



Enchanted Circle Trails Association

Developing, maintaining and promoting trails in northern New Mexico
info@enchantedcircletrails.org

Request for Information and Budgetary Cost Estimate

Questa to Red River Trail Project: Bridge Nos. 7, 8, 9, 10, and 11

Issued by: Enchanted Circle Trails Association

RFI release date: Friday, Sep 4, 2026

Responses due: October 16, 2026 5:00 p.m. MT

Submit responses to: jmanhoff@enchantedcircletrails.org

Project location: Questa to Red River Trail corridor, between La Bobita Campground and the Town of Red River, Red River, New Mexico

Anticipated project start: Pending funding and future procurement

1. Purpose of this Request

The Enchanted Circle Trails Association, in coordination with project partners, is seeking budgetary cost estimates and preliminary recommendations from qualified firms for five steel trail bridges along the Questa to Red River Trail corridor between La Bobita Campground and the Town of Red River.

This RFI covers bridge nos. 7–11 and is intended to inform probable costs, design and fabrication options, installation methods, lead times, mobilization, project phasing, and future procurement. Respondents may recommend the most practical and cost-effective approach to fabrication, delivery, assembly, and installation.

All bridge structures must comply with applicable Build America, Buy America Act, and Buy America requirements.

This RFI is for planning and budgeting purposes only. It is not a formal solicitation or request for binding bids and does not obligate ECTA, the Town of Red River, or any project partner to proceed with the work. Responses should include budgetary estimates, preliminary recommendations, and an appropriate planning-level contingency or cost range.

ECTA is issuing a separate RFI for trail refinement and construction. Firms capable of providing both trail and bridge services may respond to both RFIs but should distinguish their qualifications, assumptions, and planning-level costs for each discipline.

2. Project Background

The Questa to Red River Trail is an approved multi-use trail corridor connecting Eagle Rock Lake near Questa with the western edge of the Town of Red River along the New Mexico State Road 38 corridor in northern New Mexico.

The project will provide an off-highway recreation and transportation connection between the two communities while improving access to Carson National Forest lands and connecting existing recreation areas, campgrounds, trailheads, and public lands.

The Carson National Forest completed an Environmental Assessment and issued a Finding of No Significant Impact on April 9, 2026, approving construction of the trail.

3. RFI Overview

This initial RFI focuses on five bridges in the eastern portion of the corridor. These 5 bridges extend from the La Bobita Campground area toward Fawn Lakes Campground, Elephant Rock Parking Area, Junebug Campground, and the Town of Red River. These bridges represent a portion of the total 11 bridges and are being considered to help the project team understand current market pricing, design/build options, installation logistics, and potential cost associated with the Questa Red River Trail project.

30% design drawings marked “Not for Construction” are available to help respondents understand the proposed locations, bridge types, approximate spans, site conditions, trail connections, and preliminary scope of work.

3.1. General Specifications

This RFI relates to the future design, fabrication, delivery, assembly, and installation of five steel trail bridges: Bridge Nos. 7–11.

The anticipated scope includes complete bridge structures and associated work necessary to provide functional trail crossings, likely including but not limited to:

- Steel bridge structures and decking
- Concrete abutments and other necessary substructures
- Excavation, backfill, grading, compaction, and subgrade preparation
- Bridge and trail approaches
- Gabions, geotextile fabric, aggregate bed course, rock plating, and slope protection
- Site preparation, including removal of structures, trees, brush, and other obstructions
- Delivery, assembly, mobilization, and demobilization
- Construction staking and testing
- Permits and inspections
- Temporary traffic control and environmental protection

- Site restoration and connection to the proposed trail alignment

3.2. Bridge Locations and Lengths

Bridge Nos. 7–11 cross the Red River near NMSR 38 and connect to the proposed trail alignment on both approaches. Respondents should review the available 30% drawings and provide a budgetary cost estimate for the complete fabrication and installation of each bridge.

Site access varies. Some bridge sites are near NMSR 38 or other established access points, while others may require temporary construction access. Where practical, temporary access should follow the proposed trail corridor so that it can also support future trail construction. Crane access may be limited or infeasible at some sites.

