

Plumas County Fire Safe Council



9/17/2019

**Plumas County Fire Safe Council
RED CLOVER CREEK/GENESEE WOODS HAZARDOUS FUEL REDUCTION PROJECT
Bid Prospectus**

This prospectus is intended to solicit potential contractors interested in performing hazardous fuel reduction tasks to the specifications provided below. Red Clover Creek/Genesee Woods Hazardous Fuel Reduction Project was developed as part of the Plumas County Fire Safe Council's (PCFSC) strategy to reduce hazardous fuel conditions surrounding communities at risk. The project area is situated on the Taylorsville & Genesee Valley U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) 7.5-minute topographic quadrangle map. The treatment units are located in Township 25 North, Range 11 East, Sections 2, 3, 7, and Township 26 North, Ranch 12 E, Section 3. Generally, the project is east of Taylorsville in Plumas County.

Treatment Methods:

61.6 acres of fuels reduction activities have been identified. All payments will be based on satisfactorily treated acres, which will be determined by RPF or RPF's designee.

- Hand thin <10" and chip = 12.5 acres
- Hand thin <14" and chip = 8.1 acres
- Hand thin <10" pile & burn = 7.6 acres
- Mechanical Mastication <10" = 33.4 acres

Project funding is provided by CAL FIRE through the California Climate Investment Forest Health grant program. Project contracts will be held with Plumas Corporation, the fiscal agent for Plumas County Fire Safe Council.

Bid Deadline: October 14, 2019 by 5:00 PM.

Required Pre-Bid Project Tour: **Wednesday, October 2nd, 2019** at 9:00am

Meet at the dirt pull out at the [junction of Hwy 89 and Arlington Road](#), west of Taylorsville. This pre-bid tour is mandatory, and will entail a brief tour of representative units within the entire project.

For questions regarding this project, please contact Danielle Bradfield 530-927-7095 or Kyle Felker 530 251-6112.

Timeline

Bid tour:	10/2/2019
Bid deadline:	10/14/2019
Thinning complete no later than:	11/30/2020
Burning complete no later than:	12/1/2021

Project Permit Specifications:

Standard Best Management Practices established in the CA Forest Practice Rules will govern operations. Watercourse protection, wildlife habitat evidence, potential cultural resources, and any other natural resource protection will be protected and fuel treatment practices will align with CA Forest Practices Act, although there is no commercial byproduct from this project whatsoever. No forest byproducts may be harvested for sale, trade, or barter as a part of this project.

Treatment Area Designation:

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

Solid Red: Property boundary, do not cross.

Solid Blue: Class I/II Watercourse Equipment Exclusion Zone

Blue and White Candy-Striped: Class III/IV Watercourse Equipment Limitation Zone

Red and Black Candy-Striped: Arch site - Equipment Exclusion Zone

Solid Orange: Mechanical Mastication

Solid Yellow: Hand thin

Power/Phone lines exist in portions of the project area. Any tree sufficiently tall enough to reach the power line right-of-way (10' each side of distribution pole line, 20' for transmission) that meets the Public Resource Code definition of a hazard tree, or a dead/dying tree, **greater than the PCFSC diameter limit**, will be reported to Pacific Gas & Electric (PG&E). If this tree is less than or equal to 10" dbh the operator should remove as part of the spacing guidelines, provided it's outside the 10' clearance limit.

Pre-Work Meeting:

Prior to operations, the contractor shall meet with Danielle Bradfield or Kyle Felker to discuss operations.

