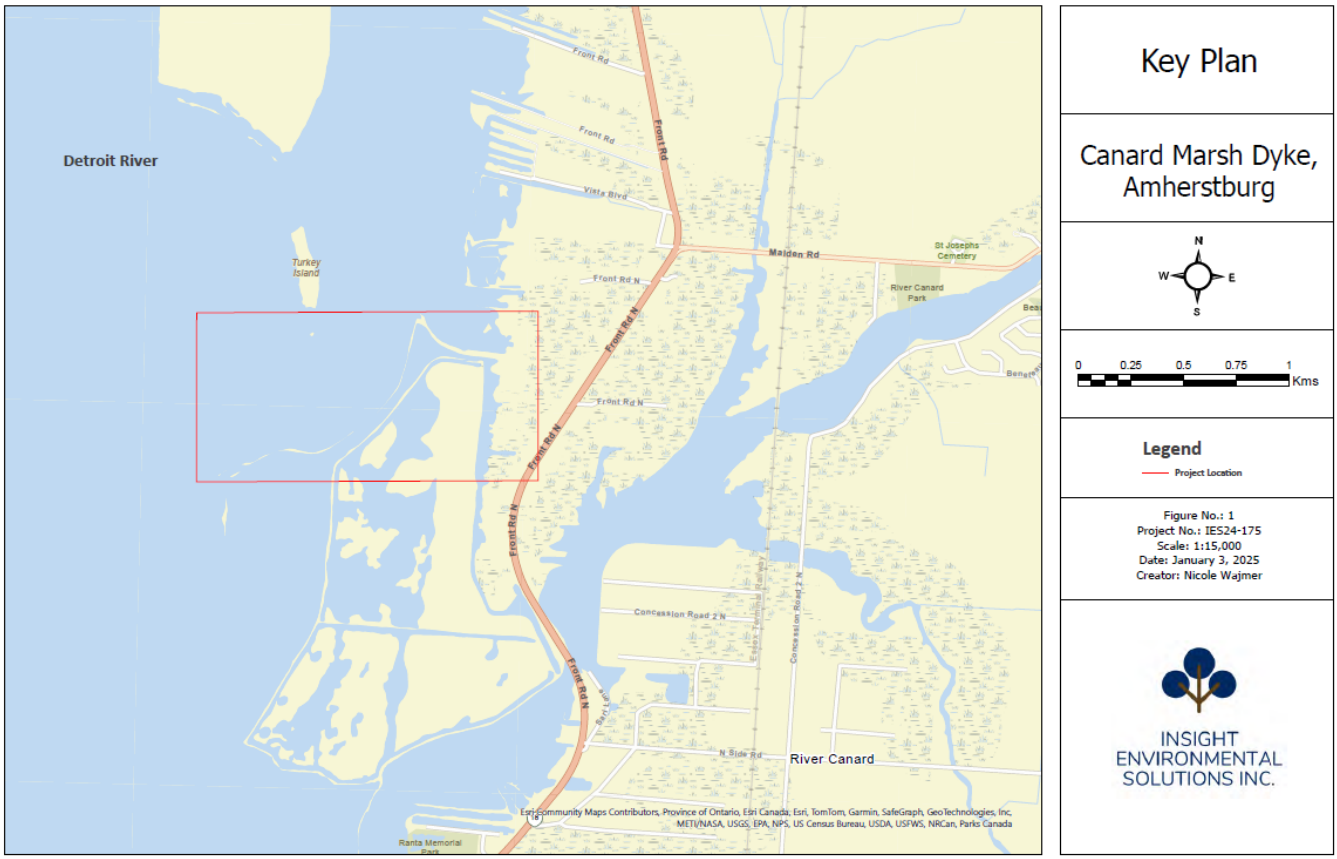

Figure 1: Location of the Canard River Marsh Dyke

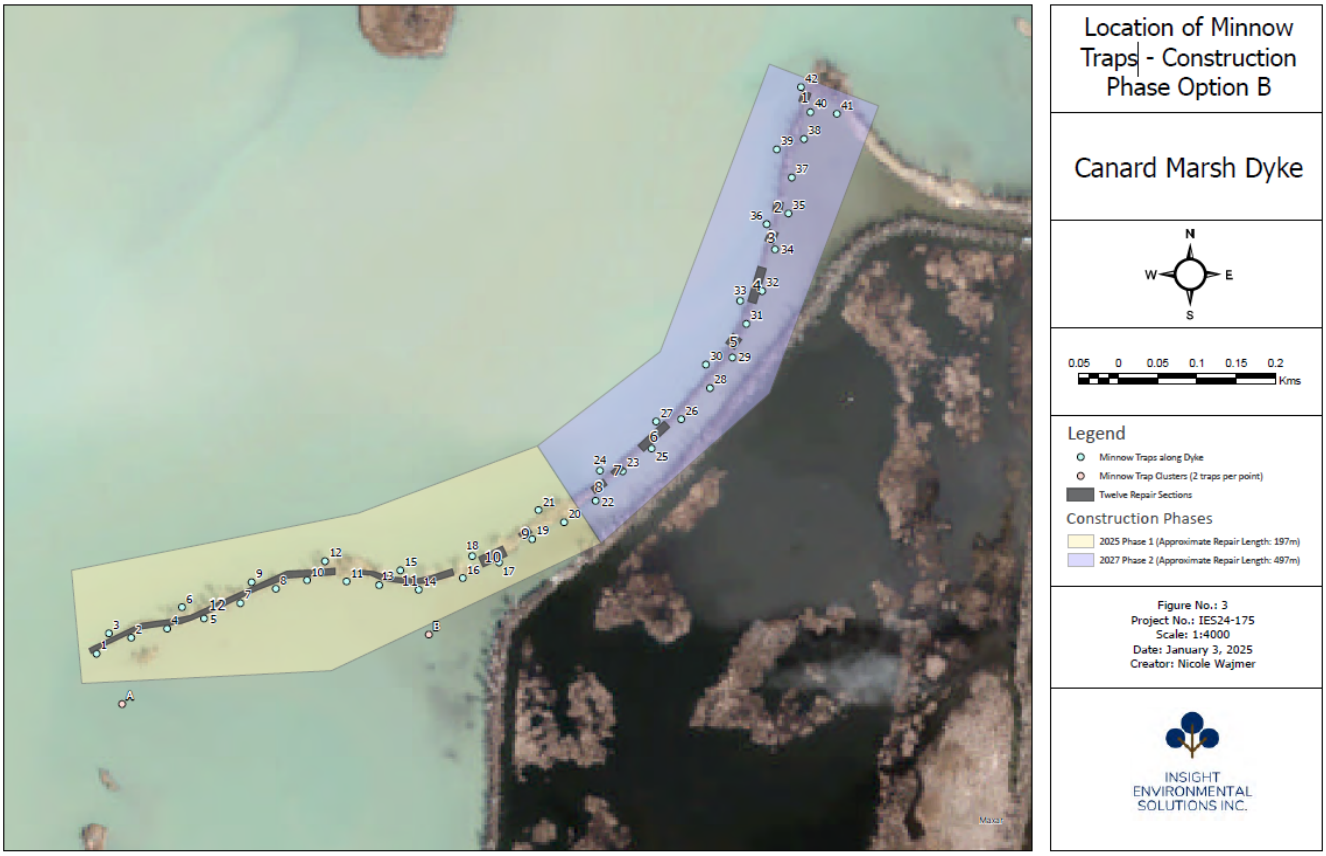

Figure 2: Locations of Minnow Traps to be placed for fish salvage

2025 Scope

The Supplier will conduct a daily fish salvage operation seven days prior to the commencement of construction of the dyke repair to capture and relocate any fish present in the active worksite. Further, fish salvage operations will be conducted daily during construction of the project. Additionally, turbidity measurements will be collected from upstream and downstream of the project site, and data be downloaded daily.

Below are more specific details of the work required for the fish salvage and turbidity monitoring at the Canard River Marsh dyke:

Fish Salvage:

- Twenty-five baited minnow traps will be placed around the dyke for Phase 1, as per Figure 2, above.
- Traps will be placed 7 days before the beginning of construction and daily while Phase 1 of the project is being constructed.

- Traps are to be checked every 24 hrs. Collected fish are sorted, assessed, and relocated as outlined in SAR permit conditions.
- Temperature, pH and dissolved oxygen concentrations of the holding tank will be regularly monitored including water quality conditions at the release site.
- Daily review of construction activities to ensure mitigation measures are followed as stated in the FAA.
- Photographs of construction progress submitted weekly to ERCA.

Turbidity:

- In situ-Turbidity sensors will be located upstream and downstream of the construction site. Sensor data will be downloaded daily. Sensor data will be provided to ERCA weekly or as requested.
- TSS values over the duration of the in-water works will not exceed an average of (8 NTU) for two consecutive samples (initial sample plus immediate resample) as per standard SAR permit conditions.

