



**OFFICE OF AUDITOR OF STATE**  
**STATE OF IOWA**

Rob Sand  
Auditor of State

State Capitol Building  
Des Moines, Iowa 50319-0004  
Telephone (515) 281-5834

March 16, 2026

Kristi Onstot  
Executive Council  
L O C A L

Subject:        Damaged/Dead Trees Due to Drought Conditions at Lewis & Clark State  
                     Park on August 4, 2025  
                     Department of Natural Resources  
                     Claim dated September 16, 2025  
                     Supplemental Request dated March 5, 2026  
                     AOS Claim ID: 4160

In accordance with Executive Council policy, we have examined the supplemental request for 29C.20 funds for the above-mentioned damage. The Department of Natural Resources has requested a supplemental allocation of \$1,096,787.00. It is our conclusion that the above-mentioned damage and additional costs expected to be incurred by the Department of Natural Resources are covered by Chapter 29C.20 of the Code of Iowa. Therefore, we recommend an Executive Council approval of the supplemental request of \$1,096,787.00, subject to an audit of actual invoices. This increases the total allocation to \$1,762,500.00.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brian R. Brustkern".

Brian R. Brustkern, CPA  
Deputy Auditor of State

cc: Kayla Lyon, Director, Department of Natural Resources  
Sherry Arntzen, Bureau Chief, Parks, Forests and Preserves Bureau, Department  
of Natural Resources  
Kara Bryant, Budget & Finance, Department of Natural Resources

March 5, 2026

Kristi Onstot  
Executive Council  
State Capitol  
LOCAL

Tammy Hollingsworth  
Auditor's Office  
Lucas Building  
LOCAL

RE: Supplemental Allocation Request, Claim ID #4160; Drought Damaged Tree Removal at Lewis and Clark State Park, Monona County

Dear Kristi and Tammy:

On November 3, 2025, the Executive Council approved DNR's request for an emergency allocation of \$665,713.00 for drought-related tree damage at Lewis and Clark State Park in Monona County (Claim ID #4160).

Following that approval, the DNR issued an RFP on January 30, 2026. Eleven proposals were received and evaluated by a DNR evaluation committee. Of those, seven bids were found to be compliant with the RFP objectives. The DNR intends to award the contract to the lowest responsive responsible bidder for \$1,762,500.00.

Because the bids exceed the original emergency estimate, the DNR is requesting a supplemental allocation of \$1,096,787.00 to cover the balance.

I thank you and the Executive Council members for your time and consideration in reviewing this material. Please inform me if it would be advantageous to participate in the Executive Council meeting in order to answer any questions.

Sincerely,

Kim Bohlen, Acting Bureau Chief  
Parks, Forests and Preserves Bureau

Cc: Kara Bryant, DNR Budget and Finance

Attachment: 1

February 10, 2025

RE: NOTICE OF INTENT TO AWARD  
Request For Proposal - 26CRDPFPJSEAG-0001S - Lewis and Clark Tree Removal

The Iowa Department of Natural Resources (DNR) hereby announces its intent to award the contract for the services described in the above-referenced request for proposals to Armodus.

As provided in the RFP, this Notice of Intent to Award is subject to execution of a written contract between the named vendor and the DNR. As a result, this Notice does NOT constitute the formation of a contract between the DNR and the apparent successful vendor. The vendor shall not acquire any legal or equitable rights relative to the contract services until a contract containing terms and conditions acceptable to DNR is executed. If the apparent successful vendor fails to negotiate and execute a contract with the DNR, the DNR may revoke the award and award the contract to the next highest ranked vendor or withdraw the RFP. The DNR further reserves the right to cancel this Notice of Intent to Award at any time prior to the execution of a written contract.

Thank you for participating in this competitive selection process. For information about this notice, please contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,



**Colton Lullmann**  
**Procurement Specialist 3**  
Budget & Finance Bureau  
Department of Natural Resources  
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CC: File