REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)

Responses to Questions

Date: February 22nd, 2024

Agency: Placer County Resource Conservation District

Proposal Due Date: No later than 12:00 pm February 26th, 2024

Title: RFP for NORTH FORK AMERICAN RIVER SHADED FUEL BREAK PHASE II

Topic	#	Question	Response	Add.
Treatment	Specif	ication		•
	1	Is there a desired basal area to cut for handwork?	No	
	2		No. Per RFP page 9, "The following treatments may be modified by the Project Manager to reflect on-the-ground conditions. Any planned treatment type may be redesignated for a different treatment type at the discretion of the Project Manager." Alternate specifications may be required. Contractor and Project Manager will work together to develop alternate specifications where conditions prohibit the standard specification. Examples include, but are not limited to, 100% retention of madrone, incense cedar, and planted pine in hand treatment in Zones 1 and 2 Also, mastication cut diameter may be reduced	
	3	Why specify hand treatment on level ground instead of mastication?	to 10-12" to accommodate industry standard capacity. Hand treatment was proposed on some level ground to protect cultural resources while	
	4	Is there an example of an RCD fuelbreak that contractors can look at to see desired treatment specs?	meeting fuels reduction objectives. Please review previously advertised shaded fuel break projects on our website at https://placerrcd.org/news/rfp/ . RCD does not intend to provide or guarantee physical site access.	
	5	Are landowner generated fuels the contractor's responsibility?	If landowner generated fuels are encountered, the Contractor and the Project Manager will work together to determine if the fuels can be treated in a cost-effective manner.	

Topic	#	Question	Response	Add.
-	6	The masticator manufacture specs are mostly for 10" DBH and under, why is it mandated up to 14"?	See response to #2	
	7	Assuming no pruning required in mastication areas where there's no trees or only seedlings? Estimate of how much of the total mastication area needs pruning? How does the RCD foresee this task being carried out?	additional time during the site walk to make estimates. Additionally, RCD has prepared project maps with aerial base imagery which can be used in making estimates. RCD anticipates that contractor masticate the pruned and hand treated material.	
	8	Will the RCD revise the Scope of Work to specify leaving hazard tree logs on site?		#2 Rev#1
	9	Will the RCD revise the Scope of Work to call for leaving chips on site in areas designated "Chip and Remove"		#2 Rev#2
	10	What is the preferred treatment for oaks within mastication/hand-treatment units?	Pruning to reduce stem count for oaks with stems greater than 6".	
	11	When hand piling on previously masticated ridges, does contractor need to pile the masticated material? Or skip it and just cut and pile regrowth?	On previously masticated ridges (i.e. landowner generated fuels are encountered), the Contractor and the Project Manager will work together to determine if the fuels can be treated in a cost-effective manner.	
	12	Does regrowth that's only 1-2' tall need to be cut and piled?	Yes	
	13	Will the RCD consider changing previously masticated ridge in Zone 2 to mastication instead of hand cut and pile?		#2 Rev#3
	14	Should rootwads be left in place?	Yes	
Burn Pile	15	In the event that piling is prescribed under a closed canopy, what is the preferred approach? Are feeder	Per RFP page 10, "In denser conditions, piles may be built under the dripline of trees, however piles must be smaller in size and burned when adequate moisture is present in tree crowns." And "Contractor may build feeder piles in areas where there is too much vegetation to restrict to a 6x6x6 ft hand pile. Feeder piles shall be neatly stacked in windrows with the butt end of limbs piled on one side. Windrows shall not be stacked within 4 feet of the piles."	

