

NORTHWEST FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

MEMORANDUM

TO: Governing Board

THROUGH: Lyle Seigler, Executive Director
Caitlin Brongel, Chief of Staff
Danny Layfield, Director, Division of Asset Management

FROM: Benjamin Faure, Bureau Chief, Land Management Operations

DATE: May 9, 2023

SUBJECT: *Supplement – Agenda Item 10.* Consideration of ITB 23B-007 for Sand Pine Eradication Services

Recommendation

Staff recommends the Governing Board approve the second lowest bid received in response to Invitation to Bid (ITB) 23B-007 for Sand Pine Eradication Services and authorize the Executive Director to execute an agreement with Garcia Forest Service, LLC in an amount up to \$136,727.91 to facilitate this work, subject to legal counsel review.

Background

The District has identified 1,503 acres of sand pine to be eradicated for the purpose of developing a more open longleaf pine/wiregrass community within seven different units/stands of the Econfina Creek Water Management Area in Bay and Washington counties.

As part of the District's program to restore natural communities, offsite pine and competing native hardwood species must be removed from upland areas that are being restored to longleaf pine and wiregrass. The offsite pine and various native hardwoods compete with the longleaf pine for nutrients and sunlight. Allowing these trees to remain on site will create competition for the planted longleaf pine trees and understory vegetation and would adversely impact the District's efforts to continue restoring these natural communities.

On March 16, 2023, the District issued an Invitation to Bid (ITB) for the eradication of sand pines on 1,503 acres of reforested longleaf pine/wiregrass habitat. The ITB was advertised on the District's procurement website, the My Florida Market Place Vendor Information Portal, and posted in the Florida Administrative Register.

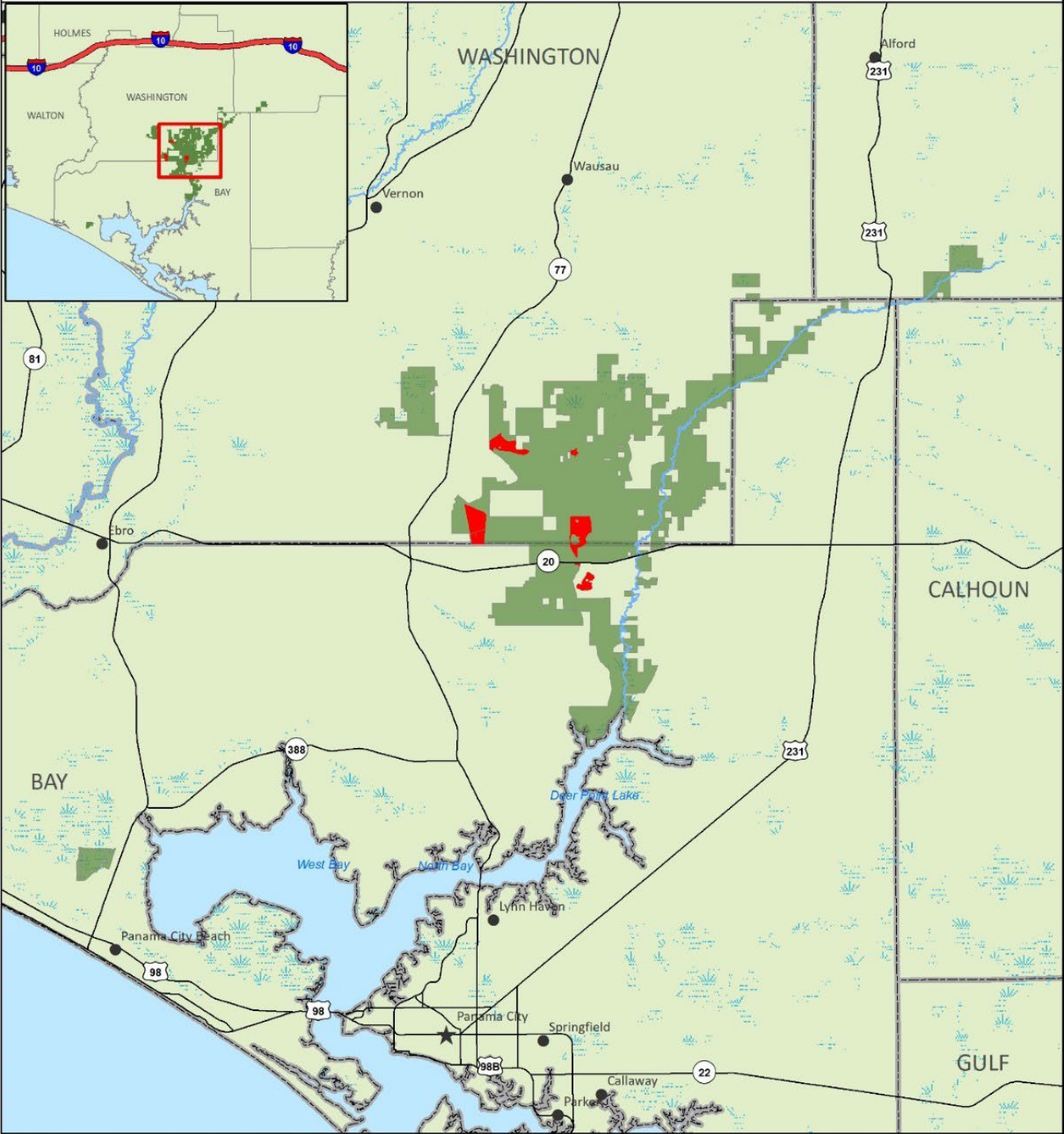
On April 12, 2023, at 2:00 p.m. EDT, the District received seven sealed bids in response to the ITB. The lowest bidder, Mendiola Forestry Service, LLC withdrew their bid, therefore we recommend awarding the bid to the second lowest bidder, Garcia Forest Service, LLC. The bids received are listed below for your consideration.

COMPANY NAME	AVERAGE PRICE PER ACRE FOR REMOVAL OF SAND PINE*	TOTAL BID FOR REMOVAL OF SAND PINE ON 1,503 ACRES
Mendiola Forestry Service, LLC	\$ 88.96	\$ 133,720.00
Garcia Forest Service, LLC	\$ 90.97	\$ 136,727.91
Express Forestry Service, LLC	\$ 94.40	\$ 141,883.20
Wildland Services, LLC	\$ 95.00	\$ 142,785.00
Forestech Consulting, Inc dba F4 Tech	\$ 107.93	\$ 162,228.83
DJK Ag Services	\$404.86	\$608,515.00
Universal Contracting & Construction Inc.	\$1,500.00	\$2,254,500.00

* Per acre price rounded

BF/

Exhibit Map A



General Location Map
2023 Sand Pine Eradication
Econfina Creek Water Management Area
Bay and Washington Counties, Florida
1503 Acres

- Stands
- District Lands

