



REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)
FOR FUELS REDUCTION SERVICES
CONTRACTED SERVICES TO

CALAVERAS COUNTY RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT (CCRCO) TO ACCOMPLISH TASKS OF THE
Project Name: BUMMERVILLE/BLIZZARD MINE FUELS REDUCTION AND FOREST RESTORATION PROJECT
Grant: SIERRA NEVADA CONSERVANCY GRANT AGREEMENT NO. 1369

FOR INFORMATION ABOUT THE PROJECT	Name: Pat McGreevy, Project Manager Email: PMcGreevy@calaverasrcd.org, proposals@calaverasrcd.org Phone: O: (209)293-2191 Best; C: (209)273-8638
RFP RELEASE DATE	January 16, 2023
PRE-BID TOUR	<p>Only contractors with an LTO A or a Contractors State License Board C61/D49 License are eligible to bid on projects administered by the Calaveras County Resource Conservation District (CCRCO). Do not attend the pre-bid tour if you don't have one of these licenses.</p> <p>Participation in the pre-bid tours is optional. However, bidders who attend and will be awarded five points in the scoring process. There will be two tours on January 23, 2023, one at 0900-1200 hrs. and the other at 1300-1600 hrs. You must RSVP to the Project Manager on or before Thursday, 1/19/2023, stating your tour preference, morning, afternoon, or no preference. The Project Manager will assign you to a tour and confirm your reservation by email on Friday, 1/20/2023. Note that each company is allowed only one vehicle on the tour.</p> <p>All project maps and documents are posted on a Google Drive that can be accessed by the link in the reference section below. The maps continue to be updated by the Project Manager so check the Google Drive before going to the field for the latest version.</p> <p>There are three Project Areas and 16 Treatment Units covering ~464 acres in the Bummerville Project making it impossible to visit all of them during the pre-bid tour. Thus, the pre-bid tour will focus on the representative units as listed below. The remainder of the sites can be visited on a self-guided tour.</p> <p>The pre-bid tour will begin at the intersection of Bald Mountain and Campo Flores Roads. After an introduction to the project, the group will proceed to the following units:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Campo Flores East (Logging/Mastication); 2. Campo Flores Center (Mastication);



	<p>3. Bald Mountain North (Logging/Mastication); 4. Campo Flores West (Mastication); 5. Winton (Mastication); 6. Blizzard Mine (Mastication).</p> <p>If some contractors want to visit some of the other units, the Project Manager and RPF will accommodate their requests.</p> <p>Contractors can also take a self-guided tour using this RFP, the access information in '9-Bum_AccessInfo.xlsx' and the Geo-PDF maps that display on smartphones running the Avenza or similar apps. Note that a KMZ file is also available to view aerial images of the project in Google Earth. Do not hesitate to contact the Project Manager should you need assistance in gaining access to various units.</p> <p>Questions received by the Project Manager on or before February 3, 2023, will be answered and distributed to all bidders by email before noon on February 4, 2023.</p>
RFP CLOSING DATE	Proposals must be submitted electronically to the dedicated CCRCD proposals email @ proposals@calaverasrcd.org by February 6, 2023.
CONTRACTOR SELECTION	Project Contractor(s) will be selected no later than February 10, 2023. All bidders will be notified by email of the results.
PROJECT COMMENCEMENT DATE	Immediately upon execution of the contract
PROJECT COMPLETION DATE	September 30, 2024, or upon completion of the work plan and final sign off by the Sierra Nevada Conservancy (SNC).

PROJECT OVERVIEW

The CCRCD (Grantee) has received funding from the SNC (Grantor).

The Project Description:

The Calaveras County Resource Conservation District (CCRCD) has been awarded a grant from the Sierra Nevada Conservancy (SNC) to complete the Bummerville/Blizzard Mine Fuels Reduction and Forest Restoration Project in NE Calaveras County, east of West Point. The purpose of this Request for Proposals (RFP) is to open the bidding process for fuels reduction services on ~464 acres of coniferous forest and oak woodland. Hereinafter the SNC 1369 Bummerville/Blizzard Mine Fuels Reduction and Forest Restoration Project is referred to as the “Project”.



