

Big Stone National Wildlife Refuge

Fire Break Creation Project

REQUEST FOR QUOTE (RFQ)

Project Type: Fire Break Creation (Timber Harvest with Brush/Sapling/Tree Removal & Chemical Treatment)

Bids are being considered by American Bird Conservancy (ABC) for the harvest, removal, and chemical treatment of all woody vegetation within the project unit to create approximately 2,200 feet of a new fire break at U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Big Stone National Wildlife Refuge (NWR).

Location: Big Stone National Wildlife Refuge

- Big Stone County: Ortonville Township
- Section 27 T121 R46W

Project bids will be submitted on a total project cost basis for completing all project work described herein. Contracted work must be completed between 6/15/2024 – 12/31/2025 (August-November 2024 is preferred) and may be completed only on dry ground conditions without heavy snow cover approved by the Big Stone NWR and ABC Project Managers.

Existing Site Conditions and Scope of Work:

This project will create a new fire break to facilitate prescribed fire treatments located at Big Stone NWR.

The project unit is composed of mixed tree and shrub species, including maples, cottonwoods, boxelders, elms, ash, buckthorn, and honeysuckle with a small component of additional tree and brush species. Trees and brush to be removed have an average DBH of 10 inches with some individuals up to 35 inches.

The total length of the fire break project unit is approximately 2,200 feet with a target width of approximately 20 - 40 feet. The break along the fence line will be 40 feet, while the break along the southern extent of rock outcrops will be 20 feet wide. The approximate total area targeted for treatment is 2.0 acres.

Treatment requirements include the cutting and removal of all tree and brush species and debris with a diameter > 2" and mastication and scattering of all woody plant material < 2" within all sections of the fire break. Individual trees, brush, and saplings are to be cut and removed from the fire break. Additionally, all tree and brush stumps are required to be cut or ground to the soil surface in order to limit stump sprouting and facilitate future maintenance. All stumps are also required to be chemically treated to prevent stem regeneration. No piles of woody debris should be left within or piled adjacent to the fire break. All woody material, including limbs and woody debris with a diameter > 2" must be removed from the fire break. Woody material with a diameter < 2" that is not removed should be mulched and scattered. Any and all tree limbs or woody stems that hang over the fire break are to be cut up to a height of 15 feet. Equipment may only be used and all woody material may only be piled in designated areas to remain outside of designated rock outcrop areas and avoid damaging sensitive species.

Bids will be received until: Friday, June 14th, 2024 at 4:00pm

If you would like a digital bid packet sent to you that includes more detail pertaining to this project, please contact ABC MN Public Lands Coordinator, Peter Dieser:

Phone: (952) 567-1967

Email: pdieser@abcbirds.org