Topic	#	Question	Response	Add.
<u> </u>			Alternate piling methods/treatment	
			specifications may be considered. Contractor	
			and Project Manager will work together to	
			develop alternate methods/specifications to	
			burn piles where conditions prohibit the	
			standard specification.	
	16	Should contractor cover piles?	Yes, unless otherwise specified by RCD Project	
	10		Manager. See RFP page 10.	
	17	·	Yes. Piling and pile burn assistance are separate	
	1,	ı c	tasks.	
		Can piles be left to continue burning	Per the RFP on page 11, "Unless otherwise	
İ	18	overnight?	specified by RCD Project Manager, piles must be	
	10		completely extinguished prior to departure from	
			the project site."	
		For piles that will burn past the end	Refer to RFP pages 10-12 for Burning Assistance	
		·	Scope of Work. "Unless otherwise specified by	
		, ,	RCD Project Manager, piles must be completely	
			extinguished prior to departure from the project	
			site."	
	19		When piles are allowed to burn past the end of	
			day, and under certain fire weather and fuels	
			moisture conditions, RCD may require 24-hr	
			resources for control. Generally, RCD will require	
			that burning operations proceed when 24-hour	
		16	controlling resources are not necessary.	
		If contractor is not accepting burn	This question refers to Option 1 on page 11 of	
			the RFP. Contractor is responsible for	
	20	-	extinguishing piles and controlling escapes.	
		extinguishing piles? Controlling	Contractor does not accept liability for loss of	
		escapes?	control of escapes.	
		•	This question refers to Option 2 on page 11 of	
		(Option 2), how does insurance	the RFP. The RCD recommends speaking to your	
		work? Does contractor make	insurance company. RCD insurance	
	21	separate contract with landowner?	requirements remain unchanged from those	
			shown on RFP page 72 in the Sample	
			Agreement. A separate contract with the	
			landowner is not required.	
	33	If contractor hits 3,000-hour cap for	The RCD may consider a contract amendment to	
	22		increase the cap.	
		Burning large diameter wood can be		
			specifications may be considered. Contractor	
		F .	and Project Manager will work together to	
	23	burning piece size on steep slopes	develop alternate methods/specifications to	
		- , , ,	burn piles where conditions prohibit the	
		and closed earlopy sites:	standard specification.	
			planuaru specincation.	

Topic	#	Question	Response	Add.
-	24		RCD does not plan to employ or coordinate with CCC or CAL FIRE.	
		Can piles be masticated if the ground is not too steep?	Generally, piles will not be allowed to be masticated.	
	25		Per RFP page 9, "The following treatments may be modified by the Project Manager to reflect on-the-ground conditions. Any planned treatment type may be redesignated for a different treatment type at the discretion of the Project Manager."	
			Alternate specifications may be required. Contractor and Project Manager will work together to develop alternate specifications where conditions prohibit the standard specification.	
	26	If RCD allows machine piling, is that still charged by the hour?	Yes	
	27	Is there a requirement of number of workers to each lit pile?	Yes. See RFP page 11. "CONTRACTOR is limited to monitoring up to 6 closely situated lit piles per crew member."	
	28	Is the contractor required to line the piles?	Yes. See RFP page 10. "A perimeter line shall be established free and clear of all flammable material and vegetation around each pile, wide enough to prevent escape but no less than 2 feet in width, unless otherwise specified by RCD Project Manager."	
	29	What are the burning restrictions?	See RFP pages 10-12 for burning restrictions. Additional fire weather and fuel moisture restrictions may apply.	
Herbicide				
	30	and mastication areas, herbicide will be applied in the form of a follow-up foliar spray 1-2 years after mastication." Given the grant expiration date of March 2025, how does the RCD foresee completing this task?	RCD does not have control over extension of the March 2025 grant expiration. RCD will monitor regrowth during the 2024 growing season to evaluate need for foliar follow-up spray less than 1 year after treatment (prior to grant expiration). RCD expects to apply for grant extension, and if accepted, continuing as stated in the RFP. Stump application concurrent with cutting is preferable considering the timeline issue above.	
	31	What are the target species for herbicide treatment?	The RCD does not have a full list. Examples of target species include: manzanita, bear clover, broom, blackberry, buckbrush, buckeye, deer	

