

PROPOSED Work Plan: Contract for Flathead Indian Irrigation Project Decision Support Tool

Prospective Task Order No. 14

1. Project Background

The purpose of Task Order 14 is to provide funding to the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes (CSKT) to contract professional services to develop a Decision Support Tool (DST) for the Flathead Indian Irrigation Project (FIIP). The DST serves the purpose of the Operations Model which is identified as an operational improvement in Appendix 3.4 of the CSKT-MT Compact.

This Work Plan details the development of a DST which will be developed to inform water management decisions by FIIP.

2. Project Objectives

The Consultant will work with CSKT, FIIP personnel, and CITT members, as appropriate, to develop a Decision Support Tool (DST) to improve FIIP's ability to meet multiple simultaneous water demands across the FIIP service area. The tool will have an approachable user interface with graphical data display to guide FIIP's water management decisions in the face of changing water supply conditions.

The DST should be designed to support FIIP in making decisions about water diversion, conveyance, storage, and delivery with regard to:

- 1) Timing,
- 2) Location, and
- 3) Amount (volume and flow).

The DST should integrate data sets and information from different sources, including the following:

- 1) Water Availability
 - a) Hydrologic data (e.g. SWE, runoff forecasts)
 - b) Streamflow data
 - c) Reservoir levels
- 2) Water Distribution
 - a) FIIP diversion flows
 - b) Conveyance losses
 - c) Conveyance limitations
 - d) Secondary diversion decision points
 - e) Acreage served at each FIIP turnout
- 3) Water Management Forcing Criteria
 - a) Instream flows (Appx 3.1)
 - b) Bankfull discharge schedules
 - c) River diversion allowances for irrigation (Appx 3.2)

d) Reservoir capacity and minimum pool restrictions (Appx 3.1)

3. Scope of Work

CSKT will issue a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) to inform prospective firms of this contract and to guide prospective firms in their proposals. Offerors will be evaluated based on their previous experience including development of similar tools and their ability to work locally to understand FIIP's needs.

FIIP is divided into four geographic areas with full enforcement of River Diversion Allowances (RDAs) and instream flows staggered per the schedule in Appendix 3.4 of the Compact. Table 1 shows the enforceability date of each geographic area, which will inform target buildout dates.

Table 1. Enforceability by Geographic Area.

Geographic Area	Full Enforceability
Mission South	Sept. 17, 2026
Mission North	Sept 17, 2028
Jocko	Sept. 17, 2029
Little Bitterroot	Sept 17, 2030

This scope of work prioritizes the decision points that will enhance FIIP's ability to meet River Diversion Allowances (RDAs) and Minimum Enforceable Flows (MEFs). The Mission South area includes the Post Creek drainage, south to the Dry Creek drainage, and west to the mouth of Mission Creek. Specific RDAs associated with the Mission South area include the Upper Mission, Lower Mission, and portions of the Pablo Feeder Canal (Appendix 3.2).

4. Phases and Deliverables

Work products will stem from a Master Services Agreement (MSA) which will assign Task Orders for multiple phases of work. Below is a projection of these phases.

Phase 1: FIIP Shadowing and Decision Support Tool Proposal

Selected Contractor will engage with FIIP during the 2026 irrigation season. Contractor will review the active operations for the Mission South geographic area, as well as other geographic sites, to gain detailed knowledge of the seasonal operations.

The Contractor will prepare and transmit to the CSKT and CITT a Decision Support Tool Proposal that meets the operational needs of FIIP.

Deliverables

P1.1 Decision Support Tool Proposal.

Contractor will prepare a Decision Support Tool proposal document. This document will include:

- 1) Report of findings of information learned from FIIP observation.
- 2) Detailed proposal for the capabilities and user interface of the DST,
- 3) Proposed schedule of full DST buildout by FIIP geographic area,
- 4) Proposed cost of full DST buildout including ongoing short-term and long-term product support cost and expectations,

- 5) Level of granularity of the tool (whether the DST will be developed to the RDA node level, FIIP turnout level, or somewhere in between),
- 6) A list of variables and information sources to be used in the DST including any proxy variables,
- 7) Identification of key decision points, which will involve CITT input, in the tool development process,
- 8) Areas that are unknown requiring further investigation.

This phase will include a meeting with CITT to present the Decision Support Tool Proposal document. At this meeting, the contractor will engage with CITT feedback on the document.

