Plumas County Fire Safe Council

TAYLORSVILLE CAMPGROUND HAZARDOUS FUEL REDUCTION PROJECT
Project Prospectus

The Taylorsville Campground Hazardous Fuel Reduction Project HFR was developed as part of the Plumas County Fire Safe Council's (PFSC) strategy to reduce hazardous fuel conditions surrounding communities at risk. The project is located on Plumas County owned land, Sec. 26 & 35, T26N, R10E, MDB&M. Access is gained from Hwy 89, then taking County Road 207 east into Taylorsville. The project is located approximately .4 miles east of Taylorsville, immediately east of the Taylorsville Rodeo grounds on County Road 112. Approximately 26 acres have been identified for treatment using a hand release/pile/chipping & burn application. This prospectus is intended to solicit potential contractors interested in performing hazardous fuel reduction tasks to the specifications provided below.

Important Dates & Times

Show Me Tour: ***Thursday, April 17, 2008 @ 11:00 a.m***. (Location: Taylorsville Campground-see map)

Bid Date: ***Thursday***, ***April 24, 2008 @ 5:00 p.m.***

Contract Term and Timing of Operations:

Operations shall begin by agreement upon contract execution with completion no later than December 31, 2008 unless otherwise agreed.

Operations should not be affected by inclement weather as this project is a hand pile & burn with a lesser amount of chipping.

Treatment Area Designation:

A Registered Professional Forester (RPF-Smailes) has identified the treatment area on the ground. The area designated for treatment is flagged with surveyors' ribbon. Color codes and significance are as follows:

Red…..project boundary

Plumas County's Fire Safe Council's General Hazardous Fuel Reduction Treatment Desires Are:

Desired Stand Condition:
Fuel conditions (surface, ladder & canopy) would not contribute to initiating or sustaining a crown fire and have projected flame lengths of less than 2-4 feet in the surface fuels and represented in photo series PNW-51 and 52: photo description codes 1-PP-4-PC, 2-PP-4-PC, 4-PP-1-TH,, 1-DF-4-PC, 6-DF-PC and 2-LP-3-PC. (www.bof.fire.ca.gov/pdfs/photoseries%201-pp-4-pc.pdf and www.bof.fire.ca.gov/pdfs/fuelbreak.pdf) Stand resilience from fire would be high. The resulting stand would appear open and park like with the primary carrier of the fire being needles and/or grasses. When a fire passes, there may be occasional torching of bushes or smaller trees in openings where larger trees don't exist, but there would generally be a continuous horizontal and vertical break of the forest canopy, with canopy cover of 40-50%, over light surface fuels.

Understory Layer:
Standard: Conifer stands would be thinned from below increasing the crown to base height (a fire modeling term for distance between surface fuels and the lower branches of the overstory) and tree spacing. The treated crown to base height would be targeted to at least 15, but preferably 20 feet. There should be less than 20% brush or small trees left on site that would contribute to elevating a surface fire into the crowns of the desired leave stand.
Treatment: Smaller trees would be selectively thinned and left in openings where they would not create a fuel ladder condition that could lead to the initiation of a crown fire. Cutting, piling, chipping and burning to reduce the fuel height and volume would treat brush and small trees. Occasional patches of small trees and bushes could be retained, provided they will not contribute to fire laddering into the canopy of the leave stand.

Surface fuel layer:
Standard: Treated surface fuel conditions would not contribute to initiating or sustaining a crown fire and have projected flame lengths of less than 2-4 feet in the surface fuels and represented in photo series PNW-51 and 52: photo description codes 1-PP-4-PC, 2-PP-4-PC, 4-PP-1-TH,, 1-DF-4-PC, 6-DF-PC and 2-LP-3-PC (www.bof.fire.ca.gov/pdfs/photoseries%201-pp-4-pc.pdf and www.bof.fire.ca.gov/pdfs/fuelbreak.pdf). Stand resilience from fire would be high. The resulting stand would appear park like and the primary carrier of the fire would be needles and/or grasses. When a fire passes, there may be occasional torching of bushes or smaller trees in openings where larger trees don't exist, but there would generally be a continuous horizontal and vertical break of the forest canopy over light surface fuels.
Treatment: Any activity fuel or residual slash (with the exception of an occasional downed log for wildlife purposes) would be removed, masticated or piled for burning.

