

ʔaqam
Department of Lands and Natural Resources

Request For Quote

2023 Wildfire Aerial Seeding Operations.

February 2025



ʔAQAM

Issue Date: Feb 13, 2025

Closing Date: Feb 27, 2025

Closing Location: ʔaqam, 7470 Mission Road, Cranbrook BC V1C 7E5

Telephone: 236-703-9542

Email: wkaufman@aqam.net

INTRODUCTION / BACKGROUND

ʔaqam is a First Nations community whose government organization services 374 Band Members and other aboriginal peoples within the Ktunaxa Nation. Geographically, the community is located 8 km north of Cranbrook in the East Kootenay region of British Columbia. In the summer of 2023, a wildfire burned over 4,000 ha of ʔaqam Lands within Kootenay IR #1. The severity and intensity of the burn varied, creating a large spatial array of forest and ecosystem health (in the following years). Activities to date through the area include archeology assessments, timber salvage layout/prescription development and fire guard reclamation plan. Active timber salvage and reclamation operations are currently underway. Aerial seeding operations will be conducted just after ground operations are completed. It is expected seeding operations will be mid April – start of May.

ʔaqam's Lands and Natural Resource Department is seeking quotes for assistance in an aerial-seeding operation in identified areas from the 2023 wildfire. Anticipated work activities include supplying the identified seed mix and equipment needed to conduct aerial seeding in the designated areas mapped.

A service agreement will be issued to the successful bidder in compliance with the terms, specifications, and provisions in the submitted quote, which must include the provision of skilled labor, transportation, supplies, and incidentals. Suppliers will be responsible for all their own equipment and transportation.

BACKGROUND

Work will be conducted within Kootenay IR #1. Safety practices should be outlined by contractors, such that all safety practices and standards with required PPE are met as per WorkSafe BC. The awarded contractor will be responsible for all their own equipment. Contractors will be given all information from the planning work and work collaboratively with the contractors who are developing a grass – seeding rehabilitation plan. Area planned for aerial seeding operations are seen in Appendix A. An estimate of the re-seeding areas and density has been broken down into the table below. If the contractor recommends an alternate seeding density / seeding method for the areas outlined, ʔaqam will consider the proposal based on the rationale provided.

Area Description	Planned Seed Density (kg/ha)	Area (ha)	Total kg
Landings from salvage	55	9	495
High Priority Areas	65	209	13,572
Low Priority Areas	55	207	11,390
Airport Pasture Landings	35	9	315
TOTAL	-	434	27,772

The following desired composition for native seed blend on ʔaqam Lands is provided as:

Species	% Composition by weight
Slender Wheatgrass	35
Forage Annual Ryegrass	20
Forage Perennial Ryegrass	15
Rocky Mountain Fescue	10
Idaho Fescue	10
Bluebunch Wheatgrass	10

Commented [HM1]: Where is this from? Has it previously been presented to Lands Committee? Would be good to know - could ask Julie - if the work done to confirm this is what we should be using has been done.

Contractors will be given the following upon service contract award.

- Grass – Seeding Priority Map
- Fire Severity Map / Data
- 30 x 25 kg bags of Historic ʔaąam seed mix.

Please note the numbers/areas may have minor changes once the contract is awarded

REGULATORY APPROVALS

- The Contractor is responsible for complying with all Federal, Provincial, and Municipal legal regulatory requirements and all applicable environmental legislation.
- The Contractor shall comply with the province of British Columbia's requirements for spill prevention and response.

INSURANCE

- The Contractor shall carry Comprehensive General Liability Insurance in the amount of a minimum of \$5M for each and every occurrence and Workers Compensation Insurance in accordance with the requirements of the British Columbia *Workers Compensation Act*
- If awarded the contract, each of these will need to be submitted to the ʔaąam Lands Department.

SCHEDULE

- ʔaąam will award the contract resulting from this Request For Quote (RFQ) to the responsible Contractor whose offer conforming to the RFQ will be most advantageous to ʔaąam, based on price competitiveness, qualifications, and previous work with ʔaąam or other Ktunaxa First Nations.
- Equipment for work needed: Specified equipment with trained personnel for operators and mechanics, proper PPE, safe supply of fuel source, emergency spill kit.

HOW TO APPLY

Complete the attached forms (**2023 Wildfire Aerial – Seeding Operations Questionnaire**) and email to: Will Kaufman, Manager, Forest Stewardship, wkaufman@aqam.net, by 4:00pm Mountain Time on Feb 27th, 2025.

