



**REPORT TO CORE AREA LIQUID WASTE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
MEETING OF WEDNESDAY 24 JUNE 2009**

SUBJECT **SCIENTIFIC PROGRAMS – MACAULAY POINT OUTFALL SEAFLOOR ANIMAL IDENTIFICATION – AWARD OF CONTRACT 09-1639**

PURPOSE

To award the contract for Macaulay Point outfall seafloor animal identification.

BACKGROUND

Capital Regional District (CRD) wastewater and marine environment program staff conduct annual collection and identification of seafloor organisms at Macaulay Point outfall to provide data necessary to complete the yearly marine monitoring requirements of the mandated Core Area Liquid Waste Management Plan.

Each year, four samples are collected from 28 stations, for a total of 112 samples. Sorting and identification of the organisms in the samples is conducted by a private consultant. This process takes approximately seven to eight months and requires specialized scientists experienced in the identification of west coast seafloor organisms. Consistency from year to year is important; therefore, a three-year contracting term (with the option to extend for an additional three years) is recommended. The current contract expires following the completion of the 2008 work, around 01 June 2009.

In February 2009, a call for credentials was advertised in the *Times Colonist* and on the CRD website. Four companies submitted credentials and, upon evaluation, three companies were judged qualified and asked to submit proposals which were independently evaluated by CRD Environmental Services staff.

Benthic Services Group (BSG) was determined to be the best choice for technical merit and cost. Their proposal outlined the company's considerable experience and qualifications in this field, including direct experience with the CRD Macaulay Point outfall seafloor animal identification over the last seven years.

Each year, the total number of samples to be fully identified is determined using a statistical analysis of preliminary results from each sample. The total number of samples ranges from 84 to 112 and, therefore, the annual costs range from a minimum to maximum. The CRD negotiated a final contract price of \$1,330 to \$1,439 per sample with BSG for the 2009 to 2011 seafloor animal identification. These values, as well as the cost per sample, are presented in Appendix A. The costs are similar to the previous three year contract and fit within the core budget allocated for this work.

ALTERNATIVES

1. That Contract 09-1639 for providing seafloor animal identification services at Macaulay Point outfall for 2009 to 2011 be awarded to Benthic Services Group at a cost of \$1,330 to \$1,439 per sample, up to a maximum of \$465,136.
2. That the contract be retendered.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Funding for this work is included in the annual budgets for the northwest and northeast trunk sewers.

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Re: Award of Contract 09-1639

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SUMMARY

BSG is a qualified company with extensive experience in completing seafloor animal identification. The pricing for this contract is competitive and the work is required under the provincially mandated Core Area Liquid Waste Management Plan.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Core Area Liquid Waste Management Committee recommend to the Board that Contract 09-1639 for providing seafloor animal identification services at Macaulay Point outfall for 2009 to 2011 be awarded to Benthic Services Group at a cost of \$1,330 to \$1,439 per sample, up to a maximum of \$465,136.

Glenn Harris, PhD, RPBio
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Larisa Hutcheson, PEng
Acting General Manager, Environmental Services
Concurrence

Kelly Daniels
CAO Concurrence

COMMENTS

CL:cam
Attachment: 1

TABLE 1

**BENTHIC SERVICES GROUP PROPOSAL
SEAFLOOR ANIMAL IDENTIFICATION COSTS 2009 TO 2011**

Year	Cost/Sample	Minimum Overall Cost (84 samples)	Maximum Overall Cost (112 samples)
2009	\$1,330	\$111,720	\$148,960
2010	\$1,384	\$116,256	\$155,008
2011	\$1,439	\$120,876	\$161,168
Total Cost for Three Years		\$348,852	\$465,136