Bridge	General location	Approximate length
No. 7	Near La Bobita Campground	55 linear feet
No. 8	Between La Bobita Campground and Fawn Lakes/Elephant Rock	40 linear feet
No. 9	Between La Bobita Campground and Elephant Rock Parking Area	50 linear feet
No. 10	Near Elephant Rock Parking Area, west of Red River	50 linear feet
No. 11	Near the Town of Red River	50 linear feet

3.3. Anticipated Work Schedule

Funding has not yet been secured. This RFI will help establish probable costs, refine the scope, and inform a future RFP.

Funding may become available in early 2027, with construction completed by December 2027. Respondents should identify anticipated lead times and availability so the project can proceed efficiently if funding is secured.

4. Additional Project Considerations

4.1. Build America, Buy America / Buy America Compliance

The bridges shall be steel bridge structures and shall comply with applicable Build America, Buy America Act and Buy America requirements. Respondents should indicate their ability to provide compliant materials, components, certifications, and fabrication records..

4.2. Environmental Protection and Site Restoration

The bridge sites are located near the Red River corridor. Construction work will need to protect the river corridor, adjacent vegetation, and surrounding natural resources.

4.3. Coordination with Future Trail Work

The bridge work is part of the larger Questa to Red River Trail Project. Respondents should assume that future bridge construction may need to be coordinated with trail construction, parking area work, access improvements, land management requirements, permitting conditions, and other project partners.

5. Requested Response Components

Responses should be no more than 8 pages consolidated into 1 PDF. The project team is seeking concise, useful information that will help refine the project scope, budget, phasing, and future RFP.

Please include the following information in your response.

5.1. Company Information

Provide the company name, primary contact, phone number, email, website, and office location.

5.2. Relevant Experience

Please briefly describe your experience with steel trail bridges, river crossings, public agency or conservation projects, and work in New Mexico or the western United States.

If available, provide examples of comparable projects completed within the past five years, particularly those involving multiple bridges, constrained access, waterways, public recreation, design/build delivery, or coordination with land management agencies. Include project locations and approximate values where practical.

5.3. Budgetary Cost Estimate

Please provide a non-binding, planning-level cost estimate for Bridge Nos. 7–11. As practical, please provide an estimate for each bridge and a combined cost for completing all five under one contract to assist with planning and budget.

Estimates may be organized into the following general categories:

- Design and engineering
- Bridge fabrication and delivery
- Site preparation, abutments, and related site work
- Bridge assembly and installation
- Mobilization and other project costs
- Recommended contingency

Please note major assumptions, exclusions, compliance-related costs, and the expected accuracy range of the estimate. A detailed cost breakdown is welcome but not required.

5.4. Schedule and Lead Time

Please provide anticipated lead times for design, fabrication, delivery, assembly, and installation. Please identify the earliest likely availability for this type of work, preferred construction season, and any long-lead materials or production constraints.

6. Submission Instructions

Please submit responses by email to: jmanhoff@enchantedcircletrails.org

Responses are requested by Friday, October 16 5:00 p.m. MT. Responses should be no more than 8 pages consolidated into 1 PDF.

Questions about this RFI may be submitted to jmanhoff@enchantedcircletrails.org by the close of this RFI. Responses to questions may be shared with other potential respondents if the project team determines the information is useful for all parties.

ECTA will not reimburse respondents for costs associated with preparing a response, attending a meeting, participating in a site visit, or providing follow-up information.

7. Use of Responses

Responses to this RFI will be used for planning and budgeting purposes only. Information received may help the project team refine bridge scope, update cost assumptions, determine feasible phasing, identify funding needs, and prepare a future Request for Proposals.

Submission of a response does not create any obligation for ECTA or any project partner to issue a contract, award work, or proceed with the project. Respondents will not be compensated for preparing responses to this RFI.

8. Attachments

The following materials are provided with this RFI:

- Attachment A: 30% Questa to Red River Trail Project Construction Drawings
- Attachment B: Project vicinity map
- Attachment C: Photograph of desired bridge type and style
- Attachment D: Final Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact.