



# Invitation to Tender

## Thunker Beck Phase 1

(TF 28424 68537 - TF 28259 68655)

Build

28<sup>th</sup> March 2024

## CONTENTS

1. Introduction.....	2
2. Background .....	2
2.1 Thunker Beck .....	2
2.2 Phase 1 .....	2
2.3 Project Aims.....	2
2.4 Project Location.....	3
2.5 Site Visits.....	3
3. Definitions .....	3
4. Project Budget and Installation .....	4
5. Description of works.....	5
5.1 Technical Requirements.....	5
5.1.1 Gravel Installation .....	5
5.1.2 Woody Deflector Installation .....	6
5.1.4 Vegetation .....	6
5.1.5 Access .....	6
6. Specification of Required Works .....	6
6.1 Preliminaries.....	6
6.2 Health and Safety .....	7
6.3 Specification .....	8
6.4 Environmental Considerations .....	8
6.5 Utilities Searches.....	9
6.6 Information for Tendering.....	9
6.7 Timescale.....	11
6.8 Full contact details .....	11
7. Tender Evaluation Process .....	11
7.1 Basis of Tender.....	12
7.2 Sub-Contracting .....	13
7.3 Award of Contract .....	13
7.4 Health and Safety .....	13
7.5 Obligations & Accuracy.....	13
7.6 Confidentiality .....	14
7.7 Canvassing.....	14

## 1. Introduction

This brief provides the detail for habitat improvement works on the Thunker Beck in Mareham on the Hill, Lincolnshire. You are invited to Tender for the project outlined below – to include build and installation of interventions. The project has Anglian Water Get River Positive Funding and would need to be completed by the 17<sup>th</sup> of May 2024. Land Drainage consent has been applied for to the Witham Third District Internal Drainage Board and landowner permissions is in place.

## 2. Background

### 2.1 Thunker Beck

Thunker Beck, starts in a place called Scrafield, a hamlet and deserted medieval village in the civil parish of Mareham on the Hill, in the East Lindsey district of Lincolnshire. A tributary to the river Waring, a chalk stream, Thunker Beck is approximately 6.4km long and joins the Waring in the centre of Horncastle. It has been identified as major contributing factor to the most recent floods during storm Babet which inundated the town. The section in which the project site is located is pasture, with seasonal cattle grazing. Evidence of cattle accessing the river is visible through poaching and limited established plant species in the river margins.

