

Request for Proposals:

Economic Impacts of Implementing the Phase 3 Watershed Implementation Plans

**ORGANIZATIONAL
INFORMATION:**

Name: **Chesapeake Bay Foundation, Inc.**
Address: **6 Herndon Ave., Annapolis, MD 21403**
Contact: **Beth McGee**

ISSUE DATE:

November 9, 2021

**SUMMARY OF NEED:
(Brief Overview)**

To strengthen the economic case for state and federal investment in the Phase III Watershed Implementation Plans (WIPs), we are requesting bids to quantify the regional level economic impacts (i.e., economic stimulus of local economies and job creation) that might be expected to result from implementation of best management practices contained in the Phase III WIPs for Virginia, Maryland, and Pennsylvania. A similar analysis was conducted by the University of Virginia Weldon Cooper Center in 2010 focusing only on agricultural practices in Virginia.¹ The report results were very useful in making the case that investing in conservation practices was good for local economies and created jobs, but now more recent information for a wider geographic area and for additional BMPs is needed.

**THE PROJECT:
(Describe so those
bidding understand
what we are trying to
accomplish)**

The consultant will complete the impact analysis using the Regional Input-Output Modeling System (RIMS II) from the Bureau of Economic Analysis. This system is widely recognized as a standard approach and is used extensively by state and federal government agencies, the private sector, and academic institutions. We would use the WIPs and the Chesapeake Assessment and Scenario Tool to determine investments needed for each practice between now and 2025 as contained in the states' Phase III WIPs. The economic model would be used to estimate the total impact of new spending: the "direct effect" of new spending within the region, and "ripple effects" when money re-circulates through the economy causing "indirect" and "induced" effects. The "indirect effect" is the sum of all impacts associated with inter-industry purchases. The "induced effect" is the sum of all impacts associated with household purchases. The outputs include

¹ "Economic Impacts of Implementing Agricultural Best Management Practices to Achieve Goals Outlined in Virginia's Tributary Strategy."

these economic effects expressed as “total industrial output” (in dollars) as well as employment. Seventeen agricultural best management practices (BMPs) and eight urban practices will be included in the analysis. The data will be aggregated by county by state and watershed (HUC 6), which is the approach taken in the 2010 study.

In addition, the consultant should also provide recommendations for an approach and budget for complementary analyses that would include assessing the economic impact of investing in the Keystone 10 Million Tree Campaign ([Homepage - Keystone 10 Million Trees Partnership \(tenmilliontrees.org\)](http://tenmilliontrees.org)) as a finer scale look at investing in BMPs and the ecosystem service value of planting trees as part of this campaign.

SCOPE OF WORK:

(Describe in exact measurable bullets so the responding bid will reflect exactly what you need to get the job done. This is a sample only.)

The successful applicant will complete the following tasks:

1. Work with CBF staff to identify the 17 agricultural BMPs and 8 urban BMPs to be included in the analysis.
2. Work with CBF staff to acquire Phase III WIP implementation levels for these practices at the county scale from the Chesapeake Assessment Scenario Tool (CAST).
3. Work with CBF staff to acquire cost of implementation data for these practices from CAST.
4. USE RIMS II to conduct economic impact analysis of practice implementation.
5. Draft report on results of the economic analysis to CBF staff within 6 weeks of signing the contract.
6. Final report on results of the economic analysis within 1 week of receiving comments from CBF staff.
7. Work with CBF staff to garner details on the Keystone 10 Million Tree campaign and based on this, craft an approach, budget and timeline for complementary analyses of the economic benefit and ecosystem service value of the trees planted.

The duration of the contract will be from the signing period through June 30, 2022.

THE SCHEDULE:

We request that your proposal be delivered electronically to CBF staff member Beth McGee no later than 5:00pm on November 29, 2021 .

It is the intent of CBF to make a selection no later than December 6, 2021. We will notify you once a decision for award of bid is made.

The schedule requires that the selected entity complete the project (or provide services by June 30, 2022).

**MINIMUM
REQUIREMENTS:**

At a minimum, you must be able to provide the following: (or have the following qualifications – list minimum requirements)

- Experience with natural resource economics, policy analysis, cost-benefits analysis and ecosystem service valuation.
- Experience working with government and NGOs on specific policy and economic questions and providing understandable reports.
- Knowledge about the Chesapeake Bay Total Maximum Daily Load and the state watershed implementation plan, a plus.

**MINORITY
PARTICIPATION:**

CBF actively encourages proposals from Small, Women and Minority Owned (SWAM) Businesses. Please note if you are a Small, Women or Minority Owned Business and if you are certified by the State/Commonwealth/DC.

**FOR FURTHER
INFORMATION OR
QUESTIONS:**

Beth McGee, CBF Director of Science and Agricultural Policy
bmcgee@cbf.org

BID RESPONSE FORM

Please complete the following information for your response:

1. The name and full contact information of your company and, if applicable, any other entity comprising your team: [Attach resumes of individuals involved.]

2. List and describe three projects completed within the previous five years that are relevant to this project. If the relevance is not immediately obvious, please describe briefly the relationship as you see it: [Attach additional information as appropriate.]

3. List three client references and their contact information for whom you or your team members have completed work similar to that described in this RFP:

4. Include basic information and history about the business entity, financial information, technical capability, and any other information you feel is important for us to know.

5. Fee Proposal, detailed to the greatest extent possible – cost for service: hourly rates (if applicable), typical direct out-of pocket costs such as travel reimbursement, copies, mailings etc..., and any other anticipated expenses that you foresee: (change this description if it is for equipment, software or supplies)

6. Additional information, such as you/your team member's particular experiences, training, and/or academic background(s) that may make you uniquely qualified for this position (such as experience with ...): [Attach additional materials as appropriate.] (change this description if purchasing equipment, software or supplies)

A successful applicant may need to provide proof of insurance based on the services or product

provided.

The undersigned certifies that the information submitted above is true and accurate.

The undersigned certifies that the person, firm, association, co-partnership or corporation herein named, has not, either directly or indirectly, entered into any agreement, participated in any collusion, or otherwise taken any action in restraint of free competitive bidding in the preparation and submission of a proposal to the Chesapeake Bay Foundation for consideration in the award of a contract.

The undersigned further certifies that the firm, association, or corporation or any person in a controlling capacity associated therewith or any position involving the administration of federal funds; is not currently under suspension, debarment, voluntary exclusion, or determination of ineligibility by any federal agency; has not been suspended, debarred voluntarily excluded, or determined ineligible by any federal agency within the past three years; does not have a proposed debarment pending; and has not been indicted, convicted, or had a civil judgment rendered against said person, firm, association, or corporation by a court of competent jurisdiction on any manner involving fraud or official misconduct within the last three years.

I further acknowledge that by signing this page of the proposal, I am deemed to have agreed to the provisions of the affidavit.

(Name of Firm)

(Authorized Signature)

(Title)

(Please print Name)

(Date)