

# Plumas County Fire Safe Council



## LONG VALLEY HAZARDOUS FUEL REDUCTION PROJECT

### Project Prospectus

The Long Valley Hazardous Fuel Reduction Project (LVHFR) 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 in the general Sloat, Cromburg and Long Valley areas, T23N, R11E, Sections 10, 11, 12 and 13, MDM in Plumas County. Access is gained from State Highway 70/89 and associated county and private roads. Approximately 218 acres have been identified for treatment using mechanical and hand applications. This prospectus is intended to solicit potential contractors interested in performing hazardous fuel reduction tasks to the specifications provided below.

Project is funded has been provided by HR 2389, Title II funds.

#### **Contract Term and Timing of Operations:**

Operations shall begin by agreement upon contract execution with completion no later than December 31, 2005.

Operations shall be conducted during daylight hours beginning no sooner than 7:00 am each working day.

#### **Treatment Area Designation:**

A Registered Professional Forester (RPF) or supervised designee has identified all treatment areas on the ground. Each treatment area is flagged with surveyors' ribbon. Color codes and significance are as follows:

Solid Red: Property Boundary, do not cross.

Solid Yellow: Internal Property Line, Crossing allowed, product accountability boundary.

Solid Blue: Watercourse Protection: Equipment exclusion.

Blue and White Candy Striped: Watercourse Protection, Equipment limitation.

Red and White Candy Striped: Cultural Resources, Limited operations, Equipment Exclusion.

Yellow and Black Candy Striped: Biological Exclusion: Limited operations, Equipment Exclusion.

Solid White: Internal Treatment Area Boundary.

Eleven property owners are participating with this project. External boundaries have been established with red flagging. Operations shall not extend beyond the external boundary. Internal boundaries have been identified with yellow flagging. Operations may cross these boundaries however, if commercial forest products are involved, product accountability, by ownership, shall be maintained.

**Treatments:**

Three treatment methods have been developed within the LVHFR. Each method was designed to meet the PFSC objective, minimize environmental impact and effectively treat hazardous fuel conditions. As a prospective contractor, you are encouraged to submit a bid to complete all or individual project item. Please provide details of how you will conduct your operations and time line for completion. Your bid will be reviewed by an RPF (Brian Wayland, RPF #2396) who will then discuss potential operator(s) with the appropriate PFSC representative to determine the successful bidder. The RPF and PFSC reserve the right to reject any or all bids.

Treatments are as follows:

**Item #1, Hand Thinning, Approximately 107 acres:**

The hand thinning designation shall treat vegetation utilizing chainsaw, hand tools or other agreed upon manual methods. The contractor shall cut and remove designated vegetation to reduce the fuel load, modify vegetative density and arrangement for fire hazard reduction. Conifers and other vegetative species are designated for treatment within this item. All chaparral species including, but not limited to manzanita and ceanothus, shall be included. Operations shall clear chaparral to create an effective fuel break. Conifers within the treatment area shall be thinned and pruned as follows:

The desired spacing between trees shall be:

<u>Tree Size, DBH</u>	<u>Maximum Spacing</u>
0”- 4”	7’
5”- 9”	12’
10”-12	17’
>13”	No Treatment

Tree foliage/canopy shall not overlap and have a distinct break between tree crowns.

Treatment shall remove all dead, diseased, dying or suppressed trees of any species. Trees shall be severed no higher than 4” above ground, measured from the upper side of the tree. Once felled, each tree shall be bucked to manageable lengths, if necessary, and disposed of by chipping.

If requested by the landowner, tree segments greater than 4” small end diameter may be bucked into 4’ lengths and stacked for personal firewood use by the landowner only.

Pruning: Trees retained following thinning shall be pruned to a height of 15-20 feet, not to exceed ½ of the total tree height. All cut branches shall be removed to a designated disposal site for chipping.

Chipping for Disposal

All material treated during operations shall be disposed of by chipping only. Disposal of treated material through burning shall not be permitted. Chips may be removed from the site or blown evenly across the ground during operations. At no time shall concentrations of chips exceed six (6) inches in depth or be concentrated into a pile or piles. Any forest products generated from operations shall remain the property of the Plumas Corporation. The contractor shall not remove or sell any products from this project to defer costs or generate income in any way.

**Item #2 Mastication, Approximately 12.5 acres.**

Mechanical mastication of vegetation shall be required to reduce the fuel load and modify vegetative density for fire hazard reduction. Conifers and other vegetative species are designated for treatment within this item. All chaparral species including, but not limited to manzanita and ceanothus, shall be included.