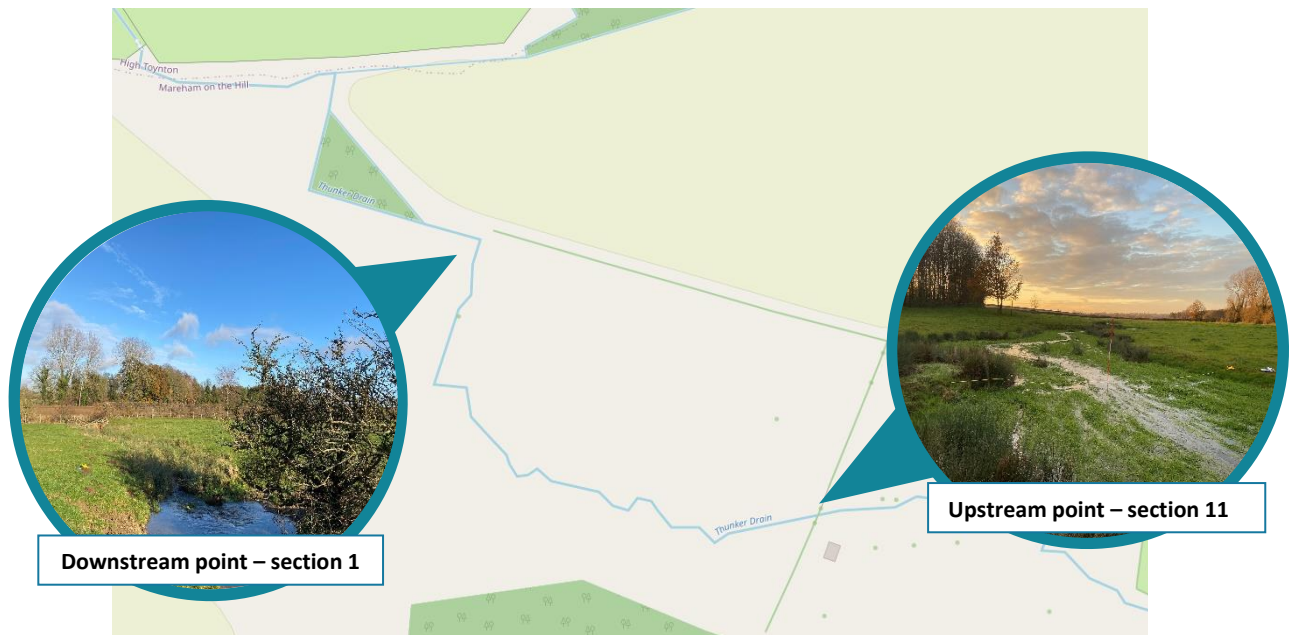
### 2.2 Phase 1

This project aims to initiate the first phase of habitat enhancements along Thunker Beck, over a 300m stretch, aiming to increase biodiversity, with a particular focus on increasing resilience for fish and invertebrates. This will be the first project of its kind within this catchment area; therefore, it is crucial this first phase enables the landowner to build trust in East Mercia Rivers Trust (EMRT) to help secure future projects.

### 2.3 Project Aims

- Bed raising, widening of some cross sections, together with installation of flow deflectors and pinned woody material to increase cover at, and below, water level.
- The creation of fan-like gravel bars and short riffles which will see the riverbed raised by up to 0.3m.
- The re-creation of mini gravel bars and riffles to improve in-channel habitats in this degraded reach.
- Enhanced flow diversity which will aid the transport of fine sediment through the reach.
- Enhance biodiversity, providing food and refuge for pollinators, fish, waterfowl, and invertebrates.
- Build trust in local landowner and provide an initial exemplar site to showcase to other landowners interested in improving river habitat.

## 2.4 Project Location



*Figure 1 – Thunker Beck - Site Location at Marham Grange*

The project site is situated in private land, at Mareham Grange Farmhouse, Mareham on the Hill, Horncastle, East Lindsey, Lincolnshire, England, United Kingdom, LN9 6PQ. The work area falls between the following grid references **TF 28424 68537 and TF 28259 68655**.

The project is being managed by delivery partners East Mercia Rivers Trust (formerly Lincolnshire Rivers Trust) and Wild Trout Trust (WTT) with agreement from the landowner of the site. The project site is not located within any statutory nature conservation designations, nor any non-statutory local conservation designations.

## 2.5 Site Visits

To gain a better understanding of our requirements we encourage bidders to visit the site during the tender period. The site is private would require permission to access, which EMRT can secure. The Project Manager would be happy to meet you on site to discuss the project further by prior arrangement. **Preferred dates for a site visit are the 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> of April.**

## 3. Definitions

The following terms have the meaning described below unless otherwise stated in the document, or required by the context:

**'East Mercia Rivers Trust'** shall mean East Mercia Rivers Trust (Registered Charity 1157922), Loddington House, Main Road, Loddington, Leicestershire, LE7 9XE.

**'Wild Trout Trust'** shall mean Wild Trout Trust (Registered Charity 1162478), 4 Broadfield Ct, Sheffield S8 0XF.

**'Project Managers'** shall mean Paige Donnelly of East Mercia Rivers Trust and Rob Mungovan of Wild Trout Trust or such other officers each Trust may nominate.

**'Project Site'** shall mean the site from the top end of the field to the bottom as seen in Figure 2 where the works is to take place, as identified in the maps in this and any appended documents.

**'Tenderer'** shall mean the person submitting a Tender and where a Tenderer consists of more than one person, obligations and submissions shall be deemed to have been made jointly and severally and the masculine gender shall include all other genders.

**'Contractor'** shall mean the successful Tenderer.

**'Method statement'** shall mean the method statement forming part of the tender.

**'Works'** shall mean the work to be undertaken and the services to be provided as described in the Tender Documentation, together with any alteration and amendments that are made in accordance with these conditions.