Overstory Vegetation:
Standard: Tree crowns for the remaining fire resistant trees would not be touching creating a canopy cover of 50%, allowing for heat dispersion. Canopy closure in the shade intolerant species and long needle conifer would usually be less than for shade tolerant and short needle conifers.
Treatment: Cut and remove trees that would contribute to initiation or sustaining of a crown fire. No trees to be cut over 8.9 inches dbh (diameter at breast height).

TREATMENTS

The hand pile/burn treatment method has been selected as the optimum treatment with regard to efficiency and safety within the goals of the Taylorsville Campground HFR. This method was also designed to meet the PFSC objective, minimize environmental impact and effectively treat hazardous fuel conditions (as described below). As a prospective contractor, you are encouraged to submit a bid to complete Item #1. of in the work specified in the following. Please provide a cost breakdown of your bid between Hand Release/Piling/Chipping and that of Burning (PFSC may seek alternate means for hand pile disposal). Additionally, provide brief written description of how you will conduct your operations and a timeline for completion. Your bid will be reviewed by RPF-Smailes who will then discuss potential operator(s) with the appropriate PFSC representatives to determine the successful bidder. The RPF and PFSC reserve the right to reject any or all bids.

Item 1. Hand Release, Pile, Burn, & Chipping (26 Acres)

This unit is the only proposed treatment area of this County owned property. The area is composed an overstory mix of Douglas-fir, California Black Oak, Canyon Live Oak with an understory of Douglas-fir saplings and drought hardy chaparral – primarily Manzanita and Ceanothus spp. The stand as a whole is overstocked ranging from 90 sq. ft to over 200 sq. ft. It is desired to establish stocking to an average level of 140 sq. ft./acre through "thinning from below". The following are general hand thinning and pile specifications:

Hand Release, Piling, & Chipping

1. Conifers, less than 8.9 inches diameter at breast height (dbh) will be thinned to a spacing of 25 ft. (a spacing defined from conifer to conifer). Trees that remain will be of superior phenotypic quality exhibiting good form, crown to bole ratio, and free from insect and forest pathogen infestation.
2. Minimum diameter for conifer cut: ½ inch at base (ground level)
3. No hardwood (oaks) either in shrub or tree form shall be cut or pruned.

4. Brush release. Cut and remove brush with consideration to 40 ft. spacing. Retain 10% of brush in clusters with recommended spacing. Minimum diameter for brush cut is 1/2 inch diameter at base.
5. Piling. Burn piles shall be constructed free of dirt and non-combustible material to ensure a clean safe burn. Other requirements:
    a. Piles will be located away from stumps, *power lines*, tree crowns, and sufficient distance away from remaining trees or other vegetation to reduce scorch.
    b. Piles will be constructed with a height of 1.5 times higher than their width (at base). However, pile height shall not exceed 6 feet unless there are limited openings for piles to avoid residual tree scorch, due to the amount of material to be disposed and by approval of RPF.
    c. Compactness. Each pile containing material protruding greater than 3 feet will be trimmed back and placed on pile.
    d. Minimum piece size for piling is 1 inch diameter x 3 foot length.
    e. Covering piles. Each pile will have plastic or kraft paper placed (preferably during its construction) on at least 50% of pile surface. Covering shall be secured by small logs or slash.
6. Firewood. Material larger than 5 inches diameter is considered firewood and will not be placed in or on top of burn piles but rather piled or stashed separately. This requirement will apply for only the lower half of the project area or an area best described 200 ft. uphill from the campground and county road. Area above this zone, contractor shall have firewood size material placed in burn pile.
7. Chipping. This disposal method will apply to the area surrounding PG&E power lines in which chips may be blown back into unit. A chip depth of no more than 3 inches will be allowed.
8. Firewood to be bucked into 4 foot bolts and placed perpendicular to slope so as to reduce roll out.
9. Fire Suppression Equipment. Contractor shall have sufficient ability and equipment on site should a wildfire emergency occur. Contractor shall comply with Cal Fire rules (PRC 4428).

Burning

In order to achieve an efficient and safe burn, contractor shall allow for sufficient wet conditions before ignition and thus decrease the degree of burn creep and/or escape. Contractor shall exhibit sufficient man-power to ignite and manage the burning of piles. A PG&E power line is located within the project area requiring attention to overhead power lines. It is required that contractor chip felled material within this corridor (highly recommended for prospective contractors to review project area and attend "show me tour").

