

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS
Russell Fork River and Tributaries Watershed
TMDL Implementation Plan

The Cumberland Plateau Planning District Commission (CPPDC) is soliciting statements of qualifications from firms or individual(s) qualified to provide environmental professional services in the development of a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) for the Russell Fork River and Tributaries.

The identified impaired segments are on the following streams: Russell Fork River, Hurricane Creek, Indian Creek, Sullivan Branch, and Frying Pan Creek located in Buchanan and Dickenson Counties of far southwestern Virginia.

Statements of Qualifications must be received by **Friday, November 17, 2017**, and the PDC expects to submit the TMDL to the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) by **Friday, December 8, 2017**.

Study Area

There are nine (9) different impairment segments in this study area. These are:

Stream Name Impairment ID	River Miles	Impairment Location Description
Russell Fork River VAS-Q09R_RSS01A00	7.05	Russell Fork mainstem from Hollow Poplar Creek downstream following Buchanan/Dickenson County line to confluence of Pawpaw Creek near Cannady.
Russell Fork Headwaters VAS-Q09R_RSS02A00	9.30	Headwaters of Russell Fork on Big A Mountain downstream through Davenport to the confluence of Hollow Poplar Branch.
Russell Fork River VAS-Q10R_RSS01A00	4.35	Upper mainstem from confluence of Pawpaw Creek at the county line, downstream to Fryingpan Creek.
Russell Fork River VAS-Q12R_RSS03A02	3.82	Mainstem from the Pound River confluence near Bartlick, upstream through Splashdam to the McClure River confluence in Haysi.
Russell Fork River VAS-Q12R_RSS02A04	2.25	From Kentucky state line upstream 2.2 miles to protect Elkhorn City, Kentucky raw water intake.
Hurricane Creek VAS-Q09R_HUR01A02	0.86	Mainstem from confluence of Carver Branch downstream to the confluence with Russell Fork at Davenport.
Indian Creek VAS-Q09R_IND01A08	2.70	Russell Fork tributary from Cane Creek confluence at Duty downstream to the Russell Fork confluence at Buchanan/Dickenson County line between Indian Ridge and Long Ridge.
Sullivan Branch VAS-Q09R_SLV01A08	1.63	Indian Creek tributary from headwaters on Long Ridge, north of Duty.
Frying Pan Creek VAS-Q10R_FRY02A04	9.70	From headwaters on Sandy Ridge near Carrie downstream to the Priest Fork confluence, west of Sportsman Lake.

Scope of Services

The chosen firm/contractor will follow DEQ's approach for developing TMDLs. This process includes, compiling information available for the impaired watershed (including monitoring data, permit information, land use data etc.) and performing analysis of the available data; defining seasonal trends and identifying critical flow conditions; establishing TMDL endpoints; developing a comprehensive source assessment; selecting a model framework; model parameterization; hydrology and water quality calibration/validation; sensitivity analysis; determining existing conditions including incorporating a margin of safety; allocating loads to pollutant sources; and writing the draft and final TMDL documents. The contractor will be expected to maintain regular communication with the DEQ TMDL Coordinator and the PDC throughout the TMDL development process.

This process includes interaction with stakeholders through technical advisory committee meetings and public meetings. Meetings with individual stakeholder groups may also be included, if appropriate. These meetings provide a public forum for discussion of the TMDL process and provide opportunities for watershed stakeholders to address questions or concerns. Through the course of this project two public meeting and two technical advisory committee meetings will be held.

Deliverables

Deliverables will include:

Benthic Impairments for Russell Fork River: Sullivan Branch, Indian Creek, and Fryingpan Creek

- **Data Inventory:** memorandum summarizing existing data to be used.
- **Stressor Analysis:** analysis of most probable stressors.
- **Watershed Characterization:** tables and figures showing monitoring locations, soil characterization, land use, permitted sources, etc.
- **Environmental Monitoring Analysis:** memorandum describing analysis of water quality parameters and benthic community.
- **Draft Report:** draft report describing watershed and most probable stressors to aquatic community.
- **Final Report:** report with DEQ and public comments addressed.

Bacteria Impairments for Russell Fork River and Tributaries: Russell Fork, Hurricane Creek, and Indian Creek

- **Data Inventory (combined with inventory memorandum above):** summary of water quality, land use, soils, etc. from available data sources.
- **Watershed Characterization:** memorandum describing watershed characteristics and permitted sources outlined in data inventory.
 - Include a watershed tour with DEQ.
- **Source Assessment:** memorandum addressing potential sources and data used to identify these sources.
- **Watershed modeling:** memorandum describing the approach, calibration, and validation of the model.
- **Draft Report:** elicit comments from DEQ on Draft TMDL report.
- **TMDL Final Report:** make necessary changes to report based on comments received.

Selection Criteria

Proposals shall be evaluated by the PDC using the following criteria:

- Expertise, experience and qualifications of the firm/individual(s) and project manager in providing the services in Southwestern Virginia watersheds or equivalent, as described in the Scope of Services in this RFQ
- Expertise submitting DEQ/DCR-approved TMDL
- Capability and expertise in GIS, mapping and watershed modeling
- Reasonable availability to PDC and regulatory agencies, upon request, to attend meetings, consultations, and site visits
- General understanding of the project requirements and proposed project approach and management
- Geographic location of the office where work will be performed in relation to the project location and proven ability to serve the area
- References
- Appearance and completeness of proposal

Selection Process

Qualifications statements will be evaluated based on the criteria contained herein by a selection committee. Interviews will be conducted with at least two of the top-ranked firms, with the final selection based upon those interviews. The highest ranked offerer will enter into contract negotiations, and a final scope of services, amount and method of compensation will be determined. If a mutually acceptable contract for services cannot be successfully negotiated, the committee will commence negotiations with the next highest ranked offerer, and continue until a contract is successfully negotiated. The PDC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and to negotiate with the most qualified respondent.

The PDC will award, in whole or in part, the development of a TMDL to address all eleven (9) impaired segments, or a lesser number of segments, in the PDC's sole discretion. The selected offerer should be prepared to offer potential pricing scenarios accordingly.

The Cumberland Plateau Planning District Commission does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, or handicap. Minority Owned Business Enterprises (MBEs) and Women Owned Business Enterprises (WBEs) are encouraged to respond. By submitting this statement of qualifications, the respondent certifies that it does not and will not, during the performance of this contract, violate the provisions of the Federal Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986, which prohibits employment of illegal aliens.

Submittal of Statements of Qualifications

All Statements of Qualifications shall be submitted electronically to Mr. Shane Farmer, Senior Planner, Cumberland Plateau Planning District Commission, at shanefarmer@bvu.net. Statements must be received by **Friday, November 17, 2017**. Late proposals will not be considered. Inquiries may be directed to Shane Farmer at (276) 889-1778, or shanefarmer@bvu.net.