References.

All maps and documents can be obtained from this Google Drive:

[https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1dlyuKD2pTAWT1X-IQqCh59VnqPqegMBo?usp=share_link]

- 1-Bum_ProjArea.pdf
- 2-Bum_ProjArea.kmz
- 3-Bum_NorthUnits.pdf
- 4-Bum_Harvest.pdf
- 5-Barney_Units.pdf
- 6-Blizzard_Units.pdf
- 7-CCRCD_FirePlan.pdf
- 8-BLM_AuthorizationStipulations.pdf
- 9-Bum_AccessInfo.xlsx

I. ACTIVITIES AND TIMELINE

Activity	Date
Release of RFP	1/16/2023
Pre-Bid Tour	1/23/2023
Deadline for RFP responses	2/6/2023
Review Committee evaluates proposals	2/7/2023 - 2/10/2023
Contract Award by Committee	On or before 2/10/2023
Notice of contract award	On or before 2/10/2023
Contract executed	On or before 2/17/2023
Project start date	Immediately upon execution of contract

II. GRANT BACKGROUND & RESPONSIBILITIES



GRANTOR: The project is funded by SNC Grant Award #1369. Grantor may conduct inspections of the project area periodically upon invoice submittals. Invoice submittals and expected payments to contractor dependent upon Grantor guidelines and procedures. Lag time between invoice submittal and payment is dependent upon grantor.

Please note, pre-treatment acreages are estimated based on GIS; final determination of treated acres will be made by Grantor or CCRCD based on actual on-the-ground measurement during certification inspections. Contractor is encouraged to conduct the inspections with Grantor or CCRCD. Payments will only be made on actual acres treated. Invoices can be submitted as needed, but no more frequently than every two weeks. Contractor's invoices will be paid upon the CCRCD's receipt of the funds from Grantor. CCRCD will not be responsible for delays in receiving funds from Grantor.

GRANT POOL: SNC Wildfire Recovery and Forest Resilience Grant Program

GRANTEE: CCRCD. The CCRCD submitted this grant to SNC and was awarded this grant. As the grantee, CCRCD is responsible for financial management and reporting requirements as specified in the executed contract with the grantor. CCRCD is the only entity authorized to enter into or terminate this contract, modify any term or condition of this contract, waive any requirement of this contract, or accept nonconforming work. CCRCD has assigned Pat McGreevy as Project Manager and additional staff/contractors for on-site technical monitoring of the Contractor's performance and deliverables. CCRCD will execute the contract with the selected contractor. CCRCD will submit contractor invoices to the SNC for payment and in turn process payment to the contractor.

PROJECT MANAGER. The Project Manager is an employee with the CCRCD and will serve as the lead contact for the Project, including relations with the contractor(s), Registered Professional Forester (RPF), landowners, the CCRCD, and additional staff.



III. PROJECT GOALS & OBJECTIVES

The primary goals of this Project include:

The project goal is to avoid catastrophic wildfire in the watershed by removing dense surface and ladder fuels, decreasing crown density, and retaining large fire-resistant trees to reduce the risk of fire ignition and slow fire spread, and increase the chance of success on initial fire suppression attack by keeping potential fires small and on the ground. The Project focuses on the treatment of ~464 acres of ground and ladder fuels and thinning of crowded trees on BLM parcels within the Mokelumne Watershed.

The primary objectives of this Project include:

The Project will use mechanical mastication to reduce ladder fuels and open the forest stand structure, spreading shreds and chips evenly across the landscape to suppress regrowth of brush and conserve soil moisture. Additionally, a Negotiated Timber Sale will be conducted by BLM in 2023 with a Logger, adhering to a prescription of Sanitation Salvage and Thinning (4-Bum_Harvest & 5-Barney Units). Note that the BLM logging project is independent of the current RFP which is for mastication only.