This treatment item consists of a contiguous 12.5 acre area of chaparral species with scattered conifers. Within the treatment area, masticated material shall be evenly distributed across the project area in the most feasible way possible. Treated stumps and stems shall be no longer than 4” from the ground as measured on the uphill side.

The desired spacing between trees shall be:

<u>Tree Size, DBH</u>	<u>Maximum Spacing</u>
0”- 4”	7’
5”- 9”	12’
10”-12	17’
>13”	No Treatment

Tree foliage/canopy shall not overlap and have a distinct break between tree crowns.

Mastication equipment shall not operate between the hours of 1:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m. on days designated as “Red Flag Fire Watch” by the National Weather Service. The Redding Fire Weather Forecast Shall be consulted each evening for the next days forecast.

For fire suppression reasons, the operator shall visually observe the area where operations have occurred once every 15 minutes. A designated watchman shall observe the entire area in which operations have occurred for a minimum of two hours after shutdown.

Fire suppression equipment shall be on site during operations.

**Item #3, Commercial Thinning Operations, Approximately 107 acres.**

Item #3 supports a forest setting with commercial forest products that include chips and Sawlogs. Operations shall treat this area utilizing ground based logging systems.

The contractor shall mechanically fell designated trees on slopes <40%, bundled them into bundles (doodles) and yard all bundled doodles to existing landings for processing with delivery to SPI Quincy and Loyaltan. A Notice of Emergency Timber Operations Fuel Hazard Reduction as per 14 CCR 1052.4 shall govern operations. This permit shall be submitted following contractor selection so that their LTO information shall be included as required for section #3 of the aforementioned permit. Approximately 125 MBF of conifer Sawlogs and 400 BDT of chips are to be harvested during operations.

All trees greater than 12” DBH to be retained (leave trees) during operations have been marked with blue paint prior to operations, unless otherwise stated in the individual parcel description(s) (attached). Trees less than 12” dbh shall be designated for harvest by description. The tables provided below shall direct the LTO in terms of conifer distribution of trees <12” dbh. The LTO shall select the highest quality conifer then remove all surrounding, competing conifers to the designated spacing below. Residual timber (leave trees) shall consist of healthy, vigorous dominant and codominant trees with full crowns, greater than 40% live crown, free of defect and the best phenotypes of the preharvest stand. The LTO shall maintain the preharvest species composition. Conifer retention priority shall be in the following order: Sugar Pine, Ponderosa Pine, Douglas fir, Incense Cedar, and White fir.

Tree distribution shall be as follows:

Tree Size, DBH	Trees per Acre	Maximum Spacing
4"- 9"	112	12'
10"-12	45	17'

At no time shall conifer spacing exceed 25' between trees, regardless of DBH class. Should the final stand appear to be reaching the maximum tree spacing, the contractor shall contact the RPF to discuss potential adjustments to the residual stand.

Operations on slopes greater than 40% shall fell and remove all designated material by conventional methods. Trees shall be whole tree yarded to the specified landing for processing. Designated material shall consist of merchantable Sawlogs and associated tops. Submerchantable material and biomass shall not be included with treatment on these slopes. Slopes less than 40% shall be treated as previously described.

Stocking shall be met by retaining 100 healthy, vigorous dominant trees per acre over 4" in DBH for Site III timberlands or 75 square feet of conifer basal area as determined by the RPF.

Treatment shall remove all dead, diseased, dying or suppressed trees of any species as described above. Trees shall be severed no higher than 4" above ground as measured from the upper side of the tree. Once felled, each tree shall be bucked to manageable lengths, if necessary to minimize damage to the residual stand, and removed to designated treatment sites for manufacturing.

All forest products generated from operations shall remain the property of the Plumas Corporation. The contractor shall not remove or sell any products from this project to defer costs or generate income in any way.

Operator must be a California Licensed Timber Operator (LTO) to provide services as described in Section #3.

**Pre-Work Meeting:**

Prior to operations, the contractor shall meet with Wayland 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 conformation of work completion and acceptance of work by the supervising RPF.

**Bidding Requirements:**

Mandatory Pre-Bid Project Tour

All interested bidder's shall attend the one time Pre-sale 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 July 6, 2005 at the Long Valley Fire Hall, 10:00 AM

Failure to attend the pre-sale tour will disqualify bidders from the project.

Bid Date

The contractor shall provide a lump sum bid by Item for this project to Brian Wayland, P.O. Box 374, Quincy, CA 95971 on later than July 20, 2005 at 5:00 PM.