#### **4. Project Budget and Installation**

Project designs have already been undertaken; tenders are invited for the build and installation of works.

Please be aware, on this project the Contractor will, at all times, be fully supervised by EMRT and WTT. The WTT have much experience both at the design stage and implementation, and will be on site to instruct, and work alongside, the Contractor to achieve a successful outcome. The WTT has regularly worked with Contractors in the Designer role. The EMRT, as the Client, will have the final say with regard to the location of any installed works.

Installation of gravel to see the riverbed raised by up to 0.3m and widening of some cross sections, together with flow deflectors and pinned woody material to increase cover at, and below, water level, as per the suggested plan (supporting document 'Maps – work areas' available).

The total volume of gravel (or varying grades) to be dropped, hauled, and placed in-river is forecast at 120T. EMRT is responsible for the purchase and arrangement of site delivery of gravel. The Contractor's role is to guide-in the gravel (using a banksman), to haul the gravel to the work area (using a dumper), and to place the gravel (with guidance by WTT). Additionally, there is a stock (~30T) of site won gravel that will be collected by the Contractor near the end of the works and will be used for top-dressing to ensure the site looks as natural to the local stone as can be achieved.

Accurate measurements of features and cross sections have already been taken (supporting documents 'Cross sections 1-11' available).

**All supporting documents can be requested by emailing [Paige@eastmercia.org](mailto:Paige@eastmercia.org)**

## 5. Description of works

### 5.1 Technical Requirements

#### 5.1.1 Gravel Installation

- Gravel entering site – site access shall be achieved via the road access at the end of the farm lane at TF 28441 68056. Gravel will then be delivered and stockpiled at TF 28550 68317. A banksman (such as the smaller 5T excavator driver) will accompany the gravel lorry deliveries.
- The gravel will be moved to the work areas by a 5T (or similar) loading excavator. The access route to transport gravel can be seen in figure 2 below.
- It will be the choice of the placing excavator, and the project manager, whether gravel is placed on the bank for moving into the beck, or whether gravel will be lifted out of the dumper (this eliminates wastage on the ground but can be slower). The gravel placing excavator will be used to move the gravel crudely into position before 2 in-river operatives move the gravel to its final location.
- Gravel will be brought to the work areas on an “as needs” basis to avoid wasting gravel in piles where it is not needed.
- A long reach machine (one with suitable reach to achieve the necessary outcome) will be used to move the gravel from the riverside to its desired location in river. The excavator will also be used to push gravel to consolidate it upon the bed.
- 2 operatives will work in-river to move gravel to locations that machinery cannot reach. Working in Thunker Beck is considered safe due to its shallow nature. Gravel placement will be closely supervised by the WTT to ensure the plan is met, and to aid the Contractor in dealing with any unforeseen issues.



*Figure 2 – Site gravel access route.*

### 5.1.2 Woody Deflector Installation

- Large woody material will be sourced from site. Larger logs already present in the work area will be moved using the 10T excavator, smaller wood material will be sourced on site using a chainsaw and will be transported by the dumper. Rob Mungovan (WTT) is a qualified chainsaw operative and will take charge of the wood sourcing. No other persons will operate any hand-held power tool unless they are contracted to do the work and can provide certificates of competency for the task.
- The specific design and specification, size, quantity, and configuration has been designed by the project managers to ensure it is suitable for the respective watercourse it is in and corresponds to conditions in the consent.
- The Contractor shall instal all woody materials using the steel wire rope and fixing to be supplied. Their installation shall be overseen by WTT.
- WTT is also able to supply a petrol driven post rammer for use under its close supervision. The Contractor should supply post rammers and other such suitable tools/fencing spikes/hammers to aid driving down stakes.

### 5.1.3 Reprofiling riverbanks

Whilst it is not a specific objective of the project, there may be some locations where following gravel installation it is necessary to locally grade the riverbank to achieve the correct bank profile. The project manager will make that decision on site within the time allocated for the total work.

### 5.1.4 Vegetation

EMRT would like to create a diverse ecosystem by planting suitable native aquatic plants.

