



Triangle Land Conservancy
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REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
STREAM VEGETATIVE DEBRIS REMOVAL IN SWIFT CREEK AND LITTLE RIVER
TRIANGLE LAND CONSERVANCY

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ISSUED: September 12, 2022

RESPONSES DUE: September 25, 2022

I. INVITATION

Triangle Land Conservancy (TLC) is a non-profit 501(c)3 organization that strives to create a healthier and more vibrant Triangle region by safeguarding clean water, protecting natural habitats, supporting local farms and food, and connecting people with nature through land protection and stewardship, catalyzing community action, and collaboration.

Qualified contractors are invited to submit proposals to provide vegetative debris removal services to TLC for properties along Swift Creek and Little River, in Wake and Johnston Counties, respectively.

II. BACKGROUND

TLC is soliciting proposals for project management and removal of vegetative debris causing streamflow blockages along Swift Creek and Little River in Wake and Johnston Counties, respectively. Removal shall be exclusively of vegetative origin including, but not limited to, fallen trees, logs, and leaf litter which are impeding streamflow. All vegetation within project area must be removed from stream unless it is buried in sediment, which shall not be removed.

Swift Creek Bluffs is a 23-acre nature preserve owned by TLC and includes one mile of hiking trail open to the public. Swift Creek itself borders the northern edge of the property, from Lochmere Golf Course until meeting Holly Springs Road to the east, and drains into Lake Wheeler. A north-facing bluff supports a unique Basic Mesic Forest type stand with upland mixed hardwoods and bottomland wetland forest species in the floodplain. Numerous large trees have fallen into Swift Creek resulting in expanding debris blockages which have altered streamflow and cause localized flooding. TLC has acquired funding through the [Streamflow Rehabilitation Assistance Program](#) (StRAP) to remove vegetative debris and improve water flow within Swift Creek and Little River.

TLC has conservation easements on properties owned by private individuals along the Little River corridor in Johnston County and has documented over 50 large blockages that are inhibiting flow. The Little River Corridor has been designated as an exceptional Natural Heritage

Area by the North Carolina Natural Heritage Program. It is home to endangered aquatic species such as the dwarf wedgemussel (*Alasmodonta heterodon*), yellow lance (*Elliptio lanceolata*), Atlantic pigtoe (*Fusconaia masoni*), Neuse River waterdog (*Necturus lewisi*), and Carolina madtom (*Noturus furiosus*), among others. Removing these blockages will not only improve water flow and reduce flooding, but will also help support the aquatic environments needed for many of the species.

Both of these projects will require an approach that takes into account the environmental sensitivity of the sites.

III. SCOPE OF WORK

The contractor will remove vegetative debris not embedded in stream sediment along roughly 15,300 total linear feet of stream. Debris will either be removed from the 100-year floodplain or processed to avoid it re-entering the stream in the future. Debris must be removed and processed in a manner consistent with the requirements of StRAP. It is the contractor's responsibility to ensure all work is conducted in a manner which complies with StRAP protocols and to acquire any access permission or permits where necessary. The contractor will be expected to oversee all aspects of project implementation and hire subcontractors where necessary.

The contractor will remove all vegetative debris not embedded in sediment along the entire length of Swift Creek bordering the Swift Creek Bluffs Nature Preserve, approximately 2,900 linear feet. Furthermore, vegetation removal will also occur along roughly 12,400 linear feet of stream along Little River bordering TLC's conservation easements. Removal will be completed by hand where possible and access limitations exist. Otherwise, heavy equipment may be used where necessary with TLC's approval. Debris removed from the stream must be processed and stabilized in a manner which prevents future re-entry into the stream. Vegetation should be removed from the 100-year floodplain where material may not be processed and stabilized within the floodplain. Vehicle access and work must be limited to time periods where soil conditions will not deteriorate with traffic.

This project will require coordination between the contractor and Patrick Boleman, Land Stewardship Manager East, and Director of Land Protection and Stewardship East, Leigh Ann Hammerbacher. The contractor will serve as the project manager and handle oversight, access, implementation, and execution of the projects. The contractor will be expected to begin in the fall of 2022 with completion by December 31, 2023. Extensions past this date may be considered within reason due to weather or other unavoidable causes of delay.

The contractor will also be responsible for coordinating inspections and approvals from the state in order to ensure reimbursement for work.

IV. QUALIFICATIONS

All interested parties shall be qualified to do business and licensed in accordance with all applicable laws of the state and local governments where the project is located (Wake and

Johnston County, NC). All bidders should be licensed as general contractors in the state of North Carolina.

V. SUBMISSION OF PROPOSALS

To be considered for this work, your proposal must be signed by an officer of your firm and mailed to Triangle Land Conservancy, c/o Patrick Boleman, 514 South Duke Street, Durham, NC 27701, or emailed to pboleman@triangleland.org. All proposals must be limited to five pages, not including supplemental information, and received by September 25, 2022.

