



**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS  
(RFP #2012-11)**

**to**

**Provide Environmental Mitigation  
for**

**the I-80/I-680/SR 12 Interchange – Phase 1 Project**

**PROPOSALS DUE:**

**3:00 PM, FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2012**

Solano Transportation Authority  
One Harbor Center, Suite 130  
Suisun City, CA 94585-2473

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DISCLOSURE: The master copy of each response to this RFP shall be retained for official files and will become a public record after the award of a contract unless the qualifications or specific parts of the qualifications can be shown to be exempt by law (Government Code section 6250 et seq.). Each Mitigation Provider may clearly label part of a submittal as "CONFIDENTIAL" if the Mitigation Provider agrees to indemnify and defend the STA for honoring such a designation. The failure to so label any information that is released by the STA shall constitute a complete waiver of all claims for damages caused by any release of the information. If a public records request for labeled information is received by the STA, the STA will notify the Mitigation Provider of the request and delay access to the material until seven working days after notification to the Mitigation Provider. Within that time delay, it will be the duty of the Mitigation Provider to act in protection of its labeled information. Failure to so act shall constitute a complete waiver.

## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

The Solano Transportation Authority (STA) is a Joint Powers Authority with members including the cities of Benicia, Dixon, Fairfield, Rio Vista, Suisun City, Vacaville, and Vallejo, and the County of Solano. The STA serves as the Congestion Management Agency for Solano County and is responsible for countywide transportation planning and programming of State and Federal funding for transportation projects within the county. The STA is working in partnership with Caltrans to deliver the I-80/I-680/SR12 Interchange – Phase 1 Project and will be taking the lead in securing environmental mitigation for this critical transportation project.

### *Background*

I-80 is a major transcontinental highway route, typically six to eight lanes. The corridor within Solano County functions as an essential commuter route within the San Francisco Bay Area, connecting workers in Solano County with jobs in neighboring Contra Costa, Alameda, and San Francisco Counties. Its regional significance is demonstrated by its high percentage of inter-county travel. In addition to its function as a commuter corridor, this route provides an important connection between the Bay Area and Sacramento, the Sierra Nevada and Lake Tahoe regions. Finally, the route is also a primary truck route connecting the Port of Oakland to points east and north, contributing significantly to the economic health of the State of California by facilitating goods distribution throughout the western U.S.

The existing I-80/I-680/SR 12 interchange complex was constructed approximately 40 years ago, and current traffic demands have resulted in extreme congestion, delays, substantial traffic diversion, and unacceptable levels of service (LOS). The proposed improvements are designed to reduce congestion, accommodate anticipated increases in traffic, and address safety concerns.

Caltrans, in cooperation with the STA and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) proposes to improve the interchanges between I-80, I-680 and SR12 in the vicinity of City of Fairfield, Solano County, California. The proposed improvements are designed to reduce congestion, accommodate anticipated increases in traffic demand, and address safety concerns, while at the same time preserving the existing network of interchanges serving the local land uses.

Construction of the fundable first phase (Phase 1) of the Preferred Alternative is proposed to take place in a series of construction packages beginning in 2013. As such, STA and Caltrans are moving forward with implementing environmental mitigation for the Phase 1 project.

The Solano Transportation Authority (STA) invites Mitigation Providers to submit a proposal to provide environmental mitigation for the **I-80/I-680/SR12 Interchange – Phase 1 Project** in Solano County.

## 2.0 RFP SCHEDULE

The following represents the tentative schedule for this RFP selection/contracting process.

Issue Request for Proposals	September 14, 2012
Proposals and Documentation Due	September 28, 2012- 3 pm
Proposal Evaluation by Review Team	October 5, 2012
Notification of Provider List	Week of October 8, 2012
Final Contract Negotiations	October 2012
Contract Execution	No later than November 15, 2012

## 3.0 SCOPE OF SERVICES

This scope of services is to provide environmental mitigation for the **I-80/I-680/SR12 Interchange – Phase 1 Project** in Solano County as well as a Mitigation and Monitoring Plan (MMP) and Restoration Plan.