Areas, Treatment Units & Bid Units: The Project is divided into three large project areas which are further subdivided into 16 treatment units, based on access from public roads as defined by deep gulches as shown in the following table. These treatment units are clumped into four bid units based on their proximity.

The project acreage in the following table are estimates based on GIS. They may change slightly in response to parcel line adjustments based on the results of recent cadastral surveys. In addition, acreages will decline when avoidance areas for cultural resources are flagged for avoidance by the BLM Archaeologist. To account for these variables, invoices must be based on the actual areas treated as determined by GPS track logs.

SNC 1369 Location and Treatment Units in NE Calaveras County T06N R13E; West Point, Rail Road Flat & Devils Nose Quads (1/16/23)						
Project Area	Treatment Unit	Fuel Reduction	Logging*	Bid Unit	Bid Fuels Reduction Ac	Logging Ac
Bummerville	Winton	64.3		1	64.3	
	Bald Mountain North	72.8	25.9	2	189.0	43.5
	Bald Mountain South	59.9				
	Bald Mountain SE	3.8				
	Campo Flores East	52.5	17.6			
	Campo Flores Center	83.9		3	114.3	
	Campo Flores NW	3.0				
	Campo Flores SW	17.4				
	Campo Flores West	9.9				
	Jurs East	22.4		4	96.6	4
	Jurs West	2.0				
Barney Way	Barney NE	17.6		4	96.6	4
	Barney NW	1.6				
	Barney S	6.9	4.0			
Blizzard Mine	Blizzard Mine	38.3		4	96.6	4
	Blizzard Mine SW	7.7				
TOTAL		464.1	47.5		464.1	47.5
*Cut, skid, process and deck, but not haul						

IV. DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT AREAS

Project Areas (Acres): ~464

Terrain: Mountainous

Slope/Aspect: 0-40%/ All aspects

Elevation Range: 2,560' and 3,160'



Habitat Types: Mixed coniferous forest is the dominant forest type.

The overstory consists of sugar pine, ponderosa pine, incense-cedar, black oak, Douglas-fir, Pacific madrone, and live oak- both standing live and dead.

The understory is choked with live and dead brush and fallen logs. Surface fuels include bear clover, scant blackberries, poison oak, and logs/carcasses of fallen trees (high fuel load is ~18 tons/acre). There are several dense, overgrown Ponderosa pine plantations and heavy ladder fuels of whiteleaf manzanita and ceanothus (whitethorn and deerbrush), rabbit brush, black and live oak sprouts, and toyon. All parcels have substantial tree mortality from drought and insect damage. Existing conditions are classified as a very high fire hazard by the California State Fire Marshal.

Infrastructure Present: Underground water main that crosses the Winton unit operated by the Calaveras County Water District (CCWD). It draws water from the Bear Creek Diversion and conveys it to the West Point Regulating Reservoir. The water main could be susceptible to damage by heavy equipment and will be flagged for avoidance by CCWD along with points where it can be crossed.

Number of Landowners w/signed ROE forms: 12

Avoidance Areas:

- A. Watercourses/ Riparian Zones: See project maps
- B. Botanical Resources will be flagged for avoidance
- C. Biological Resources will be flagged for avoidance
- D. Cultural Resources will be flagged for avoidance or BLM Archaeologist will be on site.
- E. Human Habitation/ Infrastructure: CCWD will provide instructions on crossing its Bear Creek-West Point Regulating Reservoir water line.

Project Access: Access points to the 16 treatment units are depicted on most maps and described in 'Bum_AccessInfo.xlsx'.

PRESCRIPTION

Mastication Prescription

-Masticate all submerchantable brush and hardwoods and conifers <12" dbh, standing or downed, leaving residual tree crowns spaced 25-35 feet apart.