### 5.1.5 Access

There is access to the site from a private farm track TF 28440 68056. Riverside access is achievable via a "causeway" like route that is suitable for the dumper to run on. Tenderers will be shown the site access if attending site.

## 6. Specification of Required Works

### 6.1 Preliminaries

It is essential that there is no waste of materials, the Tenderer will be expected to manage operations to minimise waste.

The Project Site is inaccessible by the public but is on a working farm. Equipment and fuel left unattended or remaining at the Project Site overnight is left so at the Tenderer's risk. Tenderers are responsible for sourcing appropriate locations to accommodate their equipment and operatives whilst the Works are not being undertaken.



All fuels or flammable substances, which are to remain at the Project Site while the Works are not being undertaken, must be adequately secured to prevent accidental fires.

The contractor must hold and provide evidence of Employers and Public liability insurance to the value of £10,000,000. Copies of these must be submitted with this tender.

Certificates of competence and appropriate construction insurances should also be supplied.

The contractor must be SIPP accredited or working towards this accreditation (SAFE Contractor, CHAS, WorkSafe/SMAS).

A pre-construction phase plan including risk assessments, COSHH assessment and waste management must be provided with the tender. A method statement has been developed and will be made available to the tenderer (supporting document 'Method Statement Thunker Beck' available).

All waste resulting from the Works is the responsibility of the Tenderer. This waste must be collected and removed from the Project Site and disposed of appropriately off site. This is to ensure that no waste material remains on the Project Site when the Works are completed. The Contractor is likely to need to undertake some stone collecting at the end of the work to ensure the site is left in a condition where the meadow may be cut in future. The Tenderer may wish to propose the use of a tarpaulin to place gravel on.

All/any hazardous waste must be handled in accordance with the Hazardous Waste Regulations 2005.

**All supporting documents can be requested by emailing [Paige@eastmercia.org](mailto:Paige@eastmercia.org)**

## **6.2 Health and Safety**

The Tenderer will be responsible for the health and safety implications of all operations to complete the Works. A Method Statement, including information referring to Construction (Design and Management) Regulations 2015, to cover all the operations, including operational risk assessments must be included with the tender, detailing safe working practices, site welfare provision, training requirements and health and safety procedures, that will be used at all states of the contract.

Copies of Site Risk Assessments for the Project Site will be required prior to commencement of the Works. Failure to adhere to the agreed Method Statement may result in termination of the contract.

The Tenderer must take the lead in ensuring the health and safety of all those involved in the contract, including the use of correct PPE by all operatives or others involved in the contract. The Tenderer must have a plan in place to safely remove an injured colleague from the site in the event of an accident. The Project Manager will need to see evidence of this.



The tenderer must maintain an accident book and will report all accidents to the Project Manager. The Tenderer is responsible for reporting incidents to the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) in respect of RIDDOR reportable incidents/accidents.

The Tenderer will be required to ensure that the equipment is fully maintained and serviced. The Tenderer is required to keep all equipment operational and to pay for all repairs during the period of the contract.

The Tenderer must be aware that the Project Site is a working farm and as such, they may encounter workers at any time.

### **6.3 Specification**

The Project Manager will identify the Project Site so that the Tenderer can visit the site and satisfy themselves on the location and requirements before a Tender is submitted.

Access to the site has been agreed with the landowner. The contractor will need to provide details of their public liability insurance to the landowner and agree access and site compound location as necessary.

The Tenderer agrees to comply with and abide by any conditions or instructions that may be imposed or required by such consents.

The WTT has much experience in placing gravel into rivers. It has assessed the quantity to be delivered, moved to riverside, and placed in-river and is expectant that, subject to no breakdowns, delays, or unforeseen circumstances, that the work can be completed in 5 working days. The preferred start date is 13<sup>th</sup> May 2024. It is expected that the work is completed by 17<sup>th</sup> May 2024. Continuation into the following week could be possible if needed, but it is strongly preferred not.

Landowner consent is in place.

All technical enquiries regarding the Works can be directed to Paige Donnelly on 07599 075706.

### **6.4 Environmental Considerations**

All substances subject to the Control of Substances Hazardous to Health Regulations 1992 (COSHH) will need to fully comply with these regulations, evidence of this will be included as part of the Tender.