The minimum mitigation required for the Phase 1 project is shown in the following table. Please indicate in your proposals the amount of mitigation you can provide if it is greater than the amounts in the following table to address a situation whereby the final permits require more mitigation than currently estimated:

<b>I-680/I-80/SR12 Interchange – Phase 1 Project Mitigation Requirements</b>	
<b>Habitat Type</b>	<b>Mitigation*</b>
<i>Seasonal and Perennial Drainages, and Wetlands</i>	<b>9.14 acres</b> of wetland creation (of which, 0.98 acres is to be created vernal pool & tadpole shrimp habitat); <b>265 linear feet</b> of riparian creation/restoration/enhancement
<i>California Red-Legged Frog and Callippe Silverspot Butterfly Upland Habitat</i>	<b>282.84 ac</b> of existing habitat
<i>Vernal Pool Fairy &amp; Tadpole Shrimp Habitat</i>	<b>1.69 ac</b> preservation of existing habitat
<i>Valley Elderberry Longhorn Beetle Habitat</i>	<b>177 stems</b>
<i>Riparian Woodland</i>	<b>3.33 ac</b> creation
<i>Valley Oak Woodland</i>	<b>0.14 ac</b> of plantings

<i>Live Oak Woodland</i>	<b>11.77 ac</b> of plantings
<i>Swainson's Hawk Foraging Habitat</i>	<b>111.86 ac</b> of suitable habitat per CDFG 1994 Guidelines

\* If the mitigation areas are within a larger body of land, a separate conservation easement/endowment may be required subject to resource agency approval.

The Environmental Mitigation will need to be implemented with the following parameters:

- Environmental Mitigation will need to comply with Section 7, 404, 401 and 1602 requirements. Therefore the mitigation lands must be acceptable and approved by the resource agencies (USFWS, ACOE, RWQCB, CDFG).
- Mitigation lands will need to be located with the geographical limits as shown in attached map. Preference will be given for mitigation lands located north of the Carquinez Strait/Sacramento/San Joaquin Delta (see Attachment A).
- The Environmental Mitigation will need to be implemented as “turn-key” operation or as an approved mitigation bank. The mitigation bank provider will be responsible for obtaining all permits, licenses and approvals necessary for the mitigation lands. The “turn-key” mitigation provider will need to provide detailed information in a timely fashion to allow incorporation of proposed mitigation work into the project permits.
- Mitigation Provider must prepare the MMP and Restoration Plan that contains at a minimum the items outlined in the template included in Attachment B.
- Mitigation Provider must provide a MMP and Restoration Plan for submittal to the resource agencies no later than January 15, 2013.
- Mitigation Provider must show they either have already or can obtain all permits, licenses and approvals by March 2013 and create necessary wetlands by spring 2014.
- Mitigation Provider must deliver all of the required mitigation as part of the Mitigation Provider’s Implementation Plan.

## 4.0 PROPOSAL REQUIREMENTS

Please submit your proposal in accordance with the following requirements. The word “Mitigation Provider” in this document means an individual, an organization or a firm that submits, or intends to submit, a Proposal.

1. *Transmittal Letter:* The Proposal and Supporting Documentation shall be transmitted with a cover letter describing the Provider’s interest and commitment to the proposed project. The cover letter should include the name, title, address and telephone number of the individual to whom correspondence and other contacts should be directed during the final negotiation process.

**Cover Letter** with the following information:

- Title of this RFP
- Name and Mailing Address of Firm (include physical location if mailing address is a PO Box)

- Contact Person, Telephone Number, Fax Number, and Email Address
- A statement that the submitting firm will perform the services necessary to provide environmental mitigation for the **I-80/I-680/SR12 Interchange – Phase 1 Project** and that the proposal shall be valid for a 90-day period.
- Acknowledgement that all proposals may be considered public information. Subsequent to award of a contract associated with this RFP, all of part of any submittal may be released to any person or firm who may request it. Therefore, proposers shall specify in their Cover Letter if any portion of their submittal should be treated as proprietary and not releasable as public information. Proposers should be aware that all such requests may be subject to legal review and challenge.
- The person authorized to negotiate a contract with STA shall sign the cover letter.