Topic	#	Question	Response	Add.
-			brush, toyon, coffee berry, chamise, bay laurel, live oak, black oak, and madrone.	
	32	Are there restrictions on which herbicide can be used? Is there a preference on product?	No. Please defer to licensed PCA for confirmation and recommendation. See Draft MND in RFP page 104.	
	33	Will Option Areas be sprayed?	Option Areas are mostly aligned with watercourses. Per Watercourse Protection BMPs, page 15, herbicide will not be applied within the WLPZ.	
	34	Will there be a markup on chemical costs?	No. Proof of chemical cost and usage reporting will be required with submittal of invoice.	
	35	treated with herbicides? All zones?	No. Except for areas excluded from herbicide application within the draft MND (e.g. watercourse buffers, or within 100 feet of elderberry) the entirety of Zone 1 and Zone 2 are proposed to be treated with herbicides. Zone 3 herbicide treatment may be required, but will be limited to a few ownerships.	
	36	Is there water access on-site for herbicide mix?	No	
	37	How should cut stump application work if cut and application are done by different contractors?	Coordination between contractors will be required.	
	38	Will the RCD require dye?	Yes, unless otherwise specified by the Project Manager.	
Operations				•
	39	Are treatments flagged in all the same color? Can contractor reflag areas with a different color?	Yes. Treatments are all flagged with solid orange The contractor may reflag treatment areas with a different color agreed upon by the RCD Project Manager.	
	40	camp)?	See draft RFP page 32. Additionally, the contract may stipulate no work on weekends and holidays unless given express permission by the Project Manager. Church camp at end of E Weimar Cross Rd has no operations period of June-September.	
	41	equipment to site (e.g. along church camp asphalt)?	Walking equipment on concrete or asphalt driveways should be avoided where there is potential for damage. Contractor and Project Manager will work together to develop a plan to avoid damage.	
	42	hand treatment zones, e.g. for	Hand treatment will be predominantly hand cut, hand piled for burning, or hand fed for chipping. RCD is only requesting per man hour, and per chipper hour prices. A separate line item will not	

Topic	#	Question	Response	Add.
		separate cost line for unspecified equipment service hours within hand treatment tasks?		
	43	What will RCD require for road surface, waterbar, and road drainage maintenance?	Refer to RFP page 16 Section V. D and E. RCD expects that road drainages will need to be restored following completion of fuels treatments. An hourly rate may be negotiated.	
	44	can they masticate them instead?	Mastication is not allowed within hand work zones. Per RFP page 9, "The following treatments may be modified by the Project Manager to reflect on-the-ground conditions. Any planned treatment type may be redesignated for a different treatment type at the discretion of the Project Manager." If any hand treatment areas are later switched to mastication, the new mastication area would be added to the contract area by amendment. Alternate specifications may be required. Contractor and Project Manager will work together to develop alternate specifications where conditions prohibit the standard specification.	
	45	piles/fuels from adjacent slopes, can they chip them instead?	Chipping in-lieu of piling is not requested.	
	46	Can old skids be opened up to use as staging/to process material?	Per RFP page 9, "Unmapped trails inside the project area are permitted for use when the CONTRACTOR deems the trail to be stable and suitable for use. Use of unmapped trails remain	

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			subject to the Best Management Practices in	
			Section C of this RFP.	
		Do contractors have to start at Zone	Contractors are free to make their own work	
		1, or are they free to make their	plan. Per RFP page 13, "The Project Manager	
	47	own plan of attack?	reserves the right to change the work plan upon	
			arrival based on adjustments to workflow and	
			project priorities.	
		Can chips be blown onto a	Generally, no. Per RFP page 193, "All cut	
			vegetation shall be kept within the project	
			boundaries. Vegetation falling into ditches,	
	48		streams, roads, road banks, adjacent properties,	
			or trails shall be immediately removed."	
			Contractor should notify Project Manager prior	
			to spreading chips outside project boundaries.	
		•	No. Marked hazard trees are able to be felled	
	49	1	whole-tree. Contractor should notify Project	
		(near utilities, houses, etc.)?	Manager prior to felling if hazard tree requires	
			climbing or piecing-down.	
			See RFP page 88 for requirements/restrictions	
	50	requirements/restrictions during fire	during fire season.	
		season?	No. Outing Associated as book and	
			No. Option Area is designated as hand work.	
		arm into Option Areas? Or needs to be handwork?	Dor DED mage 0 "The following	
			Per RFP page 9, "The following	
			treatments may be modified by the Project	
			Manager to reflect on-the-ground conditions. Any planned treatment type may be	
			redesignated for a different treatment type at	
	51		the discretion of the Project Manager."	
			the discretion of the Project Manager.	
			Alternate specifications may be required.	
			Contractor and Project Manager will work	
			together to develop alternate specifications	
			where conditions prohibit the standard	
			specification.	
		Can the Contractor pile and burn in-	No. The contractor may not choose to pile and	
		•	burn in-lieu of chipping.	
		pile and burn would be more		
		ľ	Per RFP page 9, "The following	
			treatments may be modified by the Project	
	52		Manager to reflect on-the-ground conditions.	
			Any planned treatment type may be	
			redesignated for a different treatment type at	
			the discretion of the Project Manager."	
			, , ,	

