



RFP Questions from Potential Consultants

High Definition Stream Study (HDSS) for the Clinch River Virginia

April 21, 2026

1) What exiting data is available for pre-Helene comparisons and at what quality?

The RFP does not identify or provide a single comprehensive pre-Hurricane Helene dataset for the full study corridor. As outlined in the RFP, respondents are expected to incorporate pre- and post-event data where available to support change detection analysis. Respondents should plan to identify and evaluate relevant data sources appropriate to their methodology and clearly document any assumptions, limitations, or data gaps. Friends will coordinate access to any available partner datasets where possible but does not guarantee completeness or uniform quality.

2) For the data to be collected, we assume it should match the existing dataset for time change analysis. What resolution is required?

The RFP does not specify a required resolution. Respondents should propose a resolution appropriate to their methodology that supports accurate change detection and provides consistent, high-resolution coverage across the full study area.

3) As this is to be collected this summer, with leaf-on conditions, the impact of the data accuracy collected from remote sensing techniques will be impacted. Is this of concern?

Leaf-on conditions are acknowledged and may impact certain remote sensing approaches; however, this is not a concern as respondents are expected to propose methodologies that account for seasonal conditions and still achieve the required level of accuracy and coverage.

4) Please define how RAW file deliverable will be utilized or limited to avoid misapplication?

Raw data files are being requested to support transparency, validation, and potential future use by project partners. These files may be shared with state agencies, including but not limited to DWR, DEQ, DCR, VDEM, and DHCD. They are intended for use by qualified professionals and should be interpreted within the context of the methodology and accompanying documentation provided by the selected firm. Any limitations, assumptions, or appropriate use considerations should be clearly documented by the respondent as part of the deliverables.

- 5) **How many bridges, culverts, low-water crossings, dams, and other hydrologic structures are within the project area and what risk review/analysis is involved?**
A comprehensive inventory of bridges, culverts, low-water crossings, dams, and other hydrologic structures within the project area is not currently available. Respondents are expected to identify and assess these features as part of the survey. The risk review should include evaluating structural condition, exposure to flooding and debris, and potential impacts to public safety and recreation, and should be incorporated into the overall risk scoring and prioritization framework outlined in the RFP.
- 6) **Please provide a copy of the anticipated contract**
A sample contract is not included with this RFP. The selected firm will be required to enter into a federally compliant agreement that incorporates all applicable ARC requirements and 2 CFR Part 200 provisions. A draft agreement will be provided to the selected firm during contract negotiations.
- 7) **Is there a preferred standard for developing mitigation and restoration recommendations, and should these be limited to conceptual, planning-level actions for funding alignment or framed to support future permitting and implementation?**
There is no prescribed standard. Recommendations should be developed at a planning level sufficient to support prioritization and alignment with potential funding opportunities, while clearly identifying actions that may warrant more detailed design, permitting, and implementation in future phases.