Address the cover letter and the Proposal as follows:

**Proposal (RFP # 2012-11) to Provide Environmental Mitigation for the I-80/I-680/SR12 Interchange – Phase 1 Project**

Attn: Janet Adams, Director of Projects  
 Solano Transportation Authority  
 One Harbor Center, Suite 130  
 Suisun City, CA 94585

2. *Project Understanding:* This section shall clearly convey the Mitigation Provider's understanding of the nature of the work, including coordination with and approvals from STA, Caltrans and the resource agencies.
3. *Approach and Management Plan:* This section shall provide the Mitigation Provider's proposed approach and implementation plan for providing the services.
4. *Qualifications and Experience:* The proposal shall provide the qualifications and experience of the Mitigation Provider's team that will deliver the required environmental mitigation and preparation of the Mitigation and Monitoring Plan (MMP). Please emphasize the specific qualifications and experience from projects similar to this project.
5. *Implementation Plan and Schedule:* The Proposal shall include the Mitigation Provider's Implementation Plan (including MMP), which will clearly state the approach the Provider will use to provide all of the required mitigation and the manner/approach for ensuring the environmental mitigation and MMP is delivered expeditiously per the required schedule. This section shall include a description of how each major task and subtask of the project will be conducted, identification of deliverables for each major task and subtask, and a schedule. The Implementation Plan should be in sufficient detail to demonstrate a clear understanding of the project. The schedule should show the expected sequence of tasks and subtasks and include durations for the performance of each task, subtask, milestones. Discuss the Mitigation Provider's firm/team's approach for completing the services for this project on schedule.
6. *Implementation Schedule:* Mitigation Provider must show they either have already or can obtain all permits, licenses and approval, or can assist STA with modifying project permits by March 2013 and create necessary wetlands by spring 2014.

7. *Cost Proposal:* A cost proposal should be included in the proposal that clearly delineates all the costs associated with delivering the environmental mitigation.
8. *Additional Relevant Information:* Provide additional relevant information that may be helpful in the selection process (not to exceed the equivalent of 2 single-sided pages).
9. *Submittal of Proposals:* Six (6) copies of your proposal are due at the STA offices no later than your proposal to the STA offices no later than 3:00 p.m. Friday, September 28, 2012. Envelopes or packages containing the proposals should be clearly marked, **“Proposals Enclosed.”**

## 5.0 Proposal Evaluation and Selection

Proposals will be reviewed to determine if they meet the documentation requirements and to determine which proposal or proposals best meet STA needs. Once STA has completed its review, STA staff will start contract negotiations with the selected Provider or Providers. Provided the negotiations are proceeding well with a Provider, the STA may elect to initiate a portion of the work scope with a Notice to Proceed (NTP), prior to execution of the contract. The STA reserves the right to consider or reject any and all bids at its own discretion. The STA further reserves the right to reject all bids and issue a new RFP. Prospective Providers can propose on individual mitigation components, however, preference will be given to a Provider that is able to supply all or most of the project mitigation requirements, as listed above.

