

30 August 2021

Dear Sir /Madam

The John Muir Trust invites your submission of a quote to provide services to map the UK's Priority Wild Places as described below. Please return your quote by 5pm on Thursday 30 September 2021.

The John Muir Trust is a community focused conservation charity dedicated to the experience, protection and repair of wild places across the UK. Founded in 1983, we care for some of the finest wild places in the UK, including Ben Nevis, Helvellyn and Sandwood Bay. Over 25,000 members, supporters and partners contribute to our work<sup>1</sup>.

We increasingly work in partnership with other charities, businesses and government departments to use our expertise to protect and repair wild places in addition to those that we own. We are committed to working in partnership with community interests wherever we operate including in the farming and tourism sectors and the wider local economy.

The Trust has led the way in the last two decades in mapping wildness, including to inform the Scottish Natural Heritage (now NatureScot) identification of Wild Land Areas<sup>2</sup>. As the Trust moves towards a new Corporate Strategy in 2022, we are developing a new approach to understanding the extent and condition of the UK's wild places that will enable us to engage with a wider range of people and help us to prioritise our limited resource. This programme of work will be underpinned by this first stage: the production and interpretation of a new set of maps highlighting the areas of the UK with the highest degree of wildness; what we are provisionally referring to as Priority Wild Places<sup>3</sup>.

We are therefore seeking a suitably qualified and experienced contractor who can:

1. Devise a methodology to:
  - a. Identify the places in the UK with the highest degree of wildness. Our developing Corporate Strategy recognises these as places where nature has most freedom and where human intervention is predominantly to assist natural processes<sup>4</sup>.
  - b. Identify what the minimum size of each 'patch' should be and investigate whether variability is needed for some factors (e.g. for proximity to urban areas and/or coastlines, by altitude or to take account of protected areas).
  - c. Ensure that places with high potential for recovery to Priority Wild Place status are recognised.
2. Produce the map layer(s) meeting this methodology.

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<sup>1</sup> For further information, we encourage you to visit our website [www.johnmuirtrust.org](http://www.johnmuirtrust.org)

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.nature.scot/professional-advice/landscape/landscape-policy-and-guidance/wild-land/wild-land-area-descriptions-and-assessment-guidance>

<sup>3</sup> Stage 2 in the programme will work to understand how these wildness qualities have been eroded over defined timescales. This will be let as a separate, follow-up contract.

<sup>4</sup> This represents a simplified method replacing the previous 4 criteria used to map wildness (remoteness, ruggedness, naturalness and absence of modern human artefacts)

3. Produce an explanatory report including to make recommendations for interpreting and using the resulting maps.

### Provisional timetable

Activity	Date
Issue invitation to quote	31/08/2021
Return of quotes by 5pm (closing date)	30/09/2021
Quote review date	01/10/2021
Award and "go-live" with consultant	10/10/2021
Final report and data set submission	26/11/2021

In your quote, we would be grateful for the inclusion of:

1. A proposed methodology for the contract including timelines and outcomes for each stage.
2. Details of similar contracts previously delivered.
3. Description of qualifications and experience held by the team member(s) proposed to deliver this contract.
4. Health & Safety Policy.
5. Proof of at least £5m public liability insurance.
6. Travel and subsistence will not be separately reimbursed so should be contained within the quote if required.
7. Details of type of trading entity (e.g. self-employed; limited company).
8. Cost for delivering the contract.

The contract will be supervised by Tom Hayek (England & Wales Development Manager)<sup>5</sup> for John Muir Trust and fortnightly catch-up meetings will be held with the successful contractor (these should be factored into the quote). Ad hoc catch-up meetings will also be available as required.

Should you require further information or clarification regarding this process please contact me at [tom.hayek@johnmuirtrust.org](mailto:tom.hayek@johnmuirtrust.org) or on 01796 484998 / 07947 872159.

We look forward to receiving a quote from you and thank you for your interest.

Yours faithfully

Tom Hayek  
England & Wales Development Manager

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<sup>5</sup> Tom Hayek will be on leave from 6 to 17 September and enquiries during this time should be addressed to Rosie Simpson (Senior Policy Officer) – [rosie.simpson@johnmuirtrust.org](mailto:rosie.simpson@johnmuirtrust.org).