Proposals should include:

- Project name
- Name of company and key personnel with qualifications
- General contractor's license number
- Years of experience in stream restoration
- Relevant experience and knowledge of the project area including Swift Creek and the Little River
- Types of equipment operated and experience
- Per foot cost for vegetation removal
- Proposed vegetation removal and processing methodology
- Detail team/firm's understanding of issues that could affect schedule or project success and discuss how these issues will be anticipated and managed
- Provide a projected timetable according to Scope of Work

Proposals should not exceed StRAP awarded amount of \$317,000.

VI. PROPOSAL EVALUATION

Proposals will be reviewed by TLC's Conservation and Stewardship staff, who may request additional information and an interview.

This project will be awarded in agreement with "Best Value" as determined by TLC staff. Cost will be an important factor, but not the controlling factor in the selection process.

Other factors may include:

- Demonstrated expertise on similar projects by the contractor
- Demonstrated ability to meet deadlines and expectations
- Demonstrated understanding of environmental impacts of stream restoration practices
- Familiarity with the environmental constraints of the two sites

The selected contractor will need to demonstrate proof of general liability insurance of \$1 million per occurrence and workers' comp coverage of at least \$500,000 per occurrence and list TLC as additional insured for the duration of the work.

VII. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION



Figure 1. Example of one vegetative debris blockage along Swift Creek.

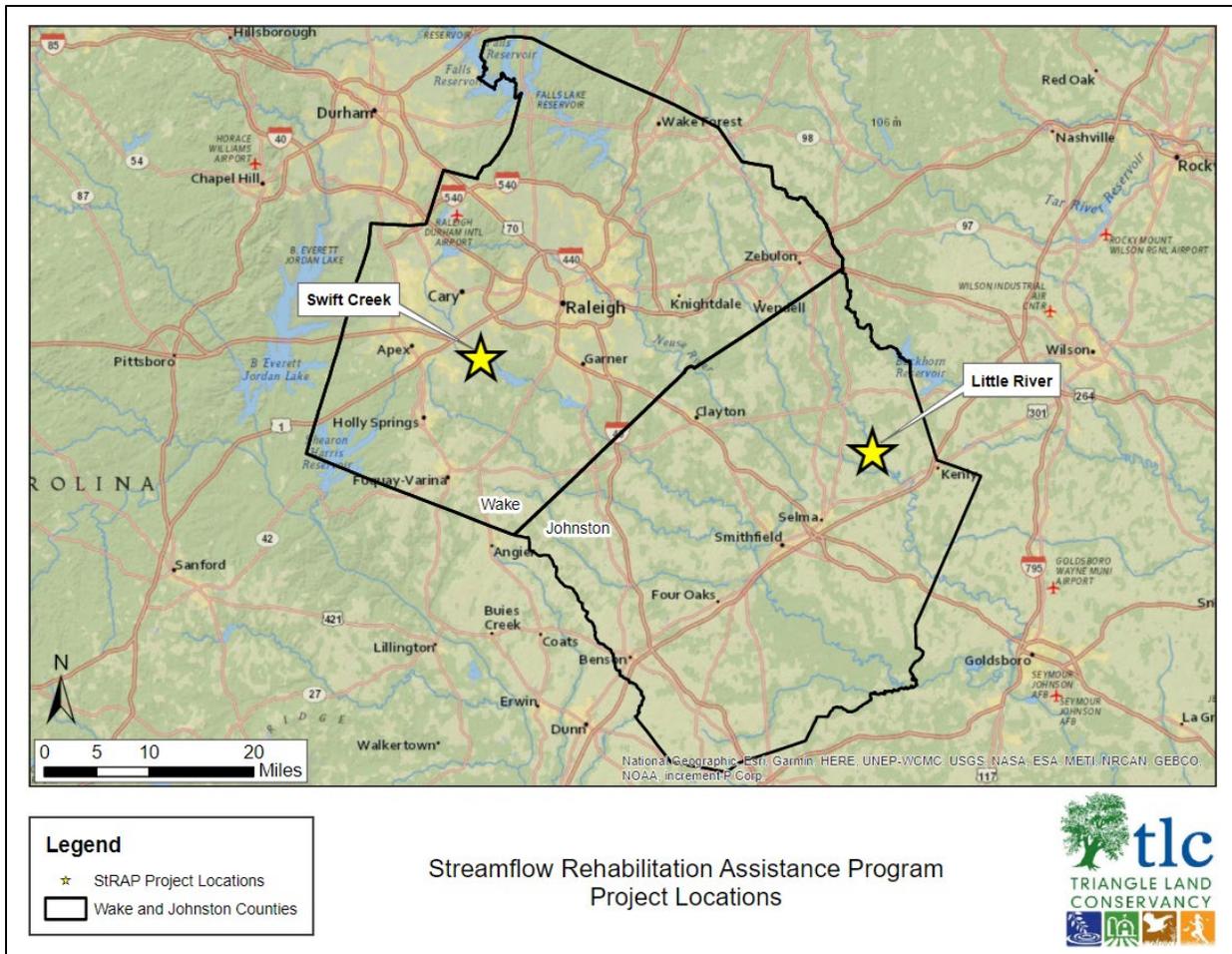


Figure 2. Map of Swift Creek and Little River project locations.