All fuel storage must comply with the Control of Pollution (Oil Storage) Regulations 2001.

Plants and animals protected under the Schedules of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 and other Acts are not to be harmed or their habitat damaged.

Any complaints must be immediately reported to the Project Manager.

The Project Site must be left clean and tidy at all times.

Dogs are not permitted on the Project Site.

## 6.5 Utilities Searches

Utility searches have been completed by EMRT and will be provided to the successful Tenderer for inclusion within the Construction Phase Plan and other necessary site documentation.

## 6.6 Information for Tendering

- Tenders must be submitted in accordance with the following instructions. Any tenders not complying with these instructions may be rejected by East Mercia Rivers Trust whose decision is final.
- East Mercia Rivers Trust is inviting tenders from suitably experienced contractors and those who can demonstrate an ability to professionally undertake the installation of gravel and woody deflectors at the project site, as described above ("Works").
- Tenders are being invited on the basis of undertaking the whole of the Works.
- All works must be completed before 17<sup>th</sup> May 2024. All invoices must be delivered to the East Mercia Rivers Trust, Loddington House, Main Road, Loddington, Leicestershire, LE7 9XE or [paige@eastmerciam.org](mailto:paige@eastmerciam.org) before 31<sup>st</sup> May 2024.
- Tenderers are invited to visit the Project Site to establish all relevant conditions and to thoroughly appraise the extent and nature of the proposed Works. Please contact the Project Manager who will arrange to meet for a site visit.
- The successful Tenderer will be expected to attend a Start-up meeting with the Project Manager.
- East Mercia Rivers Trust reserve the right to change the brief at the Start-up meeting and in doing so will re-negotiate the cost of the submission as required in line with the quoted costs from the tenderer.
- Tenderers are advised to study all documentation provided by East Mercia Rivers Trust for their true intent and meaning ascertained before submitting a tender. Tenderers should seek to clarify any points of doubt, including any ambiguities, errors, and omissions in the tender documents with East Mercia Rivers Trust through its Project Manager prior to submitting a tender. Please contact the Project Manager Tel: 07599 075706

- Where examination of a tender reveals arithmetical errors, these will be corrected, and the Tenderer will be afforded the opportunity of confirming the revised totals (in writing) or withdrawing its tender within 7 days.
- Tenderers are required to keep Tenders valid for acceptance for a period of 30 working days from the closing date for receipt of tenders.
- Tenderers are required to submit a written proposal by the deadline of **18th April 2024**.

**All proposals should include the following:**

✓ A pre-construction phase plan including risk assessments, COSHH assessment and waste management.
✓ Costings – including breakdown of proposed costs or hourly rate and VAT.
✓ A statement of the time required to complete the work, and any suggested amendments/improvements to the work that the Tenderer's team can bring.
✓ Capability Statement and/or previous experience including biodiversity and river work in the last 2 years and name of contact for whom the work was carried out; details of proposed sub-contractors (if needed).
✓ Copies of all Insurance Certificates, for the supplier and any sub-contractors.

- Any assumptions used in preparing responses should be clearly stated. Any appropriate supporting documents should be included.
- The Tender must be signed, where the Tenderer is an individual, by that individual. Where the Tenderer is a partnership, by two duly authorised partners. Where the Tenderer is a company, by two directors or by a director and a company secretary, such persons to be duly authorised for the purpose. To nominate another individual please confirm with the Project Manager.

- Tenders must be sent to the address detailed below in 'Full Contact Details' or via email to [paige@eastmercia.org](mailto:paige@eastmercia.org)
- The deadline for receipt of tenders is 16:00 hours, **18<sup>th</sup> April 2024**.
- All queries must be made by email.
- Late tenders, received after the closing date and time stated above will not be considered unless by prior arrangement.
- Tenders must be sent via email to the Project Manager, postal submissions will not be accepted.