The contract to be awarded from this RFQ will be made to the prospective contractor whose offer conforms most to this RFQ, being most advantageous to ?aqam based on price and other factors considered. The following factors will be used to score each offer received, forming the basis for awarding this contract:

1. Contractors/companies which are ?aqamni?k, Ktunaxa, or of other First Nations will be given preference
2. Demonstration of qualifications and experience of company/contractors working within the southern rocky mountain trench with native grassland restoration operations and prescriptions (examples of past work should be provided)
3. Cost competitive bids to complete the 440 ha of heli-seeding for Spring 2025.
4. Inclusion of all safety and regulatory requirements to complete the scope of work

*****Incomplete bids will not be accepted*****

THE BAND RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REFUSE ANY OR ALL BIDS. THE LOWEST BID WILL NOT NECESSARILY BE ACCEPTED AS THE SUCCESSFUL BIDD



?AQ'AM

Appendix A: 2023 Wildfire Aerial-Seeding Operations Questionnaire

Complete and email to: wkaufman@aqam.net, Manager, Forest Stewardship, by 4:00pm Mountain Time on Feb 27, 2025

Contractor Name:

Address:

Phone:

Email:

Provide all personal with related experience that would conduct this work:

Please provide experience with aerial-grass seeding operations within the Southern Rocky Mountain Trench:

Please provide a rough work plan to meet all desired deliverables in a recommended time frame:

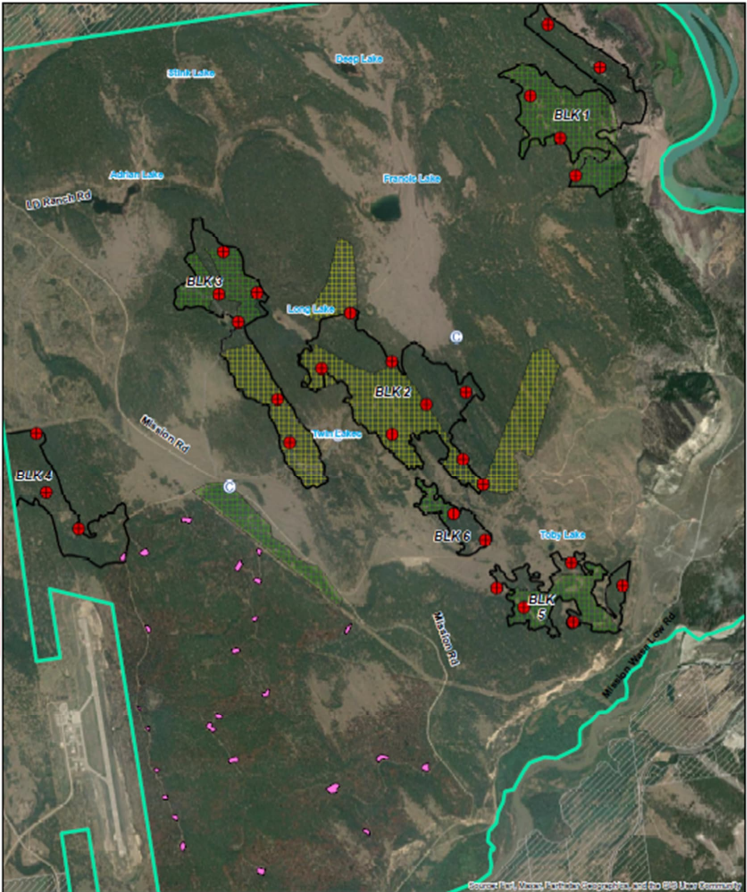


AQAM

Provide overall cost estimate (with a time frame to conduct this work) including desired seed mix:

Please provide proof of all applicable insurance:

Appendix B: Overview Map of Proposed Aerial Re-Seeding Area



AERIAL GRASS SEEDING AREAS		Legend																			
2ndam Wildfire Salvage and Ecosystem Restoration Overview Prepared for: 2ndam Prepared by: Maple Leaf Forestry Ltd. Date: 1/24/2025		● Landing (Fire Salvage) ● Landing (Airport Pasture) ○ Cattleguard — Existing Road / Trail — Block Boundary ■ High-Priority Seeding ■ Low-Priority Seeding ■ 2ndam Lands ■ Private Land	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Quantity</th> <th>Estimated Area (ha)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Landings (Fire Salvage)</td> <td>29</td> <td>8.7</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Landings (Airport Pasture)</td> <td>25</td> <td>9.3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Block Areas- High Priority</td> <td>5</td> <td>208.8</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Block Areas- Low Priority</td> <td>4</td> <td>207.1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td></td> <td>433.9</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Quantity	Estimated Area (ha)	Landings (Fire Salvage)	29	8.7	Landings (Airport Pasture)	25	9.3	Block Areas- High Priority	5	208.8	Block Areas- Low Priority	4	207.1	Total		433.9
	Quantity	Estimated Area (ha)																			
Landings (Fire Salvage)	29	8.7																			
Landings (Airport Pasture)	25	9.3																			
Block Areas- High Priority	5	208.8																			
Block Areas- Low Priority	4	207.1																			
Total		433.9																			
Magnell Destination: 13° 50'E 0 200 400 600 Meters UTM11, NAD83 Scale: 1:30,000																					