Operating Expectations

The Supplier will have submitted a project plan with its bid submission (the "Project Plan") based on mapping and this Statement of Work. The Project Plan shall provide an indication of the Supplier's approaches, timing, and equipment to be used for fish salvage and recording turbidity. This Project Plan will form the basis of the technical review of bid packages.

The Supplier will be responsible for managing all aspects of the operations. ERCA will be providing only incidental advice. The Supplier shall ensure that a dedicated site supervisor is present during operations. This individual must be identified by the Supplier to ERCA prior to the implementation of the operation. The Supplier shall implement and comply with the provisions of the Project Plan in providing the Services.

Equipment and Labour

The Supplier is responsible for the following:

- All equipment, materials, personnel, and services required for the salvage of fish and measurement of turbidity of the Project Area. The Supplier will ensure that vessel(s) are equipped with all appropriate fish salvage and turbidity monitoring equipment necessary for the project. The Submission will include a list of equipment to be used and how it will be used and calibrated in the Project Plan.
- Complying with the following requirements:

- The boat must be capable of entering shallow water to remove traps.
- Full logged daily fish capture records including position, time, species, holding tank physical parameters (e.g., pH, etc.), and relocation position.
- Full logged daily turbidity measurements upstream and downstream of the project site.
- Calibration - The turbidity sensors must arrive on site properly calibrated and calibration must occur as needed, according to the equipment manufacturers specification.
- Suppliers are responsible for ensuring compliance with all legislation, including the Species at Risk Act and all permits.

Quality Standards

All persons who will be handling, sorting, and processing fish and Species at Risk must have experience in handling these types of fish.

Proof of insurance is to be provided prior to the contract being awarded.

Permits

The Proponent (ERCA) is responsible for obtaining an MNR permit for handing fish. A list of field personnel as well as their qualifications will be provided to ERCA to add to the MNR permit.

The Proponent has also secured appropriate SARA-compliant Fisheries Act Authorization permits. The Supplier is responsible for complying with all conditions and requirements of the approved offsetting plan and permits (attached).

Required Schedule with Milestones

The service must be provided between July 15, 2025 and November 30, 2025 for fish spawning windows and ice-in conditions to be avoided (refer to Project Schedule below) unless extensions are agreed to by ERCA

The Supplier will work with ERCA and the project team to determine the Project schedule.

The Supplier will provide all labour, equipment, supplies, materials, and quality control necessary to perform the fish salvage and turbidity measurements in the Project Areas. Sufficient labour will be required to complete the work daily, before and during the construction period.

The Supplier will have all watercraft and sampling equipment at the base of operations (TBD by Supplier) in the Project Area at least 12 hours ahead of the anticipated start of fish salvage for calibration and equipment checks.

Reporting Requirements

The Supplier will provide ERCA with the following information for inclusion in a post-construction assessment report:

- An overview of methods used to collect fish and turbidity measurements.
- Daily log of turbidity measurements
- Daily log of fish salvaged, including species
- Daily log of location of fish release downstream
- Start and end times of the fish salvage and turbidity measurements in the Project Area;
- Any other information specifically required as per the permits from DFO, MNR, and ERCA.

A short report with all data will be submitted electronically to ERCA by January 15, 2026.

Occupational Health and Safety Requirements

It is the responsibility of the Supplier to develop a comprehensive safety plan (the "Safety Plan") as part of the Project Plan. The objective of the Safety Plan is to ensure that all operations are conducted in a safe manner and the Supplier adheres to all applicable laws, regulations and procedures. During the delivery of the project, ERCA may choose to verify and audit the requirements identified in the Safety Plan. ERCA and MECP must be notified immediately in all cases of spills and emergencies.

Project Schedule

July 16, 2025 – November 30, 2025 – work is to be completed after the fish timing window closes and ice-in on the river is expected.

December 15, 2025 – report outlining activities due.

Quoted Price

Price, including all delivery, travel, accommodation, materials, labour, insurance and any other overhead or other costs and applicable duties and taxes with the exception of Harmonized Sales Tax ("HST") if applicable, to perform and provide described services, broken down as follows:

- Unit Price (of turbidity and fish salvage efforts) per day (Cdn. funds)
- Harmonized Sales Tax (HST), if applicable, as a separate item.

I have read and understood the deliverables set out above, and hereby agree to provide them according to the schedule and quoted price above.