

Request for Proposal
Fernan Lake Management Plan
(Harmful Algae Blooms and Phosphorus Mitigation)

Proposal Requirements

1. Introduction The City of Fernan Lake Village, Idaho (Fernan) is soliciting proposals from consultants or consulting teams with expertise in lake management planning, treatment of surface water and harmful algae blooms to prepare a lake management plan for Fernan Lake which will address the reduction of phosphorus and other mitigation techniques to maintain and restore Fernan Lake to secure its beneficial use as outlined in the IDAPA 58 and Idaho Statue Title 39 Chapter 36.

The selected consultant shall have experience with public involvement and will be required to participate in keeping the public and interested stakeholders informed of the process and be engaged in regular communication with the City.

Fernan is taking the local agency position for the purpose of facilitating a long-term plan to restore and maintain the health of Fernan Lake including the formation of an institutional structure to take responsibility for the plan's implementation in a financially sustainable manner.

The proposed plan will build on existing work completed by the county, state agencies, and nonprofit organizations. The Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (IDEQ) will support the work of Fernan to include involvement by the property owners around the lake and within the watersheds that drain to the lake, the Coeur d'Alene Lake Management, the Department of Water Resources, Department of Lands, Coeur d'Alene Tribe, other state agencies and local governments with proprietary or regulatory jurisdiction, and nonprofit organizations advocating for the lake's health. The proposal should address timelines for plan development, roles and responsibilities of governmental and nonprofit entities, potential funding sources, and options for plan implementation.

2. Background Fernan Lake is located east of Coeur d'Alene Lake and east of downtown Coeur d'Alene. Fernan Lake Village is located on the west end of Fernan Lake. Over the last 5 years, Fernan Lake has seen a large Harmful Algae Bloom (Cyanobacteria) (HAB). The HAB has resulted in water quality restrictions on the Lake.

There have been several studies completed on the Fernan Lake Watershed and Fernan Lake. These studies have resulted in several proposals and projects to address phosphorus loading and TDP entering the Lake Waters, but none have been implemented. Fernan Lake is currently listed (2013) by the DEQ as impaired by excess nutrients/eutrophication which results in the occurrence of blue-green algae blooms and the lake not meeting its recreational beneficial use.

The latest project proposal was to study the effect of lowering the Lake water surface level by up to 5 feet to create/restore wetlands on the east end of Fernan Lake. Funding for the project was cancelled by the DEQ due to lack of support from some stakeholders.

3. Scope of Work The long term goal is to restore and maintain the health of Fernan Lake as well as designing an institutional structure to take responsibility for the plan's implementation in a financially sustainable manner. The plan will build on existing work completed by the county, state agencies, University of Idaho and nonprofit organizations. Work generally contemplated for this phase of the Lake Management Plan includes:

a. Review of past available studies for Fernan Lake and Fernan Lake Watershed. There have been several studies completed for Fernan Lake and Fernan Lake watershed. These include:

- i. Draft Fernan Lake Watershed Plan, November 5, 2003
<https://www.cdaid.org/Files/Planning/fernan-watershed.pdf>
- ii. Fernan Lake Watershed – Idaho Department of Environmental Quality 5 Year Review (8/25/2022). <https://www.iwac.us/wp-content/uploads/2016/02/Fernan-Lake-TMDL-Final-2013.pdf>
- iii. Cda Lake Management Plan 2009.
<https://www2.deq.idaho.gov/admin/LEIA/api/document/download/11086>
- iv. Coeur d'Alene Lake and River Subbasin Assessment and Total Maximum Daily Loads 2013 Fernan Lake Addendum (HUC 17010303) <https://www.iwac.us/wp-content/uploads/2016/02/Fernan-Lake-TMDL-Final-2013.pdf>
- v. IDAPA 58 – DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY Surface and Wastewater Division 58.01.02 – Water Quality Standards <https://adminrules.idaho.gov/rules/current/58/580102.pdf>
- vi. TITLE 39 HEALTH AND SAFETY CHAPTER 36 WATER QUALITY <https://legislature.idaho.gov/wp-content/uploads/statutesrules/idstat/Title39/T39CH36.pdf>
- vii. Toxic Blue-Green Algae at Fernan Lake, ID
<https://webpages.uidaho.edu/vtl/Projects/Miles/fernan/>
- viii. Coeur d'Alene Lake Management Plan: Total Phosphorus Nutrient Inventory, 2004-2013
<https://www2.deq.idaho.gov/admin/LEIA/api/document/download/13087>
- ix. APPLICABLE LINKS AND INFORMATION
- x. <https://www.deq.idaho.gov/water-quality/surface-water/monitoring-and-assessment/>
- xi. <https://www.deq.idaho.gov/coeur-dalene-lake-advisory-committee-finalizes-list-of-lake-cleanup-projects/>