P1.2 Refined Decision Support Tool Proposal.

Contractor will prepare a Refined Decision Support Tool Proposal document based on CITT feedback on the initial Decision Support Tool Proposal and will present this refined proposal to CITT. The Refined DST Proposal document will include the agreed upon revisions including key decision points requiring CITT involvement.

This refined proposal will be the basis of contract negotiations for subsequent phases.

Phases 2-5: DST Development and Execution

Phase 1 will establish the framework for developing subsequent phases. Award of the contract for Phases 2-5 is contingent on the satisfactory performance and deliverables in Phase 1 and successful negotiation of the contract. Based on additional information gathered in Phase 1 and discussions with CITT, subsequent phases may be combined or reordered.

CSKT will be the contact for day-to-day questions and decisions. CITT will be engaged through the duration of Phases 2-5 at 1) quarterly meetings, 2) key decision points (per the Refined DST Proposal), and 3) instances of proposed significant deviation to the DST. The Contractor will schedule quarterly meetings with CITT to update members on the past quarter's activities and engage with CITT on key decision points and proposed significant deviations from the DST.

Significant deviations from the contractually agreed upon Decision Support Tool will require CITT consultation. These will include but are not limited to the following:

- 1) Changes to the level of granularity of the tool,
- 2) Changes to the user interface,
- 3) Changes to sequencing or removal of geographic areas,
- 4) Addition or removal of variables,
- 5) Other changes to scope.

Phase 2: Decision Support Tool – Mission South

Contractor will develop the DST- Mission South from the Refined Decision Support Tool Proposal.

Deliverables

P2.1 Preliminary DST – Mission South

Contractor will develop the preliminary DST- Mission South. This preliminary DST should include user interface (including maps), data input and output displays, data

sources, and analysis tools. CITT will review the Preliminary DST- Mission South for accurate reflection of FIIP operations, and its ability to meet objectives in Phase 2. The Contractor will meet with CIIT and engage with CITT feedback on the Preliminary DST- Mission South.

P2.2 Refined DST – Mission South

Contractor will present the updated DST- Mission South to CITT, based on feedback from the Preliminary DST- Mission South. The refined DST must include documentation of data sources, variables, assumptions, and descriptions (with equations) of any modeling. Additionally, contractor to provide customer support as component of Refined DST-Mission South deliverable.

Phase 3: Decision Support Tool – Mission North

Contractor will develop the DST-Mission North based on DST-Mission South with location-specific modifications, to the extent deemed necessary.

Deliverables:

P3.1 Preliminary DST – Mission North

Contractor will present the preliminary DST- Mission North to CITT. The focus of this presentation should be DST development that is specific to the Mission North area.

P3.2 Refined DST – Mission North

Contractor will present the updated DST- Mission North to CITT, based on feedback from the preliminary DST. The refined DST must include documentation of data sources, variables, assumptions, and descriptions (with equations) of any modeling.

P3.3 Updates to Previous DSTs

Contractor will update previous DSTs based on operational improvements, rehabilitation and betterment projects, changes to monitoring locations, and to correct inaccuracies. Contractor to provide on-going customer support for all areas already developed.

Phase 4: Decision Support Tool – Jocko

Contractor will develop the DST-Jocko based on previous DST(s) with location-specific modifications, to the extent deemed necessary.

Deliverables:

Same as Phase 3, but applicable to the Jocko area with deliverables numbered P4.1, P4.2, and P4.3.

Phase 5: Decision Support Tool – Little Bitterroot

Contractor will develop the DST-Jocko based on previous DST(s) with location-specific modifications, to the extent deemed necessary.

Deliverables:

Same as Phase 3, but applicable to the Little Bitterroot area with deliverables numbered P5.1, P5.2, and P5.3.

