Contract Opportunity:

Coastal Woodlands – Seed Collection and Tree Growing Opportunities

Background

1 The Solway Coast and Marine Landscape Connections Project (SCAMP) is currently in a 2-year development phase, running to a proposed end date of March 2027. Website: https://www.solwaycoastmarine.co.uk/.

2 SCAMP is the first project in the UK to be awarded funding under the National Lottery Heritage Fund's 'Landscape Connections' programme (https://www.heritagefund.org.uk/funding/strategic-initiatives/landscape-connections).

3 The aim of the development phase is to design and detail the work that will take place in the proposed subsequent 8-year delivery phase.

4 SCAMP is proposing a focus on five key habitats along the Solway Firth, one of which is 'Coastal Woodlands'. For SCAMP purposes, 'Coastal Woodland' is classed as within approximately 5 miles of the coast.

5 A range of projects are being explored and developed under this heading, led by Dumfries & Galloway Woodlands (DGW), a registered charity. (www.dgwoodlands.org.uk.)

Contract Opportunity

6 A key part of any Coastal Woodlands work will be the collection of seed and growing on of resulting seedlings.

7 The SCAMP project is keen to endorse and support existing private sector operators, with a strong focus on delivering local economic benefits.

8 The wider SCAMP project and other tree planting initiatives are likely to increase demand for trees in the region and further afield. This project aims to align this increased demand with increasing local capacity, providing trees of local provenance for local and wider use.

9 This 'Seed Collection and Tree Growing support' contract aims to get a better understanding of:

- capacities locally in the tree nursery sector generally
- Projected capacity within local tree growing sector to support SCAMP requirements – (i.e. from 2027 – 2035)– especially rarer or currently unmarketable species
- Limitation on local seed gathering – in terms of site identification and collection activity
- opportunities for this sector to develop through the SCAMP delivery phase.

10 This contract will be a mixture of desktop work, visits to practitioners and potential partners, and culminates in the drafting of a summary report outlining opportunities for projects in the SCAMP Delivery Phase.

11 This contract will also oversee at least three 'seed collection' free-to-attend events that are open to practitioners in the sector and general public alike. These events can include actual, hands-on seed collection or could cover the topic more broadly.

12 Contract outputs:

- At least three 'seed collection' events
- A report summarizing opportunities and constraints from the local tree growing sector.

Expressions of Interest

13 Expressions of Interest are sought to undertake this work that could inform planning of the Coastal Woodlands delivery projects.

14 This contract will have a total cost of £7,500.

15 Expressions of Interest should include:

- A copy of your CV
- Any initial thoughts about process and ambitions from the project – max 3 paragraphs
- Any thoughts about three 'seed collection' events – topics, locations etc. – max 3 paragraphs
- An indication of your daily/hourly rate and therefore how much time a £7,500 contract would cover.

16 Expressions of Interest to be submitted to mcnabb.laurie@dgwoodlands.org by 9am on 26th January 2026.

17 Timeline:

- Award Contract + Contract kick off meeting: Feb 2026
- Contract Completion: By 14/09/2026

18 Any queries about the contract or making an expression of interest, please contact mcnabb.laurie@dgwoodlands.org.