Treatment Specifications:

Red Clover Creek

Unit	Acres	Treatment
5	2.1	Hand cut <10" & chip
10	5.7	Hand cut <10" & chip
20	1.4	Masticate <10"
28	14.5	Masticate <10"
Total	23.7	

Genesee Woods & Genesee Valley

Unit	Acres	Treatment
31	8.1	Hand cut <14" & chip
32	5	Hand cut <10" & burn
33	2.6	Hand cut <10" & burn
40	17.5	Masticate <10"
41	1.6	Hand cut <10" & chip
42	3	Hand cut <10" & chip
Total	37.9	

Vegetative Removal/Retention Specifications:

The silvicultural treatment within the project will be a thinning from below of conifers up to 10 inches DBH on all of the project excluding Unit 31, which will include trees up to 14 inches DBH. Approximately 80% of surface fuels within 15 feet of overstory conifer dripline will also be targeted for treatment. A general horizontal and vertical discontinuity of fuels will be created through implementation of this prescription. Cut vegetation shall be chipped and broadcast throughout the project unit, chipped and removed from the site to an approved, permitted location, or mechanically masticated. The exception are Units 32 and 33, where the material will be piled for burning. Post-treatment woody residue within treatment units shall be no greater than six inches in depth, and shall not be piled against residual vegetation. These treatment objectives shall be achieved through hand thinning and mechanical chipping/masticating methods.

1. The contractor shall select the highest quality conifer then remove surrounding, competing brush and conifers to the specified diameter limit for the unit to a 12-18' average tree spacing.
2. 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 pre-harvest stand.
3. The operator shall generally maintain the pre-harvest species composition. Overstory retention priority shall generally be in the following order: Aspen and Black Oak, Sugar Pine, Ponderosa/Jeffrey Pine, Incense Cedar, Douglas fir, and White Fir.
4. All native oaks 4.0" DBH and greater, and all aspen regardless of size, shall remain uncut, unless removal is required for operations.

5. Vegetation will be altered to provide at least 8 feet clearance from the top of the surface fuel. Pruning may be necessary to achieve this 8 foot vertical clearance distance. If pruning is utilized to achieve this clearing distance, the following specifications shall be followed:
 - a. Hand tools shall be utilized to complete pruning.
 - b. Pruning cuts shall be made just outside of the branch collar, not flush with the tree bole, to ensure sealing of the cut and to prevent leaving “stobs” on residual trees.
 - c. Pruning slash shall be treated according to the slash abatement standards of the unit where it is created.
6. All snags up to 16” DBH will be cut and treated to the specifications herein unless otherwise indicated by the RPF or designee. Fell snags shall be limbed of aerial fuels, with resulting slash treated to the specifications herein to the greatest extent possible.
7. All brush species including shall be treated. All brush within 15 feet of dripline of residual conifers shall be removed. (*Dripline is defined as the line that is perpendicular to the longest limbs of the residual tree canopy.*) Brush beyond this zone shall be treated to create an effective fuel break. Operators shall leave residual brush clumps in a natural “mosaic” arrangement to provide for wildlife habitat, provided such clumps are not located within 15 feet of driplines and do not contribute to horizontal or vertical continuity of the fuels.
8. Tree stumps and stems shall be no taller than 6” above ground, measured on uphill side, or 6” above natural obstacles that must be avoided such as boulders.
9. Masticated and/or chipped material shall be spread out to an average depth of 6 inches or less. Material shall not be piled against residual vegetation, including residual tree boles.
10. Live and healthy willow, cottonwood, and other riparian species shall be avoided unless otherwise indicated by the RPF or designee.
11. Pockets of pre-existing slash either from natural mortality, current, or past timber harvest operations shall be treated to reduce the size of material and height of the fuel concentration.
12. If material is ground skid to a chipper, the contractor is responsible for constructing waterbars as per 14 CCR on all skid trails at a maximum distance of 150 feet apart.

Burn Pile Construction

1. Pile will be constructed with a height of 1.5 times higher than the width (at base). However, pile height will not exceed 6 feet to avoid residual scorch unless there are limited openings for piles due to the amount of material to be burned, with approval of RPF or designee.
2. Heavier materials should be placed inward into the burn pile interior and each pile containing material protruding greater than 3 feet will be trimmed back and placed on pile.
3. Burn piles will be constructed free of dirt and non-combustible material to ensure a clean, safe burn.

4. Piles will be located away from stumps and sufficient distance away from residual trees or other vegetation to reduce scorch.
5. Each pile will be covered with plastic or Kraft paper placed during its construction on at least 50% of pile surface. Small logs or slash will secure covering.