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			Alternate specifications may be required. Contractor and Project Manager will work together to develop alternate specifications where conditions prohibit the standard specification.	
Treatment	Area	,		•
	53	Is defensible space flagging around homes always 100'?	No. Defensible space flagging is generally a minimum of 100', but can be greater than 100'.	
	54	How was acreage determined? Walked or GIS?	Both. Primary treatment boundaries have all been flagged and GPS'd. Optional treatment areas were determined using GIS.	
	55	Is the project 682 acres or 800 (RFP total acres vs grant total acres). Are Option Areas included in this acreage?	The project is 682 acres as measured by GPS. Yes, Option Areas are included in the 682 acres.	
	56	Can the RCD provide clarification on the Option Areas?	 Treatment type: Hand treat and pile in most areas including Class III WLPZ. Hand treat and chip in Class I and Class II WLPZ. Refer to RFP page 15, Hand Work (Non roadside), for Watercourse Protections, as much of the option area work is within watercourse protection zones. Work plan/schedule: The Option Areas will not initially be part of the contract. If time/funds allow, the RCD may add the Option Areas to the contract as an amendment after Zone 2 hand treatment/mastication is complete. Equipment use during dry and stable conditions?: Refer to RFP page 15, Hand Work (Non roadside), for allowed uses of equipment in WLPZ, as much of the Option Area work is within watercourse protection zones. 	
	57	Is Zone 3 only hand treatment?	Yes	
	58	What is the veg type of the chip and remove area of zone 3? What does it look like?		
	59	Blank bubbles on map indicate defensible space? Or treatment area?	Blank indicates defensible space or notreatment areas. Additionally, not all landowners have agreed to participate and these parcels will show as blank. Contractor will be provided maps showing landowner agreement status. Contractor is not allowed to enter properties without landowner agreements.	

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		With different prescriptions - Hand chip and spread, hand treat and pile - can the contractor determine the	Contractor is not permitted to determine the treatment type.	
		effort type per work area? Is there flexibility? For example, Hand treat	Per RFP page 9, "The following treatments may be modified by the Project	
		and pile > hand treat chip and spread	Manager to reflect on-the-ground conditions. Any planned treatment type may be	
	60		redesignated for a different treatment type at the discretion of the Project Manager."	
			Alternate specifications may be required. Contractor and Project Manager will work together to develop alternate specifications where conditions prohibit the standard specification.	
	61	If areas designated for mastication can't be completed, will RCD replace, acre-for-acre, with additional mastication ground? If not, what is the RCD's planned	No. If contractor finds that mastication treatment specification cannot be achieved due to site conditions (e.g. too steep/too rocky), contractor should seek approval from RCD Project Manager to leave ground untreated.	
		approach?	Replacement acreage will not be provided.	
	62	Will RCD confirm Hand Treat and Pile acres are correct in Zone 2 map?	, ,,	#2 Rev#3
	63	Have the acres of chip/remove changed? The Sat/Slope maps differ from the original RFP maps.	See Addendum #2 Rev#2	#2 Rev#2
Resource P	rotect	ion		
	64	How many arch sites are in each zone? How large are they?	There are 7 sites in Zone 3, predominantly located within one parcel. Less than 1 acre is affected.	
	04		There are 13 sites in Zone 1 and Zone 2 combined. These sites are disbursed throughout both Zones. Less than 5 acres are affected.	
	65	Are invasive species areas mapped (i.e. where equipment needs to be washed)?	Invasive species have not been mapped within the treatment area. See RFP treatment specifications on page 194.	
	66	Whose responsibility is migratory bird surveys and monitoring?	The RCD will complete migratory bird surveys in advance of operations.	
	67	Are there any bird nests to be considered during operations?	Yes. Review of sensitive sites, including biological sites, will occur in a pre-op meeting.	
	68	Will arch sites exclude hand work too?	No. Handwork will be required in arch sites. RCD may require that burn piles be constructed outside arch sites.	