## 6.0 ATTACHMENTS

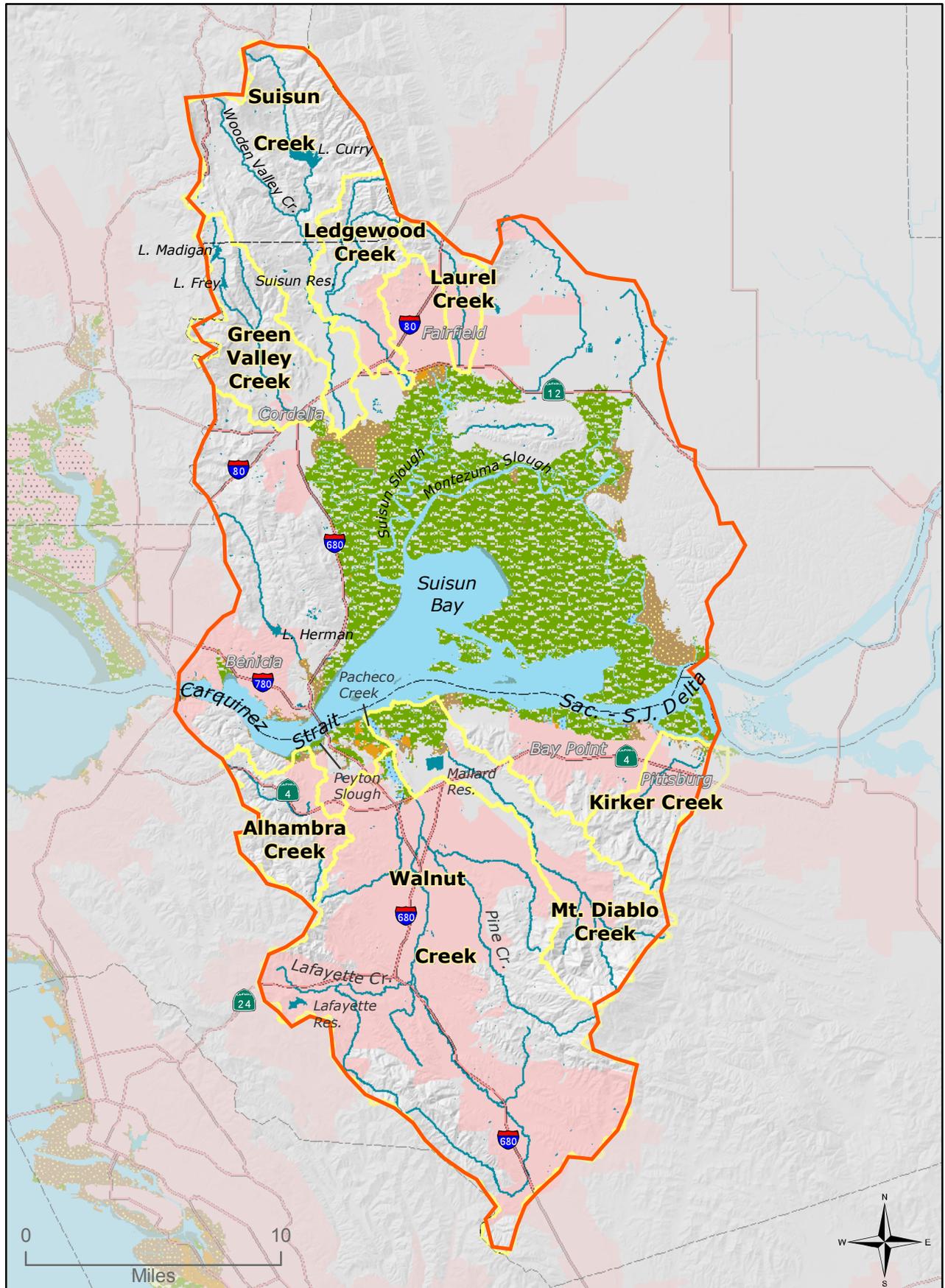
Attachment A – Map of Geographic Limits

Attachment B – Mitigation and Monitoring Plan Template

Attachment C – List of Mitigation Providers that Received this RFP

**Attachment A**

**Map of Geographic Limits**



**Attachment A – Geographic Boundary for Mitigation Lands**  
 Source: Regional Water Quality Control Board

**Attachment B**

**Mitigation and Monitoring Plan Template**

**Project**

**Mitigation and Monitoring Plan**

**On State Route**

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# Chapter 1. Project Requiring Mitigation

This mitigation and monitoring plan (MMP) describes the compensatory mitigation for impacts incurred to jurisdictional waters by the (Project). The Project affects ---, a jurisdictional Waters of the U.S. and State. The California Department of Transportation District 4 (the Department) and ---- are the lead agency and project proponent, respectively. The Department and ---- will provide compensation for the loss of---.

## 1.1. Project Description

## 1.2. Jurisdictional Impacts

Impacts of this Project include dredging, fill, diversion of waters, and removal of vegetation. Table 1.2 provides a summary of these impacts.