Burning of Piles

1. Piles shall be burned by **December 1, 2021**. Further discussion of this issue can be accomplished during the bidding process with RPF Danielle Bradfield.
2. Contractor is responsible for modifying pile size and/or moving pile location(s) prior to ignition if current pile size and/or location could cause excessive scorching.
3. Piles will be managed to burn clean and level to the ground. Chunking in of piles 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 and/or escape.
4. Piles shall cease to be lit if excessive scorching (more than 50% of tree crown is damaged) of the remaining leave trees occurs. A 10% deduction will be made from contractor payment **for every 10% of the residual stand affected 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 on the day of ignition. Contractor shall provide adequate patrols, including daytime and nighttime, when windy conditions exist, to eliminate the risk of escapes.
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 – see page 5).
7. **Contractor is responsible for any patrols to prevent escape until the unit/project is accepted by the RPF or designee.**
8. Units will be considered complete and available for full payment upon RPF or designee inspection that no heat and/or smoke are present from burned piles.
9. Burning shall occur upon receipt of, and in accordance to, an approved Plumas County/Northern Sierra Air Quality Management District (NSAQMD) Burn Permit. The burn permit is the responsibility of the Contractor.
10. Prior to ignition, Contractor shall receive an approved LE-5 permit from CAL FIRE.

11. 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 supply sufficient manpower to ignite and manage the burning of piles.
12. Required Contacts Prior to Ignition:
 - a. Check Air Quality Management District “burn day” status prior to ignition (530) 283-3602 or (530) 832-0102
 - b. Notify Danielle Bradfield, RPF, 24 hours prior to ignition (530) 414-1242 or designee, Kyle Felker (530) 251-6112
 - c. Notify U.S. Forest Service 24-hours prior to ignition at Mt Hough RD, Fuels Officer (530) 283-0555
 - d. Notify CAL FIRE 24 hours prior to ignition – Lassen Modoc Unit (530) 257-4171

Contractor does not have the discretion to make changes to treatment area or prescription.

General Provisions/BMP

1. All roads *must* be returned to their original condition at the Contractor’s expense. This may include roads that possess crushed aggregate to be replaced should rock be displaced, wallowed out, or otherwise damaged.
2. Ditches, culverts, and all other drainage facilities shall be maintained so they will be functional at all times.
3. Driveways and roads utilized during operations shall be swept or otherwise cleared prior to the conclusion of each day to remain passable.
4. Operations shall be conducted during daylight hours beginning no earlier than 7:00 a.m. each working day unless otherwise indicated by the RPF or designee.
5. Prior to working during the winter period (Nov.15 –April 1 annually) or during wet conditions, the Contractor shall receive approval from the RPF or designee to begin work so soil conditions can be determined prior to operations. Soils inspections may be required on a daily basis to prevent operations from occurring during periods of saturated soil conditions, evidenced by:
 - a. Reduced traction by equipment as indicated by spinning or churning of tracks in excess of normal performance
 - b. Inadequate traction without blading wet soil
 - c. Soil displacement in amounts that cause visible increase in turbidity of the downstream waters in receiving Class I-IV waters, or in amounts sufficient to cause a turbidity increase in drainage facilities that discharge into Class I –IV waters
 - d. Creation of ruts greater than would be normal following a light rainfall.
6. Winter operations will only be allowed upon prior approval by the RPF or designee.
7. Soil berms resulting from equipment, especially turning of tracked machines, shall be kept to a feasible minimum and shall not adversely affect the post-treatment aesthetics of the project area.