b. Determine what additional testing and data will be required for development of the Lake Management Plan. There has been a significant amount of water quality testing completed as part of previous studies. This review should identify the extent of any additional testing required and provide an estimated cost to complete the additional testing and data collection.

c. Draft Lake Management Plan. Based on the data obtained and developed, prepare a draft Lake Management Plan including watershed management, water quality management, and other management strategies required to reverse the water quality degradation and maintain the water quality in Fernan Lake. The Plan should address timelines for plan development, roles and responsibilities of governmental and nonprofit entities, estimated costs to implement the Plan, potential funding sources, and options for plan implementation.

Proposal Inquiries and Questions

Question and inquires shall be submitted Cindy Espe, City Clerk no later than September 14, 2023 via email at the following address: cindyespe@hotmail.com

Proposal Submission

Sealed Proposals must be received no later than **2:00 pm, local time, September 28, 2023**. Proposal shall include an original and electronic copy in PDF format for distribution to the City Council and other interested parties. Proposals must be clear, succinct, and not exceed fifteen (15) pages, excluding resumes.

Proposal shall be clearly marked “**Fernan Lake Management Plan**” and delivered to:

City of Fernan Lake Village
City Clerk
9177 Hess St.
Hayden, ID 83835

Proposal Content

- 1. Project Team** The project team/firm must have demonstrated experience and competence in performing the required services in the Scope of Work. The RFP must contain a description of the approach to the project and demonstrated understanding of the project objectives as reflected in the proposed work plan.
- 2. Overall, the proposals should address:**
 - a. Short Term Solutions – aimed at what can be done immediately and within the next 3 to 5 years that specifically address algae blooms.
 - b. Long Term Solutions – aimed at addressing TDP and Phosphorus loading into Fernan Lake.
 - c. Project schedule and estimated timeline for tasks involved, and costs associated with the tasks.
 - d. Funding options/sources available for funding the short term and long-term proposal and studies.
- 3. Project and Management Approach** Description of the team/firm’s approach to performing the tasks detailed in the Scope of Work, including confirmation of the required budget and timeline to complete various phases of the Plan. The information provided should demonstrate a strong understanding and ability to perform the anticipated tasks, as well as a description of the key issues and any concerns to be addressed in the development of the project. Both short-term coordination tasks and long-term generalized components of the future Fernan Lake Management Plan should be discussed.
- 4. Capabilities** RFP responses may include references, example documents of past work, familiarity with Fernan Lake, familiarity with relevant codes and standards, familiarity with work done to date pertaining to Fernan Lake, ability to provide adequate resources, and additional information that makes your team/firm the right selection for this project.

5. Proposed Cost The Consultant or Team will be selected based on their qualifications and understanding of Fernan Lake. However, for budgeting purposes the City must gain a general idea about costs to complete the initial phase of data collection and testing (if required).

Proposal Review

Proposals received in response to this RFP will be evaluated by the City's designated review committee. The review committee will present recommendations to the City Council for their review prior to contract execution. Each proposal will be objectively evaluated and rated based on the following criteria.

1. Project and Management Approach and Work Plan
2. Work History with Lake Management Plans
3. Work Experience with Agencies and Stakeholders.
4. References

The City will determine the most qualified proposer based on the evaluation criteria. The final scope of service and contract will be negotiated with the most qualified proposer.