

Agenda Item: 6.

## Memorandum

**To:** Papio-Missouri River Natural Resources District  
Programs Projects and Operations Subcommittee

**From:** Paul W. Woodward PE, Groundwater Management Engineer

**Date:** January 3, 2017

**Re:** Review and Recommendation to approve Lower Platte River Vegetation Management Account 04 05 193 4479 over 110% of Budget

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The annual budget for the Lower Platte River Vegetation Management Account was raised from \$60,000 to \$90,000 this past year with the approval of the second addendum to the Interlocal Agreement between the LPNDRD, LPSNRD, and P-MRNRD. However, the Lower Platte Weed Management Area (LPWMA) has applied for and received a Riparian Vegetation Management grant from Nebraska Department of Agriculture in the amount of \$63,294 to:

- Mechanically remove and treat invasive Indigo bush along a back channel of the Platte River in Douglas County, just upstream of Sokol Camp.
- Purchase a new Argo, an amphibious all-terrain vehicle, to assist in the on the ground invasive and noxious vegetation spraying currently conducted with an existing 2009 Argo vehicle owned by the P-MRNRD and utilized by the LPWMA.
- Conduct a helicopter survey of the Blue River in Seward and Butler Counties.

To facilitate the grant expenditure, the P-MRNRD is being asked to solicit a contractor for the mechanical Indigo bush removal and purchase the new Argo all-terrain vehicle. Current expenses charged under 04 05 193 4479 are around \$80,000. The additional expense for the contractor's work and for the Argo vehicle will be paid out of this account and exceed 110%.

Informal bids for the mechanical removal and treatment of the Indigo bush were solicited and received on December 30, 2016. The two bids received are summarized below. It is recommended that the contract be awarded to the apparent low bidder, Standing C Excavation out of Linwood, NE, in the amount of \$25,000.

Vendor	Date Rec	Quote
Standing C Excavation, Linwood, NE	12/30/2016	\$25,000
Midwest Tree Cutters, Milford, NE	12/30/2016	\$40,000

Three bids for the specified Argo all-terrain vehicle were obtained by the LPWMA as shown below. Argo Adventure out of South Dakota is considered the lowest and best bid, and the P-MRNRD will contract with them to purchase the Argo all-terrain vehicle for a total cost of \$26,665.

Vendor	Date Rec	Quote
Argi of Kansas	11/30/2016	\$27,249
Argo of Omaha	11/30/2016	\$29,000
Argo Adventure (South Dakota)	12/5/2016	\$26,665

Reimbursement from the grant to the P-MRNRD will cover \$50,665.23 (\$25,000 for the Indigo Bush removal and \$25,665.23 for the Argo), as the LPWMA has paid the \$1,000 down payment for the Argo and no net costs will need to be split between the P-MRNRD and LPWMA.

**Management recommends that the Subcommittee recommend to the Board that Account # 04 05 193 4479 (Lower Platte River Vegetation Management – Contract Work) be allowed to exceed 110% of the Fiscal Year 2017 budgeted amount.**





INDIGO BUSH