8. The Contractor shall provide signage on all public roads warning motorists and pedestrians of flying debris/forestry operations. Signage shall be visible 300-500 feet from operations in both directions.
9. Should the Contractor need to control traffic for their operations, traffic control personnel shall be provided at the expense of the Contractor.
10. The Contractor shall maintain all work sites at all times in a safe and clean condition.
11. The Contractor shall be entirely responsible for any damage that their operations cause to public property, and boundary landmarks. Roads, curbs, fences, utilities, or other permanent improvements that are damaged shall be repaired by the Contractor to the condition that existed before the commencement of the contract work. Work shall be conducted so as to prevent treated material from hitting project area structures, fences and other improvements, or survey landmarks.
12. Fences within the project area that must be removed for equipment access will be replaced upon conclusion of operations by the Contractor to the pretreatment condition.
13. Project oversight will be given by the RPF or designee to ensure compliance with the aforementioned specifications. This oversight shall not supplant the Contractor's responsibility for their operations and quality control.
14. Upon conclusion of operations, all equipment, trucks, and materials belonging to the Contractor or any/all subcontractors shall be removed from the project area within 14 calendar days unless an alternative arrangement has been made in consultation with the RPF or designee.
15. Contractor shall contact the RPF or designee if there will be any delay in operations that exceeds two working days.
16. Prior to operations, any/all subcontractors hired by the Prime Contractor shall be approved by the RPF or designee and Plumas County Fire Safe Council, and must meet all Contractor qualifications of the Plumas County Fire Safe Council.
17. Mastication or chipping equipment shall not operate between the hours of 1:00 pm and 8:00 pm on days designated as "Red Flag Warning" by the national weather service:
<https://www.wrh.noaa.gov/fire2/?wfo=rev>
This forecast shall be consulted each evening in the next day's forecast.
18. For fire prevention measures when the fire weather forecast is HIGH or EXTREME, the operator shall get off the mastication machine hourly and walk areas they have been working, checking for smoke or fire. A designated watchman shall oversee the entire operating area, watching for fires, for at least two hours after the masticator has shutdown.

19. Fire suppression equipment, as required by Cal Fire (PRC 4428), shall be on site if operations occur during fire season. Said requirements are as follows:
- a. On any such operation a sealed box of tools shall be located, within the operating area, at a point accessible in the event of fire. This fire toolbox shall contain: one backpack pump-type fire extinguisher filled with water, two axes, two McLeod fire tools, and a sufficient number of shovels so that each employee at the operation can be equipped to fight fire.
 - b. One or more serviceable chainsaws of three and one-half or more horsepower with a cutting bar 20 inches in length or longer shall be immediately available within the operating area, or, in the alternative, a full set of timber-felling tools shall be located in the fire toolbox, including one crosscut falling saw six feet in length, one double-bit ax with a 36-inch handle, one sledge hammer or maul with a head weight of six, or more, pounds and handle length of 32 inches, or more, and not less than two falling wedges.
 - c. Each rail speeder and passenger vehicle, used on such operation shall be equipped with one shovel and one ax, and any other vehicle used on the operation shall be equipped with one shovel. Each tractor used in such operation shall be equipped with one shovel.
20. Contractors who are not LTOs will be required to provide proof of appropriate insurance coverage for workers comp, liability, and vehicles as required in the Plumas County Fire Safe Council contractor requirements (refer to *Contractor Insurance Requirements* sections A and B).

Contractor Insurance Requirements:

A) Be a California Licensed Timber Operator (LTO) to provide services as described in Section #3 of the permit if commercial timber operations are employed.

Or,

B) Meet the following Insurance Requirements

Prior to rendering services, CONTRACTOR and his/her subcontractors shall acquire, and maintain during the term of this Agreement, at Contractor's sole expense: (1) 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 \$1,000,000.00 each person and \$1,000,000.00 each occurrence; and (3) general property damage insurance subject to a minimum of \$1,000,000.00 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 all policies evidencing said insurance shall provide for thirty days' prior written notice to PC 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 prior to commencement of Contractor's operations.

Contract Term/Timing of Operations:

Your bid will be reviewed by Registered Professional Forester (RPF) Danielle Bradfield or designee who will then discuss potential operators with the appropriate PCFSC representatives to determine the successful bidder. The RPF or designee and the PCFSC reserve the right to reject any or all bids. Operations shall begin by agreement upon contract execution.

Completion of all thinning operations will be accomplished no later than November 30, 2020. Pile burning will be complete no later than December 1, 2021. At those times, Plumas Corporation reserves the right to terminate the contract and pursue other contractors.

