

Big Rock Mountain, Mars Hill, Maine
INVITATION TO BID
Snow Groomer

Big Rock Mountain a 501©(3) nonprofit ski area located in Mars Hill, Maine issues this Invitation to Bid for the purchase of a new snow groomer to support its winter operations. The unit must be delivered to and accepted by Big Rock no later than May 30, 2025. The purchase will be funded in part with grant funding from the Northern Border Regional Commission (NBRC) and all bidding procedures must comply with NBRC procurement guidelines for expenditures exceeding \$100,000.

Bids shall be submitted by qualified manufacturers with a proven track record of supplying snow groomers to ski areas in New England. It is the intent of this Invitation to Bid to select the most qualified manufacturer that bids a snow groomer per the attached specifications.

Any questions regarding this Invitation to Bid should be addressed to the Big Rock Groomer Bid email, **groomerbid@bigrockmaine.com**, with “Bid Question - Snow Groomer” in the subject line. All questions received and their corresponding responses will be issued as an addendum to this RFP on **[Big Rock’s website](#)**. Prospective manufacturers shall be solely responsible for obtaining all questions and answers related to this Invitation to Bid.

Bids are due no later than **9 AM on Thursday, April 10, 2025**. Submissions will be accepted by email in .pdf format to **groomerbid@bigrockmaine.com**. Submission must provide a signed proposal detailing the proposed unit, warranty information, service information, and a bid with the outright purchase price. Submissions received by email after this time will not be considered.

These submittals shall be title:

INVITATION TO BID - Snow Groomer
Big Rock Mountain, Mars Hill, Maine
NBRC Grant Award Number: 22GME10

Copies of the Invitation to Bid and any issued addendum can be obtained from **[Big Rock’s website](#)**.

1. ORGANIZATION OVERVIEW

Big Rock is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit ski area registered in the state of Maine with a location in Mars Hill, ME standing 1748 feet tall, with 27 trails, 2 chairlifts, 2 surface lifts, and snowmaking on 60% of the terrain. The organization is made up of 6 board members. This acquisition will be managed by a subcommittee made up of two board members, the General Manager and Maintenance Manager.

2. TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

Any deviation from the proposed specifications must be approved by Big Rock prior to the bid submission.

2.1 Engine / Driveline:

- 6 Cylinder in-line diesel
- Minimum 400 hp and 1200 foot-pounds of torque at 1500 rpm
- Tier 4f / EU Stage 5
- 110 Volt engine coolant heater
- Drive pump size minimum 140 cc, Tiller pump size minimum 100 cc
- Minimum ground speed 12 mph

2.2 Suspension / Frame:

- 5-axle independent torsion suspension
- Tubular steel frame construction, steel must be high tensile, with exceptional low temperature strength.
- 6-Belt Kombi Tracks
- Hydraulic automatic track tension
- Solid rubber tires for durability

2.3 Weight / Capacities:

- Minimum 20,000 lbs. including tracks, front blade mount, blade and tiller
- Minimum 3,000 lbs. rear deck payload capacity
- Minimum 13.5 inch ground clearance

2.4 Drivers Cabin / Electronics:

- Cabin must be Rollover Protection Structure (ROPS) certified
- Adjustable heated mirrors
- Heated front, side and rear windows
- Dual sliding side door windows (open toward front and rear)
- Venting, glass sunroof
- Heated windshield wipers
- Heated Driver's seat on the left-hand side with air-sprung suspension, adjustable lumbar support, adjustable recline, length adjustable seat cushion, and multiple headrest positions.
- 4-axis joystick control system with multifunction touch display

- 24 volt low voltage system with two 12 volt / 135 Ah batteries and 900 cranking amp rating
- 4 halogen or LED headlamps, 2 front LED handrail mounted work lights, roof-mounted LED spotlight, 2 rear LED work lights, 2 rear LED tiller lights, 2 amber warning lights.
- Backup alarm
- AM/FM Stereo with Bluetooth, hands-free operation and USB

2.5 Snow Blade

- Minimum 4.4-meter-wide multi-angle blade
- Equipped with a fan gun carrier for added snowmaking functionality
- Blade must be fully adjustable and capable of multi-directional movement

2.6 Tiller System

- Minimum 5.5-meter-wide auto slope-tracing tiller
- Full down sides to enhance grooming efficiency
- Tiller camera system for real-time monitoring of grooming performance

2.7 Service / Parts

Bidder shall provide factory service, fabrication/manufacturing, and testing facilities within 250-mile radius of Mars Hill, ME. This same facility must stock a complete line of all accessories and parts for the proposed equipment. The bidder must also be equipped to offer prompt service on the equipment at the mountain's maintenance garage in Mars Hill, ME, if required.

3. BID SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Each bidder must submit a complete proposal containing the following:

3.1 Technical Proposal

- Detailed product description, including manufacturer name, model number, and technical specifications
- Documentation demonstrating compliance with all required specifications
- Additional optional features and their benefits (if applicable)

3.2 Financial Proposal

- Itemized pricing, including:
 - Base price of the snow groomer
 - Cost of optional features (if applicable)
 - Freight, delivery, and handling charges
 - State taxes are waived by Big Rock's 501©(3) status
- Proposed payment terms

3.3 Company Profile

- Overview of the bidder's company, including years of experience in the industry
- List of past clients in New England with similar purchases
- Documentation confirming the availability of an authorized service center within the required radius

3.4 Warranty Details

- Full documentation of the manufacturer's warranty, including coverage details and exclusions
- Contact information for warranty claims and service requests

4. EVALUATION CRITERIA

All bids will be evaluated based on the following weighted criteria:

Evaluation Factor	Weight
Compliance with specifications	35%
Cost and overall value	25%
Manufacturer reliability and reputation	15%
Availability of local and U.S. service support	15%
Warranty and after-sales service	10%

Bid packages will be scored and ranked by a Selection Committee consisting of Big Rock Management and two Board of Directors.

The bidder that is ranked the highest will be selected. The selected bidder will need to provide evidence of an active registration with www.sam.gov and must not appear on an excluded parties list or be subject to debt offset.

5. CONTRACT AWARD AND NBRC COMPLIANCE

The winning bidder must comply with all applicable NBRC procurement policies referenced in **2 CFR 200 Appendix 2**, including the **Build America Buy America Act**.

In accordance with 2 CFR 200.321, when possible, grantees must ensure that small businesses, minority businesses, women's business enterprises, veteran-owned businesses, and labor surplus area firms are solicited and given opportunities to participate in the procurement process."

Big Rock Ski Mountain reserves the right to:

- Reject any or all bids
- Waive informalities
- Accept the bid that best serves the interest of the organization