



Request for Quotes

The Ausable Freshwater Center (AFC), a non-profit environmental conservation organization based in Lake Placid and Wilmington, New York, is seeking a qualified contractor to provide non-chemical invasive species removal services and assist with developing a long term invasive species removal plan for two parcels totaling 4,000 linear feet of the East Branch Ausable River in Jay, NY.

Project Overview

AFC staff will meet with local partners and the selected contractor to develop an invasive species management plan for the project. The site enhancement and management plans will include the restoration approaches used for the project as well as a target of success for invasive species removal so that project success can be tracked. Deliverables include detailed invasive species removal logs, photos of work, and list of recommendations for long term invasive species management.

Project Scope: Mechanical Invasive Species Removal (No Foliar Herbicide Spraying) along 4,000 ft of riverbank on the East Branch Ausable River in Jay, NY

Species Targets: Primarily Common Buckthorn (Ages 1–15), with some Bush Honeysuckle, Oriental Bittersweet.

Fixed Grant Budget: \$6,500 (Phase 1). Must be completed and invoiced before September 30.

Coordinated Volunteer Labor: AFC can provide a core team of 4 people for 2-4 days, supplemented by general volunteers. Our team can focus entirely on hand-pulling small seedlings (under 1.5" diameter) and clearing light brush. Please specify in your quote if you prefer to provide a crew leader to direct our volunteers for a portion of those hours, or if you prefer to work completely separately on the clearing/machinery operation.

Required Deliverables in Quote: Total acreage or total hours guaranteed for the \$6,500 cap. Describe methods and general approach, team composition, method of root elimination for cut stumps, biomass disposal plan, and invasive species spread prevention plan.

It will be necessary to employ a hybrid mechanical strategy for the variety of buckthorn age classes. Again, we are focused on using non-chemical methods at this time. Though open to suggestions, AFC requires that mature buckthorn and honeysuckle over 2 inches in diameter that cannot be pulled by the root, stumps must either be physically grubbed out, completely capped using light-blocking barrier baggies, or sequential cutting. Straight mowing without root management is unacceptable.

Note: there is a patch of Japanese knotweed on river right, but we are working with APIPP to implement a new cutting/treatment methodology to manage it

Project Timeline

The project will run from July 25, 2026 to September 30, 2026 unless otherwise arranged between both parties.

About AFC

Since 1998, AFC has been working with landowners, local, state, and federal government, NGOs, researchers, and other stakeholders to conserve the valued resources of the Ausable watershed. AFC's conservation programs provide transferable solutions to issues that challenge many watersheds. We undertake rigorous monitoring to mitigate the effects of pollutants on aquatic life and drinking water; provide early detection, education, and outreach to reduce invasive species threats; assess the abundance of aquatic native species, such as brook trout, and work to protect their habitat; and we restore the health and balance of our streams, sustaining ecological diversity and providing flood resilience for our communities. See our website: www.ausableriver.org for more details.

How to Apply

Submit a completed quote including specific qualifications to tully@ausablecenter.org no later than NOON on July 20, 2026. Vendors interested in bidding on this project should review this entire RFQ and direct any questions on the project to the email address listed here.