The successful bidder shall provide details of how they shall conduct operations along with a timeline for operations, to be strictly adhered to.

Operations may be limited by weather. To prevent unacceptable impacts to the watershed, soils, leave trees, or roads, wet season operations will be in consultation with the RPF or designee.

Bidding Requirements:

1. Use the bid template to provide a price per treated acre for 61.9 acres of treatment and pile burning. Operators may consider any treatment type within the prospectus as an optional bid item. However, it is the preference of the Fire Safe Council to award a single contract.

2. Include *as a separate item* costs you believe you may incur to repair gravel or pave road surfaces used as part of your operation.

3. Start date and completion date.

4. Experience in Community Hazardous Fuel Reduction Projects and other related projects with reference contact information.

5. A description of the equipment that will be used to perform project work.

6. All bidders awarded any of the bid items must certify, in writing, that all employees working on Fire Safe Council Hazardous Fuel Reduction projects have been "E-Verified" to legally work in the United States. Please refer to the website <http://www.uscis.gov/portal/site/uscis>

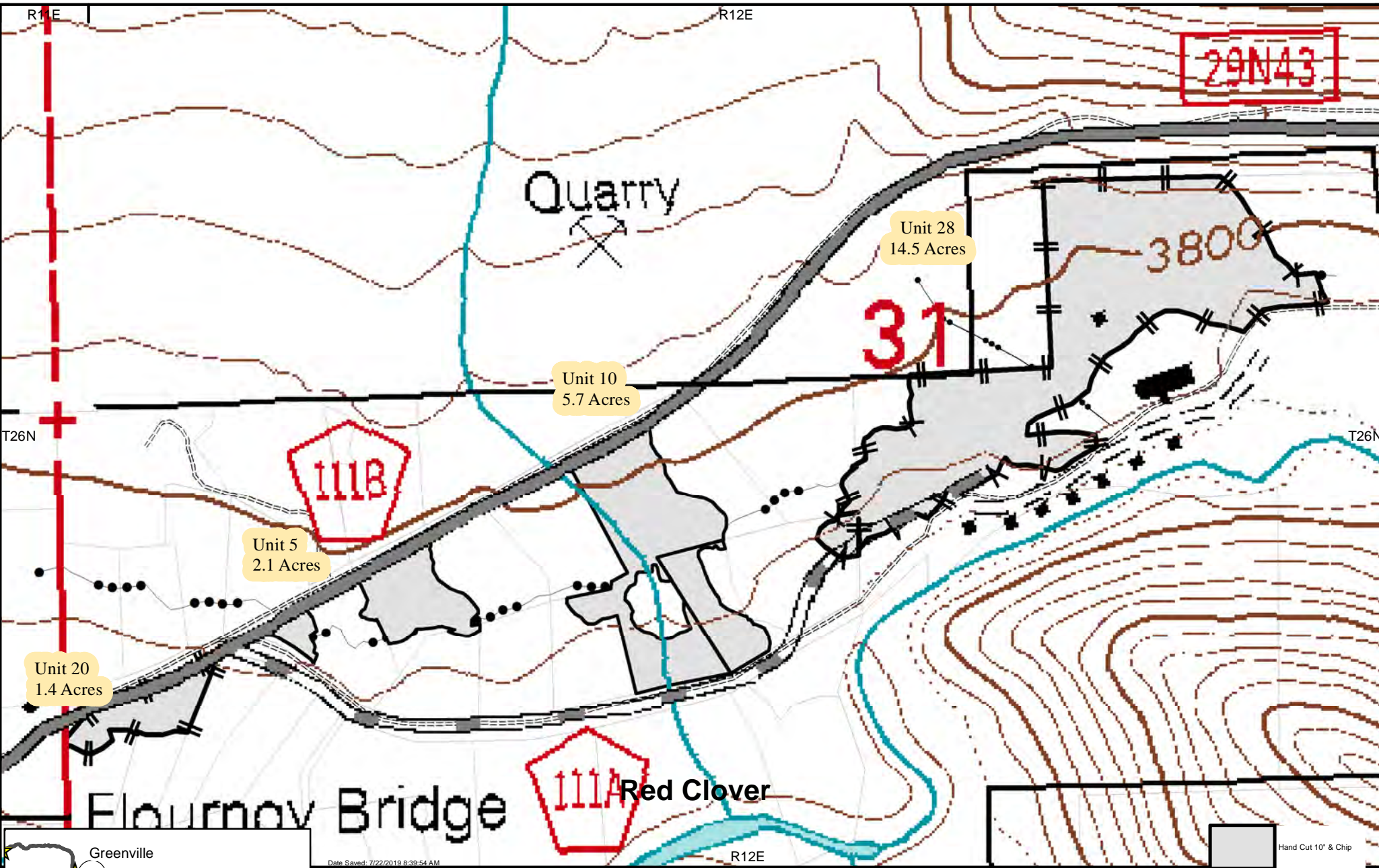
Please keep proposals to no more than 3 pages (excluding references and bid template)