**Table 1.2. Summary of jurisdictional impacts.**

	USACE	NCRWQCB	DFG
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### 1.2.1. Fill and Excavation

### 1.2.2. Riparian Vegetation

**Table 1.2.2 Tree Removal**

Scientific Name	Common Name	Number Removed
<b>Total</b>	---	<b>65</b>

### **1.3. Site Characteristics**

**1.3.1. Location**

**1.3.2. Watershed Description**

**1.3.3. Site Hydrology**

**1.3.4. Aquatic Functions.**

**1.3.5. Vegetation**

### **1.4. Proposed Compensatory Mitigation**

## Chapter 2. Mitigation Objectives

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- 2.1. Aquatic Functions**
- 2.2. Compensatory Mitigation Ratio**
- 2.3. Watershed Benefits**



## Chapter 3. Responsible Parties

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3.1. **Site Ownership**

3.2. **Applicant and Designated Agent**

3.3. **Project Proponent and Partner Agencies**

3.4. **MMP Preparation**



# Chapter 4. Mitigation Design

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## 4.1. Purpose

## 4.2. Rationale

## 4.3. Site Characteristics

### 4.3.1. Location

### 4.3.2. Watershed Description

### 4.3.3. Mitigation Site Hydrology

### 4.3.4. Aquatic Functions

### 4.3.5. Vegetation

## 4.4. Planting Plan

### 4.4.1. Planting Palette

Table 4.5.1 Tree mitigation species and numbers.

Removed Trees		Substitute Species		Mitigation Quantity
Scientific Name	Common Name	Scientific Name	Common Name	

Removed Trees		Substitute Species		Mitigation Quantity
Scientific Name	Common Name	Scientific Name	Common Name	
<b>Totals</b>				

#### 4.4.2. Planting Design

Table 4.5.2. Understory seeding and erosion control mix.

Scientific Name	Common Name	Application Rate (lbs/acre)
<b>Total lbs/acre</b>		

#### 4.5. Plant Establishment Period

##### 4.5.1. Maintenance

##### 4.5.2. Irrigation

##### 4.5.3. Implementation Schedule

# Chapter 5. Monitoring Plan

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## 5.1. 3.1 Methods and Schedule

## 5.2. Performance Standards and Contingencies

**Table 4.2 Mitigation Criteria Goals**

Planting Success Criteria	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 5

## 5.3. Monitoring Reports

Each report shall include the following:

- Summary of prior reports
- Analysis of mitigation performance
- Recommendations for remedial actions, if needed
- Summary of maintenance activities performed
- Photographs of the project site
- Monitoring datasheets

Table 3.3 summarizes the milestone dates for mitigation and monitoring activities at.

**Table 4.3 Mitigation and Monitoring Schedule**

Action/Deliverable	Date
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## 5.4. Completion of Mitigation Responsibilities

Upon submittal of the final annual report, the Department will notify the Water Board that mitigation is complete and request the Water Board to relieve the Department of its responsibilities for further monitoring and reporting. Mitigation responsibilities

will be deemed complete upon the Water Boards confirmation and acceptance of the final monitoring report.

## **5.5. Long term Management**

Subsequent to completion of the Department's responsibilities,.

## Chapter 6. Contingency Plan

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The Department will develop and submit a contingency plan in the event that the mitigation proposed in this MMP fails to meet performance standards.

### **6.1. Initiation Procedures**

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### **6.2. Funding Mechanism**

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## Appendix A. Planting Layouts

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**Attachment C**

**List of Mitigation Providers that Received this RFP**

Jeff Mathews  
Westervelt Ecological Services  
600 N. Market Boulevard, Suite 3  
Sacramento, CA 95834

Julie Maddox  
Wildlands Inc.  
3855 Atherton Road  
Rocklin, CA 95765

Bruce Barnett  
Environmental Consulting  
5214 El Cemente Avenue  
Davis, CA 95618

Robert Fletcher  
Fletcher Conservation Properties  
1576 Catalina Court  
Livermore, CA 94550

Mark Dawson  
Waterhole Land Company  
3170 Crow canyon Place, Suite 260  
San Ramon, CA 94583

Solano Land Trust  
1001 Texas Street, Suite C  
Fairfield, CA 94533

Jeff Olberding  
OLBERDING ENVIRONMENTAL, INC.  
3170 Crow Canyon Place, Suite 260  
San Ramon, California 94583

Chris Stump  
Muzzy Conservation Bank  
4630 Westamerica Drive, Suite A  
Fairfield, CA 94453

Tim DeGraff  
WRA, Inc.  
2169-G San Francisco Blvd  
San Rafael, CA 94901

Anthony Georges  
Burdell Mitigation Bank  
P.O. Box 2039  
Mill Valley, CA 94942