### 6.7 Timescale

Key Milestones	Dates
Invitation to Tender (ITT) released	28 March 2024
Tender submission deadline	18 April 2024
Contractor appointment	22 April 2024
Start-up meeting (by mutual agreement)	April 2024
Installation of work starts	13 May 2024
All physical works expected to be completed.	17 May 2024

### 6.8 Full contact details

Contact name: Paige Donnelly – Project Manager

Email address: [Paige@eastmercia.org](mailto:Paige@eastmercia.org)

Telephone: 07599 075706

## 7. Tender Evaluation Process

East Mercia Rivers Trust will be conducting a full financial and technical evaluation of all tenders as well as evaluating the ability to commence and complete the Works to the timescale.

Tender evaluation will be made on both cost and quality and scored on the following criteria:

- Experience

- Quality
- Cost
- Material sustainability

Tenders will be evaluated in accordance with the following:

- Products and services shall be competitively priced, readily available and fit for their intended purposes, bearing in mind health and safety or other legislative requirements.

- When purchasing products or services, preference will be given to those:

- a) from suppliers with accredited environmental practices

- b) that are produced and distributed using resources responsibly, with a minimum of hazardous substances

- c) that minimise waste, energy consumption or other adverse environmental impacts in their use and disposal.

In the evaluation of tenders, the following will apply:

- a) Risk assessments and resources

- b) Other Items

- c) Written technical and financial references may be requested and considered as a part of the evaluation procedure.

East Mercia Rivers Trust may also seek clarification in respect of the Method Statement and other documentation in various ways including but not limited to:

- a) Site visits

- b) Interviews with key personnel who would be assigned to the Contract and appropriate Senior Managers of the Company.

### **7.1 Basis of Tender**

The tenderer shall show the Tender sum for the actual Works and the VAT separately.

The Tender must include value of all the Works and must cover all costs and expenses which may be incurred to complete the Works in accordance with the Conditions, the Specification and all other documents forming part of the Tender documentation.

The Tenderer shall be deemed to have satisfied itself before submitting its Tender as to the correctness and sufficiency of its rates and prices.

## **7.2 Sub-Contracting**

When submitting their Tender, the Tenderer must notify East Mercia Rivers Trust of any parts of the Works that it proposes to sub-contract. Failure to do so will invalidate any such tender.

East Mercia Rivers Trust's prior written approval must be obtained before any part of the Work is subcontracted. East Mercia Rivers Trust reserves the right to refuse such approval as its absolute discretion.

An approved sub-contractor must give a direct warranty and undertaking to East Mercia Rivers Trust, but the Tenderer will remain primarily liable for carrying out and completing the Works.

## **7.3 Award of Contract**

East Mercia Rivers Trust expects to award the Contract within 7 working days of accepting a tender but reserves the right to delay awarding the Contract to a later date for any reason.

The successful Tenderer will be required to execute a formal contract incorporating the Conditions and until such execution, the successful Tender together with East Mercia Rivers Trust's written acceptance shall constitute the contract.

## **7.4 Health and Safety**

Tenderers will be required to comply with the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974 and all other regulations made under and after the Act, in addition to all other relevant legislation and regulations.

## **7.5 Obligations & Accuracy**

Tenderers submitting a Tender must be familiar with the nature and extent of their obligations if their tender is accepted. Information supplied by East Mercia Rivers Trust

in this tender document, and all other sources, is supplied for general guidance for tender preparation. The tenderers must satisfy themselves by their own investigations with regard to accuracy of any such information and no responsibility is accepted by East Mercia Rivers Trust for any inaccurate information obtained by Tenderers.

### **7.6 Confidentiality**

By submitting a tender, you are committing to an understanding of the requirements of the work and have sufficiently addressed all aspects of the tender. All information you have provided has been checked to be correct and as intended.

All information supplied by East Mercia Rivers Trust in connection with this tender to date, and any further information supplied during the tender process shall be regarded as confidential and must not be shared with any other organisation without written permission of East Mercia Rivers Trust.

### **7.7 Canvassing**

Tenderers face automatic disqualification if they canvass for the Contract by approaching East Mercia Rivers Trust with a view to gaining more favourable consideration of their Tender.



## **Disclaimer**

The information contained in this document is intended for the recipient only. All projects and costs are indicative, and subject to change if further information is received. Should the recipient be interested in taking the proposed activities forward, East Mercia Rivers Trust are open to proposed amendments that are in keeping with our aims and objectives.