Bid Date

The contractor shall provide a bid for the individual bid item no later than **October 14, 2019** at 5:00 pm.

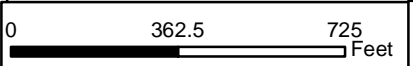
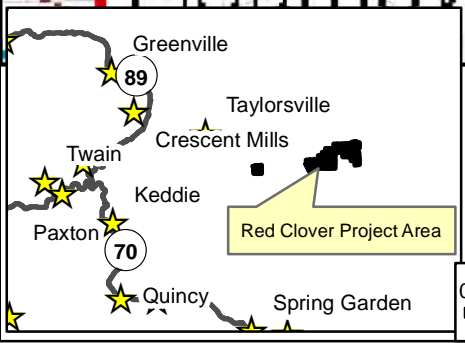
Bids can be submitted:

at Plumas Corporation, PO Box 3380, Quincy, CA 96971,
faxed to Plumas Corporation with subject line of "Red Clover/Genesee Woods Bid" at (530) 283-5465,
or emailed to plumasfiresafe@plumascorporation.org



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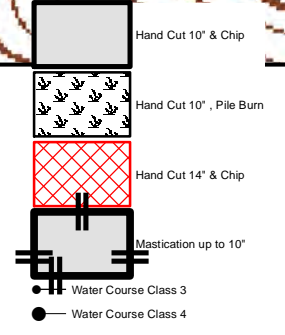
Red Clover Fuels Reduction