-75% of the mastication shreds shall be <36 inches in length. Shreds shall be spread evenly into a layer of mulch to suppress brush regeneration, minimize erosion, and conserve soil moisture. Mulch depth shall be <12 inches. Stumps shall be ground to surface level. Dangerous punji sticks are not allowed.



-Limbs of residual trees shall be pruned up to 10 feet or 50% of the tree height, whichever comes first, and the shreds masticated.

-Trees, limbs, and shrubs on or overhanging roads, including the cut bank, shall be cut, and removed or masticated. Brush, shrubs, and trees growing on the outside bank will be masticated as far as the masticator boom can reach. Masticated material shall be removed from the inside drainage ditches.

-Logs on the ground will be masticated or removed leaving 3-4 logs per acre. Leave logs will be >18" in diameter at the large end and >20 feet long. Retained downed logs will be placed perpendicular to the slope.

-All landing slash remaining from the BLM logging operation will be masticated. Leaving burn/slash piles will not be permitted.

-The project area is rich with historic water ditches dating from the Gold Rush that were used to convey water to West Point for domestic, mining, agricultural and timber uses. Equipment can only cross these ditches through existing breaches. Fuels on the ditches can be reduced if mastication does not disturb the soil. Trees must be felled away from the ditches. Trees that must be felled across the ditches will be lifted off the ditch and then processed.

Equipment Capability/Limitations.

-On steeper terrain (slopes over 30%), equipment must only operate up and down the slope, perpendicular to the contour. Equipment must not operate under saturated soil conditions when compaction or rutting is likely, and traction is compromised. Any ruts >6" deep running downslope will not be allowed to remain.

Identification of Protected Species or Other Critical Resources

-With all environmentally sensitive areas, identification and avoidance during project implementation is important. Trees with active nests will be avoided/retained. If any sensitive resources are located during project implementation, the area shall be avoided pending consultation with the RPF.

V. PROJECT PROVISIONS AND RESTRICTIONS

All treatments must abide by the 'Authorization Stipulations' detailed in the letter of authorization issued by the BLM Mother Lode Field Office dated 8/23/2022 (BLM_AuthorizationStipulations.pdf) and the CCRCDD Fire Plan (CCRCDD_FirePlan.pdf).

VI. BID EVALUATION CRITERIA & SCORING

The contract award will be issued to the Contractor based on best value, not necessarily based on strictly the lowest bid. One award will be made to the qualified proposer whose proposal will be the most advantageous to the CCRCDD, with price and all other factors considered. The



proposer is cautioned that it is the proposer’s sole responsibility to submit information related to the evaluation categories and the CCRCDC is under no obligation to solicit such information if it is not included with the proposal. Failure of the individual or firm to submit such information may cause an adverse impact on the evaluation of the proposal. A Selection Committee shall be responsible for performing the evaluations of each proposal based on the following criteria:

1	Completeness of Proposal	Pass/Fail
2	Required Insurance/Licenses	Pass/Fail
3	Qualifications & Experience & Workability	30 points
4	Approach/Strategy	30 points
5	Cost	30 points
6	Attendance to pre-bid tour	5 points
7	Local Benefit	5 points
	Total	100 points

Pass/Fail Line Items: Items in rows 1 - 2 above must receive a “pass” score to be considered for contract award.

Completeness of Proposal: Bid must adequately describe all items listed in rows 3-7 above. Clearly state which bid units are included in your bid. You may bid for any combination of bid units that you qualify for. Varying per acre bids for different units are acceptable but must be defined clearly in bid.

Insurance:

1. **Workers Compensation Coverage** – Worker’s Compensation Insurance and Employer’s Liability Insurance for employees in accordance with the laws of the State of California (including requiring any authorized subcontractor to obtain such insurance for its employees).
2. **General Liability Coverage** – Commercial general liability insurance with a minimum liability limit not less than \$2,000,000 for personal injury and property damages per occurrence)
3. **Automobile Liability Insurance** – with a minimum limit of liability per occurrence of \$1,000,000 for bodily injury and \$100,000 for property damage. This insurance shall cover all vehicles including hired cars, owned and non-owned vehicles
4. Contractors are encouraged to purchase ‘Broad Form B’ insurance.

