

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

FOR SERVICES of a REGISTERED PROFESSIONAL FORESTER to the PLUMAS COUNTY FIRE SAFE COUNCIL and PLUMAS CORPORATION

A Fuel Hazard Reduction Project: *Gold Mountain*

November 14, 2008

Project Overview:

Plumas Corporation, on behalf of the Plumas County Fire Safe Council, is seeking the services of a Registered Professional Forester (RPF) licensed in the State of California to act as a consultant. The consultant(s) will design, develop, coordinate and implement the Gold Mountain hazardous fuels reduction project on private lands.

- **Gold Mountain Hazardous Fuel Reduction on Graeagle Land & Water lands**
- Design, develop and, secure services of an acceptable forest mastication contractor, oversee thinning and surface fuel work in order to reduce hazardous fuels on ~ 120 acres of private lands (south of Portola). See attached map. The project will involve no commercial product removal and treatment will only include mastication, Total project cost estimate is \$50,000.

The RPF will be working closely with the Plumas County Fire Safe Council, a private landowner and Plumas Corporation in the selection of specific acreages to be treated and the treatment regime. The basic prescription is to treat excessive surface & ladder fuels on poor timber site land base, with the objective to reduce the expected flame length on the treated acres to 2'-4'.

Background:

Catastrophic forest fires are a constant threat to the citizens, property, businesses and environment in Plumas County. Because of this threat the Plumas County Fire Safe Council (PCFSC) has sought and received a grant to reduce hazardous fuels on Graeagle Land & Water lands immediately adjacent to the community of Gold Mountain. This project is funded with National Fire Plan funds through the California Fire Safe Council (CFSC) and the Gold Mountain CSD & HOA

Goals:

The goals of these projects are:

- Provide hazardous fuel reduction on defined, separate parcels in the project areas.

- Reduce the loss of life, property and natural resources to catastrophic wildfires.
- Initiate strategic fuel reduction projects on private property within and around Communities at Risk.
- Implement the Plumas County Communities Wildfire Mitigation Plan, adopted in 2005.
- Create employment opportunities for citizens and businesses within Plumas County, as appropriate.
- Develop fuel reduction opportunities in Plumas County that coordinate the efforts, funds and resources of the Plumas County Fire Safe Council, National Fire Plan, Quincy Library Group, Title II and III projects of Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act (PL 106-393) as well as the Beckwourth and Mt. Hough Ranger Districts of the Plumas National Forest.

Scope of Work:

The Registered Professional Forester (RPF) will be required to complete all of the tasks described below for the project. Completion of the tasks will require working with the property owner (s), Contractors, representatives from the Gold Mountain CSD & HOA, Plumas County Fire Safe Council and Plumas Corporation staff for compliance with federal and state laws according to the conditions of the grant and the terms and conditions of the contract between the RPF and Plumas Corporation.

- RPF should attend at least two Plumas County Fire Safe Council meetings and will initiate and attend meetings with the local property owner(s) to assist the Fire Safe Council in the selection, location and prioritization of the proposed fuel reduction project and the development of silvicultural marking guides.
- RPF will meet with the property owner & project managers to coordinate their involvement in the program and their execution of the necessary contracts. RPF will coordinate the development and implementation of the fuel reduction project with the property owner, contractors, agencies, Plumas County Fire Safe Council, US Forest Service and Plumas Corporation staff through the development of the Operational Plan and Schedule that demonstrates the completion of all the tasks by July 1, 2009.
- RPF will conduct an appropriate field review of potential project locations on the site in order to prepare a mastication treatment prospectus. Because federal funding is involved, this community level fuel reduction project must also receive environmental approval prior to treatment from BLM and the CFSC.
- RPF will work with Plumas Corporation staff and PCFSC to assist in the execution of the individual Property Owner Agreements for adoption by the landowner(s). These documents will include technical specifications, cost calculations, supporting maps and contract documents. ProFormas of these agreements will be provided by PCFSC.
- RPF will provide continual administration and monitoring of the hazardous fuel reduction project (as appropriate) and develop notices of completion on the project.

- RPF will provide assistance and project information for the monitoring process led by the University of California Cooperative Extension (UCCE), in concert with Plumas Corporation, Plumas County Fire Safe Council, and the landowners.
- RPF will develop project level Geographic Information System (GIS) maps using Global Positioning System (GPS) technology in an agreed upon format, using the Plumas County Parcel base map and Ortho photo quads for all project sites, showing first areas to be treated and after the project is complete showing the areas actually treated
- RPF will coordinate with the PCFSC Coordinator, GM Project Managers, and Plumas Corporation staff in the development and filing of quarterly Grant Reports as appropriate. Plumas Corporation will actually prepare and submit the reports.
- RPF will provide photographs associated with the project to the PCFSC Project Manager and Plumas Corporation staff.