1. Contacts: An "Air Pollution Permit" shall be obtained from the local Northern Sierra Air Quality Management District – Quincy Field Office (530-283-4654) prior to burning. Other required contacts:
    a. Contact – check Air Quality Mgmt. Dist. "burn day" status (284-6520) prior to ignition.
    b. Contact – Joe D. Smailes, RPF, 24 hour notice prior to planned ignition (284-0898).
    c. Contact – U.S. Forest Service, 24 hour notice to Greenville Patrol 21, Karen Juska (284-1817). Note: Widespread burn restrictions may often be re-imposed without notice. Advisable to check in with Greenville office as well as Cal Fire Quincy office (283-1792).
2. The contractor shall patrol County Road 112 (immediately adjacent and below burn unit) after ignition to monitor roll outs or flaming chunks released upon burning of piles.
3. Piles shall be managed to burn clean and level to the ground. Chunking in at least one time will be necessary after the piles have had time to burn down and more may be required for satisfactory consumption. Chunking will include not only unburned pile material, but *any burning fuel* which is creeping from a pile to prevent further creep.
4. Piles shall cease to be lit if excessive scorching of the remaining leave trees occurs. A deduction will be made from payment to contractor in the amount of 10% for every increment of 10% of the remaining leave stand destroyed by careless burning.
5. Burn Patrol. Contractor shall provide adequate patrol on site until burn piles are consumed and pose no threat for additional creep.

6. Fire Suppression Equipment & Fire Cache. Contractor shall furnish fire fighting tools on project site at all times during burn. Type and number of tools will meet Cal Fire requirements (PRC 4428).

Insurance Requirements

Insurance. Prior to rendering services, CONTRACTOR and his/her subcontractors shall acquire, and maintain during the term of this Agreement, at Contractor's sole expense: (l) Workers' Compensation Insurance conforming to the statutory requirements of the state in which operations under this agreement are performed; (2) comprehensive general and automobile bodily injury liability insurance written on an "occurrence" basis subject to minimum limits of $l,000,000.00 each person and $l,000,000.00 each occurrence; and (3) general property damage insurance subject to a minimum of $l,000,000.00 with not more than a $10,000.00 deductible each loss; and (4) loggers' broad form property damage insurance of $1,000,000.00 per occurrence. All liability insurance coverage shall provide that subcontractors working for CONTRACTOR are covered under the terms of CONTRACTOR'S policies. For Contractor performing the burning of piles, such liability insurance shall expressly include coverage for damages incurred for fire escape. All insurance shall meet the approval of Plumas Corporation (PC) and Smailes, and all policies evidencing said insurance shall provide for thirty days' prior written notice to PC and Smailes before cancellation or material change in the policy. A certificate of Insurance showing evidence of insurance coverage as specified herein shall be furnished to PC and/or Smailes prior to commencement of CONTRACTOR's operations.

Pre-Work Meeting:

Prior to operations, the Contractor shall initiate a meeting with RPF Smailes to discuss operations.

Method of Payment:

The contractor may submit an invoice to the Plumas Corporation twice monthly for work completed. Payment shall be made following confirmation of work completion and acceptance of work by the supervising RPF.

Bidding Requirements:

Project Bid

Provide the following in your bid for this project:

1. Break you bid into:
   A. Hand Release/Piling/Chipping……($ total cost)
   B. Burning…….....($ total cost)
2. Provide a brief written description how you will perform on the specifications given with a timeline.
3. References. Provide references for hazard fuel reduction oriented work.

Pre-Bid Project Tour

All interested bidders are strongly encouraged to attend the one time Pre-Project bidders' tour. The purpose of this event is to provide project details, objectives and answer all questions regarding operations. The pre-bid tour date is Thursday, April 17, 2008 @ 11:00 a.m., meet at Taylorsville Campground – immediately east of Taylorsville Rodeo grounds (see map).

Bid Date & Where To Send

The contractor shall provide a lump sum bid (divided by the two separate components) for this project no later than Thursday, April 24, 2008 at 5:00 PM. You may mail a bid or email me if you so choose.

Email Bid: joesmailes@yahoo.com

Mail Bid: Plumas Corp.
Attn: John Sheehan
P.O. Box 3880
Quincy, CA 95971