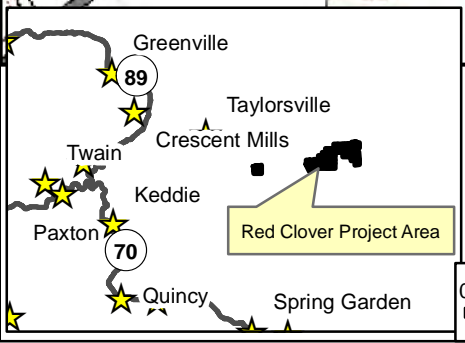
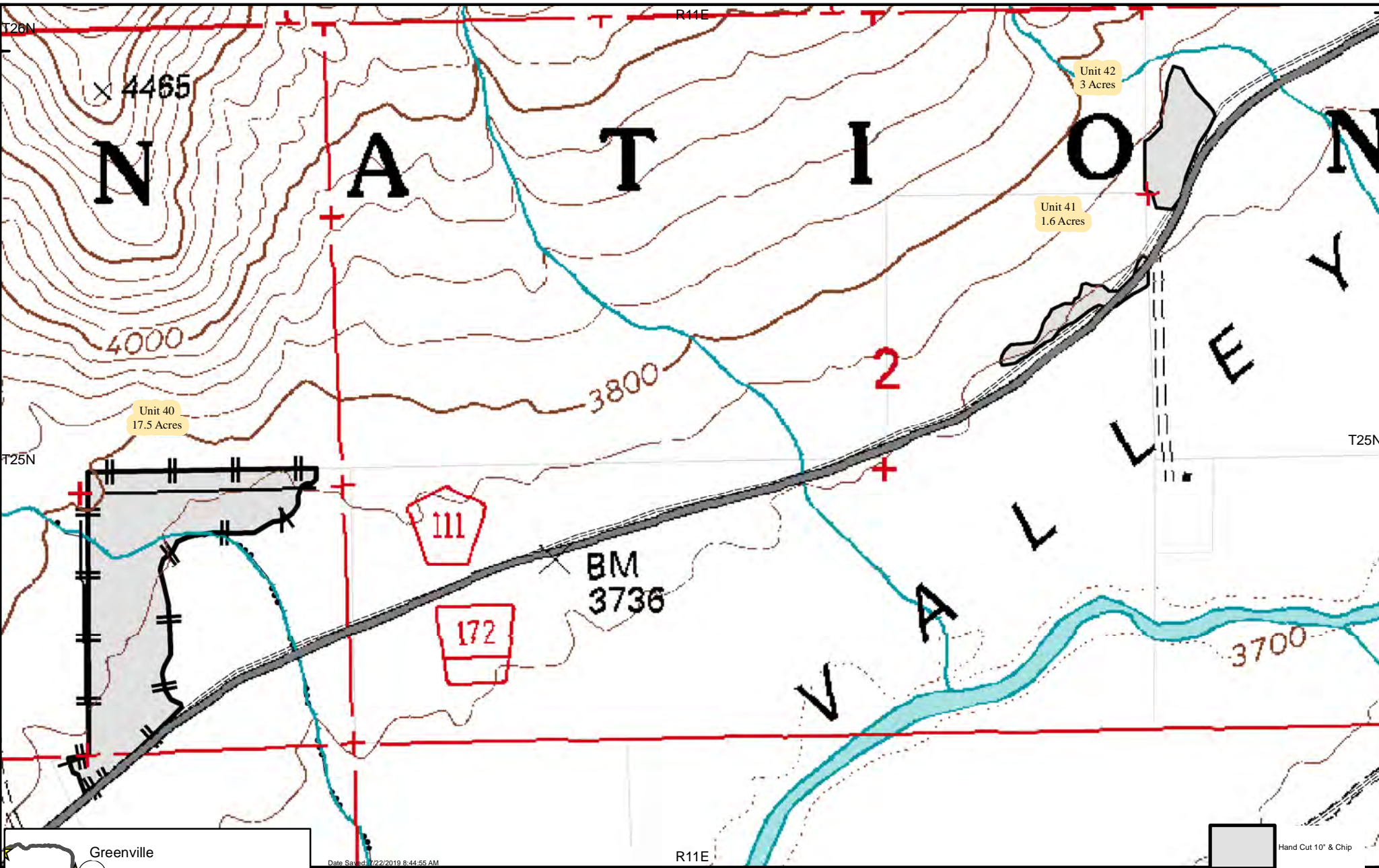


