

Maunalua Bay Reef Restoration Project Invasive Alien Algae Removal Project

Questions/Answers

- Q:** What is the access to the project site?
A: There is access along the beach, one public right of way from Paiko Drive, and the berm at Paiko Lagoon which is state owned. The private right-of-way from Paiko Drive will not be available for contractor use.
- Q:** How does the volunteer effort match to this effort?
A: The volunteer efforts will continue to focus on the one acre plot, but volunteer efforts are primarily on weekends.
- Q:** How often does the removed alga have to be taken off site?
A: There can be no stockpiling at the beach. The alga needs to be removed regularly, and at sufficient frequency that there is no significant smell or nuisance.
- Q:** How long does it take to dry completely and how much does it compact?
A: Unknown – after 2 weeks it dries and compacts, but if piled thickly still retains some water and may still be viable.
- Q:** How do you keep the algae contained in the water where you are pulling?
A: Algae are placed directly into mesh bags immediately upon being pulled. There is very little fragmentation.
- Q:** Is there any requirement to work in deeper waters? Will diving be required?
A: There will be no subsurface work. The water is generally two feet deep at most. Chest deep (for a person of average height) is as deep as it gets in high tide.
- Q:** Is the Hawaii Kai Boat Ramp an option for staging?
A: It may be an option, but there are multiple, potentially competing uses.
- Q:** Can the harvested material be staged offshore?
A: TNC has not established any restrictions on the staging options the contractor can consider. There may be a problem with smell if harvested material is left on an offshore staging platform for several days and there are onshore winds. Contractor should consider the community impacts of all options, among other issues.
- Q:** Is salt content of the algae an issue for the farmers?
A: It hasn't been for the current farmer, though he does ornamentals. The alga accumulates heavy metals: e.g. arsenic, copper. In general, heavy metal levels are below state and federal limits, but there are some areas where it is higher.

10. **Q:** Are the heavy metal concentrations related to runoff?
A: Scientists believe they are from natural background arsenic from seawater.
11. **Q:** Does contractor need to budget in costs for an audit?
A: No.
12. **Q:** What is the CFDA number?
A: 11.463 The Maunalua Bay Reef Restoration Project – NOAA ARRA
13. **Q:** Are salaries of \$14/hour + benefits a firm requirement?
A: No, but these need to be quality jobs. Proposals that feature higher quality jobs will be rated higher. Jobs under this project are not subject to Davis Bacon Act salary requirements. The salary levels in the proposal were used to help develop the overall package. Contractor is not constrained by \$/hour or 40/20 split, but must create 50 quality FTEs.
14. **Q:** Are jobs the only performance measure?
A: No. See attached evaluation criteria. Invoicing and progress reporting measures will include progress towards clearing 22 acres of reef flat at Kuli'ou'ou to less than 10% IAA coverage within 14 months.
15. **Q:** Would it be better to let this as a "cost plus a percentage of cost" contract to keep people employed for the full 14 months?
A: Grant rules don't allow "cost plus a percentage of cost" contracts. Performance measures and progress payments will be based on the proportion of the 22 acre project area cleared during the reporting period. Variable timelines could be included into the bid.
16. **Q:** Who determines 90% cleared?
A: It will be the responsibility of the Contractor to demonstrate that they are performing to project specifications. TNC will set and share monitoring protocols. TNC and the science team will be conducting scientific studies within the project area, and will perform random spot checks.
17. **Q:** Is the community supportive?
A: The community is probably 90% supportive, but there will be some issues around parking, truck noise, and privacy that the Contractor will need to minimize.
18. **Q:** Is disposal of harvested algae at the Kailua green waste facility (Menehune Magic) an option? What about the Kapolei facility?
A: TNC is not aware of any prohibitions on the disposal of harvested algae at the Menehune Magic or other legal disposal site. However, it is the responsibility of the contractor to confirm the availability and cost of any or all disposal options.

19. **Q:** Is a performance bond required?
A: No.
20. **Q:** What are the criteria for evaluating the bids?
A: Technical, community and cost criteria to be used in proposal evaluation are presented below.

Proposal Evaluation Criteria

1. Technical Aspects (20%)
Give a brief overview of how your proposal will address the following technical and operational issues. Specifically identify areas of innovation and value-added activities.
Staffing mix (full-time vs. part-time)
Harvest and Transfer
Shoreline or Other Staging
Transport
Disposal
Innovation
2. Community Aspects (20%)
Give a brief overview of how your proposed work will minimize the following community issues and demonstrate a commitment to the environment.
Noise
Smell
Traffic
Visual Impact
Commitment to the Environment
3. Other Requirements (10%)
Safety Plan
Training Plan
Monitoring Plan
Comfort and Aid Station(s)
4. Price (50%)
Provide a breakdown by major tasks and total for the proposed staffing mix and associated costs, and selected non-labor costs.

Cost Category	Project Total	Removal	Transport	Disposal
Labor				
# full-time employees				
Salary Cost				
Benefits Cost				
# part-time employees				
Salary Cost				
Benefits Cost				
Equipment Lease				
Subcontracts				
Other Costs				
TOTAL COST				