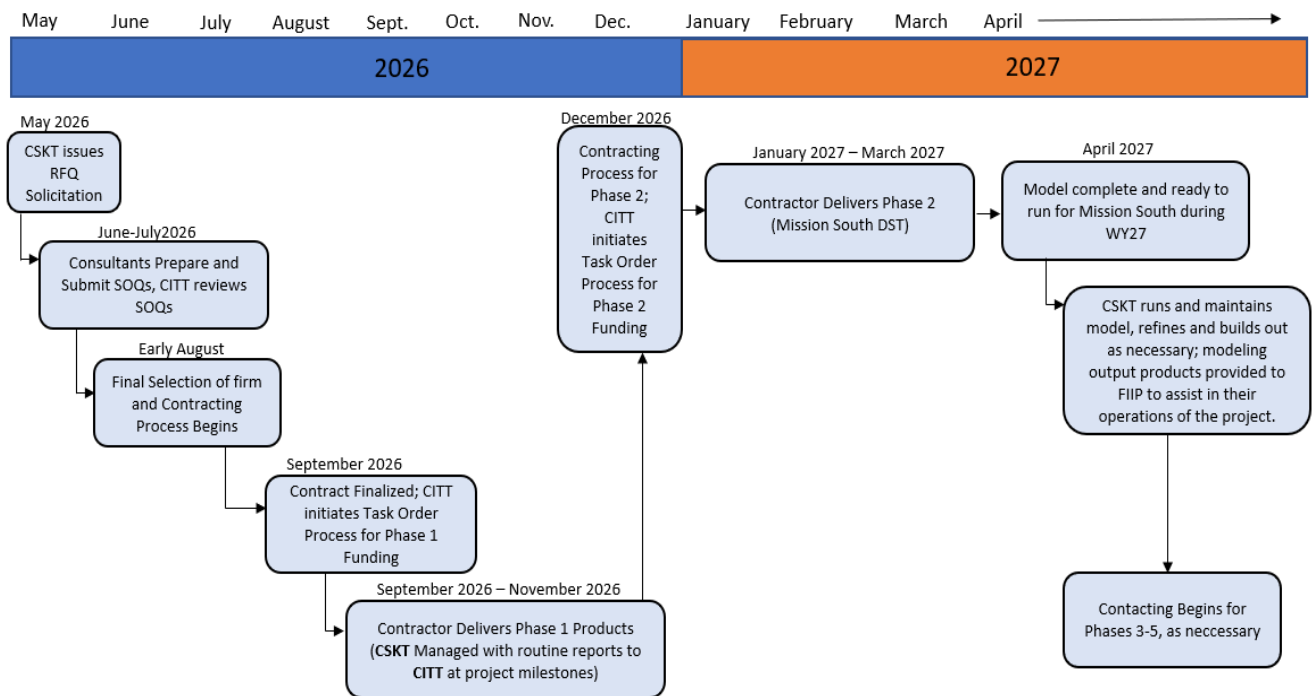
Long-Term Product and Customer Support

After buildout of Phases 2-5, the Contractor may provide ongoing support for product upgrades and modifications under a subsequent contract. Cost and scope of support to be negotiated and contracted. Award of the contract for is contingent on satisfactory performance and deliverables in prior phases.

During DST buildout, costs and extent of Contractor durational support should be identified and evaluated.

5. Schedule

A schematic displaying this proposed workflow is presented below. Schedule is subject to change.



6. Budget

The budget will be evaluated based on the selected firm’s offer. The full contract will be negotiated upon successful completion of Phase 1. CSKT and DNRC will both be involved in contract negotiations for DST buildout. The DST buildout will be funded by the State of Montana.

The State’s financial contribution will be transferred to a dedicated CSKT account per the fund transfer request process established in previous task orders. Contract management will be conducted by the CSKT Natural Resources Department, Division of Engineering and Water Resources. Quarterly reports will be provided to DNRC detailing the funding expenditures to date.

7. Responsibilities and Involvement

As stated in Task Order 14, CSKT technical staff will lead the project management of this effort, with the Tribes' CITT representative serving as project lead and contracting officer. Contract management will be conducted by the CSKT Natural Resources Department, Division of Engineering and Water Resources.

CITT members will aid in contractor selection and will provide input at checkpoints along the way to model completion; these checkpoints are detailed in the Phases section. The selected contractor will engage with CITT at 1) quarterly meetings, 2) key decision points (per the Refined DST Proposal), and 3) instances of proposed significant deviation to the DST, as detailed in Section 4.

CSKT will assist FIIP with the DST until 5 years after full buildout. This assistance includes training FIIP to run the DST (as needed), assisting FIIP with running the DST, and, upon request, running the DST on FIIP's behalf. Even if FIIP does not have capacity to manage the Decision Support Tool in the short-term, FIIP shall have exclusive ownership of the Decision Support Tool. If FIIP does not manage the Decision Support Tool upon full buildout, FIIP will assume control of the tool within 5 years of full buildout.