Topic	#	Question	Response	Add
-		Will the RCD revise the	No .	
	69	\$200/damaged tree fine, to a plot		
		inspection method?		
	70	How wide are the stream buffers?	See RFP pages 14-16 for description of stream	
	70		buffers.	
		Is contractor required to install	Yes. See RFP page 13 for waterbar spacing	
	71	erosion control on all roads and	requirement.	
		trails used?	·	
Permitting	•			
	72	Will the RCD file a forest practice	No	
	72	permit?		
		What is the RCD's estimated	RCD does not have an estimated timeframe for	
	73	timeframe for CEQA completion?	CEQA completion.	
Bidding Pro	ocedu	re and Requirements		
		One contractor can bid on one or	Yes	
	74	multiple tasks, and one or multiple		
	' '	zones?		
		Can RCD circulate contact	No	
	75	information for one contractor to		
	'	other prospective bidders?		
		Will the RCD distribute a list of all	Yes	
	76	companies that attended the pre-	ies	
	/0	bid field meetings?		
			Photographs of other projects completed are	
		What to put in pictures of past work?	Photographs of other projects completed are	
		WOIK!	helpful but not required. The RCD suggests	
	77		including before and after photos of Pile for	
	77		Burn, Mastication, Chip and Spread treatments	
			completed by you. Location and other	
			information, e.g. vegetation type, which relates	
	+	la the test of a transfer of the test of t	the photograph to this project is helpful.	
		Is the total estimated price per line	This is an estimate.	
	78			
		just an estimate?		
		If the volume exceeds the estimate,		
	79	will the contractor be paid on actual		
		hours/acres completed?		
		If the volume is below the estimate,		
		will the contractor be paid based on		
	80			
		will it be based on actual hours		
	1	and/or acres?		
		How will labor and chipper hours be	Per RFP page 16, RCD will conduct on-site	
		tracked and reported?	inspections.	
	81			

Topic	#	Question	Response					Add	
			Reporti	ng table	example.		_	_	
			Date	Resource Type	Quantity of Resource	Hours per Resource	Rate per Hour	f Total	
			6/1/24	Hand Crew Tracked chipper	10	10	\$xx \$xxx	= c*d*e = c*d*e	
	82	Compliance is a new 2024 requirement and is not typically a requirement for forestry operations,	effectiv Record Off-Roa	e Janua ed Comp d Diese	n the require ry 1, 2024. A oliance (CRC I-Fueled Flee th the propo	Certific) with CA et regula	ate of ARB In tions i	-Use must	
	83	12 th , 2024 mandatory? Or is it mandatory only if respondents	optiona tour on the we	al for res January ek of Fel dents di	ring the wee spondents th y 30 th , 2024. bruary 12 th , i d not attend	at atten Attenda 2024 is r	ded th nce at nanda	ne first a tour tory if	-
	84	Will the bid choice be based on lowest bid, most competent contractor, etc.?			v bid process cess on page			ne	
	85	Has RCD considered adding line items for mobilization and demobilization rather than factoring the price into the per hour cost?	No						
	86	Can prospective bidders have more time to view the work area? Extend due date?	See RFI	P Adden	dum #1				#1
	87	Why was the RFP opened up to additional bidders attending the week of Feb 12 th ?	discove allowed "manda and hav was ne though #1 adda "Propo respon- propos	ered a ted respondatory" make it according the it according the iterations are ssed the iterations are ssed that was all field reaccording the iterations are sed to the iteration are	the RFP Add chnicality windents that do neeting to sti epted. In other ed to addition as the RCD's in his technical not be accept attended at neeting."	ithin the lid not a ill submi ner word nal bidd intentior ity by cla oted unla t least or	RFP v ttend t t a prod ls, the ers ev n. Add arifying ess the ne (1)	vhich the posal RFP en endum g that, e pre-	
	88	Is there a Disabled Veterans Business Enterprise (DVBE) preference?		s not a s this proj	et aside or p ect.	referenc	ce for	DVBE	
	89	Is there a prevailing wage requirement?	No. The	ere is no	t a prevailing	g wage r	equire	ement.	