Available Funds:

The estimated amount of funds available for the services of the Registered Professional Forester under these grants is \$4,500. Firm and/or RPF must acknowledge and affirmatively indicate that they can provide such services and complete all the tasks within this amount on a time and materials, not to exceed basis.

Project Milestones:

Milestone	Completion Date
Release of RFP	11/14, 2008
Proposal due by 5 p.m.	12/5, 2008
Review and Selection	12/15, 2008
Agreement Signed by RPF	12/15,2008
RPF Work Begins	12/15,2008
Quarterly Report	3/15, 2009
Landowner Contracts, Project area mapping, layout	1/31/, 2009*
Develop Prospectus, solicit & select a mastication contractor	3/1/2009
Implementation- Treatment Completion	7/1/2009**
Final Report	1/31, 2009

- * milestone completion incentives awarded.
- ** final completion incentive awarded.

Project Evaluation:

The project will be evaluated using the following criteria:

- Timely completion of all aspects of the fuel reduction project
- Project locations and treatments meet Plumas County Fire Safe Council Criteria
- Increased citizen participation in Plumas County Fire Safe Council
- Increased citizen support and participation for further fuel reduction projects.

Registered Professional Forester Selection Criteria:

Selection of the RPF will be based on the submission of the following required information to Plumas Corporation no later than 5 p.m. on December 5, 2008. A three-member committee from the Plumas County Fire Safe Council will review and select the best qualified forester.

1. Applicant is a California Registered Professional Forester
2. Firm history and background
3. Name and address of firm and/or RPF applicant
4. Contact person, e-mail, fax and phone number
5. Capacity of the firm or RPF to conduct the Scope of Work, including GPS/GIS capability
6. Familiarity with the National Fire Plan and community hazardous fuel reduction
7. Staff and/or RPF availability
8. A cost proposal. One Total amount should be presented for the project bid on.
9. A cost estimate including total cost, hourly rates, local billing costs, not to exceed amount described.
10. List of 5 most recent references and former clients. If there are time period gaps between references provided, explain the gap.
11. Any appropriate affirmative action information
12. Firm and/or individual RPF experience in forestry practices
13. Demonstrated relevant experience and technical competence in reduction of hazardous surface, ladder and crown fuels
14. Demonstrated experience and technical competence with global positioning system and geographic information system technology.
15. Demonstrated relevant experience and technical competence in collaboratively working with others (i.e., Fire Safe Council, agencies and County representatives, CDF, contractors, community members, US Forest Service, etc.)
16. Demonstrated relevant experience and technical competence of working with the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection and the California Forest Practice Act, US Forest Service and National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), its regulations and other related environmental regulations.
17. Plumas County and Northern Sierra Nevada region work experience
18. Affirmative Action will be taken into account to assure that small, women and minority owned businesses are utilized when possible.
19. A current professional liability insurance policy is a condition of this project and evidence of such coverage must be provided in the RPF proposal. A minimum of one million dollar coverage in general liability and professional liability insurance is required.

The Plumas County Fire Safe Council and Plumas Corporation reserve the right to reject any proposal and to select and negotiate all RPF work based solely on the judgment of the Fire Safe Council and/or Plumas Corporation as to the suitability of the persons responding to this RFP to perform the described work. Interviews will be at the option of the Plumas County Fire Safe Council and Plumas Corporation. A final decision will be made no later than December 15, 2007.

Proposal Submission:

This Request for Proposal package is available for review at the address noted below and online at: www.plumasfiresafe.org

Five (5) copies of the proposal package addressing all criteria must be received by Thursday, November 15, 2007 at 5 p.m. at the following address: Plumas Corporation, 550 Crescent, P.O. Box 3880, Quincy, CA 95971, If you have further questions about this Request for Proposal please contact John Sheehan, -(283-3739), or Jerry Hurley (832-4705)).

Nondiscrimination:

The program or activities under this agreement will be in compliance with the nondiscrimination provisions contained in Titles VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended; the Civil Rights Restoration Act of 1987 (Public Law 100-259); and other nondiscrimination statutes: namely Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, and American's With Disabilities Act of 1990.

