



# DESERT

## support services

### Expression of Interest - Fire Management Support Services

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#### Background

Located in East Perth, Desert Support Services Pty Ltd (DSS - part of the Central Desert Group) is committed to assisting traditional owners and their representative bodies to use their traditional lands to fulfil their social, cultural and economic aspirations to achieve a sustainable and independent future.

We are looking for innovative and experienced seasonal contractors to provide fire management support services on the 10 Deserts Project (10DP) - a major Indigenous-led land management collaboration across Australia's deserts. The project, which includes Indigenous organisations, and international and regional conservation organisations, is delivering a range of activities to enhance environmental resilience, improve Indigenous livelihoods and develop a strong Indigenous representative body for Indigenous rangers and their organisations across the deserts.

Further information on the project can be found at [www.tendeserts.org](http://www.tendeserts.org) . The project is being managed by Desert Support Services.

#### Fire Management Support Services

10 Deserts is seeking to form a small panel of seasonal contractors to assist with the delivery of training, and the implementation of both fine and broad scale fire management operations across South Australia, Western Australia and the Northern Territory.

This is an opportunity to work with traditional owners and ranger groups to address the lightning fire regime which is a common threat to desert ecosystems.

The role includes:

- Assisting ranger teams to implement prescribed burning, both aerial and ground based
- Assisting teams to plan burning activities
- Assist with training events and skill development for indigenous rangers
- Capacity building of Traditional Owners (TOs) and indigenous ranger teams with respect to fire management

Contractors will be expected to work closely with the Regional Fire Management Officer, based in Perth, and with TOs and other stakeholders across the project area. Successful applicants will enter into a contract with Desert Support Services.

## Qualifications, Skills and Experience:

### *Essential*

1. Appreciation of Indigenous culture and commitment to empowering Indigenous people to take on positions of responsibility;
2. Relevant experience and expertise in fire management in the desert;
3. A strong understanding of, and commitment to best practice with regard to Risk Management.
4. Demonstrated experience in working with a variety of partners and stakeholders;
5. Have a commitment to working in partnership with traditional owners in remote desert communities;
6. Be able to provide a police clearance less than 6 months old;
7. Have a current unrestricted driver's license, and
8. Be able to travel and work remotely.

### *Desirable*

1. Familiarity with not-for-profit organisations particularly with those delivering Indigenous land management activities in remote desert communities.

Contractors will be expected to have their own ABN and all relevant business insurance. Arrangement may be available for successful contractors who do not have either or both.

## Terms of Contract

1. The successful contractors will be required to sign a standard contractor's contract for the project.
2. The initial contract will be for a period of 12 months with an option for DSS to extend the role on a year by year basis.
3. The nature of the work is highly seasonal and weather-dependent. Contractors will be requested to work in an area, for a set period of time to assist with fire management, or to work with ranger teams or TOs to assist with training and capacity building.
4. The amount and timing of work cannot be guaranteed and will be subject to requirements and availability of the contractor.

### *Due Diligence Requirements*

Successful contractors must be prepared to provide relevant information to allow due diligence to ensure compliance with funding requirements regarding anti-bribery, corruption and anti-money laundering provisions.

## Fire Program Support Officers - Role and scope of services

The role of the Contractor/s:

- 1. Work with the 10 Deserts Project (10DP) Regional Fire Management Officer to determine fire management and training priorities including:**
  - 1.1. Attend meetings and workshops with project staff, partners and other stakeholders;
  - 1.2. Providing advice to the Regional Fire Management Officer on the program;
- 2. Assist with the development of resources and training material including:**
  - 2.1. Occupational safety and health materials accessible to Indigenous rangers and other stakeholders;
  - 2.2. Review policies and procedures;
- 3. Assist in the preparation for field operations including:**
  - 3.1. Providing input to the risk management framework;
  - 3.2. Undertaking risk assessments prior to field operations;
  - 3.3. Organising logistics and other provisions required including when requested the Contractor's own transport, food and accommodation;
  - 3.4. Checking of fire management and other equipment for use in field operations;
- 4. Work safely in the field with traditional owner and indigenous ranger groups to facilitate fire management activities including:**
  - 4.1. Liaising and facilitating local planning for fire management activities with the relevant traditional owners and indigenous ranger groups;
  - 4.2. On-ground fire management activities;
  - 4.3. Aerial operations including the use of incendiary machines;
- 5. Oversee and / or facilitate prescribed burning related training events to build the capacity of traditional owner and indigenous ranger groups including:**
  - 5.1. Management of other Contractors (where required);
  - 5.2. Liaison with traditional owner representatives and indigenous ranger groups or land management organisations to ensure safe and effective training;
  - 5.3. Participating in training evaluations processes and debrief sessions;
- 6. Document and report on fire management and training including:**
  - 6.1. Providing reports to 10DP staff
  - 6.2. Providing short articles and photographs for newsletters and other communication material
- 7. Other responsibilities:**
  - 7.1. Comply with all DSS policies and procedures as appropriate.
  - 7.2. Other relevant duties as negotiated.

### Payment structure

Payment of fees will be on the basis of the production of an appropriately completed tax invoice at the end of each calendar month (as required) identifying the hours and nature of the work undertaken. Remuneration rates will be negotiated on an individual basis.

### Reporting requirements

Contractors will report to the Regional Fire Management Officer, 10 Deserts Project.

Contractors will be responsible for the preparation of reports arising from work undertaken according to workplans and other duties as required.

### Responses

Expressions of Interest are to be received no later than **9.00 am Australian Western standard time on 11 March 2019**. Responses should be emailed to [garethcatt@dss.org.au](mailto:garethcatt@dss.org.au)

Responses should be no more than 3 pages and include:

- A brief statement as to why this project is of interest;
- A statement addressing the selection criteria;
- Background on the contractor including description of relevant previous work; and
- Proposed fee structure (exclusive of GST)

### About Desert Support Services

Located in East Perth, Desert Support Services Pty Ltd (DSS) is a part of the Central Desert Group – see [www.desertsupportservices.com](http://www.desertsupportservices.com) .

DSS is committed to assisting traditional owners and their representative bodies to use their traditional lands to fulfil their social, cultural and economic aspirations to achieve a sustainable and independent future.

A major focus of DSS is supporting the development of registered native title bodies under the *Native Title Act* and implementing Indigenous land management projects that provide employment opportunities for traditional owners.

This project will expand the focus across a wider group of traditional owners and associated desert organisations.