

Questions and Answers for Tri-State

Satellite Based Vegetation Management RFP#2931

Question 1:

How does Tri-State plan to operationalize these insights (e.g. converting encroachment and risk metrics into vegetation management tasks)?

Answer 1:

A quantitative approach for incompatible vegetation will be used to develop a detailed scope of work for large-scale vegetation removal project requiring third-party contractors.

Polygon GIS data identifying encroachment/hazard risks for immediate vegetation removal within/adjacent to the ROW

Question 2:

What were the lessons learned from the encroachment risk matrix that you provided in the 2023 pilot study?

We would like to know the same for the hazard tree risk matrix.

Answer 2:

Lessons learned were incorporated in the Project Scope Section.

Question 3:

The shapefile includes line miles associated with 2028 and 2029 – are these to be included in the cost analysis/RFP response?

Answer 3:

Vendors may include budget estimates for 2028 and 2029, but are not required to do so at this time.

Question 4:

Since this RFP is focused primarily on wildfire risk mitigation, it would be easy to use this same imagery to understand fuel moisture, topography, elevation, slope, aspect and landscape connectivity to model spread if an accidental ignition happened. Would that type of analysis be helpful to understand vegetation risk for T line and span level risk for Tri-State?

Answer 4:

The vendor should propose the approach for conducting the tasks and deliverables identified in the Project Scope Section.

Question 5:

In the objective, Tri-State mentions estimating the volume of vegetation requiring removal. Does this include vegetation on the floor, grassland mowing, and overall fuel load reduction in the area?

Answer 5:

Vendor should estimate vegetation for vegetation at risk for encroachment or hazard trees as defined in Encroachment Risk Framework.

Question 6:

Although the RFP specifically calls for satellite, would Tri-State consider a LiDAR Submission? There's a new form of high-altitude airborne LiDAR that provides a large increase in performance accuracy over satellite-only remote sensing. This is being used with Utilities your size for both Transmission and Distribution. Previously, LiDAR was too costly, but this method is 1) Scalable 2) Quick with time to deliver insights 3) Cost - effective and 4) Very Precise.

Answer 6:

The language in the RFP 2, requests the Vendor to "utilize advanced remote sensing technologies" to address the needs identified in the Project Scope,

Question 7:

What level of precision (*foot on encroachment to conductor*) is Tri-State attempting to achieve with remote sensing?

Answer 7:

In the RFP, see Task 1.3 Data Resolution Requirements:

High-resolution scans (minimum 30cm resolution).

Tri-stereo imagery from forward, nadir, and backward angles.

Digital terrain maps (minimum 1-meter accuracy).

Question 8:

Would Tri-State be interested in this new form of sensing if it allowed additional/adjacent use cases like Asset-Management and Engineering? Examples are:
Line Sag calculations (*including distance of line over distribution, over road, over water*)
Tower / Pole Lean
Suitability of terrain for network expansion

Answer 8:

All requested work is identified in the RFP under Project Scope Section

Question 9:

Is the Satellite data Tri-state considering a Stereo Pair or Tri-Stereo satellite imaging source?

Answer 9:

In the RFP, see Task 1.3 Data Resolution Requirements,

High-resolution scans (minimum 30cm resolution).

Tri-stereo imagery from forward, nadir, and backward angles.

Digital terrain maps (minimum 1-meter accuracy).

Question 10:

If interested in the above alternative, can a one-week extension be allowed?

Answer 10:

No extensions are provided at this time.