Topic	#	Question	Response	Add
-		Will there be RCD staff monitoring	Yes	
	90	the number of crew present for		
		hand crew?		
		Why are most tasks priced by hourly	Tasks priced by hourly rate have greater	
		rate, as opposed to the unit (per	variability in level of effort and approach	
	0.4	acre) pricing for mastication?	throughout the project area. These tasks may	
	91		evolve and will likely require regular	
			communication and collaboration between the	
			RCD and the Contractor.	
		Can RCD classify chippers based on	No	
	92	CAL FIRE standards (horsepower)?		
		As opposed to diameter capability.		
		If contractors are teaming up,	Yes, if the proposals have different content.	
	93	should they submit 2 proposals?	, and proposals have annother someone.	
			No	
	94	extension when bidding?		
		75% by 6/30 is a requirement?	No. It is a goal for the RCD to accomplish 75% of	
	95	I	the project prior to the height of the next fire	
			season.	
		The RFP specifies "supplemental	Include in "Per Acre" price.	
		work by hand crews to prune	morade in Terrore price.	
		residual trees, and cut brush away		
		from residual trees in order to fulfill		
	96	the Treatment Specifications in		
	30	Exhibit H". Does the RCD want the		
		contractor to include this in their		
		"Per Acre" price? Or to provide a		
		separate "Per Man Hour" price?		
Ownership	ns and			
ZWIIEI3IIIķ	JS allu		No. On RFP page 62, the PLT Contractual item is	
		contractual line item in the grant	a separate activity from the project and bidders	
	97	_	do not need to incorporate PLT as a	
		project?	contractor/subcontractor.	
			Yes, landowners have signed rights of entry. The	
			RCD will provide the Contractor with a list and	
		entry forms be provided to the	map depicting completed rights-of-entry. Prior	
			to start of operations, RCD will query recent	
	98		property sales data to ensure accuracy of list	
			, , ,	
		completed?	and map. RCD is also providing regular	
			landowner updates and will provide landowners	
		Are the property lines within the	with notice of operations.	
			Property lines within (interior of) the project	
	00	F	area are not flagged, unless the line demarcates	
	99		a change in treatment type. Property boundaries	
			that coincide with the project boundary are	
			flagged in solid orange.	

Topic	#	Question	Response	Add.
		Will the RCD require the Contractor	Yes. RCD may require that the contractor list	
	100	to list landowners as additionally insured?	landowners as additionally insured.	
	101	How will access work for contractors through the Gillis Hill gate?	RCD will work with landowner and Contractor to ensure access.	
Other	l	,		I
	102	Will the RCD provide Avenza Maps and project shapefiles?	Yes, RCD will provide georeferenced (Avenza) maps. No, the RCD will not provide shapefiles. Map products are available for viewing during business hours at Placer RCD office 11641 Blocker Drive Suite 120, Auburn, CA. You can also access georeferenced maps using this link.	
	103	What is the termination date for the project?	Maps Per RFP page 7, "All work must be complete, and invoices submitted, prior to March 15, 2025."	
	104		See Addendum #2. Piling is not required.	#2 Rev#2
	105	Can contractor bill for road construction? (e.g. road widening)	No	
	106	Can firewood be left for landowners?	No. Firewood generation is not part of this project.	
	107	Is there a template for the number of members on a handcrew?	No	