

# REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

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

### Delleker North Project

October 2003

#### **Project Overview:**

Plumas Corporation, on behalf of the Plumas County Fire Safe Council, is seeking the professional 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 a private lands fuels reduction project (fifty acres) called the *Delleker North* project in Plumas County during 2003-2004. RPF should provide a price quote on the project described below.

- **Delleker North Fuels Reduction-** Design, develop and secure NEPA Decision Notice and necessary CEQA permits (including THP if necessary), secure services of Licensed Timber Operators (LTOs) if required, oversee thinning and surface fuels work in order to reduce hazardous fuels on 50 acres of private lands North and West of Delleker. The project is on a fifty acre portion of a 400 acre single ownership. Maximum amount available to RPF: \$ 5,000. Total project cost: \$50,000.

The RPF(s) will be working closely with the Plumas County Fire Safe Council, the single private landowner, University of California Cooperative Extension and Plumas Corporation in the selection of specific acreages to be treated and the treatment regime. The basic prescription is “thin from below” with the objective to reduce the expected flame length on the treated acres to 2’-4’. There is an expectation that sawlogs and biomass will be produced by the project. All resultant revenues will be devoted to the project to partially or entirely cover fuels reduction contractor costs.

#### **Background:**

Catastrophic forest fires have been a constant threat to the citizens, property, businesses and environment in Plumas County. Because of this threat the Plumas County Fire Safe Council sought and received various grants. The Delleker North project is funded with Community Protection grant funds from USDA Forest Service under the National Fire Plan.

#### **Goals:**

The goals of this project are:

- Provide hazardous fuel reduction on 50 acres north and west of the community of Delleker.

- Provide economic assistance in the form of cost share reimbursements for the reduction and utilization of hazardous fuels.
- 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.
- Create employment opportunities for citizens and businesses within Plumas County.
- 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) and the Beckwourth Ranger District of the Plumas National Forest.

### **Scope of Work:**

The Registered Professional Forester (RPF) will be required to complete all of the tasks described below. Completion of the tasks will require working with the Property Owner, Contractors (LTOs), Project Manager, 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 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 to coordinate their involvement in the program. 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 December 31, 2004. The RPF may be asked to attend at least one Plumas County Board of Supervisors meetings to report progress on the project.
- RPF will conduct appropriate field review of potential project locations on the site in order to prepare, file and secure the appropriate regulatory, fire protection, environmental and operational safety permits as well as Timber Harvest Plans and other CEQA approvals that are required prior to commencement of the fuel reduction activity. Because federal funding is involved this community level fuel reduction project must also receive a Decision Notice (NEPA) from the Beckwourth District Ranger, .
- RPF will independently contract with: 1) participating property owner and assist in the disposition and/or selling of hazardous fuel materials that are removed in the form of saw logs or biomass, and 2) local qualified contractors for the reduction and removal of hazardous fuels and associated tasks.
- 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 that will include technical specifications, cost share reimbursement 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 define the (before and after treatment) fuel load conditions and flame length analysis on the project with maps, photo points, digital images and photographs.
- RPF will coordinate with the PCFSC Project Manager and Plumas Corporation staff in the development and filing of quarterly Grant Reports as appropriate.

**Available Funds:**

1. The maximum amount of funds available for the services of the Registered Professional Forester under this grant is as described in the project Overview above. 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:**

Release of RFP	October 8, 2003
Proposal due by 5 p.m.	October 24, 2003
Review and Selection	November 15, 2003
Agreement Signed by RPF	November 30, 2003
RPF Work Begins	December 1, 2003
Quarterly Report Periods	October 31, 2003 January 1, 2004 April 30, 2004 July 31, 2004 October 31, 2004
Final Report	December 31, 2004

**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 Process 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 October 24, 2003. A three-member committee from the Plumas County Fire Safe Council will serve as the review and selection committee.

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 GIS capabilities
6. Familiarity with the National Fire Plan and community hazardous fuel reduction
7. Staff and/or RPF availability
8. A cost proposal
9. A cost estimate including total cost, hourly rates, local billing costs, not to exceed amount described.
10. List of references and former clients
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

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 November 15, 2003.

### **Proposal Submission:**

This Request for Proposal package is available for review at the address noted below and online at: <http://plumasfiresafe.org/rfp.htm>

Five (5) copies of the proposal package addressing all criteria must be received by Friday October 24, 2003, 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), Jerry Hurley (832-4705) or Mike De Lasaux (283-6125).

**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.