Request for Proposals: User Experience/User Interface (UX/UI) Design for Interactive Insect eDNA Data Portal

Forest Ecosystem Monitoring Cooperative, University of Vermont

Job Title

User Experience/User Interface (UX/UI) Designer – Contract position

Description

The Forest Ecosystem Monitoring Cooperative (FEMC) is a regional cooperative funded through the US Forest Service and based at the University of Vermont that aims to improve the understanding of the physical, chemical, and biological components of forested ecosystems. FEMC's primary means of doing this are through a long-term monitoring program, an extensive data archive, and the creation of products that make data easier to access and interpret.

FEMC is currently developing an interactive data portal to house insect eDNA data from forests across the northeastern United States. The portal will be used by forest management professionals and academic researchers. Data will be displayed in both table and map format, showing when and where the DNA from insects was found. Users will have the ability to view metadata associated with each identification, including the confidence level in the identification, and to sign up to receive email alerts when a new identification of a species of interest—as defined by the user—is added to the database. A dashboard with summary information will display highlights from the data, including DNA detections of rare or endangered species, released biocontrol species, high-profile invasives, regulated pests, and more.

FEMC seeks a UX/UI designer to develop design specifications for the data portal web tool. This is a contract position accepting proposals until March 7, 2025 at 5pm EST.

Required outputs include:

- Complete UX design specifications for user interface for eDNA data based on input from stakeholders and FEMC staff
- A wireframe and interactive prototypes showing website interface interactions, based on UX design
- Portfolio of visual elements of a design, from typography and color to imagery and iconography

The contracted individual(s) can work on their own schedule, but will be required to attend occasional meetings and meet interim project deadlines. Work on the project is tentatively scheduled to begin in April 2025, but will be subject to University contracting and paperwork timelines.

Proposal and qualifications requirements

- A description of your approach to the project and rationale for proposed methods (approx. 400-700 words)
- Detailed budget and budget justification (max budget \$16,000)
- Estimated project timeline with interim deliverables and milestones

- Portfolio of past work, including at least two previous UX/UI design projects
- Resume or CV for all individuals working on the project

Individuals with the most competitive proposals will bring strong written and verbal communication skills; an ability to synthesize descriptions of desired website functionalities into visual designs; proficiency with wireframing; an understanding of front-end web design; and 5+ years of experience in UX design. Familiarity with scientific research data and geospatial data, CSS, HTML, JavaScript, and Adobe XD, Figma, or Sketch is preferred.

The maximum budget for this project is \$16,000.

To apply

Send proposals to FEMC (femc@uvm.edu) with the subject "UX/UI Design Proposal" by March 7, 2025 at 5pm EST.