1:5,000 1 inch = 417 feet

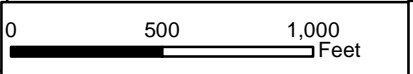


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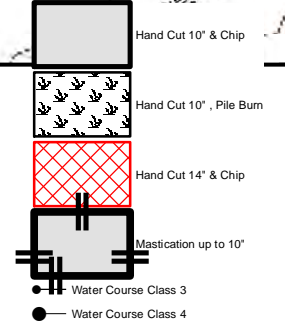
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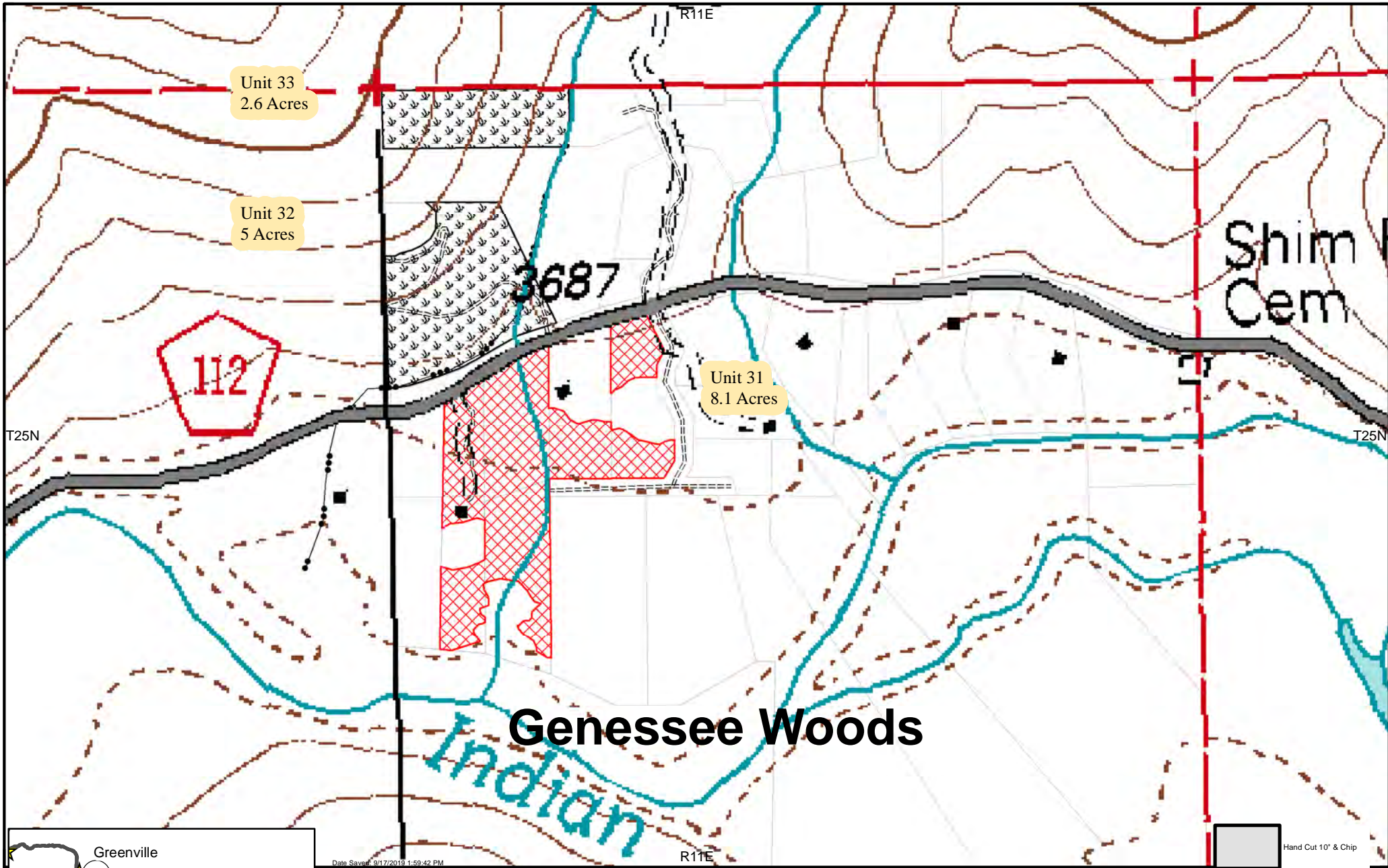
1:7,632 1 inch = 636 feet



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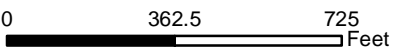
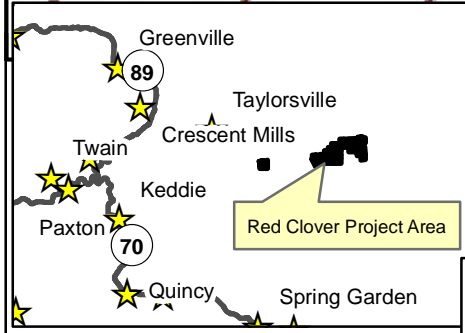


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Red Clover Fuels Reduction



1:4,993 1 inch = 416 feet



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