Selected Contractor(s) shall add CCRCDC to said insurance policies named as “additionally insured” and provide CCRCDC with proof of insurance certificates for all insurance policies prior



to implementation of the contract and throughout the full duration of the Agreement.

Qualifications & Experience:

Please Provide:

- Contractor name
- Proof of current California Contractor License (CA C61/D49) and/or Licensed Timber Operator (LTO-A)
- Insurance Policies: See Section Above
- A short description of each piece of machinery including fire suppression equipment, that will be dedicated to this project (don't describe machinery that won't be working this project).
- The names/years of experience of each operator.
- Include the name and experience of the Contractor's representative who will be on-site managing the project daily.
- Provide a minimum of three references with at least one being within the last 18 months.

Fire Plan: Describe ability to meet the provided CCRCDC Fire Plan requirements.

Approach:

- Describe the strategy and sequence of operations for treatment units.
- Treatment on steep slopes (over 40% grade) will depend on contractor's ability to treat and maintain safety standards. How these steep slopes are to be treated needs to be addressed in the bid.
- Focus on the use of equipment and operator expertise in all areas of fuels reduction (i.e.: masticating, chipping, and erosion control).
- Finally, describe your most recent jobs that included mastication/chipping of trees and brush, including the date that each contract was executed, the date the contract was closed, and the acreage treated.

Cost: Provide your cost per acre in your bid for each unit bid on; costs include services for both machine mastication and handwork of the entire project acres (having separate line items for costs of machine mastication and handwork mastication is required).

Local Benefit: In the interest of supporting local business, 5 points will be given to contractors



based in Calaveras, Tuolumne, Amador and Alpine Counties.

AWARD PROCESS

Proposers will receive emailed Award/Non-Award notification(s) which will include the name of the proposer to be awarded this contract.

OTHER REQUIREMENTS

Public Records Access: Proposers should be aware that submitted proposals are subject to the California Public Records Act and may be disclosed to members of the public upon request. **It is the responsibility of the proposers to clearly identify information in their proposals that they consider to be confidential under the California Public Records Act.** To the extent that the CCRCDC agrees with that designation, such information will be held in confidence whenever possible. All other information will be considered public.

Non-Discrimination The Contractor selected through this RFP shall provide services without discrimination based on race, creed, color, ethnic or linguistic identification, gender or sexual preference, disability or handicap or any other basis prohibited by law.

All information regarding the proposals will be held as confidential until such time as the Review Committee has completed its evaluation and, or if, contract negotiations are completed.



PROTEST/APPEAL PROCESS

The following procedure is provided in the event a proposer wishes to protest the CCRCDD evaluation and selection process or appeal the recommendation to award a contract for this contract award once the Notices of Award/No-Award have been issued.

- Any protest must be submitted in writing to:
CCRCDD
Attention: Project Manager
PO Box 1041
San Andreas, CA, CA 95249
- The protest must be submitted or postmarked before 6:00 p.m. on the 10th calendar day following the date of the Notice of Award.
- The protest must contain a complete statement of the basis for the protest. The protest must include the name, address, telephone number and e-mail address of the person representing the protesting party.
- The procedure and time limits are mandatory and are the proposer's sole and exclusive remedy in the event of a bid protest.

Proposer's failure to comply with these procedures shall constitute a waiver of any right to further pursue the protest, including filing a claim or legal proceedings.

Informal Response: Within ten (10) calendar days of receiving a timely written protest/appeal, the CCRCDD will contact the protesting party and provide an opportunity to settle the protest/appeal by mutual agreement.

Formal Response: Within ten (10) calendar days following contact with the protesting party for informal resolution, the CCRCDD will provide a written response to the protesting party. This written response shall be considered the final decision of the CCRCDD.